



"Spring is a season of the soul to regain its strength."
-Lailah Gifty Akita.




FAREWELL MESSAGE

Dear WVFSRS Family,

I can't express how sad I am that my time at WVFSRS has come to an end. It's still hard to believe but it has been an absolute pleasure working with each and every one of you over the past couple of years. This is bittersweet. However, I am excited about my next move, furthering my education.

I want to take this time to thank everyone for their support and for letting me serve you as best as I can. The experiences I have gained will remain invaluable to me. I will definitely miss you all and everything we have achieved together. I have no doubt that you will continue to make a difference in the lives of clients and those around you.

I look forward to staying connected and hearing updates about the team's achievements until our paths cross again. Wishing you all great success!

Signing off with much love, 
Emmanuella Onyekwere-Eke,
MAIOP, MBA, SHRM-CP



April Fools' Day is like a huge open mic night: Millions of people go out of their way to demonstrate how unfunny they are :) Check me out, lol



APRIL FOOLS' DAY JOKES

01

What do you call a hammer bought on April 1?
An April tool

02

Babies born on March 31 are the easiest to prank on April Fools' Day. They were literally born yesterday!

03

Knock, knock | Who's there?
April | April who?
April Fools!

04

My favorite April Fools' Day prank is pretending I'm going to leave my couch ... On my way out.

05

What's one bone a prankster doesn't want to break on April Fools' Day?
The humerus.



Happy Easter

to you and your loved ones!

The story of Easter can be seen as a metaphor for addiction recovery, as it portrays a journey of transformation, hope, and new beginnings of Jesus experienced great suffering, but was ultimately able to overcome it and achieve victory over death.

In addiction recovery, individuals often experience a "death" of their old ways of living and must undergo a process of change and transformation in order to achieve lasting recovery. This can involve facing difficult truths, letting go of old patterns and beliefs, and rebuilding their lives with new purpose and meaning. The story of Easter also highlights the importance of faith and surrender in the recovery process. Just as Jesus surrendered himself to God's will and allowed himself to be transformed, individuals in recovery must surrender their own wills and accept help and guidance from a higher power, as well as from supportive individuals and communities.

Finally, the story of Easter provides hope for a new beginning and a better future, just as addiction recovery offers the possibility of a new life free from the burden of addiction. It reminds us that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope for renewal, redemption, and a brighter tomorrow.

APRIL CELEBRATIONS



Jessica Sipes
work anniversary 04/09



Kourtney Smith
work anniversary 04/11



Dr. Stacey Baust
Birthday 04/13



Brandy Wartes
Birthday 04/13

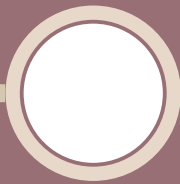


Suleiman Abimiku
Birthday 04/20



Ash Schade
Birthday 04/24

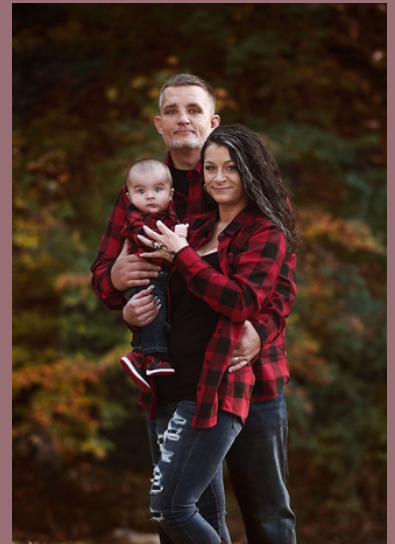
SOBERVERSARY



AMY "NICCI" WALKER, PRSS

Addiction took me down a long dark path. I lost my family, my freedom, my sanity, and most of all, I lost all hope. On April 9th, 2019, I hit rock bottom and found myself sitting in yet another detox facility. Since then, I have found hope again and feel that I am finally the person God intended for me to be all along. I got another chance at life and try not to take that for granted. Today I am a loving mother, wife, sister, daughter, and friend.

I am dependable and employable, my family and loved ones can count on me. By working the 12 steps, I have been able to change the behaviors that led me to use drugs in the first place. I know I have to live by spiritual principles in all areas of my life and remind myself that I am only one bad choice away from being right back where I started. I am so grateful for the life I have today and pray that I can give hope to others. Recovery is possible, I am living proof that any addict can stop using, lose the desire to use, and find a new way to live.



SOBERVERSARY

TIFFANY YEAGER, PRSS

04/19/19

I cannot begin to describe how my life changed before and after recovery. When I came into recovery, I was broken and had lost all hope of ever knowing a different life. I had lost my family, kids, friends, and most of all myself. Now, not only can I be a mother my kids can depend on, a daughter my dad can be proud of, and have friends with genuine friendship, but I can look at myself to know who I am and be so proud of the woman recovery has enabled me to be. I keep going to give hope to others because I know if a wreck like me can turn into the person I have become, the sky is the limit for future recovering addicts to come. “Old dreams awaken, and new possibilities arise.”



ANNOUNCEMENTS



HOLIDAYS

There are no scheduled office closures for this month. Now will be a good time to place your vacation time-off requests to your supervisor for approval if you've started making summer plans.

COMMUNICATION

If you require assistance, please reach out to your immediate supervisor first.

You can address your payroll questions to Kayla Payne and cc' Tiffany Santiago.

WVLPSCA SPRING CONFERENCE

April 27-28

Charleston Coliseum and
Convention Center

16 Total CE Available (8 Each Day)

Onsite: \$392 | Virtual: \$353

More info at <https://wvlpca.org>



IMPORTANT DATES

April 7
World Health Day

April 9
Easter Sunday

April 18
Last day to file taxes

April 22
World Earth Day

MANDATORY STAFF MEETING

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023

Time: 11:00 am

Location: Parkersburg office (214 8th
Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101)





You are invited to

Step by Step's

Spring Resource Fair!



April 21st, 2023 / 5pm-7pm

1401 4th Avenue Charleston, WV 25302



FEATURING

Community Vendors

Free Groceries

Bounce House

Music

Face Painting

Food

AND MORE!



Special thanks to Mountaineer Food Bank for providing free groceries for everyone!



WV Collegiate Initiative to
**Advance Healthy
Campus Communities**
Higher Education Summit

KEYNOTE:

What does Substance Use Prevention
Look Like in the Post-Pandemic Era?

Amelia Arria, PhD

Director, Center on Young Adult Health and Development -
University of Maryland School of Public Health



The one-day summit offers 3 tracks:

- The Professional Track features Dr. Amelia Arria (UMD), Barri Sky Faucett (Prevent Suicide WV), and Dr. Brandon Henderson (MU).
- The Law Enforcement Track features Sgt. Jay Powers (WV State Police), Dr. Brandon Henderson (MU), Carrie Showalter, ESQ (WVU) & WVU Police Chief, Sherry St. Clair.
- The Student Track features Dan Pickens, MS (WVABCA), Robin Tabor MA & CHOICES Peer Educators (WVSU), and Susie Mullens, MS (MU) & Azeem Khan (WVU student).

Topics include:
Substance use prevention, suicide, vaping, drug recognition, intervention teams, driving under the influence, bystander intervention and fentanyl education

FREE! No cost to attend.

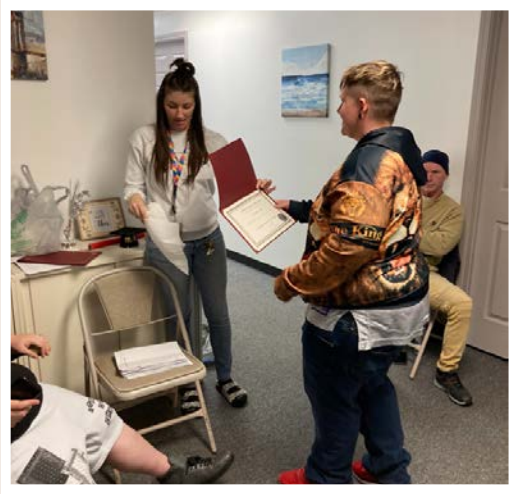
WV Collegiate Initiative to
**Advance Healthy
Campus Communities**
Higher Education Summit

APRIL 28, 2023
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

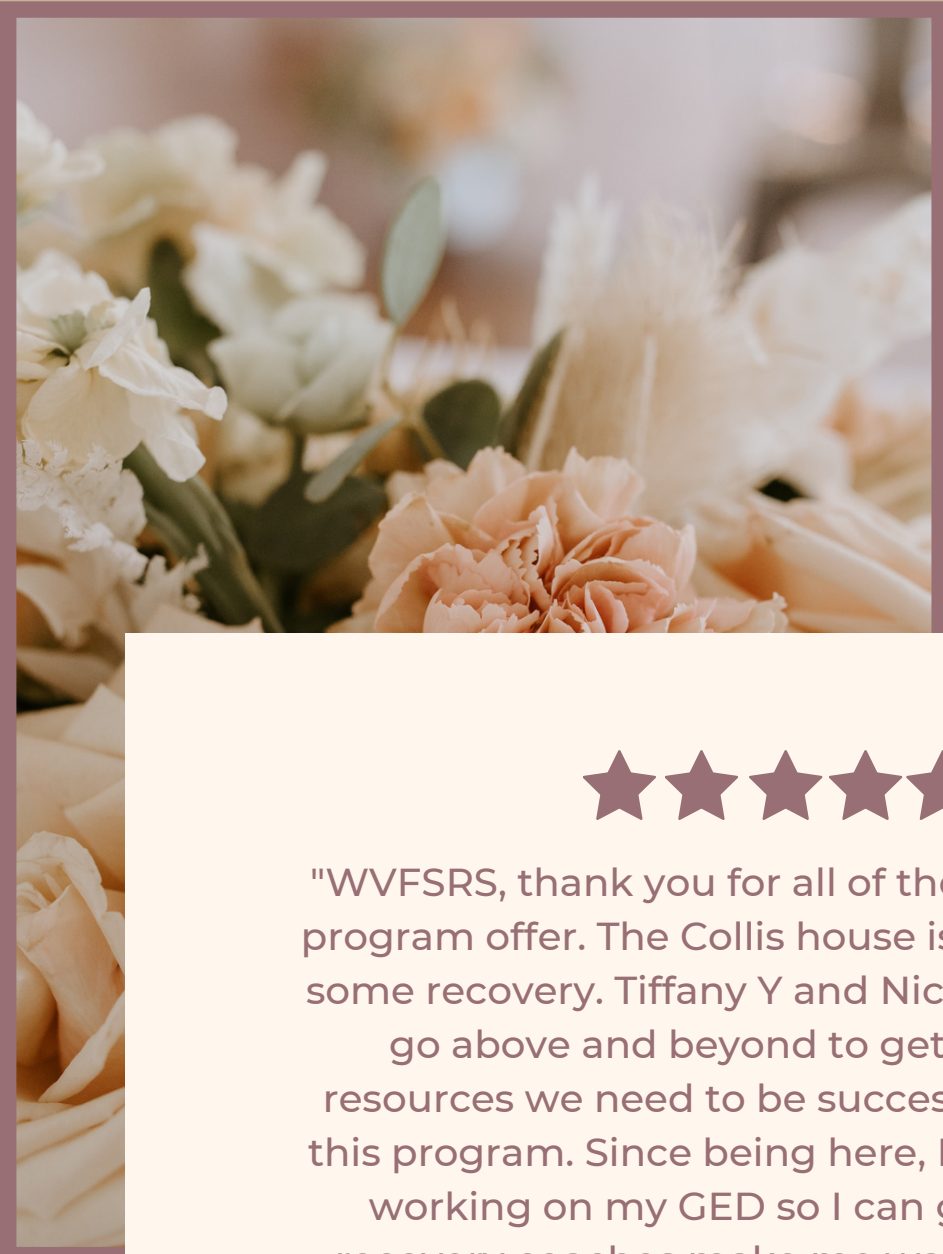
West Virginia State University
James C. Wilson University Union, Room 134
Institute, West Virginia



Shirley Temple clients' graduation



1043 Grant Street getting ready for Easter orchestrated by T. Cline and the other girls



"WVFSRS, thank you for all of the help your staff and program offer. The Collis house is a great place to get some recovery. Tiffany Y and Nicci are amazing. They go above and beyond to get us the help and resources we need to be successful when we finish this program. Since being here, I've got a job and I'm working on my GED so I can go to college. The recovery coaches make me want to do better and they're showing me how to be better. So, again, thank you for your programs and staff

Megan H



“My name is Mykha, I am 28 years old and a mother of 2 children. I used to get high and live on the street for about 4 years from addiction that came about from a car accident injury where I was prescribed Lortabs. From there I got into other prescription pills, eventually ending up using heroin and meth. For the past 4 months I have been a client at the Shirley Temple Transitional Homes and in that 4 months I have managed to hold down a job at Chili’s and D.T. Prime, both located in downtown Charleston WV. I also attend local recovery meetings (AA/NA) as a well-known face and made a good name for myself. I have taken a budgeting class and managed to save money for a car and recently applied for housing through Charleston HUD and working on getting my license and my children back, all thanks to this program. I probably would never have seen these accomplishments without the help and support and security of the Shirley Temple program where I was shown how to grow into what I want and where I want to be in life.”

Mykha A



“Well, since I have been in recovery here at Shirley Temple my life has been completely transformed for the better. My life has completely been saved by the grace of God. I have been able to maintain employment, sign up for housing, continually pass a urine drug test, gain a positive support system, and get saved which is actually number one. I attend church every Sunday and Wednesday. By putting God first in my life, my life has improved drastically for the better in so many ways. Best decision I have ever made. I attend 5-6 NA or AA meetings a week which has really taught me accountability. I’ve gained self-love and self-acceptance during my time here and I can truly say I forgive myself for my past and truly love life and myself these days. I am beyond grateful for my bed here at Shirley Temple. I am and will be forever thankful.”

C. Sheets