

News *from*



M A R C H 2 0 0 8

B U I L D I N G S U C C E S S T O G E T H E R

Shining Stars Annual Luncheon



Do not miss our educational and inspirational luncheon on Friday, April 18, 2008 featuring Pete Earley, author. *CRAZY: A Father's Search Through America's Mental Health Madness* was one of two finalists for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in nonfiction. Since its publication, Mr. Earley has visited 26 states speaking about the need for our nation to reform its mental health system and stop the imprisonment of persons with brain disorders.

CRAZY Wins Awards

The Pulitzer Prize Board announced its 91st annual awards for 2007 and *CRAZY: A Father's Search Through America's Mental Health Madness* was named as a finalist for the general nonfiction prize. Mr. Earley was also given the Outstanding Media Award for Advocacy by the National Alliance on Mental Illness at its 2007 annual convention. NAMI described *CRAZY* as "a book that is making a difference."

Mental Health America also selected an excerpt from *CRAZY*, originally published by *The Washingtonian Magazine*, for the MHA's 2007 Media Award given in the magazine category.

NARSAD – the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression – asked Mr. Earley to be an honorary committee member for its 2007 Mission Possible Event.

In addition, Mr. Earley was appointed to serve on a criminal justice task force created by Virginia Supreme Court Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell Sr. to review and make recommendations about the state's mental health laws.

After *The Hot House* was published, *Washingtonian Magazine* identified Pete Earley in a cover story entitled, *Top Journalists: Washington's Media Elite*, as one of ten journalist/authors in America who "have the power to introduce new ideas and give them currency."

Leadership Awards

**The Honorable
Stephen V. Manley**
Superior Court Judge

Vonza Thompson
CEO Fred Finch Youth Center

Honorary Chairman

**The Honorable
James T. Beall, Jr.**
Member of the
California Legislature

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LaDoris Cordell
Special Counselor to the
President for Campus Relations
Stanford University

Join Us . . .

Shining Stars Annual Luncheon
Friday, April 18, 2008
12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Villa Ragusa in Campbell

To purchase a ticket (\$40.00) or table (\$320) or discuss sponsorship:

Call: 408.254.6820 Ext. 1217 or
check our web site
www.momentumformentalhealth.org.

CEO Message



It is with very mixed feelings that I want to advise the many supporters of Momentum that I have decided to make the next move in my career. I have been privileged to be a part of Momentum for 30 years and continue to be committed to the agency's mission, clients, families and employees. I am proud of our excellent reputation; long history of providing quality services to people who have significant challenges in their lives; and our competent, committed, dynamic staff. One of my personal goals has been to help Momentum move forward as an excellent agency – it is excellent and it is moving forward. Now it is time for me to move to the next phase of my career. I wish each of you well, thank you for your support and encourage you to use our website to learn more about the many very valuable services Momentum makes available to the community, individuals, families who can benefit from mental health services.

I am pleased to introduce you to Paul Taylor who was selected by the Board of Directors to be Interim CEO. He has the skills, experience, commitment, passion and connections to do an excellent job. Paul has worked in community mental health programs since 1972 and for Momentum since 1975. His first job was live-in staff in what



was then called a "halfway house" for adults with psychiatric disabilities. There he learned the value of listening to and being guided by consumers. He recognized the importance of family partnerships in 1979, and worked to help establish both family support and multi-family therapy groups that greatly increased the opportunity for individual clients to move forward in their recovery process. He has worked in or managed residential, day, employment, and various types of outpatient services. Paul enjoys strong support from staff and managers at Momentum for his consumer centered values and supportive leadership style. He is an effective advocate for helping both the individual and community understand it's important to help people affected by serious mental illness to fully participate in life. He is past President of both the California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies and the California chapter of United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association. He designed and developed La Selva, the first residential treatment program for mentally ill adults in California funded by both commercial insurance and private pay. He is a graduate of Beloit College, a certified psychiatric rehabilitation practitioner, and a recognized leader locally and throughout the state. Paul lives with his wife and two cats in Palo Alto, and is the proud father of three. Please join me in congratulating Paul.

Vonza Thompson

Momentum for Mental Health is a public benefit corporation that serves youth and adults in all stages of life. We provide a broad array of effective services that promote dignity and respect for people with mental illnesses and contribute to a healthier community. Momentum is "Building Success Together."

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California Voters Get Value for their Money: New services supported by Proposition 63 – the Mental Health Services Act

In 2004 many of you joined other voters to send a clear message with the passage of Proposition 63. You wanted California to transform the public mental health system from a “fail first” to a “treatment first” model. You expected accessible and effective services to be tailored to the unique needs of each individual and family.

Thanks to you, Momentum now provides two additional innovative services – one for adults (ages 26-60) and the other for transition age youth (ages 16–25). The programs are called Full Service Partnerships (FSP) to emphasize two fundamental principles:

- Full Service – the commitment to do “whatever it takes” and the funds to pay for non-mental health treatment costs if required.
- Partnership – the commitment to work in partnership with each client to ensure that goals and ways of reaching them are uniquely suited to each person.

Momentum has a long history of providing services in partnership with clients and their families that are designed to help them reach personal, unique goals. We always seek creative ways to “do whatever it takes”. Until the passage of the Mental Health Services Act, only a few pilot programs – one operated by Momentum – have had funding to assist with housing, food, transportation, medical care and other essentials that are critical to regaining and maintaining good mental health.

The Momentum Full Service Partnerships serve 60 adults in two FSP programs, 20 and 40 each, and 10 transition age youth. Although the individuals served are capable of achieving recovery and living productively in the community, they need this more flexible, comprehensive service that is

uniquely designed to nurture hope and confidence, teach skills, and foster strengths. Service design and delivery demonstrates an understanding and respect for each person’s unique, aspirations, skills and assets. It is culturally competent, encourages recovery and resiliency, enhances personal strengths and effectively utilizes community resources. The goal is to assist each person regain hope, develop self determination, take personal responsibility and learn to effectively manage life’s challenges.

These individuals want the same things each of us wants: housing, employment, education, good health and mental health, friendships, family involvement and social activities. They and the community want to know that services are effective.

Although FSP services are effective for a wide range of individuals with differing challenges, the Mental Health Department (MHD) has given priority for services to individuals who without this intensive service, would require hospital admission or continued stay.

We know our Full Service Partnerships will be effective because they replicate our pilot program which demonstrated that with this type of service individuals make significant life changes. The following is a comparison between the 12 months prior to admission and the 12 months after admission: 64% decrease in days of homelessness; 73% decrease in days of hospitalization; 45% decrease in emergency room visits; 75% reduction in days of incarceration.

Momentum Full Service Partnerships are one of the ways you can see your commitment to mental health services making a difference for individuals, families and our community.

5th Annual Golf Tournament

Momentum Board members and Tournament Chairs, Larry Burns and Dick Foley, invite you to join them as a player, sponsor and/or dinner guest at the Momentum 5th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament. Enjoy 18 holes of golf at the spectacular La Rinconada Country Club, along with a fabulous dinner and exciting raffles and auctions. For the fifth consecutive year, The John & Mary Cooper Family Foundation are the Title Sponsors for the tournament.

Golfers

Sign up now to play at the exclusive La Rinconada Country Club course. The number of players is limited to assure you have a wonderful round of golf. We expect to sell out again this year.

Want to Participate, But Don't Golf?

Join us for a scrumptious dinner in the beautiful club house and participate in raffles and auctions while enjoying the spectacular views that surround the dining room.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available Now!

Show your support for Momentum by selecting one of several sponsorship packages that feature highly-visible signage and public recognition; a customized package can also be created. Sponsorship packages are also available for non-golfers.

Funds raised from the tournament are used to directly support Momentum clients manage their illness and achieve their goals as members of our community.

Join Us . . .

Monday, June 2, 2008
La Rinconada Country Club in Los Gatos

For more information about golf, reception, dinner or sponsorship call: 408.254.6828 Ext. 1222 or check our web site www.momentumformentalhealth.org.



438 North White Road
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Save the Date
11th Annual Shining Stars Benefit Luncheon (Friday, April 18, 2008).
5th Annual Golf Tournament (Monday, June 2, 2008).

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