



# DETROIT RECOVERY PROJECT NEWSLETTER



NEXT DOOR TO DRP'S WESTSIDE RECOVERY RESOURCE CENTER

## Coming Soon: Sandy's Home for Women & Children

When speaking with Detroit Recovery Project Inc.'s Chief Executive, Andre Johnson, the organization's vision of creating a recovery village becomes clearer with each sentence. If you could imagine beautifully renovated homes, bustling with families and surrounded by thriving local businesses, then you've got the big picture.

Well, DRP has taken the next step in bringing this vision into fruition. Sandy's Home for Women is slated to open later this month. The six-bedroom duplex will house three single women in the upstairs quarters and a single woman with up to three children on the lower level.

What's more, the home is situated directly next door to DRP's West Side

Recovery Center. The proximity to recovery resources is an example of the seamless service the organization offers.

"Our village increases changes for people to remain drug free and crime free," said Mr. Johnson. "We were created to be a safeguard for the community – help them sustain and stay in long-term recovery."



ANDRE JOHNSON & JEANINE MCINTOSH, ENVISIONING THE DREAM



READY TO WORK



BACK OF HOME

# “Ain’t No Party Like a Drug Free Party!”

## Highlighting DRP’s Friday Night Live Initiative

Question: Where can you find 100 alcohol, tobacco and drug-free youth in Detroit on a Friday night? Answer: at Detroit Recovery Project, Inc.

Yes, if a passerby peeked through the window he/she would see DJ Shakhan spinning the latest hits and a room full of young people dropping it like it’s hot. They gather at DRP’s Westside location bi-monthly to have clean fun and learn how to party free of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

“Kids need to know they can be safe and alcohol free,” says Darius Brantley, an HIV Prevention Specialist, Community Outreach Worker and organizer of the event. “The community is really starting

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**“KIDS NEED TO KNOW THEY CAN BE SAFE AND ALCOHOL/DRUG FREE.”**

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to get involved by coming to help us serve food; our local police precinct representatives Officer’s Pinchum and Jones are involved as well.”

DRP began hosting Friday Night Live gatherings in December 2012. Then, just 55 youth showed up at the behest of their parents, many of whom are enrolled in DRP programming. A little more than six months later that number has doubled and even more teens, ages 12-17, are expected to participate this fall.

In addition to the dance party, Friday Night Live offers HIV education, conflict resolution training and presentations highlighting Fatal Vision Goggles that demonstrate the effects of alcohol on vision. Mr. Brantley said this feature is a big hit with the attendees.

So, if you’re in the Detroit area on a Friday night, stop by DRP to get your groove on for FREE – of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. Somebody say, “ho-o!!!”

### THE GANG



# DRP CELEBRATES WOMANHOOD



## DRP Celebrates Womanhood

150 women beautifully adorned in pink and purple graced Detroit Recovery Project, Inc.'s Westside Recovery Resource Center and the place hasn't been the same.

The women gathered for DRP's Pre-mother's Day Conference for women in recovery. The theme "Empowering the Whole Woman: Rejuvenating the Mind, Body & Spirit" featured workshops, massages and belly dancing. Yes – belly dancing!

"The event was well received," said Nicole Lee, who coordinated the event. "The women loved the massages and got a chance to be pampered for a day. The belly dancing was awesome!"

Some of the workshops included: "My Mommy and Me: Rebuilding Parental Relationship;" "Spiritual Empowerment" and "Job Training and Employment: What Michigan Rehabilitation Services is All About?" Childcare was also provided.

Conference attendees received financial training; make up tips, manicures and health screenings. The workshop sessions featured subjects ranging from financial health to physical fitness to coping with recovery.

Sponsored by City of Detroit Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Recovery, the one-day event was catered by the Salvation Army and offered a full-course breakfast and lunch.

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For more information about Women's Specific Services, please contact Ms. Andria Walker, Senior Recovery Coach at 313-365-3100, x.325

# Chene Park Hits Raises Funds

At Chene Park under a moonlit sky on a balmy 84-degree night, Detroit Recovery Project, Inc.'s staff and friends enjoyed the smooth stylings of R&B artists Ledisi and Eric Benet. As the reflection of the lights rhythmically danced off the surface of the Detroit River, these soulful singers delivered a jam-packed two hours that left the audience spellbound.

This was no ordinary concert at Detroit's premier riverfront amphitheater; it was a fundraiser that will fully support DRP's first-ever men's conference in September.

"This was our first fundraiser of this nature," said Jerelle Moseley, event organizer. "We normally apply for a grant but decided to do something different this time.

"We worked with Chene Park's "In the Mixx" program that donated concert tickets to non-profits and allowed us to buy a certain amount of tickets at a discounted rate; we were able to sell them all!" The profits gained were completely donated to DRP.

DRP sold every ticket through Facebook. The company's stock prices may be shaky but the power of networking and sharing information proved priceless. Concertgoers

purchased tickets on DRP's page at face value without fees and taxes.

"It was good fundraising event. We had an item that everybody liked...people were calling for tickets after we had sold out," Ms. Moseley said.

DRP officials are tight lipped about hosting a similar event next year but stay tuned and visit them on Facebook at Detroit Recovery Project Inc. or follow them on Twitter @recovery4theD.



*To learn more about this year's Men's Conference, or to participate, please contact Conference Representative, Darius Brantley or Marcus Bynes at 313-365-3100.*

**THE CHENE PARK FUNDRAISER WILL BENEFIT DRP'S FIRST MEN'S CONFERENCE DURING NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH, THIS SEPTEMBER.**

## DRP Leads the Way to Peer Based Recovery

Detroit Recovery Project, Inc. has distinguished itself within the recovery community through its innovative programming – namely, its Recovery Coaching system. Instituted by DRP officials at its inception this brand of help pairs a coach, who is in long-term recovery, with a newly recovered partner.

With its founding in 2003, DRP blazed a trail as the sole peer-based, peer-driven recovery organization in Michigan. The symbiosis of the relationship between coach and client is based on trust and the comfort of

knowing that the coach is not only talking the talk but walking the walk.

"We decided 100% to hire people in recovery to help those in the early stages to sustain and reduce recidivism in the city of Detroit," said DRP CEO Andre Johnson. As a result, DRP Recovery Coaches have helped their clients earn GEDs, college degrees; find work and social services that once escaped them. Recovery coaches aid their partners in the process of recovery and hold them accountable to the practice.

# DRP Summer Camp Teaches Life Skills

2012 proved to be a year of firsts for Detroit Recovery Project, Inc. Among them was the DRP Summer Youth Camp: Project Manhood/Womanhood that was attended by 20 students over a three-week period at DRP's Westside location.

The inaugural camp featured training on decision-making and life skills & alcohol and drug prevention. Camp attendees enjoyed several field trips to Wayne State University, Selfridge Air Force Base, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and 36th District Court where they discussed law careers with Judge Leonia Lloyd.

"We're hoping to roll the camp into an after-school program," said Malachi

Hampton, who directed the camp and developed its curriculum. He holds a BA in Special Education, an MA in Educational Leadership and an MA in Social Studies.

The camp was highly effective for its target group: youth ages 12-17 who are children of recovering addicts or whose parents are still using drugs. Many of the campers were on probation or had had some contact with the Wayne County Juvenile courts.

"None of the kids wanted to come at first," Mr. Hampton said. "But over time parents saw a significant change in their kids' attitudes. They went from showing no interest to wanting to be a part of the next day's activities."

Camp goers received personal attention as the counselor to camper ratio was 1:5. This dynamic helped a great deal in the areas of conflict resolution and teaching the teenagers how to deal with passive aggressive behavior.

The camp, which lasted from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., consisted of morning workshops and afternoon small group sessions.

Plans are underway for Summer Camp 2013.

DRP's goal is to enroll 40 students and expand camp to five days a week – one day longer than this year's program. Officials ultimately want 100 campers to participate.

## Sandy Arnold: Unsung Hero



Sandy Arnold, 50, is Detroit Recovery Project, Inc.'s latest Unsung Hero. He is a Relapse Prevention Specialist who is celebrating 10 years of recovery. He's been with DRP since 2007.

"I went from sleeping in a vacant house to being a homeowner," he said as he beamed about paying off his mortgage. "Some people never gave up on me."

That same support he received is that which he freely gives to those who need. His mantra: "Paying rent on earth is helping others." As a Relapse Prevention Specialist, Mr. Arnold's goal is to help reshape the way his clients make

decisions. He said if he could "strengthen and reinforce their positive thinking," he could help them stay on the road to recovery.

"It's a gift to work with problematic people; they are diamonds in the rough," he said. "Letting them know you care can make all the difference in the world."

Mr. Arnold speaks from experience; not only has he been clean for a decade, he's married with eight children. In his modern-day version of the Brady Bunch, Mr. Arnold and his wife each brought four children to their union.

He also runs the Wayne County Jail Plus program at DRP where he helps clients mainstream into society through cognitive behavior therapy. Under this method, he trains individuals to make decisions based on fact instead of on feelings and opinions.

Mr. Arnold is a licensed preacher. He attends the Tennessee School of Religion and ministers regularly at Life Changing Ministries in Detroit.

"I was strung out on drugs for over 20 years...I wanted my mom to see me become a man; she's 87 years old. I asked God for one year and He gave me 10. I promised God if he got me out of what I was in, I would serve Him. I've kept that promise."

# PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR



WE'VE HAD A FULL YEAR HERE AT DRP!

PLEASE ENJOY PICTURES OF SOME OF THE EXCITING THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN HAPPENING!

**PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:** CHARISMA PURYEAR, VOLUNTEER AND JERELLE MOSELEY, DRP STAFF @ FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE; LADONNA JACKSON AND BABY BOY @ THE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND THE BAN THE BOX PRESS CONFERENCE WITH SENATOR HANSEN CLARKE!

# CEO'S CORNER

Reflections from Our Chief Executive Officer  
Andre Johnson, M.A.



**"OUR VISION IS TO HELP  
THOSE SPIRITS SOAR."**

The number seven means different things to different people. To some, it means perfection. To others, luck; still

others, an ending. But to Detroit Recovery Project, it means achievement. This past July marked seven years we've been blessed to serve the recovery community. For more than 2,555 days we have walked the road of recovery with clients who've been told they could not make it. We have tailored our services to meet the needs of not only those who walk through our doors but of their families as well.

We have catered to the whole individual and have not simply concentrated on their addiction issues. We have diligently worked to help our clients address the adversities in their lives without the self-deprecating guilt that can develop into anxiety, which feeds insecurity that devolves into anguish and the overwhelming desire to vanquish those feelings with drugs and alcohol.

I understand personally and professionally, how adversity can silently break you. How you one day could awaken to a crumbled life and realize you didn't feel the first fold.

That's what Detroit Recovery Project aspires to do for our clients.

People in recovery have felt like nobody cares; like they're in this world alone. It's something about finding recovery as an individual that helps you develop an appreciation of life – it renews one's spirit.

Our vision is to help those spirits soar. We want the successful recovery of our clients to be a beacon of light that attracts all who want to live life addiction free and with purpose.

We are excited about being in business for seven years. We will continue to grow, expand and reach out to the community as we strive to make Detroit a drug-free city one recovery at a time.

*For man's greatest actions are performed in minor struggles. Life, misfortune, isolation, abandonment and poverty are battlefields which have their heroes--obscure heroes who are at times greater than illustrious heroes.*

*~Victor Hugo*

# DRP LOCATIONS

## **Eastside Recovery Resource Center**

1121 East McNichols Rd.  
Detroit, Michigan 48203  
313-365-3100 (Phone)  
313-365-3102 (Fax)

## **Westside Recovery Resource Center**

1145 West Grand Blvd.  
Detroit, Michigan 48208  
313-324-8900 (Phone)  
313-324-8701 (Fax)

## **Comprehensive Outpatient Recovery Services (CORS)**

18954 James Couzens  
Detroit, Michigan 48235  
313-864-5306 (Phone)  
313-864-5326 (Fax)

## **TRANSITIONAL HOMES**

### **Trent Home for Men**

335 East Grand Blvd.  
Detroit, Michigan 48207  
313-579-5462 (Phone)

### **Bray Home for Men**

400 Cortland  
Highland Park, Michigan 48203  
313-883-2729 (Phone)

### **Sandy's Home for Women & Children**

1163-65 West Grand Blvd.  
Detroit, Michigan 48208  
\*\*Opening Fall 2012\*\*

### **Detroit Recovery Project Board of Directors**

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