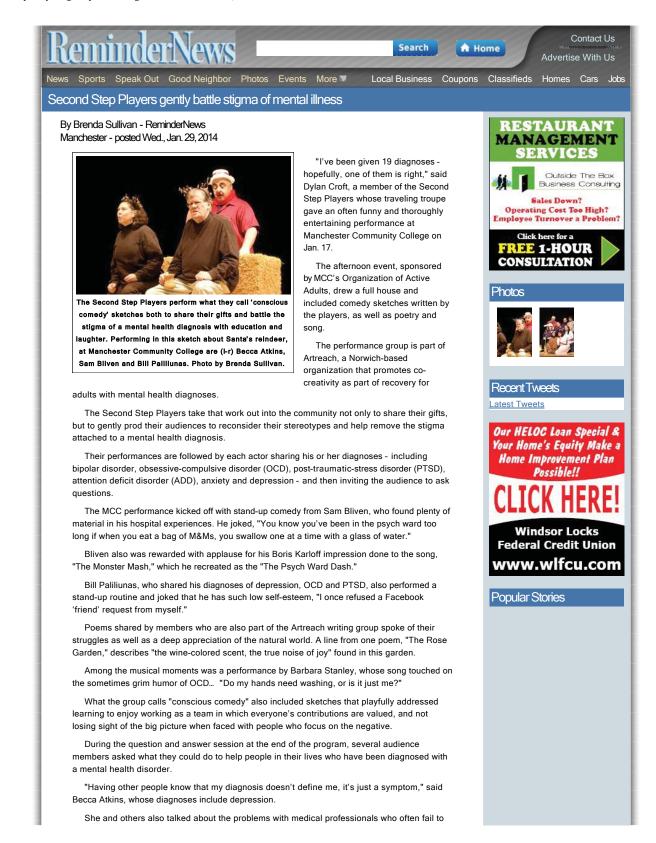
In searching the publicly accessible web, we found a webpage of interest and provide a snapshot of it below. Please be advised that this page, and any images or links in it, may have changed since we created this snapshot. For your convenience, we provide a hyperlink to the current webpage as part of our service.

Second Step Players gently battle stigma of mental illness | Reminder News

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properly diagnosis or treat physical illnesses after they're informed of their patient's mental health diagnosis.

"I know of someone who had cancer for two years and the doctors didn't see it because they were looking at her only as someone with a mental illness," Barbara Stanley said.

Another question was how to encourage a loved one to continue taking his or her medications.

Instead of pressuring the loved one, Atkins said, try and be a kind of mirror. "You might say something like, 'It seems like you're not feeling as well as you were three weeks ago. Is something happening?'"

Melanie Nagode added, "Don't shame them... just show your undying love and appreciation and let them know when they're better."

The Second Step Players perform throughout Connecticut, as well as in other parts of the country, with the sponsoring group paying for their transportation.

More information about joining this group, or participating in any of the other Artreach artistic development groups - which are open to all community members over age 18 - can be found on the website http://artreachheals.org.

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