

Mental Illness Recovery
Center, Inc.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Gaining new ground



MIRCI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide community based services to individuals recovering from severe mental illness or emotional disorders in the Midlands of South Carolina through counseling, housing and financial management initiatives.

MIRCI PROGRAMS

Social Rehabilitation Program is a counseling program for individuals with mental illness. Staff members provide behavioral health services including group and individual therapy and rehabilitative psychosocial services for residents in our Supported Housing and Group Homes. The Friendship Center, MIRCI's original program, was a psychosocial day program which closed mid-2010 due to the end of the operating contract which had sustained the program for 50 years.

Representative Payee Program is a financial management program for individuals in need of assistance in managing social security disability benefits. By assisting clients with the budgeting process, in collaboration with case managers, this program ensures that benefit payments are used to meet the clients' basic needs: rent, food, medication, and utilities. This program helps clients make informed decisions and helps prevent homelessness.

Housing Support Program is a permanent housing program for individuals with mental illness. Finding safe, affordable housing is a must for individuals in recovery. MIRCI provides for that need with four apartment complexes in the Midlands. Managed and operated by a professional staff, these complexes provide a key step to stability for many Midlands residents.

Shelter Plus Care Program (formerly known as HomeBase) is a housing program for homeless individuals and families who need intensive therapeutic services. This program provides individuals and families with the stability and supportive services needed to make the transition from homelessness to safe, permanent housing.

Homeless Recovery Center (HRC) is a drop-in center open from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The center is managed by an Assertive Community Treatment team. This team combines intensive services with social rehabilitation therapy and peer support to enable individuals to recover and regain meaningful lives while making the transition from homelessness to supported, independent living.

HRC Housing Support is a treatment team that provides a full array of behavioral health services to the residents of the Shelter Plus Care Program who need the most intensive treatment. Staff provide support after regular business hours and on weekends from an office located within one of the most-utilized apartment complexes.

MIRCI Group Homes is a housing program for individuals who would otherwise require hospitalization. The program consists of two six-bedroom homes which are staffed 24 hours per day. Staff assist residents with daily living skills such as meal preparation, medication management, and shopping trips while ensuring client safety and stability.

2010 MIRCI HIGHLIGHTS

- In early 2010, MIRCI received a new grant from the BlueCross BlueShield Foundation of SC to provide treatment and supportive services to uninsured or underinsured homeless individuals with mental illness, allowing them to make the transition from homelessness to permanent housing.
- A new grant from Knight Foundation provided support to MIRCI's HomeBase program, which housed over 100 individuals and families in 2010.
- In June, MIRCI enrolled as an independent provider of Medicaid services after changes to the state Medicaid program's behavioral health services. MIRCI now bills Medicaid and Medicare directly for services provided to clients!
- Palmetto Health Foundation awarded a grant to support continued operations at MIRCI's Homeless Recovery Center after the federal SAMHSA grant expired in June.
- Through a new contract with Palmetto Health, MIRCI welcomed two new doctors in June: Dr. John Steele II and Dr. Jason Buckland.
- We were the recipient of a new grant award from United Way of the Midlands in July. The new grant funds a full-time entitlement specialist position to assist individuals with mental illness in gaining benefits to which they are entitled.
- MIRCI's 26th Annual Shrimp Boil was held on October 21st. We raised over \$18,000 to support MIRCI's housing and homeless programs. During Shrimp Boil, Rosewood Merchants Association presented a \$10,000 check to MIRCI to be used for replacing the roof at our Rosewood Drive building.
- We held MIRCI Monday at Moe's Grapevine Italian Restaurant on November 8th. This fundraising event was a success for the third year in a row!
- MIRCI's Housing and Homeless Programs received the 2010 Housing Achievement Award for the Organizational Sector from the Palmetto Affordable Housing Forum.



RMA president Rachel Smith presented the \$10,000 check to executive director Julie Ann Avin and board member Mary Winter Teaster.



Valerie Williams, Director of SC Housing Finance & Development Authority presents the Organizational Sector Housing Achievement Award to Liz Norris and Dianne Williams of MIRCI.

Client Updates (initially reported in MIRCI newsletter issued September 2010)

Tony Revisited

If a recovering, previously homeless person can have rock star status, then that would be Tony Nguyen. Perhaps it is because the 51 year old Vietnamese refugee wandered around the streets of Columbia during his 20 plus years of homelessness and became a familiar sight to so many people. When MIRCI helped Tony get off the street and into treatment several years ago, he became a celebrity, in part, because of an article published in the State Newspaper. A lot of people continue to inquire about Tony, so we thought it is time for an update.

In early 2008, Tony moved into MIRCI housing. For the first few years, Tony lived in a MIRCI men's residence, but this past April moved into his own one bedroom apartment where he resides on his own. He's extremely thrifty with his Social Secu-

rity income and saved enough money to purchase new furniture for his apartment and has a new wardrobe as well. Tony is very proud of his new place and takes much pride in keeping his home clean and tidy. He loves to watch television and that's one of his favorite activities at home.



Tony visits the Recovery Center most days so MIRCI staff have the pleasure of seeing

him regularly. His quiet, pleasant demeanor is missed on those rare days when he is not around. One of Tony's favorite pleasures is going to the "all you can eat" buffet with his friends from the Center and for a small guy he can really put away some groceries. Recently, his MIRCI psychiatrist treated Tony and a MIRCI employee to a meal at a local Vietnamese restaurant where Tony had the pleasure of conversing in his native tongue and sampling cuisine from long ago.

Tony continues to surprise folks with his talents. Just last week Tony stepped up to the Center's pool table and continued to play throughout the day, soundly defeating some of the regulars at table. He is a man of few words, but his frequent smiles and laughter let everyone know that he is enjoying his new life.

John B. (as told in his own words)

I was in the hospital and I got a visit from two people from MIRCI asking if I would like to be placed in a group home. I said that I would be interested in that, and was told it would be somewhat of a wait because the homes were still being built. In the meantime, they started picking me up in the mornings from the hospital to take me to the Friendship Center to check out the program. When I first came to the Friendship Center, I didn't know anyone and mostly kept to myself.

After some waiting, the day finally came that I was able to move into the group home. It was brand new, and the nicest group home I had ever seen. It was the first time I had a room to myself. At first, I felt paranoid because I didn't know anyone.

After spending time in the group homes and at the Friendship Center, I started to make friends. People would ask me to join in on activities, and I really enjoyed playing cards.

MIRCI helped me to manage my money, so I was able to take care of my personal needs. We took trips into the community, such as the library, the movies, and going out to eat. This helped me to become less paranoid in the community, as I got used to being around a lot of people. We would go to the Friendship Center three days out of the week, where I got more involved in groups and activities. These groups taught me a lot about skills to help me manage my symptoms and live on my own. I was doing well at the group homes. I

started to take on more duties, such as helping with the shopping and cleaning around the house. I asked the clinical director if I could get an apartment through the Assisted Housing Program. I was put on the list to wait for an available apartment. While I waited for an apartment to become available, I continued to stay at the group home and be at the Friendship Center.

The day finally came when I was able to move into the apartment, where I still am currently. I have been able to live more independently and make my own decisions day to day. I am doing well now, and even though there are still challenges, I have the confidence that I can live independently. MIRCI has been a Godsend to me, and I am grateful for every opportunity they have given me to help me grow.

Angel (name has been changed)

Angel grew up in Detroit and came to South Carolina for college. One year after graduating from college she became a widow and she began to display symptoms of mental illness. Following the onset of psychiatric illness she served 4 months in prison and was committed to Bryan Psychiatric Hospital where she began to receive treatment. Following her discharge she became homeless when hurricane Hugo destroyed her home. She was introduced to crack cocaine during her second marriage, in 1991, and used for approximately 14 years. She admits to having a drinking problem from her early childhood until becoming involved with MIRCI's recovery program.

Angel came to MIRCI's Homeless Recovery Center approximately 2 years ago in 2008. At that time she was using alcohol occasionally and was not being treated for mental illness as a result of the rapid deinstitutionalization of the psychiatric hospitals. She was psychiatrically unstable, abusing alcohol, and was homeless. Today, she has been clean from crack cocaine for 6 years and with the exception of a couple of minor relapses, alcohol for 2 years. She is active in the 12 step community and frequently volunteers to speak during MIRCI tours and fundraising activities. She continues to participate in group therapy to address substance dependence issues and has secured a NA sponsor.

She states that at this time in her recovery she attempts to "give back" and is hopeful that one day she can sponsor another individual. She is psychiatrically stable and has been living independently for the past 2 years in her own individual apartment. Angel attributes her success to the ability to secure housing through MIRCI's program. Angel states "I suffered from child abuse which caused me to isolate myself. MIRCI staff, doctors, and nurses have helped me to give back to society through volunteering because I found a new way of life."

2010 Summary of Clients Served

Social Rehabilitation Program served 241 individuals.

Representative Payee Program served 397 individuals.

Supported Housing Program housed 84 residents.

ShelterPlus Housing Program housed 116 adults and 15 children.

Homeless Recovery Center served 307 individuals.

MIRCI Group Homes housed 14 residents.

Office of Research and Statistics (ORS) Findings

Through a grant from the BlueCross BlueShield of SC Foundation in 2008, MIRCI contracted with the Office of Research and Statistics of the SC Budget and Control Board to create a data collection system and analysis process to confirm the reduction in emergency department visits and hospital admissions as a result of MIRCI's interventions. The findings for 2010 represent the third year of this analysis, and continue to demonstrate the reduction of emergency department visits and hospital admissions after enrolling in the housing and homeless programs of MIRCI. This on-going relationship with the Office of Research and Statistics allows MIRCI to continually evaluate the impact of MIRCI's programs.

Summary of Findings

For the 128 clients linked to the ORS general hospital data system:

- The number of inpatient hospitalizations for the year subsequent to beginning MIRCI services dropped by over 35% from the year preceding entry into MIRCI
 - When schizophrenia was the reason for the hospitalization, the number of hospitalizations dropped by 38%, pre- and post-entry into MIRCI.
 - Inpatient charges for hospitalizations for the MIRCI cohort dropped by 34% from \$1,284,818 to \$852,343, a savings of \$432,475 in avoided hospital charges.
- The number of emergency department visits dropped by over 47% once the clients enrolled in MIRCI. This drop in visits netted \$232,000 in avoided ED charges.
 - Emergency department visits where mental illness was the reason for the visit dropped even more, by 52%.
 - Schizophrenic disorder was the most common reason for visiting the ED for a mental illness; these visits dropped by over 68%.

For the 114 clients linked to the ORS psychiatric specialty hospital database:

- The number of inpatient hospitalizations dropped by 86% in the year following enrollment
- The time needing to be hospitalized in these specialty hospitals dropped by 24 days.

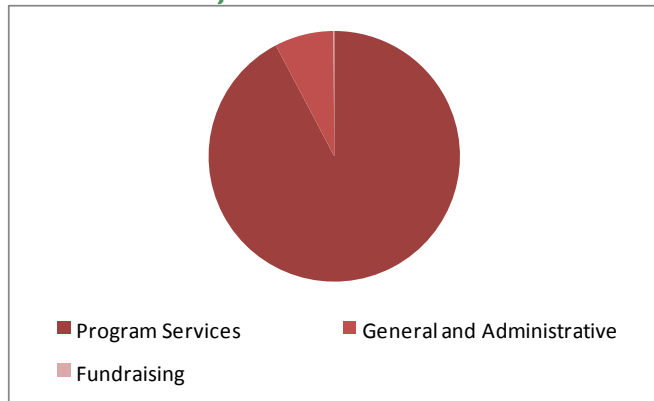
MENTAL ILLNESS RECOVERY CENTER, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the year ended December 31, 2010

	Social Rehabilitation	Representative Payee	Housing Support	Shelter Plus Care	Homeless Recovery Center (HRC)	HRC Housing Support	MIRCI Group Homes	Total Program Services	General and Administrative	Fundraising	Total Support Services	Total Expenses
Salaries	\$ 207,897	\$ 86,684	\$ 110,090	\$ 235,892	\$ 295,004	\$ 153,004	\$ 339,090	\$ 1,427,661	\$ 154,738	\$ -	\$ 154,738	\$ 1,582,399
Payroll taxes	15,173	6,623	8,668	17,923	23,429	11,786	26,696	109,698	11,352	-	11,352	121,050
Fringe benefits	43,527	13,061	11,391	35,586	31,133	21,157	43,132	198,987	9,443	-	9,443	208,430
Total personnel	266,597	106,368	130,149	288,801	349,566	185,947	408,918	1,736,346	175,533	-	175,533	1,911,879
Professional fees	1,848	769	113	4,095	2,290	2,422	3,229	14,706	4,432	-	4,432	19,138
Insurance	13,967	1,638	6,156	10,363	11,822	6,023	12,561	62,550	8,518	-	8,518	71,068
Building expense	14,983	2,091	-	3,833	16,588	6,613	-	44,058	5,227	-	5,227	49,285
Utilities	14,286	1,994	16	3,640	14,640	1,495	3,019	39,090	4,984	-	4,984	44,074
Telephone	1,254	836	859	1,947	3,315	1,462	-	9,673	4,610	-	4,610	14,283
Office supplies	2,641	2,218	521	1,641	5,737	1,095	2,667	16,520	2,802	-	2,802	19,322
Postage	162	5,815	979	979	327	505	49	8,816	1,803	-	1,803	10,619
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	-	250	250
Vehicle expenses	9,588	-	2,844	7,554	8,683	4,678	7,970	41,317	2,568	-	2,568	43,885
Minor equipment and maintenance	5,053	292	1,198	621	13,662	602	3,520	24,948	5,277	-	5,277	30,225
Program service expense	23,372	-	62,574	448,284	75,873	214,830	19,563	844,496	-	-	-	844,496
Special events expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,594	3,594	3,594
Bad debt expense	-	-	-	4,448	-	487	-	4,935	-	-	-	4,935
Miscellaneous	710	113	1,067	1,150	5,300	37	3,990	11,767	21,970	37	22,007	33,774
Total expenses before depreciation	354,461	122,134	206,476	777,316	507,753	426,196	464,886	2,859,222	237,574	3,910	241,884	3,101,106
Depreciation	40,099	2,885	506	27,446	23,422	11,663	21,964	127,985	6,745	-	6,745	134,730
Total expenses	\$ 394,560	\$ 125,019	\$ 206,982	\$ 804,762	\$ 531,175	\$ 437,859	\$ 486,850	\$ 2,987,207	\$ 244,319	\$ 3,910	\$ 248,629	\$ 3,235,836

2010 Organizational Spending

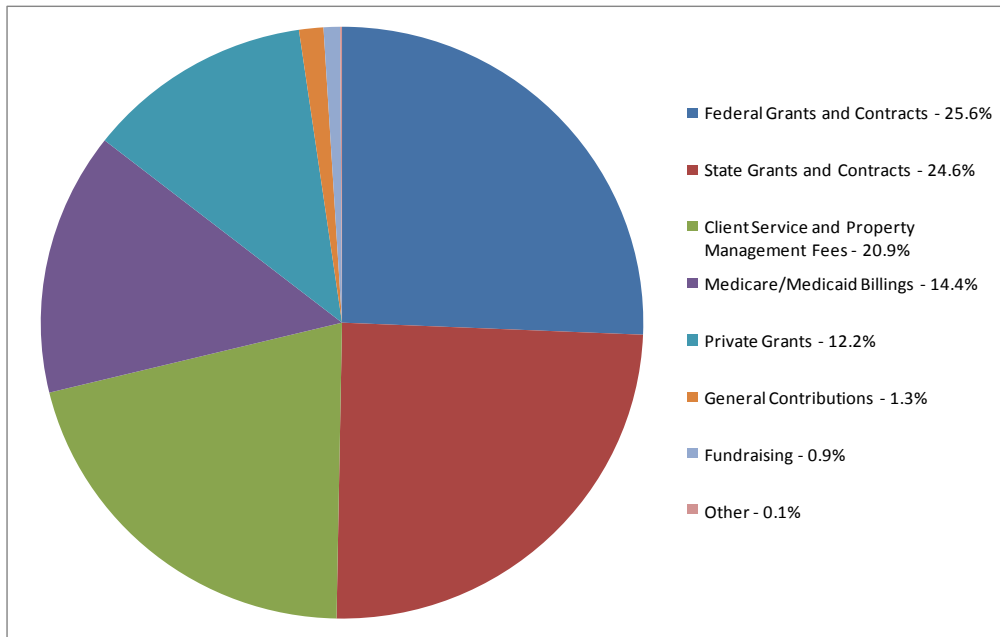
Category percentages of total organizational expenses are as follows:

Program Services - 92.3%
 General and Administrative - 7.6%
 Fundraising - 0.1%



2010 Revenue by Funding Source

Federal Grants and Contracts	\$ 704,507
State Grants and Contracts	\$ 676,799
Client Service and Property Management Fees	\$ 574,357
Medicare/Medicaid Billings	\$ 394,439
Private Grants	\$ 333,750
General Contributions	\$ 35,875
Fundraising	\$ 24,219
Other	\$ 2,744
	<u>\$ 2,746,690</u>



2010 Private Grants

United Way of the Midlands—\$142,500
 Palmetto Health Foundation—\$76,250
 BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation—\$75,000
 Knight Foundation—\$20,000
 Rosewood Merchants Association—\$10,000
 Colonial Life—\$5,000
 Wachovia Bank, a Wells Fargo Company—\$5,000

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to the best of our ability. We couldn't do it without you!

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* These directors are retiring from their positions on the board in 2011.

New Officers 2011-2012

David Wells	President
Zealy Jenkins	Vice President
Dave Wallace	Treasurer
Wallace Cunningham	Secretary
Mary Winter Teaster	Immediate Past President

Incoming Directors 2011-2014

Kristen Horne

MIRCI's Management Team

Julie Ann Avin - Executive Director

Stephanie Williams - Director of Finance and Administration

Liz Norris - Director of Operations

Beverly McClerkin - Director of Quality Assurance

Liz Green - Nurse Manager, Homeless Recovery Center

Rhonda Clark - Housing Director

Andrea Kendrick - Director of TLC Program

Natasha Moti - Director of Social Rehabilitation Program

Dianne Miller-Williams - HomeBase Program Director

Matrice Rouse - MIRCI Group Homes Administrator

Looking Forward to 2011—Exciting Things Underway!

Clinic expansion – opening of a second behavioral health clinic

Support for Homeless Recovery Center – many new funding partners are coming forward to help sustain the operation of the HRC

New beneficiaries to be served – through several new funding partnerships, MIRCI will be providing housing and services to individuals who are ready for discharge from a hospital, but with nowhere to go; and will be providing housing and services to Veterans and their families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

Offsite services – MIRCI will be a partner providing services to homeless individuals through the new Transitions Center

We're on the Web!
WWW.MIRCI.ORG

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