

Confidence
Self-Esteem
Vocational Skills
Employment

FORUM HOUSE is a clubhouse modeled program that seeks to help its members lead full and productive lives as contributing members of their communities. Members and staff work together to operate the club to ensure that all feel wanted and have the opportunity to contribute to the community through meaningful work. Work, especially the opportunity to aspire and achieve through work, is a generative and integrative force in the life of every human being.

**Serving the Greater
Westfield Area.**

Forum House clubhouse guarantees:

- A right to a place to come
- A right to meaningful work
- A right to meaningful relationships
- A right to a place to return



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FORUM HOUSE

Serving adults with
mental illness
since 1988

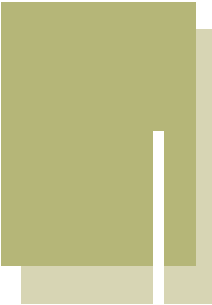
A service of HRU





A Caring Environment, A Path To Success.

Forum House provides its members with the opportunity to increase their social, vocational and educational skills, develop friendships and overcome feelings of isolation. The "Clubhouse" model, which was developed over a half century ago, provides members with a supportive environment where they can get assistance with transitioning into the workplace or back into school as well as increasing their participation in the community. Membership is voluntary and services are designed to meet individual needs.



A Chance to be Productive, Achievement In the Workplace.

Forum House provides several specialized units (see center panel) that members use to manage the club's work as well as to learn and master critical vocational skills. This approach ensures cooperation, inclusion, and shared responsibility. It also allows each member to be productive despite his or her disability. Because of the importance of work to gaining a sense of purpose and self-esteem, work and work related activities are a primary focus at this clubhouse.

FORUM HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

SERVING GREATER WESTFIELD

ESTABLISHED IN 1988

WORK UNITS

BUSINESS

EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION

FOOD SERVICES

MEMBER SERVICES

SPECIALIZED SERVICES & SUPPORTS

HOUSING SUPPORTS

YOUNG ADULT SUPPORTS & SERVICES

SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY SUPPORTS

SOCIAL & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SERVICES FOR HOMELESS



Practiced Skills, Productive Employment.

Forum House is designed to help members transfer skills and capabilities to real jobs in the community.

Members join a clubhouse because they want to be productive, so the club is structured to provide them with a variety of services that help them succeed. Each member develops an individual rehabilitation plan that identifies training and job placement priorities as well as preferences. Members are also provided with career counseling, interview skills training, resume writing, and job search assistance as needed.



Ongoing Support, Permanent Job.

Once a member is placed in a Transitional or Independent Employment Job, clubhouse staff continues to provide ongoing support for work related and personal issues. For Transitional Employment Jobs, staff will train with the member so they can provide actual job related and skill building support. Employers of Transitional Employed members also benefit from the co-training because the staff person will fill in for the member in the case of an absence. Transitional Employment jobs are generally structured to be temporary. The goal, in most cases, is to allow the member to move on to Independent Employment after a specific period. Members seeking Independent Employment receive support from the club based on their identified goals and needs.