

## Dates to Remember

- The Center will recognize Christmas Eve and Christmas Day holidays Dec. 23 & Dec. 26.
- The Center will recognize New Year's Eve and New Year's Day holidays Dec. 30 & Jan. 2.



# Center Pointe Journal

An employee newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2005

## Robert Porter Remembered

Robert Porter, 49, left his mother's house to walk to his day treatment program at the Main Center on Gordon Smith Drive on July 25, which was something he did every weekday.

That morning he arrived at the Center's doors at 5 a.m. and sat down for a little rest on the bench. When maintenance personnel arrived at 6 a.m. to unlock the doors they found Porter had died from heart complications.

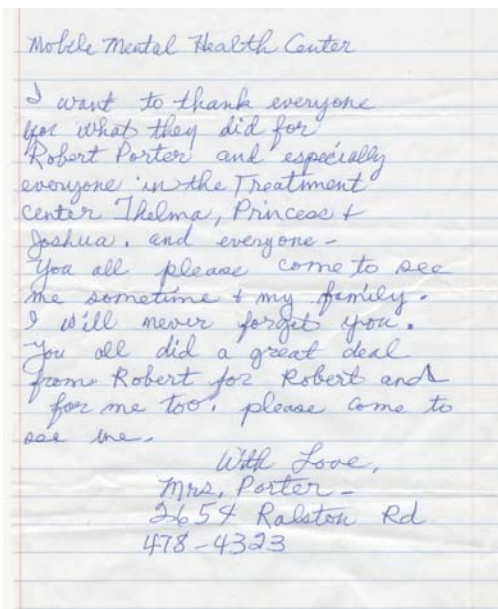
"He was happy with what he called the treatment center over on Gordon Smith," Porter's mother, Beulah Eubanks said. "He loved everyone of them over there."

Porter moved in with Eubanks last April. Since then she

would see him off on his morning walk to the Main Center most mornings at 2 a.m. "Goodbye, take it easy," I would say."

Eubanks said her son was a happy person with a good disposition. As his biological mother, they had been in touch since 1972. She said her son liked to read the 50-cent mysteries at the library. She said he also enjoyed sports and movies.

"Everything was going so well," Eubanks said. "He was smoking and I finally talked him into giving up cigarettes. I told him it didn't agree with his health."



Beulah Eubanks sent this letter to the Mobile Mental Health staff members for their role in her son's care. She signed it Mrs. Porter.

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## Dr. Kamei visits



Hiroyuki Kamei, R.Pharm., Ph.D.

Mobile Mental Health's pharmacy services are getting some international attention.

Japanese pharmacist Dr. Hiroyuki Kamei, of Nagoya, Japan, toured Mobile Mental

Health Center's pharmacy in September to increase his knowledge of pharmacy systems in United States Community mental health center's.

"I learned many things that will help me in my research in Japan," Kamei said.

Kamei is currently serving as an associate professor at Meijo University's Laboratory of Clinical Pharmacy

Practice and Health Care Management. His professional memberships include The Japanese Pharmacological Society and the Japanese Journal of Pharmaceutical Health Care and Sciences.

Mobile Mental Health Center Board Member David deGruy hosted Kamei during his visit. The trip was arranged in conjunction with Samford University's School of Pharmacy in Birmingham.

# PROJECT REBOUND UPDATE

Mobile Mental Health Center's Project Rebound Team is working hard to help hurricane victims in Bayou La Batre and other parts of Mobile County.



Project Rebound volunteers met at the FEMA warehouse to gather supplies for victims. Left to right: Raheem Ruffin, Iwana McCall, Vivian Censhaw, Estella Lee, Walter Kimbrough, Alicia Johnson and Miriam Broyle.



**Raheem Ruffin and Walter Kimbrough help move supplies to Katrina victims from the FEMA warehouse.**

The Disaster counseling team is going door-to-door in neighborhoods hardest hit by the hurricane. In November the team met at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's warehouse for disaster supplies to gather a few things for their consumers.

Since Katrina made landfall in August, the Mobile Mental Health Team has reached to more than 2,400 survivors. That is part of the 4,500 survivors who been reached by other Rebound teams in south Alabama.

The counselors are part of a

federal grant that was awarded to the state of Alabama. The grant seeks to help disaster victims understand that their emotional and mental reactions are normal and common during an abnormal situation.

Rebound counselors help disaster survivors understand their current situation, lessen additional stress, review their options for the

future, provide emotional support, and link to community agencies and resources.

The program is designed to assist Katrina survivors and their families as well as local government officials, rescue workers, disaster services workers, business owners, religious groups and special populations.

Katrina survivors are contacted through personal visits, telephone calls, educational groups and distributed materials. Of those contacted, about 1,100 are local to south Alabama, more than 400 are Alabama residents, 750 are Louisiana residents, and 1,200 are Mississippi residents. An additional 1,100 survivors were not categorized.

## Notes from the CEO...

Mobile Mental Health Center takes pride in its consumers, employees and facilities.

As we continue to grow and add new programs, it is important for us to remember our existing programs that have always served us well. During the month of November we renovated the lobby/entrance area at the Adult Outpatient Programs on Gordon Smith Drive.

The new floor makes the facility more inviting and welcoming for consumers

and employees and provides a more therapeutic environment.

More of our programs will see renovations and maintenance work so everyone will be proud of our facilities.

As a Christmas welcome to our employees, Mobile Mental Health Center will once again provide hams for the employees. We have tentatively made plans to deliver them Dec. 15.

Merry Christmas.

—Tuerk Schlesinger,  
CEO

P.S. War Eagle.



Olivia Nettles hoists an Auburn flag at BayPointe Hospital under duress after the Iron Bowl.

## Protect consumers: "DO NOT USE"

To help reduce the numbers of medical errors related to incorrect use of terminology, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) issued a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols that should no longer be used.

Since the first Institute of Medicine (IOM) report was published in 1999, which stated that between 44,000 and 96,000 deaths each year may be attributed to medical errors, efforts have increased exponentially throughout the health care system to systematically address the issues and better protect patient safety. JCAHO's National

Patient Safety Goals, which include the "Do Not Use" list, are one example.

A "minimum list" of dangerous abbreviations, acronyms and symbols has been approved by JCAHO. Since January 1, 2004, the following items have been included on MMHC's "Do Not Use" list:

### Do Not Use Abbreviation List

Item	Abbreviation	Potential Problem	Preferred Term
1	U (for unit)	Mistaken as zero, four or cc.	Write "unit"
2	IU (for international unit)	Mistaken as IV (Intravenous) or 10 (ten).	Write "international unit"
3 & 4	Q.D., Q.O.D. (Latin abbreviation for once daily and every other day)	Mistaken for each other. The period after the Q can be mistaken for an "I" and the "O" can be mistaken for "I".	Write "daily and "every other day"
5 & 6	Trailing zero (X.0 mg), Lack of leading zero (.Xmg)	Decimal point is missed	Never write a zero by itself after a decimal point (X mg), and always use a zero before a decimal point (O.X mg).
7, 8 & 9	MS, MSO4 and MgSO4	Confused for one another. Can mean morphine sulfate or magnesium sulfate.	Write "morphine sulfate" or "magnesium sulfate"
10	Ug	Mistaken for mg (milligram) resulting in one thousand-fold dosing overdose	Write "mcg"
11	T.I.W. (for three times a week)	Mistaken for three times a day or twice weekly resulting in an overdose.	Write "3 times weekly or "three times weekly"
12	S.C or S.Q (for subcutaneous)	Mistaken as SL for sublingual, or "5 every	Write "Sub-Q", "subQ, or "subcutaneously"

MMHC staff must be aware of the "do not use" list of abbreviations and understand that these abbreviations and symbols are prohibited when documenting in the consumer records.

# Maintenance Week 2005

Mobile Mental Health Center recognized its Maintenance Department in October during the National Healthcare Facilities & Engineering Week.

“Our maintenance department has always done an outstanding job caring for our buildings,” Tuerk Schlesinger, CEO, said.

In addition to everyday up keep and odd jobs at the Center’s nine different locations, the Maintenance staff is always on call during hurricanes and plays a major role in gathering supplies and boarding up buildings.

“The guys do great work for the Center,” Dave Smith Coordinator of Facilities said. “They unlock the doors in the morning at the Center’s building and are always willing to lend a hand.”

This year the Center sent thank you cards and a T.G.I. Friday’s gift certificate for each member of the department.



Maintenance Department from left to right top row: Dave Smith, Evans Worthy and Marvin Tarleton. Bottom row: Mike Randall, Billie Mosley, David Roberts, and Martis Cobb.

## Performance Improvement gets United Way Party!

Christmas is coming and the pledge cards are counted. For 2006 Mobile Mental Health Employees raised \$5,500! This was more than twice the money we raised last year for United Way. Thank you to all of the employees who participated.

This year’s much anticipated Pizza and Ice Cream Sunday party goes to the Performance Improvement Department. Their department made more individual contributions to United Way than any other department .

Much of the Money Mobile Mental Health raised will go towards Katrina victims through organizations like the Salvation Army or Catholic Social Services. There are more than 75 agencies in our area that pass along United Way dollars to help our community, enrich our children and improve the quality of life for the needy.

In 2004 our community received much support from United Way agencies.

- 200 children who were removed from unsafe, abusive environments and received counseling and educational ser-

vices through St. Mary’s Home

- Drug education and awareness for 46,000 students in Clarke, Mobile and Washington counties through the Drug Education Council;
- Goodwill Easter Seals placed 480 adults with mental/physical disabilities in jobs
- 373 adults learned to read through Goodwill Easter Seals
- More than 4.25 million pounds of food were distributed to area children through Bay Area’s food Bank.



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### Our Mission

Mobile Mental Health Center’s mission is to plan, promote and facilitate a system of mental illness, substance abuse and mental retardation services; and to encourage the recovery of consumers by providing efficient quality behavioral healthcare through clinical excellence, consumer and family involvement, cultural awareness and community partnerships.