Ada started her culinary career at her father’s restaurant where she worked for many years. Ada had several cooking jobs including working at Weed & Seed where she met Anita Mitchell. She then worked alongside Anita at the Easton Community Center for 8 years before coming to Safe Harbor in June. Ada is very involved with the Easton Community and is the Culinary Instructor for Cooking Matters in the Easton School District where she teaches cooking classes to elementary and middle school children. She is also the Chief for The Children’s Program at the Public Market and has her own catering business. We are very excited to have her on our team! Ada has a deep passion for working with children and is looking forward to going back to school for Pastry Arts.

She’s grateful to have the knowledge and gift to spread happiness through her cooking.

Ada starts every morning by giving hugs to the residents. When asked why she does it, Ada started to tear up and said “a dear friend of mine who is no longer with us told me he was going to give hugs to everyone he meets; at first I thought it was silly but you never know if it’s going to be their last hug”. With that in mind Ada’s mission is to bring happiness to those around her by the simple gesture of giving someone a hug.

Safe Harbor is happy to announce that our Safe Harbor Peace Garden is complete and bearing fruit—literally! Special thanks to Lehigh Community Fellow Erika Ashman for her hard work on this project. We’ve already been able to incorporate fresh produce from our garden into our food services program and provide our residents with a tranquil, healthy place to relax and unwind in a space they can be proud of.
SAFE HARBOR STAFF

Executive Director
Anita Mitchell

Director of Operations
Jeffrey Poch

Business Administrator
Elizabeth Rychnovsky

Female Case Manager
Sarah Woodruff

Day Program Director
Daniel Massaro

Food Services Director
Ada Chandler

House Managers
Angel Cintron
Jeffrey Wilson
Alana Lutz
Austin Miller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Bonnie Winfield

Vice President
Richard Adams

Treasurer
Bill Schroeder

Secretary
Bernadette Fennimore

Board Members
Janice Alleman
Carl Dolder
Brett Feldman
Jeffrey Finegan
Chris Thornton
Ron Semanick
Joe O’Conner
Victoria Opthof
Jane Nordell

SAFE HARBOR Easton will be hosting its 17th annual Regatta fundraiser on September 17th, 2016 at Penn Pump Park in Easton. Toy regatta boat numbers are available for purchase now at $5 each! The first 20 boats to race the Bushkill and cross the finish line will win their ticket holders a special prize.

We hope you will join us for a day of fun, food, family, and racing toy boats down Bushkill Creek! As in past years, we will have a free cookout, raffles and tricky tray baskets, and games for the kids. Come down at 12pm to buy raffle tickets and enjoy a community cookout, followed by the boat race launch at 1pm! We’ll keep the festivities going until 3pm. Boat tickets can be purchased on our website or by calling or stopping by Safe Harbor. We can’t wait to see you there!

NEW MEN’S AND WOMEN’S GROUPS

Our Recovery Center is now home to a new weekly Women’s Group, led by staff members Sarah Woodruff and Liz Rychnovsky. Group activities have included nail painting, DIY facials, and make-your-own aromatherapy sugar scrubs! Also new to Safe Harbor is a men’s group, led by staff member Daniel Massaro and board member Jeffrey Finegan. This group allows men to discuss the difficulties of everyday life, relationships, and early recovery in a safe and friendly environment. Both of these groups have been wildly popular, and give residents a unique chance to bond with each other and with members of our staff.
SAFEBOR GARDEN PARTY
Safe Harbor held a garden party last month to celebrate the opening of our new Peace Garden. Residents, staff, board members and community partners came together to share fresh snacks featuring produce from the garden, music, dancing and lots of laughs! Stay tuned for future Garden Parties! This one was so much fun we will definitely do it again.

AN UPDATE FOR ALL MEAL PROVIDERS!
Safe Harbor is always in need of meal providers for the upcoming months. Our new Food Services Director, Ada Chandler, is ready to take your calls and questions about meal providing and possible dates! 610.258.5540 achandler@safeharboraston.org

A HEARTWARMING STORY
Local sisters Aubrie, Kenslie and Elsie all have summer birthdays. This year they decided that since they already have so much, they wanted to do something special for their party. The girls’ parents threw them a birthday party and asked friends and family to bring items from our Wish List instead of gifts for the girls. The whole family came down to Safe Harbor and dropped off a car full of much-needed household and personal items for our residents. What a wonderful thing to do! Way to go, girls!

HIGHMARK WALK FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY
Safe Harbor participated in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community again this year. With your help, we raised $2,836 for our shelter! We were lucky to be able to partner with two caring Easton community members, Tammy and Tariq, who left from Highmark to start their Walk for Dreams. Their plan was to walk to Florida to raise money for Safe Harbor. They made it all the way to Richmond, VA before medical concerns forced them to go mobile. They finished the trip with Tariq’s sister driving and made it to Florida, where they toured a local shelter and brought information back for us. Thank you to all of you who followed their efforts on Facebook and to Tammy and Tariq for their dedication to our community.
BRIDGE BUDDIES FOR RECOVERY

Safe Harbor Easton is excited to announce the July 5th launch of our new BRIDGE Buddies for Recovery Program, a friend-to-friend support program for new residents in the early stages of recovery. This program is meant to address the “gap” period experienced by many of our new residents in early recovery between the date that we refer them to treatment and the date that they actually begin treatment. This “gap” period exists due to the recent, overwhelming spike in demand for drug and alcohol treatment services in the Lehigh Valley. The BRIDGE Buddies program works to provide recovery-based support during this otherwise unsupported period by matching new residents with a volunteer buddy from the community. This volunteer buddy then helps their resident buddy get to local recovery meetings, takes them on positive community activities, and provides a listening ear in times of crisis. In this way, they serve as a temporary support while simultaneously providing the opportunity for their resident buddy to make connections within the local recovery community that will last long after the Buddyship ends. We have made three successful matches so far, and are very excited about the future of this program. Special thanks to the Easton Rotary Club for their financial support of BRIDGE Buddies!

Interested in serving as a BRIDGE Buddy? Contact Sarah Woodruff at swoodruff@safeharboreaston.org for more information.