

**HOUSING OPTIONS MADE EASY, INC.
ANNUAL REPORT 2007**



Annual Report 2007

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY 2007

Dear Stakeholders:

Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. has enjoyed success over the past year due to the tireless efforts of the agency staff, peers, and Board of Directors. The agency's commitment to empower consumers to live independently and take control of their recovery programs has been inspiring and rewarding. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to each one of the Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. Board of Directors for their ongoing support and direction in leading Housing Options and to every staff member and consultant whose dedication, commitment and compassion is second to none. To the New York State Office of Mental Health and Erie County, Cattaraugus County, Chautauqua County and Allegany County Departments of Mental Health, we thank you for your dedication and encouragement in supporting peer services.

During 2007 we expanded training program in two areas: First we started going out to the counties we serve and holding our empowerment for advocacy training. Second, we held the first (in NYS) Peer Specialist training program at the University of Buffalo, Millard Fillmore Division. After academic review, this program may become college credit eligible and be offered to other disciplines within the Health and Counseling curriculums.

With all Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. has accomplished during the last 18 years, the future has never been brighter. With continued passion from the board, staff, and community, the growth and quality of services provided can only exceed all of our expectations.

Respectively submitted,

Joseph M. Woodward, CASAC
Executive Director

BOARD MEMBERS 2007

Michael Coffman - President
Consultant

Charles Roberts, Vice President
Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc. Derby Supportive Services

Cheryl Story - Treasurer
Branch Manager HSBC

Jessica Anderson- Secretary
Southern Tier Legal Services

William Young
Retired Business Owner

Cyndie Koener
ACT Program, TLC

Betty Accordino
Assist. Executive Director, Healthy Community Alliance

Thomas W. Becker
Executive Director, Suburban Adult Services

Shawn Cunningham
Chief Financial Officer, Suburban Adult Services

Lenny Ligor
Executive Director, Directions in Independent Living

Rick Huber
Executive Director, Mental Health Association of Jamestown

Mission Statement

To provide supported housing and community support services to individuals diagnosed with mental illness so that they live with dignity, have choices in their lives, and achieve interdependence in the community.

Vision Statement

Housing Options is a not-for-profit supported housing and community support services agency developed and operated by and for recipients of mental health services.

Housing Options is committed to decreasing stigma by increasing awareness of mental illness through information, education and advocacy. Efforts are focused on recipients, family members, community members, and mental health professionals in the counties of Erie, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Allegany.

Housing Options is building a continuum of accessible services that will meet the needs of recipients. These services will promote empowerment, wellness and recovery. We respect the uniqueness and individuality of each person and their right of choice.

Inherent in this is an understanding and acceptance of the corresponding responsibility accompanying individual decisions.

History

Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that subsidizes housing and community support for recipients of mental health services. The agency provides safe and affordable housing for consumers in Erie, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Allegany counties, three of which are considered rural.

Housing Options began in 1990, when a group of past and present mental health consumers recognized the need to advocate for better and safer housing for individuals being discharged from the hospitals. “I drew on my own experiences,” said Ms. Judy Vega, who became instrumental in the development of the agency. “When I was leaving the hospital I needed assistance and it wasn’t out there. At first I thought I was an isolated case, but as I made phone calls and sent out surveys I found out that I was not alone.”

Thus began a grassroots movement, which started with a small office on the grounds of the Gowanda Psychiatric Center. Ms. Vega was fond of saying, “we started with a shoe box that held the files.” With the support of Dr. Mary Jo Hodges, a former administrator for the Gowanda Psychiatric Center, Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. became incorporated in 1990.

Ms. Vega was fortunate not only for the support of Dr. Mary Jo Hodges, but from people in Erie County, such as Kathy Lynch, Dick Chirrali, Jerry Scott and Mike Wiener, to name a few. Ultimately, in 1991, crisis beds for housing were created on the grounds of the Gowanda Psychiatric Center, and in 1992 Judy Vega was hired as Executive Director.

Board members at the time consisted of Dr. Mary Jo Hodges, Anthony DeVito, MSW, Donna Tarnish, ICM and Walter Horton representing the community. Consumers at the time were Sheila Ramsy, Annie Frasier, Herb Simmons who served on the board until 2004, and Darren Fleggher who served as Board President until the year 2000.

The agency began to grow and by 1993 received funding from NYS to place 30 mental health recipients into safe and affordable housing in Erie County. By Oct. of that year, 20 of these recipients had been placed in the community. Arvela Heider was hired as grant writer.

It was an exciting year. Ms. Vega also began collaborating with Doug Usiak, from the Independent Living Center, in Buffalo and with Anthony DeVito from the Buffalo Psychiatric Center regarding a peer training and support program. Mental health recipients would be trained and hired as Peer Advocates. The peer would become a role model for those moving into apartments for the first time. It was also a way of providing mental health recipients with meaningful work.

Mr. DeVito initially became involved with this project as Discharge Coordinator for the Buffalo Psychiatric Center. Because of his enthusiasm for this project he was asked to become part of the Supported Housing Program for BPC. He was quoted as saying, “it was rewarding to see the recipient’s potential being realized”.

Today the agency continues to provide the Peer Advocacy Training, and the program has grown. Classes are now held on site at the Gowanda main office and there is a full two-week training held twice a year. Many are sent from other peer run agencies. Many have moved on to better employment, and many because of this opportunity have gone back to school. The agency has become recognized as one of the few to provide this extensive training in WNY.

All employees of Housing Options are peers who are in mental health recovery. They share their strengths and experiences to assist others in achieving personal goals. The Peer Advocate assists the recipients in finding adequate and safe housing as well as finding and receiving services that they identify as a need. Peer services continue for the duration of the rental stipend services received from Housing Options, as the recipient strives for health, independence and empowerment.

In 1994, after major renovations were completed, Housing Options took up residency in the large gray building on 75 Jamestown Street, where it is currently located. They also purchased two vans that enabled them to provide transportation for those living in the community. The Mental Health Association also presented Housing Options with two awards for Program and Outstanding Rehabilitation Agency of the Year.

The agency continued to grow and expand. By 1996, parenting classes, networking classes, and a book club were also added to the programs available to recipients, and in 1998, The Peer Friendship and Resource Line was established.

The Resource Line is unique in that it was a non-crises service phone line that provided consumers in four counties a place to call after hours and on weekends. Peers working on the warm line all go through the Peer Advocacy Training. What made this line unique is that peers were paid. The warm line is open seven days a week and on holidays. It continues to be a success today, with calls averaging about 400 per month.

By 1999 as the agency grew, space was becoming limited. Administrative staff now included not just Ms. Vega, who continued as Executive Director, but Ms. Tammi Smith as Administrative Director, and Mr. Preston Danner as Director of Finances. Mr. Denis Bouchard had been hired as Housing Coordinator, and Jim Hiams was in charge of computers. Clerks included Sharon Kelly, receptionist, and Betty Smith as Payroll clerk. In that year Anita Rusiecki was hired as Support Services Supervisor.

If the first floor was crowded, the basement was becoming worse. It housed the Friendship Line, three desk areas for peer advocates, as well as another for Sandy Hooten, Peer Coordinator. It was also filled with tables for group meetings and trainings, as well as the library.

Funds were finally secured to renovate the third floor, as well as putting in an elevator, and the move to the third floor was completed in January of 2000, providing more space for the growing agency.

Growth did not stop with just the renovations. By the time of the agency's 10th anniversary, the agency went from a few crises beds to 180 beds, covering four counties.

Staff grew as well. In 1994 the handful of Peer Advocates were trained and working out of Erie County. By 2000, over 26 Advocates were working out of the four counties. Erie had two full time advocates and Cattaraugus County had one full time advocate, and 23 hourly peers working throughout all four counties.

The agency celebrated their 10th anniversary on May 5th, 2000. Ed Knight, Chief Executive officer of the Mental Health Empowerment Project, was the keynote speaker. A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Mary Jo Hodge who had been instrumental helping in the development of the agency in its early days. A Media Award was also presented to Rich Newburg from Channel 4; he was given this award for his compassionate and informative coverage of mental health issues in the community.

The year 2000 was also to become a year of changes for the organization. As with any organization that grows, it was not without internal problems. Organizational skills and abilities could not catch up with a growing budget, and increasing and ever changing staff.

Ms. Tammy Smith resigned in Feb. of that year, and Mr. Glenn Hooten was brought in as consultant to assist with the changes that needed to be made. In June of that year, because of physical problems, Ms. Vega resigned, followed by Mr. Danner. During this interim Mr. Hooten became Acting Executive Director and eventually Executive Director.

The agency was again fortunate enough to have the support of Kathy Lynch, from Recipient Affairs, as well as Dick Charrali, Gerry Scott, and a host of others, including Peter Asheden and Ike Powell from the Mental Health Empowerment Project.

Under Mr. Hooten's leadership the agency continued to grow. Beds were again added to Erie County and Cattaraugus County. A part time financial consultant, Mr. James Carline, was hired, and well as Ms. Monica Boyd for the Human Resource Dept.

In 2001, the Peer Accreditation association of Albany presented Housing Options full accreditation, making the agency the only peer-accredited facility in WNY.

The number of consumers and staff in Cattaraugus County were accumulating at a rapid pace and in 2001 our first off site office was opened in Olean. The staffing pattern consisted of one full time peer, one part time peer, and three hourly peers. Everyone was excited. Staff no longer had to work out of their homes and cars. They had a place where they could meet with recipients, do their paper work and have it all in one spot. There was room for meetings as well as groups. The agency also assigned a peer to work at the Drop In Center two doors away.

Within six months another office in conjunction with the Mental Health Association was opened in Jamestown, and by 2004 Erie County opened up its office on Kensington Ave. They quickly outgrew this office, and in 2005 a new office opened on Elmwood Ave.

In 2002 Housing Options received a Certificate of Appreciation from Governor Pataki, for Standard of Achievement. It was also the year the agency branched out. Under Mr. Hooten's leadership and with the approval of the board, Housing Options purchased two homes on

Chestnut Street in Gowanda. Both houses would provide six apartments for mental health recipients. It was a highly successful investment. Mr. David Spulecki was hired as Computer Specialist.

By 2003, board members had resigned and new ones joined. Cyndie Koener became President after Donna Tarnish resigned. Mike Coffman, a former employee, became vice president, and eventually took over as President, a position he holds today.

By the time the agency celebrated its 15th anniversary in 2005, Housing Options was serving 231 mental health recipients in four counties, a far cry from those 30 beds in Erie County. Staff was now full or part time, and receiving full benefits. Two new vans were bought and in 2004 a van was purchased for Olean.

But 2005 was also to be a year of sadness for all involved with Housing Options. Sandy Hooten passed away in Sept. of that year. Sandy had always been a driving force at Housing Options when it came to the peer movement. It was because of her influence that changes made for peers working at Housing Options became possible. She left Housing Options in 2004 because of an injury...but she was always a part of us.

Sandy's passing not only affected the staff of Housing Options, by all who knew her. In January of 2006, Mr. Glen Hooten resigned as Executive Director.

Throughout the past 15 years staff has come and gone, as with any growing organization. Some to move to better things, others have left for a variety of reasons. Others, such as Arvela Heider, and James Carline have remained steadfast.

Board members were the same. Some have come and gone for a variety of reasons. The agency has been fortunate in that some have gone only to come back. Cheryl Story and Betty Accordino are back. Newcomers have joined us, such as Tom Becker, Charles Roberts, Shawn Cunningham, Jessica Anderson, Nan Cobb, Lenny Liguori.

Others have remained steadfast; Cindy Koener, Bill Young, and Mike Coffman. Mr. Coffman's position as President has not always been easy. Yet the agency has benefited from his loyalty to Housing Options, the agency's vision and mission, and his loyalty to staff.

In May of 2006 Housing Options entered another era. Mr. Joe Woodward, BS, CSAC was named Executive Director. Mr. Woodward came to Housing Options with a lengthy history in the field of mental health and substance abuse. His vision for the agency is that of growth, just as his predecessors. He is looking at growth and expansion in housing, staff development, VESID (employment opportunities), and expanding the agency's training program.

What Mr. Woodward has brought to the agency in a year is what Housing Options has always been about...Motivation, excitement, growth and opportunities, which has always been the vision and mission statement of Housing Options.

Administrative Team

Executive Director - Joseph M. Woodward

Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. Board of Directors appointed Mr. Joseph M. Woodward, B.S., CASAC as Executive Director, effective May 8, 2006. Mr. Woodward comes to Housing Options with over 22 years of experience in the alcohol, drug and mental health field. Most recently, he was Executive Director of Action for Mental Health, Inc. where he has been known for developing numerous community partnerships and programs and was instrumental in creating a strong mental health anti-stigma outreach campaign in Erie County. Mr. Woodward has an Associates degree in Liberal Arts and Community Mental Health, along with a Bachelors of Science in Mental Health Program Development and Evaluation; he has been a Certified Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor since 1987, is close to finishing a Masters of Divinity Degree and has completed a Masters level Administrative Management Certificate Program through the University of Buffalo School of Social Work Continuing Education Program. He has authored numerous newsletter articles on “Wellness through Relationships”, hosted a weekly radio show regarding wellness through relationships and breaking mental health stigma. He is also trained in Person Centered Planning and is known for his training skills in Leadership, Supervision, PCP, Stigma and mentorship.

Housing Coordinator - Denis Bouchard

Mr. Denis Bouchard has been employed with Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. since 1993. Mr. Bouchard has been involved in many of the changes at Housing Options Made Easy, Inc., in particular at the beginning of the peer advocacy movement. Mr. Bouchard has also seen an increase in supported housing beds during his time at Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. with a current count of 238 beds in the four counties served. Mr. Bouchard has been a resident of Gowanda since 1992 and is also a former client of Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. assisted him when he was diagnosed with major depression and anxiety. After his recovery, Mr. Bouchard applied for a part-time position at Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. and was hired. Since that time he has become a full-time employee and eventually worked his way up to his current position. Mr. Bouchard enjoys his work at Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. where he has the chance to help others as he was once helped. When not working, Mr. Bouchard spends his time with family and friends who have been his greatest support.

Support Services Coordinator — Anita L. Rusiecki

Ms. Rusiecki has been working in the field of Mental Health since 1981, when she became a therapist aide at the Gowanda Psychiatric Center. At that time she was married, had three children and was living in Eden NY.

In 1981, she enrolled at Empire State College, earning a B.S. in Community Services. She was elected valedictorian at graduation in 1983, graduating at the top of her class. While at GPC Anita became involved in numerous committees, and as Chairperson for the Employee Assistance Program was selected to attend the Rutgers University Training program on Alcoholism in 1985. In 1989, Anita was promoted to Social Worker Asst., and covered five counties including, Erie, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Allegany, and Wyoming.

After the closing of GPC, Anita transferred to Buffalo Psychiatric Center, where she worked until 1991, when transferred to the West Seneca Developmental Center as Supervisor for a Cottage of 24 consumers. At this time, she also began working on her Master's in Educational Counseling at Canisius College. She graduated in 1993, and at the same time began working at the Lake Shore Mental Health Unit as Senior Counselor. As a Senior Counselor, her duties included facilitating several groups and doing assessments and intakes for consumers presenting in the ER.

Ms. Rusiecki is a mental health consumer who joined the Housing Options team in 1999, in her current position of Peer Supervisor. After years of working on mental health units, Anita has enjoyed the transition of observing first hand how today's consumers have opportunities to empower themselves, to see so many of them grow and succeed.

County Profiles

Cattaraugus County Profile

- With NYS funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program for 60 people. [201]
- With Cattaraugus Reinvestment Commissioner's Performance funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program serving fourteen (14) individuals with rental assistance and three individuals with household startup. [201]
- With CSS Funds, the agency will be providing community support services including Peer Advocacy training and Peer Advocacy services to individuals.
- With Commissioner's Performance Funds, Housing Options operates a Resource and Support telephone line serving fifty-five (55) individuals (multi-county). [201]
- With Reinvestment Funds, Housing Options provides one program serving six (6) individuals with household startup in apartments. [201]
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a housing program (serving at least 12) for the homeless with mental illness. Renewed in 2006. [231]
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a housing program (serving at least 6) for the homeless with mental illness awarded. To be renewed in 2007. [241]

Chautauqua County Profile

- With NYS funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program for 30 people. [301]
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a housing program (serving at least 7) for the homeless with mental illness. Renewed in 2005. [310]
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a housing program (serving at least 5) for the homeless with mental illness (MICA) Renewed in 2005. [320]
- With Reinvestment Funds, Housing Options operates an empowerment program serving at least 20 people. [304]

Erie County Profile

- With Erie County funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program serving 40 people. [101]
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a program (serving at least 20) for the homeless with mental illness. [109]
- With Erie County Reinvestment Funds, Housing Options provides case management for these beds which includes peer services, peer advocacy training and support groups for HUD Homeless. [109]
- With Erie County Reinvestment Funds, matching HUD S+C funds, operates a supported housing program for fifteen (20) people who are classified as homeless.
- With HUD funding, Housing Options operates a program (serving at least 20) for the homeless with mental illness and chemical dependency, the 20 includes 5 new beds that will serve individuals with AIDS and mental health issues. [132].
- HUD awarded 20 new beds for Erie County Homeless in 2004. [141]

Allegany County Profile

- With NYS funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program for six (6) people. [401]
- With Reinvestment Funds, Housing Options operates a supported housing program for up to three (3) people. [401]

Program Profiles

RENTAL ASSISTANCE AND SECURITY DEPOSITS

Coordinator of service:
Other staff:

Denis Bouchard
Lorraine Thorp

Program Description

Rental assistance is available through an application process. In 2007, 331 individuals received a monthly stipend that is sent directly to the landlord. An individual selects an apartment of his/her choice, renting it in conjunction with the fair market rate. The total household income, rental amount, and the number of people in the household (including children), are taken into consideration when computing the rental portion. Individuals pay 30% of their income toward their rent and utilities, which is considered the standard for affordable housing. Rental assistance is available until a Section 8 opening occurs or another subsidy takes effect.

Security deposits are available for those who request them. Only one security deposit is issued. The deposit is returnable only to Housing Options. Reissue of security deposit is based on a percentage rate. If only 50% of the deposit is returned, then 50% of the next apartment's deposit is issued. If 100% is returned, then 100% is reissued. If someone loses all of the security deposit, and it was not their fault, other arrangements are made on an individual basis.

START-UP

Coordinator of service:
Other staff:

Denis Bouchard
Lorraine Thorp

Average Start-Up Cost

\$2,000

Program Description

Start-up needs are available upon request. When an applicant fills out the application packet, s/he request any items needed for the household (at this time only). Such items as a couch, chair, bed, end tables, toaster, lamps, sheets, etc ... may be requested to be purchased. Not all requests are granted, but if it is needed, the request for the items must be submitted with the application. Start-up is one time only. No items can be replaced if stolen or broken. Funding is very limited.

TRANSPORTATION

Coordinator of service:

Denis Bouchard

Program Description

Transportation options have increased since the organization first began in 1990. If an individual lives in an area where bus transportation is available, then a bus pass may be purchased. There were bus passes in Erie County and in Chautauqua County. We also have 3 agency vans to transport consumers who are in need.

PEER ADVOCATE SPECIALIST SERVICES

Coordinator of service:

Anita Rusiecki

Program Description

Peer advocate specialists are individuals who have been through the mental health system themselves and can help someone who needs some support, hands on assistance and a role model to support their stability in the community. The peer may assist in many different areas such as budgeting, transportation needs, grocery shopping, etc... A few examples of their services are an individual may need assistance in obtaining their entitlements or maybe they are not sure on how to use the bus. A person may need a peer to assist with baby sitting so that they can attend a doctor's or therapy appointment. An individual may be lonely and have no family support or friends and peers are of great help in these situations.

PEER TRAINING

Coordinator of service:

Laura Bentley

In 2007, we trained 29 persons in our two- week Advocacy training.

Provided a week long training for the Chautauqua Mental Health Association on Peer Advocacy in which their where 12 graduates.

Provided Peer Advocacy training in Monroe County for 23 individuals, which was one week in length and was a first for our agency, training in a county in which we don't provide housing.

Attended the Person Centered Training Certification courses.

Through OMH, attended Pat Deegans, "Personal Medication", training and trained our warm line staff on the program.

Provided numerous in-services, workshops and trainings for our teams, staff and the community.

Through the past ten years, Housing Options has trained 286 recipients of mental health services. Of those, better than 33% have achieved independence and remain in the peer field. Another 10% have moved to other fields. Approximately 85% of those persons were recipients of our housing services. This is an area to nurture and promote.

Interest in our peer training is coming to us, unsolicited, from other agencies and workforce programs we look forward to greatly increasing and expanding our training services.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Housing Options staff and peers are actively involved in Erie, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Allegany community activities, boards and committees. We are now including a segment in our training program to encourage all peers to become aware of the importance of service to our work.

We have a working relationship with the Partnership Group, Leadership Group, Housing Coalition, Anti-Stigma Task Force, Public Policy forum and Homeless Housing Alliance in Erie County, along with all major treatment providers. We also have become very involved with the Mental Health sub-committees, Homeless Coalitions, Recovery Initiative (In Cattaraugus County) and Housing Task force in both Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties, along with being active in New York State's Recipient Affairs Committee.

SELF-HELP INFORMATION

The Double Trouble in Recovery (DTR) group had 761 in attendance during 2007.

The 12 Step Group had 464 in attendance during 2007.

The Women's Group had 425 in attendance during 2007.

Total self-help participants: 1650

FRIENDSHIP RESOURCE AND SUPPORT LINE (WARM LINE)

Coordinator of service:

Anita Rusiecki

Other staff:

**Susie Lee, Tom Murphy,
Brian Lisky, Timothy Gawron**

Number of telephone calls in 2007 was 3,710.

Program Description

The Friendship Line began in November of 1998. This is a warm line established for individuals who live in rural areas, such as Gowanda, that don't have access to many social groups or other services available to them. The friendship line assists persons with referrals, information, and someone to listen to them. The friendship line will be open in the evenings Monday - Sunday, a total of 91 hours. The friendship line is available for individuals living in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and southern Erie.

We maintain five regular Friendship Line workers. Three have been manning the phones since its inception. They, in fact, function as peers to their regular callers.

Goals

Goal 1: To Provide Housing

Goal 2: To Empower Consumers

Goal 3: To Explore New Opportunities

Goal 1 - To Provide Housing

Objective 1 Provided housing for 238 people with mental illness

92 beds in Cattaraugus County
100 beds in Erie County
42 beds in Chautauqua County
9 in Allegany County

Objective 2 Sought supported housing from Counties, State and HUD

12 bed HUD program renewed in Cattaraugus County
6 bed HUD program renewed in Cattaraugus County
20 bed S+C HUD Program renewed through Erie County

Objective 3 Provided startup for 78 individuals

37 in Cattaraugus County
24 beds in Erie County
17 beds in Chautauqua County
0 in Allegany County

Objective 4 Provided 3,463 units of Peer Support Services to those in the housing program.

1,296 units in Cattaraugus County
1,556 units in Erie County
517 units in Chautauqua County
94 units in Allegany County

Goal 2: To Empower Consumers

- Objective 1** Provided 468 units of "peer only" services
- 141 units in Cattaraugus County
 - 186 units in Erie County
 - 139 units in Chautauqua County
 - 2 units in Allegany County
- Objective 2** Trained 29 consumers to be Peer Advocates
- Objective 3** Provided additional trainings
- Completed Leadership training for staff
 - Computer training for staff
 - Recovery Model
 - Communication and conflict Resolution
 - Benefits Counseling
 - Workplace safety training
 - Driver safety training
- Objective 4** Provide outreach to 60 isolated individuals through the Warm Line
- Objective 5** Address transportation needs of clients by providing 32 bus passes in Erie County, 6 passes in Chautauqua, and 1 in Allegany County
- Objective 6** Provide peer services in Cattaraugus County by having an office in Olean open 20 hours per week
- Objective 7** Provide peer services in Erie County by having an office in Buffalo open at least 20 hours per week
- Objective 8** Provide peer services in Chautauqua County by having an office in Jamestown open at least 16 hours per week

Goal 3: To Explore New Opportunities

Objective 1 Explore developing a Home Ownership Program

Contacted Eric Weigel to set up seminar in 2007
(Erie County Dept. of Mental Health is establishing a homeowner program)

Objective 2 Explore becoming a Training Center

VESID contract signed

Objective 3 Explore options with PROS

PROS put on hold by state

Objective 4 Explore leadership training for staff

The new Director is working on this type of training for staff

Financial Highlights 2007

SUMMARY EXPENDITURES	Total Agency
Personal Services	\$540,081
Vacation	10,830
Fringe	160,657
OTPS	286,469
Equipment	223,790
Property	944,843
Gross	2,166,670
Other Agency Income	4,756
NET	2,171,425

Funding By County			
	2005	2006	2007
Erie	\$867,615	\$856,344	\$972,934
Cattaraugus	\$708,535	\$733,844	\$694,868
Chautauqua	\$221,832	\$192,087	\$279,329
Allegany	\$44,658	\$50,749	\$58,856