

The Secret of My Success . . .

THE NEW HOPE CENTER

My most recent visit to The New Hope Center was not my first, but it will be my last. The stay was initiated by a visit to Cedar Springs where I was treated for severe depression leading to a suicide attempt.

I was in pretty rough shape when I arrived at New Hope back in August 2005. I was an admitted alcoholic and dangerously underweight with no hope for any future or reason for living.



Tom, who was my Resource Advisor on all my stays at New Hope helped greatly. His compassion and understanding were great motivators for me. He pushed me to get work but also to succeed in life.

Finally, in October, I got a job at the Gazette and started saving money, as prescribed by Tom and the rules of the shelter. In November I was ready to leave the nest and begin my life anew.

Since leaving the shelter, I have kept my job (a great achievement, as I have not been able to hold a job for more than 3 months due to my drinking), received a promotion at work, remained sober (received my 6 month chip from AA in March - another achievement in of itself as I wasn't able to remain sober for more than a week in the past), and (hold on to your hats, or whatever else you need to hold on to!) have become engaged to the most fantastic and beautiful woman, soon to be married and live happily ever after.

I know this is a little hard to swallow, and seems too good to be true, but believe me, it all is - and most of it thanks to the advisors and staff of The Salvation Army New Hope Center.


Gene Leary
December, 2005



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