

Options

NEWSLETTER

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION



10th Anniversary Gala



15th Anniversary Gala



20th Anniversary Gala



Options' 25th Anniversary Set for September 17th, 2022

Options' 25th Anniversary is Gala set for September 17th, 2022 from 5 pm - 9 pm. Features will include a reception with live music, dinner, live presentations of awards and recognition for outstanding contributions for social justice and recovery, a video presentation on Options' history, live broadcast of the program, and a live and silent auction.



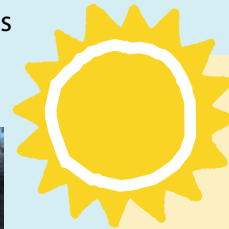
Susan Bookman, shown here with her husband Walt Koerber, was honored by the Options Board of Directors in February 2022 for her 25 years of service to Options. She is chairing our 25th Anniversary Gala planning committee, and she invites you to join with her in planning this event by volunteering your support. (See back page of this newsletter for information on how to participate.) And please mark your calendars, subscribe to our email list for updates and join us as we celebrate in person, or watch live on Options' website or Facebook.

Letter from Options' Board President

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2022—and the opening of our celebration of 25 years of providing recovery services. Options was founded in 1997 with the mission of breaking the cycle of addiction that causes crime, homelessness and broken families. This newsletter focuses on Options' 25-year history of support for recovery and social justice. A few of the members of Options' Board of Directors and Senior Staff are highlighted for their roles as champions in this cause, starting with Options' Founder Dr. Davida Coady. Dr. Coady established the vision of Options as a tireless advocate. She led Options as Executive Director and then Medical Director for 21 years until her death in 2018, always advancing the cause of recovery and treatment on demand. I am honored to be included on this list, coming on to the Options' Board of Directors in 2013 as an advocate for criminal legal reform. The board members and senior staff presented here are just a few of the many, many Options clients, staff, board members and supporters who have forwarded the cause of helping people recover from addiction, live crime-free and drug/alcohol-free, and make significant contributions to their families and their communities. Options has been a true champion for recovery and social justice. The people highlighted here and everyone in the family of Options truly are a cause for celebration. As announced on the front page of this newsletter, we are planning our Gala celebration for September 17, 2022. I hope you can join us, celebrate with us our 25 years of remarkable achievement, and help us move forward in promoting recovery and justice for all.

— Susan Champion

*President of the Options Recovery Services Board
Attorney, Stanford Law School*



*Options has been
a true champion
for recovery
and social justice.*

Some of Options' Outstanding Champions for Recovery and Social Justice



Founder **Dr. Davida Coady** established the vision of Options Recovery Services as a champion for social justice and recovery with the mission of breaking the cycle of addiction that causes crime, homelessness and broken families. She led Options as Executive Director and then Medical Director for 21 years until her death in 2018, always championing the cause of recovery and treatment on demand. Dr. Coady established Berkeley's first Drug Diversion program and gained the support of the Berkeley Police Department. Defendants charged with drug offenses were referred to treatment programs and monitored. If successful, defendants had their charges dismissed.

In 1997 Dr. Coady, with the support of the Berkeley Judges and the guidance of **Susan Bookman** (Director of Pretrial Services at that time), she spent hours in the criminal arraignment courts interviewing defendants with drug problems and making recommendations to the judges for treatment. After realizing the treatment programs were scarce and very often full, she established an outpatient treatment group meeting daily at the Multi Agency Service Center in the Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Berkeley. This group became Options Recovery Services.

Some of Options' Outstanding Champions cont.



Thomas Gorham, as Options' Clinical Director, initiated Options' Offender

Mentor Certification Program (OMCP) in 2009 under contract with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. In its first year the program trained more than 100 inmates to become certified addiction counselors within the prison system. The program continues to this day and is now operating in six prisons statewide and has graduated over 500 certified substance abuse counselors who are working in the prisons. After release many went on to become counselors at Options and other treatment programs in the State. Tom became the Executive Director at Options in 2015. He initiated and oversaw Reception Center Programs that introduced treatment alternatives to recently admitted inmates into the prisons. Tom has now retired as Executive Director and serves as a consultant to Options' criminal justice programs.



After successfully monitoring offenders referred for treatment by the courts, Options Recovery Services

Dianna Beamon

in 2006 as the Criminal Justice Coordinator to oversee contracts for treatment with the Alameda County Probation Department, the California Department of Corrections' Parole Division, the Alameda County Superior Court Collaborative Drug Courts, BASN-Bay Area Service Network, and SASCA- Substance Abuse Services Coordinating Agency.



Vandrick Towns came to Options as a counselor in 2013, as one of the first OMCP graduates, and now serves as Program Manager

overseeing all of Options counseling services. Over the years Options has hired 12 recently released graduates of the OMCP program.



Kim Chavez, as Options Program Manager for Children and Family Services, has overseen Options' programs for

Alameda County Department of Children and Family Services and for the U S Probation Department since 2009. The programs place parents/ caretakers into substance use treatment at Options with the hope of reuniting them with their children after completion of the Options' Intensive Outpatient program.



Sol Irving was a correctional counselor at the Solano State Prison in 2009 and was invaluable in providing

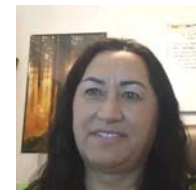
consultation and leadership for implementing OMCP and the CDCR Reception Center Program in 2017. The first cohort of OMCP is known as the "first fifty." After retiring in 2013, Sol joined the Options Board of Directors. He continues to advise the Options Board of criminal justice matters.

Susan Champion is the Deputy Director of the Stanford University Law School's Three Strikes Project. Their staff represents inmates in state and federal courts who have been incarcerated under California's archaic Three Strikes law. These inmates were often sentenced to life in prison for minor crimes. Susan joined the Options Board of Directors in 2013 and now serves as Co-President of Board providing leadership in working for social justice and recovery.



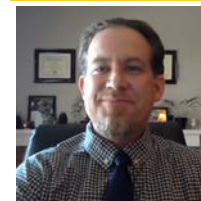
Diana Westin joined Options in 2019 and serves as Options' Director of Criminal Justice Contracts, overseeing expansion of OMCP into six prisons across

California. She helped with developing and implementing Options' program at the Alameda County Jail.



Kathy Narasaki served as Program Director of the CDCR Reception Center program from 2018 through 2020, and

now serves as Options Director of Criminal Justice Contracts overseeing the Alameda County Jail (Santa Rita) in-custody program and implementing Options' new reentry programs.



Justin Phillips, as Options Chief Operations Officer, implement Options' in-custody program at Santa Rita Jail in

2019. In 2021, Justin was appointed Options' Executive Director. He is overseeing the expansion of OMCP into six prisons statewide and is initiating a reentry program with sober living housing for former inmates returning to Alameda County.





You are invited to join the celebration of sobriety and self-renewal with Option's Graduates, Family, Friends, and Staff.

SPRING GRADUATION

Friday, March 11th, 2022
4:30 PM

We will broadcast on Facebook Live and on our website.

For more information on how to sponsor a graduation or special event, please contact Porter Sexton, our Development Director, at psexton@optionsrecovery.org



Voices of Recovery: December 2021



At Options, we celebrate recovery. Every day, every month and every year is a milestone. These recent graduates continue to be examples that the cycle of addiction can be broken.

"I could say that I'm ready and I want to stay the way I am right now – stay sober."

- Lino Z..

"My life was broken and only getting worse until Options."

- Evelyn P.

"The things I learned from the sessions at Options opened my mind while it opened a whole new world."

- Charles S.

"I realized that addiction wasn't the problem. It was all of the stuff that I was escaping with my addiction that was the problem."

- Maryah C.

Please consider supporting Options:

Consider being one of the sponsors for our 25th Gala!

Contact Porter Sexton, Development Director 408-393-0089 or email psexton@optionsrecovery.org. Please contact Porter if you'd like to serve on the Gala Committee as well.

Sponsor a graduation ceremony

A great way to promote your church, business or community organization. Porter Sexton, Development Director, 510-666-9552 X129 or email psexton@optionsrecovery.org.

Donate gently used furnishings, appliances, & housing items

Bring items to Options' Allston Way office on Friday afternoon or contact Pam Thomas, Housing Director, 510-666-9552 x 123 or email pthomas@optionsrecovery.org.

Volunteer your time

Help with our office support, development, and/or facility maintenance and improvement. Contact Diana Beamon, Administration, 510-666-9552 x 119 or email dbeamon@optionsrecovery.org.

Contract for drug testing services

Ensure your workplace or activity is drug-free by calling Kim Chavez, Lab Supervisor, 510-519-6880 or email kchavez@optionsrecovery.org.

Write a check or donate on-line

Send a check to Options Recovery Services, donate on-line at www.optionsrecovery.org. For questions, contact Porter Sexton, Development Director 408-393-0089 or email psexton@optionsrecovery.org.

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