



BRENTWOOD
People helping people find recovery

SPRING NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Events

In Memory of
(Celebrating the Ones We Love and Lost)
March 22, 2025, 7-9 pm

Cheesy Teams Trivia Challenge
April 4, 2025 @ 7 pm
Doors open @ 6 :30 pm
Brentwood Events Hall

Spring Fling
May 3, 2025

Father Paul Golf Tournament
June 14, 2025
Orchard View Golf Course

Detroit Tigers vs Toronto Blue Jays
at Comerica Park
Sunday, July 27, 2025 @ 1:40 pm

Most Recent Event



Super Bowl 2025

Message from the Chair, Julie Santarossa

Spring is a chance for new beginnings. In fact, every day is an opportunity for a fresh chance or do over. Although this isn't my first experience with Brentwood, I am happy to represent the best interests of Brentwood in the capacity of Board Chair. I also want to extend my gratitude for the Board's support and cooperation. I am truly grateful to be a part of a group of dedicated and passionate colleagues.

Just a little bit about the board for those of you not familiar with the governance side of the organization. There are 18 board members including the Past Chair Ken Courtenay and the Dream Home builder. Several board members sit on multiple board sub-committees, spending hours of their personal time talking about strategies and how they can manage the liabilities and risks to the organization to help Brentwood achieve its goals.

There are currently six Board committees--the Executive Committee, Finance & Audit, Fundraising, Governance & Nominating, Strategic Planning, and the Executive Director Search Committee. Most of these committees meet monthly and some of them have volunteer non-board members who devote their time.

I would like to thank Elizabeth Dulmage on behalf of the board for her tremendous leadership and dedication as Executive Director of Brentwood. I have witnessed her brilliance in our boardroom discussions, always leading this organization with purpose and an open heart. It will be difficult to fill Elizabeth's shoes but nonetheless the Consultant Company and the Board's Executive Director Search Committee are committed to finding a high-calibre executive who will be a fit for this organization. Thank you, Elizabeth, for everything you have done to lead Brentwood and build new and strong partnerships in the community.

Looking forward to the remainder of 2025!

Chairperson of the Board

Message from the Past Chair, Ken Courtenay

Good morning fellow alumni. I am writing this at 11:04 A.M. March 12, 2025. We are nine days away from the official end of winter - and yes that means spring is upon us!! Spring, especially to we Canadians - means warmth growth, change. Planting seeds, outdoors activities, end of cold winter, baseball. A new, fresh beginning. As this is true for Canadians, how much more does it speak to we in recovery?

Warmth - when using every day was cold, in my heart, with my inability to let anyone in honestly - including me. Growth - learning to listen...and hear, not judge. Change- the more I listened, the more I opened up, the less bitter I was, happier, more honest. Planting seeds - getting direction, ideas from alumni, counselors, starting an action, not fantasy life. We can, and I did, start my recovery life in a different season (summer), but metaphorically it is springtime, described best as a new beginning. That is what we choose, at our best, every morning. A new beginning.

Change-well, 2025 for me promises to have the most dramatic changes perhaps in many a year. My father passed away Jan 2nd, my term as Board Chair ended Jan.14, I resigned from Teppermans, after 31 years -effective April 10, putting my house up for sale & moving in with Kathy L this spring. That's all!! Here is where my program kicks in - every step of the way I have shared and consulted with people I respect, alumni and non-alumni alike. Kathy and I had been seeing Mary Cadieux for guidance on these and other issues. As recently as last night I shared feelings on retirement with Rob Smith and he shared a perspective & guidance he had received from Father Paul and it was so helpful.

So I wish for all of us at Brentwood the ability to welcome spring - for change and new beginnings - for warmth and renewed fellowship - to belong. And baseball!!

Message from the Executive Director

Since making the decision to retire, I've been doing lots of self-reflection and sharing.

I came to Brentwood because I wanted to give back in service and from a place of gratitude for my son's recovery and for the role Brentwood played in starting my recovery journey over forty years ago. I also knew that my career path had provided me with the skills and abilities that we needed to move addiction treatment into the 21st century, while preserving the legacy of Father Paul's Brentwood.

There is so much to celebrate at Brentwood

- Acceptance of any person who is seeking recovery from their addiction regardless of their race, orientation, religion, gender, ethnicity or any other individual trait
- Opening the doors to help people in our community and beyond
- Improving the chances of success by addressing needs for education, housing, finances and psychotherapy
- Increasing the number of Transitional Housing Units
- Continued lifelong access to programs and services
- Preservation of 1:1 and groups led by men and women who are Brentwood alumni
- Foundation of spirituality
- Expanding Brentwood's role and recognition as a valued partner with other health and social service agencies
- Expanding the number of companies that refer employees to Brentwood
- Expanding the number of First Nations and Innu communities that refer to Brentwood
- Increasing funding and increasing the number of funded beds
- Alumni actively involved in 4 working groups that inform program and services and activities
- Being well on the way to achieving accreditation. This will assure anyone who comes for treatment or refers a person or 3rd party insurance companies that require accreditation centers, that Brentwood Recovery Home delivers the highest standard of addiction treatment

I am incredibly proud of this staff, the Board, volunteers and all those alumni that support Brentwood in transforming lives and communities through compassion, hope, recovery and service.

With respect, love and gratitude,

Elizabeth

Executive Director Succession Plan

Elizabeth is retiring May 2, 2025. Executive Directors are not and never have been appointed or hired by the government. It is the Board of Directors that hire the Executive Director. The Governance Policy Manual Executive Director Selection and Succession Planning Policy sets out the responsibilities of the Board of Directors (the Manual is available on the website for reference). The Board of Directors have elected an Executive Director Search Committee of the Board (Julie Santarossa, Scott Collier, Cari May, Karen Roberts and Maureen Rudall) who is responsible for recruitment, interviewing and evaluating applicants with the assistance of Logic Executive Search Company. The Selection Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board. The Board of Directors will have the final hiring approval of the new Executive Director.



Thank you, Brentwood Board of Directors



Julie Santarossa, Chair



Allen Provost, Vice-Chair & Treasurer



Ken Courtenay, Past Chair



Norbert Bolger



Cheryl Chaney



Scott Collier



Brooke Correia



Ervin Keczem



Patrick Kolowicz



Linda Lloyd-Dupuis



Cari May



Gloria Mousseau



Rick Pilon



Karen Roberts



Marco Roy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024-2025



Maureen Rudall



Robert Smith



Nicole Wengrzynski

2025 Board Meeting Dates



January 14

February 11

March 11

April 8

May 13

June 10

September 9

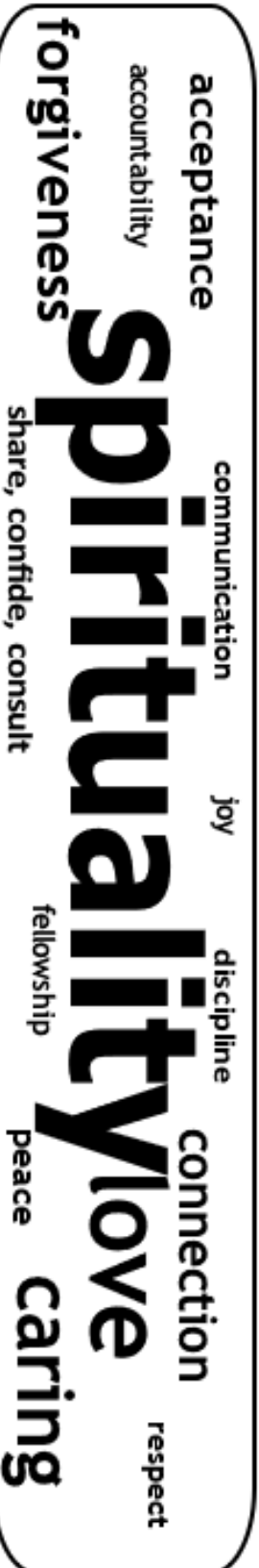
October 14

November 11

December 9

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except for July and August). Alumni are welcome. Please advise Rosanne St. Denis (ext. 284) so that adequate seating is available.

Brentwood Recovery Home Model



This Edition's Spotlight...

Meet The Group Leaders



Tom Butler



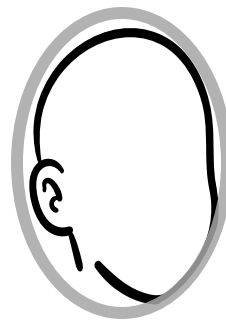
Keith Hamel



Paul Kristalovich



Kevin Larose



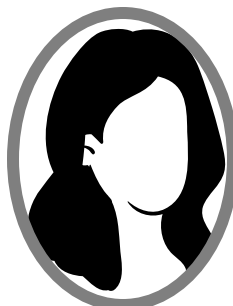
Al Latendre



Dave Richardson



Nicole Boussey



Jamie Lewenza

Brentwood New Hires



WELCOME ABOARD



Name
Justine Hughes
Part Time Program Support



Name
Hailey McCallum
Part Time RPN

Note: Two new hires since July 2024.
No photos available.

Redesigning Our Future Initiative

Project Teams Updates



ENHANCED PROGRAMMING (Tom Butler)

- Creation of a multi-purpose space for men on program
- Addition of new activities e.g. cupcake decoration, beading/bracelet making, knitting, art classes, bicycle repair workshops, small cooking classes
- Addition of healthy evening snack options



BEST PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION (Jen Bastien)

No update.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT (Russ Robinet)



Women's Duty Office volunteer program has been up and running since October 2024. The volunteer coordinator responsibility has been transitioned away from the committee to recent grads. One is a former THU resident and the other is current. Overall, the feedback from both the Kay Ryan Staff and the volunteers has been extremely positive.

The Committee has been collecting feedback from the duty volunteers on how to improve their experience. Our March meeting will be a working group to update the Duty office training manual to reflect this feedback. The Men's training manual will follow. Both are badly outdated.

This process will be a trial run that can be applied to other volunteer opportunities at Brentwood. Aim is to improve onboarding for new volunteers and documentation.

New ideas discussed at our February meeting were to encourage people in their last couple weeks of program to begin to participate in Committee meetings and to host a Town Hall specific to Alumni Engagement.

BRH NEW CHAPTER (Paul McCann)



The committee is not actively meeting. Work on internal and external communications is taking place through other projects and activities. The most recent improvements are to the fundraising page, on the Brentwood website and the creation of marketing materials for outreach and community events.

Fundraising News

Monthly 50/50 Raffles

Exciting news, our monthly 50/50 raffles will begin on April 1. Please consider buying tickets and we need your help promoting the raffles to your family and friends.



We also wanted to introduce you to our new lottery vendor Raffle Nexus. Raffle Nexus is a trusted and certified gaming services provider that supports some of the largest charitable lotteries and raffles in Canada. The move to Raffle Nexus will enhance the customer experience and improve the operations and performance of our raffles. Things will look a little different when purchasing your tickets and receiving some of our raffle communications. We want to assure you that the new raffle operations are legitimate and secure. We trust that your experience with Raffle Nexus will be a positive one. For any questions relating to Raffle Nexus or 50/50 operations, please email info@brentwoodlottery.com

Dream Home Lottery 33 Results

The 33rd Annual Brentwood Dream Home Lottery concluded on January 11. This year's lottery presented an exciting prize board that featured 81 draws, and we awarded close to \$1.4 million in cash and prizes.

Despite our best efforts, Lottery results were less than expected, and we find ourselves in a situation this year where the lottery did not make money.

Summary

	LOTTERY 33
Sales – Home	\$1,383,250
Sales – 50/50	\$223,930
Total Sales	\$1,607,180
Expenses	\$1,683,454.83
Net Proceeds	-\$76,274.83

When performance falls below expectations, the question is why. The simplest answer is people chose not to support the lottery. The answer, however, is not that simple, instead the result of several factors, many of which were beyond our control this year.

Analysis of this year's lottery performance, which has been presented to the Board of Directors and discussed with the Fundraising Committee and Leadership Team, several things impacted our lottery sales. These include:

- The current economic climate. Inflation, unemployment, political and economic uncertainty increased expenses and affected people's decision to buy tickets.
- Challenges staffing ticket sale hours and locations with volunteers. 89 volunteers registered to help sell tickets. Several shifts were cancelled due to no shows or illness, or were filled last minute by staff. Further, in any given month from October-December, only 30 or so volunteers were actively selling tickets.
- A competitive marketplace for advertising during the holidays. During the holidays digital and social advertising costs increase due to demand. It is also difficult to compete with the volume of advertising that takes place during the Christmas period.

Fundraising News

- A competitive and growing marketplace for charity raffles. The charitable lottery and raffle market has become crowded and there are now 82 licensed charity lotteries and raffles in Ontario.

It is important to note that lottery operations are expensive, and lottery prizes and expenses are not donated. Lottery operation is also a risky business, and sales are never guaranteed, despite best efforts. It is also important to note that charitable organizations across Windsor/Essex are struggling in their fundraising efforts. We know from the research that charities for a second year face a “double whammy” in fundraising. This means that the number of people giving to charities is down, and of those that are giving, they are giving less. The lottery and Brentwood fundraising in general are not immune to this.

Every effort was made for Lottery 33 to be successful. In fact, several new strategies were implemented this year to stimulate sales, including:

- Increasing the prize board and house budget to enhance lottery marketability.
- Adding a special 60th Anniversary cash prize draw for \$60,000.
- Adding advertising that focused on boosting 50/50 sales.
- Returning to a draw schedule with weekly cash prizes and big early bird prizes. This strategy was especially successful for Lottery 31 that saw the most sales and tickets sold in the lottery’s history.
- Adding weekend in-person sales hours at the Brentwood sales office.
- Changing lottery advertising channels and opportunities.
- Adding testimonials and impact videos to customer communications.
- Adding a Black Friday sales event at Devonshire Mall.
- Adding more community sales events.

As one of the longest running home lotteries in Ontario, the lottery is our biggest fundraiser and a pillar in the community. The good news is there are things we can do to lessen the financial impact and to optimize lottery operations for the future. Some of these include:

- Working with the Fundraising Committee and other stakeholders to enhance our existing non-lottery income generating channels and to identify new opportunities for fundraising outside of the lottery.
- Reviewing and changing (if necessary) ticket pricing and offering new ticket bundle offerings to customers.
- Moving to a new electronic lottery provider that saves platform and processing fees, enhances the customer experience, offers more ticket buying channels and provides more robust data and analysis.

To conclude, The Fundraising Committee and Fundraising Staff are working diligently to make improvements to lottery operations and to focus on other fundraising strategies and activities. We need your help! Get involved on committees, buy tickets to the lottery, 50/50 raffles and to our events. Consider donating to Brentwood or as a monthly donation, and ask your family and friends to donate too.

Lastly, thank you to the volunteers who gave their time to sell tickets and thank you to everyone that supported this year’s lottery.

Paul McCann, B.A., B. Ed., Director of Fundraising & Community Development



That's so cheesy!

TEAM TRIVIA NIGHT



Friday, April 4

at 7 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Brentwood Main Events Hall
2335 Dougall Ave, Windsor

*Gather your program, alumni, staff, family, friends,
AA & NA Team and let's have fun!*

\$15 team of 4 people * or \$5 general admission



Kay's Kafé will be selling nachos & cheese, cheese fries & pop

* Pre-register your 'Cheese Themed' team by **APRIL 2ND** with
Jamie Fowler or Rosanne St.Denis

PRIZE FOR 1ST PLACE



BRENTWOOD

People helping people find recovery



Team registration forms available in the
Father Paul Charbonneau Centre lobby or
via email rstdenis@brentwoodrecovery.com

Fundraising Events/Campaigns/Projects



BRENTWOOD RECOVERY HOME

PROGRAM, ALUMNI, STAFF, FAMILY & FRIENDS OUTING

Detroit Tigers vs. Toronto Blue Jays Game

Sunday, July 27, 2025 @ 1:40 pm



Join the fun and camaraderie!

This is a fundraiser for Brentwood at Comerica Park. For each ticket sold a portion comes back to Brentwood-- \$4 per ticket for purchases in the RF Grandstands (Sect. 101-106) and \$6/ticket for the Mezzanine (Sect. 211-219).

Copy the link below to your browser to purchase your tickets ASAP as there is a limited number available.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Brentwoodrecovery2>

Please contact Rosanne St. Denis ext. 284 for further information.

Carpooling to Comerica Park may be available from the Brentwood parking lot.

Please remember to bring your passport and ID.

See you at the park!

News/Updates

Brentwood Recovery Home 60th Anniversary Celebration Weekend (September 27-29, 2024)



The celebration was held to recognize and commemorate 60 years of history--Charity House now operating as Brentwood Recovery Home. The celebration was held to honour the legacy of what Father Jim and Kay Ryan achieved as well as provide an opportunity to strengthen and build new relationships with dignitaries and the community around mental health and addictions. The Brentwood board, program clients, alumni, staff and guests were invited to participate in three days of fellowship, events and activities.



The event opened on Friday with a meet and greet with invited dignitaries Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health & Addictions; Anthony Leardi, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health, Lisa Gretzky, MPP Windsor West, Jim Morrison, City Councilor, and community partners. The group later moved to the new greenhouse area for a ribbon cutting ceremony with dignitary speeches and acknowledgment of the partnership regarding St. Clair College and Rona+. Friday's events closed with an amazing dinner and remarks in the Event Hall and a Euchre tournament.



Saturday's events began at 3:30 pm with a focus on family with activities and games including a movie night & dance, all free to participants.

Sunday opened with a Catholic mass and non-denominational service followed by a brunch. After the bunch, the schedule included yoga, guided meditation, a medicine wheel workshop and viewing of the Father Paul tapes.

Thank you to all you attended to make this a memorable celebration!



News/Updates

Note of Appreciation

On Thursday, February 6, 2025, CBSA Employee Assistance Program Peer Support Agents and CBSA management were treated to a personal tour of the Brentwood Recovery Centre located in Windsor. Assisted by the Director of Brentwood, Elizabeth Dulmage, our people got an inside look at the day-to-day activities a person in recovery goes through while on program at Brentwood. After the tour, Elizabeth presented an hour-long presentation on the history of Brentwood, how to gain admission to the program and Brentwood's aftercare program once an individual graduates.

According to Brentwood's director, Brentwood was established in the early 1960's by the late Father Paul Charbonneau and the late Kay and Jim Ryan. Starting out as Charity House, Brentwood's humble beginnings began with feeding the homeless and providing shelter and spiritual guidance. Over time, Brentwood developed into a live-in residential 90-day addiction treatment centre which has helped well over 20,000 plus individuals and families suffering from a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).

According to Elizabeth, Brentwood's program is spiritually based and evidence informed and has been brought into the "21st Century!". Clients on program attend daily meetings, one-on-one counselling and intensive group therapy. They also partake in mindful meditation, yoga, and creative arts as part of their self-care and recovery.

Elizabeth reports that Brentwood has a close relationship with its community partners so that all Brentwood's clients get the best possible care when it comes to their recovery from addiction.

Brentwood has over fifty employees including certified addiction counsellors, registered psychotherapists, nurses, physicians and navigators. Program duration is between three to twelve weeks depending on client's individual treatment goals. As addiction affects everyone, Brentwood stresses the importance of family participation as a key component of the recovery process. Help is available for the whole family, whether it's for groups of women, couples and it offers a Junior Youth Group and Parents component as well.

According to Elizabeth, Brentwood currently has thirty-eight beds for treatment, however, it has the capacity to house up to two-hundred people seeking recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. The challenge for Brentwood is the availability of funds to run a larger program. Currently, Brentwood is funded in part by Ontario Health West, monies raised by dedicated volunteers and staff, as well as through the Brentwood Home Lottery.

In wrapping up for the day, our CBSA peer support agents and management are now better informed about the addiction recovery process offered through the Brentwood Recovery Home in Windsor, Ontario. If you, or someone you love is living, or struggling with an addiction, please reach out to your EAP Coordinator Counsellor, a Peer Support Agent or your immediate supervisor for assistance in getting the help and support you deserve.

Thanks again! Brentwood.

Canada Border Services appreciates all that you do for the community!



News/Updates

Good News Story

An individual was asked to leave program for using on property. The individual was offered a naloxone kit which was accepted. This same person overdosed and his family was able to use the naloxone kit Brentwood gave him to save his life. The family was very grateful.

Volunteer Greenhouse Program

We are thrilled to share the exciting news that our Greenhouses will be put to great use this year! Thanks to the support of an avid gardener and grateful alumnus, we now have a dedicated partner who will help us establish a solid framework for the project. Additionally, they will assist in creating a detailed planting schedule, ensuring we know exactly what to plant and when. We're looking forward to seeing the growth and impact this project will have in the upcoming season!

Peer Support Information Session

Since our Peer Support Information Session on July 31, 2024, we have made significant progress in our training. Our first group successfully completed their training in December 2024, and we are now well into our second group, with participants gaining invaluable skills and experience.



We are excited to announce that our third group, which will be delivered online, is set to begin in the coming weeks. This expansion allows even more individuals to access specialized peer support training through Support House and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) at no cost to alumni.

With limited spots available, we encourage those with lived experience to reach out if they are interested in joining this transformative program. Successful participants will receive a certificate upon completion, equipping them with the skills to foster meaningful, supportive connections.

For more details or to express interest, please contact Ben Moradi at bmoradi@brentwoodrecovery.com or come visit him in his office located in Fathers waiting room."

Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Committee Update



Brentwood's **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee**, chaired by **Jenn Lavin and Ben Moradi**, was established in June 2024 with a mission to foster an inclusive and welcoming environment for all. Over the past eight months, our **15-member committee** has been actively working to raise awareness and drive meaningful conversations around DEI within Brentwood.

One of our key initiatives launched this February, as we honored **Black History Month** by sharing an email highlighting Black history at Brentwood. This marks the beginning of an ongoing effort to recognize and celebrate diverse cultures throughout the year. To further support this mission, a **Diversity Board** will soon be placed near the main entrance, showcasing cultural events, monthly celebrations, and key initiatives.

The DEI Committee is always looking for passionate individuals who want to contribute to creating a more inclusive workplace. If you're interested in **being part of the change**, we welcome you to join us!

For more information or to get involved, please contact Ben Moradi at bmoradi@brentwoodrecovery.com .
Together, we can build a more inclusive Brentwood!"

Other News

Women's Support Group

Meetings on Wednesdays at 6 pm

& Thursday mornings at 9:30 am

Please sign in at the main entrance before proceeding to the Youth Wing



Couples Group Meetings

every other Monday at 6 pm

(Next meeting: March 24, 2025)

Please sign in prior to proceeding to the Lounge

Youth Group Meetings

Ages 6-16

Every Tuesday at 6 pm

(Except for July and August)

Main Events Hall

Parents or Guardians must be in attendance.

Opens Arms with Service

Thank you to all who participate in making a difference in someone's recovery journey.

Anyone who would like to join and be on a team please call Catherine Howard at 226-975-3636.

Other News

Euchre Tournaments

Mark your calendars! Last Friday of the Month

Next date: March 28, 2025

Euchre tournament starts at 7:30 pm in the Main Events Hall.

Doors open at 7 pm.



Brentwood Merchandise

Brentwood hoodies, T-shirts and golf shirts are available in different styles and colours. Please see Jamie Fowler at reception (main entrance) to place your order



The Danger of Gossip

The most dangerous part about gossip is that it steals another person's reputation. People use gossip to hurt people, in order to feel good about themselves, and to feel like they have power over others. It's time for you to decide you don't want to have any part of it.

Other News

Suggestions and Questions Box Area

Suggestions and questions can be submitted in the box under the TV by the main entrance. Every month answers will be posted on the board above it.

Food Bank

The food bank is open Monday, Wednesdays & Fridays
from 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

Monetary donations are appreciated.

Online: etransfer@brentwoodrecovery.com (in memo write Food Bank) or
contact Nicole Wengrzynski at nwengrzy@gmail.com



Sunday Afternoons with Father Paul

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month now at 6 pm in the Lounge.

Alumni and people on program are welcome.

Brentwood's Weekly Announcements.

Stay in the Know!



Announcements are shared in the main entrance lobby
TV. at the 10:30 am meetings, & by email (optional)



Inspirational Messages

Inspirational messages--Recovery Gave Me... Templates are available for alumni to complete and post on the Suggestions & Questions bulletin board. They will be posted on the lobby TV.

Code of Conduct

At Brentwood we believe that an environment of mutual respect creates a supportive environment for the best possible treatment and individual healing and recovery. Our Strategic Priority "Elevate" specifically states that staff, volunteers, members of the board, and alumni will act and serve in a manner that is consistent with the highest standards of a professional health agency.

Brentwood Recovery Home established a Code of Conduct (the "Code") to align with this strategic priority and clearly outline the types of behaviors that are expected. It is the responsibility of all involved to act in a manner consistent with this Code. Any breach of this Code of Conduct, or any part of it, may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of position held within Brentwood Recovery Home.

The Standards of Conduct listed below will ensure that Brentwood's commitment is to a culture that emphasizes excellent client experiences, services, and innovative approaches, to the treatment of people whose primary goal is lifelong recovery from alcohol and drug misuse.

Standards of Conduct:

- Behave in a manner that uphold the values of Brentwood Recovery Home, Fellowship, Accountability, Teamwork, Honesty, Excellence and Respect
- Strive toward excellence and innovation in our approaches to client service through continual improvement efforts.
- Deliver safe, evidence informed programs services and supports with professional competence and high ethical standards.
- Treat all internal staff, clients, alumni, volunteers, members of the board, students, and members of the community with respect and dignity.
- Respect and protect the privacy and confidentiality of all individuals and information subject to relevant legislation and Brentwood policies.
- Act honestly and responsibly, avoiding actual or perceived conflicts of interest.
- Promote a safe, secure, and healthy work environment for all. (Physical, emotional & mental)
- Protect Brentwood's physical, electronic, and intellectual property.
- Uphold the policies of Brentwood's Code of Conduct.