Mental Health Services Help Save Lives and Improve Quality of Life

“There is no doubt that treatment works,” Dr. Wentz stressed, adding that NJAMHAA member providers have a wealth of evidence. For example:

▪ After being hospitalized for depression, Steven* was encouraged by his Integrated Case Management Services (ICMS) provider to become involved in the mental health field. He recently graduated, was on the Dean’s list several times, received an award for outstanding achievement in psychology and currently works in Advance Housing’s Advance Consumer Choice Empowerment program.

▪ Marie, who has schizophrenia and a long history of hospitalizations and medication non-compliance was able to turn her life around thanks to services provided by Mental Health Association of Essex County. She has received ICMS and partial care services and then joined the agency’s supported employment program. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in economics and is continuing her education at night while working as a business administrator at a local YMCA.

▪ At Vantage Health System, Mike learned to manage his bipolar disorder, depression and paranoia and participated in the agency’s Job Tracks program, which helps individuals with mental illness secure housing, as well as employment. Mike recently started a job and moved into his own apartment.

“These and many other success stories are truly inspiring, and many more successes are possible when people have timely access to services and the comfort in seeking them when needed,” Dr. Wentz said. “Individuals of all ages throughout the state have achieved tremendous improvements in their quality of life through the work they put into their recovery, with the support of mental healthcare providers.”

To contact local providers, visit www.njamhaa.org and click on “Need Treatment?” in the left-hand sidebar of the home page.

* Names have been changed for privacy.