Recovery Ride & Picnic 2014

We were excited to start National Recovery Month with Indiana Addiction Issues Coalition celebrating a free event. The Annual Recovery Ride & Picnic 2014, because everybody’s recovery counts. We began the event at Southside Harley Davidson with coffee, donuts, free t-shirts, and the Indiana State Police motorcycle escorts. It was a great turnout, considering what Mother Nature was delivering that morning, but that did not stop our recovering motorcyclist and the Indiana State Police from celebrating our recovery. The ride began at Southside Harley Davidson and ventured around I-465 to end up at Riverside Park where a picnic was waiting, and a lot of other people in long term recovery. There was speakers from different fellowships sharing their stories of recovery. There were also awards given to two members of the recovery community. The recipient of Lifetime Recovery Award was Isaac Spain, a retired Program & Facility Manager at The Bethlehem House.

The recipient of the Recovery Advocate of the Year was Marti MacGibbon, author of “Laughing all the Way Up From Rock Bottom” & the founder of “Laff-Aholics”, an annual event of comedians whereas all proceeds are donated to a local recovery home. There was an estimated 300 in attendance. So, if you didn’t make it this time, you better not miss the next year. Don’t forget, “Everyone’s Recovery Counts, EVEN YOURS!” We would personally like to thank all of those that sponsored the event, who believed and supported people like us who are in long term recovery, for making that day even more special by being there, and by showing others that we can and do recover. And a special Thank You to all of you people in long term recovery for making this possible, for your service work, but...
BUSINESS

The Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition & Mental Health America of Indiana are pleased to announce Project PEERS:

A Federally Funded Grant Project - PEERS—Peer Empowerment Effects Recovery Services position. Project PEERS will result in the development of a state-accepted credential for Peer Recovery Specialist, training of 150 Peer Recovery Coaches, and Infrastructure development activities for 30 Recovery Community Organizations to increase their use of Peer Recovery Support Services.

Persons in recovery from the disease of addiction in Indiana is the primary population to be served. Secondarily, Indiana Recovery Community Organizations will receive training and technical assistance to more fully implement peer recovery support services.

IAIC will partner with DMHA as well as other public and private behavioral health agencies, faith-based organizations, and community and privately-funded support organizations. They will be able to coordinate and deploy training and coaching services, develop and manage ongoing regional trainings, develop a statewide infrastructure for PRSS, assist RCOs with organizational capacity-building, and formulate sustainability strategies to ensure the continuation of the project beyond the funding period.

IAIC has recruited organizations to assist with these efforts in the project it calls

PEERS – Peer Empowerment Effects Recovery Services.

Are you as excited as we are?
PAST & UPCOMING EVENTS

Removing the Mask
Please join us and Channel 13 news anchor Anne Marie Tiernon for the Annual “Removing the Mask” Gala Event.
October 30, 2014
Register online at www.mhai.net

FROM ADDICTION AND LOSS TO WHOLENESS

Hear stories of healing in this panel conversation that touches on spirituality, music, writing, and public policy.
Fairbanks Recovery Center
November 8, 2014
1:30-3:00 pm

Rally for Recovery!

2014 National Hub Recovery Rally
Louisville KY & Jeffersonville, IN
Truly a day to remember with Mike Botticelli Director of ONDCP, Tom Coderre of SAMSHA and Mike Barry of KY’s PAR in Louisville KY and Jeffersonville IN

If you would like to make a donation to the Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition, please contact Kim Manlove at 317-638-3501 x 231, email: kmanlove@mhai.net or visit the website http://recoveryindiana.org/

Thank You!
Your support means Recovery Forward.

Treat a Person as They Are... And That They Will Stay, Treat a Person as What They Could Become...And That They
Personal Story of Recovery

Micah K. - A Personal Story

I got sober June 3, 2011 after I lost my job of twelve years, and then two weeks after that I was kicked out of an art group/business venture that I had co-founded. Another two weeks went past, and the woman that I was in a five and a half year relationship with left me. At this point I was heartbroken, emotionally, and spiritually beat up. Feeling lost, alone and not sure what to do with myself, I came to the conclusion that something needed to change. What needed changed at that moment, I didn’t know. It was five days after the breakup that I got a sign that something needed to change.

Recognizing some cues I decided to checkout a meeting. I really didn’t know if I had a problem with drugs and alcohol or not. Drinking was not a malady for me, marijuana was the daily event. Cocaine is what I thought “maybe” I had a problem with. My original motivation was all recreational. It didn’t take long for me to realize that maybe this was where I needed to be. My reading of step one in the 12 & 12 was the moment I realized fully that I was an alcoholic/addict. It was here that for the first time in my life I truly started to become HONEST, OPEN-MINDED AND WILLING. I began to listen to suggestions. I got a sponsor and started working the steps. I then built a network of people in the fellowship, got involved in service work, and did what I could to help the newcomer. Also, I learned to tap into a power greater than myself. Like a lot of addicts, I was initially reluctant to surrendering my will to this religious concept. I had been jaded to the idea of having to go to church for most of my young life. I would soon identify that the root cause for my resistance to a higher power was my resentment toward one person that attended the church.

Since I grasped a hold of these principles and concepts I have been able to begin to live a more peaceful and serene life style. My name is Micah, and I am a recovering from the disease of addiction. I say that because I haven’t found the need to use any mind altering substance since June 3, 2011.

First, I do the daily requirements of prayer and meditation, to help feed that spiritual relationship with a higher power. I’m not always the best at this, but I meditate in the morning, I go to meetings, and I stay connected to the fellowship. In addition, I talk with my sponsor on regular basis and tell on myself if necessary. Keeping myself occupied with art projects is another way I can tap into the spiritual pipeline. I am currently working with a local jewelry artist. I am also a woodworker and furniture designing is my forte. I have some opportunities presenting themselves with the help of the fellowship. I look at incorporating various mediums as tools in my toolbox. Like the 12 steps are tools for living a full, enriching, and productive life. In a nutshell, staying physically active, working the steps, prayer and meditation, staying connected with fellowship, and service work are how I maintain my sobriety.

When I was fresh in recovery, I got involved with the young people in a fellowship. We would go cliff diving, on camping trips, or any event in which my finances and scheduling would allow. I am a very social person and early on, I desperately needed the fellowship to have fun and also just to get through the hours of the day. As I think about it now, my idea of fun is kind of boring, comparatively. Bike riding is one of the most enjoyable things I do. I also like to work on projects, draw, and paint and build objects. All of these things bring me joy and peace. When a problematic issue arises while making an object, I use the principles, because if I don’t, it will mess with my serenity. I can’t have fun then. Getting outside to a park, hiking and of course the two-wheeled leg-powered vehicle. My name is Micah and I am a grateful recovering addict and alcoholic.

Micah, age 37