



Press Release

For Immediate Release 8-14-2009

Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare Congratulates First Graduates of K.E.E.S.

An Innovative Housing and Education Program in Coordination with Syracuse University- University College.

Syracuse, N.Y. August 14, 2009— The **K.E.E.S Program** (Keys to Employment and Economic Stability) is a part of SBH Residential Services. The K.E.E.S. program started in Syracuse, NY, provides housing to homeless individuals interested in life-long recovery and a desire to increase their education and/or employment status.

The WorkKeys® Assessment is a significant aspect of this program. This assessment, created by ACT, tests individual's workplace competency through mathematics, reading information, and locating information through computerized training and testing. Once training is completed individuals are administered written exams. SBH has administered the first round of exams this summer and we are proud to announce that four individuals have been awarded certificates of completion.

Two certificates awarded were Gold Level, the highest level of achievement, and two were awarded Silver Levels. One of the WorkKeys® graduates, who earned a silver certificate, was asked how he has benefited from the program. He stated:

"The K.E.E.S. program has helped to reinforce something that I've told my two sons while they were growing up, "you're never too old to learn something new". Not only have I achieved a silver certificate from S.U. but I've lived in the same apartment for over a year, I've had the same job for over a year, something that I never thought possible while I was drinking. The K.E.E.S. program has given me the confidence to believe in myself."

The graduates will be receiving a Certificate of Workplace Competency from Syracuse University – University College Wednesday August 19th at a celebration dinner. Guests include the President of Syracuse Behavioral Healthcare and leadership staff, along with directorial staff from University College.

"K.E.E.S. is a direct result of the innovative program development process that engages our clients to help us develop new programs. K.E.E.S. was created to better meet the goals of stable housing, recovery, and career development."

- Jeremy Klemanski President & C.E.O. of SBH

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