# Jeremiah's Times

3

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### A Note From the Executive Director...

Happy Fall! As we transition into a new season here at Jeremiah's Inn, we can see the generosity of our community come into full bloom, even as the leaves begin to change color and fall to the ground. As summer turns to fall, our long-standing volunteers are joined by new groups of students and businesses who want to serve a warm meal or help in the Nutrition Center's food pantry. The outpouring of support we receive reminds me of how much we have to be grateful for.

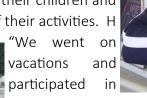


The end of summer was marked by a Candlelight Vigil on August 31<sup>st</sup>, recognizing International Overdose Awareness Day. A group of staff and residents from Jeremiah's attended, taking time to reflect on those we have lost to addiction. September was National Recovery Month, which provided us with an opportunity to remember why we do what we do— to help men on the road to long-term recovery. We participated in the 10<sup>th</sup>Annual Worcester Cares about Recovery Walk & Celebration on September 29<sup>th</sup>. It was a funfilled, family event reminding the community that recovery is possible.

We held our **2<sup>nd</sup> Chopped!Worcester** event on September 24<sup>th</sup> in the Odeum Room at WPI. This annual event raises funds for our

# Resident Story- Meet Darryl G.

Daryl G. grew up in Philadelphia PA as the middle child of three boys. He describes his upbringing as "solid." Both of his parents worked hard to support their children and all of their activities. H





neighborhood events," he said. Daryl was an active member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, and played many different sports as a teenager. Before his disease progressed, Daryl had aspirations of leading a simple life. "I wanted to work with troubled teens, and help build their confidence when they are in dire situations." When doctors diagnosed Daryl with high blood pressure at a young age, he knew that drugs were taking a toll

on his physical health. When he continued to abuse drugs despite the negative consequences to his health, and his relationships, he knew his life had become unmanageable.

(Cont. on pg. 3)



**CHOPPED!Worcester 2018 Competitors** 

(Cont. on pg. 2)



We would like to thank **Future Focus Media (FFM)** for doing such a great job capturing the action at Chopped! Worcester in September and for producing shorts to help us promote the event! FFM always does a great job and always delivers their service with a smile!







MC: Jay Powell, Judges: Derek Gibbs; Mike Hsu;
Alina Eisenhauer; & Mike Arrastia



# Note from Exec. Dir. (cont.)

Nutrition Center and helps raise awareness about hunger in our community. We appreciate all the chefs, judges and MCs who donated their time and talent to make this night a success!

We also appreciate our sponsors and all the businesses who donated food, drink, auction items and other in-kind support – we couldn't have done it without you!

With Thanksgiving around the corner, I want to remind you of our upcoming Holiday Wish Program, which allows our residents and their children to celebrate the holidays, which are often a difficult time for families with a loved one in recovery. For more information about how you can support this program, please contact Alyssa: alyssa@jeremiahsinn.com or 508-755-6403.

In closing, I'd like to extend my deepest appreciation to all of you who make our work possible – without your time, treasure and talent, we would not be able to fulfill our mission. As we head into the holiday season, we want to make sure you know how grateful we are for you!



Janelle Wilson MBA
Executive Director

Janello Wilson







# **Holiday Wish Program**

If you would like to help us fulfill some Holiday wishes for a resident and his family please contact **Alyssa** or visit our website **www.jeremiahsinn.com** 



#### **Nutrition Center**

We are seeking individuals with computer & customer service skills, and/or the ability to move up and down stairs carrying 25+ lbs.

Please contact Christine:
christine@jeremiahsinn.com

# **Winter Coat Drive**

JI will be accepting new or gently used coats for the months of Nov & Dec if you have to donate or are in need of one contact Alyssa: alyssa@jeremiahsinn.com



# **Resident Story (cont.)**

He tried to find recovery on his own, but had a tough time. "I was tempted when I saw people I had sold drugs to, or had to carry on a conversation with someone I used with." He had never been to treatment before but decided to embrace Jeremiah's Inn (JI) and the Social Model of recovery that JI offers. Rowing, meditation and walking are a few of the activities of which he has taken part. He says, "These particular activities allow me to exercise my mind and practice self-control." By taking part in the Wellness Program, he has also learned the importance of eating well and exercising in recovery. Daryl will be graduating the program in a few weeks and is looking forward to a new chapter in his life. "I want to take care of my responsibilities and be a productive member of society." This recovered life will include helping someone suffering from addiction. "Helping others in recovery gives me a sense of hope and fulfillment. I plan to remain involved in the fellowship, and my own recovery." We here at JI are very grateful to have witnessed Daryl's growth during his residence, and believe he has so much to offer someone who is in pain. Whether it be a troubled teen, or someone in active addiction he has a few words of advice: "Ask guestions, surrender yourself, stay humble, and remain teachable."

# **Staff Spotlight**

# Christine Tosti Nutrition Center Coordinator

Christine has worked as a peer support worker, residential counselor, case coordinator for dualdiagnosed individuals, and as a clinician on an inpatient substance abuse unit while pursuing a Master's degree in mental health counseling. Christine is in recovery from a mental health diagnosis and knows the importance of reaching out for help and fostering a healthy support network. Having taken on the role as the Nutrition Center Coordinator at Jeremiah's, Christine is willing and ready for the challenges ahead. Engaging the residents at JI in helping their community, fostering a stigma-free environment, promoting wellness holistically, and advocating for underserved populations are some of the areas Christine will be working on with the help of JI's welcoming atmosphere.



### **Board of Directors**

A big thank you to our Board of Directors, who work hard to serve Jeremiah's Inn & the community: Patricia Davidson, President Joseph Stiso, Vice President **Gene Bouchard, Treasurer Open Position- Clerk Cassandra Anderson Timothy Bibaud Amy Harrington** Melinda Hillock **Jack Reardon Eugene Santos-Roesler** If you are interested in becoming a board member, let us know!





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