

My name is Carey and I'm one of the practitioners at Affordable Healing Arts. I found out about them inside of The Healing Center during their big One Year Celebration. These are my experiences following my arrival:

The first time that I walked into the New Orleans Healing Center, I knew that I had found my dream job. Even from outside, the orange and purple building seemed to be calling me. As I walked inside, the stunning water fountain and local pieces of art scattered about floor one showed me right away that this was a place like no other.

After looking around at the places to eat, shops, and diverse people smiling and exploring along with me, I found the New Orleans Food Co Op. Just being in that place, I knew that this food was more thought about, more created for the health of the people eating it and for the living things in it. And the employees really cared about me, even cheering for me when I became a member!

I explored the other floors including the art gallery and the roof where people do meditations some mornings. Finally, I found it: Affordable Healing Arts.

I don't know any way to say it other than love at first sight. Believe it or not, I had made it on this day only because I begged a friend to bring me from my job at the time and scheduled a cab ride back at the end of my lunch break. I somehow knew that this would be an important step in my life and the world worked with me. I made it. I walked more slowly up to the front desk. On a flier, I was able to look over all of the healers working there including shamans, massage therapists, an Asian bodywork therapist, a social worker, naturopathic practitioners, an Alexander Technique teacher, and an art therapist!

I had the luxury of speaking with Debra Howard, the owner of Affordable Healing Arts, Asian bodywork therapist, and basically the woman who does it all. When there are events, questions from clients, or other healers interested in working with us, she's always working hard, making things run smoothly and look beautiful. One of our shamans, Be Bop, calls her "our fearless warrior."

I felt different as soon as I was in Affordable Healing Arts. I felt like I was healing just being within it. I hesitantly asked about working there too. Debra was very nice and talked to me about what I was looking for and what the space was looking for, seeing if we fit. I learned that I could create my own business and rent out one of the spaces to see my clients in. I could be an entrepreneur! All of the rooms were beautiful, too. Each one was different, feng shui, and contained lots of useful items like lamps, tables, and sinks to help healers do their jobs.

I was so impressed by the beautiful open space that you can walk around. There is an opening in one area where you can look up to the sun, which shines lights onto crystals, throwing

dancing rainbows around the room. You can look back down to the waterfall and passersby below. Like I said, I was in love and I made sure I wrote down the steps towards working here.

Once I had gotten my license at City Hall, I returned to sign paperwork. When I read it, I was amazed. It talked about being accepting of diversity, open to doing things to help living things and the environment, and respecting each other. This is what every job should be like!

My first day of work, my family was so proud of me. My mom helped me set up and my daughter and partner walked me in excitedly. I advertised with my own cards and fliers and I got calls back! Over time, I started working less and less at my other job until I became full time at my own business. Affordable Healing Arts helped me to gain a clientele because they get the word out about us as we get info out about them. I'd say it was only about six months before I was steadily working solely at my business. It is still growing but I have seen how much people love to come here and I am confident that we will continue to flourish.

Today at Affordable Healing Arts, I help promote myself and my floor at fun events, trade services with fellow healers, and I impress new clientele with the beautiful space and the friendly faces of my fellow business owners and returning clients.

I have always wanted to show my daughter that we can have jobs we love. I want her to know that she can work with people who care about her, help others, and be happy in her career. So many people can not stand their place of work, their boss, or their income. For people who care about the world, don't want other people in control of what they make, and who just plain want to enjoy their profession, this is an incredible opportunity!

Also, a lot of what is needed at work (and for feeling happy and healthy at work and beyond) can be found in The Healing Center! The Co Op offers products that can be used for clients or recommended to them. Also located in the Healing Center is a Federal Credit Union and other businesses that support businesses when they are environmentally conscious. In addition, the Healing Center offers books, fitness, alterations, yoga, activities, and spiritual items for many different beliefs and philosophies.

If you are interested in learning more about working at Affordable Healing Arts, you can contact Debra Howard. Feel free to ask about how to start your own business, affordable rental plans while you are starting out, and when you can come tour our floor! I wish you health, prosperity, and happiness.

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