



OUR MISSION

To provide structured housing and rehabilitative services in an environment of support and accountability that will give addicted men the opportunity to rebuild their lives.

Volume 14, Issue 3, Fall 2023

CEO Update - A Note from Kenneth Ginlack

Fall is always a busy time for us at Serenity Inns. In addition to our regular activities, we had several events planned such as the Celebration of Recovery, National Recovery month activities, and International Overdose Awareness Day. It's truly amazing to witness the incredible support of the community towards the men in our program. For instance, during the Celebration of Recovery event held this year, one of our alumni invited his employer, who had given him a job and supported him in his recovery journey. It was touching to see how his employer celebrated his achievement.

Fall is a season of change, and thus it seemed fitting to have our groundbreaking ceremony for the new treatment facility. We are excited and hopeful about what this means for our community and how it can help us fight Substance Use Disorder in our neighborhoods, districts and state.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to emphasize the importance of end-of-year giving to organizations like Serenity Inns. We rely on donations from individuals and businesses to continue our operations. The overdose crisis in Milwaukee County is a serious public health issue, with 623 overdose deaths recorded in 2021, an increase of over 80% since 2016. The majority of these deaths were due to opioids, including fentanyl.

Serenity Inns is helping to address the overdose crisis by providing men with the necessary treatment and support to recover from substance use disorder. As we enter into this season of giving, I urge you to consider supporting Serenity Inns. Your donation can make a real difference in the lives of people who are struggling with substance use disorder and working towards recovery.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Ginlack
CEO and Executive Director
Serenity Inns



Kenneth Ginlack, Sr.,
Executive
Director & CEO
of Serenity Inns



A Walk in Courage, A Step in Faith, A Path to Recovery

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Serenity Inns Celebrates 18 Years

Serenity Inns held its annual Celebration of Recovery on September 14, 2023, at the Italian Community Center where we had a near-capacity crowd. Emcee'd by CBS58's own Mike Strehlow, this year marks Serenity Inns's 19th anniversary. During the event, Bader Philanthropies was honored as our Partner of the Year, and two men whose lives were positively impacted by Serenity Inns gave speeches - Program Graduate Vincent Kohne, and the Alumnus of the Year, Trenton Sanders.



CBS 58's Mike Strehlow



Bader Philanthropies honored as Partner of the Year

The Alumnus of the Year Award, presented to Trenton "TJ" Sanders, a Serenity Inns graduate, said: "I was lost, but Serenity Inns handed me a map, a flashlight, and a companion in hope. Now, life is a journey I'm excited to be on." You can learn more about TJ's remarkable transformation in our Alumni Spotlight. His story highlights not only his indomitable spirit but also the nurturing environment Serenity Inns provides for everyone in need of a second chance.

In addition to celebrating recovery and hearing inspiring stories, Serenity Inns announced its plans to expand its services by building a new treatment facility across the street from its current location. We are so grateful for the outpouring of love and support for Serenity Inns residents and graduates. We would like to thank all of our donors and supporters who helped make this year's Celebration of Recovery event a tremendous success.



Program Graduate Vincent Kohne

For the recap video, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/Serenityinnsinc/videos/765442981672273>



Alumni Group Photo



Residents Group Photo



Serenity Inns Celebration of Recovery Residents, Graduates, and Staff



BizTimes Media's 2023 Nonprofit Executive of the Year Award

Help us congratulate our Executive Director/CEO, Kenneth Ginlack, as the recipient of BizTimes Media's 2023 Nonprofit Executive of the Year Award. The 2023 Nonprofit Excellence Awards were held on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Mr. Ginlack was nominated and then chosen in a category filled with exceptionally talented, impressive, and inspirational nonprofit leaders including Charlotte John-Gomez of the Siebert Lutheran Foundation, Dawn Nuoffer of the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, and Miryam Rosenzweig of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation. Ken would like to thank BizTimes Media for this special award and is sincerely humbled for being considered in this category of such phenomenal nonprofit leaders. Mr. Ginlack would also like to thank those within the Greater Milwaukee community and is grateful for the continuous support he has received at Serenity Inns. Once again, congratulations to Mr. Ginlack on receiving such a prestigious award!



Ken Ginlack and Wendel Hruska



Ken Ginlack and Laura Gutierrez



Ken with his award

A New Beginning: TJ's Journey at Serenity Inns

Trenton "TJ" Sanders story is one of hope and new beginnings. When he first arrived at Serenity Inn, he had already faced numerous challenges in life. Despite those challenges, TJ was determined to turn his life around and embraced the help and structure that is offered here.

During his stay at Serenity Inn, TJ actively participated in the programs, shared his experiences, and worked hard to heal and learn. The disciplined routine at the Inn reminded him of the positive early days spent with his grandfather Joe, providing him with a sense of comfort and motivation to move forward.

Through his hard work and determination, TJ completed the program and went on to become a responsible parent, just like his grandfather had been to him. Through recovery, Trenton has rebuilt a loving relationship with his daughter Mackenzie and is actively present in her life. He is encouraging and emotionally available to celebrate her many milestones and successes, and he is supportive and reassuring as she experiences life's many challenges, growing pains, and hurdles. TJ is becoming that parental figure he never had and is breaking the cycle and stigma that comes with alcohol and other substance abuse addictions. TJ's recovery journey has not only impacted the lives of his family and friends but, as he shares his story, continues to inspire others facing similar battles.

TJ's inspiring story of recovery was recognized at our recent Celebration of Recovery, where Serenity Inns honored him as the Alumnus of the Year. His story is a shining example of the transformative power of recovery and showcases the bright future that awaits those who seek help and work hard to turn their lives around while at Serenity Inns.



Director of Programs & Facilities, Jason Dobson with Alumnus of the Year Trenton "TJ" Sanders

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Groundbreaking Progress: Our Commitment Grows Stronger

On September 26, 2023, we took a meaningful step at Serenity Inns with the groundbreaking of our new 14-bed Residential Treatment Center at 2830 W. Brown Street, Milwaukee. With Mayor Cavalier Johnson, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley, Alderman Russell Stamper, and our CEO Kenneth Ginlack leading the ceremony, the importance of expanding our reach was clear.

Set to open by Fall 2024, this new facility embodies our unwavering promise to provide more men with a supportive path to recovery. This event was a proud moment for us, showcasing our continuous effort to combat substance use disorder, reduce overdoses in Milwaukee, and help our residents reclaim control over their lives.

We invite you to join us in this significant endeavor. Be a part of the Serenity Inns New Treatment Facility campaign to expand our residential treatment facilities, ensuring we continue to meet the growing need for residential treatment beds for men with limited resources in Milwaukee. Your support is invaluable in sharing recovery, providing quality care, and helping individuals live the life they deserve.

Learn more and contribute at <https://www.serenityinns.org/newbuilding>.