

SCI IN THE NEWS!

Recently, Mary Murphy of PIX 11 News featured another story about the heroin crisis in New York, with a focus on Staten Island. Mary interviewed an Alumnus of St. Christopher's Inn, Marco Di Donna, and included information about the Inn and our unique model of treatment. You can view the piece on the PIX 11 website: <http://pix11.com/2017/04/25/one-time-painkiller-dealer-recalls-staten-island-as-the-wild-wild-west/>



David Gerber, Director of Counseling and Shelter Services at the Inn, was recently interviewed on a local Cable News Show called "Viewpoint." This is a great piece about the history of St. Christopher's Inn, along with a clear overview of our services, our unique model of treatment, and our success rates.

You can find the

link for the interview on YouTube on the SCI website under Latest News. <http://stchristophersinn-graymoor.org/news-events/news-press-releases>



WITH GRATITUDE FROM MARIANNE TAYLOR-RHOADES



It is with a heavy heart that I announce my retirement from St. Christopher's Inn as Chief Operating Officer, where I have proudly served for the last 16 years—I will be retiring this year, effective June 30, 2017. I find that plans for retirement are bittersweet, as I am excited to start a new chapter in my life but sad to end another one. I will miss all of you deeply. I

will be working hard in the next 2 months to facilitate the transition process. I know that I will leave SCI in the best hands and with the most talented, dedicated and hardworking staff—I am in awe of the many miracles they perform every day.

May I take this opportunity to thank you most graciously for the help, support, and opportunities I have had in the wonderful and exciting years I have been with St. Christopher's Inn. It has been a remarkable journey and I have enjoyed all the time spent working with the Board of Directors, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, the Benefactors and most of all the men that we serve. How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard! The mission of St. Christopher's Inn will remain near and dear to my heart always and I will continue to pass its message along no matter where I am.

"BROTHER CLYDE"

There is something about the companionship of a dog. The unconditional love of a faithful animal to make you feel like you are worthy. You matter. This can be a powerful tool in finding your way back to loving yourself. Because of this, you can understand why Marianne Taylor-Rhoades, COO and David Gerber, Director of Counseling and Shelter Services, suggested that we get a permanent therapy dog here at St. Christopher's Inn.



After a great deal of research, Fr. Bill contacted a breeder in Pennsylvania, who raises Havanese. The Havanese was originally bred as the companion dog of the Cuban aristocracy in the 1800s, and is a very trainable and energetic breed. After a lengthy conversation about our ministry at the Inn, the breeder generously chose to donate "**Clyde!**"

Clyde has just completed his second session of obedience school, and will be trained as a therapy dog for the residents beginning in June. He celebrated his first birthday on March 21, 2017, enjoys his walks with the men here every day, and has just started to attend group therapy with the Brothers Christopher. Clyde has adjusted well, and is a friendly and loving companion. A member of the staff here at the Inn made Clyde his own Franciscan habit, and now he is fondly called "**Brother Clyde.**"

- Fr. Bill Drobach, SA

