Leading the Way for Individuals on the Path to Wellness and Recovery
A Message From the President and CEO . . .

Leading the way in comprehensive behavioral health care, Preestera Center is celebrating 50 years of community service in 2017. Preestera Center provides quality behavioral health services to over 20,000 individuals, families and children annually in 70+ locations across nine counties in West Virginia. It’s the state’s 69th largest employer in West Virginia, with around 850 staff. Most importantly, Preestera Center provides life-saving treatment services and care for our most vulnerable community members.

Fiscal Year 2016 has brought new programs and partnerships to our comprehensive array of services. Recovery coaches staff harm-reduction programs at local health departments to connect people to treatment and recovery resources. Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) programs divert people with addictions away from incarceration and felony sentencing and into treatment and recovery programs. On-site laboratory services have been added. Mason County (Point Pleasant, WV) has new offices and a new recovery home open. Funding awarded will expand school-based mental health services to two elementary schools in Wayne County, WV, and to Scott High in Boone County, adding more resources to rural counties.

Wraparound services for children in DHHR custody and families were implemented in four counties. Wraparound is an intensive holistic method of engaging with children and adolescents with complex needs and their families so that they can live in their homes and communities.

As we look toward the future, the members of the Board of Directors, and the staff at Preestera Center, will continue efforts to create and seek opportunities that enhance our ability to meet the needs of people in our communities. Our commitment to quality behavioral health services will not waiver as we continue to lead the way in behavioral health in West Virginia. Thank you for taking time to review this report.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Who we are . . .

Largest Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center in West Virginia

78 sites across nine counties

825+ employees

49 years experience

State licensed & nationally CARF accredited

Fiscal Year 2016 Highlights:

- Recovery Coaches at Syringe Exchange Programs
- Expanded Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Programs to Huntington
- Mason County Recovery Home Opens
- Expanded School-based Mental Health Services
- Source America Certificate of Achievement for 2015
- On-site Laboratory Services
- Started Safe-at-Home Children and Family Project
- 2015 US Attorney’s Innovative Partnership Award for Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program
- New Mason County Office Location Opens
- School-Based Therapist, John Radochio, receives the WVCCA “2015 Clinical Staff of the Year” Recognition
- Upgrade of Technology Infrastructure
- Opened a Drop-In Center in Charleston
“PATH helped me any time I had a question.”

Steve’s Story

Steve had a good childhood by most accounts, but started drinking when he was 15. Steve has a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Kentucky, and for many years had no roof over his head. He’s been married and is now divorced. There were good times, and there were bad times.

Three years ago, Steve found himself homeless. For the next two years, he spent time in local hospitals (46 days), in crisis units (4 times), on the streets and in and out of the Huntington City Mission. One day while living on the streets, he met one of Prestera Centers’ Projects for Assistance in Transitioning Homeless (PATH) employees. PATH is a grant funded program that provides community-based outreach services for people with behavioral health problems experiencing homelessness.

Steve’s PATH worker helped him get much needed mental and physical wellness services and into a Prestera substance use treatment program. “PATH helped me any time I had a question.” Steve says when asked about his situation.

After completing treatment at Prestera, Steve was still homeless, and graduated to another Prestera service, Housing First, in the summer of 2015. He moved into Safe Quarters, a transitional housing program and in August 2015, he moved into Prestera’s Balen House, a permanent supportive housing program for those who experience chronic homelessness.

Steve has come a long way since 2013 and thanks to Prestera Center programs and “by the grace of God”, he is in active recovery, receives federal income assistance, mental and physical health services and is working toward giving help to those who find themselves in need of assistance, just like Steve.
Isaiah’s Story

Isaiah is originally from a very rural and isolated small community in southern West Virginia. Isaiah is almost 40 years old and lives with severe and persistent mental illnesses that cause him to hear voices and lose his temper. He credits Prestera Center for helping him leave the state psychiatric hospital and become a productive and successful person. He enjoys shopping, going out to eat, watching television and working.

By 22, he was serving a sentence at a state-operated psychiatric hospital because of “psychosis” or hearing voices. Today he takes medications that “holds down the voices”. He has learned about his symptoms and accepts his mental illness. He completed anger management classes that have helped him control his temper and recognize when he is angry and escalating to the point of acting on impulses. He has learned how to calm himself down before he gets too angry.

Isaiah lives in a group home operated by Prestera Center. “I have my own room and my own cable and it’s better than having my own apartment, because I am not lonely. Seven other people besides me live together at Cypress. We have staff all the time. They help us, they are really good staff, probably the best staff we have.” Isaiah has a job that he enjoys. He typically works two hours a day five days a week cleaning offices. He loves working because he has extra money. He completes chores at his home and is responsible for cleaning his room and for his own laundry.

Isaiah said, “Prestera straightened me out with my anger and got me better prepared to live out in society. Without Prestera, I would be hearing voices, in the hospital or in jail. I would be a lot worse off.” Isaiah’s future plans include keeping his job and continuing to enjoy the freedoms of living in the community.
In Fiscal Year 2016
From July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

20,014 individuals were served
including
1,763 children
and
18,251 adults
for a total of
1,005,072 service hours
“Prestera Center is a vital partner in providing an array of mental health services in our community. These services are a critical component in combating the drug epidemic, which can only be resolved with a strong commitment to prevention, treatment and recovery.

*Steve Williams, Mayor of the City of Huntington WV*
Above—Coach Don Nehlen, Karen Yost, Coach Bob Pruett and Kim Miller at the Fall Fundraiser, A Tent Divided

Right—Outstanding Handle with Care Program award: Mindy Thornton, Karen Yost, Booth Goodwin, and Dana Petroff

Above—Participants from the Prestera float in the Huntington Christmas Parade in December
Above— The Huntington Spring Fundraiser, *Fiesta*, was a great success

Booth Goodwin and Karen Yost, along with Tim White at the Solving the Heroin Crisis town hall meeting

US Congressman Evan Jenkins visited the Pinecrest location and toured the cottages
What people are saying about us. . .

Each month, hundreds of individuals completed surveys about our services during FY 2016

94% report overall satisfaction with services they received

94% say they would recommend our services to others

“I like the treatment I am getting and think it would help other people.” - Anonymous

“I feel very comfortable.” - Anonymous

"United Way of the River Cities invests in Prester Center's service to women in recovery because the program addresses a critical community issue and is very successful. We direct funds to those programs that will have the greatest impact in our region, and the Renaissance Women's and Children's program is a great example of such a program."

Laura Gilliam, Executive Director of United Way

"Resources available through Prester Center have never been more important to West Virginia families facing behavioral health issues. While the Center provides a broad range of services, response to the crisis of addiction, presents, literally life-saving treatment right here, within the region."

Michele Prester Craig, Prester Foundation Board Trustee.

“Prester Center services are invaluable to this community. They are always willing to take the lead or partner with other agencies to combat the addiction problem in our community.”

Christopher Dean, Director of the Cabell Wayne Day Report Center

“As we continue our fight against the drug epidemic, Prester and the services its employees provide are more important now than ever before. I cannot imagine the amount of folks who would lose all hope of receiving help without Prester Center. They truly save lives.”

Steve Burton, President and CEO of First Choice Health Systems
Michael Prestera Award of Excellence
2016 Winner: Attorney Booth Goodwin

![Booth Goodwin with Karen Yost, CEO](image1)

Past Award Recipients:
- 1996: Mildred Mitchell Bateman, MD
- 1997: Joan E. Ross
- 1998: Betty Barrett
- 1999: William Dotson
- 2000: Delegate Margarette Leach
- 2001: Francie Roberts-Buchannon
- 2002: William Wright
- 2003: Maurice Cooley
- 2004: Senator Robert Plymale
- 2005: James Weiler
- 2006: Delegate Don Perdue & Scott Finn
- 2007: Linda Pleasants & Jack Clohan
- 2008: Debby Hibbard & Dr. Ron Duerring
- 2009: Frank Markun
- 2010: Karen Yost
- 2011: Dan Hedges
- 2012: Delegate Jim Morgan
- 2013: Bob Hansen
- 2014: David Forinash
- 2015: Gov. Tomblin

The winner of the prestigious Michael Prestera Award of Excellence announced April 26, 2016 is the former US Prosecuting Attorney Booth Goodwin of Charleston, WV. Goodwin has been instrumental in West Virginia’s fight against the heroin and pain pill epidemic which has impacted the lives of so many West Virginia families.

The “Handle With Care” program was initiated by Attorney Goodwin to alert schools when a law enforcement intervention occurred in a student’s home, so the child may receive special care and counseling. Handle with Care is being replicated across West Virginia and nationally.

Mr. Goodwin brought a federally funded “Weed and Seed” project that led to “Drug Market Intervention” projects and Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion programs. Many continue to choose recovery over jail and prison.

The Prestera Center Board of Directors sincerely appreciates Mr. Booth Goodwin’s leadership and service to individuals with behavioral health needs.
Prestera Foundation warmly thanks the following for their support during fiscal year 2016. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide high quality services in our communities.

**Visionaries $5000+**
Brickstreet Insurance
Lee Graphics, Inc.
PROVEND

**Ambassadors $2500+**
Pat and Vickie Burrows
Chapman Printing
CSX
Bill & Madelyn Dotson
ELab Solutions Corporation
First Choice Health Systems, Inc.
Four S Development
Goldy Auto
Rajiv & Debbie Jain
Lumos Networks
Moses AutoMall of Huntington
Payne & Garlow Insurance
Power of the Purse
Raymond James Associates
River Park Hospital
United Bank

**Benefactors $1000+**
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Care Source
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St. Mary’s Medical Center
USI Insurance Services
Valley Health Systems
WV Business Products

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Kathleen DeVoge
Bob & Mary Hardin
Rory & Kerry Johnson
Azuree Kuhn
Larry & Carla Lapelle
John & Elaine London
Lisa McComas
Bill & Carolyn Mullett
John & Linda Persun
Setzer’s World of Camping
Jeff Walls
Linda Williams

**Associates $100+**
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Prestera’s Mission
A united effort dedicated to helping people achieve their full potential. Leading the way since 1967.
Prestera Center impacts over 20,000 adults, children, and families across West Virginia each year and has been leading the way in helping people achieve happier, more fulfilling lives since 1967.

Here’s how you can help:

**Monetary donations**
The Prestera Foundation supports Prestera Center in a variety of ways from community outreach to funding support, and is eager to partner with individuals, businesses and organizations to reach our goals. Together, we can ensure high quality behavioral health services to West Virginians. Donations may be made as a one-time gift, or a monthly contribution, and may be made online, via mail, or by phone.

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