

Nonprofit

Fellowship cuts ribbon on clubhouse

By Patricia Daddona
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PROVIDENCE – Fellowship Health Resources Inc. held a ribbon cutting on Aug. 14 to promote the addition of Harbor House clubhouse to its network of recovery services.

Located on 12 Bassett St., parents opened the clubhouse three years ago to create a supportive place for family members living with mental illness. The peer recovery-based clubhouse provides an array of programming, including vocational and educational support, housing, and advocacy.

The clubhouse had been in danger of closing because of lack of funding, but on July 1, 2014, was officially added to the FHR network, said FHR President & CEO Debra M. Paul.

"To know that FHR is expanding recovery services in Rhode Island with a clubhouse is very exciting," said Paul. "Through Harbor House, our goal is to provide the supportive services needed to have individuals reconnect with the community and meet their goals, whether they are educational or employment."

In addition to a ribbon-cutting ceremony, clubhouse members and individuals receiving services from FHR Rhode Island showcased their artwork.

"FHR currently has a network of clubhouses across the state of Massachusetts, in Attleboro, Falmouth, New Bedford, and Fall River," said FHR Regional Director of Clubhouse Services Tom Couhig. "Having this expertise will allow us to leverage the assets and experience we have through our other clubhouses to really make Harbor House thrive in the Rhode Island community."

Harbor House Program Director Ralph Lord said the stability provided in the transition "gives us an amazing sense of expansion and growth. We now know that we can hit the heights and shoot for the moon like we've always wanted to do."