



Dr. Thomas Hall House Dedication Ceremony



Dr. Thomas Hall is a Vietnam veteran who has provided clinical support including local and national advocacy for those in recovery throughout his adult life. He has shared nationally about his personal battles with PTSD and the power of behavioral health services in helping

veterans come all the way home after wartime service.

For over 29 years, Dr. Hall taught addiction counseling classes at Kansas City Kansas Community College, helping decades of mental health professionals learn how to treat clients living with substance use disorder without bias, with a focus on treating the whole person, versus treating someone as just a diagnosis. He also teaches using plain language to talk about mental health. His work started with veteran rap groups in the 70's, now known as PTSD, has helped service members, veterans, and their families deal with the invisible wounds of war.

In 1999, he was selected as the head of the Addiction Counseling program and remained so until retiring in 2016. Dr. Hall is the former Executive Director of the Community Back Anti-Drug Tax (COMBAT) Commission for Jackson County and the former President of the Benilde Hall Board of Directors. Dr. Hall currently sits as National Chair of the Vietnam Veterans of America PTSD/Substance Abuse Committee where he continues to help normalize speaking about mental health and destigmatizes seeking help and has testified before Congress about the need for more easily accessible mental health services.

Dr. Hall is a proud father and grandfather. He survives the death of his devoted wife, Mary, and has continued his work to destigmatize talking about emotional pain and, as the Vietnam Veteran generation ages, is working to ensure the VA and other healthcare providers are prepared to help these veterans deal with the grief and loss that occurs in higher frequency as we age.

It is a great honor for Benilde Hall to be able to name a house after Dr. Thomas Hall. He has significantly contributed to the substance use

disorder recovery and mental health communities in Kansas City and across the country. As a demonstration of veterans' success, Dr. Hall is one of the best in the country. Through his actions, Dr. Hall demonstrates how to lead a purpose-driven life after returning from combat to the civilian world.

Thank you to everyone who attended! To watch the Dedication Ceremony livestream, click [here](#).



Benilde Hall Updates



Float Trip at the Elk River

Benilde Hall staff and clients went to the Elk River for food, fellowship, and floating. Thank you to the Benilde Hall staff and congregation of **Splitlog Baptist Church** who made this trip possible!



Volunteers at Benilde Hall

Volunteers from First Lutheran Church – Janesville, WI, Our Savior's Lutheran

Church – Beloit, WI, and First Lutheran Church – Kearney, NE cleaned up trash in and around our property at the end of July. Thank you for your hard work! We are grateful to **YouthWorks** for helping to bring volunteers out to our site.



4th of July Celebration

The staff of Benilde Hall participated in Red, White, and Blue Day to celebrate the 4th of July weekend.



Onto a New Chapter

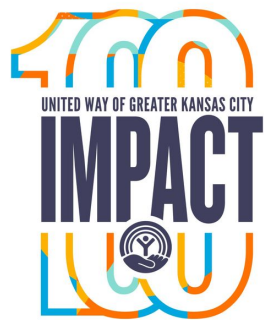
Congratulations to Corey and Mallori for finishing their internships at Benilde Hall in July!



Fun in Recovery

Benilde Hall hosts a Fun in Recovery group for our clients every Friday, where clients participate in different activities around the KC metro area.

July's activities included bowling, geocaching, softball, and visiting the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art.



Benilde Hall Named an Impact 100 Organization

We are proud to be named an inaugural **United Way Impact 100** organization. This year, United Way launched the Impact 100 to provide unrestricted funding to the 100 organizations they believe are addressing the most vital health and human service needs in our community. This funding will help Benilde Hall continue to provide services for treating substance use, mental health, and homelessness. Thank you, **United Way of Greater Kansas City!**

Benilde Hall Bears Went 12-0

Benilde Hall had the opportunity this summer to sponsor a boy's baseball team; the Benilde Hall Bears.

The Bears were undefeated this season. We are very blessed to be able to sponsor these young men.



Morale Committee Raises Money Through T-Shirt Sales

Benilde Hall's Morale Committee celebrates staff birthdays, sobriety birthdays, and work anniversaries, and organizes team-building events to show staff how much they are appreciated. Benilde Hall actively employs clients and graduates of the Benilde Hall program.

Benilde Hall hosted a T-shirt Campaign through **Bonfire**, which generated \$145 for the Morale Committee.

Thank you to everyone who bought a shirt or helped spread the word about this campaign!

Stories of Recovery



Jenna's Testimony


Our Mental Health Coordinator, Jenna Strickland, recently shared her testimony at The Church of the Resurrection. [Click here](#) to watch.

SHOW ME RECOVERY

Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers
Missouri's Recovery Lifeline

Kenneth

in recovery since 2/12/2001



~ Kenneth "Ken" Vick grew up in Phoenix, Arizona. He experienced a difficult childhood and began using substances at a young age. Ken dropped out of school during his freshman year of high school and started getting in trouble with the law. "I had my first felony at the age of 18," Ken says. When describing his young adulthood, he says he lived "the street life" for 20 years until he went to federal prison in 2001. February 12th, 2001, is an important day for him. He says February 12th, 2001 is "the day I walked into prison, and last day I used drugs." During his time in federal prison, he went through R-DAP (Residential Drug Abuse Program). Through R-DAP, Ken was able to learn about criminal thinking and behavior. This program significantly helped Ken in his recovery journey and made him realize he wanted to work in the field of recovery.

~ When Ken was released from prison, he began studying Addiction Counseling at Metropolitan Community College (MCC) while working full-time as a carpenter. During his time at MCC, he became a practicum student at Benilde Hall. Former Executive Director, Kent Jewell, offered him a job at Benilde Hall as a counselor-in-training. Ken was promoted to Senior Counselor at Benilde Hall in 2012 and worked as a Senior Counselor until 2014. In 2015, Ken started a new job at Dismas House of Kansas City, where he was the Director of Treatment Services from 2015-2016. He started working at Comprehensive Mental Health Services Inc. in 2016 as a Clinical Supervisor and then became the Program Manager at Recovery KC in 2018. In November 2019, Ken came back to Benilde Hall to serve as the Executive Director. While working full-time, he graduated from Thomas Edison State University in 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.

~ In the present day, Ken continues to serve as the Executive Director of Benilde Hall. He is working towards his Master's degree in Organizational Leadership-Ethics Concentration from Claremont Lincoln University. Ken is the Secretary and North West Representative on the Missouri Credentialing Board and serves as the Vice-Chair on the Kansas City Recovery Coalition Board. He is a Certified Peer Specialist (CPS), Certified Reciprocal Alcohol & Drug Counselor (CRADC), Certified Reciprocal Peer Recovery (CRPR), Medication Assisted Recovery Specialist (MARS), Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist (CTTS), and a SMART Recovery Facilitator.

~ For those in recovery, Ken says it is important to "change everything" and to "find the right people." "Keep growing," he says. "Keep trying to learn." He trusts in the importance of self-improvement and education. Ken believes that "recovery is possible" for everyone. He is a motorcycle enthusiast and is a past board member for Optimists International-Kruzers of Jackson County, a nonprofit organization that conducts service projects for young people in the Jackson County community. He can also be found playing guitar in his spare time. Ken is active in his church and believes that "spirituality and recovery fit together." He will be celebrating 20 years of sobriety on February 12th, 2021.

Benilde Hall's Executive Director, Ken Vick, shared his story through the Show Me Recovery series hosted by the Missouri Coalition of Recovery Support Providers. To read more Show Me Recovery testimonies, [click here](#).



Success Stories

Stories of Recovery From Former Clients & Staff

To read additional stories of experience, strength, and hope from former Benilde Hall clients and staff, [click here](#).

Community Events

Enjoy Free Activities for kids, Free School Supplies, Free Food, Door Prizes, and so much more!
 JOIN EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS &
 WASHINGTON WHEATLEY FOR A

COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR/ BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022
10:00AM - 1:00PM

COME FOR FREE INFORMATION AND
 RESOURCES FROM LOCAL COMMUNITY
 PARTNERS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

PEACE BAPTIST CHURCH
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KCMO 64127

THE KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**The Bookmobile is coming
 to your location!**

Benilde Hall

June 13, 27; July 11, 25;
 August 8, 22

10:00-11:00 AM

For more information:
bookmobile@kclibrary.org |
 816.701.3422

When the Bookmobile visits, you can:

- Sign up for a Library Card
- Check out books and movies for all ages
- Request and pick up holds
- Return items from any KCPL branch
- Use free wifi
- Printing available
- Notary services available by appointment
- Missouri voter registration assistance

Please join us for MACIT's Annual

CIT Picnic

Time: 11:00-2:00

Sept 30, 2022

Location:
Hill Park
Independence, MO

MACIT is pleased to announce the return of the Annual CIT Picnic!

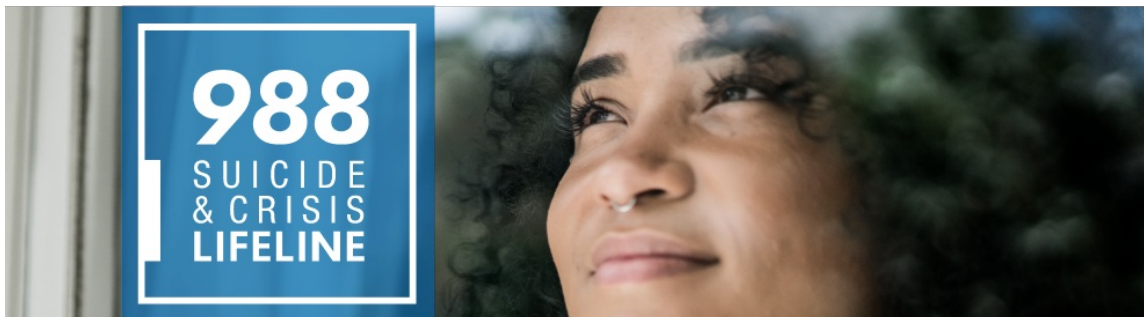
Join us for an afternoon of food, fun, and games!

*Bring chairs or blankets if you have them as seating is limited.

RSVP: PO Teurika Humphrey
Teurika.humphrey@kcpd.org
 816-914-5532

Meet Hannah Bradley: Program Manager at Benilde Hall

Hello,
My name is Hannah Bradley. I am originally from Georgia where I completed my undergraduate studies in psychology at the University of Georgia in 2011. I moved to Kansas City in 2013 where I attended Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and completed my Master of Arts in Counseling in May 2017. I am a licensed professional counselor (LPC) in Missouri and have worked in the SUD and mental health field for the last 5 and a half years. I specialize in SUD and trauma work and like to utilize DBT and EMDR in my practice. While my Georgia roots are strong, I have loved becoming a part of Kansas City and building a life here. I am excited to be a part of the team here at Benilde and to continue Benilde's outreach and impact on the community.



988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

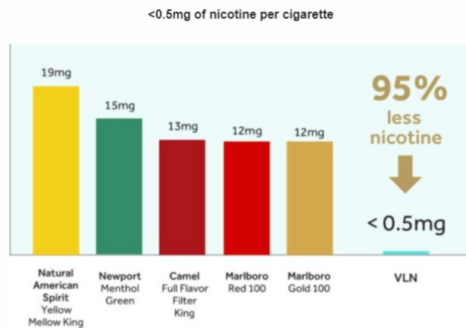
The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers 24/7 access to trained counselors who can help people experiencing mental health-related distress. And there is tremendous need, given:

- In 2020, the U.S. had one death by suicide every 11 minutes.
- For people ages 10–34, suicide is a leading cause of death.
- From April 2020 through April 2021, over 100,000 people died from drug overdoses.

Behind each of these data points, there are people, families and communities who

have been impacted. Yet, in the face of these urgent realities, there is hope. The 988 Lifeline helps thousands of struggling people overcome suicidal crisis or mental-health related distress every day.

People can call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support. 988 serves as a universal entry point so that no matter where you live in the United States, you can reach a trained crisis counselor who can help.



*Source: 22nd Century Group's MRTP Application to the FDA

Tobacco Cessation: Are Very Low Nicotine Content (VLNC) Cigarettes Effective?

The company 22nd Century Group has created a cigarette with 95% less nicotine than traditional cigarettes.

There is a debate over whether VLNC cigarettes are an effective tobacco cessation tool. While a recent study showed that VLNC cigarettes helped individuals cut down on smoking, there are still health risks to using any combustible tobacco product.

To learn more, click [here](#) and [here](#).

How to Help Benilde Hall

We are grateful to everyone who supports our cause. It is our mission to provide services to treat substance use, mental health, and homelessness, so individuals may return to the community as responsible, employed, and permanently housed contributing members of society. With your help, we can help our clients build a better future.



Shop Our Wishlist

To ship items directly to Benilde Hall, please consider shopping from our Amazon Wishlist.

Shop Benilde Hall's
Amazon Wishlist



Donate to Benilde Hall

Benilde Hall is able to accept monetary donations via PayPal.

We are thankful for your contribution to our cause.

Donate to Benilde Hall



Choose Benilde Hall on Amazon Smile

Did you know you can donate to Benilde Hall while you shop on Amazon?

You can earn money for Benilde Hall when you purchase eligible Amazon Smile items.

Giving has never been easier!



Hire Benilde Services

Benilde Services is a compensated work program for Benilde Hall clients.

Consider hiring Benilde Services for your lawn care needs.

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