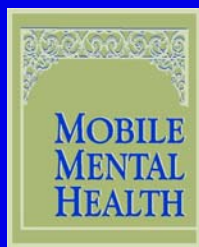


REMEMBER  
JULY 4TH IS  
A HOLIDAY!



# Center Pointe Journal

An employee newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JUNE 2005

## Notes from the CEO...



Tuerk Schlesinger, CEO

With more than half of the fiscal year behind us, I am happy to report that as a company Mobile Mental Health is still strong and growing.

Our adult programs continue to grow and we are getting ready to open additional beds at BayPointe Hospital for an intermediate care unit. We have just recently added an additional classroom at the Lemoyne School to accom-

modate 10 more students.

We are very excited about some of the opportunities that will be in front of us now that we have re-organized some of the leadership in our company.

With her focus on children's services, Maggie Posey has already identified several opportunities to develop new programming to better serve our children. Megan Griggs has just been appointed as the Assistant Clinical Director for Adult Services. She promises to continue in Maggie's footsteps to advance adult services.

You, our employees, are the driving force behind our success. The quality care that you

provide helps us to maintain our programs and add to them.

This newsletter is the first of a couple new initiatives to improve communication within Mobile Mental Health and to show you some of the great care given to our consumers. We hope that by improving our internal communications that The Center will better enable you to continue your excellent care.

### Did you know?

Travel allowances have been increased from 30 cents per mile to 35 cents per mile.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Accounting's new home 2

Notes from Human Resources 2

Notes from Performance Improvement 3

Oasis program excels 3

Electronic medical records 3

BayPointe Summer Blast 4

## Nurses' Week 2005

Mobile Mental Health Center celebrated Nurses' Week 2005 with fun-filled events and cards.

"All of our employees are important to us," CEO Tuerk Schlesinger said. "We wanted to start a program to thank them for all of their hard work."

Nurses Week 2005, which

was celebrated May 6 through May 12, is the first of these appreciation programs. In the coming year more will follow to recognize everyone's dedication to mental wellness.

This year the administrative team made cards for each nurse and enclosed a gift cer-



Outpatient nurses gather for lunch at their regular meeting at the Main Center .

tificate for TGI Fridays. During the week, Schlesinger handed out the cards to indi-

(Continued on page 2)

# Accounting's new home

As Mobile Mental Health Center stretches and grows, it is shuffling its operations and the accounting department has relocated to the administration building. This will allow the department to better fulfill the needs of the company.

"The new location is very convenient," John Chieh, controller, said. "We get work done much quicker and checks signed much quicker."

Despite the change in location, Chief Financial Officer Kevin Markam said check requests would still

**"We strongly encourage employees and case managers who need checks to allow time for the money management process."** Kevin Markham—CFO.

be processed the same way they have for the last year.

Case managers should

use the designated baskets in their areas for check requests. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the money management representative will make pick-ups and drop-offs.

In case of emergency only, case managers may make arrangements to pick up checks from accounting. Prior arrangements must be made with Eric Velleux at 662-2798.



**"The new location is very convenient. We get work done much quicker and checks signed much quicker. "**  
—John Chieh

## Notes from Human Resources...

MMHC is reviewing payroll practices and we hope to establish new procedures for better efficiency and accuracy.

In the mean time, there may be individual cases in which some inaccuracies need to be corrected. MMHC is committed to making these corrections as soon as administratively possible.

Any employee that encounters a payroll inaccuracy should notify his or her supervisor immediately and the supervisor will contact payroll.

Once payroll corrects the problem, the supervisor will be notified how and when the employee will be reimbursed.

If you have any questions, please contact your supervisor.

—Dwight Lacy  
Director

## Nurses' Week Continued...

*(Continued from page 1)*  
vidual nurses at their programs.

To conclude Nurses Week, pharmaceutical representatives hosted a luncheon at Red Lobster.



**Tuerk Schlesinger meets with outpatient nurses at their monthly meeting to hand out nurses week cards and answer company questions .**

# Notes from Performance Improvement...

## Why care about performance improvement?

There is a long tradition of seeking improvement in the healthcare industry. Improvement initiatives have become one of the most important functions that healthcare organizations perform today to thrive in the healthcare marketplace.

Though there are many terms that reflect the development of the philosophy including quality assurance, quality improvement, quality management and per-

formance improvement. These terms are all, in reality, focused on one thing, which is continuously helping people with challenged health return to healthier, more productive lives and doing so by the most efficient and effective means possible. It is an evolving mission and one that is always seeking a better way of doing what we do.

Delivery of quality mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services is a commitment of Mobile Mental Health Center. Thus all Mobile

Mental Health employees must be concerned with performance improvement. To contribute to the success of this organization, we must all participate in performance improvement initiatives such as participating on a sub-committee or work-group, as well as identifying problems and making suggestions for improvement. In doing so, there is continuous improvement in the quality of processes, services and/or outcomes.

—Sherill Alexander  
Director

**June is  
National  
Safety  
Month !**

**Never take a  
break from  
Safety!**

## Oasis' substance abuse program excels

The Oasis facility met all of the criteria for its parole program during its first site visit in January.

“The parole contract is a joint effort involving numerous staff members in the building and without teamwork it wouldn't be as successful as it is,” Barbara Zander, coordinator of substance abuse programs, said.

As part of the contract with the state, Oasis provides the following services: intake assessment and reporting, group and individual counseling, and urinalysis and reporting.

The parole program began in October 2004 as a contract to allow consumers released on parole to meet their legal obligations and remain in society. Since the program began Oasis

has provided services to more than 30 consumers.

During the course of the parole program, consumers may receive counseling services regarding abstinence, community integration, transition frustrations and other topics.



Barbara Zander

## Update: Electronic Medical Records

### EMR

Coming To a Program Near You!

Our Electronic Medical Record pilot project at the West Mobile office is a **SUCCESS!**

“The EMR has proven to be user friendly, enables better compliance with record keeping, and provides

immediate access to relevant consumer information,” Ronald Finch, LPC and Assistant Coordinator of West Mobile said.

EMR captures Assessments, Treatment Plans, Notes, Medications, and Psychiatric Evaluations to name a few. EMR provides work flow tools, To-Do lists, and compliance reminders. Final preparations and enhancements are being made for

all of Mobile Mental Health's programs.

Bayview Professional Associates and MR Case Management are scheduled next for EMR. We hope to have the records implemented in June or July.

—Steve Dolan  
Chief Information Officer



Administration Building  
5750-A Southland Drive  
Mobile, AL 36693

### Department of Public Relations

Phone: 251-662-7303  
Fax: 251-666-7537  
E-mail: mhoffman@mobilementalhealth.com

## Our Mission

Mobile Mental Health'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.

**Making a Difference—One life at a time**

# BayPointe's Summer Blast

Employees and consumers at BayPointe Hospital had fun in the sun with Summer Blast 2005.

Art therapist Laima Brown organized the festivities as a relaxing treat for everyone at the facility.

"It's an event to bring BayPointe together and enjoy each other in a different environment, like a party," Brown said.

During the day BayPointe opened up its pool for the children and teenagers to enjoy swimming activities. There also was a moon-walk air machine with obstacle course and a few games to play like sidewalk bowling.

BayPointe Director Olivia Nettles said this is the third year that the



**Mobile Mental Health employees fill their plates during the cookout at Summer Blast 2005.**

facility has held the Summer Blast. She said staff members would also plan a picnic for the fall.

"It was the best summer blast

we've had," Nettles said. "Everyone said what a wonderful time it was this year. Thanks to everyone who had a hand in making it great."

Staff members from the west Mobile offices walked over to join the cookout where the cafeteria staff grilled hotdogs and hamburgers. Consumers and employees also enjoyed watermelon, baked beans, potato salad and chips.