



Visions Voice



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Greetings and Happy New Year to All

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I am delighted to welcome in 2018, and all of the potential the New Year holds. Visions had a wonderful year in 2017, attending colleague training in South Carolina, going to the International Seminar, and setting a goal to seek accreditation. We were fortunate to send three people to colleague training, and another four people to the International Seminar. We have successfully completed our self-study, and had our visit from Clubhouse International in December. We are looking forward to hearing positive news that we are officially accredited as a Clubhouse in the next month or two.

to explore awesome employment opportunities as well as participating in a plethora of community activities. Our membership is continually growing and we are building strong positive relationships with Case Managers, community partners, and family and natural supports.

members and staff, full accreditation, building our Advisory Board, and adding a few new TE's. In addition we will continue to expose members to community events and strongly encourage self-advocacy. Happy New Year and best wishes for a dynamic, event filled year.

Our goals for the New Year include continued training for

—Director Shawn

Inside this issue:

Recovery Story	2
Rochester Christmas Lights	2
Christmas Dinner	2
Accreditation Update	3
Inspirational Quotes for New Year	3
A Visit from Keon	3
Happy New Year 2018	4
Word Search	5
Organization info	6
Christmas Play: A Christmas Carol	6

We are very proud of our Clubhouse and the strides we have made becoming stronger and more focused on the Clubhouse philosophy. Our members are reaching all new heights and having the chance



Director Shawn

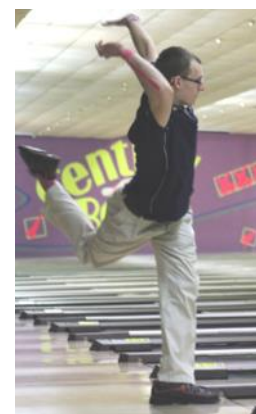
End of 2017 Bowling Outing

On Friday, December 29th, 2017, a group of Visions Clubhouse members and staff Sherry went to Airway Lanes to celebrate the end of the year. Among the members that came to Airway were myself (John Sim.), Ryan W., Dave B., Johnny B., Shanel, Ann K., Brenda, Melvin, Chris G., Beth-Ann J., and we saw Amy and her son Gabe, along with April's nieces Lexie and Sierra, and Darci's sons.

game, even though we had too many players entered on my lane with Sherry. We still worked it out and had loads of fun taking turns and covering for each other whenever we needed a break. It was kind of like a New Year's Eve celebration although it was two days early. It really didn't matter and at some point we had drinks and pizza for lunch.

ings in 2018.

—John Sim.



It was a fun way to end 2017 and we look forward to lots of out-

We all had a blast on our first

Recovery Story

My recovery story has been over two decades long now. I call it a work-in-progress. I lived in a different county and got services there. Five years ago I switched to Oakland County and CNS. The Certified Peer Support Specialists on team B (Keith R., Linda P., and Cheryl L.) had a lot of helpful ideas, and were really supportive.

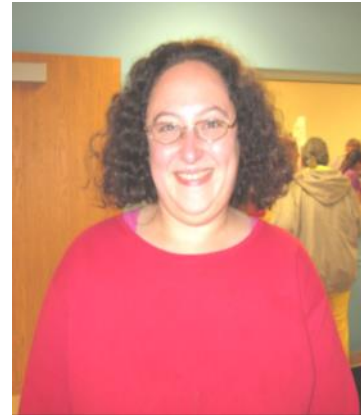
I graduated from W.H.A.M. (Whole Health Action Management),

W.R.A.P. (Wellness Recovery Action Plan), and women's group.

Hopefully, I have made progress in my recovery since coming to CNS.

Finally, since coming to Visions Clubhouse, I have made new friends, and learned great career skills. I work in the café and as a wait staff mostly. It is thoroughly enjoyable work.

—Nicole V.



Rochester Christmas Lights

On Thursday, December 7, 2017, a few of us, Visions members, and staff Veronica drove out to Rochester. Among the few members that went were myself (John Sim.), Joy M., Chris G., Shanel, Curtis, and Joe.

First off, we went to Barnes and Noble on Rochester Road. Some of us had drinks at the Starbucks café in the bookstore. Then we read magazines and books. Upon departure from Barnes and Noble, it was a landslide decision to go to McDonald's, and have dinner there.

Then we went up Rochester Road into downtown Rochester and saw some pretty awesome Christmas lights that illuminated many buildings in the area. We even took pictures

from the van of quite a few lights in downtown Rochester. Fun was had by everyone, and we are looking forward to our next outing.

— John Sim.



Christmas Dinner

As we know the Clubhouse is a wonderful resource to all of us, and is always there when we need it. That is never more true than on a holiday and is most true during the Christmas Season.

When I arrived at the Clubhouse on Christmas day I was feeling a bit sorry for myself and in a funk as my back was hurting, and because I was missing Christmas with family. But as soon as I walked in I was blown away by the aromas of all those wonderful Christmas foods cooking and being served. Amy and her elves (friends and family) were working on overdrive cooking up the most sumptuous and marvelous holiday dinner anyone can imagine. This led

to making that good holiday spirit cheerier and merrier. I guess after all these seven years I have come to think of that "we are family" feeling of the Clubhouse a little for granted, but we have to admit that the Clubhouse at Christmas time launched that feeling into whole higher orbit. Heck, it was enough to melt the heart of this life-long Grinch and Scrooge!

Hats off to the Clubhouse and Amy and her elves for bringing us all much Tidings *Of Comfort and Joy!!!!*

Therefore, Christian men, be sure wealth or rank possessing, ye who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing.

—Joe E.



Decorating & Cooking for Christmas Day!

(Left to Right) Michael, Cheri, Robert S., & Gabe

Job well-done!

Accreditation Update

As we all know by now we have been recommended for accreditation after a visit by two ICCD reps. This was accomplished by the hard work of all Clubhouse staff and members spanning a multiyear effort, and the tenures of three remarkable directors. Visions Clubhouse will be around for a while longer!!!

Special kudos to our current director, Shawn. She took over Visions Clubhouse after four months of a leadership vacuum, and brought us

to the cusp of accreditation in only 10 short months. Well done one and all!!
—Joe E.



Inspirational Quotes for New Year

- *Write it on your heart that everyday is the best day of the year.* – **Ralph Waldo Emerson**
- *Best way to predict the future is to invent it.* – **Alan Kay**
- *Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.* – **Winston Churchill**
- *You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.* – **C.S. Lewis**
- *All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.* – **Walt Disney**
- *For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice.* – **T.S. Eliot, Four Quartets**
- *New Year's most glorious light is sweet hope!* – **Mehmet Murat ildan**
- *Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.* – **Brad Paisley**
- *We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.* – **Edith Lovejoy Pierce**
- *Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.* – **Helen Keller**
- *If you asked me for my New Year Resolution, it would be to find out who I am.* – **Cyril Cusack**
- *The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. We can help write that story by setting goals.* – **Melody Beattie**

A Visit from Keon

Today, Tuesday, 12-19-2017, one of the most beloved individuals to ever grace the Clubhouse graced us with a surprise holiday visit—our very own Keon Sims. As we all know Keon was a member of Visions staff who left us last year to take the reigns of Next Step Clubhouse in Inkster, Michigan. There were hugs and kisses of joy all around as Keon greeted and talked with all of us.

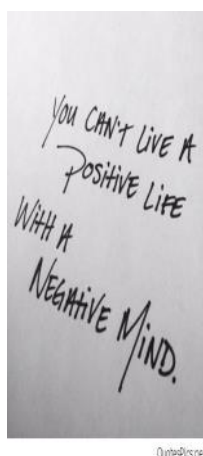
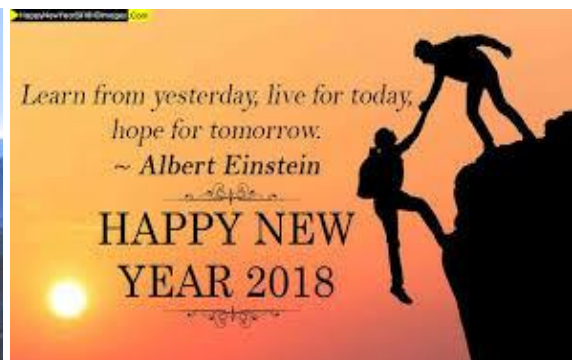
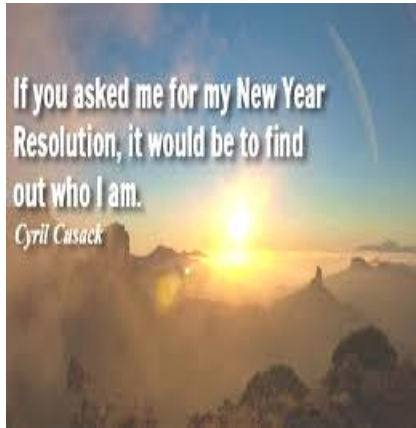
Upon leaving, we gave her a standing ovation. We all took delight in her visit, and were reassured that she is doing well.

—Joe E.



Keon & Christine

Happy New Year 2018



New Year's Word Search Puzzle

B P M Q N U I T Z I H V P N N
 E A B Q O E N I W V V W I O O
 Y M E T I Q I O U T I R G I B
 E B G H T U T N S L I A T T B
 D D I G A M I A O S M L I C I
 B U N I R N O I T U L O S E R
 K R N N B T X E N D W M U L F
 W A I D E E N E W T C K G F M
 O D N I L D H X M M I P L E J
 N N G M E S N X U I B U A R H
 S E C X C S D R A C X N S Q M
 J L M R A C F X P U Y J S O D
 V A S K R O W E R I F Y E M L
 B C P S I T T E F N O C S S O
 C W D L O S G N I T E E R G C

BEGINNING REFLECTION
 CALENDAR RESOLUTION
 CARDS RIBBON
 CELEBRATION SNOW
 COLD TOAST
 CONFETTI WINE
 END
 FIREWORKS
 GLASSES
 GREETINGS
 IN
 MIDNIGHT
 NEW
 OLD
 OUT



Happy New Year!

2018



Visions Clubhouse

185 Elizabeth Lake Rd.
Pontiac, Mi. 48341

Visions Clubhouse empowers adults with mental health challenges by providing support to advance in the areas of socialization, education, employment and independence to a full and lasting recovery.



Christmas Play: A Christmas Carol

On Saturday, 12-9-2017, a group of 11 clubhouse members went to Detroit's *Bonstelle* Theater to see the play, *A Christmas Carol*. Amy picked up and drove everyone who came, and that included Michael C., Cheri M., Eveline S., Joy M., Ryan W., Chris G., Zondra H., Nicole V., and Corina C. When we arrived in Detroit we met April who brought her adorable nieces with her, and Beth Ann J. who came with her sister. We were all excited to see the play. I hadn't seen a play in many years.

It was an overcast day, and the first snow of the season had just fallen the day before. A short walk from the *Bonstelle* Theater there was a Starbucks coffee shop, and we indulged in tasty specialty coffee and delicious sweets before we entered the theater. *Bonstelle* Theater is an old theater that opened its doors for the first time in 1902, and has seen a lot of performances since then.

A Christmas Carol tells the story of

Ebenezer Scrooge, an old miser, who is visited by the spirit of his former business partner, Marley, and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come. After their visits Scrooge is transformed into a kinder, gentler man.

Dickens wrote *A Christmas Carol* dur-

ing the Victorian age when the British were examining and exploring traditions from the past such as carols, as well as new customs such as Christmas trees. The play put us in a good mood and awakened the Christmas spirit in us, too.

—Corina C.

