

Behind the Veil



VAIL COMMUNITIES
CULTIVATING HOPE FOR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

October 2025

Happy October! 

From all of us here at Vail Communities -- we hope your fall is off to a calm, relaxing start. This summer was certainly a whirlwind, but it seems like fall will be just as busy! We have some exciting events coming up (CarniVail later this week!) that will help us ring in the new season. We hope to see you there and thanks for following along!

October 6th - 12th is Mental Illness Awareness Week! This year's theme is "Mental Health at Work," highlighting how our mental health can be impacted by the workplace culture at our jobs. This week reminds us that conversations about mental health can happen anywhere. The more we talk about it, the less stigmatized it is!

Thank You To Our
TE Employers!

THANK
YOU!

We want to give a BIG shoutout and an even BIGGER thank you to our fantastic TE (Transitional Employment) partners who have helped us engage Clubhouse Members in employment to gain valuable work experience and lifelong skills!

Thank you to the following organizations:

- Sea Salt Eatery
- Kowalski's
- Lynnhurst UCC
- Morningside UCC

We thank you for your partnership, guidance, and dedication to Vail Communities' vision of serving the whole individual! If you think your organization might be a good fit for TE engagement, please reach out to:

Chad Bolstrom: cbolstrom@vailcommunities.org

See you at CarniVail!



It's finally here! CarniVail is THIS Saturday, October 4th, from 10am - 1pm! This mental health-themed event is for the whole family and will have carnival games, prizes, food trucks with food for purchase, and more! Mik Mart Ice Cream and The Dawg House will be there with plenty of eats and treats to go around. Come support Vail Communities and help us raise money towards our mission of creating pathways of recovery through relationships, purpose, and opportunity! We hope to see you there!

Saturday, October 4th
10am - 1pm

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55408

P.S. We will be sharing an exciting update about the 2026 Vail Communities Gala that you won't want to miss!

Give to the Max in November!

Starting November 1st, Early Giving for Give to the Max begins! This annual fundraiser helps nonprofits like us deliver essential services and programs to our clients and Members. Make sure to mark your calendars for Early Giving and then the official Give to the Max Day on Nov. 20th!



**GIVING THAT
GATHERS US**

Donations for Clubhouse

Resource Pantries



Our Clubhouses are collecting travel-size hygiene items to stock our Resource Pantries! We are specifically looking for travel-size toothbrushes, toothpastes, shampoo, and conditioner. If you would like to donate, you can drop these items off at the following drop-off locations:

- RamCo Clubhouse: 285 Dale St. N, St. Paul, MN 55103
- Hopkins Clubhouse: 15 9th Ave. S, Hopkins, MN 55343
- H2 Headquarters: 23 9th Ave. S, Hopkins, MN 55343

Thank you in advance for your donations and support of our Clubhouses!

Housing Update - Renewed Rapid Rehousing Grant



Our renewed Rapid Rehousing grant is set to officially begin on October 1st. The grant is a 2-year contract that will serve referrals coming directly from the local emergency shelters with aid in housing navigation, rent assistance, and tenancy supports. This grant cycle is unique because Hennepin County designated Vail Communities as their provider to serve both single and family household referrals. Our Rapid Rehousing team has been working hard on landlord recruitment efforts for rentals with increased bedrooms in preparation for this expansion into family services. If you or anyone you know is a property owner interested in learning more about how you can partner with our housing programs, please reach out to Tyler Keyes: tkeyes@vailcommunities.org!

Clubhouse Member Spotlight

Danny Evans
Hopkins Clubhouse



Meet Danny Evans! Danny has been a Clubhouse Member at the Hopkins Clubhouse since 2017. Although nervous at first, his wife encouraged him to take the first step and visit. As he became more involved in the Clubhouse, Danny worked at Kowalski's as part of Vail Communities' TE (Temporary Employment) program. Flash forward to today, Danny is a strong advocate and ambassador for the Clubhouse Model and Vail Communities. He credits Vail with helping him get back on his feet, getting him back into employment, and back into the community.

Now, Danny works as a Peer Support Specialist for Ramsey County Mental Health Center. He enjoys helping others on their mental health journeys, teaching coping skills, and providing one-on-one support. Danny also performs spoken word, rap, and poetry at various community events to raise awareness and decrease the stigma around mental illness. Thank you, Danny, for sharing your story and for all the work you do to support others!

Thanks for reading! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more updates!

