From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I am filled with gratitude for our growing community and excitement for our new programs. Nothing is more rewarding than the increasing number of individuals and families who are now receiving support from the Cole Resource Center. Here are a few examples from recent weeks:

- We met with a Mom and Dad and helped to locate a nearby residential community for their daughter upon her release from the hospital.
- We helped an individual, who has been out of the workforce for 2 years due to mental health challenges, find an internship 3-days per week that will offer them structure and purpose and build their confidence.
- We benefited from the ongoing engagement of our brilliant and committed roster of 11 volunteers who are also affected by mental health challenges, either with loved ones or themselves; this amazing group doubled down in support of our Spotlight event on October.
- Our first Spotlight Series on mental health in the workplace, was a huge, standing-room-only success! Thank you to our panelists Marc Perlman, CEO of Ocean State Job Lot; Miriam Heyman from the Ruderman Foundation; Susan Coakley, President of BMC-Healthnet; and Dania Jekel from the Autism/Asperger Network along with Eliza Williamson, Evan Rockefeller and Eric Ziemba. Special thanks to Dr. Joe Flores of McLean Hospital who moderated the panel and presented awards to the Cole Resource Center Co-Founders.

I am particularly grateful to our Co-Founders, Evie Barkin and Anne Whitman, for their continued support as they pass the mantel to me as Executive Director. The Cole Resource Center is expanding in innovative and creative ways. Our mission will never change: opening pathways to wellness for ALL those affected by the unique experiences connected to mental health.

Please visit our website at coleresourcecenter.org to learn about our programs and services. Please pass the word along to others about the Cole Resource Center. And please consider donating to support the exciting future of CRC.

Please email me and or call me with your thoughts and ideas. It takes a village!

Sincerely,

Joanne

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