

The Nexus

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Fortieth Annual Westapher Golf Charity Benefits Nexus



Nexus board member Kevin Crayton (left) and tournament participants

The 40th Annual Westapher Golf Charity netted more than \$50,000, of which nearly \$38,000 went to Nexus Recovery Center. We are grateful to the Preston Center Rotary for choosing Nexus as the beneficiary for the second year in a row. The 41st annual tournament will also benefit Nexus, and will be held Monday, October 9th. You can sign up today by calling the development department, 214.321.0156, ext. 2104.

The Briggs Freeman team, represented by Doug Shelton, David Leachman, Jeff Eleazer and Mike Collins, won the tournament with a low gross score of 54. The beautiful traveling trophy, designed and hand crafted by Bob Hogan, will be on display at the offices of Briggs Freeman for the next year.



Tournament Honorary Chair John Hammarley

Major sponsors for the event included: St. Ives Realty, Inc., CompUSA, Larry E. Boerder Architects, Briggs Freeman Realtors, Burning Tree Recovery Ranch, Campbell & Associates Consulting Engineers, Chicago Title, Fairfield Enterprises, Inc., George Lewis Custom Homes, Hope Home Medical, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, Land American Title, Merrill Lynch, Saxon Oil, Edwin & Fred Seipp, Stanford Group, William Tichenor, TravisWolff Advisors & Accountants, Rosemary Haggar Vaughan Family Foundation, and Wachovia Foundation.

The money raised by the golf tournament supports expenses to operate all of the programs here at Nexus. When you participate in the golf tournament you are directly supporting our residential and outpatient programs. Examples of your support include funding the "gap" between government reimbursements and actual expenses, salary support for the medical director, the nurse and counselors, and childcare expenses for the kids whose mothers are in treatment.



Scott and Diane Sealy with Pat and Frank McLaughlin

Nexus is very grateful to Tournament Chair Kimball Ramey and Preston Center Rotary President George Spencer. Special thanks go to Women's Auxiliary President Diane Sealy for leading the effort to promote the golf tournament and to Nexus Board member Jonna LaGrone-Haynes for spearheading the silent auction. The committee has already started working on identifying next year's major sponsors. If you would like to participate, please call the Nexus development office at 214.321.0156, ext. 2104.



Jonna LaGrone-Haynes and Kimball Ramey

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Our Mission

Recovery and sustained independence from drug and alcohol abuse for disadvantaged women, including women with children, and adolescent females.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF NEXUS

President
Diane Sealy

Open House Invitation

*Partner Agencies are cordially invited to attend an
Open House at Nexus Recovery Center
to learn more about our residential and outpatient
treatment programs.*

Thursday, April 20 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

*Come and find out more about our recovery programs and how
we can better work together to serve the needs of recovering
female addicts. Partner agencies and referral sources are
encouraged to attend.*

**RSVP by April 17 to Lora Brandis 214.321.0156, ext. 2104 or
lbrandis@nexusrecovery.org.**

Nexus Welcomes New Board Members

Please join us in welcoming the following new board members to Nexus.

Matthew Chance is the Director of Operations for Critical Care Services at Children's Medical Center in Dallas. During his five years with Children's Medical Center, Matt has guided the financial operations of Surgical and Critical Care Service lines, coordinated the development and construction of a free standing Ambulatory Surgery Center, and facilitated expansion of the surgical facilities to include 24 operating rooms and 63 inpatient surgical beds. Prior to Children's, Mr. Chance served as an Administrative Officer for various clinical departments with the VA North Texas Health Care System.



Matt is a graduate of the Austin College in Sherman, Texas with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology. He received his Master's in Healthcare Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. He is a Diplomat in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) and just completed a term as Board President of the North Texas chapter of ACHE. Matt has volunteered at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children for more than eight years, during which he served four years on the Auxiliary Executive Board and as Board President from 2002-2003.

Matt resides in Rockwall with his wife Amanda and their boxer puppy.

Shannon Clouse is currently employed as Vice President, Sales for Bank of America in their Healthcare Finance group where she develops capital-raising solutions primarily for not-for-profit entities. Shannon has a B.A. in Finance and an M.B.A. from the University of Texas - Arlington. She also has a Graduate Certificate in Marketing from Southern Methodist University. She is currently working on a Master's in Healthcare Administration at the University of Texas, Arlington. She has volunteered her time for Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Operation Kindness and the American Red Cross. Shannon is active in the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Healthcare Financial Management Association.



BOARD continued on page 4

Nexus Recovery Center Plans for the Future

Traditionally, Nexus board and staff re-visit the strategic plan every three to five years, creating a plan just for that short period of time. This strategic planning process has worked, providing the preparation for such changes as adding the women with children's program, accommodating pregnant clients and adding a program to serve adolescent girls. The strategic planning process was crucial in preparing Nexus for the advent of managed care. Recently the strategic plan identified the need to add psychiatric services to better address a growing client base with more complex psychiatric issues.



Nadine Bell (*far left*) conducts a focus group with Nexus board and staff members.

Some of the changes and challenges Nexus has faced have come so quickly that the scope of the strategic plan could not account for an immediate need to react. It is time to create a plan that prepares the agency to not only address the immediate stability of the agency, but also addresses the overall capacity of the agency and the long-term stability of all of the programs. It is imperative that the plan does not "sit on a shelf," but is an active, viable, "living" document. It is also imperative that we diversify funding immediately.

The Center for Nonprofit Management understood our needs for a comprehensive plan and offered the opportunity to work with consultant Nadine Bell. An anonymous foundation also understood our needs and is providing a grant to implement this long-term stability and capacity building project. The project not only includes Nadine's services, but also the grant writing services of consultant Robert P. Stewart. We are on our way to putting plans and visions into place for a very exciting future.

The future "began" when six stakeholder groups gathered for focus group sessions to dream what Nexus might look like five years from now. Current clients, staff, aftercare/alumni, board, auxiliary, and recovery community members were introduced to Nadine's amazing process, which yielded rich results for the strategic planning process. All six groups identified expanded programming, longer residential stays and transitional housing as critical issues.

The next step in the process was the environmental scan, a powerful method used to identify major events of the past, see relationships between events that occurred over time, get clarity on the organization's position in the present, and identify emerging trends. It provided us with the means to look at events that occurred since 1970 in the national and state arenas, the field of recovery and at Nexus, and then explore how they relate to each other. At the end of the session Nadine asked us to name each decade to capture the essence of that particular time period: Chaotic Change & New Beginnings (1970s), Recognition & Action (1980s), Blast of Treatment & Funding (1990s), Responding, Reframing, Redesigning (2000 to date).

The information was gathered from the focus groups and the environmental scan to provide the starting point for the first phase of the strategic planning process. This process is far from over and we are very grateful to the board members, auxiliary members, former clients and friends who are gathering every two weeks to push this process through to completion. We are confident that this process will produce a living, breathing document that will not only NOT sit on the shelf, but it will change Nexus, and ultimately strengthen the work that we do.

Aftercare and Alumni Activities

In September the aftercare and alumni programs worked together to celebrate National Recovery Month with a picnic for current Nexus clients. More than 25 aftercare and alumni participants helped to decorate, serve lunch and share their stories with residential and outpatient clients. The next day in the front hallway a client, who was leaving, told her friend good-bye adding, "I'll see you in Aftercare!" Obviously she had been inspired by the event.



Alumni members travel to Oklahoma.

Fourteen members of the Aftercare Program attended the "Singles in Sobriety" event held annually in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Funds from **Recovery Circles Foundation** were used to provide transportation, meals and lodging so that participants could experience "fun in sobriety" and participate in programs like speaker jams, meditations by the lake and, as the staff member who accompanied the ladies on the trip reported, "awesome networking!"



Alumni members and staff (*above*) enjoy celebrating National Recovery Month at the LaPrada campus. Alumni members (*left*) share the celebration with family and friends.



Board *(continued from page 2)*

Frank M. Dyer, II is currently employed as Vice President of Operations-Information Management at Citigroup, Irving. Frank has developed and mentored three managers and led a team of up to 40 associates at five regional locations. He is currently responsible for the imaging and records management of over 1.5 million files. He has more than 17 years of diverse experience in both the manufacturing and financial services industry.



Frank has an M.B.A. in Operations Management from the University of Dallas and a B.B.A. in Marketing from the University of Texas at Arlington. He is a 2005 graduate of the United Way Blueprint for Leadership program.



Patty Morris was most recently a Campaign Associate in the Resource Development Department at the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas. This was a temporary position taken for the purpose of supporting the Dallas community's United Way campaign, and also an effort to determine whether it was time to return to the workplace and her career following nearly four years at home raising her children. Patty has an M.A. in International Relations and a B.A. in Foreign Service, both from Baylor University in Waco, TX. She has worked for the Texas Employment Commission determining eligibility for Unemployment Insurance, was Vice President, Resource Development at the United Way of Tri-State in New York City, and Associate Director, Resource Development at the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas.

Patty is an active volunteer in her community of Flower Mound. She gives of her time at her children's school and served as an Allocations Volunteer earlier this year for the United Way of Lewisville. Patty has three sons, Evan (7), Ian (5), and Dylan (20 months).

John G. Self is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of JohnMarch Partners, Inc. an executive search consultancy based in downtown Dallas. The Firm, an 11-year-old enterprise, specializes in healthcare, medical devices and technology. Mr. Self has more than 28 years experience in healthcare marketing, business development, operations and new business creation. He has worked in both not-for-profit and investor-owned healthcare management companies for Hermann Hospital, LifeMark Corp. and East Texas Medical Center Regional Health System. A native of Houston, Mr. Self was the original director of Hermann Hospital's highly acclaimed Life Flight emergency helicopter transport system, only the second hospital-based program of its kind in the country. He later served as the national marketing manager for Rocky Mountain Helicopters and is credited with selling and implementing the next 15 hospital helicopter services. Prior to moving to Hermann Hospital in 1976, Mr. Self served as an editor, investigative reporter and crime writer for The Houston Post.



John is a graduate of East Texas State University, Commerce. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and is a member of the board of the ACHE's North Texas Chapter. He is also a member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association. He is married to Elizabeth March Wiertz, a co-founder and former partner of JohnMarch Partners. He has two sons and two stepdaughters.

Thanks to our Volunteers



Volunteers from JC Penney

Many thanks to Dayna Cassel and Paula Price who led a great group of volunteers from **JC Penney**. During JC Penney's annual "Make A Difference Day" employees painted rooms in the Adult Women's dormitory.

Volunteers from **Saville, Dodgen & Company** returned to Nexus for another painting project.



Volunteers from Art for Communities Sake give manicures to the Adult Women clients.



Saville, Dodgen & Company volunteers (above, right and below)



Nexus Faith Partners in Recovery

Volunteers from **Saturn Road Church of Christ** delivered Christmas goody bags for Nexus clients.



Members from **Casa View Baptist Church** continue to come every Tuesday to keep our clothes closet sorted and in order. They have been providing this much-needed help for more than a year.



We would also like to thank our other partners in recovery at **Greater Crossway Church, St. Monica Catholic School, and St. Paul AME Church** who provided our clients with a variety of in-kind donations such as clothing, toiletries, toys and blankets. Many thanks also to **Potter's House** for providing information about housing to our clients on a monthly basis.

Pastors and members of **The Cathedral of Hope** brought tears of joy to the eyes of the Adult Women clients for a special Christmas lunch on December 22nd. Volunteers served lunch, sang Christmas carols, and distributed gifts. There was even a special visit from Santa Claus.



Donors

Nexus is grateful to **Beauti-Control Cosmetics** for donating cosmetics for our clients, **Fossee's Designer Shoes** for donating more 300 pairs of shoes, **GE Commercial Finance Real Estate** for putting together more than 100 personal hygiene kits, and **Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market Mesquite** for ongoing donations. All of these items help to lift our clients' spirits and give them hope on their journey.



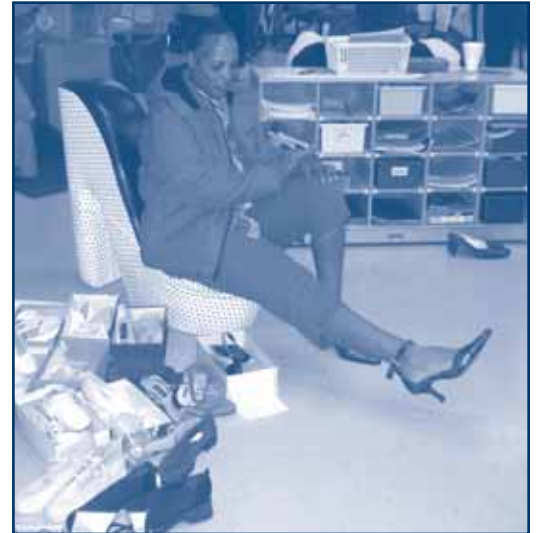
Captain Hope's Kids

Community partner Captain Hope's Kids operates a children's resource room designed to distribute critical support items to children in homeless shelters. They recently received a grant, which was

used as a teaching opportunity for our clients in the Pregnant/Parenting Women

with Children's Program.

Each Mom learned how to accurately size her kids' growing feet and to choose appropriate shoes for each child based on their age. Not only did Mom learn how to shop for shoes, but the lucky child also received a new pair of shoes!



Dignity U Wear Foundation

The mission of Dignity U Wear Foundation, Inc. is to positively impact the lives of children and their families by providing brand new clothing. And they have been positively impacting our clients for almost two years. Clients were delighted to try on and choose a new coat, jacket or sweater from the Dignity U Wear Foundation.



Stephan Pyles Benefit



Nexus is grateful to longtime friend Stephan Pyles for selecting us as one of the beneficiaries of his new restaurant's preview charity dinners. The Nexus event was held Thursday, November 17 at Chef Pyles' new restaurant that carries his name. The event raised more than \$4,000 for Nexus programs.



Bruce and Natalie Cunningham, Sandra Cowger, Chef Stephan Pyles, longtime Nexus supporters Janie and K. Conner, Becca Crowell, and Nexus supporter Garry Weber.

Donors

Junior League of Dallas

Provisional members of the Junior League of Dallas brightened up the children's center this fall with a fresh coat of paint, creative murals, and festive curtains. A donation from the Junior League helped offset the cost of the paint, material for curtains, and new rugs. The children's center staff and



facility staff enjoyed working with Project Coordinator Gay Donnell and her crew, which included 24 Provisionals.

Junior League members Andra Davidson and Taryn Crouch were the assistant project coordinators.



Air conditioning project

Recent grants from **The Katie Foundation of Communities Foundation of Texas** and **The Gil and Dody Weaver**

Foundation are providing funding to replace five air conditioning units in two of the dorms. This project was also funded, in part, by **The Eugene Straus Charitable Trust** in memory of his mother, Bettie Straus, and his brothers and sister, Samuel Straus, Simon Straus, and Ruby Straus.



The 40th annual Westapher Golf Charity was a great success. Preston Center Rotary Club President George Spencer (*left*) and Tournament Chairman Kimball Ramey present the proceeds check to Nexus Executive Director Becca Crowell.

Nexus is grateful to the following donors for their continued support: the CNA Foundation, Dallas Women's Foundation, Ed Haggar Family Foundation, The Hogleund Foundation, The Freddie Mac Foundation, Kimberly-Clark Foundation, The Meadows Foundation, Harry S. Moss Foundation, Paymentech and Recovery Circles Foundation.

Wish List

Nexus is in need of the following items:

- ♦ **Board games for school age children**
- ♦ **IBM Wheelwriter**
- ♦ **Personal hygiene products**
- ♦ **Sleepwear**
- ♦ **Talcum powder/deodorant**
- ♦ **Crib blankets and sheets**
- ♦ **Infant walker toys**
- ♦ **Shampoo/hair accessories**
- ♦ **Socks**
- ♦ **Undergarments**

Are you a Tom Thumb shopper? When you check out, use your Reward Card and ask the clerk to link your purchases to #415. That's it! Nexus will automatically receive a percentage of your total grocery bill every time you shop. Thanks for making a difference!

"An Evening with Groucho" benefiting Nexus Recovery Center

Monday April 24, 2006



The Women's Auxiliary of Nexus annual fundraiser "An Evening with Groucho," presented by Tenet Healthcare Foundation, is set for Monday, April 24th at the Dallas Country Club at 6:15pm. Cheryl Brown is chairing the event. Guests can choose from dinner and cocktails prior to the performance, or the performance and cocktails. They will be treated to the hilarious antics of comedian Frank Ferrante with his rendition of the famed Groucho Marx. Tables for 10 range from \$1,750.00 to \$25,000.00. Without dinner, guests may pay \$125.00 per person.



Photo: Dana Driensky

Diane Sealy, Auxiliary President and Cheryl Brown, Event Chairman

For further information and to make reservations call Cheryl Brown at 214-729-5048.

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"Nexus showed me how to live without drugs - and have a fulfilled life. I could not imagine taking a drug ever again. Thank you Nexus!"



Nexus Recovery Center, Inc.
8733 La Prada Drive
Dallas, Texas 75228
(214) 321-0156
Fax (214) 321-3096
www.nexusrecovery.org