

HILLSGROVE HAPPENINGS



May Events

May 2nd, Pickleball & Lunch
May 14th, Wellness Night
May 21st, Open House
May 25th, BBQ
May 27th, Employment Dinner

Table of Contents

Director's Corner: Page 2
Employment Unit: Page 3
Business Unit - Page 4
Cafe Unit: Page 5
Kitchen & Garden: Page 6
Social Events : Page 7
Member Spotlight: Page 8
Announcements: Page 9



DIRECTORS CORNER

When it comes to understanding the community impact of an Accredited Clubhouse program, I like the proverb “the proof of the pudding is in the eating” or more commonly known as simply “the proof is in the pudding”. In general this saying supports a common understanding in Clubhouse circles that appreciating what makes a Clubhouse special requires taking time to get the full Clubhouse experience.

We have lots of data to support the value of Clubhouse, reduced hospitalizations for active Clubhouse members, employment rates that are 4 times the national average, 90% of members feeling that Hillsgrove Clubhouse has helped them be more independent, just to name a few. These types of numbers can help explain what a Clubhouse can do, but to truly get what a Clubhouse is all about you need to spend time here, side-by-side members and staff and participating in the workday, jumping into a collegial decision making conversation, helping someone learn a new task, and of course eating the pudding, or perhaps lunch.

The proof comes from experiencing the positive impact of daily Clubhouse activities, the pride of completing important work, and the excitement of making someone’s day better. Through this simple but intentional effort to keep the Clubhouse open and running smoothly, Hillsgrove Clubhouse saves lives.

We want to welcome everyone to experience the proof that Clubhouse Works and a great opportunity is our Open House on May 21st, 2026. Come by anytime between 8 AM to 4 PM to experience a “day in the life of Hillsgrove Clubhouse” and help us raise awareness of the need for Clubhouses in Rhode Island.

See you soon,
Mark

EMPLOYMENT UNIT

Employment and Education Dinner: This month the dinner conversation was about how to present skills from life and other jobs into your resume or interview conversation. While we deviated a bit from the topic during our discussions, everyone seemed to find beneficial information in the sharing and conversation. We also had Will, a new employment specialist for the Providence office, join us. We hope he continues to join our dinners and participate in the topics.

Next Dinner: The next dinner is **Wednesday May 27th from 4-6:30pm**. It will be an open forum evening. We will eat and catch up between 4 and 5 then have group discussions about what topics we are interested in doing at future dinners.

TEP: Drew F started at the Garden City Old Navy this month. Devan successfully completed our 1st position at the Garden City Old Navy. And has already started looking into what his next endeavor looks like. Congrats on a fantastic job.

P.A.I.D.: Over the next 2 months we will begin the brainstorming steps of the PAID program. This is a guideline on developing new partnerships and ultimately some new Transitional positions. Stay tuned and hope you can help us brainstorm.

Employment: We make RI continues to have monthly job fairs, the next one is May 14th (<https://wemakeri.com/job-fair/>). Please contact the employment unit if you want more information or are interesting in exploring the positions/employers that will be at the fair.

Education: Many of our members were busy this month with various GED programs. We continue to be proud of all of their hard work. We have several members taking courses at CCRI and we want to wish them the best of luck with final exams.

Special Shout outs: Not only did Karen celebrate her 5th year at Home Depot this month but she also found out she was selected as Employee of the Month for March. We would also congratulate Kevin on his 1 year anniversary at the Boot Barn. Lastly, but certainly not least, we want to congratulate Luke on passing another section of his GED. Your hard work and dedication make us all so proud.

Business Unit



Peter doing the work of the day.

ADMIN. TEAM: Team members have been very supportive in distributing and assisting other members in completing Annual Member Surveys. Staff and members have been diligently passing out the surveys, collecting them and making sure they are deposited in the Completed Envelope. Hillsgrove Clubhouse members have the option of anonymously completing the survey or signing it. The number of members returning the survey has been strong. Members are always genuine in giving honest feedback about what the strengths and growth areas they perceive at HC. The results of the survey are used for our Annual Planning Day in June and are usually reflected in our Big Five Goals for the coming Fiscal Year. Newer members are surprised that the clubhouse is interested in their experiences of HC and how staff and members can work together to improve the quality of service offered at HC. A huge shout out goes to Sam, Bryant University, Psychology Ph.D. Candidate, for creating a “Wall of Fame” of members’ responses to the statement: What my clubhouse has meant to me is... The wall has received much positive feedback from people on tours, orientations and visitors to the clubhouse. Among Sam’s many gifts is her ease in connecting with both members and staff and actively listening to their experiences. She fits in well with the clubhouse community. Bruce has been a consistent author of the News-@-Noon while also supporting the Kitchen team in doing dishes while the dishwasher is broken. He has committed himself to attending the clubhouse at least 3-4 days weekly. Many thanks to Bruce and the long list of members who keep things running smoothly at HC. Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

CAFE UNIT



As always, thank you SO much to our regular cafe members for their assistance with all of the necessary daily tasks! Michael, Chris, and Ethan are always dependable cashiers, as well as Tom and Rick, who will gladly tidy up every afternoon that they are here. The cafe crew would also like to recognize Barbara for her recent work in the cafe, both baking and noticing what supplies we were lacking and being kind enough to donate things! We love to welcome new members into our area & we hope that the upcoming month brings many more new faces!

KITCHEN & GARDEN UPDATE



THIS MONTH OUR GARDEN HAS BEEN PRODUCING DELICIOUS ASPAPRAGUS WHICH MEMBERS HAVE ENJOYED ADDING TO THEIR LUNCHES. ANOTHER CACFP TRAINING WAS PROVIDED FOCUSING ON FOOD SAFETY & SANITATION. IRONICALLY, THE KITCHEN OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO AN ABRUPT HALT BY THE LACK OF A WORKING DISHWASHER. MEMBERS HAVE BEEN STEPPING UP BY HANDWASHING DISHES IN THE THREE BAY SINK - WASHING, RINSING & SANITIZING. SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MEMBERS RICHARD G., LIANAH I., VINNY C., ALEX P., GREG D., TOM M., JAY K., SCOTT A., DAVID H., AND NEW MEMBER JUANA R. FOR VOLUNTEERING IN THE KITCHEN. THE NEW DISH FOR THIS MONTH WAS CHICKEN CAESAR QUINOA SALAD. MEMBERS SEEMED TO HAVE ENJOYED THE DISH AND IT HAS BECOME ANOTHER RECEIPE FOR MENU PLANNING. MEMBER ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN GROWING EACH WEEK. THE SPECIALTY SALAD CONTINUES TO BE A HIT WITH MANY MEMBERS. AS ALWAYS, THE KITCHEN CELEBRATED APRIL BIRTHDAYS WITH A DELICIOUS PISTACHIO CAKE.

MAY EVENTS

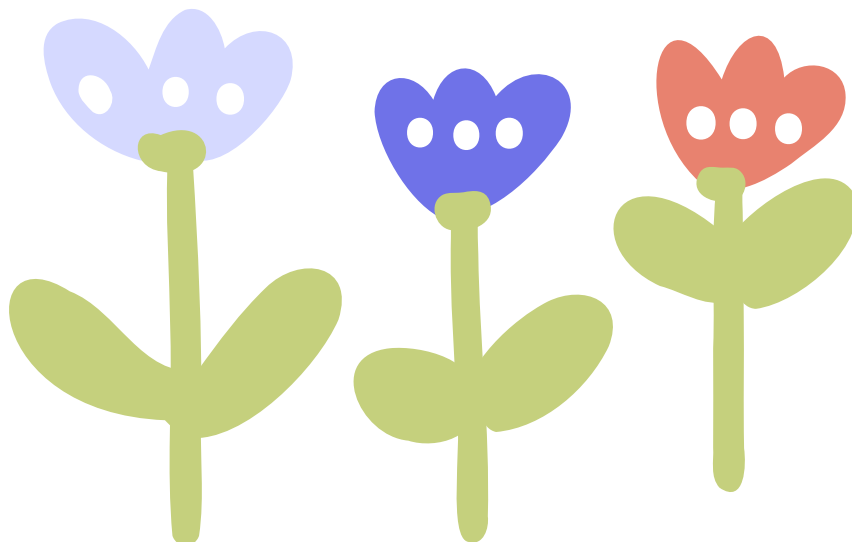
May 2nd, Saturday, 10-2
Pickleball & Lunch

May 14th, Thursday, 4-6:30
Wellness Night

May 21st, Thursday, 8-4
Open House

May 25th, Memorial Day, Monday, 10:00-2:00
BBQ

May 27th, Wednesday, 4:00-6:30
Employment Dinner



Member Spotlight

Adam M.



"HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE HAS GIVEN ME A PLACE TO GO AND SOMETHING TO DO WHEN I DON'T HAVE WORK. IT HAS GIVEN ME SOCIAL CONNECTION. IT HAS GIVEN ME STRUCTURE AFTER MY NORMAL STRUCTURE COLLAPSED WITHOUT WARNING. BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, HILLSGROVE HELPED CRYSTALLIZE AN IDEA IN MY HEAD: "I CAN DO MORE THAN WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING." I ASKED PAULINE WHAT I WOULD HAVE TO DO TO WORK HERE, AND SHE TOLD ME THAT THERE IS A JOB CALLED A PEER RECOVERY SPECIALIST. AND I RESPONDED, "ALRIGHT, LET'S DO THAT!" LAST WEEK, I TOOK AN EDUCATIONAL COURSE TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A CERTIFIED PEER RECOVER SPECIALIST. IF IT WASN'T FOR ME COMING HERE, HELPING OUT, AND WORKING WITH OTHER MEMBERS, THE IDEA THAT "I CAN DO MORE" WOULDN'T HAVE COME ABOUT. I DON'T 100% KNOW WHAT IT'S GOING TO MEAN IN THE FUTURE, BUT I DO KNOW THAT ME MAKING THIS ADVANCEMENT WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT HILLSGROVE CLUBHOUSE. IT'S HUGE GOING FROM WHERE I WAS TO THINKING "I CAN ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING I AM PROUD OF!"

Announcements

Monday, May 1st is Clubhouse Giving Day. This is our annual fundraiser which is held online. Donations begin in April 27th and last until May 30th. Please let your friends and family know to visit our Giving Day page at:

<https://www.clubhousegivingday.org/organizations/hillsgrove-clubhouse-0766528a-d3be-40a7-96af-da35198bd13e>

On Thursday, May 21st, we will have our annual Open House from 8-4.

We will be open on Monday, May 25th for a 10-2 social as we recognize Memorial Day.

Looking ahead, we will have our annual Open Mic Night on Thursday, June 11th from 4-7.

Dual Recovery Anonymous Group (DRA)

Anyone with dual diagnoses, including addiction and mental health, are welcome to join our DRA meeting on Mondays from 12:30-1:00 PM in the front conference room.

In case of inclement weather, call the Clubhouse at 401-732-0970 to see if we're open. We will leave a message. If no one answers the phone, do not come in. We will also update our social media pages to give you much needed info. If we are having bad weather, think about your comfort level while making your decision. It is best to stay home and be safe.

**We hope our readers have enjoyed reading our
May 2026 edition of our newsletter!**



**If you're interested in learning more about Hillsgrove
Clubhouse or would like to get in touch with us to schedule
a tour, please contact us at one of the links below:**



401-732-0970



hillsgroveclubhouse@gmail.com



www.hillsgroveclubhouseri.org



www.facebook.com/hillsgroveclubhouse