



1342 Dewey Court, Madison, WI 53703

## Purpose Through a Pandemic

At this challenging time, people are turning to their community for support, inspiration, love, and commitment. This last year, Chrysalis worked tirelessly to support over 250 people struggling with mental health and substance use challenges. Together, we built relationships over shared meals within the Chrysalis Clubhouse, created opportunities to gain job skills while harvesting produce for Chrysalis Pops, and helped folks reach their employment and education goals.

Please support our continued mission of promoting recovery through purpose and connection by donating today. Donations can be mailed or made online by visiting [workwithchrysalis.org](https://workwithchrysalis.org). All donation amounts are greatly appreciated.

Thank you from all of us at Chrysalis!

## Surviving the Big Transition

By Darby Gregersen, Consumer Advisory Committee

This year I had the opportunity to participate in Chrysalis' CAC and Blog committee, both of which gave me a space where I could share my thoughts and feelings as well as give them a voice. I wrote a blog earlier this year entitled "Surviving the Big Transition", alongside another member of the blog committee. It was very impactful for me to write and I have received feedback that it was impactful for others to read, especially considering the environment of the world and community with all that transpired as a result of COVID-19. Below I have added a part of the blog to summarize some of what it is all about, but I encourage you to go read the full blog where I share in detail my thoughts, feelings, personal goals and struggles that this year brought.



**All feelings around these [COVID-19] changes are okay,  
and it is okay to take them at your own pace,  
respect yourself and your pace in these changes.**

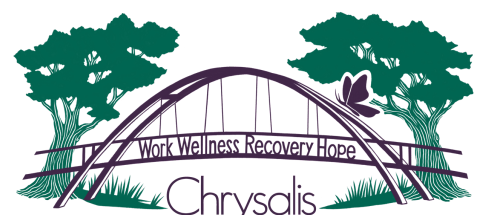
*The above is a reflection of the blog "Surviving the Big Transition", you can read more from this blog and others at <https://workwithchrysalis.org/blog/>*

## Important Dates to Save in 2022!

THE  
**BIG**  
SHARE

COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN

March 1st, 2022



MOVING FOR MENTAL HEALTH

May 1st, 2022

## Rooted in Partnership

By Dani Rischall, LCSW  
Executive Director

As I start to wrap up the year, I continue to be amazed and inspired by the people and organizations in our community. Creating more inclusive and equitable ways of being together can not be done alone and I am so grateful for the opportunities we had this year to collaborate with the organizations listed below to strengthen our collective missions. We are stronger together.



Chrysalis has grown a partnership with Tara Wilhelmi from **EOTO Culturally Rooted** to co-create a Certified Peer Specialist Learning Community and Lived Experience Council. These initiatives promote the voices of those with lived experiences throughout behavioral health services and as decision makers.



The Chrysalis Clubhouse had the opportunity to participate in **Rooted's** Troy Farm Worker Share program to grow produce, learn garden skills, and build relationships. Clubhouse colleagues work together to make lunch meals using the produce they helped grow.



This year we shifted our Chrysalis Pop sales approach to reduce COVID-19 risks at large festivals and public gatherings. Instead we sold pops at private events including the **Madison Children's Museum** outdoor exhibit opening - The Wonderground. *We'd love to cater your next special event!*

In addition to the partnerships highlighted above, Chrysalis Employment Specialists, Vocational Peer Specialists, and Service Facilitators have connected with **90 employers** to support **103 jobs**, with earnings totaling **\$293,086**. At Chrysalis we truly believe that the benefits of work go far beyond a paycheck, and that there are great benefits to feeling valued, having purpose, and being in relationship with others.

As we continue to build new partnerships with providers and employers, we would love your support. Together we can create a more equitable and inclusive community grounded in wellness and belonging.

Donations can be mailed or made online at [workwithchrysalis.org](http://workwithchrysalis.org).

Thank you and please take care of your whole self, we care about you!

Continue to follow our work!



## 2021 Employer of the Year!



Q & A with SOAR's Peer Services  
Manager Nze Okoronta

### What were the benefits of working with Chrysalis?

We know that we're hiring people who offer unique perspectives based on their own lived experience; people who are actively working on their own recovery, and have the ability to promote recovery for the peers we serve.

### What tips would you give to current job seekers?

Stay persistent on your job search and narrow down your own preferences. Be sure to pay attention to the culture of the work environment and create connections with employees and employers that you want to work with.

***You too can support Chrysalis by joining our Employer Network, visit [workwithchrysalis.org/employers/business-referral](http://workwithchrysalis.org/employers/business-referral) to get connected!***