



OUR TURNING POINT

Meeting the needs of our community, beginning with chemical health.

Turning Point, Inc.

Volume 6, Issue 1

February 2015

Greetings from Our President



by Dr. Peter Hayden

One touch can change the lives of 24,000 people.

Dr. Frank B. Wilderson, Jr. touched my life before I was ever in treatment, and on April 17, the Turning Point family has the privilege of honoring this man for his years of service to the African American community.

I met Dr. Wilderson at a holiday party when we both were employed at the University of Minnesota. As a young community worker in the early 70's, I approached Dr. Wilderson, seeing a chance to voice my concerns about what I saw as people not connected to the community making decisions that effected me and my work. I had never met Dr. Wilderson, and didn't know his history. I was still living in my addiction, and didn't know about his crucial role in African American student relations on the campus.

He negotiated between student demonstrators and the University administration, helping the students find their voice and helping the administration to hear their points.

I went up to Dr. Wilderson, and began to share my concerns, and asked him, "What are you doing for

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Remember Our History

by Elizabeth Reed, Chief Operating Officer

Being that February is Black History Month I decided one of the best things to celebrate is the history of our organization.

We made history in 1976 by opening the first culturally specific chemical dependency treatment program for African Americans.

Turning Point was the brainchild of Dr. Peter Hayden, our founder and current president. I cannot talk about the history of Turning Point without telling a brief story of Dr. Hayden. Peter entered chemical dependency treatment in 1973. During treatment he noticed that none of the issues he faced every day just because of the color of his skin were addressed, and he was told that in order to remain sober, he had to move away from the community he loved. Although he was able to move out of the community, he worried about others in treatment who were dealing with the issues he faced as an African American and still living in the community he was told he needed to leave. He thought about what it would take to have a treatment center that addressed those issues and was located in the African American community. He was determined to make it happen, and that brings us to Turning Point.

What started out in an old house at 1523 Emerson Avenue North, serving only 16 people the first year, became an organization serving over 500 in 2014. We went from that one house to having five properties and a community-based support service center, called the Culturally Specific Service Center or CSSC, where a person can come if they are in need of housing, legal services, health services (physical or behavioral).

Let us all celebrate Turning Point and our history of serving our great community for close to 39 years. I end with a statement from one person who is in our program: "Finally someone understands what I have been going through and is here to help me."



MISSION
VISION
SERVICE

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KEEP IN MIND:

3rd Annual Turning Point Honors Event

April 17, 2015

honoring Dr. Frank B. Wilderson, Jr.

For tickets or more info, call Michelle Edwards at 612-520-9187 or e-mail at michelle.edwards@ourturningpoint.org.



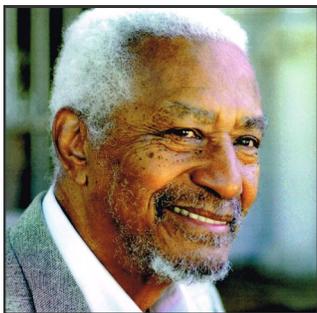
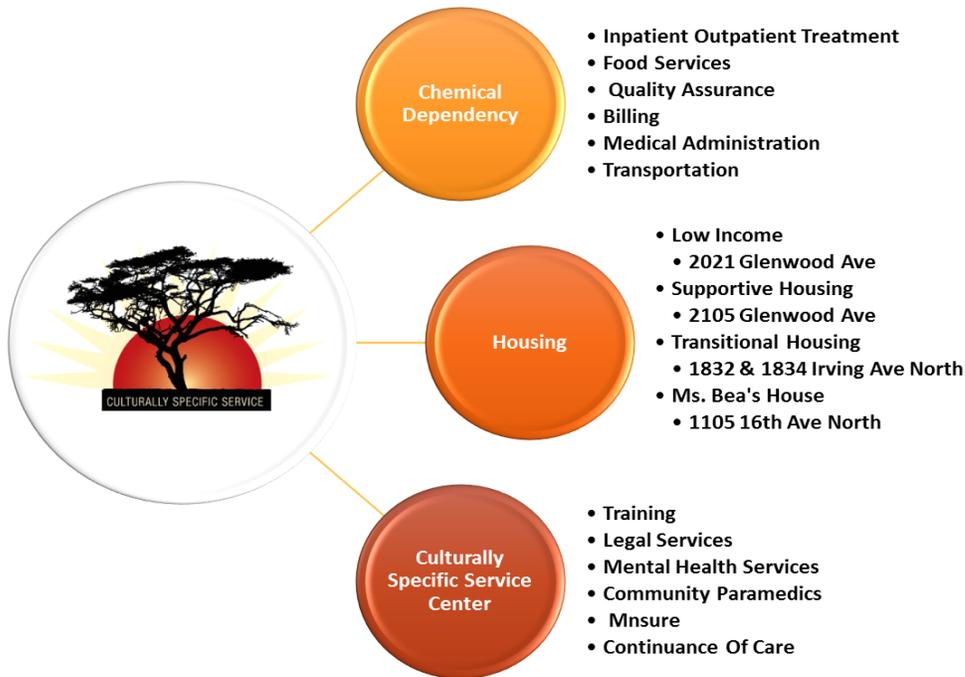
Turning Point Presents New Organizational Structure

by Elizabeth Reed, COO

Throughout the history of Turning Point we have prided ourselves on providing state-of-the-art care and services. In order to maintain this reputation and honor the needs of our changing community, it is necessary to have an organizational structure reflecting their needs and barriers.

The new structure is an opportunity for us to strengthen services by providing integrated services. These core services are chemical dependency, housing and support services (offered in the CSSC).

Through this restructure we continue our commitment to improving the services we provide to our community.



Frank B. Wilderson, Jr., PhD, LP

by Ray Richardson
Marketing Director

The distinguished Dr. Frank B. Wilderson, Jr. turned his head and gazed for a few seconds at a nearby wall in the Turning Point conference room. There was nothing in particular on that wall that caught his attention.

Dr. Wilderson was simply

Turning Point Honors Dr. Frank Wilderson

having one of those moments that makes a person reflect, where something has sunk in and become reality.

“This is really a special feeling for me to see Turning Point think of me in this way,” Dr. Wilderson said.

Dr. Wilderson, who has a PhD in education psychology, has known for several months that he will be the main honoree this year at Turning Point’s Third Annual Honors Event on April 17. He and his wife, Ida Larraine, recently stopped by Turning Point to drop off photos for use in a video tribute that will be shown

during the event at The Commons Hotel in Minneapolis.

Going through dozens of family and career pictures triggered a nostalgic moment for Dr. Wilderson, who was one of the first mental health specialists for Turning Point when the organization opened its doors in 1976.

“To see how Turning Point has grown over the years under Peter’s direction has been amazing to watch,” Dr. Wilderson said of Turning Point founder and president Dr. Peter Hayden. “I’ll always have a lot of respect for this organization – and

cherished memories.”

Dr. Wilderson, one of the most prestigious educators in the country, served in various capacities in the University of Minnesota administration for 37 years. He will be honored on April 17 with David Goodlow, Turning Point’s first staff member in 1976, and Bill Smith, one of Turning Point’s first graduates and a 33-year employee at Honeywell. Smith was an electrician supervisor at Honeywell in his last years at Honeywell.

For tickets or more information regarding the Honors vent, call 612-520-9187.



Girls Go Through Lifeskills Class

by **Angela Reed**
Culturally Specific
Services Director

Turning Point held a series of life skills focused workshops for GED students every Friday from June-December 2014. The workshops were based on a culturally specific support and intervention model tied to positive African American community values and systems.

Both during and at the end of the sessions, the GED students shared that they were highly appreciative of the support and ser-

vices they received from Turning Point each Friday. Students said their lives are taken up entirely having to deal with other people's problems – their children, their bosses, their partners, their parents, etc.

The weekly sessions held at Summit Academy have been the first and only opportunity for most to openly discuss the experiences, challenges and problems they each face at home and at the training program.

They were able to articulate problem-solving strategies they had learned in the sessions and how they had applied them. The students also commented on the value of having a female and male team from Turning Point so they could get both perspectives.

Rainbow research states: "The culturally based life skills approach added real value to the outcomes, and should be expanded throughout the entire training model."



Angela Reed (above) is the lead trainer for the Lifeskills training seminars. Woodrow Jefferson (below) is her co-trainer.

Photo by Walter Marmillon



Training Program Offers Culturally Specific Topics to Community

Turning Point's Culturally Specific Service Center now includes a series of training workshops and seminars.

The goal is to teach about African American cultural values and practices. The training sessions teach the importance of having and defining personal values/ethics, understanding the historical context of behaviors, and teach strategies that aid in assisting clients while reflecting ethics, values, and current African American treatment and care models/practices.

Trainings can be modified to suit each organization's needs.

Turning Point can train groups of providers, helping them to better deliver their services in a culturally sensitive manner.

We can also train community members, empowering them to understand and manage the multilayered challenges and obstacles they face on a daily basis.

For more information, contact Angela Reed at Turning Point (612-520-4004).

PROVIDER TRAININGS

- Black Children of Alcohol and Drug Addicted Parents (B/COADAP)
- The African American Drug Epidemic
- Cultural Considerations in Treatment for African Americans
- Culture and People of Color: Cultural Nuances
- Attitude and Activities to Keep People in Treatment and Avoid Unintentional Racism
- Consequences and Fear in Cross cultural Interactions
- The Therapist/Client Relationship

COMMUNITY MEMBER TRAININGS

- Life Skills
- Chemical Dependence Education
- Family Relationships
- The Effects of Drugs and Alcohol on Families
- HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education
- Emotional Intelligence Concepts
- The Importance and Context of Resilience Factors



Keep up with the Turning Point Family

COMMUNITY NEWS AND MESSAGES

Steve Robinson shares that **Merlyn Ware** has been instrumental in bringing a new spirit and focus to Ms. Bea's House. He has instilled personal and community pride in many of our residents. Because of his work, our residents have actively participated in numerous volunteer activities, from handling turkeys on Thanksgiving to serving food to homeless people. We want to thank Merlyn for not only his commitment to residents at Ms. Bea's House, but also to the community at large.

Howard Ellis is proud of two participants in our Housing program who have made great accomplishments.

The first was placed on the Dean's List of MTC and is currently doing his internship right here at Turning Point.

The second person has made tremendous progress and is currently an employee with one of our housing programs.

Stephanie Steele became engaged on January 18, 2015. Congratulations Stephanie!

Beverly Jackson has completed training for the North Memorial Battered Women Program.

Woodrow Jefferson states: "Under the leadership of Elizabeth Reed and Peter Hayden, I'm inspired and excited by the new direction of Turning Point."

Kim Weaver and the other ladies of Turning Point want to thank Cedric Williams, Greg Jones and Woodrow Jefferson for giving the ladies of Turning Point a surprise Valentine's celebration.

Meca Leonard says: Thanks you for all the Team Work!

BIRTHDAYS

January through May

- Dorothy Jones** February 7
- Jeremiah Culverson** Feb. 9
- Daryl Lewis** March 7
- Mike Jackson** March 31
- Jeff Cayo** April 13
- Walter Marmillion** May 8
- Howard Ellis** May 16
- Rachel Campbell** May 24

ANNIVERSARIES

January through May

- Dorothy Jones** 1 year
Rule 25/Billing/Records 1/19/14
- Leonard Freeman** 1 year
Facilities Worker 1/20/14
- Jeff Cayo** 18 years
Facilities Manager 2/10/97
- Mike Roberts** 1 year
Linkage Coordinator 3/1/14
- Robert Williams** 1 year
Linkage Coordinator 3/1/14
- Angela Reed** 4 years
Culturally Specific Service Center Director 4/1/11
- Meca Leonard** 2 year
Billing/Records 4/2/13
- Philip Taylor** 5 years
Linkage Coordinator 4/12/10
- Michael Jackson** 3 years
Linkage Coordinator 4/16/12
- Howard Ellis** 20 years
Supportive Housing 5/1/95
- Charles Caldwell** 1 year
Van Driver 5/1/14
- Rachel Campbell** 1 year
CD Counselor 4/1/11

HELLOS

Marie Neely-McDonald
Sista Program Coordinator
started 12/1/14

HELLOS—CONTINUED

Anthony Basset
Henry Comer
CD Counselor Interns
started 1/12/15

Marcus Trotter
started 1/8/15
Craig Lee
started 2/10/15
Darrell Whitaker
started 2/19/15
Linkage Coordinators

Ray Richardson
Marketing Director
started 2/3/15

CHANGES

Greg Jones
Chemical Dependency Director
Angela Reed
Culturally Specific Service Center Director
Stephen Robinson
Housing Director
all effective 2/11/15

GOODBYES

Leo Johnson
Quality Assurance Manager
last day 11/18/14
Willie Moore
Linkage Coordinator
last day 11/21/14
Dr. Fred Dyer
Co-Occurring Counselor
last day 1/2/15

Our Staff Changes and Grows

In the last newsletter, Ray Richardson was introduced as a new Board member. The article neglected to mention he was working at Twin Cities Rise at the time. However, Ray has made a change and resigned from Turning Point's Board. He has accepted a position on our staff as Marketing Director.

Turning Point has reorganized its internal structure (see article on page 2), resulting in new leadership roles for some key staff members.

Greg Jones has more than 20 years experience working at Turning Point, and has been Director of Programs for several years. The new structure allows him to focus on the chemical dependency programs.

Angela Reed has been Manager of the Culturally Specific Service Center since it opened. Now that this area has grown to include the training program, HIV education, and other support services, she takes on additional

responsibilities as the Director of the Culturally Specific Service Center.

Steve Robinson has been manager of Ms. Bea's House, and now as Director of Housing he will oversee all Turning Point's housing programs, including Group Residential Housing, Supportive Housing and Transitional Housing.



Marketing Director
Ray Richardson



Division Directors Greg Jones and Steve Robinson. (not pictured: Angela Reed)

photo by Walter Marmillion



Board News: Welcoming New Board Members

At the beginning of the new year, Turning Point added two new members to the Board of Directors.

Gina Villarreal works at General Mills and has two sons. She has worked in the Minneapolis area for many years, holding positions at several firms including Target and Wells Fargo. She is excited to bring her skills to Turning Point and the Board.

Active in North Minneapolis, Gina has worked closely with North High School. Through social media, she led a drive to raise support for the football team. She is ready to bring her talents and experience, particularly with social media, to help promote Turning Point pro-

grams and services in the community.

"It was an honor to be asked by Dr. Hayden to join the Board," Gina said. "I felt that it was an excellent opportunity to utilize my skill set at a broader level while giving back to the community." She hopes to bring innovative thinking to strategies for promoting Turning Point through her work with the Marketing Committee of the Board.

Timothy Brewington II is originally from Washington, DC and first came to Minneapolis as a teenager. He came to the University of Minnesota Hospital for a life-saving bone marrow transplant. He returned to the Minneapolis area seven

years ago when his wife, who is a podiatrist, had an opportunity here.

Tim has volunteered with the Ronald McDonald House Charity for years, as well as the Minneapolis Adult Education Advisory Council. He has worked in the North Minneapolis community and been very involved at Shiloh Temple. He is currently Senior Pastor at Fellowship Church in Woodbury.

Board Member Don Bryant introduced Tim to Turning Point, bringing him to the Open House announcing the partnership with North Memorial. He got excited about how this could impact the health of the community.

"I am looking forward to working with the Board to

Turning
Point
welcomes
Gina
Villarreal
and



Timothy
Brewington II
to the Board of
Directors.

expand programs and services to members of the community who are in the most need," he said. Tim will be working with the Program Committee of the Board.

Our President on 2015 Honorees — *continued from page 1*

people in the community, day-to-day?" Rather than respond to my veiled accusations (based on my own ignorance of his accomplishments), Dr. Wilderson responded with calm. He put his hand on my shoulder, and asked me a question in return: "What do you want?"

That was the start of a conversation that led to him giving me his contact information, and the start of a mentoring relationship between us that continues to this day.

Turning Point opened its

doors in 1976. Dr. Wilderson was instrumental in helping put the curriculum together. He advised the staff as the organization grew. He continued to consult and advise throughout the years, helping me and my staff to make the best choices for providing services to our clients.

Honoring Dr. Wilderson is a personal privilege for me as this particular honor recognizes the significance of his one touch, a touch that not only changed me, but changed the lives of over 24,000 people.

Another touch that changed lives is David Goodlow's. When I set out on the adventure to open Turning Point, David was the first person I asked to join the staff.

Naturally hesitant to join a brand new organization, one run by a young man with only three years sobriety of his own, David had to consider his future, and his responsibilities to his family. He decided to put his trust in the idea of Turning Point. The program foundation he laid here lives on.

Our very first client, Bill Smith, came to us from Honeywell. He found in David Goodlow and the other staff, people who listened, understood and provided culturally specific treatment. Because he got what he needed, he has stayed sober for 39 years.

Turning Point is honoring David Goodlow and Bill Smith, along with Dr. Wilderson, in recognition of the significant roles they have each played in Turning Point's success. They have touched lives, and we honor them for it.



OUR TURNING POINT

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Thanks to Our Donors

Turning Point has received donations from George Logan, Josephine Hill and Jesse & JoEllen Dixon in 2015. Several staff members also support Turning Point through payroll deductions: Zedrick Blake, Jeff Cayo, Gail Costa, Michelle Edwards, Howard Ellis, Woodrow Jefferson and Cedric Williams. Turning Point thanks everyone who help us make a difference in people's lives every day!

Recent Client Activities

Dec. 1—World Aids Day at UROC

Dec. 3—World Aids Day/ Sarah Simmons Showcase at the Capri Theater

Jan.17—Timberwolves game at Target Field

Jan.22—Town Hall meeting at UROC with Senator Bobby Joe Champion

Jan.—Domestic Violence Services at (OASIS OF LOVE, INC.)

Feb. 1—Super Bowl Party

Feb. 7—attend movie *Selma*

Feb. 15—movie night in the residential unit

Feb. 20—Timberwolves game at Target Field

Feb. 25—took those who needed housing (15 guys) to the North Regional Library for use of their computers to see housing

Upcoming Turning Point Events

Tuesday, March 17	Board Meeting
Friday, March 20	All Staff Training Day
Friday, April 3	Good Friday—Turning Point holiday
Friday, April 17	Turning Point Honors Event
Tuesday, April 21	Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 19	Malcolm X's Birthday—Turning Point holiday
Wednesday, May 20	Board Meeting
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day—holiday
Monday, June 1	Turning Point's 39th Anniversary
Friday, June 5	Turning Point Family Day

A time and a place to change your mind...our promise is positive change that will last a lifetime.