

ENHANCING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Every year The Neighborhood UCC in Bath hosts a virtual, auction-style fundraiser for their community and chooses a local non-profit to give a portion of their proceeds. We are beyond excited to announce that this year, they chose the Village Clubhouse! The Neighborhood is well-known for their "open and affirming" fellowship, "free from the fear of judgment" and are welcoming to all walks of life. There, much like at the Village Clubhouse, "differences and inclusivity are celebrated". Their auction, entitled *Raise the Roof*, displayed a "treasure trove items, experiences and services" like antiques, gift cards to local businesses, vacation packages, landscaping assistance and more.

The proceeds raised from this auction go directly to Village Clubhouse's employment fund that assists our members with their vocational needs like clothing, first apartment essentials, car repairs, and other items that will help support successful employment endeavors.

As a result of this auction, the Village Clubhouse received over \$600! Thank you to the Neighborhood UCC in Bath for such a successful partnership and your kind contribution to our Clubhouse! If you or someone you know are interested in supporting the Village Clubhouse you may visit our website at www.villageclubhouse.org and click the donate button or call us at 207-837-6260 for more information about our program.

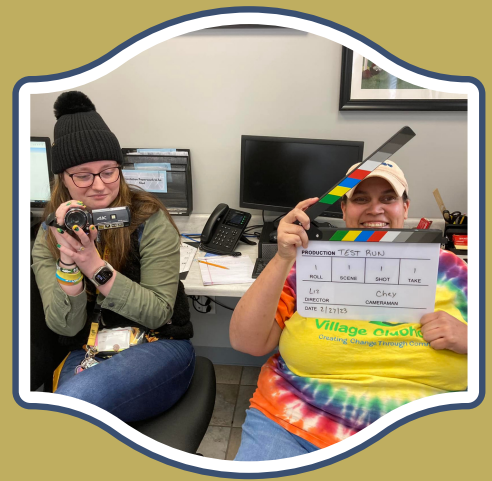
**We
received
over \$600!**



David and Holly presenting the Clubhouse with the proceeds from the fundraiser.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THROUGH DIGITAL MEDIA

The Village Clubhouse has been focused on building community relationships and sharing the Clubhouse Model. We have done this by increasing our media through editing weekly news videos, posting special events like weekly lunch menus, the extended evening programs, and more! We were able to partner with Andrew from Merry Meeting Adult Education over the last few months as to help foster and learn media skills as well as familiarize our equipment. The posts we have been creating through our social media platform allow local employers, community members and several



Clubhouses around the world to see a snap shot of what is going on in our Clubhouse community on a daily basis. Recently, Village Clubhouse participated in a Zoom call with Plymouth Bay Clubhouse in Plymouth, Massachusetts where we were able to provide suggestions, ideas and answer questions about how we have utilized our media equipment and advanced our social media presence. Here at Village Clubhouse, we have received compliments on our social media and have even heard that we provided the confidence to other Clubhouses to start media projects in their own communities.

PINE TREE SOCIETY

Cheyenne, Lauren, and Candy recently presented the Clubhouse Model to 17 case managers at Pine Tree Society over Zoom. Village has also been scheduling presentations to local agencies and high schools. By spreading the word about Clubhouse to local organizations, we will be able to increase our overall membership and continue to build a strong work ordered day. If you know of any agencies that may benefit from a Clubhouse presentation, feel free to reach out to us at 207-837-6260.



PINE TREE SOCIETY
discovering abilities together

MAINE CLUBHOUSE COALITION



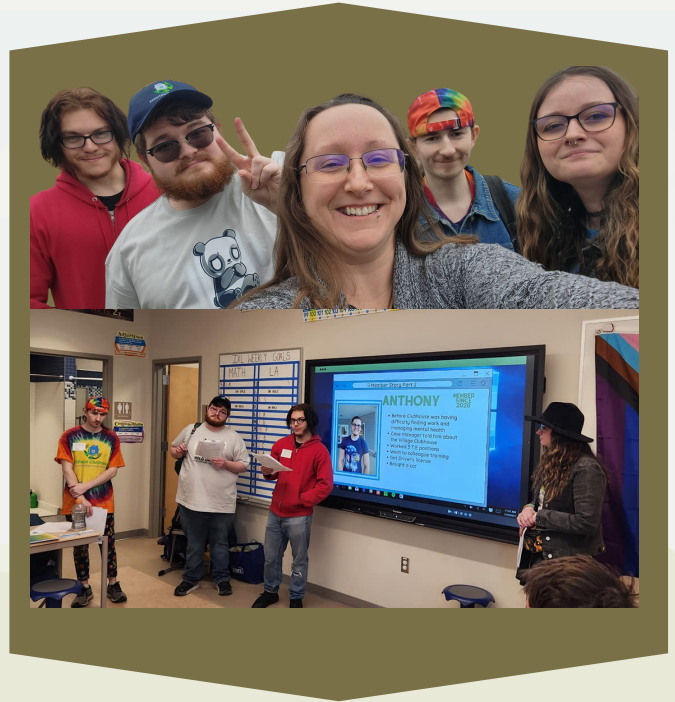
Clubhouse Coalitions represent strong, regional organizations that support the Clubhouse community. On Friday, April 14th representatives from all six Clubhouse in Maine met as the Maine Clubhouse Coalition at High Hopes Clubhouse in Waterville. Each Clubhouse provided an update including overall census for each of the Clubhouses along with data including percentage of members engaged in employment, education, and healthy lifestyles. Various agenda topics included conversations about strategies to improve transportation as well as gathering information on reporting healthy lifestyle measurements. Lisa (director of High Hopes Clubhouse in Waterville) and Carrie (director of Unlimited Solutions Clubhouse in Bangor) shared updates from Clubhouse International. Our next meeting is scheduled for June 16 and will be hosted by High Hopes Clubhouse.



YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Our goals within the Young Adult Committee is to support our young adults in identifying individual strengths to find careers, educational opportunities, and to strive towards successful and stable lives. Our efforts to engage young adults in our community is one of our top priorities. Approximately one third of our total membership consists of young adults ages 18 to 26 and we look forward to seeing that number grow.

Over the past few months, we have been focusing our efforts on connecting to local high schools and presenting information about the Clubhouse Model as well as the benefits of joining our community. Transitioning out of high school and into adulthood is often difficult for many people, and harder for those who struggle with a mental health diagnosis. Our focus is to help young adults feel welcomed and needed within the Clubhouse community while providing support as to gain independence and progress toward their goals. On April 11th, Tom, Nia, Cheyenne, and Rheanna visited Morse High School in Bath on the Clubhouse Model to their senior class. This presentation was well attended and as a result we were invited back in the Fall to share our message at one of their library's events.



"It was an opportunity of a lifetime to be able to present to the younger generation on the Clubhouse Model. It felt exhilarating because we are able to welcome the upcoming generation to the idea of Clubhouse and build the future of our club."
-Nialania

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

TOM'S JOURNEY TO SUCCESS



Tom began his transitional employment journey at Wicked Whoopies In Freeport on May, 31st 2022. We would like to congratulate him on successfully completing his nine month placement! This is Tom's second transitional employment site through Village Clubhouse. He has also been involved in the young adult committee, holding several officer positions to include; Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. He recently presented with his young adult peers to Morse High School and their transitioning seniors. Tom hopes to someday obtain a supported employment position and to continue to working towards returning to college as to obtain his degree. *"Getting jobs through the Village Clubhouse has helped me increase my confidence has helped me gain new skills. Now I feel like I am a productive member of society."* -Tom

MEET ANTHONY

"Before Clubhouse, I was having a very difficult time finding a direction in life to go in. It was my first year out of high school, and my days had little to no structure. I had a case manager at the time, and I had expressed interest to them about finding work. My case manager told me about the Village Clubhouse in Topsham, and I was interested in what they had to offer. A few months after being told about the Clubhouse, I finally went in for a tour. Soon after, I had my orientation. Fast forward three years, I have worked in three Transitional Employment positions (Goodwill, Old Navy, and Independence Association.

I've made many friends along the way, friends I look forward to seeing when I go to Clubhouse. I also had the opportunity to go to colleague training in Utah, which is a two week training about the Clubhouse Model. After colleague training, I gained more confidence and discovered that my voice does indeed matter. I recently received my driver's license and I have purchased a car. I also presented to the Clubhouse's advisory board, sharing my story of how I progressed from my transitional employment position into a supported employment position. Going forward with Clubhouse, I look forward to continuing to share my story in hopes to inspire others and be a role model to those who may be in a similar spot I was in three years ago."

-Anthony



WELCOME NEW COLLEAGUES

We would like to welcome our newest colleagues to the Clubhouse: Allie, Adam, Henry, and Eli! We are excited to see our Clubhouse expand and are looking forward to welcoming more colleagues into our community.

"I feel like I am included in a bunch of different things that I normally wouldn't do if I was still at home. Plus it gives me an opportunity to make new friends out in the community. I feel happy when I am at Clubhouse." - Allie

"I feel like we are united as a community. Clubhouse has been very welcoming and I feel right at home. Before Clubhouse, I was at home playing video games. Now I feel at home, even after moving from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Maine." - Adam

"Clubhouse allows me to get out of the house and do stuff. It makes me feel better because I get to meet people and make new friends." -Henry

"Coming into Clubhouse, I feel happy and more positive. I'm not just sitting around the house. I am productive and have a solid routine." -Eli



PROMOTING WELLNESS IN THE CLUBHOUSE COMMUNITY

According to the Clubhouse International Standards, Standard number 28 reads: "The Clubhouse provides assistance, activities and opportunities designed to help members develop and maintain healthy lifestyles."



Wellness Corner

Did you know more than 50% of Americans will be diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lifetime? 1 in 5 individuals will experience a mental illness in a given year. In the hopes of lowering these statistics, Village Clubhouse has been focused on enhancing our healthy lifestyle opportunities so we can best support each other in nourishing our wellness goals. Through implementation of a Wellness Committee, which meets every Thursday at 10:30AM, we've been able to provide our colleagues with an opportunity to share their wellness goals, identify moments of



gratitude and learn new coping skills while encouraging each other to practice them into their everyday routine. If you're interested in learning more, Clubhouse International has numerous wellness resources that can be accessed online by visiting their website at www.clubhouse-intl.org.

MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR MEMBERSHIP

The Clubhouse has recently re-established our driving education study group which meets Mondays at 10:30AM. This is a time where colleagues learn and support each other with their goals of obtaining their driver's license. This well-attended group uses various mediums of study, such as videos, short quizzes, and other interactive learning activities. Whether or not you have your driver's license already, you are welcomed to come join our meetings.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Education is an important cornerstone in the Clubhouse Model. Our Clubhouse helps members access educational resources which includes a partnership with Merrymeeting Adult Education that offers our membership a 50% discount on all of their enrichment courses. Thank you Merrymeeting Adult Education!

We would like to congratulate Elijah on completing his welding program and obtaining his certificate.

"I'm really happy that I got my welding certificate. It makes me feel good because I accomplished something instead of giving up halfway through." - Elijah

We'd also like to congratulate Krista as she continues with her basic Microsoft and Windows 10 computer courses.

"Clubhouse has helped build my confidence and want to further my education. I am a tutor for my colleagues in ASL and other subjects. I learn many skills in the Membership Services Unit and am trying to expand them by taking computer and administration classes. When I'm at the Village Clubhouse, I believe I can get a job. Clubhouse is very supportive and affirmative and makes me believe I can do it!" -Krista



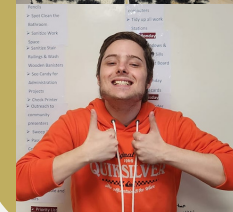
WHY CLUBHOUSE MATTERS TO ME

"One thing I love about the Clubhouse, I'm getting out of my house and into a good environment. It helps me build workplace skills and meet new friends." - Miranda

"Clubhouse is a home away from home. I'm learning new skills, talking to more people, and learning to be myself." -Josh D.

"At the Clubhouse, I like learning new skills, practicing my reading and writing, and making new friends with colleagues. " - Stephanie

"When I'm at the Clubhouse, I am happy, I smile more, I can practice my kindness, and I'm excited to start my first Transitional Employment job at Spindleworks." -Ethan



UNIT UPDATES

Business Employment



In the business employment unit, we've been working with an online design and publishing tool called Canva to produce many of our graphics, advertisements, announcements and media publications. This has enabled us to increase our social media presence and inspire members to utilize their creative skills during the work ordered day. We've also created a Education Resource Binder which features educational opportunities and resources that help connect colleagues to local colleges, scholarships, college directories, and more. The business employment unit also hosts a monthly education breakfast, reaching out to community presenters and inviting them into the Clubhouse to share educational resources with our Clubhouse community.



Food Services



The Food Services Unit has been working hard to organize and streamline how we keep track inventory as to make it easier for colleagues within the unit. One way we have done this is through a new labeling system in the café. Drawers and cabinets are now clearly labeled, helping to inventory products on hand. We have also updated the daily task checklist to organize and track unit tasks. Additionally, we updated our unit board, developed our monthly deep cleaning check lists and moved and reorganized dishes. We have some fun new kitchen gadgets added to our collection and a brand-new grill to use!

Membership Services



Membership Services recently worked to touch up paint and rearrange areas of the Clubhouse to support the space of our new and larger magnetic unit board! Along with this new addition to the unit, areas of the Clubhouse that were enhanced include; relocating the lockers, coat racks, wellness area and transitioning the hutch in the dining room. We are now able to add and update our unit board with more ease. We also created our very own reach out and media board which allows us to focus on connecting to colleagues who we haven't seen at Clubhouse as well as daily media tasks that need to be completed. Membership has updated our tutor wall showcasing our colleagues that offer their skills and knowledge with one another. As a final step to these updates; Liz, Charlotte, and Kim took the lead to create a board to organize different information including the transitional employment schedule, facilitation of making breakfast daily, who is opening the Clubhouse for the day and where our Clubhouse vehicles are located at any given time. We are excited to continue expanding our unit as our Clubhouse community grows!

ADVISORY BOARD & SPONSORS

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

Stephen Delano – Member colleague

Candy Lessard – Director

Rick Pelton – Assistant Director

Brandi Farrington –Administrator of Community Support Services, KBH

Giff Jamison–Program Director of Tedford Shelter

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

Bethany Skelton–Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Valerie Densmore -Special Services Director of RSU #75


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

If you are interested in scheduling a tour, please call the Clubhouse at 207-837-6260 or email our director Candy at clessard@mbhmaine.org.

If you are an employer and would like to partner with the Clubhouse, please feel free to reach out to us as well!

Follow us online!

 www.facebook.com/VillageClubhouse

 Villageclubhouse.org



Transitional Employment Partnerships

- Old Navy
- Maine Health
- Wicked Whoopies
- T.J Maxx
- Independence Association (Spindleworks)