New Drug Treatment Building in Bridgeport Named After Sallyan and Steve Pelletier of Darien

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A new, state-of-the-art outpatient treatment center for people recovering from substance abuse and mental health problems will be named after a Darien couple who volunteered and contributed to get it built.

<u>Liberation Programs</u>, in recognition of their contributions to the recovery community, is naming the new Pelletier Wellness Center in Bridgeport for Darienites Sallyan and Steve Pelletier at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 3 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 19.

"The 11,000-square-foot center will increase access to treatment and support at a time when it is urgently needed, providing expanded and enhanced services and treatment for substance use and mental health disorders under one roof," the drug-treatment organization said in a news release.

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"The Pelletier Wellness Center is a state-of-the art outpatient treatment center providing medication-assisted recovery, individual and family therapeutic counseling and support services to people seeking treatment for substance use and mental health disorders in Fairfield County," the news release said.

Nearly all — 98 percent — of Liberation Programs' 750 clients in Bridgeport participate in medication-assisted recovery related to opioids, according to the organization.

More than two <u>Connecticut residents died</u> on an average day from opioid abuse in 2017, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Sallyan Pelletier, is a former managing director, global head of marketing execution, and Americas Region head of marketing for UBS. She has served on the board of Liberation Programs since 2014 and served as the agency's board chair from 2015 to 2016.

She's contributed her expertise in business and global marketing to raise awareness about lives unnecessarily lost to overdoses and to the evidence-based treatment Liberation Programs provides.

Her husband, <u>Steve Pelletier</u>, is executive vice president and chief operating officer, U.S. businesses for Prudential.

"Fairfield County has been deeply affected by the opioid epidemic," Sallyan Pelletier said. "The lack of enough programs, combined with stigma, prevents people from seeking the help they need."

"My husband Steve and I wanted a way to demonstrate the vision we share with Liberation Programs that recovery is possible for everyone — if there is sufficient access to treatment," she said. "We want to support the holistic approach to health that the Pelletier Wellness Center will provide for our community."

Located at 399 Mill Hill Ave. in Bridgeport, the new center takes its place immediately next door to where the original Tudor-style building stood for years.

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