



THE CHIMES

The Quarterly Newsletter of the
MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION of Rhode Island

Issue 5

Spring 2010

Mental Health Association Annual Bell Award

The Mental Health Association of Rhode Island cordially invites you to attend the presentation of the 2010 Mental Health Bell Award to honor Robert G. Padula, CEO of Gencorp Insurance Group, for his work with the business community.

He educates business leaders on mental illnesses and their impact on employees. He explains that the brain can get ill just as any other part of the body. His interest began after observing the impact of illness of the brain on family members and friends.

Please join us as we honor him.

Wednesday, May 19, 2010, Cocktail Reception
5:30 - 7:30pm, Patrick's Pier One
200 Allens Avenue, Providence, RI

DONATION \$100 per person

If you are unable to attend yet want to make a donation in honor of Mr. Padula and acknowledgement in the program, please send your donation to the address below.

RSVP by May 12

Mental Health Association of RI, 500 Prospect Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860, 401.726.2285 or mhari@mhari.org



Robert G. Padula

Robert G. Padula first became affiliated with Butler Hospital by accepting an appointment to its Board of Trustees. Since that time, Bob has accepted additional responsibility within Butler and its parent organization, Care New England. He now serves on the Butler Board of Trustees' Investment Committee, and chairs its Finance Committee.

Most recently, Bob became Butler's Corporate Treasurer. He also serves on Care New England's Audit and Finance Committees. In addition to his personal service to Butler, Bob has spearheaded fundraising initiatives for the hospital.

As CEO of Gencorp Insurance Group, Inc., Bob has overseen the corporation's support of numerous charitable organizations meeting the mental health needs of Rhode Islanders such as Phoenix House and the Genesis Fund. Bob also founded the Gencorp Insurance Charitable Foundation in 2005 which he now serves as its President. Supporting non-profit organizations that benefit children, the "GICF" has contributed to organizations that address the mental health needs of that population.

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF RHODE ISLAND ANNUAL MEETING **PLEASE JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST, JUNE 23, 2010, 8:00 AM**

Butler Hospital, Ray Conference Center
345 Blackstone Blvd. Providence, RI **\$25 PP**
Special Recognition of Mental Health Advocacy
Leaders. Welcome New Officers and Board Members.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MICHELE BROPHY
COALITION FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

To register call 401 726-2285 or email: jconti@mhari.org

Mental Health In The News



The Mental Health Association of RI/ACCESS-RI Shelter at St. Paul's Episcopal Church got a big boost with donations from the Bristol County Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, The Pawtucket Red Sox Charitable Foundation and the Alice I. Sullivan Charitable Foundation. Photo at the award ceremony on March 30.

Jack Partridge, Senior Counsel, Partridge, Snow & Hahn and Board Member of the Pawtucket Advisory Board (PAB), Pat Murray, EVP/Treasurer & COO, Bristol County Savings Bank, (BCSB) and President, Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation (BCSCF), Dan Sullivan, President of Collette Vacations and PAB Board Member, Vivian Weisman, Executive Director, Mental Health Assoc. of RI, Sheryl Marshall, Program Director, Mental Health Assoc. of RI, Lynne Kelley, Community Relations Manager, Collette Vacations, Mike Tamburro, President of the Pawtucket Red Sox and PAB Board Member, and Dennis Kelly, President & CEO/BCSB and Chairman BCSCF

MHA attends the NIMH (National Institute of Mental Health) Outreach Partners conference on March 23-25, in Indianapolis. This presentation of (Social Security Outreach Access and Recovery) SOAR throughout RI was well received as an evidence based practice.

Evaluating the Mental Health System of Care in Rhode Island

Nothing is more important in evaluating a system of care for the mentally ill than tracking data that indicates whether the organizations charged with the responsibility for overseeing and delivering services to that population are accomplishing those goals. With that concept in mind, the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island has undertaken the task of developing twenty-five performance measures that will demonstrate and continually measure mental health system performance using the collection of consistent and reliable data. At the same time, MHA of RI will make that information gathered available to the public through its website, news releases and other means of public communication.

Our Mental Health Systems Committee continues to meet regularly with representatives of the department of Mental Health, the Department of Children Youth and Families, The Rhode Island Council of Community Mental Health Organizations, the Rhode Island chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Association of Rhode Island and the Parent Support Network to develop agreed upon indicators of performance. We are seeking funding from a private non-profit organization to move this effort forward.

New On Our Website www.mhari.org

The complete May Is Mental Health Month Calendar of Events. We hope your schedule allows you to attend many of these great activities. To learn more or help with planning for May Is Mental Health Month 2011

Contact Judith Conti at 401-726-2285 or

email jconti@mhari.org The first annual chart-book from the Benchmarking and Public Reporting Project.

To learn more about the project and our Stakeholders Group, contact Vivian Weisman at 401-726-2285 or email: veisman@mhari.org

SPOTLIGHT on New Board Members

The MHA of RI is pleased to announce five new members of the Board of Directors. Five talented, experienced community leaders have come aboard.

Marianne Barao, Branch Manager for the Greenwood Credit Union, is interested in promoting mental health care access, and she will share her public relations and fundraising skills with the Association.

Lisa Dinerman, an attorney in private practice, brings nonprofit Board governance and special event planning to her new role.

Elaine Hill recently retired as Deputy Commissioner for Mental Health Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She will assist us with our systems improvement advocacy.

Patricia J. Lager, a realtor with Lila Delman Real Estate and former leader in MetLife's property and casualty employee sales division, brings her extensive nonprofit Board and fundraising experience to her new role at the MHA of RI.

Ann M. Varna Garis, Ph.D., the Director of the Psychological Consultation Center, University of Rhode Island, has joined the Board to work toward greater access to mental health services, especially for underserved populations.

MHA of RI Call for Volunteers

The mission of the Mental Health Association of RI is to promote mental health, prevent mental illness, and improve mental health services through advocacy, education and research.

Help the Mental Health Association of RI advocate for sound mental health policies and programs, and help educate our elected representatives and the general public about mental health recovery and the prevention and treatment of mental illness.

Our active program committees include Children's Mental Health, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System, Mental Health System and Public Reporting, May Is Mental Health Month Planning.

Volunteers are also needed for the MHA of RI Speakers Bureau, and to help plan events throughout the year. To learn more or to volunteer contact Vivian Weisman: e-mail at vweisman@mhari.org or Judith Conti: e-mail at jconti@mhari.org or by telephone at 401 726-8825.

May is Mental Health Month Kickoff at the Statehouse MHA of RI honors Rep. Eileen S. Naughton for Advocacy

May Is Mental Health Month received an early start on April 29, at the RI State House. The stateroom was "Standing Room Only" as Barbara Morse Silva, Health Reporter for NBC 10, Mistress of Ceremonies welcomed mental health consumers and their families along with service providers, advocates and public officials.

May is Mental Month chairwoman, Christine Brown, presented RI State Representative Eileen S. Naughton the 2010 Bell of Hope Award for her advocacy and leadership in the state legislature, in championing health care for Rhode Island's most vulnerable citizens.

Governor Donald L. Carcieri's proclamation of May as Mental Health Month in RI was presented by his representative, Fred Sneesby, senior Communications

and Policy Analyst. Greetings were brought by Craig S. Stenning, Director of the RI Department of Mental Health, Hospitals and Retardation and Jorge Garcia, Deputy Director of the RI Department of Children, Youth and Families. The Reverend William Locke of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pawtucket delivered the invocation. St. Paul's is the home of the MHA of RI/ACCESS-RI emergency shelter.

Dr. Daniel Dickstein, a child psychiatrist at Bradley Hospital, delivered a hopeful keynote address about the strides in research and treatment. The personal stories of individuals and families in recovery, by Jackie Eastman, consumer and advocate and parent Christine Vargas, gave further hope to all present.

Three Organizations Team Up to Launch New Facility

The Rhode Island Foundation, the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Rhode Island (NAMI-RI) have teamed up with a group of concerned citizens and family members to launch a new community-based service for Rhode Islanders with mental illness.

The three organizations have joined to support the Providence Clubhouse Development Group, which will open Harbor House this fall in the Providence area. Harbor House will be an innovative program offering a work ordered day in a supportive environment that includes vocational, educational, and other services to Rhode Island residents with a wide range of severe and persistent mental illnesses.

Ralph Lord has been hired to serve as Executive Director. He most recently served for 24 years as Team Leader and Program Coordinator at the Providence Center, where he was responsible for vocational and psychiatric rehabilitation services.

Call MHA at 401-726-2285 or email harborhouse-ri@aol.com for additional information.

Would You Like To Receive Mental Health Action Alerts And News?



Join The MHA of RI
E-Alert Group

We will be respectful of your busy mailboxes. Just send us an e-mail mhari@mhari.org, and put "E-ALERT GROUP" in the subject line. Thanks!



Address Service Requested

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of Rhode Island

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION



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