



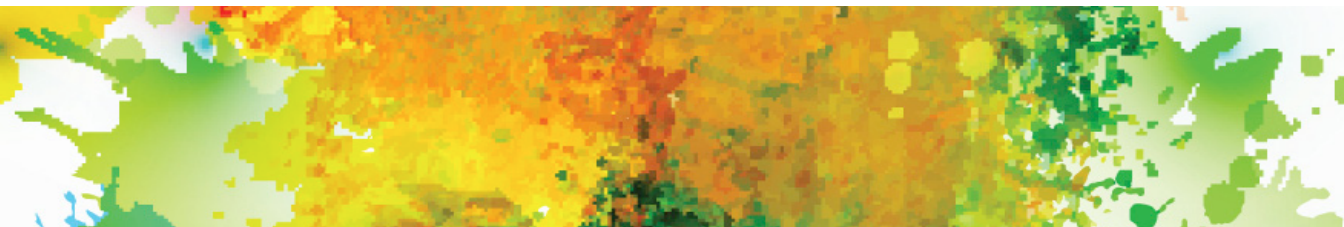
# FOREST OF HOPE

*a project of The Nikki Perlow Foundation*

**ART, ROOTED IN RECOVERY**



Providing hope. Offering help.  
For families & young adults fighting addiction.





All proceeds from the *Forest of Hope* benefit The Nikki Perlow Foundation.

**OUR MISSION** is to help young adults conquer the disease of drug and alcohol addiction and succeed in long-term recovery. We do this by providing financial, emotional and logistical support throughout their journey. We also provide education tied to awareness and prevention of substance abuse while striving to eliminate the stigma associated with the disease of addiction.





The **FOREST OF HOPE** project is a celebration of life that connects the beauty of art and nature with people who have freed themselves from the grips of drug and alcohol addiction and are thriving in long-term recovery.

The forest comes to life with amazing color as portions of trees are painted to mirror the beauty, strength and fragility of individuals and their families who have suffered through the pain of addiction and with conviction are overcoming this disease.

Each tree, painted by an individual in recovery and their family/team, represents a life, tells a story and sends a powerful message:

**PEOPLE DO RECOVER.**

Individually, each tree is symbolic of a unique and difficult journey. Collectively, the forest represents a community united in its determination to overcome, and share the success of personal accomplishment over the disease for all to see and be inspired by.



# A DEEPLY PERSONAL PROJECT...

*"My tree will be strong and alive with roots that are deep and long – much like my recovery is deep and strong and allows me to live beyond the constant sickness of addiction.*

*To translate something so awful into something alive and beautiful will be a gift.*

*My tree in the Forest of Hope will make my recovery real and tangible and expressive and known."*

*~ David A.,  
Sobriety Date: 5-1-1985*





# THE PROCESS



## PARTICIPATE

by claiming a tree in our  
*Forest of Hope* to be yours

[LOCATION WILL BE SHARED]



## BUILD A TEAM

of family members and friends to participate in  
celebrating your recovery by  
sponsoring and painting your tree

[IDEAL SIZE: 10-12 PEOPLE]



## REFLECT TOGETHER WITH YOUR TEAM

about what recovery means to you at a group  
workshop where the dialog is transformed into art

[ART TALENT NOT REQUIRED, PROMISE! SESSION: APPROXIMATELY 2.5 HRS]



## WAIT WITH ANTICIPATION

as your thoughts and images come to life  
when they are collaged together with those  
of your peers by our resident artist/facilitator

[APPROXIMATELY 4 WEEKS LATER]



## REUNITE WITH YOUR TEAM FOR “PAINT DAY”

when you will paint *your* art on *your* tree  
in the forest with *your* team

*(art template and supplies provided)*

[THIS WILL BE AN EXCITING COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!]



## WITNESS

the *Forest of Hope* come to life for all  
to see and be inspired by

[A PERMANENT WORK FOR YOU TO REFLECT ON]

# ASSEMBLING YOUR TEAM

**YOUR COMMITMENT:** You, as a Team Leader, can invite anyone you'd like to join you on the journey. The only requirement is enthusiasm!

*You have the power to make change.* You have probably lived through years of storms, weathered the disease and come out standing tall. This is an opportunity to gather your friends and family to help express your story!

Your team will meet once for a group workshop to discuss what Recovery means to you (and them). Here, ideas are reflected through art. *(Don't worry, all supplies will be provided and no artistic talent is necessary.)* Following the workshop, our artist facilitator, Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen, will take the artistic thoughts and drawings created and collage them together into a group statement. He will provide your group's thoughts in a template that you and your team will then paint on your tree during "Paint Day" in the *Forest of Hope* forest. This will be a fun and creative community celebration.







## CREATING A COMMUNITY UNITED IN ITS TRIUMPH

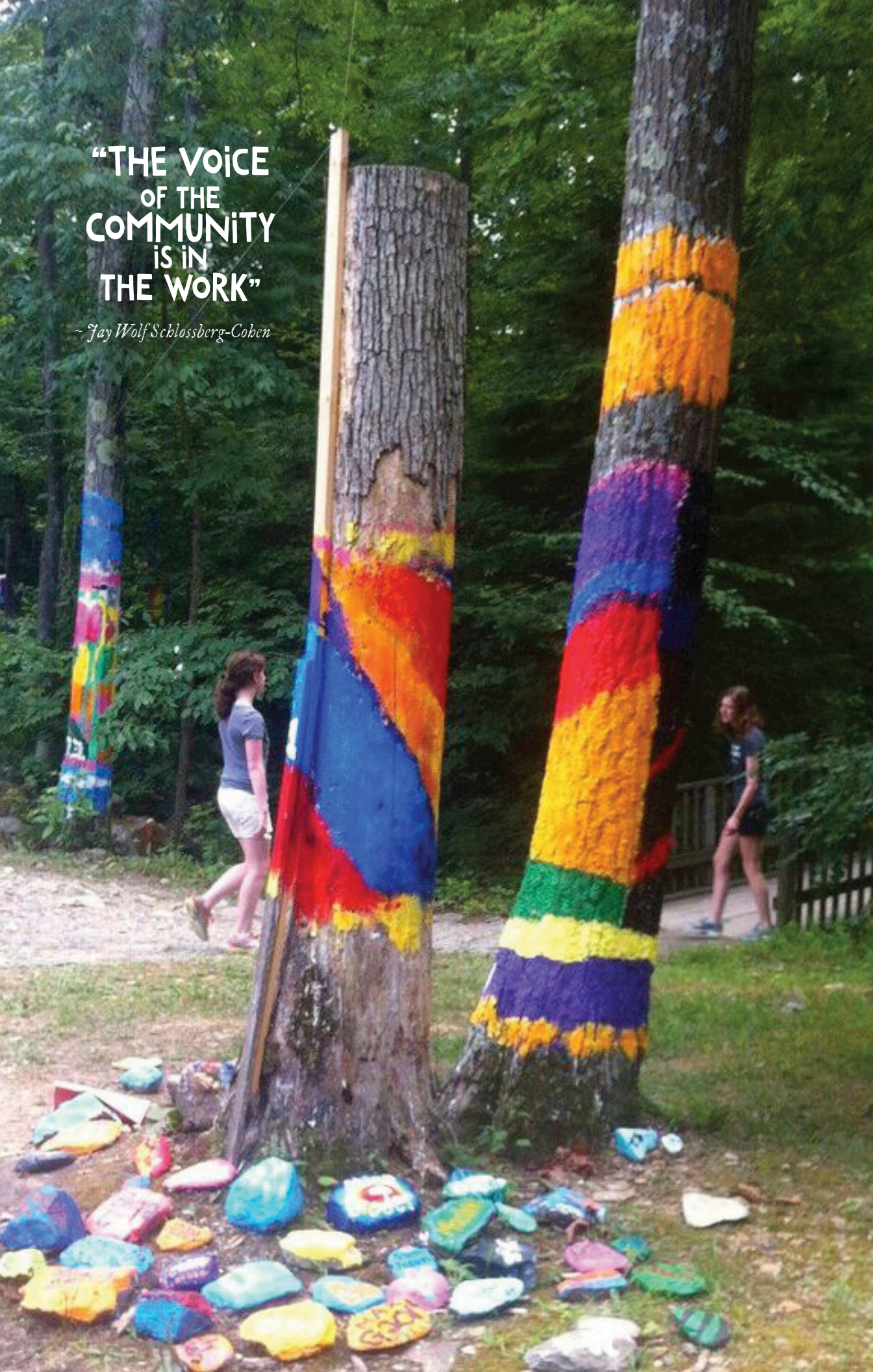
*"I love the idea of creating a sacred space, a chance to come together with new members of a shared community, to celebrate and remember an often ignored and misunderstood reality of our culture/humanity. 'Owning' a tree would be like taking ownership of my recovery; a semi-public, still humbling, vulnerable admission of a major defining characteristic of my identity.*

*~ David R.,  
Sobriety Date: 8-6-2013*



**“THE VOICE  
OF THE  
COMMUNITY  
IS IN  
THE WORK”**

*~ Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen*





# THE PROCESS IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE PRODUCT

The Forest of Hope project is led by internationally renowned artist, Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen.

*"I have been painting for over 40 years. Through a unique workshop process, I bring communities together to create murals that depict themes identified as important by the participants. The process of team building and learning is as important as the end product, transforming people and places."*

The mission of Jay's community based public artwork is to ignite community engagement, empowerment, and action through art. The art is of, and by, the community, and transforms people and places. Participants come together as a group, and through

Jay's unique process discover their personal, innate creative ability, the validity of ideas of all individuals, the power of collaboration with others, and a passion for the beauty of the sacred.

*Jay, at work on some of his projects....*







The mission of the *Forest of Hope* is two-fold:

First, to create a place that is a living testament to people who succeed in long term recovery and send the message that *recovery works*. By doing this, we create a highly visible and inspiring symbol of success that will help break down the stigma associated with the disease of addiction.

Second, to raise funds. The Nikki Perlow Foundation is committed to helping young adults struggling with drug and alcohol addiction rebuild their lives. NPF is not only driving awareness to the disease, but helping many in crisis. With funds raised by the *Forest of Hope* project we can provide much needed scholarships and assistance to pay for treatment, make contributions to local treatment facilities, prevention programs and sober living facilities where those in the early stages of recovery can thrive.

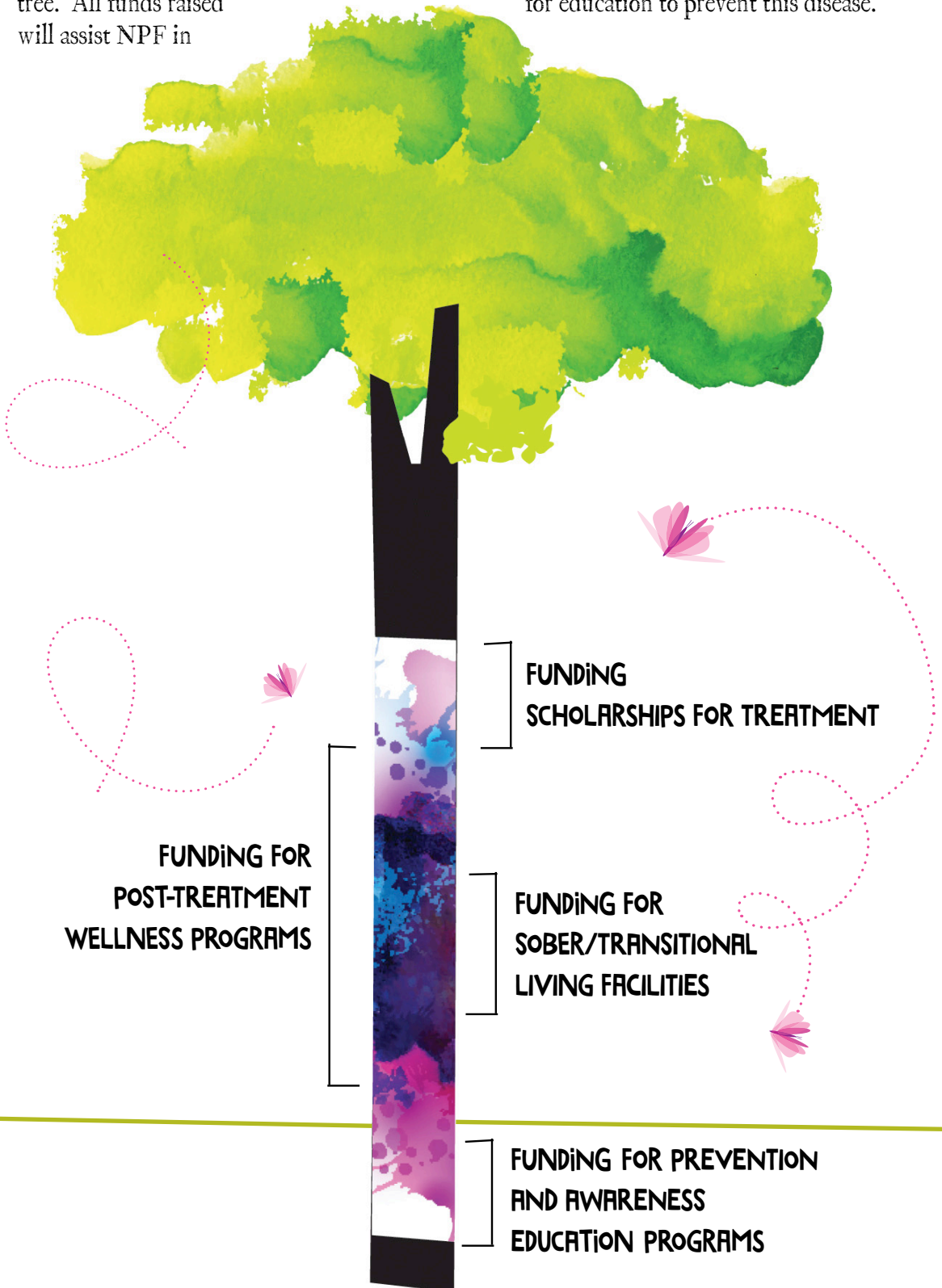


# PUTTING YOUR TEAM TO WORK

## “Funding by the foot”

Each Team Leader will reach out to family, friends, co workers and others to raise pledge donations for painting their tree. All funds raised will assist NPF in

getting help to the people who need it most for the things that matter most to their recovery, as well as provide funding for education to prevent this disease.







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