

Center for Forensic Psychiatry
Family Education Program



News Letter

Families Helping Families

This is a group for everyone who is interested in learning about mental illness, supporting your loved one, and taking care of your own emotional health. *We meet on the second Saturday of each month*

Everyone is welcome!

November 10th, 2011

The topic was “Moving ahead with their lives.” Mr. Nick High, a former patient at the CFP who is currently living in the community, talked about his recovery through the step down system and his relationship with his treatment team and the NGRI committee. Mr. High explained that with each step towards a less restrictive placement he was given increased responsibilities. Ms. Jamie Kelly, a former member of the Family Education Support Group, shared her experience with her son being transferred from the CFP to the Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital. Group members stated that they left this meeting with a sense of hope for their loved ones hospitalized at the CFP.



Knowledge unlocks many doors!

December 10th, 2011

The Holiday Season and the activities patients at the CFP participate in was the main focus of this meeting. Family members were provided with a description of the special efforts each discipline does to commemorate the holidays. A slide presentation was given demonstrating the decorations placed around the CFP, many of which the patients made. There was also a virtual tour of the patient’s living area which had not been covered when the Family Education Group members toured Main Street and the Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program last June. Families shared that it was helpful to have an understanding of the various special activities and celebrations their loved ones experienced here during the holidays, however they still provided support to one another related to the sad feelings of not having their loved ones home during this special season and how much their loved ones missed not being home.

Co-facilitators: Amy Little, Kelly Burse & Eugenia Ramon (734) 295-4355

March, 2012

January 14th, 2012

The topic “Medical Care and Process at the CFP” was cancelled because the presenter, Dr. Vijaya Mamidipaka, M.D., Unit Medical Physician was ill. This topic will be rescheduled at a later date. We had 4 new families join our family education group a total of 7 new group members. The focus of this group meeting was on sharing information about the CFP and providing support to one another. At the end of the meeting group members stated that we should plan more meetings like this were group members concerns can be voiced and shared.

February 11th, 2012

We participated in the Annual Valentines Luncheon with our loved ones hospitalized at the CFP. It was quality time spent together. Family Group Members reported that the time went by too fast, but all stated that they enjoy this part of our program the most. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and we missed some group members who could not travel the distance in the bad road condition. Group members expressed appreciation for staff’s efforts spent in this event.

Just a reminder...September 8th, 2012 is our Annual PIC Nick. Please remember that in order to participate in this event you must be a group member and have attended a minimum of three meetings from March to August. If you can not attend the August’s meeting, please sign up for the luncheon by calling (734) 295-4355. [Limit-3 family members or friends per patient]

News about Future Meetings in the Planning:
March 10th: Jean Kanitz, PhD and Nicole Kletzka, PhD, will discuss “Dialectical Behavior Therapy” Prg.
April 14th: Joe Corso, LMSW and John Scully, LMSW will discuss the “Dual Diagnosis Program” Prg.
May 12th: Susan Casha, O.T.R.L. Tour of Main Street and discussion of the Psychosocial Rehabilitation Prg.
June 9th: Movie: “Out of the Shadow” & Discussion

Please join us... We look forward to meeting you.