

THE CAT'S MEOW



COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT & TREATMENT SERVICES

RECOVER. RECLAIM. REBUILD.

Celebrating 35 Years of Recovery!

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In 1990, CATS was founded by Roxanne Wallace and Dan Cratcha with an annual budget of \$60,000. Today, CATS employs over 130 individuals with a budget of over \$10 million. Over the past 35 years, Community Assessment & Treatment Services, Inc. has grown in an ever-changing & challenging environment. The following is a list of high points and advancements in the treatment and services provided by CATS:

Community Assessment Program was created as an alternative to Driving While Intoxicated sentencing.

1990



Founders Dan Cratcha and Roxanne Wallace

1991

CATS moved programming to Saint Alexis Hospital and began operating a detoxification unit.

1992

CATS opened outpatient services

1994

CATS received funding from the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Cuyahoga County and the federal government for the Target cities pilot project. This project funded 16 residential treatment beds to determine if residential treatment would reduce recidivism.

1995

CATS opened the Women's Residential Treatment Program at the Holy Name Parish Convent.

1996

CATS was designated as an outpatient provider for the Cleveland Municipal Drug Court.

1998

CATS opened a Therapeutic Community program for men.

1999

CATS received funding to provide a day treatment program (Changing Faces) at the Northeast Pre-Release Center for Women (now the Northeast Reintegration Center).

2000

CATS received federal funding for Pre-Trial and Probation Services. The "Second Chance" program was initiated.



With the closing of St. Michael's (formerly Saint Alexis) Hospital, CATS' moved its administrative offices and Men's Residential Treatment Services to 8415 Broadway Avenue.

CATS began a capital campaign for a new women's residential treatment facility.



CATS established the CATS Plus program and began a collaborative relationship with Mt. Pleasant Weed and Seed.

CATS' new women's center was completed; Clients were moved into the new Women's Residential Treatment, adjacent to CATS' original building.

CATS is accredited by CARF (Commission for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) allowing CATS to provide mental health services to dually diagnosed clients.



Ground Breaking Women's Center, 2003

2003

2004

The Challenge to Change program was funded by the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board (ADAMHS Board) of Cuyahoga County to help fill a gap in outpatient treatment services for men.

2006

2007

The Safe Net program was awarded funding to focus on pre- and post-release case management of men coming out of the prison system. CATS' Halfway House Initiative received funding from the Cuyahoga County Commissioners.

2008

2009

CATS was awarded a contract for Intensive Outpatient Services with Residential Support.

2010

2012

CATS kicks off a new Capital Campaign to help fund a 60-bed addition to the Men's Residential Treatment Unit.

2013





Staff vs. Clients Basketball Game, 2014



CATS Staff at the 2013 Slavic Village Development Corp Pierogi Dash

CATS opened the new 60-bed residential unit for dually diagnosed men (those suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues). CATS also signed agreements to provide treatments services to the Lorain County Probation Department and the Medina County Probation Department as CATS expands their reach outside of Cuyahoga County.

2014

CATS expanded our Women’s Residential Treatment Program from 54 beds to 60 beds. Our Outpatient Program was also expanded and moved to a new location at 5162 Broadway Ave., approximately 2 miles North of our main campus.

2015

CATS signed contracts to begin providing substance abuse treatment in the Lake Erie Correctional Institution in Ashtabula County.

2016



C-Building Near Completion in 2015



Judge Lauren Moore & Judge Ed Wade, 2015 CATS Health & Wellness Fair

2017

CATS’ new, 16-bed Men’s Residential Treatment Facility opens up at Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospital in Wadsworth (Medina County).

CATS’ Outpatient Program expands again with a second location at 8245 Broadway Ave., on the property of our main campus.

2018



Judge Joan Synenberg, Former Board Member Dick Clough, and Mr. Roger Synenberg, CATS 2016 Gala



CATS Holiday Party, 2018

2019

CATS launches a new Strategic Plan which includes plans to add new programming including Recovery Housing and Peer Support Services.

CATS is able to adjust to “the new normal” and begins providing outpatient services via Telehealth & virtual meetings while maintaining a clean, safe, secure Residential Treatment facility. We are one of the only residential facilities in Northeast Ohio that does not close down to new residential clients during the pandemic.

2020



2023

CATS Community House opens.

2024

2025

CATS celebrates 35 years!

\$35 FOR

35



To celebrate our anniversary and to keep helping individuals recover, reclaim, and rebuild their lives, we are asking our friends, families, and supporters to consider donating \$35 for 35 years. Scan the QR Code to donate today!



The 40th annual Tour of Good Cheer made its final stop at CATS this past December. Dick Clough and his team of volunteers came by the busload to deliver gifts to all of our clients, as well as spread holiday cheer!

CATS Client Christmas Party



The CATS Client Christmas Party had plenty of Holiday cheer! Clients met with their families and enjoyed refreshments, while their children enjoyed unwrapping toys and picking out books.

2024 Tour of Good Cheer

Working at CATS is not for everyone. It takes a level of dedication, empathy, and determination that most jobs do not require. Our staff are our strength. At our January staff meeting, CEO John Scalish asked everyone, “Why do you work at CATS? What drives you to show up every day to help complete strangers?” Staff were encouraged to email or anonymously write out their “why” and leave it in his office. Every newsletter, we will highlight a couple of their stories on why they choose to work at CATS. Here are the first installments.

“I’m working at CATs because I enjoy helping people struggling with addiction to show them by example that recovery is possible, I’m here to show compassion and empathy to the clients and that someone does care for them, but most of all to listen to their concerns their struggles and how I can help meet their needs. I’m a team player and I take pride in saying I work for CATs when asked, I’m here to be recognized as working at one of the leading organizations of community-based recovery centers in Cleveland, Ohio. This organization has helped me become a better person and has showed me loyalty many times so my mission is to return the favor by being the best version of a peer supporter I can be as a change-agent.”

“In 2011 my Uncle came into treatment at this facility. I was the one coming and dropping things off. One day Emmanuel, a former RA, was working in RA Central and asked me what type of work I’ve done, and if I would be interested in working here, but at the time I was still working with people with disabilities for the Cleveland Clinic. February 5, 2019, I came home from work and found my uncle. He had passed away from an overdose. In 2021, The Marshalls came and picked up my 16-year-old son on a murder case, and then we were in a pandemic. I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life because the most important people in my life were tragic. I was suffering through depression and one day I received a phone call from Stan, who asked me if I was still interested in becoming an RA/CMS. I had made a promise to myself that I wanted to make a difference and help save someone’s life because I know what it feels like losing a loved one who suffered with addiction, and a son who lost his childhood because of gang and gun violence.”

Why I Work

“I have seen what alcohol and drug addictions do to a family, and my family personally. I remember the phone calls, the tears, and the struggles my mom had to go through being married but raising 6 kids alone. As a kid getting phone calls from my dad for being on drugs, alcohol, and locked up and seeing my mom working 2 jobs and still coming home cooking, cleaning, washing clothes, and helping with homework, I admired her. But to hear the conversation with my parents I feel my way of giving back is to do what I can to help the client get back on track and making it as easy as possible for the client to where they would feel a little more at ease and making it through the program successfully.”

“After being in the Army for 17 years this job has kept me on my toes. My father was on drugs since I was 2 years old and it was hard for my mother, who was a Cleveland Police Officer. It was difficult for us growing up without a father, especially since I was the only son with 3 sisters who looked at me as their big brother and dad. It helps me relate to a lot of our clients and what they’re going through in their addiction. After I turned 37, my dad and I found each other again and has stepped up and been there for me and my sisters after my mom’s passing 5 years ago. Because of this, I have a mission to be here to help people and to show that they can beat this sickness.”

Why do I love working at CATS to help our clients? Simple, I was one of them. I never had the criminal record that many of our clients do, but I was lost in a bad place and needed help. I was fortunate enough to end up in a long-term treatment facility that could put up with me long enough to straighten me out. There were things that I hated about it though. The big thing that bothered me more than anything was feeling like I didn’t have a voice and that things weren’t equitable for everyone. That’s why I’m so passionate about client rights and equality here at CATS – I don’t want our clients to feel the things that I felt so frustrated with. I work at CATS because we do great things, and it’s a privilege I’m thankful for every day. If I can do all of that while helping maintain compliance and improve processes along the way, I’m a very happy man. I work at CATS because we do great things, and it’s a privilege I’m thankful for every day.

SAVE THE DATE



**Registration
begins in April:**

Registration Link:



**Friday, July
25th, 2025**

**Bob-O-Link Golf
Course**

4141 Center Rd. (Rt. 83), Avon
OH 44011