

### Who participates in the PEJ Wellness Center

Although the Wellness Center includes professionals, notably a psychiatrist and a nurse practitioner, consumers of mental health services will manage it. The professionals will be working to support consumer goals, and guiding principle will be self-help and self-responsibility. The nurse practitioner will focus on routine refills, "Wellness Checks", and documentation. The psychiatrist will focus more on crisis and transitions. The integration of these professional positions is being examined by DMH and MHA. The MHA trains, recruits, hire and pays the peer supporters and the coordinator. Any person in recovery of their mental illness is welcome to come to the center. The participants are referred to as members

### When will the Wellness Center operate At AFHMHC?

The PEJ Wellness Center will begin operations on Thursday September 30th, 2004. At this time the days of operation are Mondays and Thursdays. The hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. As the census grows, additional days will be added. There is a schedule of activities attached. The official open house is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2004, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. This will be held in the playground area and will allow for tour access.

### How will the PEJ Wellness Center operate at AFHMHC?

As the Wellness Center proposal states, the staff will consist of two part time peer supporters at 20 hours weekly and one full time coordinator. These staffs are all consumers and all are employed through MHA, (Mental Health Association). At this time, MHA has hired one peer supporter and are interviewing others in hope of hiring a bi-cultural, bi-lingual, peer supporter. The Peer supporters go through a three-week, full time training that offered a stipend. The training is done by the MHA. All peer supporters and coordinators have completed this training. Presently Gail Green, a permanent employee of MHA and Brenda Smith of DMH/AFH will co-coordinate the PEJ Wellness Center until a permanent coordinator is hired.

The members will not have to check in at the front desk. There will be a member in the lobby to inform people where to go. Members do not have to come for the entire day. The services are a drop-in style, meaning one can come to chosen activities and leave, as they like. The members have agreed to create a badge to identify members of the center. The members state and agree to their guidelines for appropriate behaviors. They will ask members to leave that are not properly groomed and have inadequate hygiene. They will seek professional assistance for client requiring additional support due to an escalation of their behavior due to their mental / physical health. At this time there is a proposal (attached) made between DMH and MHA. More details concerning liabilities, responsibilities will be defined at contract completion.