

Good day,

When we have to face our demons, having people who truly know how to help can make all the difference.

The following excerpts from a letter to Tammy Tucker, PsyD, Associate Administrator of Behavioral Health, reminds us that as individuals and as a team, our Patient First care is changing lives.

Thank you,



Dear Dr. Tucker,

When, despite my best efforts, I could not stop the addiction to powerful narcotics, my doctor recommended Memorial Regional Hospital's Outpatient Center for Behavioral Health.

I went there directly from his office, and when my wife and I arrived, everyone spent quality time with me. They made me feel comfortable and not like a "junkie." They treated me like a person who had a problem, and told me they could help me with this problem. They gave me hope from day 1. They gave me the strength to come in to face my detox.

That day was the hardest day of my life. I had been a daily user of every drug you could name for 31 years. I had tried and failed on my own more times than I can count to stop using drugs. But even in the sickness of detoxing, these people gave me something I had never felt before: hope.

Just like a faucet when you turn on the water, ever day I would open up a little more, and when I would go home, I would feel better and better each day. A cleansing process I guess you would call it. I was taking out the trash that I had stored for 31 years, and leaving it at the curb to be hauled away. I can not emphasize strongly enough that I got something out of each therapist – even if they didn't know it.

No one single individual saved me from returning to my disease. It took all of them, a team of professionals, working as individuals, but always with the team in mind.

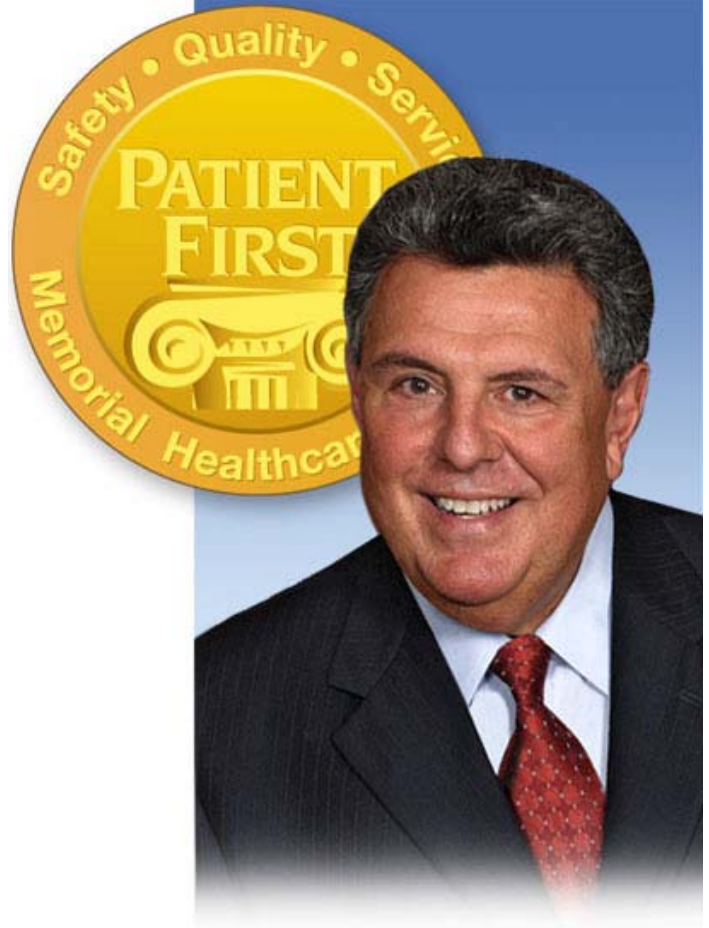
There are lots of sick people out there who need this center's help. I am even going to volunteer as much time as they will have me, to do whatever will help them. Service, to repay all that was done for me, when I needed help.

The center quite literally took someone who had destroyed his life and changed me. I am and always will be indebted to all those compassionate, caring people.

Please thank them all for saving my life.

Sincerely from the heart,

M. M.



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