Union Station Clubhouse

Respect, Hope and Opportunity

Goodwill's Union Station Clubhouse (USC) in Fayette County is a special place where people recovering from mental illness find respect, hope, friendship and opportunity. Opened in 2002, USC is a pre-vocational psychiatric rehabilitation program based on the "Fountain House" model, which was developed in 1947 and has grown to be an internationally acclaimed design in the field of vocational rehabilitation. Participants like Dustin (right) and Richard attend on a voluntary basis as "members" for individual support, education, job-skills training and socialization. Dustin has been a member for three years, while Richard has been involved for less than a year. Although they've known each other only a short time, like all of the participants, they have become close, like part of a family. With guidance from Clubhouse staff, USC members develop activities themselves, including such things as preparing and serving meals, gathering data and creating reports - which is Dustin's specialty - and keeping the facility clean - which is what Richard likes to do. Dustin also is in charge of conducting and interpreting USC's quarterly satisfaction surveys, and Richard also runs a weekly Bible study program for members. Employment is a key component of the USC philosophy and both Dustin and Richard have been involved in Transitional Employment Program (TEP) jobs to gain work experience and confidence dealing with responsibilities. "The Clubhouse staff is really good about training for TEP assignments," says Dustin, who hopes to find a clerical job. Both Dustin and Richard would highly recommend USC to anyone searching for respect, hope and opportunity.

"There's no tension here. There's a calm spirit that's very relaxing and helps keep me steady. I'm busy and I have a structured day."

Richard Garbutt USC Participant

Richard Garbutt (left) likes to keep the Union Station Clubhouse clean, while Dustin Murray enjoys gathering data and creating reports.

