

Heartsounds

A Recovery Circles Foundation Newsletter

Summer, 2006



Recovery Circles Foundation
Creating Partnerships
for Recovery

From the President and CEO • *Kathy Ford*



Kathy Ford
President/CEO

Recovery Circles Foundation is committed to connecting! And we've been busy connecting...with our Partners and with those who share our commitment to individuals who struggle with addiction and other mental health issues.

We have expanded our partnership base by creating new relationships with premier recovery centers. Three of our newest partnerships are highlighted in this publication. In an effort to maintain open dialogue with our Partners and to improve our grant-making process, we asked them to respond to a survey designed to get feedback on the ease and effectiveness of our communication pieces, forms, staff accessibility and process. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our Partners who took the time to respond to this survey. We value your opinions and insight!

We continue to reach out to elected officials who share our mission of supporting the underserved who struggle with addictions. Sean Ford, our vice-president, met with Congressman Stephen Lynch of Massachusetts recently to discuss our mission and seek advice on how to expand that mission to the East Coast. We would like to offer special thanks to Congressman Lynch and long-time Recovery Circles advocate Daniel Lynch for helping to arrange the meeting.

September is Recovery Month. RCF board members will be attending the Third Annual America Honors Recovery Month luncheon presented by the Johnson Institute in Washington, DC.

Grant-making Activity • *1st and 2nd Quarters, 2006*

A total of \$92,775 was awarded during the 1st and 2nd quarters of 2006. Seventeen individuals received grants to extend their treatment. Additionally, two block grants were given; one to fund an aftercare program, and one to fund individuals in extended treatment programs.

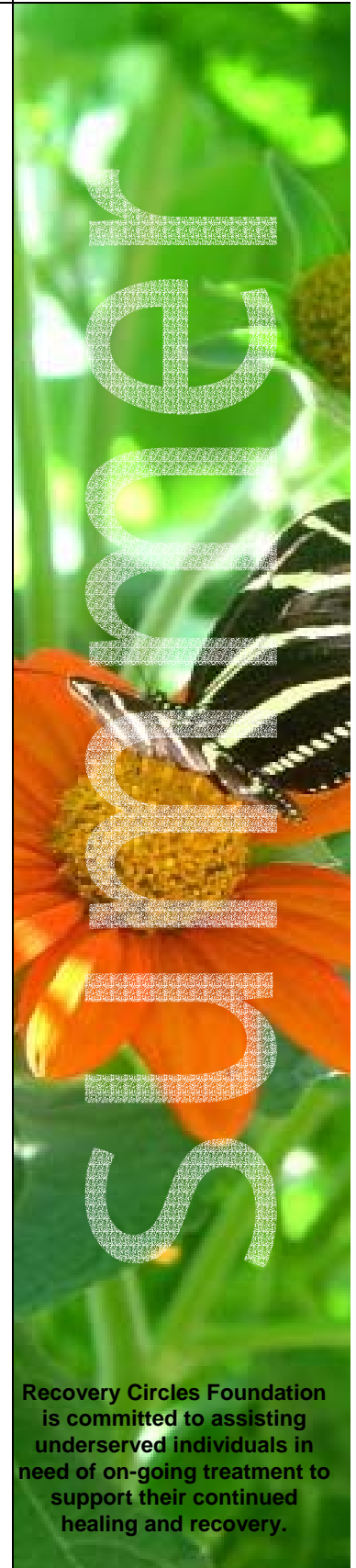
Recovery Circles Foundation receives three-month, six-month and one-year progress reports from therapists involved in the care and treatment of individuals receiving our grant money.

RCF Welcomes three new Partners

Hazelden Foundation, Center City, MN – provides residential and outpatient recovery services, extended and continuing care, family programs, school and community-based prevention and education programs, information and evaluation/assessment, publishing and renewal services.

Middlesex Human Services Agency (MHSA), Boston, MA – provides a full range of housing, mental health, substance abuse and social service programs to individuals and families who are homeless or who have little or no financial means.

Betty Ford Center, Rancho Mirage, CA – provides gender-specific treatment programs for men and women suffering from chemical dependency. See "Partner Profile" section on page two for more information.



Recovery Circles Foundation
is committed to assisting
underserved individuals in
need of on-going treatment to
support their continued
healing and recovery.

Partner News

Behavioral Health Services in Winfield, IL welcomes a new Director. Mike Tinken will be accountable for the full range of inpatient and outpatient mental health and chemical dependency services on the BHS campus. Mike has spent the last 10 years as the Director of Employee Assistance and Behavioral Health for Metropolitan Family Services of Chicago.

The Retreat in Wayzata, MN broke ground in June for their new Family and Spiritual Center. The Center will offer a wide variety of programs designed to encourage family members and loved ones to explore how their lives have been affected by the disease of addiction. Family participation includes group discussions, educational sessions, Al-Anon & AA meetings, individual meetings with program staff, personal reflection, prayer and meditation practice.

Guest Editorial - John M. Boop, Senior Vice President
Betty Ford Center Foundation – jboop@bettyfordcenter.org

The Betty Ford Center is honored to become a partner with Recovery Circles Foundation. The philosophy of Recovery Circles is truly admirable and stands as a beacon of hope for those individuals who are committed to treatment but lack the full funding to seek or remain in treatment. Even though the Betty Ford Center directs roughly 11% of revenue to underwrite treatment, as patients commit to staying in treatment longer, Recovery Circles Foundation helps us fill a gap in our own ability to help all those who seek financial assistance.

We also feel privileged to network with Kathy Ford and her son, Sean, whose purity of motivation and sense of compassion are much needed and so refreshing to organizations who have often struggled in isolation to meet the needs of their clients and patients. They bring a new focal point to the campaign of heralding the benefits of quality treatment to those confronting issues of addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

Partnerships at this level benefit each organization and society at large.

Partner Profile ♦ Betty Ford Center, Rancho Mirage, CA –
www.bettyfordcenter.org

The history of the Betty Ford Center is part of the life story of their founder, former First Lady Betty Ford. After completing her own treatment for chemical dependency at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Long Beach, California, Mrs. Ford saw a need for treatment geared toward the unique issues facing women who struggle with addiction. In 1982, along with her good friend, Ambassador Leonard Firestone, Mrs. Ford co-founded the non-for-profit Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, California.

The Center continues to emphasize its gender-specific treatment and maintains a 50-50 ratio of women to men. The Betty Ford Center has always viewed the disease of addiction as an all-encompassing family issue. The Center is also recognized for its innovative Children's Program and Training Services for medical students and healthcare professionals.

Heartbeats

"I arise in the wee hours of the morning and walk gingerly down the hall created by the pattern of our sleeping cubicles.

I am careful not to wake the remainder of our small group and I am instantly reminded of a hospital nursery.

We are like two rows of incubators helping to sustain life until we can manage to breathe on our own In a place that is breeding hope for the future in ten women who desperately need the time to heal.

I am being held softly in Teresa's womb until I can fend for myself and reemerge into the world mentally and physically capable of dealing with what life has to offer.

I am looking forward to the process. Thank you for allowing me to try."

-From a poem by Margaret, a Theresa's House participant (a division of Deborah's House)

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