

Next
Monthly Consumer
Meeting
October 28, 2004
11:30 AM
6th Floor Auditorium

Bulletin 18...October, 2004
Detroit-Wayne County
Community Mental Health Agency
640 Temple
Detroit, MI 48201

Questions, comments, suggestions or wish to subscribe? Click:
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We will mail copies to those without access to the Internet
Ted Chipps, Editor

Persons Points of View



--An E-Mail Bulletin from Customer Services reflecting what Consumers are doing and saying as well as news from the Agency

Consumers Blaze New Trails

In October, 2003, Gary M., Curtis O., Glen S., and Alex W. from the Fisher Club House moved into a house on West Grand Boulevard in Detroit. The house was purchased and furnished through a grant from the State of Michigan.



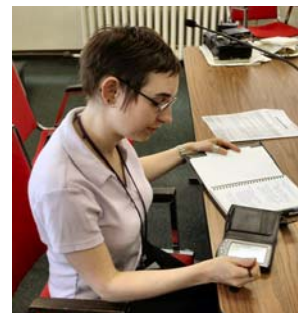
Four Pioneers and a Guide—L to R: Gary M., Alan W., Curtis O., Glen S., and Carol Winslow (Staff). Photo taken in the living room of these clubhouse members' new home. Fisher Clubhouse is a member of the Carelink Network.

Advocate Speaks Out About Stigma

At a recent Monthly Consumer meeting, Summer Berman spoke about her personal struggles with mental illness. She said it was impossible not to notice how differently fellow students behaved to-

wards those who had to seek public support for treatment. Summer urged Consumers to never give up! "Having a mental illness does not mean you will not work or own your own home," she said. Summer is looking forward

to graduating with an MSW in a few months. She is the Prevention Education Specialist at the Person Centered Network (PCN).



What Some Consumers Are Doing

Career
Bound

Just a few years ago, Ron S. lost his job, his wife, and his house. For three weeks, he was homeless—but he found the New Directions Clubhouse. Through therapy and medication, he got help for his mental illness. Ron soon became a leader helping others on their road to recovery. Today, he is employed as a full time peer-to-peer counselor in the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program.



Ron

GED
Bound

A year ago, Kimberly A. was living in a homeless shelter. Becoming active at the New Directions Clubhouse, she got aid developing her own Person Centered Plan. She is hard at work on her intermediate goal of getting her GED. Kimberly sought help through the Shelter Plus program and is now living in her own apartment. She expects to earn her GED next year.



Kimberly

Art
Bound

When Albert J. was a youngster, he was fond of drawing. —But his first love was words. So after receiving a degree in journalism, he went to work as a newspaper writer. Later, he suffered from mental illness. As part of his therapy he began to draw and paint again. Recently, he has received awards at several shows. Equally important, Albert has found that people will purchase his creations.



Albert

College
Bound

This fall Valerie F. is attending classes at the University of Detroit and Marygrove College. She has already earned a certificate from Wayne County Community College. Her passion is to become a journalist. At the New Directions Clubhouse, she is an active co-leader of a support group and a writer for the newsletter. Her advice to fellow Consumers: No matter how rough it gets, **Never Give Up!**



Valerie