



SMART Recovery[®]

Self-Management and Recovery Training

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Mark Ruth, Executive Director
440.477.8000 | mruth@smartrecovery.org

SMART Recovery Adds Local Professionals to National Office *Staff increases in response to nonprofit recovery group's growth*

(Mentor, OH, June 8, 2020)

Even before issues surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic impacted operations at the Mentor based nonprofit SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) Recovery USA, Executive Director Mark Ruth knew he needed more staff to support the organization's growth and service needs. SMART helps people overcome problematic addictive behavior through free in-person and online self-help meetings and COVID-19 further compounded his staffing needs due to significant media attention, the need to transition face to face meetings to online, creating an increase in online service demands. As a result, Ruth decided to mine local Northeast Ohio talent and successfully brought on three new employees, all with strong ties to Lake, Geauga, Ashtabula and surrounding counties. These additions bring their National Office staff to 17 full-time, part-time and support resources and professionals.

Besides strong local ties and a history of making a positive difference in the health of the region, SMART's new employees each bring specific skills to the organization's efforts to grow their already significant national impact in the field of recovery.

Ali Adinaro, now the Marketing & Fundraising Event Manager, is a graduate of the University of Dayton with a B.S. in Business Administration and is currently pursuing her MBA at Lake Erie College. She has experience managing multi-million dollar accounts for Polychem, as well as organizing and facilitating annual national sales meetings, tradeshows and events.

In addition to her extensive business and marketing skills, Adinaro is actively engaged in the community by serving on multiple boards, including Cleveland Foundation's Lake/Gauga Fund and Leadership Lake County. Previously, Adinaro's involvement

included Chair of Women United of United Way of Lake County and the Western Reserve Junior Service League. Her awards include the United Way of Lake County Outstanding Woman Leader of the Year and Mentor High School Distinguished Hall of Fame. Adinaro is thrilled to be a part of SMART and cites:

For over 25 years, SMART Recovery has helped millions worldwide in support of their addiction recovery. Their continued growth and new opportunity potentials are what drew me to the position. I'm excited to be part of the Mentor based team shaping the next 25 years.

Because training meeting facilitators and educating both the public and recovery professionals about all aspects of SMART Recovery is so important, Rae Grady has also been brought on as a Local Onsite Trainer.

Grady is a graduate of Marquette University and earned a Master's in Education at John Carroll. She has worked in Lake County since 1987, starting with a position at the Lake County General Health District. For more than 20 years Grady was part of executive management for Crossroads Lake County Adolescent Counseling Service while serving on state-wide committees and chairing numerous community coalitions and committees.

Most recently before joining SMART, Grady retired as Community Outreach Specialist for Lake County ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services) Board. She was actively involved in the Lake County Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Community Alliance of Law Enforcement and Mental Health Services. Grady says the appeal of working for SMART is very straightforward:

I am happy to be working for SMART because it is a world-wide organization based in science, helping thousands of people every day with addictive behaviors including family and friends support. Their core support programs and community are applicable across a wide-spectrum of addictive and problematic behaviors, regardless of age, race or gender.

Rounding out the trio of new staff is the multi-dimensional Molly Prinic, who will be part of the Administrative Team running the many facets of national operations at SMART.

Prinic graduated Magna Cum Laude from Lake Erie College after receiving numerous scholarships, awards, and other recognitions. She has experience in IT and in designing academic research projects—which will be a huge plus in a data-driven organization that has to manage large amounts of information.

At her previous position at Western Reserve Counseling Service, Prinic maintained client records, quality statistics, and had a large hand in communications with outside agencies, including law enforcement entities. Prinic looks forward to growing with SMART and says:

SMART Recovery creates support for people in communities all over the world which automatically makes the work feel important and exciting. I'm also looking forward to the variety of things I will be learning about how SMART Recovery operates.

For Executive Director Ruth, the addition of Ali Adinaro, Rae Grady, and Molly Princic fits with the mission and success of SMART Recovery itself:

With the opioid and alcohol abuse crisis compounding the already widespread scourge of addiction of all kinds, we decided to look for professionals to help us with marketing activities, fundraising events, training and administrative streamlining. We were very successful in finding three such skilled individuals right in our back yard.

###

SMART Recovery USA, Inc.® (Self-Management and Recovery Training) is a global, nonprofit organization that helps people overcome problematic addictive behavior through free in-person and online meetings. Participants use SMART to assume responsibility for their recovery using its 4-Point Program®. These foundational principles are: building and maintaining motivation; coping with urges; managing thoughts, feelings and behaviors; and living a balanced life.

Founded in 1994, the organization uses science-based techniques that have proven to be effective in helping individuals overcome addiction to drugs, alcohol, and harmful activities such as gambling. SMART has been endorsed by the leading government and medical authorities in Australia, the UK, and U.S. Learn more: www.smartrecovery.org.