



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2011

Forging the Future.....
Expanding our Reach.



RIVER EDGE
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER

We Make Life Better™

CONTENTS

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO	2
OUR MISSION	3
OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS	4
OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM	5
OUR CLINICS AND FACILITIES	6
OUR SERVICES	7
WE EXPANDED OUR WEBSITE	8
WE EXPANDED OUR REACH	9
WE DELIVERED COST SAVINGS	10
WE EXPANDED HOUSING	11
WE CREATED JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT	12
WE WERE FIRST IN THE STATE	13
WE TOUCH 80% OF GEORGIA	14
OUR NUMBERS FOR THE YEAR	15
MORE OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS	16
ONE OF OUR GREAT DONORS	17



Hello everyone –

During FY 11, our focus has been on 1) working ‘brighter and tighter’ – smarter and more efficiently; 2) expanding our known positive impact of evidence based, recovery promoting and community integrating practices and supports. Why? Treatment is effective, and recovery is to be expected. People with disabilities add value to community life.

Toward that end, highlights of the year include: implemented telemedicine and a voice over internet phone system, installed new and faster computer technology to support service delivery, added nearly 100 employees to support or

deliver new services, garnered new millions to construct new supportive housing, integrated supported employment clients in construction crews, developed award-winning residences for persons seeking recovery, broke ground to construct state-of-the-art facility for gender specific residential and outpatient treatment for women with children, implemented the first assertive community treatment team in the region to serve the most psychiatrically ill individuals, retained or gained funding when contracts were bid nationally. Our supported employment services have attracted new state, national and international attention for excellence. Through competitive bid, we are one of only two Georgia based companies selected to be part of the Georgia Crisis Response System for individuals with developmental disabilities, serving from Macon to Augusta.

In the coming year, we will continue to integrate new services and supports into the fabric of our communities’ lives. We will implement payroll and other efficiencies and continue our preparations for the expected change in service payment methodology in FY 13. The future is bright! Stay with us; you don’t want to miss it!

Thank you for your partnership. Together, we make life even better.

Shannon T. Harvey, LCSW

Chief Executive Officer

OUR MISSION...

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.*

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mr. Ray Bennett, Chair



Ms. Debra Toole Vinson, Vice Chair



Dr. Priscilla Doster, Secretary



Mr. Lonzy Edwards



Mr. Andrew Galloway



Ms. Mattie Middlebrooks



Ms. Oreatha Sewell



Ms. Myrtice Vinson



Mr. William E. Willingham, Jr.

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM



*Angela Hale, MD
Medical Director*



*Beth Tyler
Chief Financial Officer*



*Lisa Rudeseal
Chief Operating Officer*



*Ali Yallah
Chief Information Officer*



*Jan Yates
Chief Clinical Director*



*Anna Alexander
Director of Billing*



*Jean Boone
Director of Baldwin County*



*Barbara Chavous
Director of Strategic Projects*



*Michele Fulcher
Director of Nursing*



*Cathy Hackle
Director of Human Resources*



*Christy Hallman
Director of Adult
Outpatient Services*



*Melvin Harris
Director of Consumer
Relations*



*Cass Hatcher
Director of Housing*



*Nancy Haysman
Director of Developmental
Disabilities*



*Lesa Johnson
Director of Procurement*



*Brian Layman
Director of Pharmacy*



*Miranda Nunez
Director of Child
& Adolescent Services*



*Cynthia Patterson
Director of Supportive Housing*



*Mark Perry
Director of Pharmacy*



*Gary Stark
Director of Staff Development*



*Lynne Tollison
Director of
Risk Management*



*Kathleen Varda
Director of Policy
& Development*



*Vickie Welker
Director of Monroe
County*

OUR CLINICS AND FACILITIES

River Edge Behavioral Health
Center Headquarters
175 Emery Highway
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-803-7714

River Edge- Baldwin County
60 Highway 22 West
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
478-451-2770

River Edge- Monroe County
168 Old Brent Road
Forsyth, Georgia 31029
478-803-7859

River Edge-Twiggs County
(Twiggs County DFCS Building)
719-A Highway 80
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-803-8711

River Edge-Jones County
530 Settlement Point, Suite A
Gray, Georgia 31032
478-803-8701

The Recovery Center
Crisis Stabilization Units
3575 Fulton Mill Road
Macon, Georgia 31206
478-803-8625
478-803-8626

Grove Park Village
1505 Clinton Road
Macon, Georgia 31211
478-803-8705

The Prevention Resource Center
750 Baconsfield Drive, Suite 100
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-803-8411

Child and Adolescent Services
750 Baconsfield Drive, Suite 102
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-803-8401

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
478-803-8418

LifeSPRING
502 Oglethorpe Street
Macon, Georgia 31201
478-803-8727

Billingslea Recovery Residence
1243 First Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31204
478-471-2422

Options Too
139 Woodfield Drive
Macon, Georgia 31204
478-803-8714

Options West
595 Wimbish Road
Macon, Georgia 31210
478-803-8718

First Neighborhood
655 Bowman Street
Macon, Georgia 31217
478-803-8705

Forensic Social Services-Bibb County LEC
688 Oglethorpe Street
Macon, Georgia 31201
478-746-9441

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.

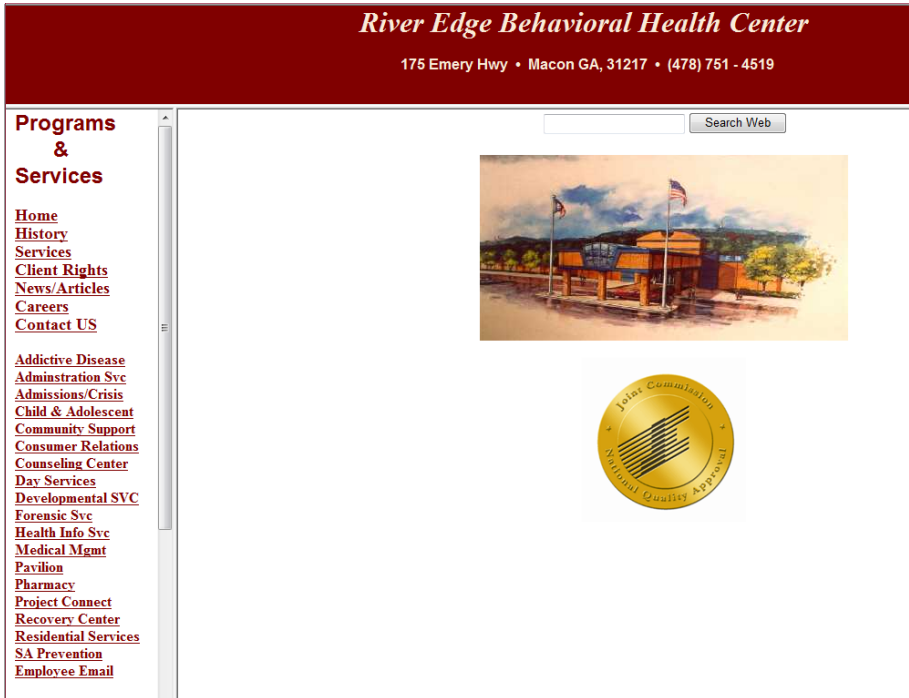
Pharmacy Services: Dispense and monitor River Edge clients' medications.

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

LifeSPRING (Life. Shelter. Purpose. Recovery. Including the Next Generation.) : Residential and/or outpatient services for pregnant women or women with children seeking recovery from alcohol or drug addiction located in Macon and Forsyth.

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 EXPANDED OUR WEBSITE..



*River Edge Website –Then
2009*

In January 2011, Rive Edge Behavioral Health Center launched its new and greatly improved website. Visit it soon to stay current with all of our expansions and improvements in behavioral health, developmental disability, and supportive services that we offer to Central Georgia.



*River Edge Website –Now!
2011*

WE EXPANDED OUR REACH..

INTRODUCING TELEMEDICINE

River Edge went live with a telemedicine system in November 2010. Telemedicine is a rapidly developing application of clinical medicine where medical information is transferred through interactive audiovisual media for the purpose of remote medical procedures or examinations.

The telemedicine system, which is hosted by River Edge IT Department, allows doctors, nurses and social workers to remotely consult regarding or provide diagnose and intervention services to clients through secured teleconferencing. With internet connection, clients can now be diagnosed by one of our doctors from practically anywhere using a laptop and a webcam.

Telemedicine can be extremely beneficial for people with transportation or distance challenges. Telemedicine is currently being applied in virtually all medical domains. The client benefits through reduced travel and wait times. Loss of staff delivery time due to staff travel to varying locations also helps River Edge be more efficient.

During Fiscal Year 2011, more than 300 service encounters were delivered via River Edge's new telemedicine capacity.!



WE DELIVERED COST SAVINGS..

In 2007, the Bibb County Mental Health Court (MHC) was created in order to serve the mentally ill population of the Bibb County Jail and divert them away from prison. Currently, the Bibb County Mental Health Court is serving 38 individuals who have a mental illness with or without a co-occurring substance abuse disorder.

Here are a few facts regarding the Bibb County Mental Health Court since inception:

- * **30** individuals have graduated from MHC since the court's inception. Prior to entering MHC the graduates had a lifetime total of 266 arrests, while in MHC had only 9 arrests.
- * When reviewing two years of arrests prior to them entering MHC, it was found that they spent 4036 days in Bibb LEC.
- * While in the MHC program, participants only spent 91 days in jails.
- * Since graduating from MHC, only 22 days in were spent by our participants.
- * In 2007, the Bibb County Mental Health Court (MHC) was created in order to serve the mentally ill population of the Bibb County Jail and divert them away from prison. Currently, the Bibb County Mental Health Court is serving 38 individuals who have a mental illness with or without a co-occurring substance abuse disorder.
- * Cost of being in jail is \$54.00 a day, so two years prior to MHC these individuals cost the county \$217,944.00
- * Since graduating from MHC these individuals have only cost the county \$ 1,188.00.

JUSTICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

M

H

C

BIBB COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH COURT

This means that with the help of River Edge Behavioral Health Center, the Bibb County Mental Health court has a cost savings of \$216,756.00!!

WE EXPANDED OUR HOUSING..



On November 17, 2010, The River Edge Foundation hosted an open house to introduce the new First Neighborhood development, a newly constructed 18- unit independent living apartment complex for persons in recovery from serious mental illness. First Neighborhood assists residents' community living through supportive services that promote increasing independence. Along with a brief press conference, tours of First Neighborhood were available.

Guests in attendance included representatives from funders Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the developers of the project, ECI Construction, and most importantly, new residents of First Neighborhood. The neighborhood is fully occupied!

Too, The Historic Macon Foundation recognized First Neighborhood's excellence of design and construction with a Historic Preservation award in April 2011!

WE CREATED JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT..



Supported Employment Works!

Supported employment programs afford those with addictive disease, severe mental illness, developmental disabilities, or other employment challenges the opportunity for employment in viable and valid work scenarios with supportive assistance on-site and as needed. These services are tailored to the individual strengths and needs of each person to facilitate learning and carrying out a chosen job. While the concept of supported employment has been in use for some years, recently it has received increased attention as an

integral component of programming to afford better access for those with disabilities to significant and comprehensive work venues.

Since October 2010, River Edge Supported Employment program has added more than \$51,600 per month the local economy. With more than a dozen employer partnerships, 106 clients of River Edge Behavioral Health Center have gainful employment in the Central Georgia area. River Edge is currently embarking on developing new employment ventures that would include food service, transportation, landscaping, laundry, office support and a car wash service.

A new study released showed the impact of Supported Employment through the United States. Supported employees return an average monthly net benefit to taxpayers of \$251 or an annual net benefit of \$3, 016.08. **That is a benefit-cost ratio of \$1.46 for every dollar spent!**

WE WERE FIRST IN THE STATE..

Baldwin Support Home – New Jobs & Opportunities

Home created to provide temporary support to adults with intellectual disabilities



River Edge Behavioral Health Center is honored to open Georgia's first support home for adults with mental retardation in Baldwin County. In response to a newly passed Georgia law effective July 1 which will make hospital services unavailable to provide

temporary intermediate care for adults with mental retardation in crisis, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities has contracted with River Edge to open the home.

“This new contract offers new jobs to Baldwin residents. It also makes available brief, additional, professional supports for up to 4 persons with intellectual disability who experience temporary life disruption.” said Shannon Harvey, Chief Executive Officer of River Edge Behavioral Health Center. “Research shows that home like settings improve outcomes.”

On Wednesday, June 1st at 9:50 pm, members from Georgia's inaugural crisis team received *the first call in the state* to the new service for a client located at the Screven County Hospital Emergency Room in Sylvania, Georgia. A male with moderate mental retardation had a behavioral outburst and been brought to the emergency room. Working through the night, the Mobile Crisis team along with our partner, Ogeechee Behavioral Health Center, worked to arrange appropriate supports for the individual. After a brief stay, he was able to return successfully to his home.

The Baldwin Support Home, situated in the center of more than 3 wooded acres of a pastoral cul de sac, will provide up to 7 days', safe, secure, peaceful, watchful oversight for up to four adults with mental retardation while new community supports in their home community are put into place or strengthened. The four bedroom home will have at least two staff per shift whenever there is a resident in occupancy offering a managed, safe, controlled environment. The credentials and training of staff will be adjusted to fit each individual's Person-Centered Plan and needs. Ms. Harvey stated, “It's a new day for persons with developmental disabilities in Georgia. Last year, this individual was hospitalized at a state hospital after a similar episode. The Settlement Agreement has made available new and more appropriate options. Last night, we continued the River Edge tradition of ‘We Make Life Better’™.

We are honored to have this new opportunity to make life better for both economic and service development in Baldwin County and our region.

OUR NUMBERS FOR THE YEAR

In Fiscal Year 2011, River Edge Behavioral Health Center served the citizens of Baldwin, Bibb, Jones, Putnam, Twiggs and Wilkinson counties. Here are the numbers.

<i>State Contract/Medicaid/ Third Party Payor:</i>	10,241
<i>Bibb County Law Enforcement Center:</i>	1,873
<i>Risk Reduction Programs:</i>	450
<i>Family Preservation Services Unit:</i>	162
<i>Emergency Room Services:</i>	<u>2,259</u>
Grand Total:	14,985

Gender Breakdown: 49% of our clients are male, 51% of our clients are female.

Race Breakdown: 48% of our clients are Black, 48% are White, and 4% are Other.

Average Household Income: \$14,864.00

By Primary Disability:

Alcohol Dependence	5%	Major Depression	20%
Adjustment Disorder	3%	Impulse Control	1%
Anxiety Disorder	1%	Personality Disorder	.25%
Bipolar	16%	Psychotic Disorder	1%
Depressive Disorder	3%	Schizoaffective Disorder	6%
Drug Dependence	12%	Schizophrenia	6%
Oppositional Defiant Disorder	1%		

Mental Health: 75%, Substance Abuse: 22%, Developmental Disabilities: 3%

We Value Diversity and Recovery

River Edge Behavioral Health Center 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.

MORE OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS..

-During the final quarter of 2010, our research project to evaluate antipsychotic medication effectiveness gathered momentum. River Edge leads the nation in number of enrollees.

-We expanded our adult crisis stabilization capacity to 28 beds to help relieve community pressure caused by the closure of Central State Hospital.

-We established an assertive community treatment team to serve the most psychiatrically ill individuals of Bibb and Baldwin Counties.

-In pursuit of our vision of integrated behavioral health and primary care, we entered a formal partnership with First Choice Primary Care , our local FQHC. We began provision of social work support at First Choice; they began primary care service delivery at our Jones DD site.

-We responded to the invitation to become the drug court provider in Baldwin superior court and to provide emergency room assistance in Oconee Regional Medical Center.

-Recently awarded new grants are enabling us to expand the mental health court in Bibb superior court and begin planning for a mental health court in Monroe County.

-We have ceased residential treatment options for women with children seeking recovery from addiction in a site that was too small for the numbers of women and children needing our assistance. We've moved to a larger, temporary site during construction of our new, state-of-the-art permanent site .

-We completed renovations, garnered licensure and await Medicaid approval of 3 homes purchased during 2010 to better serve adults with developmental disabilities.

-We also hosted visits from the Department of Justice and experts under contract with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration who were evaluating Georgia's service system. All visitors left expressing that they were 'thoroughly impressed' with our services.

ONE OF OUR GREAT DONORS...



Caring for Others, Inc. is a homelessness prevention organization established in November of 2001 to facilitate personal dignity and provide basic necessities to economically-disadvantaged individuals, senior citizens, the disabled, the unemployed, and families with children.

Eslene Richmond-Shockley, Founder and CEO of Caring for Others, Inc. is a great partner to River Edge! Most of the furnishings for our supportive housing units were made available through CareMart, a non-profit store created by Caring for Others, Inc. Every dollar spent in CareMart is used for food, rent and utilities assistance through Caring for Others, Inc. Caring for Others, Inc.– we appreciate you!

If you would like to join Caring for Others as a donor to River Edge Behavioral Health Center or The River Edge Foundation, please visit us on our website, www.river-edge.org ! You can also contact us by email at trussell@river-edge.org or by phone, 478-803-7752. We look forward to your in making life better for the citizens of Georgia!