



# PEER *connections*

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A PUBLICATION OF THOMAS M. WERNERT CENTER | AUGUST 2021

## Animals at TMWC

A number of members have asked about bringing their animals to the Thomas M. Wernert Center (TMWC). Below, you will find the guidelines we follow to accommodate service animals. Please keep in mind that TMWC has close to 1,000 members, with several hundred present throughout each week when at full capacity. The guidelines are designed to keep members and staff safe, and to accommodate those who need a task trained animal to assist handlers with disabilities.

### TMWC GUIDELINES FOR SERVICE ANIMALS

The Thomas M. Wernert Center (TMWC) has a 'no pets' policy. Those who have a qualifying 'service animal' are welcome to bring that animal to TMWC when they are attending meetings or activities. Service animals are limited to dogs (or in rare cases, a miniature horse).

TMWC follows the guidelines set forth by the American Disabilities Act (ADA) to accommodate a member's service animal.

Emotional support animals, comfort animals, companionship animals, animals being trained to be service animals, and species other than dogs are not considered to be "service animals" and are not allowed at TMWC. We understand that emotional support animals can be important to an individual's mental health recovery; however, TMWC cannot accommodate animals that are not service animals.

## Welcome Back

Thomas M. Wernert Center is excited to welcome our members back to the center. We are now open to members by appointment only, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Check out our calendar of activities and call for an appointment.

Please remember that fully vaccinated members are not required to wear a face mask – the risk of COVID-19 is minimal if you are fully vaccinated. We rely on our members to do the right thing. If you haven't been vaccinated, please continue to wear a face mask when visiting the center.



We will continue to social distance in the club room and in other areas where members are close together. These guidelines will be in effect until further notice. We will review frequently and adjusted as needed. Please be patient, supportive, and understanding as we attempt to keep everyone safe.

## Open Art and Crafts

The Art Studio is open to five members at a time to work on their art projects, Monday through Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Craft classes are scheduled on Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each session is limited to five members.

August 5 or 6 – Special Project:  
Copper Moon Crafts\*

August 12 or 13 – River Rock  
Affirmation Stones

August 19 or 20 – Macramé  
Keychains

August 26 or 27 – Cricut Paper Craft

\*Special Project – Copper Moon  
Crafts (Nightlights on Thursday,  
Clocks on Friday. Note that these  
are not "make & takes" like usual.  
Contact Callie at ext. 127 for more  
information).

# Fun Times at TMWC!

Thank you to those who attended the TMWC Spring into Summer Reopening Parking Lot Party. Close to 250 guests joined us for fun, games, prizes, and great food from Koral Hamburg and the Rolling Chef: Rosie's Italian Food trucks. A special thank you to Ken Brown who donated raffle prizes in memory of TMWC member Dave Albright, and to the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County for all they do to make TMWC services possible.



# Meet Callie

Meet Callie. She is a Peer Supporter with the Thomas M. Wernert Center. When not supporting members one-on-one, or in meetings and activities, Callie can be found in the art studio planning craft projects for members.

"I love supporting others and using my creativity," says Callie. "TMWC members are shining examples of what resiliency looks like and every day I admire and applaud their strength and perseverance," she adds. "Both members and my co-workers are like extended family to me. I feel a sense of belonging and appreciation that I haven't felt in other places I have worked."

Callie obtained her bachelor's degree in Recreational Therapy with a focus in Therapeutic Arts from the University of Toledo. She is also a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) and is currently pursuing her Peer Recovery Supporter-Mental Health certification.

Callie views the TMWC as an important asset to those in recovery. "So much of mental health treatment focuses clinical practices," she explains. "A very important element in recovery is peer support – having the support of others who have experienced many of the same challenges. Mental illness is a battle no one should have to fight alone. Having a peer – AND a peer center – to go to for support provides a level of empathy and understanding that even a therapist-client relationship can't rival," she says. "Every community should have something similar to what we provide at TMWC."

When not working at TMWC, Callie spends her time with her husband and young daughters. "I love going on family outings like the Zoo, the park, out for ice cream. Anything that gets us out together is the best time," she says. When not caring for her family, Callie likes to sneak in some journaling, crafting, and home organization projects. "I also love to spend time on Pinterest late into the night," she confesses.

According to Callie, TMWC members are what inspire her to continue her work and education. "So many of our members have faced so many challenges and so much negativity, and yet they choose to remain positive and hopeful. Watching them make great strides in their recovery is so rewarding to me."

*Thank you, Callie, for your hard work and dedication to the wellbeing of our members.*



1. Steven and Stephanie enjoying the day.
2. Staff getting ready to welcome guests.
3. Staff member Mikaela working the bubbles.
4. Norma taking home her prize basket.
5. Board members Warren Frary Sr. (middle) and Jen Brown with Warren Jr. (left).
6. Members under the tent, enjoying the party.
7. Sally Binard (donor), Mary Beth Alberti (donor/ TMWC trustee) and Theresa Eigensee (donor) enjoy catching up.
8. Stacey from TMWC with Charletta from Mental Health & Recovery Services Board.
9. Brian (NPI), and TMWC staff member Neil enjoying the day.
10. Eric, Clark, and Scott Sylak, Executive Director, Mental Health & Recovery Services Board.
11. Deb Flores, CEO of Zepf and David Arnold, Mental Health & Recovery Services Board Member.
12. Waiting patiently in line for delicious food.
13. Linda, and TMWC staff members Amy and Janese enjoying the Karaoke machine.
14. Susan happily accepting her prize basket.
15. TMWC member Joe (far right) and his family enjoy the party.





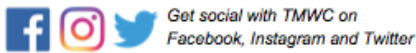
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**MISSION**

To improve the quality of life for persons living with mental illness by offering hope and peer-driven programs which address recovery through education, advocacy and peer support.

**VISION**

To be the most innovative peer-driven mental health recovery and support center.

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**SUPPORTED BY:**



## TMWC Awarded an Awareness Building Grant

The Thomas M. Wernert Center is the proud recipient of a grant from The David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation Fund of the Toledo Community Foundation. Grant funds will be used to increase awareness of programs and services available at TMWC to adults living with mental illness, their families and caregivers, and to other Lucas County service providers. In addition, TMWC will increase outreach services in the community and expand the use of virtual programming to reach and engage individuals who may not attend TMWC in person but would like the benefits of online, peer to peer support for their mental health and recovery efforts.



The David C. and Lura M. Lovell Foundation Fund envisions communities where mental health care is both barrier and stigma free as part of a broader approach to Integrative Health and Wellness. The Lovell Fund prioritizes programs that aim to reduce the stigma around living with and seeking services for a mental health issue. The Greater Toledo Community Foundation is a public charitable organization created by the citizens of our community to enrich the quality of life for individuals and families in our area.

## Make a Contribution

TMWC is an Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services Certified Consumer Operated Service funded by the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, the Greater Toledo Community Foundation, sponsorships, grants, and individual and corporate donors. If you would like to make a contribution, visit our website at [www.wernertcenter.org](http://www.wernertcenter.org) and complete the online form, or contact Patti Robb, Interim Executive Director, at 419-242-3000, ext. 112 or [probb@wernertcenter.org](mailto:probb@wernertcenter.org). TMWC is a 501 (c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible, based upon IRS guidelines.