



East Bay Center

...leading lives to hope and recovery

"Christine" has been a consumer of East Bay Center Inc. since 1983. Before coming to East Bay, she experienced such severe symptoms of depression, anxiety, and fear that she could not leave her house. She was having a difficult time functioning and performing everyday activities. "Christine" was placed in a residential treatment facility, where she lived for three years. Her doctor prescribed medication to help minimize her symptoms, and case managers taught her everyday life skills to help her with her functioning. Through hard work, "Christine" was discharged and moved into her own apartment in 1986.

To continue her progress, she attended "Open Door" which was a social group that met at East Bay Center (EBC). The focus of her recovery then turned to the vocational program. "Christine" stated she was not really sure about working, but that the EBC staff encouraged and supported her to try. They helped her learn how to back up computers and perform data entry duties. EBC also helped "Christine" with obtaining a part-time position at A New Leaf Florist in Providence where she learned other job skills, and had her first taste of work in many years.

In 1996, she became so proficient that was hired by EBC, performing data entry and other clerical duties in support of two departments. Over the years "Christine" attended college, and applied newly acquired computer skills such as database maintenance and reporting to her work. She is currently studying to become certified in Office Automation.

"Christine" states that working has changed her life dramatically. She admits that at first, she did not really see how learning job skills and working would be beneficial to her treatment, and to her overall quality of life. Now she says that she would miss working if she no longer did it. She likes having her mind focused on something, and it adds structure to her day. She feels a sense of accomplishment and purpose at the end of the workday. She enjoys the social aspect as well. "Sometimes," she says, "it's not easy. But I know it's important. I would not be where I am today, if it was not for East Bay".

"Christine" is one of many success stories within EBC's vocational program: "East Bay WORKS". The goal of East Bay WORKS is to understand your individual business needs and job match candidates with fast and efficient recruitment from our existing pool of job-ready applicants.

Our skilled employment representatives, in partnership with you, will identify attributes, skills, and qualifications of the candidates, while meeting your business needs right at your own establishment.

East Bay WORKS provides:

- Free placement service
- Pre-screened, qualified job applicants
- On-the-job training, as needed
- Supportive services from our trained Employment Specialists
- Tax credit consultation
- Dependable work force
- Reduced advertising costs
- Follow-up communication to ensure complete satisfaction

Serving the greater Rhode Island area. For more information about East Bay WORKS, please contact Mike Rogers, Program Manager at (401) 246-1195. We also encourage you to visit our website at www.eastbay.org for information regarding services, employment, locations, etc.

"Christine" is an actual client of East Bay Center, but we have changed her name with her permission to protect her confidentiality.