



HAPPINESS

Congratulations to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission! They are the proud recipients of the first Wellness & Recovery Center's collaborative artwork: Happiness.

The artwork began as an idea at the Wellness & Recovery Center's (WRC) Art Expression Group to express the many perspectives about happiness. Each WRC Member drew a preliminary drawing based on their own thoughts about happiness and consequently incorporated into a collective piece of artwork. The facilitator of the Art Expression Group, Eric Zuniga, transferred the preliminary drawings onto the canvas and then the members painted the art piece together. Once the art project was completed, the members then announced that it would be donated to an organization for public display. The first exhibition of the artwork "Happiness" was in April 2008 at the 6th Annual Integrated Services Conference presented by CiMH (an organization which promotes art created by consumer artists). The artwork was welcomed at the Annual Consumer Art Show, coordinated by Michelle Sunshine. With the assistance of Cristi Harris, Beth Conley, Alice Washington and Lucha Olguin of CiMH, the artwork "Happiness" was well promoted and those who had an interest in the piece were requested to submit an essay describing why they wanted to display the artwork "Happiness." In turn, the WRC Members reviewed the prospective essays, arriving at the final decision to have the artwork displayed at the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. The members were very pleased with the MHSOAC's essay, especially the part which stated: "...we will protect and treasure it for its artistic worth and even more to celebrate the positive prospective the artists are conveying..."

The WRC Members wish to warmly thank all those who shown interest in the artwork and the continued support of MHSA to provide services, such as the Art Expression group, at the Wellness & Recovery Center. WRC continues to provide opportunities to inspire people to see beyond limitations of the human condition and strives to reveal the unlimited potential that is within all of us!



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