



MARCH 2024

Chandelier



CEO CORNER

When we think of March, many of us think of St. Patrick's Day. We think about the luck of the Irish. We think about bad luck and good luck.

I would challenge people who believe that it was bad luck that they somehow fell into addiction. Your drinking and drug use was purposeful.

We don't do things for no reason at all. Addiction is the natural and logical consequence of continued use to feel good or cope with negative emotions and/or trauma.

And most people continue to engage in the use of their drug of choice until it no longer works the way that it used to. This is often where people can identify hitting bottom, where the purpose of use does not work today the way it did yesterday.

What about luck in recovery? Is sobriety reserved for those with good fortune or luck? Certainly not. This is the good, empowering, and encouraging news. Recovery is for those who are willing to work for it -- not for the lucky. There is a saying: "The harder I work, the luckier I get." This means that the more I am willing to commit myself to a lifestyle of sobriety, the more likely I am to attain and retain it. I've often said that recovery is similar and dissimilar to the lottery. Commercials for the lottery often say: "You've got to be in it to win it." While this is true in recovery, unlike the lottery, your odds are not dependent on the right numbers falling your way. Sobriety is open and available to everyone who truly wants it.

I'd encourage all those in recovery to take time to reflect on the work you have done to get where you are. Whether you are days, weeks, months, or years into your sobriety, remind yourself that it didn't happen by luck, but rather your willingness to do the work.



David Gerber, M.Ed. CASAC, CEO



Dakota Ulmen
Willingway Alumni Coordinator

Stay in touch! Willingway CaredFor app



Alumni Night

Every Thursday

7:30-9:00pm

311 Jones Mill Road, Statesboro, GA

Call 912-515-7103 for more info



Want to share your recovery story?

Send us an email at: alumni@willingway.com



Alumni News:

Our alumni will be going to a Savannah Ghost Pirates game at the end of March!

Keep an eye out for pictures!

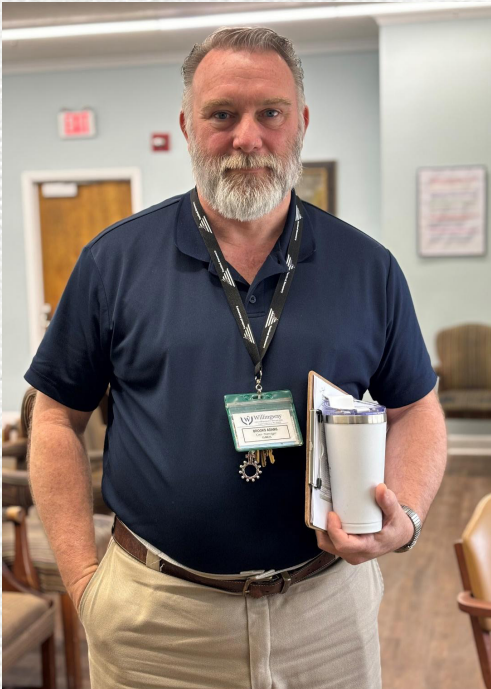


Contest Time!

Congratulations to our most recent contest winner, **Zachary D.!**

Check out the Willingway CaredFor app for our next contest!





★EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Brooks Adams

Position: Tactical Recovery Case Manager

Start Date: 11/28/2022

Tell us a little about your position: I'm one of the 2 Case Managers for the VA patients. In addition to providing counseling and running the VA Group meetings, we handle all of the communication between Willingway and the VA for the duration of the patient's stay and line up their aftercare. It's a little different from the other counselors' roles here in terms of the requirements for communication and documentation, but it's also incredibly rewarding to get to build relationships with the agency that is taking care of our veterans' health care needs.

Favorite part of your job? I'm a veteran in recovery myself, so I know firsthand what these men and women have to look forward to as they initiate the recovery process. My favorite part of this job is seeing the lights come back on upstairs. It's not always an easy or even a pleasant thing, but when you get to watch someone finally 'get it,' it is absolutely worth it! The work is going to be tough, challenging, difficult, scary--whatever. Worth. It.

Why did you choose Willingway? I grew up in Statesboro, so Willingway has been something that I've always been aware of. As I got older and started to understand something about the world, I learned how impactful and popular this hospital was. As I started to move around the country, I could almost always find someone who had heard of Statesboro because of this hospital. When I got into recovery and really really found out what Willingway was all about, my respect and admiration for the place and its mission grew. Tenfold. The final point for me was when I found out about the VA program. I dropped what I was doing and came and knocked on the door. I wanted to be a part of that, no matter what. So, here I am.

Interesting fact about you? Woof. Interesting to whom? I'm a stage actor at the Averitt Center, which is cool if you like the theater. I've lived overseas if travel is your get-down. I have a lot of kids, stepkids, and grandkids if you're a fan of the modern Brady Bunch. Personally, I think the most interesting thing about me is the fact that I survived active addiction and that I'm here to talk about it. So, yeah. That part.



Homecoming News:

Friday:

- ★ Lodge drop-in social hour, 5-6:30pm
- ★ The Rez drop-in social hour, 5-6:30pm
- ★ Pizza Party & Shirts at the Fork, 6:30-8:00pm
- ★ Friday night speaker meeting at 8:00pm (Raymond S.)

Saturday:

- ★ Al-anon speaker meeting, 10:30-11:30am (John R.)
- ★ Picnic at Willingway, 12:00pm
- ★ Sharing Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm
- ★ Ice cream social following sharing meeting

Homecoming Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/willingway-homecoming-2024-a-fork-in-the-road-tickets-808355632457>

Room blocking info for Homecoming:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1706320246059&key=GRP&app=resvlink>



March Birthdays:

Ashley Deville, 3/3
Domaniqua Hendrix, 3/7
Carolyn Smith, 3/7
Evelyn Williams, 3/9
Christina Whetstone, 3/9
Natosha Lynn, 3/15
Tonya Phillips, 3/17

Adrian Benemon, 3/19
Lavaughn Bragg, 3/20
Tang Heard, 3/20
Julie Trowell, 3/23
Henry Son, 3/23
Janice Blakeley, 3/23
Ronnett Johnson, 3/26



We're Growing!

Augusta IOP: Coming Soon

We had a blast opening our new OP location in Augusta!
1225 Augusta West Parkway
Augusta, GA, 30909



Coming soon:

Jacksonville OP Location

4100 Southpoint Dr E, Unit 1
Jacksonville, FL, 32216
SPRING 2024





Continuing Care Community Support Groups

Continuing Care provides a supportive and welcoming community to people in addiction recovery, their family members, and their close friends. It is a safe place to land, to talk about your experiences, and to find ways to become connected to 12-step recovery.

Zoom Meetings

Atlanta, GA - Robby Carroll

Tuesday at 6:30 PM

Meeting ID: 851 3786 4879

Password: 837591

Robby Carroll 404-216-3882

Thursday at 6:00 PM

Meeting ID: 883 0477 9288

Password: 545307

Robby Carroll 404-216-3882

Pines Adolescent Families Welcome

Macon, GA - Tracy Miller

Willingway Continuing Care meets on Monday evenings at 6:30 at Centenary Methodist Church 1280 College Street.

The meeting will be held in person and on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 858 8774 8270

Password: Recovery

Tracy Miller 478-960-3863

Jacksonville, FL

John and Cathy Roberts

Monday at 6:00 PM

Meeting ID: 996 758 129

Password: 1234

John Roberts 904-463-1246

Augusta, GA – Paula Wood

Saturday at 10 AM

Meeting ID: 945 7406 1339

Password: 714168

Paula Wood 706-664-9672

In-Person Meetings

Charleston, SC – Rhett Crull

Monday at 6:30 PM

Church of the Holy Cross

299 Seven Farms Drive

Daniel Island, SC

Rhett Crull 843-323-7111

Raleigh, NC – Charlie Wagner

Mondays 7:30-8:45 PM

St John's Baptist Church

1615 Oberlin Rd # A,

Raleigh, NC 27608

Accessed from a parking lot on the rear of the building off Chester Road.

Charlie Wagner 919-349-6269

St. Simons – Joel Mills

Saturday at 6:30 PM

The Club House

1501 Demere Road

St Simons Island, GA 31522

Joel Mills 912-617-6385

Jacksonville, FL

John and Cathy Roberts

Tuesday at 6:00 PM

Palms Presbyterian Church

3410 Third Street South

Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

John Roberts 904-463-1246

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Zoom Meetings

Columbia, SC – Michael Byrd

Not Currently Active

Michael Byrd 803-381-7491

Raleigh, NC – Charlie Wagner

Mondays 7:30 - 8:45 PM

Meeting ID: 885 4336 3501

Passcode: Willingway

MAKE
YOURSELF
PROUD

In-Person Meetings

Augusta, GA – Paula Wood

Saturday at 10 AM

Covenant Presbyterian Church

3131 Walton Way

Augusta, GA 30904

Paula Wood 706-664-9672

Macon, GA – Tracy Miller

Monday at 6:30 PM

Centenary Church

1280 College Street

Tracy Miller 478-960-3863

*For more information about
continuing care, please contact
alumni@willingway.com.*

