

Clubhouse Works

“Our belief is that members want opportunities to discover fulfillment and inclusivity through the world of work. In 2013 at the Clubhouse’s 17th International Seminar in Saint Louis, there was a plenary presentation entitled *Employment: The Ace in The Clubhouse Recovery Deck* by Mark Maragno, Director of Charles Webster Potter Place in Waltham Mass. In this article, Lee Elliott spoke about the belief that employment is “the key cornerstone needed by all Clubhouses”. Village Clubhouse mirrors this belief and continues to dedicate our efforts to support members on their paths of recovery through employment.

Since opening our doors in December of 2018, the Clubhouse has supported more than 65 members access Transitional or Supported/ Independent Employment opportunities with a variety of different employers. In the process of writing this article, I recall the excitement and enthusiasm shared about the Clubhouse Model from community members, providers and perspective members about the various degree of employment supports and opportunities available. This information was somewhat foreign to so many of our founding members. It quickly became evident that the key to our success hinged on rapid development of our employment program. This targeted approach continues to play a significant role in our daily decisions. As we develop and target specific employers in our community, with the intentional goal of diversifying employment opportunities to assist our membership move from part-time employment to fulltime employment. We believe we are one step closer to fighting the stigma of mental illness and leading our members out of survival jobs to sustainable careers.” In 2021 members of Village Clubhouse earned \$252,246.30 through paid employment.

-Candy Lessard
Director of Village Clubhouse

Earnings 2021

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
TE	\$4,238.50	\$4,097.75	\$5,128.00	\$4,323.45	\$4,900.00	\$5,341.00	\$4,935.25	\$3,866.08	\$3,527.63	\$4,074.43	\$5,240.75	\$5,264.50
SE&IE	\$11,751.00	\$8,499.00	\$13,458.10	\$14,638.75	\$16,152.35	\$17,384.75	\$18,640.75	\$24,130.00	\$21,107.25	\$21,188.25	\$15,104.63	\$15,254.13

TE Earnings \$ 54,937.34

SE & IE Earnings \$ 197,308.96



Total Earnings \$ 252,246.30

Supporting Education

Standard #25 *The Clubhouse assists members to reach their vocational and educational goals by helping them take advantage of educational opportunities in the community. When the Clubhouse also provides an in-house education program, it significantly utilizes the teaching and tutoring skills of members. Village Clubhouse believes in supporting our members strive for career paths through continuing education. Seeing the pride on our colleagues faces as they achieve success and move from entry level positions to career paths is inspirational.*



SAMUEL



**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AUGUSTA,
LIBERAL STUDIES**

"IT HELPS ME TO LEARN HOW TO HANDLE MY SURROUNDINGS, AS WELL AS FIGURE OUT HOW TO DEAL WITH NEW SITUATIONS."



VICKY



**ACADEMY OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS,
MEDICAL CODING**

"I LOVE SCHOOL. I LIKE IT BECAUSE IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I AM CONTRIBUTING TO SOMETHING IMPORTANT, AND THAT I HAVE A PURPOSE IN LIFE."



CHEYENNE



**CENTRAL MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE,
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

"IT GIVES ME A SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND IT KEEPS ME BUSY SO I DON'T OVER THINK. IT GIVES ME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. I WOULDN'T BE GOING TO COLLEGE IF IT WASN'T FOR THE CLUBHOUSE."



NICOLE



MID-COAST LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

"MID-COAST LITERACY HAS HELPED ME WITH MY MATH AND READING SKILLS. IT HELPED ME TO CONCENTRATE ON SCHOOL WORK AND DISTRACT MYSELF FROM MY MENTAL HEALTH SYMPTOMS."

Clubhouse Employment Definitions

Transitional Employment (TE)- The Clubhouse places members in part-time jobs at local employers and provides full on- and- off site support, transportation, and absentee coverage.

Supported Employment (SE)- The Clubhouse supports an employed member and their employer through regular contact and on-site visits.


Independent Employment (IE)- The Clubhouse helps members transition to full-time employment in jobs of their own.



LIZ

SHAW'S

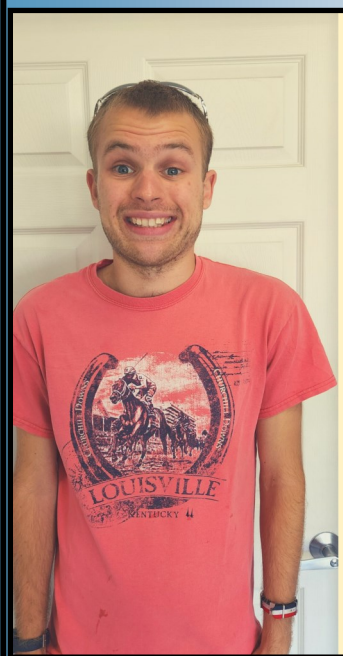
"WORKING HAS BUILT MY CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF TO KNOW I CAN DO THINGS ON MY OWN. AND I FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE ASKING QUESTIONS IN THE WORK PLACE."




DAN

JOANN FABRICS


"WORKING HAS HELPED ME SOCIALIZE IN THE COMMUNITY, AND ESTABLISH ENOUGH INCOME TO GET A CAR LOAN, AND HAS ALLOWED ME TO BE ELIGIBLE AND RECIEVE THE PASS PLAN."

DAWSON

PETCO


"WORKING IS GOOD WITH CATS AND DOGS."




DEVONIA

DOLLAR TREE

"WORK HAS HELPED ME WITH MY MULTITASKING ABILITIES, AND MY SOCIAL SKILLS WITH MY COMMUNITY. FOR MY MENTAL HEALTH, IT HAS HELPED TEACH ME TO STAY CALM IN STRESSFUL SITUATION."





ANTHONY

INDEPENDENCE ASSOCIATION

"Working my TE position has taught me valuable skills, such as patience and time management."



Independence Association
Celebrating Ability Since 1966



CHRIS

OLD NAVY

"BEING PART OF THE WORKFORCE HAS NOT ONLY HELPED ME BE PRODUCTIVE, BUT HAS ALLOWED ME TO NOT USE MY DISABILITY AS A CRUTCH."

OLD NAVY



TOM

WICKED WHOOPIES

"WORKING HAS HELPED ME IMPROVE MY FINANCIAL SKILLS, AND LEARNING WHAT TO DO IN A VARIETY OF POSITIONS. IT HAS ALSO HELPED ME WITH MY SOCIALIZATION SKILLS."

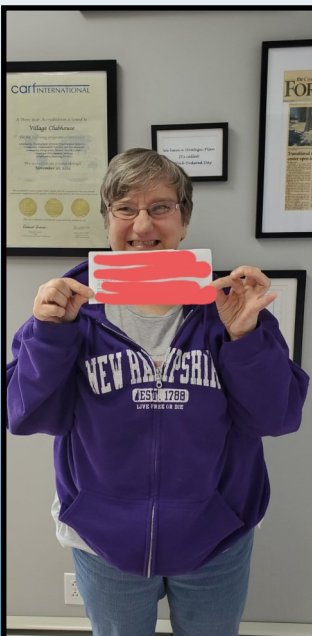


VICKI

T.J. MAXXX

"HELPED ME GET AROUND OTHER PEOPLE, AND LEARN HOW TO KEEP MY TEMPER IN CHECK. THE VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE HELPED ME GET BACK TO WORK."

TJ-maxx



MARY ALICE

OLD NAVY

"WORK HAS TAUGHT ME TO FOCUS ON MY WORK INSTEAD OF MY MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES. MY MENTAL HEALTH HAS IMPROVED SINCE BEGINNING MY TE."

OLD NAVY



BRANDY

T.J. MAXX

"BETWEEN DOING TWO TE'S, IT HELPED ME GET IN THE COMMUNITY, HELPED ME WITH MY FINANCIES, AND ALSO I FEEL LIKE I AM CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMMUNITY AND MYSELF. I'VE HAD WONDERFUL SUPPORT THROUGH THE VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE."

TJ-maxx



DAVID

T.J MAXX

"WORK HAS HELPED ME BECOME FINANCIALLY INDEPENDANT, ALLOWED ME TO PURCHASE MY CAR, AND I'M LESS ANXIOUS ABOUT MY FUTURE. I'M LESS ISOLATED AT HOME BECAUSE I SOCIALIZE AT WORK."



MIRANDA

J&R MAXWELLS

"WORKING HAS HELPED ME MEET NEW PEOPLE, AND CALM MY ANXIETY AROUND MEETING NEW PEOPLE. I'VE GAINED CONFIDENCE WHILE WORKING ON MY MENTAL HEALTH."



JOSH

GOODWILL

"IT GIVES ME SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO, AND A REASON TO GET OUT OF BED IN THE MORNING, AND IT KEEPS ME OUT OF TROUBLE."



VICKY

MAINE HEALTH

"I REALLY ENJOY MEETING PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE AROUND THE HOSPITAL. IT HELPS YOUR CONFIDENCE WHEN YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU'RE BEING JUDGED. I FEEL REALLY GOOD ABOUT MYSELF AFTER GOING TO WORK."



NYINGJE "JAY"

ASSISTANCE PLUS

"EACH PERSON YOU HELP ALSO HELPS YOURSELF. I ENJOY BEING A PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST BECAUSE IT MAKES ME FEEL CONNECTED TO MY COMMUNITY AND HELPS ME GROW AND BE MORE WISE."



NANCY

MCDONALD'S

"WORKING HELPS ME WITH COPING WITH PEOPLE, AND GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THEM BE HAPPY."



Advisory Board

Candy Lessard– Director

Rick Pelton– Assistant Director

Tanna Whitman–Attorney for the Law
Offices of Joe Bornstein– Board Chair

Brandi Farrington–Administrator of Com-
munity Support Services, KBH

Giff Jamison–Program Director of Tedford
Shelter

Stephen Delano –Member colleague

Hayley Smith-Rose –Radio Personality and
Host of Hot Radio Maine 104.7FM

Bethany Skelton–Vocational Rehabilitation
Counselor

Valerie Densmore -Special Services Di-
rector of RSU #75

Kevin Jones–General Manager of Old Navy,
Freeport, Maine

Kevin Jones

“The James R Schmidt Award is presented to those persons or organizations who best exemplify the late Jim Schmidt’s efforts to improve quality of life for adults who experience mental illness by providing them with social, educational, and employment opportunities.”



Kevin Jones has been working with Old Navy for more than 22 years in different capacities. He grew through the company, becoming a General Manager in 2005. He first became familiar with the Clubhouse Model when he was approached by Capitol Clubhouse staff in 2010 and a partnership quickly ensued. This partnership between Capitol Clubhouse and Old Navy continues to this day. When Kevin relocated to Bangor in 2012, he had the opportunity to continue his relationship with Clubhouse by partnering with Unlimited Solutions Clubhouse by providing Transitional and Supported Employment opportunities to the membership. Kevin was also briefly on their Advisory Board prior to relocating to Freeport. Upon learning about the opening of Village Clubhouse in Topsham in 2018, Kevin once again was pleased to partner with the Clubhouse by offering two Transitional Employment Placements to Village Clubhouse. This partnership was vital to the early growth and development of Village Clubhouse as it enabled Village to immediately offer employment opportunities to its new and growing membership. When Candy Lessard, Director of Village Clubhouse, began to assemble the Advisory Board it was obvious that Kevin was high on the list of prospective Board members. Kevin accepted this invitation, and continues to promote the Clubhouse model within his role. Through his work with the Clubhouse, Kevin has provided well over 100 members an opportunity for paid employment and that number continues to grow. His support of the Clubhouse model throughout the years has been a launching point for member’s employment, independence and overall recovery. We are proud to recognize Kevin this year for the James R. Schmidt award for his continuous dedication, passion, and commitment to the Clubhouse Model of Rehabilitation.

Village Clubhouse Statistics

Total Active Membership: 63
Average Daily Attendance: 24
Young Adults: 23
Continuing Education: 7
Wellness: 63
Transitional Employment: 8
Supported/ Independent Employment: 20

