

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March is National Social Work Month

Pensacola, Fla. (March 2, 2020) – March is National Social Work month. More than 600,000 social workers in the United States help people reach their full potentials. Lakeview Center social workers help in many capacities. This month we feature the words of our licensed clinical social workers so that we can better understand how they serve our community.



“Social work takes on different roles in our trauma recovery program. Our team provides therapy and advocacy services to survivors of violent crimes. We help out in courtrooms, emergency rooms, police stations, and in our offices on the Lakeview campus. We also work with local universities to provide internship opportunities. We’ve even had students from two other states intern with us. We believe that by supporting future social workers, we can have a more trauma informed community.” – **Shelby Amaral, LCSW, clinical supervisor/assistant director, Lakeview Center Sexual Violence Program**



“One of my favorite things about social work is that it looks at the big picture for every person. Do they have transportation? Can they get to appointments or treatment? What kind of adverse childhood experiences affect them now? Do they have enough food? When did they last see a doctor? Social work pushes us to ask how we can serve people better. What are we lacking? How can we improve? Social work teaches us that everyone is doing the best they can with what they have.” – **Amanda Helm, LCSW, clinical manager, The Lakeview Center Lodges**



“I work with behavioral health and child welfare. I also work closely with insurance companies and the court system to make sure people’s needs are met. Social work is important to our community because we fill in the gaps. We wear many hats! My roles often include: advocate, therapist, educator, coordinator, liaison, facilitator, researcher and case manager. In each capacity I have the privilege of being involved in the lives of others who are up against some very difficult challenges. They allow me to be a part of their journeys and the weight of that privilege is not lost on me.” – **Shannon Massingale, LCSW, director of care coordination, Lakeview Center**

For more information about social work or behavioral health services, visit eLakeviewCenter.org.

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About Lakeview Center, Inc. Behavioral Health

The Mission of Lakeview Behavioral Health is to help people throughout life’s journey. We specialize in providing effective, research-based services for children and adults with mental illnesses, drug and alcohol dependencies, and intellectual disabilities. Our services range from inpatient and residential treatment to outpatient counseling, psychiatry, case management, day treatment, and round-the-clock support for those with serious mental illnesses. Additionally, Lakeview Behavioral Health provides specialized trauma services, medication-assisted treatment for opiate dependency, and medically supervised drug and alcohol detoxification. In all, Lakeview Behavioral Health offers more than 60 programs and services for people in the northwest Florida area. To learn more, go online to eLakeviewCenter.org.

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