In 1993, Clara T. Rankin founded Hopewell as Ohio’s only therapeutic farm community for adults with mental illness. Funding was raised, a 300-acre farm located in Amish country was purchased, and the new nonprofit organization began the process to secure licensure. On February 3, 1996, the first resident (Hopewell’s term for “residential client”) was admitted.

OUR MISSION
Hopewell provides an opportunity for adults with mental illness to experience a self-reliant and satisfying life through participation in a vibrant residential therapeutic farm community.

OUR VISION
We believe that everyone can experience success, find a life of purpose and feel hope.

Hopewell serves adults 18 years of age and older who have a primary diagnosis of schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depression or other forms of mental illness.

Using the healing power of nature, meaningful work and therapeutic community, and with a highly-skilled and caring staff, Hopewell aims to transform the lives of adults with mental illness.

In a safe environment and within an atmosphere of respect and acceptance, residents develop the skills and outlook they need to manage their illness, create new goals and move on to more independent living situations.
THE HOPEWELL MODEL

Twenty years after the arrival of its first resident, Hopewell is among the leading therapeutic farm communities in the country. The "Hopewell Model" of holistic mental health care is based on a combination of:

- a safe, secure and respectful environment;
- the healing power of nature;
- the therapeutic value of meaningful work;
- the concept of "therapeutic community," in which the community itself is a catalyst for positive change;
- a highly-skilled and caring staff; and
- health care and mental health care best practices.

Hopewell offers a residential program, a daytime transitional program called Club Hope, and an adult family home two miles from the campus. The residential program and adult family home together serve up to 45 individuals. The average length of stay is three to six months, but many residents benefit from longer stays. Hopewell also offers an extended stay program (longer than three years).

Organized in work crews, residents and staff assume the major responsibilities for the farm’s daily activities. On Hopewell’s 300+ acres, residents learn first-hand to appreciate the land and the animals and to develop their own relationships with nature. Hopewell embraces many of the practices of the local Amish community. Residents learn special skills from our Amish staff and neighbors, especially those related to farming, woodworking and “sugaring” – the annual production of Hopewell’s award-winning maple syrup.

In addition to work crew activities, residents participate every day in creative, social, educational and clinical programming, including psychiatric care, medication management, group counseling, exercise and healthy living habits, creative expression, art therapy, equine-assisted learning, meditation and spirituality, music, education (high school diploma or GED preparation), money management, independent living skills and interpersonal relationship skills.

Hopewell is the only residential mental health facility in Ohio that provides this type of treatment-based, community-centered care.

Hopewell is a nonprofit, private-pay facility. Some fee assistance is available after the first month of residency. Philanthropic funding allows Hopewell to offer aid to 95% of its residents' families each year.

For information about Hopewell’s admissions and referral process, call 440.426.2000, ext. 122, or visit our website at www.hopewellcommunity.org/admissions.
**PRE-1993**  
Cleveland native Clara T. (Mrs. Alfred M.) Rankin recognizes the need for a therapeutic farm community in Northeast Ohio.

**1993**  
Hopewell Inn is incorporated as Ohio’s only therapeutic farm community for adults with mental illness. The first trustees are Alfred M. Rankin, Clara T. Rankin, Roger F. Rankin, and Herbert Y. Meltzer, MD.

**1994**  
The new organization purchases a 300-acre property in Mesopotamia, Ohio. Formerly owned by gentleman farmer Jock Collens, the property had become a bed-and-breakfast called “Truebrook Inn.” The inn is now called Hopewell’s “Main House.”

**1999**  
Cottage 2 is completed, with capacity to house 14 residents. Resident capacity is 35.

**2000**  
- An endowment campaign is initiated.
- Bob Sawers is hired as Executive Director (2000-2007).

**2001**  
- Hopewell is licensed and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health.
- The first “Summer Solstice” benefit event is held on the Rankin Estate in Hunting Valley.

**2002**  
- Hopewell’s equine-assisted learning program is launched.

**2007**  
- Richard R. Karges, LISW-S, ACSW, is hired as Executive Director.
- “Compass Points” newsletter is created.

**2009**  
- The David Cutler Conservatory opens, including a state-of-the-art greenhouse, year-round meditative garden and conference space.
- The “Club Hope” transitions program begins.
- A herd of Belted Galloway beef cattle arrives.

**2011**  
- Two hundred gallons of maple syrup are produced by Hopewell residents and staff.
- The Farm & Craft Market opens as the cornerstone of Hopewell’s job-readiness training program.
- The first “David Cutler Conservatory Exploring Mental Health Series” is held to promote awareness of mental health care.

**2014**  
- Other organizations ask to replicate the “Hopewell Model” of mental health care.
- Census reaches capacity and inquiries are received from families in 35 states.
- The organization’s name is legally changed from Hopewell Inn to HOPEWELL.
- The extended stay program (for residents living at Hopewell longer than three years) is formalized.
- Clara T. Rankin receives the first Founder’s Award from The Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation in recognition of her creation of Hopewell.
- The Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation’s grants to Hopewell since 1995 exceed a total of $1 million.
- The terms of a challenge grant from an anonymous donor are met, increasing Hopewell’s endowment by $1 million.
- The Hopewell Band produces its first CD.
The First Twenty Years

1995
Hopewell's first fundraising campaign provides funds to develop the property into a therapeutic farm community.

1996
- Hopewell admits its first resident (residential client).
- Gary Long is hired as Executive Director (1996-2000).

1997
- Cottage 1 is constructed to house twelve residents.
- A dining room is added to the Main House.

1998
- Hopewell is granted permanent 501(c)(3) status as an Ohio nonprofit organization.

2003
Education and diploma programs are initiated.

2004
An outdoor pavilion for picnics and cook outs is completed.

2006
- Hopewell is the first residential treatment center to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for Therapeutic Community: Adults; the award is the highest-possible three-year accreditation.
- Hopewell formalizes its outcomes measurement process to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

2012
- Hopewell purchases a century home on nearby Mesopotamia Commons.

2013
- Martha S. Schinagle, MD, from University Hospitals of Cleveland, is hired as Resident Psychiatrist.
- The century home, called Lyman House, opens as a licensed adult family home where residents may practice the skills of independent living before leaving Hopewell.
- An accessibility project is completed, providing paved walkways and lighting throughout the campus.

2015
- The first “Therapeutic Farm Community Summit” is convened, including CooperRiis Healing Community (NC), Gould Farm (MA), Rose Hill Center (MI), Spring Lake Ranch (VT) and Hopewell.
- Ground is broken for a new state-of-the-art Sugar House on the Hopewell campus.
- William Aamoth, a retired business executive working with Business Volunteers Unlimited (BVU), assists Hopewell staff to create a business and marketing plan for the Farm & Craft Market.
- A formal Art Therapy program is initiated.
- Leadership of The Campaign for Hopewell – Planting Seeds of Promise announces the effort has raised $5 million for the endowment and nearly $2 million for other organizational priorities.
- Clara T. Rankin receives a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) for her work with Hopewell.
- Mrs. Rankin commissions a book to be written about Hopewell’s first twenty years of service (publication in May 2016).
While preparations in advance of Hopewell’s opening preceded its actual housing of residents, 2015 was our twentieth year of providing direct care for adults with mental illness. In a natural setting, where serenity prevails and assists in the healing that is possible for each individual, many residents tell us verbally and in writing how the sense of security and meaningful work on the land have set them on a path of recovery.

There are many basic beliefs at Hopewell, one of which is the overarching concept of simplicity and wholesomeness. Each facet of life on the farm reflects the advantages of how they organize their day. The garden team produces food that starts with planting seeds, requires tending and is useful to preserve for winter. The community of residents and staff enjoy the harvest when they gather together for meals.

The kitchen crew is in its way an extension of the garden crew, keeping everyone well fed and keeping the kitchen spotless. As a byproduct of working on this crew, residents develop useful skills in seeking a job or simply in taking care of themselves after leaving Hopewell.

Care of the various animals is also a commitment that serves to heal. The equine-assisted learning program which brings about interaction between residents and horses involves disciplines that teach coping with fear and learning patience. Hopewell’s nature studies program is one more aspect of the community connecting with nature and discovering serenity.

Residents discover the values of teamwork and cooperation as the outdoor maintenance team keeps the property looking beautiful. Again it is work by which residents, with guidance, feel useful and realize that they are important to – and within – the group. The community fosters socialization, respect for others, fairness, with each having a voice, all of which contribute to the concept of finding value in activities close to the outdoors.

I am grateful for the wholesomeness that continues today alongside the necessary psychiatric treatments that undergird the total care Hopewell provides. All involved have managed with unfailing dedication.

Clara Rankin
As we reflect upon the many milestones and accomplishments of Hopewell’s first twenty years of service, we are sincerely grateful to be part of this community. Of the many qualities and virtues nurtured by the Hopewell Model of care, it is a sense of gratitude that best captures the spirit and emotion one experiences being part of this remarkable organization.

Gratitude is the quality of being thankful. It is a readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. Studies have shown the social, physical and psychological benefits of gratitude. Practicing gratitude increases happiness, reduces anxiety and depression and encourages us to take better care of our health. It promotes energy, optimism, empathy and forgiveness. Research shows that gratitude is a relationship-strengthening emotion. Through gratitude, we see how we have been supported and affirmed by other people in our lives. It enables us to feel more connected to the community.

Each day at Hopewell, the benefits of practicing gratitude are clearly visible. Our residents, staff and volunteers experience better health, well-being and satisfaction. They are motivated to express positive emotions, compassion and kindness. At Hopewell, gratitude is not a quality saved for special occasions. It is a way of life. The land, the animals, the community of individuals: all the elements that make up the Hopewell Model encourage us to take the time to reflect on those things for which we are thankful.

Hopewell’s program is one of treatment-based and community-centered care. Our founder’s vision has evolved over twenty years, and gratitude remains at the core of our model of care and our success. Our residents learn to manage their diagnoses, to develop self-awareness and self-esteem and to fully appreciate themselves as active, contributing members of a larger community. Their gratitude helps prepare them for independent living.

We are happy to share within this report many expressions of gratitude received from residents, their family members, staff and volunteers over the years.

Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to you for supporting our mission, our work and our commitment to the advances in the mental health care that we foresee for the future.

Mark W. Teague, President, Board of Directors
Richard R. Karges, LISW-S, ACSW, Executive Director/CEO
2015 HIGHLIGHTS

During 2015, Hopewell served 82 residents and their families. The residents came from Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island and Texas as well as from Ohio.

FIRST-EVER SUMMIT
In April, the first-ever Therapeutic Farm Community Summit convened at CooperRiis Healing Community in North Carolina. Board presidents and executive directors from CooperRiis, Gould Farm (MA), Rose Hill Center (MI), Spring Lake Ranch (VT) and Hopewell were joined by Dr. Sana Loue, Hopewell’s Research Consultant. Participants agreed to conduct joint outcomes research related to assessing and evaluating the efficacy of the therapeutic community model of care as a standard healthcare practice. A second meeting was held in November to further consolidate and coordinate joint planning and research initiatives.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Hopewell’s name, logo, service marks and other intellectual property were registered with the State of Ohio and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. This action serves to protect our identity and the Hopewell Model as we broaden our marketing presence locally and nationally.

CARF-REACCREDITATION
Hopewell received another three-year accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). Additionally, Lyman House and Hopewell’s Respite Care Services were accredited.

NEW WEBSITE
The FORM Group, the firm that created Hopewell’s original website, was re-engaged to build a new, mobile-friendly website. Stevens Strategic Communications, Inc. became Hopewell’s marketing arm. Together, the firms’ efforts led to increased inquiries and admissions.

INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT
A benefits specialist position was created, and third-party reimbursement contracts doubled, offering greater access for insured individuals to come to Hopewell.

NEW SUGAR HOUSE
In May, ground was broken for a new state-of-the-art Sugar House, located adjacent to the picnic pavilion. Hopewell continued to provide its award-winning maple syrup to all Yours Truly Restaurants in Northeast Ohio.

CLARA RANKIN HONORED
Hopewell’s founder, Clara T. Rankin, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) at the Greater Cleveland Chapter’s annual meeting.

15TH ANNUAL SUMMER SOLSTICE
In June, the 15th annual Summer Solstice benefit honored Mrs. Rankin. The event raised net revenue of more than $295,000, including a record-breaking $143,000 specifically for resident fee assistance.
NEW ART THERAPY PROGRAM

Foundation funding allowed Hopewell to create a formal Art Therapy program and also to hire two part-time State-Tested Nursing Assistants. Ongoing philanthropic support from foundations, corporations and generous individuals enhanced and strengthened Hopewell’s program, facilities and capacity to provide fee assistance to resident families.

FARM & CRAFT MARKET

Through collaboration with Business Volunteers Unlimited (BVU), a retired business executive, William Aamoth, assisted staff to create a business and marketing plan for the Farm & Craft Market. Foundation support was secured to expand and upgrade the Market beginning in 2016. The Market is the cornerstone of Hopewell’s job-readiness training program through which residents develop skills in retail sales, customer service, wood working and/or the creation of arts and crafts for sale.

EXPLORING MENTAL HEALTH

In October, the 5th Annual David Cutler Conservatory Exploring Mental Health Series was held at The Cleveland Racquet Club. Guest speaker was Christine Montross, MD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Human Behavior and Director of Counseling Resources at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and a staff psychiatrist at Butler Hospital in Providence, RI.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR HOPEWELL

Honorary Chair Sally Cutler and Campaign Chair Susan LaPine announced that The Campaign for Hopewell – Planting Seeds of Promise surpassed a $5 million fundraising goal for the endowment, and raised nearly $2 million more for other organizational priorities.

PROPOSED RENOVATION PROJECT

Paul J. Westlake, Jr., FAIA, FACHA, Managing Principal and Lead Designer at Westlake Reed Leskosky, and his associates contributed significant pro bono assistance to explore renovation of Hopewell’s Main House. The proposed work would replace existing resident bedrooms, improve nursing and medical areas and provide an indoor recreational/multi-purpose space. As a result, Hopewell’s Board of Directors voted to search for a consulting firm to conduct a market survey and a feasibility study regarding existing facilities and the potential for a major capital project. The goal is to ensure maximum safety and quality of life for Hopewell’s residents and to maintain our position as a leading therapeutic farm community.
FROM MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change opportunities into blessings.”
– William Arthur Ward

I have been in jail and have tried to take my own life. Ever since high school, life has felt like a time bomb, and people have misunderstood me. But when I found Hopewell, I experienced for the first time a culture of kindness, peacefulness and a sense of calm.

When people come to the farm, it is beautiful. What they don’t see is the healing that farm life brings. Working hard and taking care of the animals and the garden are very rewarding, both physically and mentally. I get a sense of accomplishment that really makes my soul flourish with happiness. I am the happiest and healthiest I have ever been.

Joel Budzar
Hopewell resident from November 2011 to September 2012; since then, an independent contractor who manages projects for Hopewell, including the renovation of Lyman House; Guest speaker at Summer Solstice in 2012 and 2013

I have learned so much since coming to Hopewell. The work we do on the farm is very important for its upkeep. And exercise helps me combat my depressive feelings. My life style here has dramatically changed my moods. Living at Hopewell makes me feel part of a community. I no longer feel isolated and alone. Because of my stay at Hopewell, I have aspirations. I have hope for my future.

Mike H.
Hopewell resident since January 2012; Guest speaker at 2013 Summer Solstice

Living in the Hopewell community gave me the opportunity to stop denying my toxic issues. It gave me the time and space to stand and confront what was destroying me and all my relationships. Here I can finally face my fears.

Once I felt alone with nowhere to turn. Now, because of Hopewell’s help, a wide world of opportunity is open to me. And who wouldn’t be grateful for that?

Cynthia L.
Hopewell resident from October 2015 to May 2016
The Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation made its first grant to Hopewell in 1995: a capital grant of $600,000 to help Clara Rankin launch her dream.

How can you say no to an amazing idea of a therapeutic farm community of over 300 acres of woods, trails, ponds and fields where residents have meaningful work, and each person is a contributing member of the community? And with Clara Rankin’s unwavering passion for a therapeutic farm in Northeast Ohio, the Foundation knew Hopewell was going to be and would remain a grand success. Since 1995, we have annually supported Hopewell with unrestricted general operating grants totaling over $1 million.

My grandfather, Kelvin Smith, respected nature and understood the importance of nature as a healer and an educator. He taught his daughters the names of trees, butterflies, rocks and animals and how they all interacted, so they too would understand, appreciate and love their environment. That love of nature was passed down to my generation. We all maintain our own mental health in the quiet solitude of nature.

The understanding that Mother Earth depends on all things working together teaches us compassion; gratitude; the desire to see, learn and listen; confidence and a sense of purpose. How lucky we are to be able to share this understanding with the residents of Hopewell, who can learn self-confidence and the ability to manage their illnesses and therefore live independently. The Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation is proud to support Hopewell and its mission.

Ellen Stirn Mavec
President, The Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation
(from her remarks at Hopewell’s 2014 Summer Solstice)

When I began working at Hopewell in 2003 as the lead nurse, I never would have expected the connection that I feel with Hopewell and how important Hopewell is to me. Over the years, I have had different titles and different offices, but the sense of belonging, acceptance and community has never changed. Each day, I am reminded of the strength and courage that lives inside all of us. I am honored to know every person I have met along the way. Some I have known for many years, and some just for a short time. Currently I serve in the role of Director of Program Services, and I am so grateful to be part of this community.

Colleen Welder, RN, BC
Director of Program Services

“It is our collective and individual responsibility to protect and nurture the global family, to support its weaker members and to preserve and tend to the environment in which we all live.”

– Dalai Lama
Hopewell was a godsend to our family. My brother has been able to have a life in which he feels he makes a contribution to the community, while we, his family, know that he is in a safe, nurturing environment that focuses on both physical and mental health. The added benefit of connecting him with nature is something he has come to love.

At Hopewell, our brother has been able to set and achieve goals and learn new skills with the help of staff. This has given him a sense of pride and accomplishment in the work he does on the farm – an unexpected gift our family frequently cites. Hopewell has not only provided our family with peace of mind when we think of our brother’s daily life, it also has given us back our son and brother. Today he is a happy man, proud to share his experiences on the farm with his family. We will never be able to thank Hopewell enough.

Suzanne (Mrs. Paul E.) Westlake  
Sister of Mike G., Hopewell resident since September 1999

When I meet with residents at Hopewell, we talk about their mental illness and how they may manage their symptoms. We also discuss their general health and wellness issues. My approach to medication is to maximize effectiveness and minimize side effects. Managing medical conditions, nutrition and exercise also is critical to the residents’ well-being. My goal with each resident is to stabilize and improve their mental health and also to help them find and stay on the path to overall good health.

Life at Hopewell supports healthy eating, healthy activity and healthy relationships. I feel privileged to be part of this community.

Martha S. Schinagle, MD  
University Hospitals of Cleveland Mood Disorders Program  
Hopewell Resident Psychiatrist

I have enjoyed working here at Hopewell for the past 19 years. I started off cooking in the kitchen with Peter Steck. When I changed to direct care work with residents, I found a new passion. I love assisting residents with work crews and groups (especially spirituality, weaving, art/pottery), sharing information about healthy food benefits, and working hands-on, garden-to-table, teaching residents to cook the produce we grow here. Just getting to know our residents is always rewarding.

Cindy Ream  
Hopewell employee for 19 years; currently a Program Facilitator
I feel safe here. I am with people who really care about me. I enjoy being treated with respect and being part of this community. It’s fun to take field trips and work on projects like making maple syrup. And I have learned to do many new things at Hopewell. One of my goals is to keep myself safe. Because of Hopewell, I have learned that I can get through hard times.

Liza T.
Hopewell resident since January 2013

Hopewell eased the clutter in Liza’s mind and affirmed her worth through the dignity of expectations and consequences. Through its focus on community, Hopewell provides structure, compassion and opportunity. Its unique setting reset Liza’s circadian rhythm. The sun, sky and light are so important for those whose minds are darkened by their illness and dampened by their medications.

Terry Piteo Trela
Liza’s mother

At Hopewell, no one is treated as if they have a problem. I was welcomed as part of a community, and the staff made me feel like an equal. I loved working in the art room, helping in the Farm & Craft Market and learning to make maple syrup. All the while, my clinician helped me understand my emotions and my illness. Bipolar disorder can be managed and, thanks to my time at Hopewell, I have learned to cope with my illness. Most important, I have learned that I am not my diagnosis. My diagnosis does not define me.

Casey P.
Hopewell resident from February to June 2013;
Guest speaker at 2015 Summer Solstice

“One of the most sublime experiences we can ever have is to wake up feeling healthy after we have been sick.”

– Rabbi Harold Kushner

I first started working at Hopewell in 1998. (Previously, I had taught K-12 instrumental, vocal and general music at a private school.) I started off as what was then called a “case manager” then became a work crew leader for a couple years. After that, I became Hopewell’s teacher. My whole time at Hopewell, I have been involved in some aspect of music: groups, lessons, concerts, variety shows, etc. I also have assisted residents with their vocational and artistic aspirations.

Hopewell has graduated fourteen high school students and has helped many other residents achieve college success. Hopewell is a very special place. It offers so much to people in that it provides them with opportunities to enrich themselves and to recover. Over the years, residents have referred to Hopewell as their “home.” It is a special place in my heart that I will always cherish.

Bob Weirich
Education Services Coordinator and member of the Hopewell Band
I often think how aptly Hopewell is named. It is a perfect name, bridging the gap between the land’s original occupants and those who occupy the space today.

Hopewell provides hope of a better life for both mentally ill residents and their families. Residents find purpose as caretakers of the land, as did their predecessors. The land – and Hopewell’s top-notch mental health professionals – provide place, peace and a respite from a fast-paced and sometimes confusing technological world.

Hopewell provides the impetus to look toward a better future and to hope well.

Sally (Mrs. Alexander M.) Cutler
Parent of David Cutler, resident from January to May 2006

The David Cutler Conservatory, dedicated May 2009 in memory of Hopewell resident David Cutler
It is a great privilege to be working with everyone at Hopewell: staff, residents and board members included. I am inspired every time I meet with residents and witness their courage and fortitude as they confront and overcome challenges. The staff and board members are highly dedicated and passionate in their roles. I am thoroughly impressed with their foresight in investing in research to document the benefits of the therapeutic community as a model and the therapeutic benefits of Hopewell in particular. I am thrilled to be part of our exciting collaboration.

Sana Loue, JD, PhD, MPH, MSSA  
Professor of Bioethics and Vice Dean, Faculty Development & Diversity,  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine;  
Hopewell Research Consultant

When I came to Hopewell, my diagnosis was depression. What I was going through seemed like much more. It wasn’t easy for me at first. I was away from home, and I cried all the time. But I did make friends. I could rely on the staff and could go to them when I felt low. And I learned that I could take control of my own situation.

Adrienne C.  
Hopewell resident May to November 2011, February 2012 to April 2013,  
March to August 2015 then Club Hope until March 2016;  
Guest speaker at 2014 Summer Solstice

I’m very positive. The last time I was in a hospital, I made up my mind. I had to try to stay sober and take my meds. I learn a lot from the other staff at Hopewell, about compassion, kindness, meditation. I read a lot about things that help me do my job. I have probably gone through anything a new resident is experiencing. I can relate to them. I have been at Hopewell a long time, and I have done well.

Bruce McAllester  
Hopewell resident admitted May 2003; Volunteer 2004 to 2007; Program Facilitator since 2007 and a member of the Hopewell Band

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them.”  
– John F. Kennedy

“When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.”  
– Willie Nelson
Hopewell helped me when I was struggling. I love Hopewell. I’m looking forward to going home, but I don’t want to lose my connection to Hopewell. I have been in lock-down in hospitals. Thinking of ever doing that again is like a threat. My mom and I have agreed that if anything happens, I will come back to Hopewell. That makes me very happy.

Mariko T.
Hopewell resident from December 2014 to June 2016, including participation in Club Hope

Hopewell is fun. I enjoy being with other people and I like my work here. Hopewell is a real home away from home. I love Hopewell.

(Through the efforts of Hopewell staff members Candace Carlton and Betsie Arvin and the office of U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, Mike was awarded the Purple Heart and six other medals by the U.S. Army in a ceremony at Hopewell in 2014 – nearly 40 years after his service in the Vietnam War.)

Mike E.
Hopewell resident since February 1997

I believe Hopewell is my calling. Prior to my arrival, I worked several years for the Red Cross, working with disabled veterans suffering from PTSD and various other mental health issues. By facilitating the disability benefits for veterans, I decided to expand my knowledge about mental illness and was lucky enough to find a position at Hopewell as an intake/admissions coordinator.

I consider myself an advocate for the mentally ill and disabled. I have dedicated my career to fulfilling the lives of those who are unable to achieve goals on their own. I strive to make their days brighter and their futures more hopeful. The reward of one simple smile from a resident or a “thank you” from a family makes it all worthwhile.

Betsie Arvin
Hopewell employee since June 2000; currently a Clinical Services Assistant/Benefits Specialist

“The miracle is not to walk on water. It is to walk on the green earth, dwelling deeply in the present moment and feeling truly alive.”

— Thich Nhat Hanh
I began working part-time in the Hopewell kitchen in 1998 and became a full-time employee in 2000. There were 16 residents when I was hired. It wasn’t much different than cooking for my large family. (Three of my children worked at Truebrook Inn before it became Hopewell, and my youngest worked at Hopewell throughout high school and in summers during college.)

It has been my privilege to watch Hopewell grow, not just in numbers but in the quality of the staff and programs. Teamwork is essential. We all work together to help the residents make the best use of their stay. I love to come to work!

What has been unique, I think, is that many of the staff have changed positions over the years. At least four of the current staff began in the kitchen. One is now a clinician. Once you begin at Hopewell, you don’t want to leave. It is humbling to be able to be a part of this organization.

Anne Skowronsksi
Hopewell employee since 1998; currently a Program Facilitator

Even in college, I struggled so much with being depressed. That is why I absolutely loved my art classes. I was able to express things in a way I was not able to express verbally. After graduation, I became overwhelmed with two jobs and just basic day-to-day functions. My emotions were out of control. I was elated one moment and then dropping straight down into a horrible non-functioning depression. When I was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, it was a double-edged sword. I was finally able to put a label on what my symptoms were, but it was very hindering because then I became that diagnosis.

I’m glad I ended up coming to Hopewell. I have met some of the most creative people here. I get to do art for two hours every day. I get to start off the day expressing myself and with a positive light. I have seen how art is used in a therapeutic sense rather than as a college course. I have seen how both have been very beneficial.

By living in a community with other people with mental illness, I have seen that we are not defined by our diagnoses but by our character.

Dana L.
Hopewell resident from August 2015 to February 2016

One of the things I like best about Hopewell is the work. I like working on the housekeeping crew and helping to take care of the flowers around the buildings. I also like walking the track with Cindy (Ream) and watercolor painting with our art therapist, Mary (Cassidy). It’s fun to work in the Hopewell Store with Bob (Weirich) because I enjoy helping other residents and staff with customer service. One of my favorite memories of Hopewell is helping out in the kitchen on holidays.

Donna H.
Hopewell resident since May 2003

“Piglet noticed that even though he has a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude.”
A.A. Milne
In April 2006, ten years after Hopewell admitted its first resident, I joined the organization as its community outreach manager in order to complete the 3,000 hours of supervised work necessary for my social work independent licensure. I intended to leave Hopewell when my license was in place and to start a private psychotherapy practice. Ten years later, my private practice includes an office at Hopewell, where I perform clinical duties ten hours per week.

Mental illness plagues one in five Americans, many of whom go untreated because of the high costs and limited availability of effective treatment options. Hopewell is a vibrant healing community where staff and residents work side by side caring for the animals and crops, and sit side by side at meals. Without fences, lockdown facilities or restraints, Hopewell humanizes the mental health treatment process with documented positive outcomes. I love this place. I am never leaving.

Christine Cowan-Gascoigne, MBA, MSSA, LISW-S
President and Founder, The Leadership Company;
Hopewell Clinical Consultant

When I first started working at Hopewell nearly 16 years ago, I knew this was a special place of healing. Over my time here, I have grown as a professional just as Hopewell has grown as an organization. I was inspired by a former clinical director to go back to school to earn a master’s degree in social work. Since then, I have been able to help Hopewell become an even better place, especially by helping to secure and maintain our CARF accreditation.

Candace Carlton, MSW, LISW-S
Quality Improvement and Compliance Director

Hopewell is my home. I had a lot of difficulties before coming to Hopewell, and I have been able to find meaning and enjoyment in my life here. I like my room and that the staff respect my privacy and my space. I like my job here. I used to work in the garden, then in the kitchen. Now I work cleaning the upstairs. People help me when I need help. They are nice to me. I get along with everyone. I never want to leave Hopewell.

Isaac Y.
Hopewell resident since August 1997

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”

– Albert Einstein
2015 FINANCIALS

REVENUES

AMOUNT PERCENT

Contributed 2,172,656 48.5%
Earned 2,484,298 55.4%
Dividends/Interest 218,313 4.9%
Gains/Losses from Investments (394,286) -8.8%
Total 4,480,981 100.0%

A portion of the contributed income was restricted for the endowment and not available for operating use.

EXPENSES

AMOUNT PERCENT

Administration 479,913 13.3%
Fundraising 341,248 9.5%
Program 2,780,651 77.2%
Total 3,601,812 100.0%
Hopewell’s family of donors is a very generous and special group of individuals, corporations and foundations who helped to change the lives of Hopewell residents in 2015. Thank you.

“We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives.”

– John F. Kennedy

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We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact the Development Office at 440.247.0912 so we may correct our records.

* deceased
Hopewell’s program is licensed and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (ODMHAS) and was the first therapeutic farm community in the United States to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for Therapeutic Community: Mental Health (Adults). Hopewell is a member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the American Residential Treatment Association (ARTA). Research projects are carried out at Hopewell through a partnership with Case Western Reserve University.
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