

CARS CAYUGA ADDICTION RECOVERY SERVICES NEWS

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The Long Spoons



Chico's RARC



An Example of the Inspiring Clients of CARS' Residential Addiction Recovery Center (RARC)

Our staff is often amazed by the inspiring stories and unique talents CARS' clients share with them during their stays at our Residential Addiction Recovery Center (RARC) in Trumansburg.

Please allow us to introduce Chico, a gifted artist who currently has multiple projects on exhibit at the RARC. Chico, whose art displays such wide-ranging influences as Edward Munch, classic horror films, Salvador Dali and a dash of contemporary superheroes, is a detail-oriented artist who is always on the lookout for the perfect artistic application of randomly encountered materials. Two ways in which Chico's personality shines through his work can be seen in the generosity he displays as an artist and in the resourcefulness with which he masters the fine details of his craft.

Chico notes a primary goal of his is to make art for the enjoyment of others. With his special, longtime interest in color, he was intentional about learning of his peers' favorite colors before proceeding to design colorful, intricately functional pencil boxes for everyone. Moreover, he quickly became the go-to artist of the residence, with his peers requesting, and he enthusiastically fulfilling, requests for his exceptional creations. As an example, he built the Amityville Horror house for a friend whose mother has a great appreciation for horror films. Chico's generosity and love for art also come through in his desire to involve others in his works. A question he may ask himself, when considering a project, is, "How am I going to do this so everyone else can participate?" He resolved the challenge of encouraging others' participation when designing an ice rink by cutting out 70 Christmas trees and 70 snowmen and then inviting his peers to personalize them before placing these Christmas trees and snowmen around his completed rink.

Chico's personality as an artist also shines through in his resourcefulness and attention to detail. As an artist he is a resourceful perfectionist who finds the perfect use for, or is quick to discard, materials from his environment for his creations. Examples of his resourcefulness and attention to detail can be found in his creative depiction of the multicultural folk story "The Long Spoons" and in his scale model of the RARC (see photos). First, when designing "The Long Spoons" he faced the challenge of combining two images, one in which individuals with excessively long spoons are unable to feed themselves yet fail to resolve their dilemma, and another in which these individuals, realizing their predicament, find resolution in working together to feed one another. Chico resolved his artistic challenge through the use of dowels, pipe cleaners and paint, allowing him to combine two images into one, bottom and top, in order to visually represent the folk story's characters' predicament and resolution. Second, when designing a scale model of the RARC, Chico found himself facing the significant limitation of being limited to a street-level view of the Residence. However, by finding a detailed blueprint of the residence's fire escape route, and with the creative application of construction paper, he was able to overcome obstacles and design his model to carefully detailed scale.

We welcome you to schedule a tour of our Residence and to be inspired by Chico's amazing art which, true to his great, artistic generosity, he has thoughtfully donated to CARS.