

In Their Own Words...

The Making of the FCS Behavioral Health Informational Video

August 3, 2010

With the closing of several state hospitals for the mentally ill, it was decided to offer a video to patients to highlight FCS Services. FCS teamed up with George Roberts Productions to spread the word by asking consumers of FCS tell their stories and show hospitalized individuals soon to be discharged how they too can reach their goals, and *"Build a Brighter Future..."*

In the FCS video consumers were highlighted to represent the various levels of services FCS offers to individuals. They spoke of their own experiences with their disorder. Here are some of their stories:

James Harris, now an Independent Living consumer, spoke of how he's achieved independence, structure and a quality life because of the programs of FCS. After his video interview, James stated that he never thought he would be able to speak in front of a video camera, and admits that he's come a long way and was very proud of what he shared for the video and potential consumers.



James Harris



Holly Koehler

Holly Koehler, is a Lifesharing Consumer who resides with the Heller family for over six years. We had a barbeque with the entire Heller family, and Holly was asked what she would like to share with individuals regarding FCS. She went onto thank FCS for thinking of individuals coming out of the hospital into the community as she, herself, was quite unsure of what to expect. She spoke of her time in an FCS Group Home, finding her first permanent job and FCS assisting her with a job coach, then finally moving onto her "family," the Hellers. Holly explained that she is now very independent and confident. She enjoys her "family," and continues to watch the Heller children (and grandchildren) grow along with her.

Cesar Coley, lives in an FCS group home and he explained how he recently came from a hospital setting, and how FCS is assisting him in becoming more independent within the community. Cesar commented on how he immediately felt at home when he first toured his new residence. He's looking forward to making new friends, and reaching new and challenging goals. Cesar currently works with FCS part-time in the Administration Office.



Cesar Coley



Craig Griffith

Craig Griffith from West Hills Apartments also gave his prospective on living independently in the community after receiving services from FCS to help him get where he is today. Craig started out with FCS in a group home. Through structure, planning and goal achievement, he now lives in his own apartment; an FCS permanent housing complex. Craig took the time to show off the vegetable and fruit garden that he has been tending to in his own back yard, and went onto tell us that he's taking classes at East Stroudsburg University to eventually become a chef.

Everyone involved in the video shoot expressed how proud they were to not only be a part of the taping, but also that they were able to speak of their stories in front of a camera.