

The Counseling Center of
Wayne & Holmes Counties
2285 Benden Drive
Wooster, OH 44691

CENTER UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2012

PROGRAM ACHIEVES NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

The Counseling Center's Employment program has been awarded national accreditation from the Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). Specific services included in the accreditation include: Job Development, Job Supports, and Job-Site Training. In the survey report, the Center was complimented for the following strengths: "Leadership has a good and positive vision regarding the employment program. The leadership is supportive of employees and has professional and caring staff members who provide an array of employment services to persons served. The organization has a well-maintained and attractive facility designed for the well-being of persons served and its employees. Persons served expressed appreciation for staff member's dedication and services delivered, and the organization is committed to providing employment services to persons served."

The Counseling Center previously provided employment services; but those services were discontinued in 2009 as a result of mental health budget cuts. The services were re-activated in 2011 with the assistance of the local Mental Health and Recovery Board and a grant from the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services. The focus of the program is on helping clients with mental health issues or a history of chemical dependency to secure and maintain permanent employment.

STAFFING CHANGES

The Counseling Center is pleased to welcome new members: **Dana Golla, MSW; Starlynn Atwood, Brandi Snyder and Jenna Bauer.** Golla holds a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and will be working as member of the Center's Home-Based Services Team. She previously worked for the Three Rivers Adoption Council in Pittsburgh doing community based family therapy. Atwood joins the support staff as a word processing specialist; Snyder will act as a part-time crisis assistant, answering office phones on the weekends; and Bauer will be a part-time Family Resource Specialist, providing support and encouragement to families with a severely emotionally disturbed child.

With regret, the Center also accepts the resignation of **Diane Meyer, LISW,** who has led the organization's Emergency Services Program for the last several years. Prior to leading the crisis team, Meyer was a early childhood home-based therapist for the organization.

ADMISSIONS GROW

The Counseling Center admitted 198 new clients during the month of January. This is a high admission rate for a winter month and reflects the growing community need for mental health services. At this level, the Counseling Center is processing more than one new admission for each hour that the organization is open.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and claims the lives of more than 34,000 persons each year.