



WE MADE LIFE BETTER...

FY 2010 Annual Report



RIVER EDGE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER

We Make Life Better™

175 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-751-4519
www.river-edge.org



MISSION STATEMENT

To be the leader in behavioral healthcare providing comprehensive services with dedication and pride.

VISION STATEMENT

To be the keystone provider of behavioral healthcare in our community, known for compassion, high quality work and the professionalism and excellence of our staff.

WE STAND FOR:

- ◆ *Behavioral healthcare that adds substantial quality to the lives of our clients.*
- ◆ *Providing high quality services with objectivity and professionalism.*
- ◆ *Respecting diversity and the uniqueness of all individuals.*

WE DO OUR WORK WITH:

- ◆ *Personal and organizational integrity.*
- ◆ *Teamwork and creativity in the partnership between clients and staff.*
- ◆ *Commitment to the highest ethical standards.*
- ◆ *Competent services that inspire pride and respect.*
- ◆ *Willingness to adapt to changes in the environment and the needs of our clients.*
- ◆ *Accountability for what we do.*
- ◆ *Dedication to continuous improvement in the services we provide.*

A Message from the CEO....

SHANNON T. HARVEY, LCSW

Hello everyone –

Thank you for your interest in the activities of River Edge Behavioral Health Center! In fiscal year 2010, we adopted the mantra, “We Make Life Better”. Truly, that is our endeavor.... in every interaction..... for every client..... for every community we serve. In the following pages, I think you’ll see reflected repeated evidences that we have nobly pursued that goal with great success.

In fiscal year 2010, we added a successful new chapter to our strong history.... a new crisis stabilization unit for Georgia’s children... new counseling services inside Bibb DFCS..... a new day program for adults with intellectual disabilitymore clients served... new team members, including several excellent physicians and two psychologists....new partnerships...new services....new jobs...new homes....pursuing new opportunities....lives restored and futures brightened. What a grand endeavor!

I am confident that fiscal year 2011 will also bring a banner year! Minimally, we expect renewal of national accreditation and the addition of state-leading services for adults in Baldwin County, and to expand our telemedicine efforts exponentially. We thank you for your investment and partnership. We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve and look forward to our future together.

*Warm regards to all,
Shannon*



River Edge Leadership

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mr. Ray Bennett, Chair



Mr. William E. Willingham, Jr, Vice Chair



Ms. Oreatha Sewell, Secretary



Dr. Priscilla Doster



Mr. Lonzy Edwards



Mr. Andrew Galloway



Ms. Mattie Middlebrooks



Ms. Debra Toole Vinson



Ms. Myrtice Vinson

River Edge Leadership

MANAGEMENT TEAM



*Angela Hale, MD
Medical Director
13 years of service*



*Sue Linn
Clinical Director
34 years of service*



*Beth Tyler
Chief Financial
Officer
9 years of service*



*Anna Alexander
Director of Billing
15 years of service*



*Jean Boone
Director of Baldwin
County
21 years of service*



*Michele Fulcher
Director of Nursing
13 years of service*



*Christy Hallman
Director of Adult
Outpatient Services
10 years of service*



*Melvin Harris
Director of Consumer
Relations/ Residential
Development
20 years of service*



*Nancy Haysman
Director of
Developmental
Disabilities
1 year of service*



*Miranda Nunez
Director of Child
& Adolescent Services
1 year of service*



*Cynthia Patterson
Director of Supportive
Housing
22 years of service*



*Mark Perry
Director of Pharmacy
Services
17 years of service*



*Lisa Rudeseal
Director of Utilization
Management & Admissions
1 year of service*



*Gary Stark
Director of Staff
Development
31 years of service*



*Doris Thompson
Director of Developmental
Disabilities
21 years of service*



*Lynne Tollison
Director of
The Recovery Center
3 years of service*



*Kathleen Varda
Director of Policy
& Development
1 year of service*



*Vickie Welker
Director of Monroe
County
20 years of service*



*Jan Yates
Director of Mobile Crisis
1 year of service*

“We all work so well together. We are a team, not just a place to come to work. I like working with people that have a positive attitude.”

-Cynthia Patterson, Director of Supportive Housing

We Work to Make Life Better.....



Though recruited by several other behavioral health organizations, I chose River Edge because of its strong history of client-focused teamwork, community partnership and entrepreneurship as well as its fiscal strength and geographic centrality.

-Shannon T. Harvey, CEO

“I came here because it was a good opportunity; I stay here because I am part of a team that is going places...doing great things for more people, more places every day!”

- Beth Tyler, CFO



I chose River Edge for two reasons: its wonderful reputation in the community and the opportunity to work as Director of Intellectual Disability Services. I have worked with all ages of consumers with intellectual disabilities, and I am so glad to return to my first love! I've been offered the opportunity to train for nine months with the retiring Director. Amazing! It just goes to show that-at River Edge-the commitment to “making life better”- for everyone-is REAL in every day work!”

-Nancy Haysman, Director of Developmental Disabilities

We Made Life Better By....

OFFERING MORE SERVICE OPTIONS

THE BILLINGSLEA RECOVERY RESIDENCE

On May 20, 2010, River Edge Behavioral Health Center (REBHC) opened the new Billingslea Recovery Residence, which will provide a safe, supportive and structured living environment for men that have completed detoxification and are seeking recovery from chemical dependency. The Billingslea Recovery Residence is a long term residential service that provides a supportive alcohol and drug free environment in a community setting. The Recovery Residence houses up to 14 men between the ages of 21 and 65. The three-story home consists of 7 large bedrooms, a fully stocked kitchen and a large living area. Residents will live at the facility for at least 6 months and may stay for as long as a year. The men must also attend the Substance Abuse Wellness and Recovery services at River Edge Behavioral Health Center, including 6 months of aftercare. Structured to provide a holistic



approach to healing, men will have the opportunity to learn how to remain drug and alcohol free, how to become responsible, productive citizens, and find work. The Recovery Residence is named for community leader Albert Billingslea. "I don't think we could have chosen a more appropriate person to name the facility for," said Bibb County Commission Chairman Samuel F. Hart, Sr. "Albert has been an active supporter for persons who are or have been victimized and those who are addicted to drugs and alcohol and for a facility of this kind. He was pushing for this 15 years ago," Chairman Hart continued. "He recognized the need for a longer period to transition back to the community."

-Amanda Smith, Georgia Informer*

**Smith, Amanda. "Billingslea Recovery Residence for Men Celebrates Grand Opening in Macon, Georgia." The Georgia Informer. May 2010.*



THE FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES UNIT UNITES WITH DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Evaluation and counseling services to preserve and restore family stability opened inside the Bibb County Department of Family and Children's Services. Staffed by licensed mental health counselors, the unit received 190 referrals in week one!



We Made Life Better By ...

OFFERING MORE SERVICE OPTIONS



THE RECOVERY CENTER YOUTH UNIT

In 2009, River Edge Behavioral Health Center (REBHC) opened a new Child and Adolescent Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU), to provide services to youth ages 14 and younger from any county in Georgia. The Crisis

Stabilization Unit is an emergency mental health resource, allowing clients and their families to receive prompt action, gentle response and effective support in a respectful environment. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, a multi-disciplinary team of Psychiatrists, Pharmacists, RNs, LPNs, social workers, and licensed mental health professionals and support staff provide assessment, evaluation, safety and stability. The Crisis Stabilization Unit provides a cost effective community alternative to hospitalization with a focus on retaining connections to family and community.

OPTIONS TOO, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY DAY SERVICES



So many families of and residential providers for clients with intellectual disabilities from south Bibb and Houston Counties desired day services from River Edge that we had need and opportunity to open an additional day services in Bibb this year. Called "Options Too" the new site provides socialization, exercise, recreation, community integration, and pre-employment opportunities for adults with intellectual disabilities.

We Make Life Better..

OUR FACILITIES

River Edge Behavioral Health Center Headquarters

175 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-751-4519

River Edge- Baldwin County

60 Highway 22 West
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
478-445-1290

River Edge- Monroe County

Project Connect Forsyth
168 Old Brent Road
Forsyth, Georgia 31029
478-994-7600

River Edge-Twigg County (Twigg County DFCS Building)

719-A Highway 80
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-2607

River Edge-Jones County
530 Settlement Point, Suite A
Gray, Georgia 31032
478-986-9016

The Recovery Center
Crisis Stabilization Units
3575 Fulton Mill Road
Macon, Georgia 31206
478-471-5396- Adult Unit
478-471-5393- Child Unit

Grove Park Village- River Edge

Residential Services
1505 Clinton Road
Macon, Georgia 31211
478-741-6009

The Prevention Resource Center

750 Baconsfield Drive, Suite 100
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-751-4506

Child and Adolescent Services

750 Baconsfield Drive, Suite 102
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-751-4430

Family Preservation Services

(Bibb County DFCS)
456 Oglethorpe Street
Macon, Georgia 31201
478-751-6560

Senior Services

750 Baconsfield Drive, Suite 101
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-752-1237

Project Connect-Macon

502 Oglethorpe Street
Macon, Georgia 31201
478-752-1139

Billingslea Recovery Residence

1243 First Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31204
478-471-2422

Options Too

139 Woodfield Drive
Macon, Georgia 31204
478-471-2314

Options West

595 Wimbish Road
Macon, Georgia 31210
478-757-3681

Forensic Social Services- Bibb County LEC

688 Oglethorpe Street
Macon, Georgia 31201
478-746-9441

How We Make Life Better ...

OUR SERVICES

Admissions and Crisis: Counselors are available for clients 5 years and older to conduct intake assessments and assist clients in planning their journey of recovery.

Adult Outpatient Services–Mental Health and Addictive Disease: Services include providing psychiatric assessments, medication management, nursing assessment, and awareness, education, and recovery groups for clients ages 18 to 60.

Community Support Services: Community and home based services secure resources and teach recovery skills and improve interaction within the community for adults, children, adolescents and their families.

Child, Adolescent and Family Services: Provides psychiatric assessment, medication management, nursing assessment, after school skills training, crisis management, group and family counseling to youth ages 3 to 17 and their families.

Senior Services Outpatient and Day Services: Provides recovery support and training for seniors age 60 and above with mental illness or co-occurring disorders.

Supported Employment: Helps clients with mental illnesses or co-occurring disorders find and keep competitive employment within their communities.

The Counseling Center: Provides crisis, individual, family, and group counseling to adults.

Developmental Services Division: Services include assessment, evaluation, outpatient, day, respite, and residential.

Adult Day Services: Adult psychosocial rehabilitation and peer support services.

Pharmacy Services: Dispense and monitor River Edge clients' medications.

River Edge Recovery Center: An emergency receiving and crisis stabilization facility with a 16 bed Adult unit and 28 bed Child and Adolescent unit.

Project Connect (located in Macon and Forsyth): Residential and/or outpatient services for pregnant women or women with children seeking recovery from alcohol or drug addiction.

The Prevention Resource Center: Provides resources library and educational classes to reduce risk and promote resilience among youth and communities to reduce tobacco, alcohol and drug use, juvenile delinquency, teen pregnancy, suicide, and/or violence.

We Made Life Better ...

BY THE NUMBERS

In Fiscal Year 2010 our funding sources were as follows:

<u>Our Funding Sources</u>	
County	2%
Medicare	6%
Medicaid	27%
Contract for Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities	55%
Other Contracts	8%
<u>Other Sources</u>	<u>2%</u>
Total	100%

Who We Served

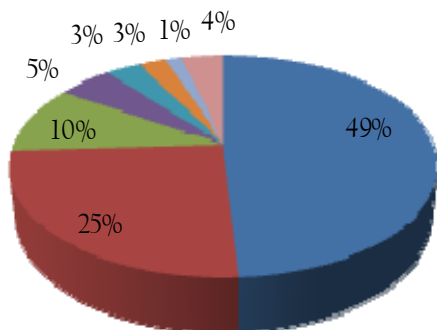
In Fiscal Year 2010, River Edge Behavioral Health Center served the citizens of Baldwin, Bibb, Jones, Monroe, Putnam, Twiggs, and Wilkinson counties.

State Contract/ Medicaid/ Third Party Payor:	8311
Bibb County Law Enforcement Center:	1962
Risk Reduction Programs:	450
<u>Family Preservation Services Unit:</u>	<u>283</u>

Grand Total: 11,006

Annual Household Income

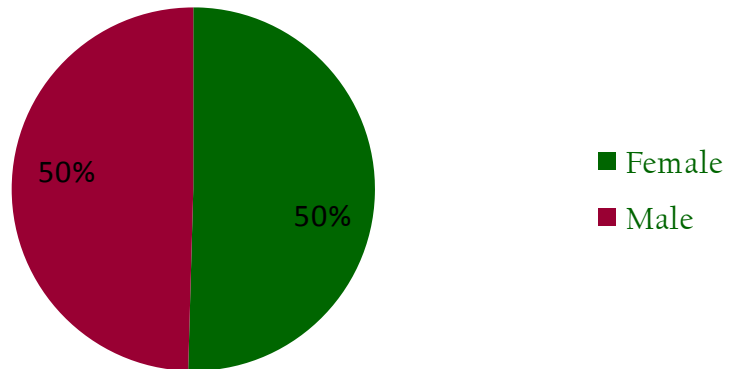
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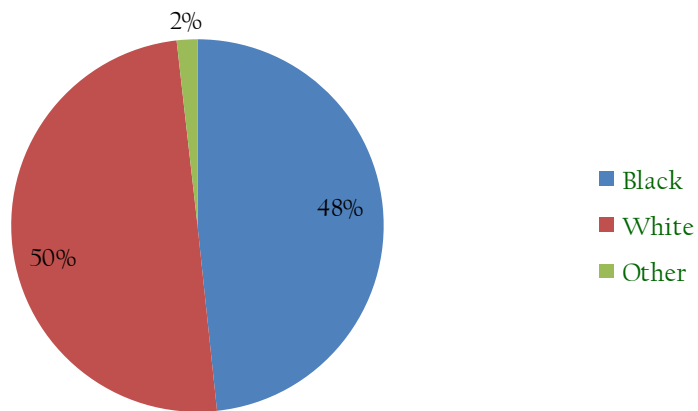
We Made Life Better ...

BY THE NUMBERS

Gender



Race

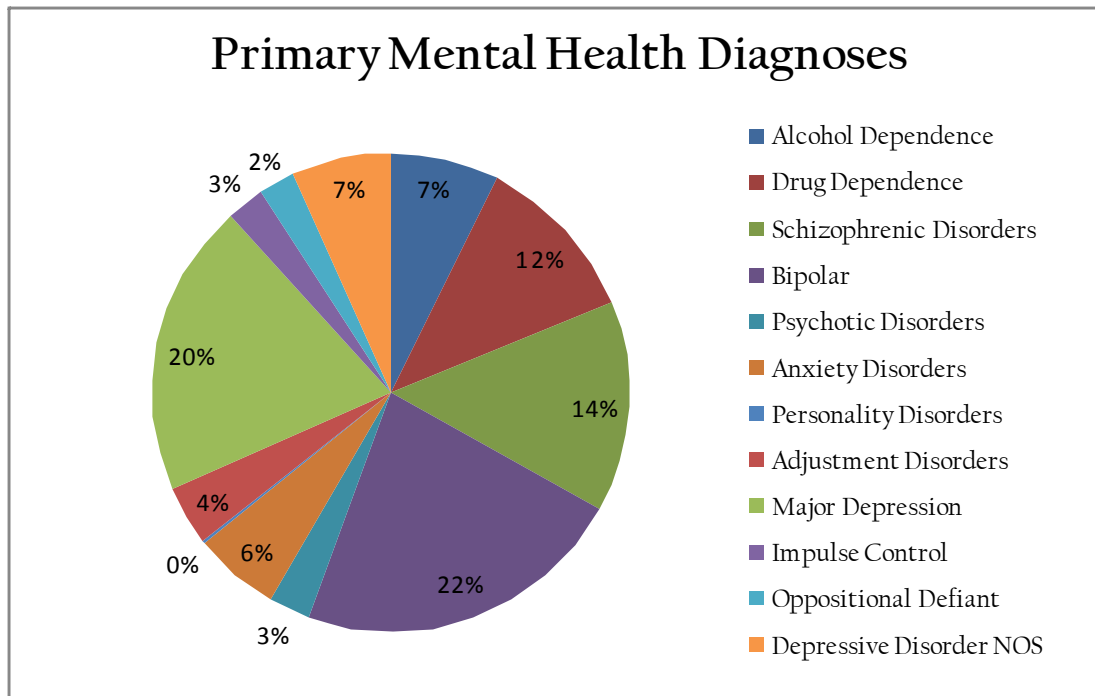
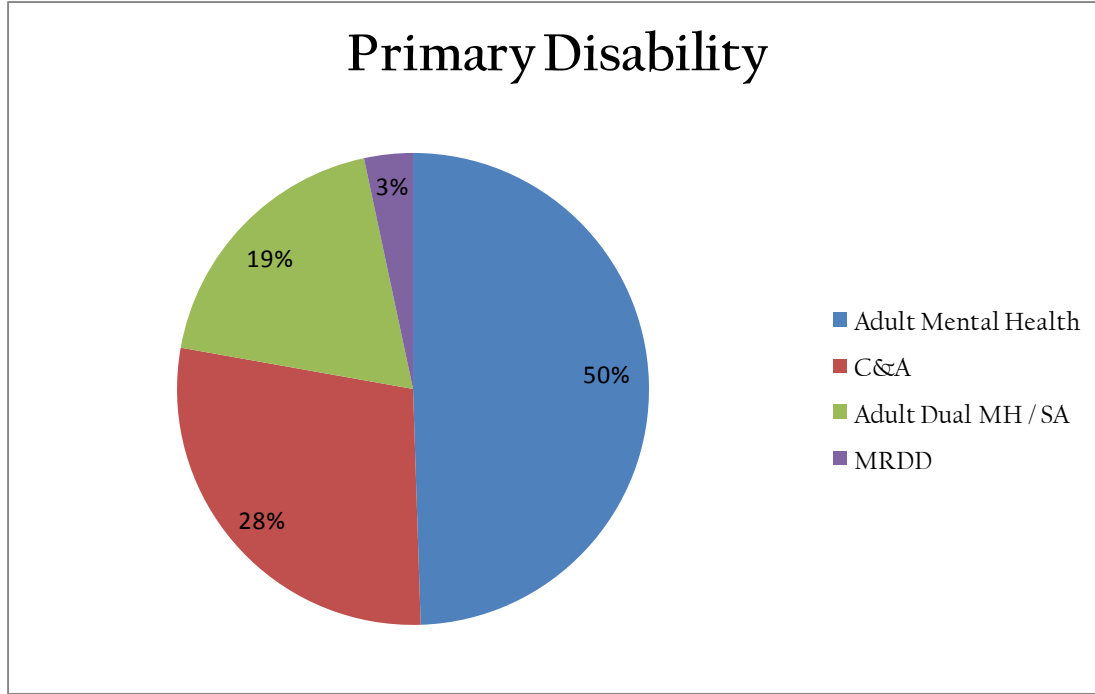


WE VALUE DIVERSITY AND RECOVERY

River Edge Behavioral Health Center (REBHC) recognizes the need for diversity in its leadership, management, service staff and community partners to be responsive to the needs of the people we serve. REBHC prides itself in not only hiring staff representative of served demographics, but also hiring persons who are in recovery from behavioral health disorders.

We Made Life Better

BY THE NUMBERS



How We Make Life Better ...

MORE OF THIS YEAR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS....

- ⌘ River Edge Behavioral Health Center reestablished the Local Interagency Planning Team for Bibb County.
- ⌘ The Child and Adolescent Drug Court run by River Edge had 12 graduates that successfully completed the program.
- ⌘ In partnership with Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc., Bibb Department of Family and Children Services and Macon-Bibb Workforce Development, River Edge completed an initial screening assessment on summer camp participants 5-17 years of age. Each week, camp participants also enjoyed conflict resolution groups.
- ⌘ River Edge secured five single family residences to serve clients with intellectual disabilities. Four will be handicapped accessible, making life better for the clients and the staff as the clients are moving from non-handicapped accessible apartments.
- ⌘ River Edge has decreased two weeks time between a client's initial admission assessment and their first consultation with a doctor.
- ⌘ River Edge opened 4 housing units that provide transitional, safe, drug free residences to TANF eligible women who either have an addiction diagnosis or women who are involved with Child Protective Services who have dependent children between the ages of birth and 18 years. We currently serve 4 ladies and their children.
- ⌘ In March 2010, River Edge joined with local community partners, including the Macon Housing Authority, to celebrate our 5-Year Partnership at Grove Park Village. Nineteen (19) clients who have resided at Grove Park its opening were presented with Certificates of Recognition for their hard work and commitment to staying the course of their recovery.
- ⌘ River Edge was awarded our first HUD Community Development Block Grant through the City of Macon in the amount of \$25,000 for Psychotropic Medications. We served fifty-five (55) eligible applicants during the year.
- ⌘ The River Edge portfolio of ninety four (94) Shelter Plus Care units expanded to Baldwin and Monroe counties. New construction of 9 duplexes for Permanent Supportive Housing began.
- ⌘ During Fiscal Year 2010, more than 200 new staff went through orientation and training. Over 150 internship participants were oriented. River Edge hosted an Ethics workshop with our local NASW organization to provide free CEU training to 90+ licensed clinicians from River Edge and across Georgia.

We Make Life Better for...

Our Interns/Employees...



The summer of 2010 started out as summers in the past for 18-year old single mother of one, Raquel. Part of the Georgia Teen-Work Program for the second summer in a row, she had worked for governmental agencies in the past. In the summer of Fiscal Year 2010, she was assigned to the newest department of River Edge, the Department of Policy and Development. Charged with organizing the department and its many grant files, Raquel sprang into action. Impressed with her work, the department's Director publicly, strongly praised Raquel's work. When a permanent position became available, Raquel was offered the job. Raquel is now part of the Family Preservation Center as their Department Assistant. This position has made it possible for her to take care of her son. Also, her employment triggered her receiving a new vehicle through another source. Raquel is also now a freshman at Macon State College majoring in Marketing.

Our Neighborhoods.....

We at River Edge celebrate one of the most exciting moments in our history of residential programs, which is the current construction of 18 one- and two bedroom apartments in East Macon made possible by the ARRA Neighborhood Stabilization funding. Once the units are completed in late 2010, they will be owned by River Edge's affiliate non-profit agency, The River Edge Foundation and will be named First Neighborhood. These 18 apartments will be a part of the Shelter Plus Care Program which is designed to provide housing and supportive services on a long term basis for homeless persons with disabilities and their families. Thanks to our partners Bruce Gerwig with In Fill Housing Inc.; The Georgia Department of Community Affairs; Jay Green, Developer; Contractor, ECI; Architect, Foley Designs; the City of Macon; the Macon-Bibb County Land Bank; Attorneys James, Pope & Spivey, LLC; and Banking Partner, Branch Bank and Trust.

We Make Life Better for....

OUR CLIENTS

☞ Last year, we had a new client come into residential services after living with family for 32 years and in a group home for 2 years. He had some significant behaviors for which he was to be dismissed from the group home. After a period of adjustment, he is well settled now and says “I love my new home. Thank you so much!” We listened to what he said – what he wanted. We did what we could to put that in place for him. He is happy!

-Doris Thompson, Director of Developmental Disabilities

☞ Medications have changed so many lives; the stories are too numerous to count. People who have never been able to work before are now receiving a paycheck. People who were afraid to go out in public can now do that. People who were suicidal can now live.

-Mark Perry, Director of Pharmacy Supervisor

☞ One man's journey of recovery from drug addiction takes him back to his childhood neighborhood. Bennie Colbert is one of 18 River Edge clients who will move into new homes this fall as the center builds residences for people recovering from mental illness and drug addiction.

He's especially excited that the new apartments will be built in his old neighborhood just off Emery Highway in Macon. Staff at River Edge say the 62 year-old's story has brought hope to others, that they too can go from active drug addicts to a stable home of their own.

"This is where I'm gonna be until I'm gone," said Colbert as he looks at homes on Bowman Street. Returning to his old home brings back memories of years of drug abuse, neglect, and an undiagnosed mental illness. The years weren't too kind to his old neighborhood either. Buildings, once well-kept by proud owners, were neglected, abandoned, crime-ridden. Then came the breaking point when Bennie knew things needed to change.

"It hit me when you lose a family from a break-up. It was hard not being around my children," said Colbert. River Edge is giving both him and his neighborhood a second chance with the construction of 18 new residential units in his neighborhood. Clients being treated for mental illness and drug addiction will have a place to call home. Bennie will be one of them.

Colbert said, "One thing I want to ask River Edge--can I have an open house party? One time in my life, I get a party for me!"

-Rachel Schaerr, 41 News Reporter*

☞ K.R. began services at the River Edge Baldwin Site in February 2009. At that time, he was unemployed and living in a local shelter. He came to River Edge after having a heart attack in 2005, a stroke and a suicide attempt in 2006. He previously ran his own businesses and had been employed in management positions. He sought treatment at River Edge for his alcoholism, depression, and anxiety. Eighteen months later, he has graduated from the Substance Abuse and aftercare programs, was the first Shelter Plus Care resident for the Baldwin Site, and was one of the first Baldwin clients to be placed in a job through Supported Employment. He has been sober for the past 22 months, and he is now actively managing his depression and anxiety.

-Jean Boone, Director of River Edge Baldwin County

*Schaerr, Rachel. "New Lease on Life." 41 WMGT, 2 February 2010.