

# Across the Spectrum

Changing lives through the effective treatment of drug and alcohol addictions.

## Spectrum Holds Dedication for New Women & Children's Center

Spectrum Health Systems officially dedicated its new, \$2.5 million, 18,000-sq.-ft. Women & Children's Center, naming the facility Giblin House in honor of Kevin Giblin, a long-time supporter and generous donor to Spectrum's mission.

The dedication was held along with an open house at the new building on Friday, May 7, 2010 — a fitting start to Mother's Day weekend. The events culminated a nearly decade-long capital campaign and more recent construction phase which would not have been possible without the support of Mr. Giblin, numerous private and community foundations, Spectrum employees and many generous individual donors.

The impressive result of years of hard work is a debt-free, state-of-the-art facility which will provide a dignified, safe and secure environment where women learn to care for their children and function effectively as parents. The new building allows the expansion of the program's current capacity from 15 to 26 women and a maximum of 13 children up to the age of five.

Guest speakers included U.S. Rep. James McGovern; State Senator Jennifer Flanagan, chair of the Joint



Guests view the new Giblin House interior.

Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse; Kevin Giblin, president & CEO of Brendon Properties; and Women & Children's Center alumna Sarah Lisa Kennedy.

"I learned I could be a wonderful woman, mother, sister and friend," Ms. Kennedy told an audience of over 150 guests about her experience at the Women & Children's Center. Ms. Kennedy credited the support of Spectrum staff and the other women she met in the program with helping her regain a life that today finds her living in her own home with all five of her children — and four years into recovery.



The main entranceway to the Giblin House.

Overseen by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Family Preservation and Community Reintegration program at the Women & Children's Center is based on the principle that women have the ability, given appropriate resources, to make positive changes in their lives, therefore giving more children the chance to grow up in an environment that encourages their full potential.

*"Spectrum is strongly committed to breaking the intergenerational cycle of abuse, victimization, repeat trauma experiences and criminal behavior which leads to child neglect and abuse, loss of custody, the disruption of family relationships and continued involvement with law enforcement agencies," said*

## President's Message

The new Women & Children's Center's completion and dedication as Giblin House provides an ideal moment to touch on Spectrum's vision for the future. That vision is one of evolution. Spectrum will continue to evolve through a commitment to respond to and successfully meet the continuously changing and wide-ranging needs presented by the individuals we serve. As opposed to narrowing our focus, we will expand it. Spectrum's vision for the future is one of inclusion, not exclusion. While Giblin House is a remarkable achievement, we should all know based on the ever-changing and constantly growing needs of our clients that there are still many more to accomplish.



**Charles J. Faris**, President & CEO  
Spectrum Health Systems



Kevin Giblin addresses guests at the dedication.



(L-R) U.S. Rep. **James McGovern**, Spectrum Executive Director of Inpatient/Residential Services **Mark Anderson**.

*Spectrum President & CEO Chuck Faris. "We're here to break that cycle," said Mr. Faris. "These kids are going to have a chance."*

## WASHINGTON STATE STAFF APPRECIATION

Last May, Spectrum corporate leaders including President & CEO Chuck Faris and Executive Vice President of Clinical Services Peter Paolantonio were in Washington State for a multi-day visit which included a full-day staff gathering and appreciation event, as well as numerous trainings. The events followed recognition from the State of Washington Department of Corrections in a letter which stated, "We have consistently been able to rely on your responsiveness and courteous service. It's a pleasure to work with people who know the meaning of efficiency, quality treatment and a collaborative working relationship."

## SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES VISITS PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT CENTER

Massachusetts Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. JudyAnn Bigby recently toured the Recovery Connection peer recovery support center in Marlborough, Massachusetts, meeting with members from five different peer recovery support centers located around the Commonwealth.

During the visit, Secretary Bigby commended the innovation in program delivery demonstrated by the five centers, and cited the encouragement of family involvement in recreational and social events sponsored by the centers in the community.

Joining Secretary Bigby's visit was Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Director Michael Bottecelli. BSAS funds the Peer Recovery Support Centers, while Spectrum Health Systems hosts two of those centers — one in Worcester and one in Marlborough.



## SPECTRUM RECOGNIZES CONTRIBUTIONS OF MASSACHUSETTS PAROLE BOARD CHAIRMAN

On February 23, 2010, Spectrum Health Systems presented Massachusetts Parole Board Chairman Mark A. Conrad with an award recognizing his advocacy, service and commitment to individuals and their families affected by substance abuse in our communities.



(L-R) Spectrum Director of Strategic Development & Community Relations **Bernie Sigh**, Massachusetts Parole Board Chairman **Mark Conrad**, and Massachusetts Parole Board Executive Director **Donald Giancioppo**.

At a lunch presentation held at Spectrum's corporate offices in Worcester, Chairman Conrad said, "It costs tax payers in the Commonwealth approximately \$45,000 a year to incarcerate an individual serving his or her sentence. Compare that to \$24,000 a year to provide community treatment to an individual and see that they receive services that address issues such as substance abuse and mental health. It just makes sense."

Chairman Conrad described the work of substance abuse and mental health treatment providers such as Spectrum Health Systems as being crucial to the Parole Board achieving a success rate of 78 percent for individuals under community supervision in 2008. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the national average rate for successful parole completion in the nation is 49 percent.

(L-R) Health and Human Services Secretary **Dr. JudyAnn Bigby**, Spectrum President & CEO **Chuck Faris**, and Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Director **Michael Bottecelli**.

## Personal Story

Tracy is one of the latest proud graduates of Spectrum's Women & Children's Center, completing the program in the summer of 2010. Her battle with heroin addiction spans more than ten years, beginning with



prescription drug abuse when she was 28 years old.

Tracy came to the Women & Children's Center from MCI Framingham. At that time, she had served six months for larceny, and her three-year-old son, Justin, was in foster care. Released to the Center with the understanding that she would be working towards reunification with her son Justin, Tracy vowed to herself to make changes in her life.

She credits Spectrum with providing her the tools to accomplish the hard work of being honest with her self, seeing what was unmanageable in her life, and how to change it. "They believed in me, even when I sometimes didn't believe in myself," says Tracy.

Tracy also credits the support of her fellow clients at the Women & Children's Center, saying, "They're like sisters to me. We work off of each other, we're very supportive of each other, and it's a family and community atmosphere."

After learning to change the unhealthy choices she was making that kept her from her son, Tracy was reunited with Justin permanently in the winter of 2010 through a process facilitated by Spectrum and the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families.

Before graduating, Spectrum staff assisted Tracy with reentry planning, which included transitional housing. She is moving into sober housing with Justin and has plans to go back to school and save money for permanent housing. Then she would like to be joined by her other two sons, Patrick, 12, and Jared, 15. She is currently rebuilding her relationships with them while they live with her father.

With a work history that includes bookkeeping, Tracy is exploring her job possibilities, but says with certainty, "I want to be a parent to the best of my ability. That's the most rewarding job you could have."

# Meeting CLIENT'S NEEDS

## Spectrum's Training Programs Benefit Staff and Correctional Officers Alike

With a network of corrections-based substance abuse treatment programs currently operating in eight states, Spectrum's comprehensive staff training program ensures that all staff are adequately prepared to fulfill their job responsibilities and provide the highest quality of service. All training is CEU approved and competency-based.

Spectrum recently provided a number of week-long intensive training sessions for counseling staff working throughout the Massachusetts state prison



Members of Spectrum's Tennessee staff.

system. In Washington State, Spectrum held a two-day training on group facilitation, treatment mapping and evidence-based treatment, which featured sessions presented by Kevin Knight, Ph.D., associate director of criminal justice services at the Texas Christian University Institute of Behavioral Research. Spectrum also provided a three-day training for staff in Tennessee.

## APAI Training Conference

Spectrum Health Systems participated in the recent Association of Paroling Authorities International Annual Training Conference in Savannah, Georgia. Spectrum's Georgia State Director Dawn Collinge and Massachusetts State Director of Correctional Services Earl Warren presented at the conference. The main purpose of the conference was to educate paroling/releasing authorities about research, current topics and practical information to improve professional skills.



Members of the Correctional Recovery Academy program at Coastal State Prison in Georgia.

## Success at Georgia CRA Program

The Correctional Recovery Academy (CRA) program at Coastal State Prison in Georgia recently graduated its first three peer leaders. These graduates started the program in late 2009. Since then, over 200 peers have joined this CRA community.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program Director Rhoda Kimble said, "We are extremely proud of these graduates. Through the ups and downs of implementing our structured programming elements, each of them exemplified great leadership skills and was consistent in their recovery efforts."

## Spectrum Programs in Maine Receive Highest Rating

Spectrum's in-prison residential treatment programs in Maine underwent two licensing reviews and received five commendations for mental health and twelve commendations for substance abuse. The Maine Department of Health and Human Services' commendations included Spectrum receiving the highest rating ever recorded in the state using the Correctional Program Assessment Inventory tool.

In addition, a recent study of inmates released since 2006 indicated that inmates completing Spectrum's Correctional Recovery Academy program in the state were 50 percent less likely to recidivate than inmates from the general population. The study was conducted by the University of Southern Maine Muskee School of Public Services.

## PETER STILLMAN HIRED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF CORRECTIONS

Spectrum Health Systems welcomes Peter Stillman as its new vice president of correctional services. Mr. Stillman brings over 25 years of healthcare experience to Spectrum, and his responsibilities will include the leadership, administration and development of Spectrum's correctional services on a nationwide basis.

Mr. Stillman's experience includes serving as chief operating officer of a Los Angeles-area medical center, senior vice president of a large, national home care/home infusion provider, and a managed care consultant for a large employee benefits consulting firm. He holds an MBA in health care administration from George Washington University.

## SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT RECOGNIZED

Over the last several years, Spectrum has experienced expansion throughout its systems of care. As a result, several of Spectrum's management staff have taken on expanded responsibilities. The following management professionals received new titles to reflect their added responsibilities and to continue to position Spectrum for future growth and development:

- **Peter Paolantonio**, Executive Vice President of Clinical Services
- **Janet Langlois**, Chief Financial Officer
- **Susan Moitoto**, Vice President of Clinical & Women's Services
- **Stacy Flanagan**, Vice President of Human Resources
- **Cindy Buraczynski**, Vice President of Planning
- **Dr. Romas Buivydas**, Vice President of Clinical Development

## MARYLAND BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Clients at Spectrum's Carrol County Long-Term Treatment Facility recently embarked on a beautification project which included inspirational murals, a stone path and a memorial serenity garden with a gazebo. Client outreach to the local community led to more than \$5,000 in materials and services donated to make the project a success.

*Building better lives, one step at a time.*



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### Spectrum Implements Web-Based Training

Spectrum has successfully implemented a new Internet-based staff training and development program. The Essential Learning program hosts online events, e-learning programs, and prepared training material, allowing employees to log in to a designated website from any high-speed connection to access numerous clinical training, professional development and interdisciplinary computer skills modules.

“This initiative will give all Spectrum employees immediate access to many more training opportunities, while at the same time reducing costs and lost time due to travel,” according to Spectrum Vice President of Clinical Development Dr. Romas Buivydas.

### Check out Spectrum’s newly redesigned website at [www.spectrumsys.org](http://www.spectrumsys.org)

- Easy-to-use navigation tools
- Convenient access to program-related information
- Company news and upcoming events
- Twitter, Facebook and more!

### Did You Know ...

**When asked how prescription narcotics were obtained for nonmedical use, 52 percent of 12th-graders said they were given the drugs or bought them from a friend or relative.**

— 2009 National Institute on Drug Abuse, Monitoring the Future survey

*Founded in 1969, Spectrum Health Systems, Inc. is a nonprofit substance abuse and mental health treatment provider caring for over 20,000 individuals annually. Spectrum currently operates 100+ programs in MA, RI, ME, MD, TN, GA, IA and WA, many accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. Spectrum’s staff consists of over 1,000 clinicians, physicians, nurses, counselors, youth workers, case managers and other professionals. Across the Spectrum is a publication of Spectrum Health Systems, Inc. Andrew Strecker, Editor.*

### EXCELLENCE IN CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT

Spectrum recently hosted its First Annual Excellence in Correctional Treatment event at the Marriott hotel in Marlborough, Massachusetts. The day-long event featured a training on Recovery Oriented Systems of Care by Spectrum Vice President of Clinical Development Dr. Romas Buivydas.

Program speakers included Massachusetts Department of Correction Deputy Commissioner Veronica Madden and Spectrum’s State Director for Massachusetts Correctional Services Earl Warren.

“Spectrum works well with us in continuously assessing and adapting to the people in our system,” said Deputy Commissioner Madden. “What Spectrum has done with us in the last two years to improve programs is remarkable,” she added.



(L-R) **Earl Warren**, Spectrum’s state director for Massachusetts Correctional Services, **Chuck Faris**, Spectrum president & CEO, **Veronica Madden**, Massachusetts Department of Correction deputy commissioner, **Susan Moitozo**, Spectrum vice president of clinical & women’s services, and **Peter Paolantonio**, Spectrum executive vice president of clinical services.

### How Can We Help You?

General Information: (508) 792-5400  
Central Inpatient Admissions: Toll Free 1-800-366-7732  
Central Outpatient Admissions: Toll Free 1-800-464-9555 x1161  
Visit our NEW website: [www.spectrumsys.org](http://www.spectrumsys.org)