

Monthly Newsletter

FELLOWSHIP
HOUSE

♦
August 2024



CEO - JOE VAN WIE

Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

July was a month filled with growth, achievements, and community bonding at Fellowship House. Our weekly retreats provided clients with opportunities to reflect and recharge. The softball tournament was a huge success, fostering friendly competition and fun.

We celebrated several successful coin outs for our graduates, marking significant milestones in their recovery journeys. Attending Rail Riders games has become a favorite activity, offering engaging and enjoyable experiences. Nature walks and BBQs promoted physical activity and community spirit, while movie nights featuring "Deadpool" and "Wolverine" provided relaxation and entertainment. Many clients are starting at LCCC this fall semester and have found new employment opportunities this month.

We are incredibly proud to announce that, since opening our doors 10 months ago, Fellowship House has seen 52 successful graduates. These individuals are now sober, furthering their educations, pursuing careers, rebuilding relationships with their families and seeking purpose in life.

August is set to be another exciting month with several new additions and enhancements to our programs. We will be expanding programming for PHP/IOP and weekends to better serve our clients' needs. Additionally, we are thrilled to launch unique holistic programming, which will include new support staff and innovative activities designed to enrich our clients' recovery experiences. We will continue to engage in community activities, such as weekly retreats, sports, and social events, reinforcing the importance of a balanced, healthy lifestyle in recovery.

Stay tuned for more updates and details about our upcoming events and new initiatives. We are committed to providing the best possible support for our clients and fostering a strong, supportive community at Fellowship House.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Together, we are making a difference.

Joe Van Wie

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Community
Updates

Podcast
Interviews

Stories of Impact

Volunteer
Spotlight

Mandala Room

Staff Profile
Highlights



Community News

This summer, we celebrated the successful coin outs of Ian, Dan, and Julian, with more successes expected in the coming week. Our alumni community is growing into a serious and thoughtful network, bonding in ways that support secure recovery. We also had some hard goodbyes, which further united those who remain.

We gave a friend love, understanding, and a temporary home where he found relief and friendship. We love you, Eric, and will honor you in our lives with intention, compassion, and a commitment to helping the men who follow. I look forward to this month and the significant transitions many of you are about to make.



Volunteer Spotlight Joe Regan

We are excited to highlight Joe Regan as our Volunteer of the Month for his outstanding contributions to Fellowship House. Joe launched NA workshops every Thursday from 6pm - 8pm at our clinical center in Olyphant. Joe founded Ashbury Investigations in 2016, bridging the behavioral health and investigative worlds. As both an investigator and interventionist, Joe's quiet strength, genuine compassion, and athletic listening skills make him an invaluable part of our community. His dedication and commitment to helping others reflect the dignity and respect he brings to everyone he meets.



1-(888)-HELP-120

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our 1-888-HELP-120 crisis and intervention hotline, dedicated to providing immediate support and resources for our alumni and anyone in need. This hotline is a vital extension of our commitment to offering continuous care and assistance, ensuring that help is just a phone call away.

In addition to the hotline, we are excited to roll out a comprehensive ad campaign over the next few months. This campaign aims to extend the reach of our exceptional program to a larger population, spreading awareness about the support and services we offer. Through targeted ads across various platforms, we hope to connect with individuals and families in need, guiding them towards the path of recovery and a healthier future.

Podcast & Blog Highlights



Lou DeSanto
(CARON)

We are thrilled to introduce Lou Desanto, our esteemed partner at Caron Foundation, who is instrumental in helping us grow our PHP census. Lou's expertise and dedication have been invaluable in expanding our reach and impact.



Jerry Pickard

We are excited to welcome Jerry Pickard, a beloved recovery leader from our area, to allbetter.fm. Jerry will be sharing his insights on recovery principles and the importance of coaching in the recovery journey.



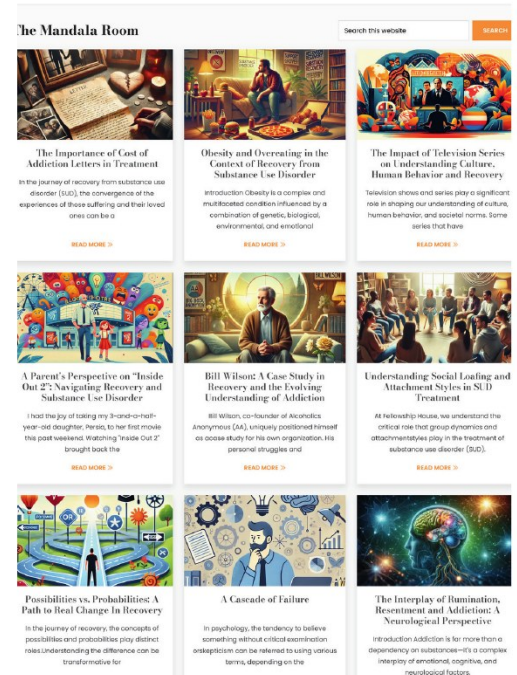
Kingsley Schwartz
(BriteLife)

We are delighted to feature Kingsley Schwartz, a provider partner, on allbetter.fm. Kingsley will be speaking about the role of nature in healing and its impact on Substance Use Disorder (SUD) recovery. Join us for an enlightening discussion as Kingsley shares valuable insights on how the natural world can support and enhance the recovery process.



Dr. Stanton Peele

We are honored to have Dr. Stanton Peele, a renowned architect of the concept of codependency and a controversial figure in the field of recovery, as a guest on allbetter.fm. Dr. Peele will be sharing his groundbreaking ideas and challenging conventional views on recovery. Don't miss this provocative and insightful episode that promises to spark thought and discussion.

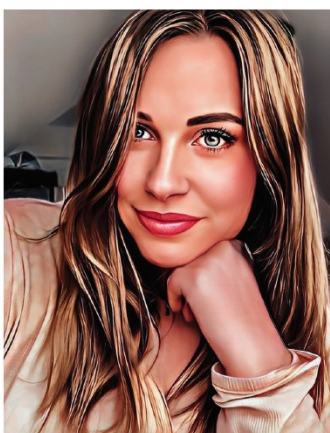


The Mandala Room

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new weekly blog, "The Mandala Room." Inspired by our mandala logo featuring wise owls, this blog is a space where heart, authenticity, and deep dives into meaningful topics converge.

In The Mandala Room, we will explore a wide range of subjects that matter deeply to us all, including therapy, neuroscience, psychology, sociology, and substance use disorder (SUD). Each post will be crafted with care, aiming to offer insights, provoke thought, and foster a deeper understanding of the complexities of the human experience.

Our goal with The Mandala Room is to create a sanctuary of knowledge and support, where readers can find valuable information and feel a sense of connection and community. Whether you're on a journey of recovery, a mental health professional, or simply someone interested in the intricate tapestry of human behavior, there will be something here for you.



“Impact in IOP: How Two Counselors Turned Evening Group into A Thriving Recovery Community”

Marissa's Journey:

Marissa holds a B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies with a Minor in Child Maltreatment from Penn State University. She is furthering her education through the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Walden University, with an anticipated graduation in May 2026. Marissa has gained valuable experience at Penn State Scranton, the Scranton Counseling Center, Youth Advocate Program, Alpha and Omega Counseling Center, and Luzerne County Intermediate Unit 18. Her skills in implementing interventions, developing treatment plans, and collaborating with families and professionals are invaluable to our team. Marissa's impressive achievements include making the Dean's List, receiving the Gammatori Barnes Trustee Scholarship, the Thomas F. Zenty III and Family Open Doors Scholarship, and the Outstanding Academic Award for Human Development and Family Studies. At Fellowship House, Marissa supports our residents, manages a caseload, oversees evening medications at 9 PM, and facilitates evening Intensive Outpatient Programs (IOP). Her new home, conveniently located across the street from the House, makes her transition seamless.

Megan's Journey

Megan holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Marywood University (Cum Laude, May 2018) and an Associate of Science in Human Services from Lackawanna College (Magna Cum Laude, May 2015). Her clinical experience spans roles at Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service in Scranton and various positions at Avenues Recovery Center, including Intake Specialist, Case Management/Administrative Support, Aftercare/Alumni Coordinator, Clinical Engagement Facilitator, and Primary Counselor. Megan's skills include clinical evaluation, crisis intervention, and program creation. Her commitment to growth and excellence is showcased by her involvement in professional affiliations such as the Marywood University Psychology Club and the Association for Psychological Science. Megan has earned numerous honors, including being on the Dean's List at Marywood University and Lackawanna College. She is currently enrolled in the University of Scranton's Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program to obtain her LPC and Master's Degree..

Creating a Thriving Community:

Marissa and Megan's evening work at Fellowship House has fostered a real sense of community, bringing together individuals from multiple payer populations, genders, and sexual identities. Their professionalism and dedication have created a thriving environment of recovery support, where everyone feels valued and empowered on their journey to recovery.

We are fortunate to have Marissa and Megan as integral parts of our team, and their contributions continue to inspire and uplift our community.

Thank you for reading!

PHP/IOP/OP AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES	1-(888)-HELP-120
www.fellowshiphouses.com	126 Willow Ave Olyphant, PA 18447