

Independent Perspective #1877
Renewal Center with Renee Law

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

00:00:06 Speaker 1

Our guest today is Renee Law, Mental Health Peer Connection Program Manager for the Renewal Center, along with special guest consumer, Zoraida Vanilla.

00:00:19 Speaker 1

And I'm Ernie Churchwell, your host.

00:00:23 Speaker 1

First,

00:00:25 Speaker 1

Renee, I imagine that there's a lot of people listening that are not familiar with the Renewal Center.

00:00:31 Speaker 1

Can you tell us what its purpose is?

00:00:34 Speaker 1

Whom does it serve?

00:00:37 Speaker 2

The Renewal Center is a CPEP diversion program.

00:00:41 Speaker 2

It is a beautiful living room model for people to walk in.

00:00:47 Speaker 2

It's open daily, no appointments are necessary, and all of our services are free of charge.

00:00:55 Speaker 1

So, I guess the living room model is designed, I presume, to make people feel at ease where that might ordinarily see a hospital or an emergency room as a clinical setting and one that would be discouraging from their relaxing.

00:01:13 Speaker 2

Yes.

00:01:13 Speaker 2

So actually, this is a choice.

00:01:15 Speaker 2

People have a choice of whether they want to go to the hospital or if they want to come to a

00:01:22 Speaker 2

a diversion services to help keep them out of the hospital.

00:01:27 Speaker 1

And can you tell us where it's located, its address and the name that's on the outside of the building?

00:01:34 Speaker 2

We are in the Kirsten Vincent Respite and Recovery Center located at 111 Maple Street, Buffalo, New York, 14204.

00:01:46 Speaker 2

We are not the Maple Street in Amherst.

00:01:51 Speaker 2

There is another Maple Street in Amherst and people do get us confused.

00:01:56 Speaker 2

We are not that.

00:01:57 Speaker 2

We are downtown Buffalo in the Fruit Belt.

00:02:01 Speaker 1

I'm glad you clarified that.

00:02:03 Speaker 1

And you share the Kristen Vincent Center with a couple of other agencies.

00:02:08 Speaker 1

Can you tell us who those are?

00:02:10 Speaker 2

Yes, we partner with Recovery Options Made Easy and Spectrum Health Services.

00:02:17 Speaker 1

All right, you've already said there's no charge for the services.

00:02:21 Speaker 1

Does one should one pre-register before going in?

00:02:25 Speaker 1

Or can you just walk in the door?

00:02:27 Speaker 2

There is no pre-registration.

00:02:30 Speaker 2

People can come and go as they please.

00:02:33 Speaker 2

Like this is a walk in service.

00:02:35 Speaker 2

You don't have to make any appointments.

00:02:38 Speaker 2

Nothing is if you need us, you can come anytime.

00:02:43 Speaker 1

You've recently expanded the

00:02:45 Speaker 1

hours there.

00:02:45 Speaker 1

What are the new hours?

00:02:48 Speaker 2

Effective Saturday, November 1st, our hours of operation will change to 1 p.m.

00:02:55 Speaker 2

to 9 p.m.

00:02:56 Speaker 2

and these new hours will replace the previous 12 p.m.

00:03:01 Speaker 2

to 12 a.m.

00:03:02 Speaker 2

schedule.

00:03:03 Speaker 2

This adjustment allows us to focus on providing the high-quality services during our peak hours, peak times, which is

00:03:13 Speaker 2

1 p.m.

00:03:13 Speaker 2

to 930 p.m.

00:03:15 Speaker 1

All right.

00:03:16 Speaker 1

Before we use up all the time, I should probably ask you, is there a particular number people can call to get more information?

00:03:24 Speaker 2

Yes, if you want more information, you can call us at 716-245-4200, or you can call Kevin Smith at 716-836-0822, extension 147.

00:03:43 Speaker 1

All righty.

00:03:43 Speaker 1

And you're joined today by our consumer, Zoraida Banilla, who will give her total her totally unbiased opinion of the Renewal Center.

00:03:55 Speaker 3

Good afternoon.

00:03:56 Speaker 3

How are you?

00:04:00 Speaker 1

Fine.

00:04:00 Speaker 1

What can you tell us about how you feel about Renewal Center?

00:04:05 Speaker 3

Everyone treat me like a partner.

00:04:07 Speaker 3

We work together.

00:04:10 Speaker 3

What I learned there, I can use it for the rest of my life.

00:04:13 Speaker 3

In a peer connection, I belong.

00:04:16 Speaker 3

I matter.

00:04:17 Speaker 3

And no matter what, the peer connection opened my eyes to what is out there for me.

00:04:24 Speaker 1

Would you believe we're practically out of time?

00:04:27 Speaker 1

Thank you both for being with us, Renee and Zoraida.

00:04:33 Speaker 1

And we're glad that you're getting good use out of the renewal center.

00:04:39 Speaker 3

Thank you so much.

00:04:39 Speaker 1

You've been listening to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living.

00:04:46 Speaker 1

Our guests today were Renee Law, Mental Health Peer Connection Program Manager of the Renewal Center, and consumer Zoraida Vanilla.

00:04:57 Speaker 1

I've been your host, Ernie Churchwell.