

SPRING 2025

YAHARA HOUSE QUARTERLY JOURNAL



TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE
LIVING WITH MENTAL ILLNESS
REPLACING DESPAIR, STIGMA & ISOLATION
WITH HOPE, DIGNITY, & COMMUNITY



SNEAK PEEK OF GALLERY NIGHT ART PIECES

2025 Gallery Night

By Corry Watson

As spring approaches, we not only anticipate new growth and longer days, but we also look forward to our fourth annual Gallery Night with the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art.

Gallery Night is on Friday, May 16th from 5pm to 9pm. Yahara House will display and sell colleague art and donated pieces from artists in the community. We will also offer refreshments donated by Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream.

Representatives from the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation will engage guests in brief tours of Yahara House and will entertain you with information and stories. Come and learn about the famous person who lived here before it became a clubhouse.

If you are interested in donating art for Gallery Night, please contact us at (608) 280-4700 or friendsofyaharahouse@gmail.com.

Legislative/MHAP Update

By Yahara House Colleagues

While the success of Clubhouse programs is well documented, they remain underfunded in Wisconsin. Twenty-three states have amended their state Medicaid benefit plans to support the Clubhouse model. Wisconsin is not one of them.

The Mental Health Action Partnership (MHAP) is a coalition that improves access to and quality of mental health care throughout Wisconsin. MHAP joins Yahara House in recommending the development of a Medicaid benefit that would allow Clubhouses to expand their capacity.

Clubhouses have been proven to increase employment, improve quality of life, reduce the use of emergency and crisis services, and lower hospitalization rates. "I want everyone who needs a Clubhouse to have access to one," says Brad Schlough, Yahara House director. "With a Medicaid Clubhouse benefit and startup funding, Clubhouses can open up in parts of the state that have limited mental health services. It would also bolster Yahara House itself."

Contact your state elected officials and encourage them to support legislation that would create a Medicaid Clubhouse benefit.

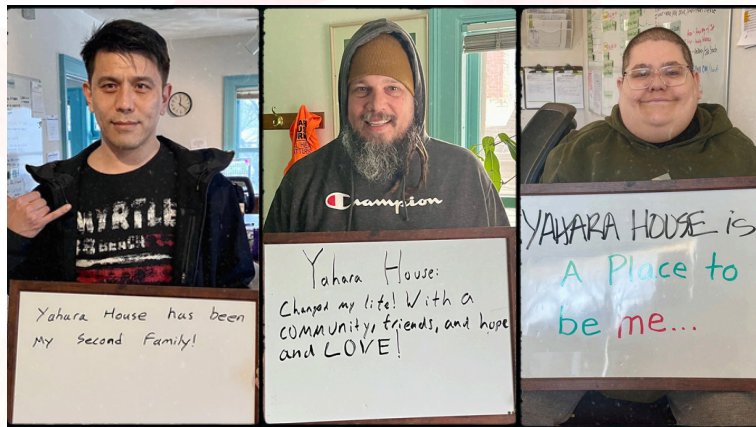


Clubhouse Movement Celebration Week

By Karyn Schairer

Yahara House (YH) celebrated Clubhouse Movement Celebration Week from March 3 to 8. This was a social media awareness campaign where Clubhouse members came together to celebrate our program and members and staff share what Clubhouse means to them.

Members wrote on a dry-erase board and had their photos taken stating what the Clubhouse has done for them. This is the 11th year of the event! We want to get our message out to a wider audience about who we are and what we do. We also want to honor the history of the Clubhouse and its leaders. Below are a few photos of members and staff at YH sharing what the Clubhouse means to them.



Funding Updates

Nearly all of YH revenue comes from billing the state Medicaid program called Comprehensive Community Services (CCS). This program is administered through Dane County Human Services. There are no rate increases for hourly billing in 2025 to address increased cost of business expenses.

Your contributions help support and grow the YH community, which is based on a sense of belonging, inclusivity, and reduction of stigma and bias. Your donations are critical to help us:

- Provide services for uninsured members
- Repair & remodel our building
 - 2025 building goal: \$15,000
- Attend Clubhouse International training
- Provide Members access to resources
- Offer weekend, holiday, & after-hours events

Donations are tax-deductible, and no donation is too big or too small.

Colleague Art: The Written Word

BY DANIELLE POULTON

To transform is to blossom
To hide under your wing
To transform is to love, to live,
in joy without fear of shame
To transform is to gain clarity and life
Lived in unity
To transform is to change from old to new
From dull to shining
To transform is to sing praises
in sweet faith and trust
To transform is to birth anew



HealthyMinds Facilitator Provides Introductions to YH

By Brad Schlough & Joe Männchen

Stacey Speich, a HealthyMinds, LLC Service Facilitator (SF), has connected many CCS consumers with Yahara House, benefitting everyone involved.

Stacey joined one of her consumers on a tour of our building to see if they would be interested in becoming a member, then proceeded to talk about the goings-on and activities of the house. Stacey noted the importance of a "warm handoff," a process of a SF accompanying a consumer to help with the referral process. "The most important thing consumers can have is a connection and opportunity," Stacey said.

A full membership creates a vibrant Clubhouse. It also helps keep our doors open, as we need more referrals of CCS consumers from agencies like HealthyMinds and SFs like Stacey.

Stacey's advice for new Service Facilitators and agencies is to gain awareness of Yahara House. "If I have the Clubhouse involved, I don't have to make other referrals."



STACEY SPEICH WITH A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER

YAHARA HOUSE RENOVATION



JIM GLUECK

We sat down with local architect Jim Glueck, founder of Glueck Architects, to talk about volunteering his services for Yahara House

YH: First, let me ask you about Yahara House, the physical house. It used to be a single-family home?

JG: Yahara House is a beautiful building, designed as a single-family home by well-known architects Claude and Starck in 1902. It is listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. What a great place to have a clubhouse!

YH: What parts of the clubhouse are going to be renovated, and what will this mean for our members?

JG: You will see changes as you enter from the back of the building. Instead of the reception desk being out in the middle of the hallway, it will be on your right as you enter, where you will see the receptionist through a new opening into the hallway. You'll also notice changes in the second-floor bathroom, which will have a much more usable layout for those who use wheelchairs.

YH: Have you done other historic projects in Madison?

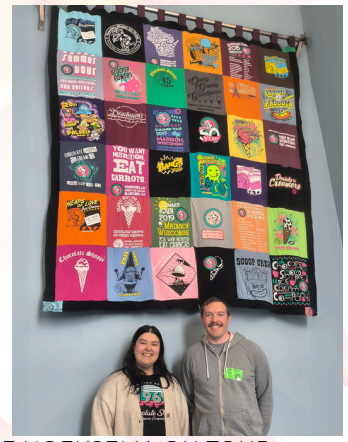
JG: I've done a number of projects on historic buildings near Yahara House and around central Madison, including the Governor's Mansion Inn on East Gilman Street, the Bernard-Hoover Boathouse on East Gorham Street just down from Yahara House, the Olin Park Pavilion, and the Hotel Ruby Marie on East Wilson Street.

YH: What motivated you to volunteer your services as an architect for this project?

JG: I am happy to help out at YH for several reasons. My son Brian is a member and he enjoys being a part of the community. It seems like a great place to hang out, and it serves a unique purpose. It's an opportunity for me to work with a local non-profit, something I've done throughout my career. The members and staff have been great to work with. I'm excited to see the results of all our efforts!



YH COLLEAGUES & STEPHANIE HOEKSEMA ON TOUR



New TEP at The Chocolate Shoppe

By Joe Männchen and Karyn Schairer

As part of Yahara House's ongoing effort to expand our TEP (Transitional Employment Program), Colleagues Joe Männchen and Aaron Klawiter met with The Chocolate Shoppe HR manager Stephanie Hoeksema in February at their corporate headquarters and manufacturing plant in Monona, WI.

After a tour of the freezers (brrr!) and research & development where they create new flavors, they talked about what Yahara House is about, and if there were opportunities to work together. "When I got connected with Yahara House," stated Hoeksema, "I was thrilled to make the connection with an organization doing tremendous work in Madison." The positions could be at their warehouse and in one of their retail shops, possibly preparing their opening at the new Madison Public Market later this year.

A TEP is an arrangement between Yahara House and local businesses to employ members. Members who work a TEP do not need to interview with the employer or submit a resume. TEP employees are chosen by our Placement Managers. TEPs are at the employer's place of business, part-time (4-20 hours per week), and include on-the-job & off-site support from colleagues for as long as they need help. These placements last from six to nine months. TEPs are specifically designed as a vocational rehabilitation program where a member can gain or re-gain the skills and confidence necessary to have a job while he or she is employed in a "real world" position.

"At Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream Company, our mission is to create extraordinary ice cream as a means to build community," said Hoeksema. "We're always seeking ways to strengthen our presence and connections in Madison. We're so excited to be able to offer the first round of TEP this summer at Chocolate Shoppe!"

MEET OUR NEW YAHARA HOUSE STAFF



David Lipman
Café Department

Why did you choose to work at Yahara House?

I know how important the work we do here is. I like the awesome colleagues. I'd heard of it through word-of-mouth many years ago as I was going through my own mental health challenges.

What is your educational background?

I studied history, thinking I might be a high school history teacher. I also have a peer support specialist certificate.

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A history teacher.

If you could meet anyone, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

Martin Luther King, because he was a phenomenal human being.

What kind of animal would you want as a pet?

I already have a cat, but if I got another pet, it would be a second cat.

What is the most rewarding thing about working in the mental health field?

I would say...forming bonds with people I work with.

What are some of your favorite songs?

"Simply Beautiful" by Al Green and "John, Ain't it Hard," by Taj Mahal.

What musical instruments do you play?

Guitar & hand percussion.



Mandy Ingram
Biz Department

Why did you choose to work at Yahara House?

I was looking for a new position within Journey Mental Health. My friend Shannon Schaefer invited me in for a tour, and I knew right away Yahara House would be a good fit.

What is your educational background?

I Studied Graphic Design as an undergrad, took a course in Abnormal Psych, and knew this is how I wanted to make a difference in people's lives. I'm also certified in Substance Abuse Counseling.

When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

An astronomer. I was obsessed with space and planets.

If you could meet anyone, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

David Bowie, once he was in recovery himself. We could talk about books and art and poetry.

What kind of animal would you want as a pet?

I love my three cats, but I'd love a pair of ferrets.

What is the most rewarding thing about working in the mental health field?

Anytime someone says I made their day better, put their mind at ease or made them comfortable, that makes my day. Any tiny little interaction.

What are some of your favorite songs?

David Bowie's "Ashes to Ashes," George Michael's "Cowboys & Angels," Depeche Mode's "One Caress."

What musical instruments do you play?

Drums.



May is

Mental Health Awareness Month
journeymhc.org/mham

**PLEASE DONATE
TO YAHARA HOUSE**



clubhouse wisconsin
For Adults Experiencing Mental Illness