



More Than 40 Years of Caring

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EAST HOUSE/RIT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM KICKS-OFF

“I’m looking forward to taking classes and beginning the program...this Enrichment Program will help take me where I want to go,” states Christine, an East House client who will have the opportunity to take classes during a two-week enrichment program at RIT. East House and the Rochester Institute of Technology are once again collaborating to offer 40 individuals recovering from mental illness and/or chemical dependency an opportunity to experience college life on the RIT campus. Classes will be taught by community volunteers, from June 2-12th, with a formal graduation ceremony planned on June 12th.

Clients choose from classes such as computer skills, public speaking, photography, art and more. This unique program, now in its twelfth year, has been very successful in encouraging East House clients to pursue education to achieve independence and self-sufficiency. After attending the program, many have gone back to school to obtain their GED or have enrolled in local colleges to earn a degree. This program has proven to inspire many clients to better their lives, as is often expressed during the graduation ceremony.

In addition to the time and space donated by instructors and RIT, financial support has been received from the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford, the Fred & Floy Willmott Foundation, the Rochester Female Charitable Society, St. Mary’s Church Society, Wegmans Food Market, and the Marie C. and Joseph C. Wilson Foundation. This program is funded wholly by donations.

A kick-off reception and registration meeting was held on May 15th at the Third Presbyterian Church. A car wash was also held by East House Career Services program and the clients enrolled in this year’s program. The car wash, held at the Lac De Ville Administrative office on May 16th, raised \$750 for the program.

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GRADUATION SLATED FOR JUNE 12TH; OFFICER ROBINSON TO SPEAK

Rochester Police Officer Moses Robinson will be the keynote speaker at the graduation on June 12th. He will address graduates, families and community members. Former client Hassan Lane, who graduated in 2006, is also a guest speaker. Hassan is now employed by the Hyatt Regency. Clients enrolled in this year's program will also have the opportunity to speak about their experience. The ceremony will be held at RIT's Panara Theater on June 12th at 1:00 p.m.

East House is a private, non-profit rehabilitation agency. Founded in 1966, East House provides residential, rehabilitation and support services to individuals recovering from mental illness and/or chemical dependency. East House serves more than 1,300 clients and their families each year and is funded by New York State, Monroe County, United Way, client fees and donations. For more information, contact Anne Mc Kenna at 256-3800, ext. 213.



Christine, from the Crossroads Apartment Program, is looking forward to Enrichment.

Clients enrolled in Enrichment washed cars on May 16th, to raise funds for the program.



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