

VHST Graduates Class of 2008



Above: Paul Abrams, director of VHST, speaks to the graduating class.

Below: Abrams gives graduate Doyle Williams his certificate.



The eighth graduating class from the Virginia Human Services Training owned one special distinction: it was the first to graduate everyone of the students who began the program.

Graduation ceremonies were held at the Piedmont Virginia Community College's Dickinson building Sept. 3

As VHST Director Paul Abrams pointed out, that was no small feat. Anyone studying to receive the Human Services Certificate must make a key switch — from consumer of mental health services to provider of those services.

The 11 who began the 21-credit Consumer Provider Training Program successfully made that switch and are now guaranteed at least a half-time position at their home agency.

Besides two graduates sponsored by Region Ten, the class of

2008 had graduates sponsored by boards in Chesterfield, Richmond, Midlothian, Timberville and Staunton.

VHST honored the memory of past-graduate, Danielle Lingg, a Region Ten CSB consumer provider who died in the spring.

Abrams announced the creation of the Danielle Lingg Memorial Award for Academic Excellence.

That award was presented to Kevin Kelly.

Abrams concluded the graduation ceremony with these words:

"So, congratulations. You have survived many struggles, you have taken on significant new personal and professional responsibilities and you have become the carriers of the message of hope and recovery to others who are beginning their own journey back from mental illness."



Left: VHST graduate Kevin Kelly displays his Danielle Lingg Memorial Award for Academic Excellence.



Left: Region Ten CSB sponsored graduate Raymond Jones who interrupted celebrating with his family to pose with his Human Services Certificate

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pops up that lists meetings and events at Region Ten. You can click on an event and e-mail a reminder to a friend.

If you have a meeting, workshop or event you're planning, be sure to send me an e-mail and I'll put it up on the calendar.

What will be added to the site in the future is a way for staff to access Trilogy, the new online training system. Staff will also have password-protected access to the coming electronic record, PCE, through the Region Ten website. In time, people can make monetary donations to Region Ten through a website portal.

So please, see what the site can do and what you can find out about Region Ten. But more importantly, send me your thoughts. Let me know what you like and what might need improved.

www.regionten.org



Above: VHST staff gather after the graduation to pose for pictures.

From left: Evadne Deeds, Jane Lewis, Paul Abrams and Don Lewis.



Above: Graduate Ann Mitchum speaks to the crowd after receiving her stole and certificate.



Above: The Class of 2008.

Top row from left: John LeDuc, Melissa Link, Bradley Mead, Ann Mitchum, Doyle Williams and Teresa Wright.

Bottom row from left: Erick Blatnik, Paul Enright, Janice Farber, Raymond Jones and Kevin Kelly.

Staff Changes and Region Ten Hire-Date Anniversaries

New Hires:

Elizabeth Ramirez-Weaver, CSA Utilization Review manager
Suzanne McDonald, prevention
Desiree Tucker, prevention
Nathalie Carrington, prevention
Casey Furr, prevention
Danielle Fuentes, service coordinator
Jessica Massie, ESS
Emily Beach, ESS
Jessica Lavin, ESS
Melissa Murphy, ESS

Anwar Allen, ESS
Logan Dunkum, ESS
Emily Holt, ESS
Elizabeth Matt, ESS
Natasha Mills, ESS
Torrey Brice, ESS
Jessica Fisher, ESS
Nihkeya Thompson, ESS
Melanie Allen, ESS - Louisa
Karen Cassell, ESS - Louisa
Kamisha Hawkins, ESS - Louisa
Lindsay Horner, MHSS - Louisa

Transfers

Lou Richards, Program Manager
ESS - Greene
Alyssa Backman, Residential technician

Anniversaries

Janet Litton, 25 years
Margaret Hartless, 20 years
Sheri Gauthier, 20 years
Adelaide Ruffner, 20 years
Harrell Patterson, 5 years
Cynthia Conner, 5 years
Brandy Lacey, 5 years