



Pacifica Pulse

The newsletter of Pacifica Treatment Centre

Spring 2017

New Partnership with Lookout Emergency Aid Society

Partnerships are key to organizations strengthening their work and to providing additional opportunities to clients. In recognition of this, Pacifica is creating strategic alliances with other non-profit groups in order to provide a continuum of care. The first of these partnerships is with Lookout Emergency Aid Society. Lookout provides housing and a range of support services to adults with low or no income who have few, if any, housing or support options.

"This partnership will benefit both Pacifica's and Lookout's clients," said Pacifica CEO Alison Silgardo. "Our clients can be referred to housing in Lookout's two abstinence-based transitional housing buildings—one in North Vancouver and another in Surrey. This is important for suitable clients who do not have a safe housing option to return to following their stay at the treatment centre. For clients who have to withdraw from our program and have no place to go, we can ask Lookout to try to find a place in one of their shelters. These are the missing links in our continuum of care."

Meanwhile, Lookout clients with addictions who are committed to recovery can be referred directly to Pacifica for treatment. They can participate in the 12-week recovery program without fear of losing their home in one of Lookout's sites.

"Our agreement with Pacifica fills a void in treatment options for our clients who are trying to leave their addictions behind them," said Lookout's Executive Director Shayne Williams. "Lookout offers a lot of support along the housing and health spectrum, but we can't do everything. By partnering with Pacifica, we are aligning ourselves with a leader in the field of addiction treatment and streamlining our clients' access to that treatment."

Both Pacifica and Lookout understand the importance of partnerships in today's world and see working with likeminded organizations as a wonderful way to achieve common goals.

The memorandum of understanding between Pacifica and Lookout also calls for job readiness training and opportunities to apply for job openings and to train and create opportunities for meaningful work for people in the region.

"This is a big start," commented Alison. "Keeping people safe and integrating a continuum of housing as well as social enterprises can provide important outcomes for our clients."



Shayne Williams and Alison Silgardo.