

MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS

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Palm Beach County

BEACHCOMBER FAMILY CENTER FOR ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ADDICTION, for profit, private, no affiliation. Address: 4493 N. Ocean Blvd., Delray Beach. Beds: 16. Visiting Hours: Tuesday nights and Saturday afternoons. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adults. Phone: 734-1818.

COMPREHENSIVE ALCOHOLISM REHABILITATION PROGRAMS INC., nonprofit, public. Address: 5400 East Ave., West Palm Beach. Beds: 150. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adolescents and adults. Detoxification, residential and outpatient programs. Phone: 844-6400.

THE CORNERSTONE, for-profit, affiliated with Wellington Regional Medical Center, owned by Universal Health Services. Address: 10101 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach. Beds: 16. Visiting Hours: Sundays, 1-5 p.m. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adults. Detoxification and outpatient programs. Phone: 798-8540.

FAIR OAKS HOSPITAL, for profit, affiliated with National Medical Enterprises. Address: 5440 Linton Blvd., Delray Beach. Beds: 102. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adults and adolescents. Inpatient, outpatient, day and residential treatment programs. Phone: 495-1000.

45TH STREET MENTAL HEALTH CENTER, not-for-profit, public. Address: 1041 45th St., West Palm Beach. Beds: 44 Medicare beds for adults, plus 15 adolescent beds in the center's Residential Learning Center. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Short-term psychiatric treatment for adults and adolescents. Phone: 844-9741.

GLENBEIGH HEALTH SOURCES, for profit, affiliated with Glenbeigh Inc. Address: 4700 N. Congress Ave., West Palm Beach. Beds: 60. Visiting hours: Evening hours. Vary according to floor and day. Programs: Treatment of drug addiction, alcoholism and eating disorders for adults and adolescents. Phone: 848-5500, (800) 926-9355.

GRATITUDE HOUSE, nonprofit, no affiliation. Address: 317 N. Lakeside Court, West Palm Beach. Beds: 29. Visiting Hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for women. Fifteen slots for day treatment. Special program for pregnant and postpartum women. Phone: 833-6826.

GROWING TOGETHER INC., nonprofit, private, no affiliation. Address: 1000 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Beds: None. Program uses host families. Visiting Hours: Not applicable. Programs: Drug abuse treatment for adolescents. Heavy family involvement in structured environment. Phone: 585-0892.

HANLEY-HAZELDEN CENTER AT ST. MARY'S, nonprofit, affiliated with The Hazelden Foundation. Address: 5200 East Ave., West Palm Beach. Beds: 78. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adults. Outpatient, day, residential and family programs. Phone: 848-1666.

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, nonprofit, affiliated with the National Mental Health Association. Address: 909 Fern St., West Palm Beach. Services: mental health information and referral service, educational and senior programs, Widowed Persons Service, support groups, children's programs, speakers bureau Phone: 832-3755 or 276-3581.

NATIONAL RECOVERY INSTITUTES GROUP, for-profit, private, no affiliation. Address: 1000 Northwest 15th St., Boca Raton. Beds: 70. Visiting Hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adults. Inpatient detoxification and rehabilitation, outpatient and day programs. Phone: (800) 535-8444.

PAVILION OF PALM BEACHES MEDICAL CENTER, for profit, affiliated with Columbia Healthcare Corp. Address: 2201 45th St., West Palm Beach. Beds: 88. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric inpatient, outpatient and day treatment for ages 3 and up. Treatment for substance abuse is available if primary diagnosis is psychiatric. Phone: 881-2601.

SANDYPINES HOSPITAL, for profit, affiliated with Health Management Associates Inc. Address: 11301 S.E. Tequesta Terrace, Tequesta. Beds: 60. Visiting hours: Vary depending on patient's age. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for children/adolescents ages 3 to 18. Outpatient and day programs and summer camp for learning disabled children. Day treatment programs for adults with mental health, drug or alcohol problems. Phone: 744-0211.

SOUTH COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER, nonprofit, publicly supported. Address: 16158 S. Military Trail, Delray Beach. Beds: 170.

Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment. Evaluation and detoxification. Inpatient, outpatient and residential programs for adults and children. Phone: 737-8401 and 272-3113.

WESTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC, nonprofit, public. Address: 1024 N.W. Ave. D, Belle Glade. Beds: 46, including 14 for crisis stabilization, 12 for the chronically mentally ill and 20 for pregnant women addicted to drugs or alcohol. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment. Detoxification and outpatient services. Residential program for pregnant women, outpatient program for children and an after-school program for teens. Phone: 992-1330.

MARTIN COUNTY

NEW HORIZONS OF THE TREASURE COAST INC., nonprofit, private. Address: Main facility, 800 Ave. H, Fort Pierce. Beds: 155 at operations in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, Port St. Lucie and Okeechobee. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment. Detoxification and outpatient programs and special program for drug-addicted, pregnant women. Phone: (407) 468-5600.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY

HARBOUR SHORES OF LAWNWOOD, for profit. Address: 1860 N. Lawnwood Circle, Fort Pierce. Beds: 60. Visiting hours: Varies according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for children, adolescents and adults. Day programs and outpatient services. Phone: 466-1500 or (800) 433-2673.

THE SAVANNAS HOSPITAL, for profit, affiliated with Mediplex. Address: 2550 S.E. Walton Road, Port St. Lucie. Beds: 70. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment for adolescents and adults, intensive therapy services, day programs and an inpatient women's program. Phone: 335-0400.

NEW HORIZONS OF THE TREASURE COAST INC., nonprofit, private. Address: Main facility, 800 Ave. H, Fort Pierce Beds: 155 at operations in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, Port St. Lucie and Okeechobee. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment. Detoxification and outpatient programs and special program for drug-addicted, pregnant women. Phone: 468-5600.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

NEW HORIZONS OF THE TREASURE COAST INC., nonprofit, private. Address: Main facility, 800 Ave. H, Fort Pierce. Beds: 155 at operations in Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Stuart, Port St. Lucie and Okeechobee. Visiting hours: Vary according to program. Programs: Psychiatric, drug abuse and alcoholism treatment. Detoxification and outpatient programs and special program for drug-addicted, pregnant women. Phone: (813) 763-1191.

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COLLEAGUES' CARE IMPRESSES

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Author/Byline: SUSAN SPENCER-WENDEL; Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

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As a central service technician at Palm Beach Regional Hospital for 21 years, Sylvie Peterson thought she knew most everything about the hospital's inner workings.

She discovered differently, though, when her own life laid in the hospital staff's hands.

Peterson learned how the emergency room, the intensive care unit and respiratory therapists work together to save patients' lives when she was placed in their care during an extremely severe asthma attack. She gained a new-found appreciation and respect for the staff.

"I was so impressed. I want to publicly thank the people who saved my life," Peterson, 44, said.

Among them are doctors, James Godwin, Bill Ludwig and Matthew Zaltzman, nurses Jocelyn Noe, Scott Phipps and Cindy Hamilton, and respiratory therapist Susan Weil.

After a few weeks of recuperation, Peterson recently returned to work and requested to serve those departments that cared for her. As a central service technician, her job is to maintain and inventory supplies in the departments.

"Now I'm aware of how the supplies I deliver are used to maintain life," Peterson said.

New site, new chances for program

Growing Together Inc. is growing itself.

The drug and alcohol treatment center for adolescents more than doubled its office space and facilities after Dominick Iacovone of Boca Raton donated a building in downtown Lake Worth.

"It was a gift from heaven," said Jo Ann Endorf, director of development.

Following months of renovations using more than \$200,000 of in-kind donations, Growing Together dedicated its new building last week. At lacovone's request, it was done so in honor of his deceased daughter, Marian Seifert.

The 20,000-square-foot building, located at 1000 Lake Avenue directly behind Lake Worth City Hall, has more space for school classes, meeting rooms and an infirmary. In its former rental offices on Lucerne Avenue, Growing Together would serve between 35 and 50 clients at one time. Now, though, they can accommodate between 70 and 80, Endorf said.

Started in 1987, the program treats adolescent drug and alcohol abusers and their families. The program is unique in that it emphasizes treating the whole family and not just the child, Endorf said.

Morse volunteers are many

There are almost as many volunteers as there are residents at the Morse Geriatric Center - 260 volunteers to assist 280 patients in the not-for-profit skilled nursing home in West Palm Beach.

The center's good fortune with volunteers makes volunteer appreciation more of an ongoing project, not just an annual awards ceremony, said Christine Toma, director of volunteer services. So last week the center held a tea in honor of the volunteers, and staff members individually recognized the ones who assist them.

Among those recognized was Shirley Spiegel of West Palm Beach who has worked more than 6,000 volunteer hours since the center opened in 1983. She has been in virtually every department over the years and is known - and liked - by everyone, Toma said.

Fan Buckner of Royal Palm Beach also has volunteered since the center opened and is known as its ``ambassador'' because she shows the home to potential residents and their families. Buckner also takes any new resident under her wing for a while and helps them adjust to life in the facility.

David and Sue Walsh of North Palm Beach bring double the joy to the center. The husband-and-wife team work in the center's activity department, and residents brighten up whenever they're around, Toma said.

Have some good news to tell about people in central Palm Beach County? Want to nominate a student or teacher of the week? Send your information to Susan Spencer-Wendel at The Palm Beach Post, P.O. Box 24700, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33416-4700. Phone 820-4827. Please include any photos.

- Caption: PHOTO (B&W)Palm Beach Regional Hospital employees Jocelyn Noe (left), Susan Weil, Scott Phipps, Sylvie Peterson and Cindy Hamilton.
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NO BLUE-RIBBON PANELS REQUIRED

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Author/Byline: FRAN HATHAWAY

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Some things are simpler than they seem.

Last week, President Clinton responded to a report that teenagers are starting to smoke, drink, and take drugs at an ``alarming" rate by calling a White House conference in January.

That's fine. It won't hurt anything. But I'm not sure it will help much, either.

The annual survey by PRIDE - National Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education - found drug use is up among almost all age groups.

Most startling, since 1989, the use of cocaine and hallucinogenic drugs has increased by 36 percent among ninth to 12th graders. Though the numbers - 4.5 percent of 200,000 polled - aren't huge, the jump is.

Also last week, the government's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration reported that in 1994, a half-million Americans were treated in hospital emergency rooms for drug-related problems. There were a record number of cocaine ``episodes," and not just among teenagers. Adults from their mid-20s to mid-40s had twice as many cocaine-related ER visits as younger and older people.

Then there was last month's embarrassing scandal at the U.S. Naval Academy, where the drug policy is ``zero tolerance." Two dozen midshipmen were implicated in the sale or use of drugs. Out of 4,000 at Annapolis, that doesn't sound like a big deal. For the naval academy, it is.

The public response to these bad-news stories? Ho-hum. Or so it seemed.

Why? Has the stubbornness of the drug problem dulled everyone's sensibilities? Is the answer too difficult or too expensive? Or is it hiding in plain sight?

People take drugs to feel good. Kids who already feel good - about themselves, their families, their futures - are less likely to be enticed. The real solution, one you hear repeatedly from people who treat addicts, is simple.

``We haven't learned how to nurture our children," Ivan Goldberg says. ``It's the single key ingredient in drug abuse."

Mr. Goldberg directs Growing Together, a Lake Worth drug treatment program for adolescents. His advice is so simple - hug your kid, talk to your kid, spend time with your kid - that some parents might brush it off as too simple. But after working in the treatment business for years, he knows what he's talking about.

Many Palm Beach County parents came to the same conclusion through harsh experience. Ten years ago, some of them started Growing Together, basing it on the Life program on Florida's west coast.

Today, it's an established program that's cheaper than hospital inpatient programs and uses no public money. Costs are kept to \$15,000 for 16 months by using host families who provide bed and board.

But extras require raising money. Growing Together's annual dinner Saturday at the Cohen Pavilion in West Palm Beach is part of a \$1 million, three-year fund-raising campaign.

Joann and Carl Endorf of Palm Beach Gardens were among the parents who sought a cost-effective program in 1985. At that time, Ms. Endorf admits, she was naive about drug addiction. Not now.

"I don't think a single child would get into drugs if it weren't for the low self-esteem that comes with the disintegration of families," Ms. Endorf says. "There's also too much denial among parents, too much acceptance that it's just part of the teen years when a kid who was a happy family member suddenly wants nothing to do with the family."

If you suspect something's going on, she says, it probably is. So how do we get parents to pay more attention to their kids? Anyone with the answer can save lots of people the air fare to Washington.

Fran Hathaway is an editorial writer for The Palm Beach Post.

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