Boley Centers’ Mission is to enrich the lives of people in recovery by providing the highest quality treatment, rehabilitation, employment and housing services.

Where Recovery Works!

Martin Lott Conversion

We are happy to announce that over the last few months we have converted our Martin Lott Group Home into a Level IV Residential Treatment facility, licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). Now up and running, the facility provides housing to male and female Veterans who are enrolled in an intensive outpatient treatment program at Bay Pines Hospital. This program is funded through the Department of Veterans Affairs and serves Veterans who are struggling with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Substance Use Disorder.

The program operates with at least one staff member on site whenever residents are in the building which is 24-hours per day on the weekends and 20-hours per day during the week. They are gone for a portion of the day Monday through Friday to attend the PTSD program at Bay Pines.

The facility has nine bedrooms (eight single rooms & one double room) and can house up to 10 Veterans at a time. They reside at Martin Lott while completing their PTSD treatment program at Bay Pines. During this time, Boley Centers will be providing a structured and safe residence that is conducive to supporting the Veteran’s recovery process. Residents share household responsibilities, participate in support groups and activities, receive supportive counseling, as well as social and recreational activities to help them while they are in the program.

Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program Update

Since 2011, Boley has been operating a Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) with a grant through the Department of Labor. The program is designed to assist Veterans in Pinellas County who are homeless or at risk for homelessness, to find employment and sustainable housing. Veterans are identified through outreach and referrals. If qualified for the program, Vets are referred to the HVRP case manager for assessment and follow up services as well as the VA, CareerSource and other local agencies for services such as housing and treatment. If the Veteran is ready for work, he or she is assigned to an Employment Consultant where prior employment, education and training are evaluated and goals are set.

Last year the agency was asked by the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s Supported Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) Program to assist their job-seeking Veterans. Boley was glad to join forces and hired an additional staff member to help out in this capacity. What resulted was a fantastic collaborative effort between the two organizations. Boley’s job-seeking Veterans who are in need of housing are referred to the SSVF program and SSVF’s housing-seeking Veterans who need assistance in finding jobs are referred to Boley’s HVRP. Since October of 2013, an additional 25 veterans and their family members have been employed.

This is the final year of the 3-year grant. Since its inception, the program has helped at least 175 Veterans in finding employment. Some are now working within the social services/homeless community where they can assist others Vets who need assistance. Whenever Veterans enter the program and meet the criteria, they are encouraged to apply for an open position at Boley Centers. To date, five HVRP participants have been hired internally. Many of these Veterans will return to school once stable housing or employment, or both, has been secured. This will help improve their chances of obtaining or maintaining sustainable employment and finding a meaningful role in the community.
Mission, Vision and Values

Boley Centers’ Mission is to enrich the lives of people in recovery by providing the highest quality treatment, rehabilitation, employment and housing services.

Boley Centers’ Vision is to set the standard as an innovative leader for the services we provide.

Boley Centers Values respect, trust, and ethics in all our relationships.

Funding

Boley Centers is funded in part under agreements with the Agency for Health Care Administration, Bessie Boley Foundation, Boley Angels, Boley Foundation, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, City of St. Petersburg, City of Tampa, Florida Department of Children & Families, Florida Department of Education, Florida Department of Elder Affairs, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Health Partners, Inc., Pinellas Community Foundation; Pinellas County, Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board, St. Anthony’s Health Care, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Transportation & U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
High Demand for After-School Employment Program

In 2013, Boley Centers was awarded a contract from the City of St. Petersburg for its inaugural After-School Youth Employment Program (ASYEP). This program assists youth who are attending school and live in St. Petersburg with securing jobs in the community. Through this program youths have the unique opportunity to gain valuable work experience, and earn money while working after school in the private sector as paid interns.

The initial goal was to provide employment for 40 young men and women, aged 14-18, during the school year. Interns earned $7.79 per hour and were expected to work 15 hours per week. The interns were matched with jobs according to their interests, skills and geographic locations.

Positions started on August 10, 2013 and ended on May 1, 2014. The St. Petersburg business community supported this program by providing year-round employment opportunities for youth. To date, the program received approximately 240 applications and obtained jobs for 44 youths which is slightly more than the contract originally provided for. Now that the school year is at its close, the agency is now in full swing with its Summer Youth Internship Program.

This letter came from the mother of a young man who received Supported Employment Services through Boley Centers.

I wanted to take a minute and give you an update on my son, David. As you know his job Coach is Jamie Bennett. I can not thank you and Jamie enough for the support and guidance that has been shown to David.

Jamie stayed in touch (even though David continually forgot to call him back), he met with his bosses, he was just there every step of the way. He walked into a sensitive situation because David had just moved back home and the transition for him was horrible.

He ended up "choosing" to be homeless and would not change his routine. When looking for housing, he would only consider it if it was within one mile of his work because of fear of disrupting his routine. Jamie gave direction, challenges and support. He was also an incredible support to me as I watched David try to "do this on his own." He shared stories that gave me hope through this entire process.

I am happy to report that David is still working at Midas after 5 months. He has recently purchased and moved into a little house within one mile from his home. It’s a perfect and affordable for him to maintain. He is extremely overwhelmed with working full-time and doing life at the same time, but he is continuing to try. Even though moving into a new home brings new routines and new stresses, we are thrilled.

David still faces many challenges, but we take one step at a time, realizing that the rest of his book hasn’t been written yet - we are sure more great things are coming his way.

Lisa
Boley Centers’ Sunset Point Apartments are complete and residents have moved in. These 14 newly built units of affordable housing in northern Pinellas County will provide a home for individuals who have a mental illness and are at or below the low income threshold. **A grand opening is planned for October 10, 2014.**

**Save the Date!**

**Housing Update**

- **Broadwater Place, Phase IV** is a ten unit development for individuals who are homeless and at or below 40% of the area median income. There are multiple funding streams which include the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in the amount of $1,002,095, the City of St. Petersburg at $110,000 and Pinellas Affordable Living at $50,000. Boley Centers hopes to break ground on this project in the next few months.

- **Funding has been awarded for a new 88-unit Permanent Supportive Housing Community in unincorporated Pinellas for Veterans with Special Needs.** Called Duval Park, Low Income Housing Tax Credits and State Apartment Incentive Loan Funds will be used to build these units which are designed to help those Veterans who are transitioning out of a Veterans Administration Hospital or medical center. Boley Centers is managing the construction and will provide services to the residents once complete.

- **Funding has also been awarded from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in the amount of $1,099,750 for 3636 Park Apartments.** This is a new eight unit development to be located in St. Petersburg. It will provide housing to eight families who have experienced homelessness and are at or below 40% of the area median income.