



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Contact:** Kathy Putnam 407-745-1154,  
c: 321-279-4088  
[Kathy.putnam@saltermitchell.com](mailto:Kathy.putnam@saltermitchell.com)  
Dr. Susanne Homant, 850-224-4493  
[susanne@AbleTrust.org](mailto:susanne@AbleTrust.org)  
Debra Webb, 305-693-3508  
[dwebb@keyclubhouse.org](mailto:dwebb@keyclubhouse.org)

### **Able Trust Grant to Key Clubhouse Increases Job Training and Employment Opportunities for People With Mental Illness**

**MIAMI, FL** – The Able Trust today presented the Key Clubhouse of South Florida with a \$65,000 grant to connect people living with mental illness with job training and help in finding employment. According to data from the Centers for Disease Control, 15% of Miami-Dade residents report suffering from poor mental health. That equates to 2.1 million being affected by significant mental health issues.

The mission of Key Clubhouse is to help people diagnosed with mental illness reintegrate back into the community through employment. Dr. Susanne Homant, president and CEO of The Able Trust, explained this strategy aligns with her organization's purpose.

“Our primary mission at The Able Trust is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment,” said Dr. Homant. “The \$65,000 grant we are providing to the Key Clubhouse of South Florida is a natural fit for The Able Trust. Key Clubhouse has been enormously successful in helping to prepare persons living with the disability of a mental illness to live a life without limits and experience the highest degree of independence—which includes returning to the workforce.”

Since last summer, Key Clubhouse has assisted 118 members with preparing to enter the workforce, find employment and receive on-the-job training. They have helped 20 find jobs.

“We are grateful to The Able Trust for supporting our mission,” said Key Clubhouse executive director Debra Webb. “This recovery through work stabilizes our members and prepares them for getting to work everyday by providing routine and the opportunity to work with others – all critical to building confidence to rejoin the workplace.”

Key Clubhouse has partnered with TJMaxx, Crowne Plaza Hotel and Career Source for employment opportunities.

Key Clubhouse member Alexander Lasa, 47, has found work with the organization's assistance.

“I'm thankful for the 'recovery through work' philosophy,” explained Lasa. “Key Clubhouse breaks the isolation that many of us feel in living with mental illness. I feel I'm getting a second chance.”

Key Clubhouse serves 90 adults over 18 years old. Members connect with the organization through psychiatric referrals.

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About The Able Trust:

*The Able Trust, also known as the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, is a 501(c)(3) public charity established by the Florida Legislature in 1990. Its mission is to be a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment. For over 26 years, The Able Trust has supported a diversity of projects and programs statewide, and has helped thousands of Floridians with disabilities gain employment.*

About Key Clubhouse of South Florida:

*The Key Clubhouse of South Florida is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is to afford people whose lives have been disrupted by mental illness the opportunity to recover meaningful and productive lives through reintegration into the workplace and the community. Located at 1400 Northwest 54<sup>th</sup> Street, Key Clubhouse has an open-door policy, admitting adults living with serious and persistent mental illnesses, regardless of their insurance status or place of residence within the county. For more information, visit [www.keyclubhouse.org](http://www.keyclubhouse.org) or call 305-693-3508.*