

# GAVIN FOUNDATION

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Gavin Foundation, Inc.  
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The Gavin Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals in our programs and our community, by providing substance abuse prevention, education, treatment and support through the Gavin Foundation programs

The Gavin Foundation invites you to our annual **Gratitude Dinner** celebrating the 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gavin House, 44<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hamilton House, 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cushing House, and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charlestown Recovery House. The celebration will be held on Thursday October 18, 2018 at the IBEW Hall in Dorchester. The evening includes speakers, awards, music, raffles and a delicious roast beef and roast chicken dinner.



It is a Gavin Foundation tradition to invite our current residents in treatment to the dinner at no charge, allowing them to meet the many who have gone before, see there is hope and know recovery is attainable. *We are seeking donations to purchase their tickets.* There are 36 men at Gavin House, 30 at Charlestown Recovery House, 22 at Hamilton House, 16 at the Graduate Houses, and 16 boys and 14 girls at Cushing House. To donate please contact Danielle O'Brien at 857-496-7335. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$500 per table of ten and are available online, at any House or the DRC.

It was wonderful summer at the **Devine Recovery Center** with many events including the annual Soberfest where over 200 members, family and friends enjoyed a wonderful day filled with good food, good times and Good Sober Fun! Upcoming fall activities include the recovery month barbecue (9/29) sober basketball league games, Halloween Day Open House. We continue with running with a group with volunteers from the



Boston Bulldogs Running Club. There is always something going on at the DRC; meetings, Narcan training, resume help, or volunteering. There are many opportunities to meet others in recovery. Please visit [Facebook.com/DevineRecoveryCenter](https://www.facebook.com/DevineRecoveryCenter) for updated listings, announcements and photos. Membership is free, stop by and take a look! We are at 70 Devine Way in South Boston and open Monday to Friday 9:00am- 10:00pm,

The Alcoholics Anonymous Way of Life **AAWOL** program continues to provide a structured in-depth study of AA's 12 Steps to the residents and clients involved in the Gavin programs, and many more men and women in recovery interested in learning how to apply the Spiritual Principles of the Steps in their life. The Tynan School in South Boston is very busy on Tuesday nights with 7 men's groups and 3 women's groups. AAWOL is also at the Kent School in Charlestown every Thursday night. All are welcome and we encourage graduates to come back and help our residents gain the same responsible sobriety and commitment that you now enjoy. Give back so others can move forward. New groups form on a rolling basis and we would love to have more facilitators for both Men's and Women's Groups. If you are interested please call the Charlestown Recovery House at 617-242-0088 or Gavin House at 617-268-5517.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF RECOVERY!

You are an important part of our clients success; our donors make fulfilling our mission possible. It is through your thoughtfulness and generosity that we can continue to offer so much for them. Please consider the Gavin Foundation in your giving plans; gift levels start at \$12 per month. Your financial support will go straight to work helping our clients in treatment learn how to live a sober life **One Day at a Time.**

Online giving information can be found at [www.gavinfoundation.org/monthly-giving](http://www.gavinfoundation.org/monthly-giving)

# Gavin Foundation, Fall 2018 NEWSLETTER

Friends of the Gavin Foundation and presenting sponsors Claddagh Fund, Endeavor Capitol and The Mark Wahlberg Foundation joined together at the Innovation and Design Building in South Boston for the Road to Recovery Spring Gala. Jeff Werner Executive Director of the New England Carpenters Fund was presented with the Man of the Year Award, and Creative Office Pavilion, Karen Van Winkle received the Caring Hearts Award. Honored guests included Governor Charlie Baker, Mayor Martin Walsh, Mayor Thomas Koch and Congressman Stephen Lynch.



We are thankful for the event donors, sponsors and auction donors; the event would not have been possible without you. We are grateful for the time, energy and good cheer of the many terrific volunteers, members of the Gala Committee Chaired by Margaret Lynch, Brian Nee and Willy Ostiguy.



We thank those in attendance for joining us; we are grateful you came to celebrate recovery and raise awareness and funds for the Gavin Foundation programs. If you missed us this year, we hope to see you soon, and are grateful to have you as part of our community. We appreciate your recognition and support; it is truly amazing to see how much we can accomplish when we all work together. You make fulfilling the mission of the Gavin Foundation possible.

Pictured left: Congressman Stephen Lynch, Karen Van Winkle and Gavin Foundation Board Chairman Willy Ostiguy.

Pictured above: Governor Charlie Baker, Man of the Year Honoree Jeff Warner, Caring Hearts awardee Karten Van Winkle and Mayor Martin Walsh.

**National Recovery Month** spreads the positive message that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover. We hosted our 6th Annual Recovery Month Celebration at the IBEW Hall in Dorchester, featuring a comedy show and awards ceremony. The program also included remarks from Brendan Little from the City of Boston Office of Recovery Services and Maryann from Massachusetts Organization of Addiction and Recovery (MOAR) and Speaker of Jimmy D. Area recovery organizations were represented at resource tables for attendees.

John McGahan, Gavin Foundation President/CEO, presented the *Recovery Community Impact Award* to Berto Sanchez, Boston Public Health Commission, for his passion and commitment to Narcan training to reduce the number of fatal overdoses in the Greater Boston area. Berto is an unsung hero who is well deserving of the recognition for his life-saving advocacy and dedication to overdose prevention.

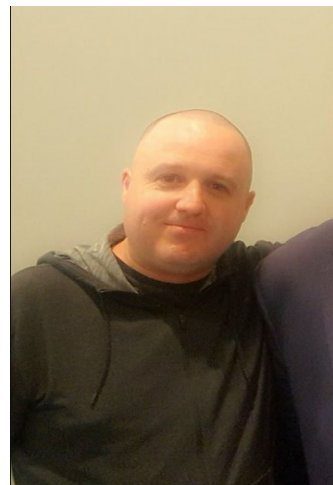
We finished the evening with a comedy show featuring Yanni Pappas and Graig Murphy, emceed by Al Park. Thank you to all who participated, it was a terrific night celebrating recovery! Please visit our website for additional event photos.



Community Impact Awardee Berto Sanchez with his son and Gavin President/CEO John McGahan



It was a terrific summer for the residents of the Gavin Foundation Recovery Houses. We welcomed alumni and friends to the sober softball league games and for the much-loved summer barbecues held at all the houses. Each program enjoyed the traveling ice cream sundae's with Jim and Roscoe. What a treat! Gavin Foundation alumni are always welcome to come back for dinner and join residents at meetings. We want to congratulate Hamilton House on the victory on the inhouse softball tournament. Remember; there are no strangers here, only friends you haven't met.



**COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES GAVIN ALUMNUS**

Ronnie Maciejewski received the Gate of Heaven "Man of the Year Award" for dedication and commitment to the youth of South Boston at the Walsh Center. Ronnie is a real beacon of hope for the kids at the gym.

Congratulations Ronnie!!! Thanks for all you do for Gavin and the South Boston community.

Keeping busy with positive sober activities teaches our **Cushing House** residents that life can be good without using drugs or alcohol. The more we can expose them to different experiences the more they are able to learn about how rewarding it is to live a sober life.

We are truly grateful to the individuals and companies that donate tickets or provide financial support to make these visits, outing and trips possible.

Residents had a busy summer with regular activities including yoga, swimming, boating and working out at the new Phoenix Multisport facility.

The boys and girls both played in the Medford Overcoming Addiction Kickball tournament and participated in softball and basketball league games. Visits to area museums and trips to Franklin Park Zoo, Revere Beach Sand Castle festival and Canobie Lake Park were also on the summer calendar. The new teen center at the Copley branch of the Boston Public Library has become a firm favorite, perfect for a rainy day!



**Center for Recovery Services**

Do you know a teen who needs help with substance use issues? We recognize that youth affected by drug and alcohol use face special challenges in building their recovery capacity. Substance misuse undermines adolescent and young adult tasks of building support networks, defining values which guide life choices, and taking on greater responsibilities for self care. Family relationships are damaged and educational losses undermine employment opportunities.

We offer specialized adolescent residential, community, educational and diversion programs to respond to these needs. Our Structured Outpatient Addiction Program (SOAP) is available for teens at our Center for Recovery Services office at 210 Old Colony Avenue in South Boston. Group and individual options are available. Please call us at 617-268-5000 to find out more about our adolescent

**CLIENT SPOTLIGHT** Access to Recovery (ATR) client Daniel R. was referred by Wyman Recovery Home. Daniel chose recovery / spiritual coaching though Rev. Eustace Payne from Bethel AME Church which he found extremely helpful to his recovery. He found a real connection to the staff and members at the Devine Recovery Center where is was always helpful in preparing for events, attending social activates and helping Roscoe and the team whenever asked. He did all this while holding done his union job. He is such a positive role model at the center that we were compelled to ask him to join our team. So please come on down to the DRC to meet Daniel and partake in one of the activities.



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT** ALEX S. really took advantage of all the services Gavin has to offer. He was a resident of Hamilton House when he enrolled in the ATR program and was referred to the New England Center for Arts and Technology (NECAT) for culinary arts. After completing classes he worked at Fenway and began volunteering for events at the Devine Recovery Center where all were impressed with his culinary skills. The members really love to eat and enjoyed in delicious food. In fact word got back to Hamilton House and they have since hire him to be their full time cook. Congratulations!!!!!!

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT** Citizen Energy Corporation has been a long time supporter of the Gavin Foundation programs. Public Affairs Associate Peter Roby and staff volunteered to make dinner this summer for the residents of Charlestown Recovery Home. Much to everyone's surprise they brought lobsters! It was a generous and much appreciated gift, and a big boost for the guys. Thank you to the volunteers from Citizens Energy for your fun and delicious donation! We are grateful for your continued support.

BU Students pictured right spend two days with us volunteering on various projects from gardening, cleaning and spending time with members at the DRC.



Gavin Foundation was recently awarded a three year grant from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) to support individuals in Norfolk and Suffolk County that are involved in the criminal justice system. The grant is designed provide peer support that include skills training on nutrition, smoking cession, overdoes prevention, in addition to referrals to job readiness, housing application assistance and a host of prosocial recreational activities. The will also be setting up a peer leadership council that will assist our efforts with planning and implementing activities so if interested please contact dannile O'Brien or Roscoe Hurley at the Devine Recovery Center.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Alumni and Friends Anniversary Dinner  
October 18, 2018, IBEW Hall, Dorchester

Resident Christmas Party  
December 13, 2018, McKeon Post, Dorchester

Road to Recovery Benefit Gala  
May 9, 2019