



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin

June 2017

A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

Graduation Day!

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What an evening to remember?! On May 19, 2017, at Brookhaven High School, C. Farrar and J. Cobb, individuals receiving services at the Mississippi Adolescent Center in Brookhaven, MS received their certificate of completion of Senior High School. Everyone could see total excitement in their eyes to accomplish such a goal. Congratulations to you both!



The publication of the BRC Bulletin is made possible by contributions from our dedicated and talented employees. The articles and pictures were written, taken and formatted by BRC employees. Their contributions are greatly appreciated! We sincerely hope that you enjoy this edition of the Boswell Regional Center Bulletin, June 2017 Issue.



Diana S. Mikula

As you have probably read in the media, there are many changes happening at the Department of Mental Health. Just last week, we announced plans to consolidate various aspects of our programs in an effort to reduce administrative overhead while continuing to deliver quality services to Mississippians in need.

The department's six programs for mental health services will be consolidated under the umbrellas of two of its current programs, Mississippi State Hospital and East Mississippi State Hospital. Specialized Treatment Facility will become a satellite program of Mississippi State Hospital, while North Mississippi State Hospital, South Mississippi State Hospital, and Central Mississippi Residential Center will become satellite programs of East Mississippi State Hospital in Meridian. This is similar to a consolidation in FY17 when the Mississippi Adolescent Center became a satellite program under Boswell Regional Center.

The Mississippi Legislature, in our appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018, gave the Department of Mental Health a lump sum budget number for all of our programs so that we could have the flexibility to reorganize and consolidate programs as needed. This reorganization will allow our programs to have the ability to share administrative staff and resources. This is a streamlining of backroom operations and will not impact the delivery of services to people in need at these programs. We will be able to accomplish this streamlining of administrative services through attrition, retirements, and the elimination of vacant positions.

By consolidating and streamlining services at our behavioral health programs for administrative purposes, we will be able to keep acute psychiatric services available in communities throughout Mississippi with our satellite locations. Mississippians should have the opportunity to live in the community and be included in their community. Services must be provided on a continuum of where the person is at that time and what their needs are at that time. Needs may range from outpatient therapy – to case management – to crisis services - to commitment to a behavioral health program. In all of these areas, we must keep our focus person-centered.

I appreciate the support we have received from all of our staff during this process. Our mission will continue to be providing a better tomorrow for people in need of our services. The only way we can provide a better tomorrow is by working together. I truly believe we are seeing change within the state's mental health system because of the commitment we all have to provide the services and supports needed to help people have a better quality of life. I thank you for your dedication to the people we serve.



Harrison Honored



The Board of Mental Health at its June meeting passed a resolution honoring Mr. George Harrison, of Coffeeville, whose term ending June 30 brings to an end more than 20 years of service to Mississippi's mental health system.

Mr. Harrison was appointed in 1996 by Gov. Kirk Fordice and was reappointed two subsequent times, once by Gov. Ronnie Musgrove and once by Gov. Haley Barbour. As a member, he has served terms as both Chair and Vice

Chair of the Board of Mental Health. Mr. Harrison previously served on the Governor's Council for Developmental Disabilities. He and his wife have been involved in the mental health field since 1974, when their daughter was admitted to North Mississippi Regional Center.

"As a parent of a daughter who had an intellectual and developmental disability, he has brought a unique perspective to the Board that is valuable as we continue to transform the state's mental health system," the resolution recognizing him reads. "Personally knowing the struggles parents face as they are making decisions about care and supports has helped guide him as the Board developed policies and goals for the future."

In his position on the Board of Mental Health, he served on the Strategic Planning Subcommittee which worked to develop the DMH Strategic Plan, a roadmap for the future of the agency. As part of the Subcommittee, he reviewed the Plan each year, and reviewed quarterly progress to goals and objectives within the Plan. In his position on the Board, he also served on the Property Subcommittee

"We wish to express our appreciation to George Harrison for his never wavering dedication and service to the Board of Mental Health and to wish him success in all future endeavors," said Diana Mikula, DMH Executive Director. "His leadership and devotion to the needs of individuals with mental illness, intellectual and development disabilities, and substance use disorders made an immeasurable impact on the lives of Mississippians."

Photo Enclosed: Pictured is Board of Mental Health members (l to r) Dr. Jim Herzog, Dr. Sampat Shivangi, Mr. Harrison, Rick Barry, Dr. John Montgomery, Diana Mikula, DMH Executive Director, Dr. Manda Griffin, and Robert Landrum.

Spotlight on Sharon Floyd



Years of Service: Since 2001

Resides: Magee, MS

Favorite Color: Purple

Favorite Team: Atlanta Falcons

Favorite Food: Pasta

Favorite Restaurant: Red Lobster

Favorite Vacation Spot: Destin, FL

Favorite Music: Gospel

Favorite Song: "He Saw The Best In Me"

Favorite Movie: Love and Basketball

Favorite Hobby: Spending time with family and friends

Sharon is married to Rodney Floyd and they have four children, Jocktaveious, Denzel, Ry'Shara and Rodney Floyd, Jr. She graduated from William Carey University in 2014, with a Bachelors in Psychology and May 2017, she graduated with a Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology. Sharon's goal in life is to become a Special Education Teacher.

Meet Rosie Barnes



Years of Service: 3 months
Resides: Collins, MS
Favorite Color: White
Favorite Team: Pittsburg Steelers
Favorite Food: Seafood
Favorite Restaurant: Copeland's (Slidell, LA)
Favorite Vacation Spot: Jamaica
Favorite Music: Gospel
Favorite Song: In the Cross (MS Mass Choir)
Favorite Movie: A Beautiful Mind
Favorite Hobby: Floral Arranging/Making hair bows

Meet Rosie “Lynnette” Barnes! She is the middle child of three. She resides in downtown Hot Coffee and loves spending time with her family, especially her great nieces, Zoey and Elise ages three and her Goddaughter Kody. She attends New Hopewell M.B. Church where she serves in various organizations. She graduated from Collins High School and attended JCJC majoring in Criminal Justice. She wanted to be a policewoman, but that changed when Jackie Dole Sherrill was killed in Hattiesburg. Next, she attended USM where she received a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies. However, after graduation, she acquired a substitute teacher’s position in the Covington County School System and remained in the school system until 1992. In 1993, her job with Magnolia Federal Bank, currently Regions Bank, began a nearly 10 year career in the real estate banking industry. She was also a real estate agent; however, after the housing market crashed in 2007, she was forced to reconsider her career plans. While doing so, she began working full time as a floral designer at a local florist and was able to attend the Teleflora Design School in Oklahoma. In 2012, she returned to USM to pursue a master’s degree in Social Work. After her first week of class, she knew this was the career for her. Barnes stated, “I feel that life is a journey that we all must travel, we have pit stops, detours, stopovers, delays, you name it, but each of these things involve other people, places, times, lessons, etc. all the things we need to get to the next leg of our journey.” So, all of her life experiences up until that moment really prepped, prepared, and groomed her for that moment when she knew that she wanted to be a social worker. She came to Boswell Regional Center, because during her last year of graduate school she had three areas in which she wanted to work and mental health was one of them. Barnes paused briefly and said, “All I can say is that God is good and He knows what is best.” “I love my job, and my co-workers and especially the individuals we serve.” “I learn from them every day. I just feel really blessed right now to have the opportunity to work with such a wonderful group of individuals as well as staff.”



**Zoey and Elise;
great nieces**

Where Dreams Can Become Reality

Boswell Regional Center is surely a place “Where Dreams Can Become Reality.” On June 14, 2017, is when this dream became reality! T. Spell had the opportunity to see her mother after fifteen years. Sharon Floyd, Program Manager for Community IDD, made several phone calls day after day to finally receive the news that she had located T. Spell’s mother. This was a moment one could never forget! The big smiles on their faces, the warm embrace and the beautiful sound of laughter rang though the room. Now that the connection has been made, there will be several visits for T. Spell and her mother in the near future. If this doesn’t warm your heart, nothing will. A big thanks to Sharon Floyd for making this day such a remarkable one!





Ice Cream Anyone?



I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream! On June 8th, the ice cream van pulled into Dream Haven offering cool treats to all. Everyone's face lit up to see the van and to hear the music playing from the van. All of Boswell Regional Center's staff assisted with making sure everyone received a popsicle or their favorite ice cream treat. This surely was the perfect way to cool off during the blistering hot month of June!

Beach Trip



It is obvious that Summer Time is here! Everyone loves the beach, so on June 10th several of Boswell Regional Center's staff and individuals traveled to Biloxi Beach in Biloxi, MS for a day of fun in the sun. They loaded up the lawn chairs, tents, shades, coolers, water and sunscreen and headed South. Everyone enjoyed seeing the sea gulls fly, playing in the sand and of course eating at Shaggy's. Staff and individuals are thankful for a safe trip to and from the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and they look forward to many more.

Closing Remarks



On June 6, Beth Luper, CPM President, gave the closing remarks for the MSCPM graduating Class of Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 at the MS AG Museum. She spoke on the benefits of being a member of the society and offered words of encouragement and leadership. The society also presented gifts to each graduating member of the class. Ms. Uneika Tillman (right) from Boswell Regional Center was a graduating member of this class.



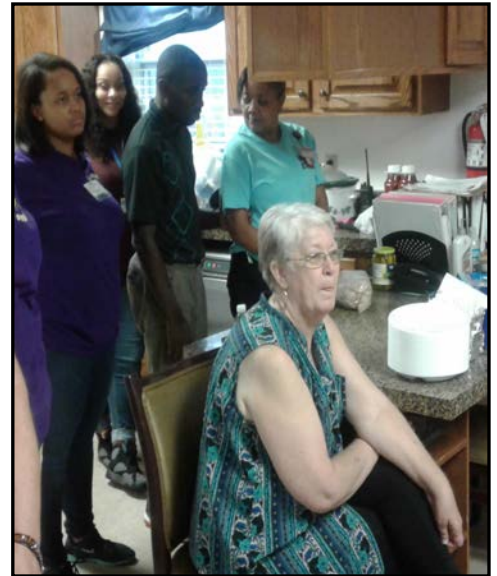
Congratulations

New Hope Baptist Church Volunteers



Members of New Hope Baptist Church in Maryville, Tennessee visited Boswell Regional Center on June 26-28. As they unloaded the church van, their faces lit up like fireworks. Although other members of the church visited seven years ago, this was the first time to visit for this group. Brother Rudy Jackson, BRC Chaplain, welcomed them and Will Beeson, STS/SS Administrator, gave them a brief tour of the Sanatorium Museum. Afterwards, everyone was divided into groups and they headed to the community to participate in the Day Service Programs. They enjoyed sorting beads, playing connect four, playing pool, computer games, nail painting, arts and crafts, reading, listening to music and so much more. During their visit, they also had the opportunity to lead worship services at Boswell Regional Center. Everyone enjoyed their time building lasting relationships. BRC invited them to come back again real soon, and thanked them for their interactions and love shown to the individuals. Safe travels back to Tennessee!

Family Fun Day!



On June 2, 2017, Morton Group Home enjoyed Family and Friends. Although it rained, there was no stopping everyone from having a great time. Calvert Sims, Jr. lit the grill early, and as the smell of the grill filled the air families began to pull into the parking lot. Some gathered under the pavilion to fellowship while others participated in the arts and crafts sessions in the screened-in porch. This is always a day to remember with the laughter, music, festivities and food. Family and Friends Day is a time set aside for families to visit loved ones, and to get to know the staff. The group home is already planning for next year's event!

Mayor Clyde's Farewell Address



As Mayor Jimmy Clyde's days dwindle down upon his retirement, he took some time out of his busy schedule to visit Boswell Industries in downtown Magee. Janie Floyd, Program Coordinator, set up this visit so that Mayor Clyde could say goodbye to the individuals that he has come to know and love over the years. He shared the development of Simpson County and how well the city has worked with Boswell Regional Center. Boswell Industries' building was donated by the City of Magee. Mayor Clyde informed everyone that the newly elected Mayor is Dale Berry and he stated, "he will do a fantastic job." Mayor Clyde also stated, "there will be around 50 additional jobs at Real Pure and even more with the new Loves Truck Stop coming." He mentioned that the new Magee Elementary School is set to open in August. "Serving as Mayor for 20 years and city clerk for 22 years has been an honor," said Mayor Clyde as he again thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve, and he wished great success to the ones we serve and Boswell Regional Center. There was a big applause for Magee's great Mayor! Congratulations on your retirement!

Clay Retires



On June 16, 2017, a retirement reception was held in honor of Jessie Clay who retired from Wesson Group Home. Many of her co-workers, family and friends gathered to say their last goodbyes before she starts a new chapter in her life. Clay was presented with a framed certificate. **Pictured above Left to Right:** Christa Jones, Director of Wesson Geriatric Group Homes; Jessie Clay, retiree and Suzie Wilder, Director of Human Resources. Congratulations and best wishes in your future endeavors!

Linda Kelly Retires



Boswell Regional Center is pleased to announce the recent retirement of Linda Kelly. Each retiree is honored with a framed certificate, and a chance to say goodbye to their fellow co-workers at a retirement reception. On June 23, 2017, a reception was held at 11:30a.m. at Dream Haven. The staff catered the food. Cindy Womack, Assistant Director at Boswell Regional Center, was on hand to present the certificate and express her appreciation for Ms. Kelly's years of dedication and service to Boswell Regional Center and the ones served. Best wishes in your future endeavors!

Sharbrough Says Good-Bye



On June 22nd, Martha Sharbrough retired from Boswell Regional Center after 32 years of state service. A reception was held in the training center at 2:00 p.m. as family and friends gathered around to send their well wishes. A presentation was given by Clint Ashley, Director of Boswell Regional Center. Martha received a framed certificate and was given the opportunity to have words of expressions. She stated, "I will miss all of my co-workers and especially the individuals we serve." Pictured above is Clint Ashley with retiree, Martha Sharbrough. Congratulations!

Lisa Bryant Retires



On June 29, 2017, Boswell Regional Center held a retirement reception honoring Lisa Bryant. Lisa has worked in various areas within the Department of Mental Health. She definitely has a passion for the ones served by BRC and DMH as she reminisced of her many years of service. As tears of joy rolled down her face, she thanked her family and friends for the memories. Lisa is a woman of God; she loves the Lord and her family, and she knows God will continue to use her to glorify Him. It was great to see the many faces from other DMH programs showing their love and appreciation to Lisa. Lisa's legacy for her work and dedication to teaching others about Autism will never be forgotten. **Top Left:** Clint Ashley, Director of Boswell Regional Center presenting Lisa with a framed certificate. **Top Right:** her son, Jacob; husband, Bobby; Lisa, retiree; son, Zachary and son, Austin. **Bottom Left:** Co-workers and friends, Kimberly Newsome, Lisa and Teresa Johnson. **Bottom Right:** Lisa and Teresa Windham, Director of Nursing.

Britt Graduates



Rachel Britt

Rachel Britt is a Bureau Director I and the HR Director for MAC. The Human Resources Certification Program (HRCP) is a MS State Personnel Board sponsored program which is broken down into 5 weeks of comprehensive training to focus on the application of key Human Resource rules, regulations, policies, procedures and practices. There were speakers from different agencies that participated to give them a detailed overview of Human Resources. During the program, they had numerous group activities, written tests, they had to submit a total of 4 Competency Reports and complete an HR Related project that would benefit their agency. In order to qualify for the program, participants must either work in the field of human resources in state government or be selected by their agency to participate as part of the agency's succession/retention/talent management efforts. "It was a great tool to network with other Human Resource/Administrative Professionals from different levels of government across the state," stated Britt.

Important Message

All employees please take the time to review your check stubs to ensure accuracy in all areas i.e. time, pay, etc. If you have any errors it is your responsibility to report to the Business Office/Payroll Department.

BRC Orientation Classes



June 1st Orientation Class, Back Row Left to Right: Kendric Feazell (Fairway), Tela James (Mendenhall Retirement), Shanice Hayes (Broadhead), Iturea Walker (Fairway), Miesha Tatum (Oakbrook), Chelsea Crews (Oakbrook), and Kisha Turner (Pinelake) **Front Row Left to Right:** Nova Tatum (Pinelake), Dominique Keyes (Oakbrook), Tamia Brown (Pinelake), Jazelle Hodge (Pinelake), Nikki Craft (State Farm), Lawanda Bolton



June 16th Orientation Class, Back Row Left to Right: George Valdez (Emp. Services), Keasia Gray (Broadhead), Zinga Porter (Pinelake), Shatara Caffie (Nutritional Serv.), Keyuna Floyd (Fairway), Brittany Thurman (Oakbrook) **Front Row Left to Right:** Mary Covington (Pinelake), Cornelius Magee (Ridgeview), James Stevens (Magee Autism), Ashley Easterling

Governor's Service Award



Boswell Regional Center employee, Janet Applewhite, receives Governor's Service Award in recognition of 20 years of state service. Janet was recognized for her dedication to BRC at the June Directors' Meeting. Congratulations!

BRC EOM



During the June Directors' Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff: Employees of the Month for May are Heather Dennis, Pinelake; Richetta Durr, Civic Center and Lou Ann Paul, Community. Congratulations to each of you!

Social Engineering Red Flags

FROM

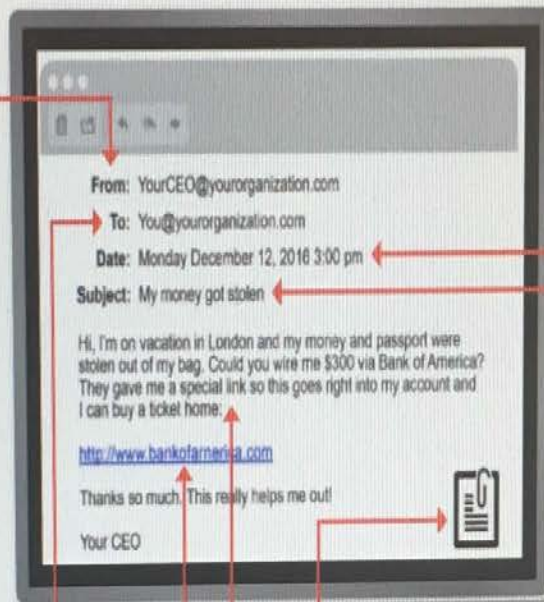
- I don't recognize the sender's email address as someone I **ordinarily communicate with**.
- This email is from **someone outside my organization and it's not related to my job responsibilities**.
- This email was sent from **someone inside the organization** or from a customer, vendor, or partner and is **very unusual or out of character**.
- Is the sender's email address from a **suspicious domain** (like micorsoft-support.com)?
- I **don't know the sender personally** and they were **not vouched for** by someone I trust.
- I **don't have a business relationship** nor any past communications with the sender.
- This is an **unexpected or unusual email** with an **embedded hyperlink** or an **attachment** from someone I haven't communicated with recently.

TO

- I was cc'd on an email sent to one or more people, but I **don't personally know** the other people it was sent to.
- I received an email that was also sent to an **unusual mix of people**. For instance, it might be sent to a random group of people at my organization whose last names start with the same letter, or a whole list of unrelated addresses.

HYPERLINKS

- I hover my mouse over a hyperlink that's displayed in the email message, but the **link-to address is for a different website**. (This is a **big red flag**.)
- I received an email that only has **long hyperlinks with no further information**, and the rest of the email is completely blank.
- I received an email with a **hyperlink that is a misspelling** of a known web site. For instance, www.bankofamerica.com — the "m" is really two characters — "r" and "n."



DATE

- Did I receive an email that I normally would get during regular business hours, but it was **sent at an unusual time** like 3 a.m.?

SUBJECT

- Did I get an email with a subject line that is **irrelevant** or **does not match** the message content?
- Is the email message a reply to something I **never sent or requested**?

ATTACHMENTS

- The sender included an email attachment that I **was not expecting** or that **makes no sense** in relation to the email message. (This sender doesn't ordinarily send me this type of attachment.)
- I see an attachment with a possibly **dangerous file type**. The only file type that is **always safe to click on is a .txt file**.

CONTENT

- Is the sender asking me to click on a link or open an attachment to **avoid a negative consequence** or to **gain something of value**?
- Is the email **out of the ordinary**, or does it have **bad grammar** or **spelling errors**?
- Is the sender asking me to click a link or open up an attachment that **seems odd or illogical**?
- Do I have an **uncomfortable gut feeling** about the sender's request to open an attachment or click a link?
- Is the email asking me to look at a **compromising or embarrassing picture** of myself or someone I know?

KnowBe4
Human error. Conquered.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE
(Magee, Brookhaven, New Hebron
and Shivers)

Direct Support Professionals are needed
for all shifts and locations.

If you believe that helping people
matters, then we need you at BRC!

For more information contact:

Human Resources
601-867-5000 Ext. 75079

P. O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111



Boswell Regional Center

Where dreams can become reality.

Mission Statement

Boswell Regional Center (BRC) offers specialized program options to Mississippians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). These programs are designed to identify the necessary supports for successful community transition. With collaboration between the person, family, and community, dreams can become reality.

Programs

Boswell Regional Center programs offer an extensive range of program and service options to those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). The primary goal of each existing program using a person centered approach is to allow each person to live more independently and to fulfill their lives through meaningful days.

Programs and services offered through BRC include:

Community Options:

- In Home Services
- Community Living
- Crisis Transition Homes
- Employment Opportunities
 - Day Options
 - Behavior Services
 - Autism Services



Campus Options:

On Campus Residential Services

On Site Day Programs

Membership Information

Indicate at right which type of membership you wish by circling the appropriate amount.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make your check payable to:
Friends & Family Association
P.O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111

Annual Membership Fees

Single/BRC Employee - Free

Single/Non-employee \$5

Bronze \$25

Silver \$50

Gold \$100

Platinum \$500

Fundraisers

Some examples of fundraisers that have been held are:

Scrub Sales

Jewelry Sales

Book Fairs

RADA Knives

T-shirt Sales

Special Hosted Events

Purpose

To promote and support the individuals of Boswell Regional Center

To foster the development of programs on their behalf

To recognize and reward the efforts of employees of Boswell Regional Center

To raise and receive funds for the accomplishment of the above purposes.

Boswell Regional Center's



Boswell Regional Center

Boswell Regional Center

Post Office Box 128

Magee, MS 39111

Telephone: 601-867-5000

www.brc.state.ms.us

A MS Department of Mental Health Facility



Boswell Regional Center's Friends & Family Association is a non profit all volunteer organization that works to ensure Boswell individuals are valued and loved.

All monies received from memberships are donated to the organization to purchase items for the individuals served by Boswell Regional Center.

Donations

Donations may be made in memory or honor of a loved one:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

By: _____

Acknowledgement should be sent to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: ____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Boswell Regional Center

**Friends & Family Association
P.O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111**

**Boswell
Regional
Center
Friends and
Family
Association**



*Where Dreams Can
Become Reality!*