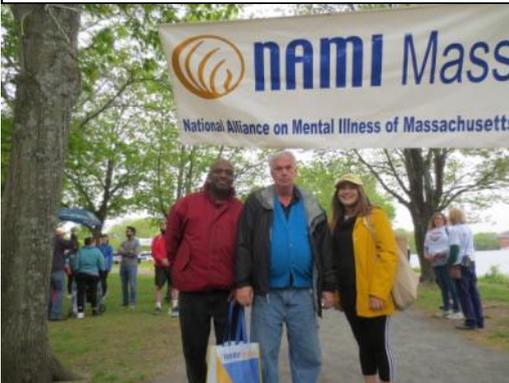


Webster View

May, June 2018

We at Webster keep busy and active with events that are happening around us. We take no chances at missing a great opportunity at having a wonderful time and educating ourselves by trying new things. We would like to thank those who support our Clubhouse by helping to do the things we otherwise would not be able to do. Special shout out to Friends of Metro Boston, Museum of Science, Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center, the City of Roslindale, and all our friends for their generosity and support.

On May 31st, Webster House opened its doors to the public for its Art Show named “Upside Down.” Artists displayed their work for sale. Many members sold art and there was a large turnout especially from our friends from Vinfen, our new community in Roslindale, and our friends who support the program. The Art Show will be on display until August 31st, 2018. We encourage anyone who is interested to come in and view our artist’s work and see what other amazing things we are doing at Webster House.



NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. We, at Webster, showed our support for the walk and enjoyed our time there.

Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department hosted the 19th Annual Neighborhood Coffee Hour. This gave us at Webster House the opportunity to talk to our City representatives about issues that matter to us and our community. We stopped by and chatted with Mayor Walsh and enjoyed the morning with coffee, snacks, and received flowers from the Parks Department greenhouses.



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Highlight

The Trails at Boston Nature Center

Ruthanne

For one of our weekend trips we discovered one of the hidden gems of Boston, the Audubon Trail. It was an amazing experience and it is only 10 minutes from our location in Roslindale. You can walk the beautiful trails and if you just stop and stare you can see and hear all the different type of wildlife the place has to offer. Recently, the weather has been amazing and we at Webster always make an effort to take advantage of the great outdoors. As a group we walked the trails and learned more about how the ecosystem

works. They had a class about decomposition which was interesting and insightful. The Audubon trails have great scenery that is relaxing and allowed me to destress. I would love to go back.



Baseball Game

Steven H.

Thanks to the friends of Metro Boston, we at Webster House were able to go see a Baseball game at the historic Fenway Park on May 30th. The Red Sox played against the Toronto Blue Jays, the game was very competitive. We could not have been any more lucky since the weather was perfect and you didn't need a jacket. We got to relax and watch my Red Sox win a game. I have not gone to a Baseball game in many years, so I was glad to have a chance to experience this. Hopefully we get to see more games or events just like this. It's such a great representation of my city and who I am.

Nami Walk

Vinny

Having done the walk before, I try to go as often as I can. This Nami walk was pretty cool. We went with a few staff and members, and even though it was a little rainy and cold, we still proceeded on going to show our support. Others went on with the walk where I and a staff member, Sam, stayed back and hung out. We went to the photo booth and checked out other stands that were around and even got free T-shirts. It was a pleasant experience to walk with Sam and overall it was a good day. I hope in the future to return to the Nami walk to support the cause and spending time with others.



Events

48 TH EDITION OF BOSTON PRIDE PARADE

Emmitt B.

Saturday June 9, 2018 saw the culmination of the annual Pride Parade held in Boston's Copley Square in honor of the LGBTQ communities coming together to celebrate in this year's theme, the "Rainbow Resistance" highlighting both celebratory and activists origins of the event. Boston's City Hall plays host to the Pride flag raising event that kicks off week long festivities and events prior to the parade.

The Parade itself kicked off with a ribbon cutting ceremony by Boston's Mayor and one hundred other visiting mayors and members of the LGBTQ alliance.

The floats, marchers, and various politicians were all decked out with Pride Rainbow colors. The weather was agreeable and made for a beautiful festive time for all whom attended. I had fun and can't wait until next year.



Houghton's pond

Teresa L.

With the nice weather, Webster decided to go out and enjoy a wonderful day at Houghton's Pond. There, we settled by the grassy area that has big rocks to sit on top of as the sun was shining that day upon us. Afterwards, we moved closer to the water where it was too cold to get in. Instead we found a good place to settle and eat the lunch we packed that consisted of tuna sandwiches, brownies, Doritos, and Ice Tea. It was an enjoyable time and I would like to go back since we had a good time.



Art

Upside Down Art Show

Sarah R.

The Spring Show, “Upside Down” featured a series of paintings by many artists who displayed their art made at Webster House. Our featured artist, Sarah R, was inspired by the hit Netflix TV series “Stranger Things” and created 11 art pieces exhibited in the show. Here is her take on what lead her to create pieces of art for a show she loves so passionately....



The whole show is a patchwork. There are warm and fuzzy textures, colors and patterns in the home and surrounding areas of Hawkins that represent a norm—a familiar set point, archive and common ground for those who lived there in the years 1983-84. There are knit blankets, potted plants, wall hangings, pictures and posters arranged according to the lifestyle of each Hawkins resident. Then there are the powerfully abnormal, otherworldly elements of the Upside Down that drive the show growing underneath and ripping through Hawkins in a chaotic sprawl. Survival becomes a priority and a fury of creative energy is unleashed within the survivors. Truth and communication balanced with lack of truth and misrepresentation are prominent themes woven throughout the show's rich tapestry.

Being naturally drawn to patchwork, vivid color and American culture within the era that Stranger Things is set , the show is a natural candidate for my interest. Stranger Things is also intensely character driven, making it deliciously ripe for the kind of striking portraiture that I produced.

Art Update

In addition to preparing for the show, the Art unit was extremely busy last month producing amazing work in a variety of media: drawing, painting, print making and notably t-shirt production. Many members worked on photo stencil T-shirts designs of personal heroes such as Corretta Scott King , Tupac Shakur , and U God of Wu Tang Clan which members are proudly wearing round town and giving away as gifts.

Communication

The Communication Unit has helped the Clubhouse in many ways. Throughout the week many things need to be typed such as the lunch menu, social calendars, and anything that can help. Our focus this month is to have a stronger Unit Meeting in the morning where we discuss all the tasks and upcoming events that are happening and how we can contribute. Recently, Alex, the Communication Coordinator, has taken many appointments with individuals who want to learn more about the computer. He has sat down with people who need help learning to type faster as well as those who want to set up an email. If you wish to learn more about computers, please feel free to schedule an appointment with him.

Outreach and Advocacy

Outreach is responsible for overseeing the referral and intake process for returning and new members. Recently we have seen many new members including those returning from years past. We are excited to see our roster grow and meeting new people who wish to join. Members such as Vinny, Sarah, Emmitt, and Brenda have all helped give tours, showing new members our building and what each unit does and how we use our space. We also work with members to do outreach calls to speak with members who we have not heard from in a while.

Hilde oversees the Dual Recovery Anonymous meeting Thursday's at 11:30am. Everybody is welcome to participate if they feel comfortable.

Education

The Education Unit has worked hard with members on a great deal of personal goals. Our Education Coordinator Shannon helps guide people in the right direction. Many members have reached out to the Clubhouse and are in the process of applying to go back to school or to obtain a GED. Shannon helps members identify the tools and materials they need to return to school, and helps them begin the process to go back to school. There are members who are currently looking to get their GED, as well as going to classes at Benjamin Franklin and Roxbury Community College. They hold classes throughout the week. Here is what has happened recently:

Monday's– Creative Writing is a favorite where people are encouraged to freely write. We often have topics that we create to get the creative juices going.

Wednesday's– Health and Wellness is very beneficial and members and staff have open discussions on different ways of improving health. Currently we are looking for new topics to discuss so if there is anything you wish to learn please feel free to give a suggestion.

Thursday's– Reading Group focuses on short stories and is working on finishing “Off the Leash.” As well as Delois continues reading after class to practice her reading.

Friday– Poetry Group featured poems from members of the LGBTQ community as we celebrated Pride Month.

Anybody is welcome to make individual appointments and discuss any goals they would like to work on. A quick reminder to everyone is that Employment Meetings on Monday are now changing to Employment and Education where, during this time, we will focus on how to apply for schools and programs as well as Employment information.

Health and wellness

Denise H.



I love Zumba! I

have been teaching Zumba for about 5 months at Webster House and love doing it. I have about seven “regulars” who come faithfully. I teach at 2:00pm on Tuesdays. I taught fitness for thirty years in Boston and got recertified in January. Webster House has given me the opportunity to pursue my passion. We welcome anyone who wants to participate or see for themselves how fun it can be.

1 Year anniversary

Brian M.

Thursday, May 31, marks our one year anniversary at this new location. The move is great because the new place is fresh and improved more than what we had before. Roslindale has welcomed us to their community and we found it very enjoyable to be here. We enjoy all the shops and restaurants. We look to grow and do a lot of work in and around this new community.

Fresh Food Truck

Our neighbors at Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center provide fresh produce and welcome those from around the community. Webster House was very appreciative to be invited to take part in their healthy eating initiative. Members and staff picked from a wide selection of fruits and vegetables and would like to thank Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center for giving back to the community and serving fresh produce and groceries.



Employment

Saying goodbye to Brittany S. Brittany, who was our Employment Specialist, worked tirelessly to help individuals connected to interesting jobs.. She is currently in pursuit of Higher Education as she finishes her Masters this Winter. She will be missed and this is a few things people had to say about her:

Sarah E.

I remember the first time I met Brittany at our old location. After a few days on the job, she opened up and showed her personality to everyone. She is a hard worker and dedicated to doing a good job. I know she will do well in her next job.



Charles

Brittany is very kind and caring. She was helpful and supportive, and we will all miss her

James B.

Very intelligent!

Schiff award
Joel S.

The Schiff awards recognize the value of employment as part of the recovery



process and Webster had four well deserved winners for their hard work. I am grateful for even being considered for this award. Being there and listening to others stories and speeches was very moving to me because it shows that wherever you come from or where you been if you believe in something and have the support around you to reach your goals you can find yourself in a great situation to better yourself . When they asked me to speak, I talked about my work experience and how much fun I have there. I also mentioned the relationship I have with my boss and how my work community supports me, and how happy I am to work with them. I also mentioned that with the right help I find myself in the right position and living the best life I can for right now. Everyday is a win, and can not wait to see what is next for me in the future.

Welcome Hector

Delilah

Hector has joined us at Webster House as our new Employment Specialist and brings with him a lot of knowledge, techniques, and a system to help people get to work. His background in the area of Employment comes with a lot of experience. He recently retired from the state where he was a Human Service Coordinator, and he was apart of starting two Clubhouses before that. He wanted to get back to something that he loves and be in an environment where he can work directly with people. Already, we see how Hector has impacted us at Webster where he created forms which help members get connected to what they want to do and what interests them. He has also sat down with members who are interested in working and has reached out to Greater Boston Employment Collaborative (GBEC) to see what opportunities are out there. We have enjoyed welcoming Hector to Webster House and love hearing his stories. He told us that he was born in Argentina and moved to Israel eventually settling down in The United States. We recently found out that he is a brand new grandfather and often shows us adorable pictures of his newborn. There is one picture, especially, that stands out which is one of his grandson stretching, an Argentinean soccer jersey. This is funny because Hector is a big fan of soccer where he used to be a semi professional soccer player and even coached his sons soccer team. We can not wait to hear more interesting stories from Hector and the great work that he can bring here to Webster House. For those who are seeking employment help, Hector welcomes all to come talk to him and will be available to set up meetings.

Social

Science Museum

Thank you to the Science Museum for sponsoring our trip by giving us 16 tickets to the museum. We were able to attend a great deal of the exhibitions they had open. One of the most notable parts of the trip was seeing the electric show. The live presentation of lightning was amazing and we got to learn a lot about how it is created and what it is made of. In the presentation, the worker generated lightning and created a bright light followed by a large booming sound. After the show many of us went around and checked out more exhibits. We really enjoyed the Dinosaur and Space exhibits especially the large Dinosaurs displayed . Thank you to all who participated. We truly had a great time and were happy to enjoy a great trip with fellow members and staff.



Spring Fling II

Ed F.

Thank you to Friends of Metro Boston for throwing a wonderful Spring Fling once again. We at Webster House really enjoyed it. This Spring Fling was my first time ever going and I would love to go again. I especially liked the music and was glad to see old friends who I have not seen for so long. Also, being there with current members and staff from Webster House helped me feel a more sense of belonging and was glad I went and spent time with people from the Program.



Coffee with the Mayor

Joel

I've met the Mayor, Marty Walsh many years ago when he was campaigning to be the mayor of Boston. It was in Brigham Circle and when I mentioned that day to him he clearly remembered the event. In my brief talk with Mayor Walsh, he was very welcoming and listened to what I had to say. I asked him to take a picture with me and my fellow friends at Webster and invited him, one day, to come to our program for lunch. He was very nice and professional and I was impressed that he took time out of his day to talk to us.



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Webster House is a Vinfen Program

Check out our Website at Websterclubhouse.org for any updates

Announcements

Employment Dinner

July 17th
Aug 21st

**Annual BBQ at
lake Cochituate**

August 3rd

**Annual camping trip to
Camp Lyndon**

September 1st and 2nd