



# Ashley Addiction Treatment **ANNUAL REPORT** **2021**



**Ashley**  
Everything for Recovery





*“It came so naturally to her. I would watch in amazement as Mae communicated with people who were really struggling with their sobriety. I suspect that Mae was so effective because she saw herself reflected in every one of them, and she wanted them to get better so that they could have the joy of sobriety that she was enjoying.”*

Father Martin  
Pg. 121 [\*One Step More - The Life and Work of Father Joseph C. Martin\*](#)  
by Jane Maher

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# LETTER FROM THE CO-CEOS & PRESIDENTS



Left to right:

Greg Hobelmann,  
M.D., M.P.H.

Alex Denstman, MBA  
Co-CEOs & Presidents

The past year has been a year of turmoil, but it has also been a year of learning and progress.

Amidst the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic, we have persevered. As an organization, we have introduced a new leadership, invested in new projects, continually adapted to the changing conditions during this pandemic and started implementing internal changes to make this an even more equitable and inclusive environment. We have made big strides.

Starting our joint leadership at Ashley during a pandemic was certainly not what we expected, but doing so with staff as committed, competent and adaptive as ours made all the difference. The creative and impactful solutions they found to take the majority of our services virtual, in some cases even removing barriers that previously existed, and maintain the safety of our patients while keeping the quality of our patient care at all-time highs makes us incredibly proud. We want to express our deepest gratitude for everything they do.

Through the work of our [Racial Equity Committee](#), we have started to turn our words into actions. We have conducted internal surveys and started guided conversations to assess where Ashley stands as a workplace with diversity, equity and inclusion. We want to give all employees the chance to learn and have productive and open-minded conversations. This is our way of getting everyone on board and introducing lasting change. Ultimately, we are motivated by the same desire: to make treatment more accessible to those in need.

Addiction does not stand still. As patient needs change and new challenges surface, we are not only committed to adapting to the changing conditions but to anticipate them. Investing in research and embracing innovation is thus an essential part of our plan for Ashley's present and future. In the past year, we have been preparing to integrate a new assessment tool called [Tracq](#). It monitors specific factors that have a scientifically validated and evidence-based association with long-term recovery. Together with other innovative research initiatives that we are planning to implement in the coming year, we are hoping to build a robust database that does not yet exist in the field. These insights will help us achieve our goals of enhancing the quality of care, maximizing patients' treatment outcomes and contributing to the advancement of addiction medicine.

Finally, we want to express what an honor it is to lead an organization like Ashley. When we started our journey here, we did not imagine holding these positions one day. We are grateful for this opportunity and the trust the board has placed in us. In the spirit of our co-leadership, connectedness is key: A shared vision and shared goals for Ashley, strengthened by our complementary skill sets and staff, no, a family, that we can trust and rely on. We will remain true to Ashley's mission and will continue to let it guide us into the future by embracing a two-pronged approach, preserving Ashley's legacy and moving forward through innovation so that we can continue to transform and save lives by integrating the science of medicine, the art of therapy and the compassion of spirituality.

Alex Denstman & Dr. Greg Hobelmann, Co-CEOs & Presidents

## DONOR HIGHLIGHT

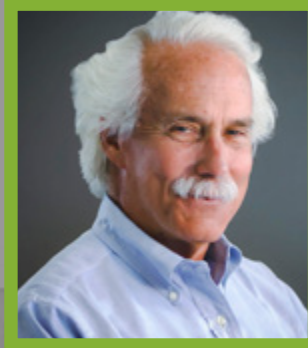
Since 2014, the law firm [Boies Schiller Flexner \(BSF\)](#) has been an ardent supporter of Ashley Addiction Treatment. Year after year, BSF has made generous donations to Ashley to support our patient scholarship fund and key Washington, DC events carrying the message of recovery and Ashley's mission to help as many people suffering from substance use disorders (SUD) as possible. BSF recognizes how SUD impacts the wellness not only of individual families but also businesses and entire communities. We at Ashley feel honored by their generous and impactful ongoing support of the treatment and care we provide.

Over the past twenty years, BSF has established a record of taking on and winning complex, groundbreaking and cross-border matters in diverse circumstances and industries for many of the world's most sophisticated companies. Their litigators are recognized for prevailing when the odds are longest and the stakes highest. Like Ashley, BSF celebrates differences and fights inequality. They advocate for positive change and believe this is everyone's responsibility. BSF is building and fostering a diverse and inclusive workforce that matches their values and those of their clients. We are incredibly grateful for Boies Schiller Flexner's generosity, inclusive spirit and for the example they set for other firms.

**BSF** | BOIES  
SCHILLER  
FLEXNER



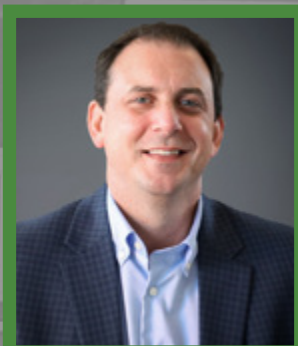
# THE ASHLEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Jim Denvir  
Chair of Board of Directors



John Finnerty, Ph.D.  
Vice Chair of Board of Directors



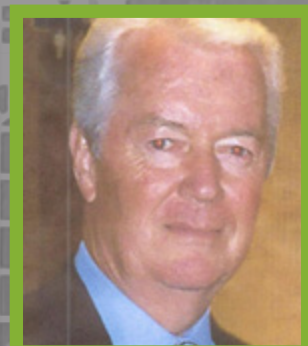
Erik M. Bohn



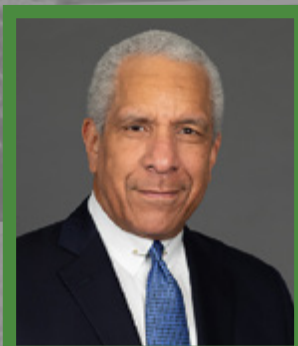
Robin Davisson, Ph.D.



Charlie Fenwick, III



Bob Johnson, Esq.



Hon. Timothy K. Lewis



Jessie  
Noble-Nance



Phyllis  
Raskin-Hadley, LMCSW



Mary Spearing

# LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It has been another year full of challenges, and the Ashley staff has once again risen to the occasion. As front-line responders, the staff has continued to put our mission first, often risking their own health to provide care to the suffering alcoholic and addict. We are not out of the woods with respect to COVID-19 but are fortunate to have survived and have the ability to continue our life-saving work. Very early on in the pandemic, the Ashley leadership team, in cooperation with local and state health officials, developed protocols for ensuring the safety of our staff and patients. Those protocols have thus far served us well; and we remain vigilant as circumstances change and COVID-19 continues to be a threat to public health. I am confident that our leadership team will continue to exercise sound judgment in navigating the two pandemics of substance use disorder and COVID-19.

As an Ashley alumnus, I am deeply grateful that Ashley was there when I was ready for treatment. The compassionate care I received set me on a course for a lifetime of recovery; and we will continue to provide our patients with the tools they need to navigate their own path of recovery to a better and healthier life.

Just recently, Ashley announced the launch of a virtual family and youth program, the [Adolescent Clubhouse \(The Clubhouse\)](#). Through this new program for Harford County residents, we will provide after-school and summer care for children ages 12 – 17 who are adversely affected by or are at-risk for substance use disorders. We will offer additional support for families to help them set healthy boundaries and create a positive structure within the home. We are truly committed to helping strengthen the youth and their families and contributing to a healthy and happy community.

As I reported last year, Ashley is not only at the forefront of the care we provide but is increasingly known as a respected research institution. In partnership with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine faculty members, Ashley has published several manuscripts and has multiple ongoing studies. We are working towards creating a dedicated research center in the near future as we expand and explore these topics, among others:

- Substance use disorder treatment outcomes using patient-reported outcome data and biometrics
- Pharmacological treatments for the treatment of substance use disorders
- Pain recovery program outcomes

Finally, I am proud to announce two new members of the Ashley board — Tim Lewis and Erik Bohn. Tim's extensive experience as a federal judge, counsel and variety of committee and board memberships will be an invaluable addition to our board. With Erik, we are honored to welcome him to the board after a decade of volunteer service to Ashley and look forward to his expertise in finance, insurance and risk management. Welcome to you both! We are all excited to see how you will help us guide Ashley forward.

We here at Ashley are thankful to have an amazing community that supports us in these difficult times. Unlike many treatment centers, we have not been forced by COVID-19 to lay off or furlough any staff and have been fortunate to be able to maintain our best-in-class standard of care. Consistent with Father and Mae's legacy, this begins with treating each patient with the dignity and respect they deserve. The future of Ashley is bright, and with your support, we will continue expanding to help people find hope and healing.

Jim Denvir  
Chair of Board of Directors

# RESEARCH



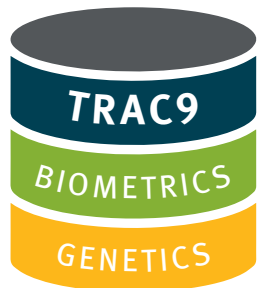
+



+



TRAC9 + BIOMETRICS + GENETICS =  
**FIRST-OF-ITS KIND DATABASE**



- Enhancing quality of care.
- Improving patient outcomes.
- Informing addiction medicine.

With everything we do, we seek to provide the best possible care to our patients so that recovery is not just a dream but becomes reality. This desire drives our increased [focus on research](#). To serve our patients and their families even better, we have started using patient-reported outcome data to analyze the effectiveness of our treatment, directly adjust our patients' treatment plans while they are in our care and follow their journey long-term. Ultimately, we will use the data we collect to enhance the quality of our care even further, maximize patient outcomes and advance the science of addiction medicine.

We have added research specialists to our staff, published several manuscripts and are working on studies with Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine faculty members, establishing lasting connections and communication channels to create a synergy that will benefit the addiction treatment field and our patients.

Going forward, we aim to add two additional pillars to establish our research center: collecting biometric data and conducting genetic testing. They will complement our patient-reported outcomes and help us create a database that does not yet exist in the substance use disorder treatment field.

# MEET THE TEAM



**Andrew Huhn, Ph.D., MBA**  
Assistant Professor, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Andrew Huhn, Ph.D., MBA, is an assistant professor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Huhn's research focuses on risk factors for illicit drug relapse and medication strategies to improve opioid use disorder treatment outcomes. His research aim is to improve treatment outcomes directly and introduce macro-level changes to improve healthcare for substance use and related disorders.



**Jami Mayo**  
Research Associate  
Ashley Addiction Treatment

Jami Mayo earned her Bachelor of Arts in psychology from UMBC and is currently working towards an MBA with a specialization in health care management, data science and innovation at The Johns Hopkins Carey School of Business. Her current work relates to clinical pharmacology of abused substances, substance use disorder liability, behavioral and neuropsychiatric assessments as well as biomedical device, behavioral and medication-based treatments for substance use disorder.



**Justin Strickland, Ph.D.**  
Instructor, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Justin Strickland, Ph.D., serves as an instructor in the department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. His research concentrates on understanding the behavioral and biological processes underlying SUD with a focus on behavioral economics and decision-making science. Dr. Strickland strives to identify and create novel prevention and intervention targets and, through analyzing individual treatment responses, aims to develop and implement new treatment methods to improve patient experience.

**“BEING AT THE FOREFRONT OF SUD TREATMENT IS IN OUR DNA.**

*From the very beginning, Ashley, with its pioneering co-founders Father Martin and Mae Abraham, has played an essential role in increasing the public's knowledge of the disease of alcoholism and establishing an understanding of the need for compassionate care. We will use their innovative spirit to lead us into the future and continue to spread and increase knowledge and understanding of substance use disorders.”*

- Greg Hobelmann, M.D., M.P.H., Co-CEO & President



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## TARA HANDRON

### VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGAGEMENT

#### What drew you to work in the substance use disorder treatment field?

I had a strong desire to be in a field where I felt like I was helping people in a more direct way than what I had been doing. I wanted to help more people find recovery and ensure they knew of all the different resources that exist.

#### What attracted you to work at Ashley? What is the most rewarding part about your job?

Ashley has always held a special place in my heart. I have many friends whose lives have been saved here. The organization has an inspiring history and reputation in the field, and that is something I wanted to be a part of.

Ashley is accessible and does its very best to admit a patient who needs treatment regardless of race, religion, gender or finances. The staff continuously does everything they can to help and then goes one step more.

There are many rewarding parts to my job, and one that sticks out is that I get to secure [donations for scholarships](#) to help someone afford treatment who might otherwise not have the opportunity. This always makes me happy since I have seen firsthand people who could not afford treatment, receive assistance, get help and then thrive in recovery.

I also love connecting people in a variety of ways; and since I work with our internal staff and also build on our external relationships, I have a lot of opportunities to connect people who can help each other and collaborate, which ultimately helps our patients, our alumni and communities.

#### What does a typical day look like for you?

Every day is different!

#### What are some of the new initiatives you are excited to be working on at Ashley?

One of the things I'm most excited about is our new [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) Scholarship Fund that we have established in cooperation with the Release Recovery Foundation. This fund gives us the chance to diversify our patient

community and give people access to treatment who might otherwise not have the chance to receive the care they need. We've been making strides in this area internally and externally and have set an example for fellow treatment providers; I'm excited to be a part of all of it.

In my role specifically, I see how our alumni and development departments work hand in hand to establish connections and secure funding to enable Ashley's growth. So, to continue building these departments and integrating alumni and development efforts into our internal operations to increase the understanding and culture of philanthropy is a big motivator for me.

Combined with the goal to build and enhance relationships with government and non-government entities in the greater Washington, D.C., and Baltimore areas, these efforts can be integral to our ability to continue to provide the best care we can and help even more people find recovery, which is what I came here to do.



# OUR IMPACT

ADDICTION ISN'T A CHOICE, IT'S A DISEASE.  
CHOOSING TREATMENT MEANS CHOOSING LIFE.

## Fundraising

Fundraising Efforts in 2021\*

**\$1.24M**

## Charity Care

Charitable Care in 2021\*

**\$2.7M**



## Patients Served

**2,014**

Patients Served in [Inpatient](#), [Outpatient](#) and [Extended Care](#)

## COVID-19 Impact

**0**

Days Ashley Closed Due to COVID-19

Staff Members Laid Off Due to COVID-19



## Family Wellness

**1,300**

[Family Wellness](#) Attendees

\* Fiscal year 2021



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## MITCH M.

My name is Mitch M., and I am celebrating six years of recovery this year! My substance use started after the loss of multiple best friends and my grandparents in a short amount of time. I believed the only way to get through that time of my life was to self-medicate. What started as using at social gatherings progressed and turned into something I didn't realize I couldn't control. I dropped out of school, racked up charges around town, crashed cars and stole. My introduction to recovery was through Ashley in 2013, when I went to fight a court case at 20 years old. Mentally, I wasn't ready to enter long-term recovery, and I quickly relapsed once I won the court case. Although Ashley's program and Father Martin's motto of "Get busy living or get busy dying" stuck with me for two years, it enhanced the guilt I felt about relapsing so quickly.

In a short amount of time, I had become the person I swore I would never be; and when my family intervened, we decided it was time for me to get help. Ashley was the only



place I could trust to come back to for a second time, and the staff was ready with open arms to save my life. Ashley taught me the importance of a higher power on my journey of recovery. The emphasis on finding a higher power while in treatment at Ashley has been a support for me post-treatment and helped me realize I can't do this alone.

Over the past six years, I have progressed in my career and had the opportunity to work in the music and fashion industry as a stylist, creative consultant and brand owner. I have helped design seasonal collections, put together runway shows, walked runway shows, styled tours, music videos, magazine covers and modeled for other clothing brands. It's been an absolute dream, and I couldn't have achieved any of it if I didn't battle my substance use disorder and pursue a life in recovery.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

### The Clubhouse

In the works for many months, we established [The Clubhouse](#), an after-school program for adolescents ages 12 – 17 (18 if still in high school) who are impacted by or at-risk for substance use disorders. This free program for Harford County youth and their families is the first of its kind in this area, providing unique opportunities for our adolescents to learn, grow and have fun without substances.

### Growing in the Face of New Challenges

The inventiveness, efficiency and professionalism with which our staff has approached and continues to approach the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic poses are outstanding. To keep them and our patients safe, we established a Stabilization Unit to ensure admitting patients were not infected with COVID-19 and introduced virtual programming for a multitude of our services. In some cases, even removing barriers that treatment had presented for people in need before.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

### ASIA JACKSON, LGPC THERAPIST – EMERGING ADULT PROGRAM

At Ashley, we know how important it is to consider every patient individually, as every patient is different, and so is their recovery journey. Our emerging adult therapist, Asia Jackson, understands this need for a personalized approach and made it her mission to create a special space for patients belonging to a minority.

*"I started the **Minorities in Recovery** support group together with two minority patients in October 2020. We felt the need to have a safe space for patients belonging to a minority to come together and discuss how their race and culture impact their recovery journey. I've learned just how important it is for our minority patients to feel they have a safe, therapeutic space to heal and converse with those who look similar to them or share similar backgrounds and cultural experiences."* – Asia

Asia has been an invaluable asset in making Ashley a more inclusive environment where everyone can feel at home and goes that one step more to make a difference.

*"I've been with Ashley for over four years and can say that the changes within the past year regarding DEI have surpassed my expectations. I believe the current leadership is truly passionate about making a change to what Ashley represents and who is represented. 'Ashley welcomes everyone' now has a new ring to it!"* – Asia



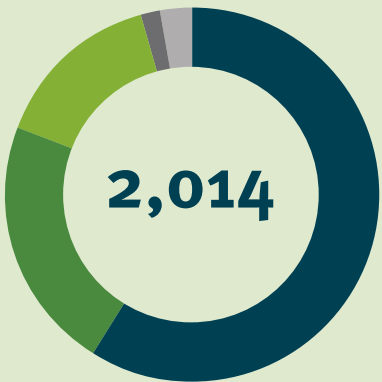
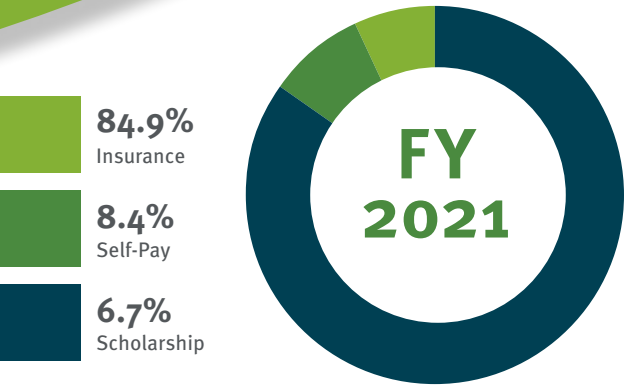
## Stepping Up

### Stepping Up to Expand Treatment Access for Underserved Communities of Color

On June 29, 2021, we made a big stride by establishing an entirely new scholarship fund to improve racial diversity within treatment settings and remove financial barriers to make treatment more accessible for people in need. This new [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) Scholarship Fund, created in cooperation with the Release Recovery Foundation with an initial commitment of \$500,000, embodies our mission in its truest kind. Taking this decisive step towards a more inclusive treatment environment is one way of turning our words into actions and leading the industry.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## PAYOR MIX



## PATIENTS SERVED (By location)

# INCOME & EXPENSES

Total Revenue .....	58,373,019	Change in Net Assets .....	22,388,370
Net Patient Service Revenue .....	26,840,822	Net Assets, Beginning of Year .....	101,809,123
Fundraising Revenue.....	807,122	Net Assets, End of Year.....	124,197,493
Investment Income.....	20,266,727	Charity Care .....	2,701,256
Other Revenue.....	10,458,348	This amount is equivalent to 9.14% of Ashley's net patient service revenue.	
(COVID-19 assistance received, contributions, etc.)		150 patients and families benefited from charity care in the 2021 fiscal year.	
Total Expenses.....	35,984,649		
Program Services.....	78%		
Management & General.....	19%		
Fundraising .....	3%		

### FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES (IN THOUSANDS)

Fiscal Year	Program Services		Mgmt. & General		Fundraising		Total Functional Expenses	
2021	28,051	78%	6,690	19%	1,243	3%	35,984	100%
2020	27,812	78%	6,835	19%	1,076	3%	35,722	100%



“Despite years of seeking help from ‘professionals,’ Mae had never heard the disease of alcoholism described so clearly or so logically before. ‘From the moment the speaker came out and said, “Hello, I’m Father Martin, and I’m an alcoholic,”” Mae recalls, ‘I sensed that I was in the presence of someone who knew and understood me. Everyone had been describing my drinking in terms of a problem with morality: I was evil, sinful, immoral, women don’t behave this way. That night hearing [Father Martin’s Blackboard Talk](#), I could see clearly – for the first time – that I did have a problem, but it wasn’t a problem with morality, it was a problem with a disease.’”

Mae Abraham  
Pg. 103-104 [One Step More - The Life and Work of Father Joseph C. Martin](#)  
by Jane Maher



# CONTACT US

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**Website:** [www.AshleyTreatment.org](http://www.AshleyTreatment.org)

**Main:** 1.800.799.HOPE (4673)

**Locations:** [\*Havre de Grace, MD / Bel Air, MD / Elkton, MD\*](#)

**Email:** [info@AshleyTreatment.org](mailto:info@AshleyTreatment.org)

**Shop:** [store.AshleyTreatment.org](http://store.AshleyTreatment.org)

**Virtual Tour:** [www.AshleyTreatment.org/virtualtour](http://www.AshleyTreatment.org/virtualtour)

**Social:** [!\[\]\(17413706fd4997a1a4bdf85c6864eee1\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(f419710cbe076aa30a9c6c031b5cbe84\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(2726020a4107bdc9042b257034f90eb3\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(9459655bf14a84f4d775e8d814cca8c9\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(de47dbdca34225b222a4a87ac0e499b3\_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(96827f7759894bde432c5e841bd43777\_img.jpg\)](#)