

## Amazing Month

***We had an Amazing April. Through GOC Bike Day, The Amazing Give, and our Amazing Give afterparty, we raised over \$20,000.***

*We had an Amazing April at the Gainesville Opportunity Center—and we couldn't have done it without you! Between GOC Bike Day, the Amazing Give, and our spring Ambassador Dinner, we raised \$13,514 to support our Members and mission.*

*Bike Day was a community favorite, raising \$8,714 and bringing together cyclists and sponsors from across Gainesville. At our Ambassador Dinner, guests were treated to a night of fun, food, and inspiration—and all gifts that night were counted toward our Amazing Give total.*

*These donations go straight toward helping adults living with chronic mental illness. They help us provide meals, employment support, a safe community, and a path to recovery. Unlike many programs, we don't bill insurance or charge our Members anything. That's why donations are so important—they keep our doors open.*

*The GOC is more than a program. It's a place where people find purpose, rebuild confidence, and change their lives. Every dollar you gave helps make that happen. Thank you to everyone who rode, gave, invited a friend, or simply shared a post. You are part of the solution. Let's keep the momentum going—because recovery happens together.*



**DONATE**



# Standards in Motion

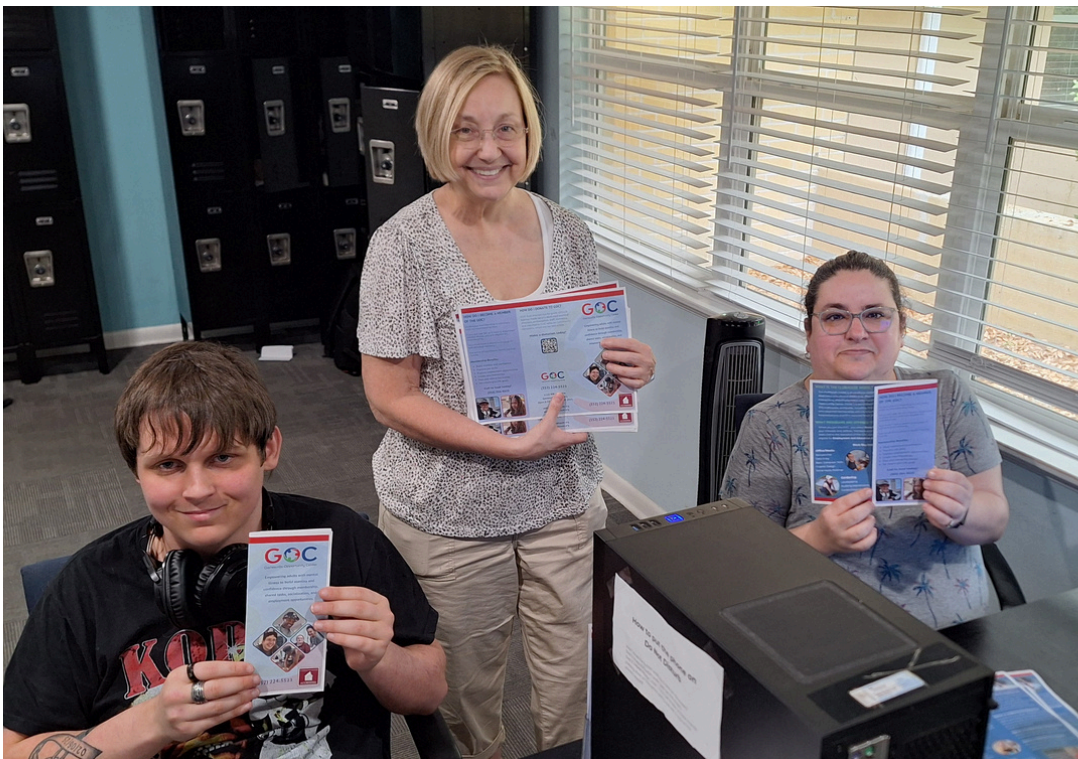
*At the Gainesville Opportunity Center, we take Membership seriously. Our participants aren't clients, and they're not patients. They're Members—valued, needed, and essential to everything we do. The GOC isn't a treatment center. It's a community. It's a place of belonging.*

*According to Clubhouse **Standard #2, Membership is open to anyone with a history of mental illness, unless that person poses a significant and current threat to the Clubhouse community.** But more than that, the standard reminds us that Membership is voluntary—and that's where the magic happens.*

*Recovery in the Clubhouse Model is self-directed. That means Members choose to participate. Whether it's helping with lunch, making brochures, greeting visitors, or joining a planning meeting—every contribution matters. Participation can start small. What matters most is the willingness to engage.*

*We are growing, and we welcome new Members who want to be part of something real. If you or someone you know could benefit from a safe, welcoming space where people are rebuilding their lives through meaningful work, the GOC is here.*

*And for our agency partners—if you'd like to have brochures on hand for the people you serve, we're happy to bring them by. Let's work together to help more people find their place.*





# Bike Day

We had our fourth annual Bike Day in April. This is growing into our signature event. Hosted by First Magnitude Brewery, we had more sponsors than ever before. The Gainesville Cycling Club helped us recruit new riders. We greatly appreciated their help. Our event was just one week after their big annual event. A great local band, Chasing Rabbits, played.

We hope next year will be even bigger. Contact Brett Buell at the GOC if you want to sponsor or participate. Our ride will be in April 2026!



# Superheroes at the GOC

by Reid Schreiber

At the GOC, superpowers are on display every day, whether it is cooking, organizing, advocating, or having the courage to show up. None of us work alone. Our shared tasks build confidence and stamina, which transfer to our lives outside the GOC. At first glance, the GOC may not look like a superhero training facility. When Members and staff work side-by-side, Members discover strengths they did not know they had. Members feel they are genuinely needed because the work they do here is real and important. We answer phones, cook lunch, wash dishes, enter data, and help each other apply for jobs. Completing tasks is rewarding, especially when you know you're a valuable part of the Clubhouse community.

This is why we had a superhero theme for our second Ambassador Dinner. We put on our masks and capes and got to work on our scripts and video for the event. Brett's alter-ego was Typo Man and Reid was Captain Corrector. These were perfect fits. Despite Brett's communication background, it is very helpful to have another set of eyes looking for typos. It is an example of how our Members are truly needed to help run our Club. We all have our strengths and weaknesses.

As preparation for the Ambassador Dinner, we produced a video. A new Member, Kayla, both shot the video and demonstrated her editing skills. Kayla had never used the editing software before, but she learned it on the fly while putting the videos together. Members and staff showed their acting chops as characters in the video. We brought out our powers while running the Clubhouse. Brett and Reid were co-emcees for the event. Our Ambassadors are our superheroes, too. Thanks for joining our mission to improve the lives of individuals living with mental illness. We help people discover they're capable of more than they ever thought possible.





# Month In Pictures



*GOC Bike Day kicked off on April 5<sup>th</sup> with riders getting registered and ready to ride!*

*Riders included GOC Members, community leaders, family and friends.*



*Stephen Perz and Jo Hartman are the President and First Lady of the Cycling Club.*



# Month In Pictures



*GOC raffled off gift baskets as part of our fundraising efforts on Bike Day.*

*HCA Florida Healthcare helped sponsor Bike Day, as well as Crime Prevention Security Systems, Rotary Clubs of Gainesville, Chasing Rabbits, First Federal Bank, IQ Fiber, Culvers, Associates Realty, Dog Bytes Computer, Subaru of Gainesville, Gainesville Cycling Club, Straw & Company, Family and Friends of Lori Russo, and First Magnitude Brewery.*



*Chasing Rabbits entertained the crowd after the ride was complete.*