Leading the way...

in comprehensive behavioral healthcare services
A Message From the President and CEO . . .

It is my sincere pleasure to bring you the Prestera Center Annual Report. After celebrating our 50th Anniversary of leading the way in behavioral healthcare in 2017, we leave fiscal year 2018 with many successes. Prestera Center is proud to provide high quality behavioral healthcare services to over 20,000 individuals, families and children annually in more than 55 locations across nine counties in West Virginia. We are among West Virginia’s seventy largest employers, with around 750 staff. Prestera is proud to serve the most vulnerable members of our community with a wide range of life-saving treatment and support services.

Fiscal Year 2018 brought new programs and partnerships to the comprehensive array of services. A modern new crisis stabilization facility with 16 beds was opened in the Guyandotte area of Huntington. Our new South Charleston WV outpatient substance use disorder treatment program hosted a VIP roundtable discussion and visit with Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, part of the USDHHS), state officials and local law enforcement officials. Prestera Center was awarded a major federal grant to provide safety and well-being for children living in homes where there are substance use disorders in several counties with multiple partners. The grant award is $600,000 per year for six years and is reducing adverse experiences of children living in homes with substance use disorders. Partners include Children’s Home Society and Marshall University. Prestera participated in many community forums, town hall meetings and events around the region over the year.

As we look toward the future, the members of the Board of Directors, and the staff at Prestera Center will continue efforts to develop...
services that enhance our ability to meet the needs of people in our communities. Our commitment to quality services will continue as we lead the way in behavioral health in West Virginia. Thank you for taking time to review this report.

Sincerely,

Karen Yost
President and CEO

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Profiles of Successes

Stephen

For the past 43 years, Stephen has been fighting depression, anxiety and alcoholism. He’s only 58 years old. He came into Prestera’s care through a local hospital where he had been a couple of times for psychiatric hospitalizations. After two years (2013-2015) he felt he no longer needed the intensive treatments he was receiving. For the next two years he continued to struggle. He was a frequent patient at local hospitals and Prestera’s Crisis Residential Unit. In December of 2017 he returned to Prestera Center’s Assertive Community Treatment program where he received the help he needed to confront his lifelong battle with depression and alcoholism. Since that time, he has not been admitted to a hospital for psychiatric reasons. He has completed a 28-day program and is receiving long-term residential treatment at one of our locations. He is actively seeking employment and is looking forward to a holiday season void of depression and alcohol. Treatment works, recovery is possible.

Andy

Andy came to the WORCS employment program a little over a year ago from a referral from the DRS. Andy is in his late 20’s and has autism. He had a strong desire to succeed at work and also had difficulty accepting professional boundaries of the workplace. Andy really needed to improve his life skills, his communication and work place professionalism. Andy came in weekly for over a year. He was always on time and eager to learn. He improved his typing skills and went from a “hunt and peck” three words a minute to 30 words per minute! Andy practiced resume writing and interviewing skills, professionalism development, and he received continued encouragement.

Andy is now happily employed at the Capital Market, a local marketplace in Charleston. The owner could not be more pleased. He is one of their most reliable and knowledgeable team members. He is serving in an established family business, making a competitive and livable wage and supporting our local economy. More importantly he can live independently and is very happy with the work that he does.
Samantha

Being a teenager isn’t easy. Being a teenager in high school certainly isn’t easy. Samantha was struggling. She lived at home with both parents, siblings and extended family members in a home that was way too small for all those living there. She was exposed to a constant barrage of bickering between family members. It was just too much for Samantha and her school work began to suffer. Thankfully, she reached out for help. Through our school based program, Samantha has received the services she needed to help her reduce her symptoms of anxiety and depression and continues to work through her trauma and PTSD in therapy. Her grades have significantly improved (from below average to straight A’s) and she has learned coping skills that she applies to her life outside of school. Last year, Prestera Center helped nearly 2,196 children or adolescents just like Samantha.

Susan

Susan, has been with the WV Division of Rehab Services since high school. She has participated in the Work Adjustment Training Program at Prestera where she is working in a paid, integrated, high volume, mental health facility under direct supervision with a job coach. She clocked in 90 hours of training with office related work and could already type 40 wpm. Susan has overcome obstacles related to her disability, refined her social skills, and grown professionally.

Eventually Susan wanted competitive employment. She developed a resume that included her experience with work adjustment training. Susan developed skills necessary for successful employment. She interviewed successfully with many local businesses.

This month, Susan began her first day of paid competitive employment at a local art store working as a cashier and gaining valuable customer service skills. This is very much in line with her personal interests and love for painting and staff are so excited for her. After 90 days of employment her work adjustment case will be successfully closed. Until then, staff provide support and serve as a resource to identify needs, possible accommodations, and see her through to success.
Overdose Awareness Day

Overdose Awareness Day was observed at the Pinecrest location in August, with encouraging message from local dignitaries, light refreshments and a Wall of Hope and Remembrance. It was followed by free naloxone training with the Cabell-Huntington Health Department.

Visit from Dr. Elinor McKance-Katz

Dr. McKance-Katz, from SAMHSA, visited in March. Allowing Prestera Center to highlight its program and services. It was announced that WV would receive more funding to fight the substance use epidemic. The Center was praised for the diversity and effectiveness of our programs.

The Year
Recovery-4-a-Change

In September, Prestera joined with a team of organizations to honor National Recovery Month with the third annual Recovery-4-A-Change event to remind us we have more people living in recovery than still suffering from addiction. Guests enjoyed music, hopeful stories of recovery, children’s activities, free food, t-shirts, HIV testing and Hepatitis A immunizations.
Hippy Anniversary, Prestera!

In October 2017, Prestera Center celebrated 50 years of providing behavioral health care to the community with our “Hippy Anniversary, Prestera!” fall event. Supporters celebrated with a fun night of dinner, dancing, reception, a live band, and a silent auction. Prestera Center would like to thank all the sponsors, volunteers and attendees for making the event a huge success.
Shamrock ‘n Roll

The Prestera Foundation's annual Spring benefit was held in March at the Don Morris Room of Marshall University's Student Center in Huntington, WV. The theme was "Shamrock ‘n Roll" and featured a reception, dinner, auction, raffles, live band- Santa Cruz, and plenty of fun. More than $57,000 was raised for the Prestera Foundation.
Fiscal Year 2018:  
July 1, 2017 through  
June 30, 2018

94% of our consumers say they
would recommend our
services to others

95% report overall satisfaction with
services they received

20,547 adults & 2,195 children

22,742 total individuals served

Toyota/Prestera Supported Employment Partnership
In June 2018, it was announced that Prestera Center had been chosen by
Toyota Motor Manufacturing in Buffalo, West Virginia to partner in a
supported employment program. Since then, 10 of Presteras’s consumers
in the Intellectual Disabilities Department were trained and working hard
manufacturing all the parts needed for the plant’s Corolla engines. Two
of our consumers were given special awards because they discovered
safety issues inside the plant during their training. Toyota has been
absolutely wonderful to work with and tell us they are learning as much
from Prestera as we are learning from them. Toyota Motor
Manufacturing is to be commended for a truly inclusive workforce.
Our Mission

A united effort dedicated to helping people achieve their full potential. Leading the way since 1967.
Prestera Foundation warmly thanks the following for their support during fiscal year 2018. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide high quality services in our communities.

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Thank You
Members of the Prestera Center Board of Directors are pleased to announce that Christopher Dean is the 2018 recipient of the prestigious Michael Prestera Award of Excellence. Mr. Dean was nominated in recognition of his contributions to the mental health and substance use fields, including advocating for increased access to behavioral health treatment services through partnerships.

He is a valuable partner on justice reinvestment programs, adding counselors to the Western Regional Day Report Center and law enforcement diversion projects. Mr. Dean was instrumental in establishing “Marie’s Place”, a long-term substance use recovery home in Wayne County. He is a highly respected mental hygiene commissioner for Cabell County.

Christopher Dean is an attorney and works as the Western Regional Day Report Center Director and the WV Supreme Court of Appeals Mental Hygiene Commissioner for Cabell County.
Prestera Center impacted over 22,700 adults, children, and families across West Virginia this 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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