



High Hopes Clubhouse Celebrates Accreditation Success

High Hopes Clubhouse is thrilled to announce the successful completion of Clubhouse International accreditation. According to the verbal findings, we passed with flying colors. Following a rigorous evaluation process conducted by faculty members of Clubhouse International, Tracy McPherson and Joe Schaffer our Clubhouse earned accreditation without a single recommendation.

The verbal findings report by Tracy and Joe highlighted some of the strengths of High Hopes Clubhouse, including our welcoming and inclusive environment, strong relationships, well-organized programs, and dedication to empowering members through meaningful opportunities, as well as our strong support from our auspice agency.

The verbal findings report stated: “As a recognized leader in the Clubhouse movement, this accreditation underscores High Hopes’ unwavering dedication to excellence and its mission to empower individuals on their path to recovery. High Hopes Clubhouse serves as a resource for its members, offering access to employment opportunities, education, housing support, and social connections.

Thank you, to all the members, advisory board members, KBH leadership and staff that participated in the Clubhouse International Accreditation Process.



High Hopes Clubhouse Christmas Spirit

In November, High Hopes Clubhouse proudly participated in the Parade of Lights, a festive celebration that brought our community together to kick off the holiday season. Our float, adorned with twinkling lights and joyful decorations, radiated the spirit of teamwork and holiday cheer. Colleagues joined the parade with enthusiasm, sharing smiles, music, and the magic of the season with neighbors and friends.

We also had the honor of participating in "Light Up the Town," where our efforts were recognized with third place in the business category! This achievement reflects the creativity, dedication, and holiday spirit of everyone involved in decorating our Clubhouse and contributing to the community's festive atmosphere.

These events are a highlight of the year for High Hopes Clubhouse. They offer a unique opportunity to connect with our neighbors, celebrate traditions, and showcase the vibrant energy of our Clubhouse. We are deeply grateful to be part of such beloved local celebrations and look forward to many more years of spreading holiday joy together.



Young Adult Committee

High Hopes Clubhouse is proud to announce a new and concentrated effort is underway to increase our Young Adult membership in the Clubhouse. We have re-established the Young Adult Committee of the Clubhouse and have members and staff dedicated to the mission. Our Mission Statement: “It is the mission of High Hopes Clubhouse Young Adults to assist each other to thrive rather than just survive and to improve the overall quality of life of individuals who live with mental illness.”

The Young Adults Committee (YAC) is a member led initiative designed to engage young adults, typically ages 18-25 , in leadership and community-building opportunities. Members of the Young Adult Committee work together to create and organize events, programs and activities that cater to the needs and interests of their peers. The program focuses on personal development, teamwork, and advocacy, providing members valuable skills while fostering a strong sense of belonging and civic responsibility. It serves as a platform for young adults to make a meaningful impact within the Clubhouse community and beyond. YAC will have the focus of presenting to area schools, mental health agencies, young adult programs throughout our catchment area to expand our reach to assist and encourage others to join the Clubhouse community. We will also be focused on assisting and supporting our young colleagues with becoming more independent through support of our education and employment programs offered at High Hopes Clubhouse.

High Hopes Clubhouse Young Adult Committee is thrilled to announce that our Clubhouse has been awarded a generous \$10,000 grant from T.J.MAXX Foundation, that has a commitment to supporting community initiatives. This funding will play a pivotal role in advancing our mission to increase our visibility in the community and enabling us to expand our programs, providing much-needed resources and opportunities for those we serve. We are deeply grateful for TJ Maxx’s belief in our work and its investment in creating lasting positive change. With this support, we look forward to furthering our impact and making a meaningful difference in the lives of many.



Employment Updates



Mira recently completed her TE at Colby as a dishwasher, showing incredible dedication and hard work throughout the experience. She embraced the challenges with a positive attitude and learned valuable skills along the way. Congratulations, Mira, on this impressive achievement! We're all excited to see what you accomplish next



Tony has started his TE position at Colby College as a dishwasher, and he's already diving in with enthusiasm and a great work ethic. It's an exciting new chapter for him, and he's sure to gain valuable experience during this time. Congrats, Tony! We're looking forward to seeing all the amazing things you'll accomplish!



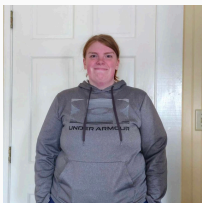
Jake has accepted and started a food prep position at Colby College, and he's already showing great enthusiasm and skill in his new role. It's an exciting opportunity for him to grow and develop his culinary talents. Congratulations Jake! We can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll achieve in this new adventure!



Debbie has accepted a position as a Front of House at Colby College, and she's already bringing her hardworking and positive attitude to the role. This is a fantastic opportunity for her to gain new skills. Congratulations, Debbie!



Ashley has accepted a position at KBH Housing as a custodian and is already excelling in her role. With a strong work ethic and positive attitude, she's making a great impact. Congratulations Ashley! Wishing you all the best as you continue to grow in this position!



Elizabeth has successfully completed her TE position at TJ Maxx as a custodian, demonstrating great commitment and responsibility throughout the experience. It's an accomplishment to be proud of. Congratulations, Elizabeth! We're excited to see what's next for you!



Donald has accepted a TE position at TJ Maxx, showing great enthusiasm and dedication in his work. It's an exciting opportunity for him, and he's already proving to be a valuable asset. Congrats, Donald! Wishing you continued success in this new role!

Education Updates

This fall, the members of High Hopes Clubhouse made significant strides in their educational journeys. Five members enrolled in adult education programs, where they dedicated themselves to improving skills and advancing their knowledge. Barbara Beaulieu, Timothy Hollis, Joe Barba, and Wendy Berry continue to work on strengthening their reading skills by attending a 'Read to Succeed' course, Wendy also attended for Math. Maria Wark attended Adult Ed, working to write a memoir, strengthening her writing skills. Heron Wheeler took multiple courses last semester and has enrolled in a few this semester, working towards his GED.

Additionally, four members attended drivers' education through Carvers Driving School, preparing to gain the independence that comes with having a driver's license.

Two members, Jake Lewia and Mira Hight, are taking the next step in their education by enrolling in courses at KVCC for the spring semester. Jake Lewia is taking a course focused on Foundation's of Digital Design while Mira is enrolled in Early Childhood Education, with the goal of further developing their skills for future careers. High Hopes Clubhouse is thrilled to support our members as they continue to seek out opportunities for self-improvement and growth, and we look forward to seeing how they thrive in their upcoming courses.

New Drivers Education Program

We are excited to announce that the Clubhouse programs at Kennebec Behavioral Health are offering a new opportunity for members to obtain their driver's licenses through a partnership with Ryan Carver's Driving School. Thanks to a generous grant from the ?, we are able to assist members in overcoming transportation barriers, providing them with the skills needed to drive and access employment opportunities.

Building on the success of our previous initiative, where 14 members earned their driver's permits, we are now enrolling a new group of participants for the next session of driver's education. This program is designed to help members gain the knowledge and confidence necessary to pass their driver's tests and begin their journey toward independence.

We are thrilled to continue offering this valuable resource to our community and look forward to helping more members achieve their goals.



Clubhouse Moments



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HUMANITARIAN PRIZE

