

THE SEASHELL

VOLUME III





MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBER



TANETTE TUTTLE

Tanette moved into Mae House in June of this year and has already made such a beautiful impact on her housemates and everyone around her. She is a woman who is full of life and joy. She loves to laugh, to give and receive hugs, and to lend a helping hand. You can always count on Tanette to participate in activities with enthusiasm and a positive attitude, always ready to have fun and bring out the best in everyone. Tanette is our artist in residence and attends a Day Program that specializes in the visual arts. Her art symbolizes her immense creativity and perspective on all that is good in the world. She loves to go bowling and ride her three-wheeled bike. She describes Mae House as her "new home" and we are so fortunate to have her as a part of our Mae House family.



A LETTER FROM TANETTE'S SISTER

Dear Liz,

It is such a blessing to have found Mae House. Since our mother passed away last April, Tanette has been learning to cope with the loss of her mother, her home, many of her possessions, and even her sense of belonging. As Tanette's sister, I worried about finding a place for her to live where she would feel comfortable and part of a community. We found more than we could hope for at Mae House.

Tanette is thriving at Mae House. She is learning how to be more independent so she can experience life as an adult. Her housemates and staff celebrate her uniqueness and special talents. Tanette is able to participate in experiences she would not have access to if she lived with one of her siblings. Tanette is beginning to think of her housemates as sisters and considers Mae House her home. For me, Mae House has allowed me to transition from caretaker back to Tanette's sister.

Love, Alicia



WE ASKED, THEY ANSWERED!

Tanette:

Favorite Thanksgiving Tradition: having turkey and pumpkin pie with family and nieces

Favorite Gift: the three-wheeled bike she received at Mae House

Favorite Summer 2019 Memories: going to the beach and Knotts Berry Farm

Goals at Mae House: learn to play basketball and ride her bike more often

Also, Tanette loves Jesus and likes to pray when she misses her mom

Gina:

Favorite Tradition: visiting her Aunt and Uncle's house and opening presents together

Favorite Holiday Memory: spending time at Christmas with her grandparents

Favorite Gift: Apple Watch

Favorite Summer 2019 Memories: going to amusement parks + swimming

Gina is very happy to have Tanette at Mae house and enjoys joking around with her

Hannah:

Favorite Holiday: Christmas

Favorite Holiday Foods: stuffing, cauliflower mashed potatoes + pumpkin pie

Favorite Gift: bubbles

Favorite Memories from Summer 2019: swimming in the Stanley's pool and going to the beach house with my family + Mikelizabeth



ASSISTANT APPRECIATION LUNCH



On June 29th, Liz and I planned a special lunch for our Assistants, who are such a vital part of the Mae House Mission and who make every day a good day for our Members. We came together to say thank you to ten extraordinary women who do BIG work for Mae House: Mary, Tinna B, Dina, Abi, Erica, Bella, Tina H, Kim, Angie, and Miranda. Each of them bring a special gift, a gentle touch, and boundless compassion in caring for every Member and supporting each other.



At the lunch, which was held in our back yard, I gave a short toast to thank the Assistants. After I finished, Tanette began her own toast. She shared with us that when her mom was sick and her health began to decline, that she promised to find her a new home. Tanette spoke from the bottom of her heart and said, "Mae House is my new home." To that, Gina stood up and gave Tanette a big tearful hug and told her that she and Hannah are like sisters to her. In true Hannah fashion, she simply exclaimed, "Mae House!"

These three girls are forming a sisterly bond right before our eyes and we thank the Assistants for creating a family-like environment in the home. Our Members feel the love and care bestowed on them from each Assistant. On behalf of the Mae House community, we thank them for being a part of the journey and remind them often how much they are appreciated and valued. Here's to them! Cheers!

- Annie Mai Bevacqua, Mae House Administrator



GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER



The Bevacquas, Marchiorlattis and Slaters had lots of fun and success with our First Annual Garage Sale Fundraiser. We raised \$7,240 from two days of Garage Sales including the sale of a car and a car lift that were donated to Mae House. We are so appreciative to everyone that donated their goodies. One man's junk is another man's treasure ... so THANK YOU!!

The Second Annual Garage Sale will be on Saturday, May 16, 2020 - mark your calendars and start gathering your giveaways!





NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY



Gina, Tanette and Hannah passed out invitations to nine surrounding blocks around the neighborhood. Our goal was for our neighbors to know who we are and for Mae House to truly be a part of the Newport Heights Community. We are most grateful to Katherine and John Craft of our local favorite neighborhood eatery, The Pizza Bakery, for donating the pizzas, salads and garlic knots. Everything was delicious! Thank you to everyone for joining us. It was wonderful to be together and to see new and familiar faces.

We welcome and invite anyone who would like to take a tour and meet the young women of Mae House. Please reach out to one of us and we would be happy to arrange this.





MAE HOUSE GARAGE

The Mae House Garage is gaining momentum and those of us involved are super excited about the program. We have had several cars and a boat donated (and recently a motorcycle has been donated pending a scheduled delivery date) which were all detailed and then sold with all proceeds going to Mae House and the donator receiving a tax deduction equal to the amount of the sale. We currently have a 1963 SS Nova Convertible that is in the restoration process. For those of you so inclined, the Mae House Garage is currently taking donations for the restoration process in the form of time, parts, paint, or however you would like to contribute. Also, consider donating that car that is no longer of use to you. The ladies of Mae House would be very appreciative. Once the car is completed, it will be sold and all net proceeds will go to Mae House. Check out the Mae House Garage Page on our website for updates of the current restoration and pictures of previous cars donated. Additionally, it is our goal to build relationships with local High School kids to get them involved in the Garage to both learn about cars and our Members. As a guy who has been restoring cars since I owned my first car when I was 14, I think it would be really great. It would be a pleasure to pass on my passion for Car Culture and the process of restoring Classic Cars. - Jon Marchiorlatti, Mae House Board Member





LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends of Mae House,

Mae House was once just a dream, now it is an “aMAEzing” reality.

We are grateful for the support that we’ve received since Mae House was just an idea to today’s present and wonderful reality of a dream realized. Everyone who visits can feel the love and sees the value of the services we provide to our Members on a daily basis. We appreciate all the kind words and positive comments on what a great thing people recognize we are doing. Thank you! The services provided to our Members always come back to the foundation of happiness. Everything done for them and with them from daily hygiene to beach walks, to therapeutic yoga classes, to trips to the local farm and Disneyland are rooted in inner happiness. As you peruse this eight-page Newsletter, you will see smile after smile after smile.

We are executing our business plan. The benefits of our healthy meals and nutrition plan, the building of friendships and sisterhood, the fun and excitement from our outings, and the consistency of our staff are visible and have been recognized by so many and most importantly, our Members. Our above standard staffing ratios with above industry hourly pay with virtually no turnover has allowed Mae House to be a home with more consistent interaction with family members and deepened relationships. We see this retention of staff to be the differentiator.

As you can see in our Financial Recap below, our Staff costs occupy over half of our yearly expenses, proving that our highly qualified Staff puts us a head above any other organization in our field. We see an extremely bright future for Mae House and we are working towards our vision for a Mae House campus that supports an entire residential community for all of our Members. In order to make Mae House a fully functioning and independent non-profit organization, we ask for your continued financial support to help us achieve our current and future goals. Your financial support of Mae House allows us to break through the mold and reshape the industry standards of care for the developmentally disabled community.



What a joy it is and how blessed I personally feel that Mae House is making such a difference in the lives of our Members, their families, and our Assistants. Not a day goes by that I don’t get a message from a Mae House team member sharing with me a happy story with one or all of the girls. I see the joy in Gina, Hannah and Tanette’s faces and how they each speak about Mae House and am constantly reminded why we started this journey. It is for them! We are thrilled with our progress after two years in operation and are excited to see what God has in store for our Mae House family.

Blessings!

Love, Liz

12 MONTH FINANCIAL RECAP 10/15/2018 - 10/15/2019

Operating Expenses:

Staff	\$147,514	55%
General Expenses	\$42,787	16%
Insurance	\$32,916	12%
Meals	\$27,950	10%
House Operations + Utilities	\$6,750	3%
Recreation and Transportation	\$5,590	3%
Fundraising + Marketing	\$2,951	1%
Rent (\$48,000 donated 2019)	\$0	0%
Total Operating Expenses:	\$266,458	100%

Revenue:

Donations	\$182,990	57%
Regional Center O.C. + Social Security	\$137,516	43%
Total Revenue:	\$320,505	100%



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To foster a full and abundant life for adults with developmental disabilities within a supportive and loving residential community.

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To provide a residential community and home for adults with developmental disabilities to live active engaging lives.



For more information, visit us at www.maehouse.org

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HOME FOR LIFE