



# Help In Stormy Times

## Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc.

ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 2018

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## A Message From Our Executive Director



Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. is pleased to announce the selection of our new Executive Director, Thomas Killian, Jr. Thomas is a doctoral student at Northcentral University where he will hold his PhD in Psychology in the spring of 2020. He has held various positions in the mental health field leading many non-profits to success in the recovery of the individuals served. Thomas holds many certifications. Thomas is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional from the International Association for Trauma Professionals, a Licensed Behavioral Specialist, a Certified Peer Specialist Supervisor, and he also holds a Clinical Certification for Dual Diagnosis with the National Association for those with Dual Diagnosis. Thomas belongs to various mental health organizations such as NADD, AAIDD, NAMI, and the Pennsylvania Psychological Association. Throughout his career, Thomas has helped organizations reduce the amount of traumatic events as a Trauma Informed Care Champion conducting various trainings. Thomas has joined the Garrett County community with his wife, Lindsey, and his 18-month old son, TJ. Thomas enjoys the outdoors. You will often find him socializing and helping in the neighborhood as he feels this is the backbone of any community.

Happy October Everyone,

I am pleased to write a little piece for this newsletter. I have only been at Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. for a little over two weeks now. I have to say, I enjoyed meeting everyone from the individuals we serve to the staff. I wanted to thank everyone for the warm welcome and I look forward to working with you all to grow our services. I had the pleasure of congratulating our dedicated staff for all the hard work they have done throughout their years of service. I am elated to see how empathetic our staff are and how they will go out of their way to help not only each other, but the individuals we serve. In the future, I look forward to looking at new services we can provide and also building upon the services we have. I also wanted to give a shout out to the PRP staff for the great job of exceeding the goal of units authorized for two months straight (August and September). Keep up the good work! I look forward to all the new and exciting things happening here at the Lighthouse in the upcoming months. Finally, I wanted to wish everyone a Happy Halloween.

~Thomas Killian, Jr.



# Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP)

## Client Activities

Our clients have been busy enjoying the outdoors and getting as many activities in as we can before winter weather reaches us. The proceeds from our recent Yard Sale contributes to a variety of client trips which have included Funland Miniature Golf and Arcade, a day at Camp Hickory in Accident, MD to explore the Nature Hall and the Planetarium, and two trips outside of Garrett County to West Virginia Botanic Garden in Morgantown, WV and to DelGrosso's Park in Tipton, PA. Our clients also participated in our annual trip to the Preston County Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood, WV. Many of our clients participate in a buckwheat cake eating contest and have eaten up to as many as 23 buckwheat cakes in one sitting.



Through the Community Dance Project with Brenda's Body Shop our clients and staff had the opportunity to learn Michael Jackson's "Thriller" dance during PRP. Everyone was dressed like zombies and enjoyed learning this dance. Thank you to Brenda for taking the time out of her schedule to meet with all of us!



## A New Ride!

Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. purchased a new Ford Transit van to add to our fleet of vehicles to assist with the growing number of clients participating in PRP. Bigger vans help with transportation to and from client trips and with everyday activities. New vehicles continue to keep our clients and staff safe on the roadway.



The Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP) will be closed for the following upcoming holidays:

- October 8th - Columbus Day
- November 22nd & 23rd - Thanksgiving
- December 24th & 25th - Christmas



## PRP Client Accomplishments

- 1 client completed on-the-job training, thus enabling her to have the ability to do more at her job
- 3 clients obtained new employment within the community
- 1 client began building a résumé and is planning to volunteer in the community
- 2 clients became insured with help from their case manager
- 1 client successfully managed spending habits
- 1 client has maintained sobriety from drugs and alcohol for 10 months
- 1 client recognized her need to utilize crisis/respite authorizations for Safe Harbor rather than engaging in self-injurious behaviors
- 5 clients applied for and received entitlement benefits with help from their case manager
- 2 clients began attending on-site PRP more frequently to increase socialization



## The Treasure Chest



What a lovely summer we had with our shoppers! We held a Christmas in July sale for two consecutive Tuesdays. Sales on those two Tuesdays between the shop and the holiday sales crested \$200.00. It is heartwarming to know that these earnings from sales are used to assist our shoppers in urgent times of need.

We wish to thank the Civic Club and the Alpine Lake Resort Yard Sale for the many holiday treasures they bestowed on us. A special thanks to Sandy Hill for the enormous train set and Jeannie Bailey for the decorated Christmas tree. So many shoppers wanted both items. In the end, the items went to those who wanted them the most.

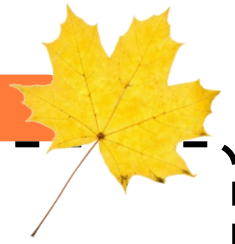
We bid our fondest farewell to Loretta Bailie who hung up her volunteer jacket at The Treasure Chest. Thanks to the Civic Club, we read a letter of our deep appreciation to Loretta for being one of the pioneers who brought the Treasure Chest to life and the Civic Club bestowed upon her a beautiful bouquet of flowers. All of us knew the day would come when she would retire to enjoy friends and family more but it is a devastating loss to the Garrett County Lighthouse and our shoppers, in particular, who loved her immensely. Loretta will always be our matriarch of the Treasure Chest.

Fall will bring the Autumn Glory Silent Auction on October 9<sup>th</sup>. We always raise tremendous earnings from this endeavor too. Any item not bid upon by our shoppers may be bid on by the staff. Thanks in advance to Jessica and Jim who will help us set up for the day and close the auction on Wednesday afternoon after lunch.

Christmas Sales will begin in earnest on Thanksgiving. We look forward to displaying our items and the shop will be staffed with two volunteers each Tuesday through the month of December.

As always, we enjoy putting on display our treasures for our shoppers to consider but it is more so their visits that make our days in the shop so extraordinary. We get so much out of their visits with us beyond earning monies that are returned back to them through the Treasure Chest Fund. We love it when the "sit a spell" with us.





## Residential Rehabilitation Program

On July 28, 2018, RRP clients were taken to Hovatter’s Wildlife Zoo. RRP clients also went to various yard sales and craft shows during the month of July as well as shopping in Frostburg. In August, RRP clients attended yard sales. For September, RRP clients have gone to yard sales, craft shows, free church dinners, and a community picnic at Broadford Lake.

### Cameras

Outside cameras have been installed at both residential houses this past quarter. These cameras will help reduce the amount of trespassing on our residential properties. Cameras will also ensure there are no visitors after visitation hours.



## Residential Crisis Services (RCS) & Respite Services (RPCS)

### Client Accomplishments

- 1 client was admitted into inpatient addictions rehab
- 1 client moved into a Residential Rehabilitation Program
- 6 clients obtained a private residence
- 11 clients returned home after completing their crisis authorization
- 1 client was admitted into long term rehabilitation services
- 3 clients obtained a primary care provider
- 1 client began receiving pain management services
- 4 clients applied and were approved for entitlement benefits
- 1 client began treatment at a Community Treatment Center





## Community Awareness

Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. created a display for the Ruth Enlow Library window in Oakland. This display included a football theme (in accordance with the opening of the 2018 NFL season) and was facilitated in an effort to celebrate National Rehabilitation Awareness Week which is September 16, 2018 through September 22, 2018. Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. wished to spread the message, "Don't Let Mental Illness Tackle You". In an effort to praise our client's accomplishments, we asked those who were willing to share how Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. has helped them with their rehabilitation efforts. Each jersey was personalized to display each client's favorite football team and for those who are not interested in football, a Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. jersey was created.

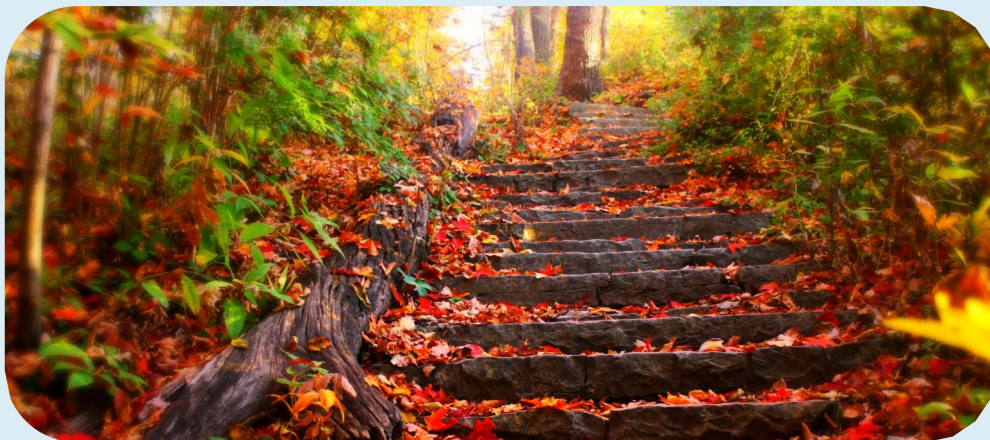


## New Staff E-Mail Platform



Recently, Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. improved their on-going 'branding' of our organization by implanting a new, more secure e-mail program with all of the program and staff emails ending with @gclighthouse.org which is similar to our website, [www.garrettcoun tylighthouse.org](http://www.garrettcoun tylighthouse.org). This is just one of the many ways we are trying to improve our image and expand our organization's place in the community for the benefit of those we serve.

*News, Improved Website Coming Soon!*  
[www.garrettcoun tylighthouse.org](http://www.garrettcoun tylighthouse.org)



# MEET OUR STAFF

## Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to Jim Whitehair on receiving the Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc. Employee of the Quarter award! Jim was nominated by three staff for going above and beyond to provide excellent service and quality care.

Jim has been the Custodian at Garret County Lighthouse, Inc. for 6 years. and always has supplies available. Jim is always respectful, in a good mood, does things that most people would not and he is amazing! "We could not do without you Jim! God Bless You."

Jim was given a \$25 Visa Gift Card for his accomplishments. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim for his hard work and dedication to Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc.!



## Staff Accomplishments

Charity Francis, Director of Finance & Human Resources earned her Strategic Human Resources Management Certified Professional Credential.

## Work Anniversaries

Linda Hauser	November 29, 1999	19 Years
Stephanie Farber	November 5, 2013	5 Years
Mandy Likens	November 19, 2013	5 Years
Jennifer Kepple	September 24, 2014	4 Years
Melissa Loughry	November 8, 2017	1 Year
Tammy Evans	November 16, 2017	1 Year

# Welcome OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS

## New Hires

Maddison Hudson	Safe Harbor BHT	September 14, 2018
Thomas Killian, Jr.	Executive Director	September 17, 2018





**Garrett County Lighthouse, Inc.**

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## Staff Directory



Staff Name / Title	Extension
<b>Thomas Killian, Jr.</b> Executive Director	221
<b>Melissa Skiles</b> Director of Health Care Quality	212
<b>Stephanie Farber</b> Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner Director of Behavioral Health Services	249
<b>Tiffany Ratliff</b> Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner Director of Residential Rehabilitation & Crisis Services	220
<b>Charity Francis</b> Director of Finance & Human Resources	217
<b>Jennifer Kepple</b> Human Resources Manager	219
<b>Jessica Dodge</b> Behavioral Health Service Manager	210
<b>Beverly Helbig</b> Licensed Practical Nurse	250
<b>Sherri Lucas</b> Licensed Practical Nurse	257
<b>Karen Clapper</b> Case Manager	247
<b>Mathew Foley</b> Case Manager	248
<b>Holly Keller</b> Case Manager	246
<b>Jennifer Stemple</b> Case Manager	204

