



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin

March 2014

A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

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BRC Recognizes IDD Awareness Month

March is observed as Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Awareness Month. The month of March is set aside each year in an effort to raise public awareness of Mississippians with disabilities. One of the events is that the city of Magee joined forces with Boswell to increase awareness in the community through a proclamation signed by Mayor Jimmy Clyde on March 3rd. This is an annual event which recognizes IDD Awareness in the month of March. Secondly, the annual Day at the Capitol was set aside for March 4th. Facilities and organizations that serve individuals with disabilities erected displays in the rotunda of the Capitol in Jackson and spoke with legislators regarding programs and services provided to Mississippians with disabilities.

The publication of the BRC Bulletin is made possible by the contributions of 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, March, 2014 Issue.



Magee Mayor Jimmy Clyde is pictured signing a proclamation designating the month of March as Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Pictured is Boswell Regional Center Director, Steven Allen (left); Ralph Burkhalter, recipient who receives services; Sherri Stubbs, recipient who receives services; and Shylah Jones, Director of Community Adult Day Services.

Continued on next page

BRC Recognizes IDD Month continued



IDD Day at the Captial was on March 4, 2014. Pictured left: Boswell regional Center Director, Mr. Steven Allen, with two people who participate in Boswell's programs. Pictured right: Shylah Jones, Director of Community Adult Day Services, Sherri Allen, two people who receive services from Boswell; Shan Crumpton, and Jason Holloway.

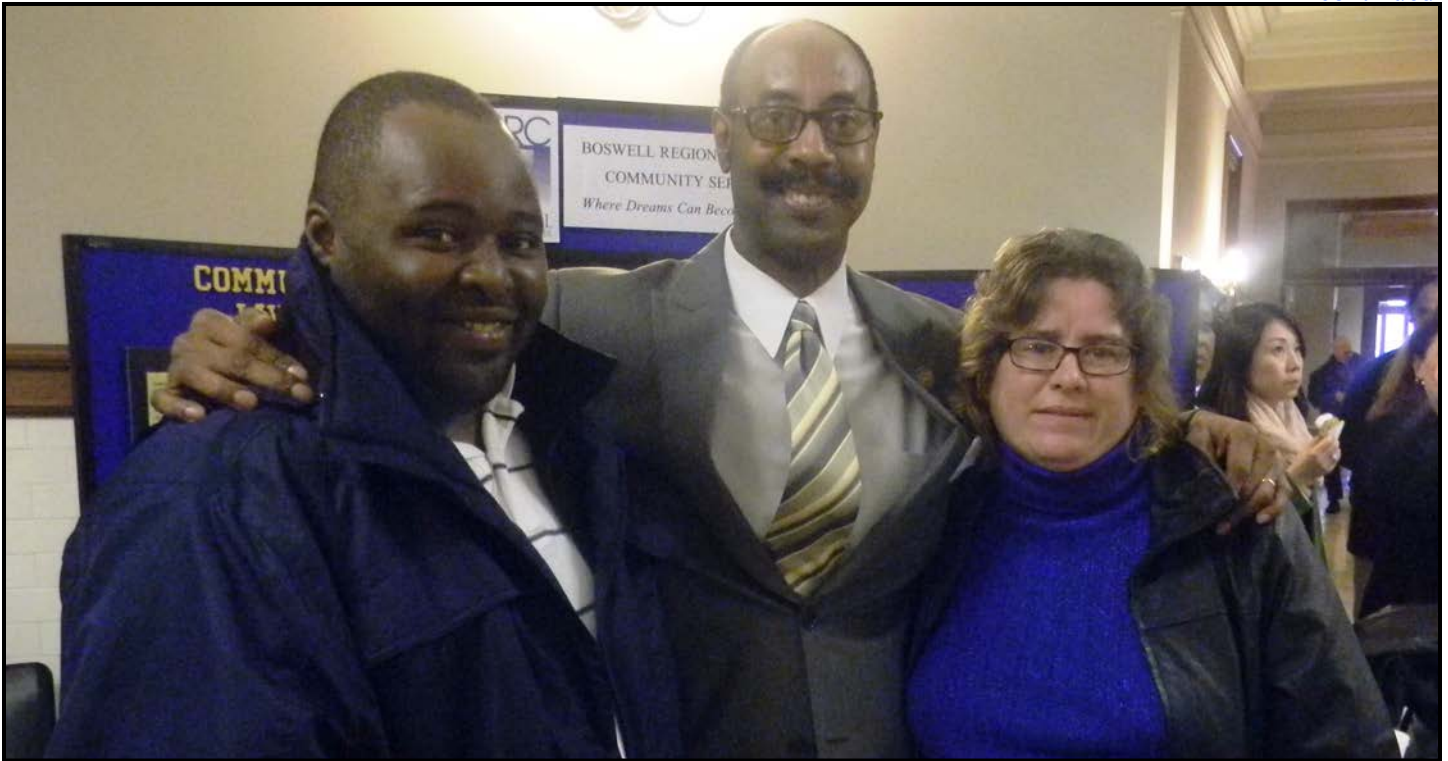
Boswell Regional Center is one of five regional programs in the state established to serve those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Boswell Regional Center operates under the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, which provides a continuum of care and services for thousands of Mississippians with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The center's main program is located off Highway 49 in Magee, Mississippi. Other facilities operated by Boswell are located in Mendenhall, Brookhaven, Wesson, and Hazlehurst.



Pictured: Stephanie Thompson, Health Program Specialist, Sr; Earl Wade Lawless, recipient receiving services; Dianne Robinson, recipient receiving services; (seated) Mayor Joe C. Cox; Mary Robison, recipient receiving services; and Steven Allen, Director of Boswell Regional Center.

BRC Recognizes IDD Month continued



Also Pictured at the Mississippi State Capitol are C. Ficklin, a recipient which receives services; (center) Representative Gregory Holloway; and P. Webb, a recipient which receives services.



Hazlehurst Mayor Henry C. Banks, Sr. is pictured (center) with (left to right) Stephanie Thompson, Health Program Specialist Sr.; Andy Gennetti, recipient which receives services; Mayor Banks; Stella Burns, recipient who receives services; and BRC Director, Steven Allen.

BRC Recognizes IDD Month

continued

The State of Mississippi founded Boswell Regional Center in July 1976, on the grounds of what was formerly known as the Mississippi State Tuberculosis Sanatorium. For decades, the Sanatorium served as a treatment center for those with tuberculosis.



Since its inception, Boswell Regional Center has grown from providing services for 35 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities at the main campus to serving over 350 clients in communities in various locations. Boswell Regional Center has experienced numerous changes over the years, but one thing has remained the same: the center's dedication to providing the most comprehensive care for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, while at the same time helping them achieve the most independent, productive and satisfying lives possible in the setting they choose. Boswell Regional Center is “Where Dreams Can Become Reality.” Boswell Regional Center is under the leadership of Steven Allen, BRC Director



Mission Statement

Boswell Regional Center offers Specialized program options to Mississippians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. These programs are designed to identify the necessary supports for successful community transition.

With collaboration between the individual, family, and community, dreams can become reality.

Where Dreams Can Become Reality

**BOSWELL
REGIONAL CENTER**

Boswell Names Employees of the Year

Paige Pierce and Sharon Floyd were named as Boswell Regional Center's Employees of the Year for 2013 during the annual Employee of the Year Recognition Banquet held on Friday, March 7. Boswell Regional Center recognizes Employees of the Month in the areas of support and professional staff.

Program Director Steven Allen made the announcement during the awards portion of the program. Mr. Allen said that they were dedicated employees and very deserving of the honor. Ms. Pierce and Ms. Floyd were each presented with a plaque, a certificate, chicken dinner from the Magee Popeye's, and an Employee of the Year parking sign. They also received a gift of \$100 donated by the Friends and Family Association of BRC.

Both of these dedicated staff members love the individuals we serve and treat them with respect. Congratulations to both of you, Paige and Sharon, for a job well done!



Pictured: Steven Allen, Director of BRC; Sharon Floyd, Employee of the Year; Paige Pierce, Employee of the Year; Cindy Womack, Assistant Director of BRC; and Matt Armstrong, Bureau Director of IDD.

Tracy Dampier Spirit Award

The Tracy Dampier Spirit Award is given to a well-deserving employee of Boswell Regional Center. This year's winner is Lance Adams, brother of the late Tracy Dampier. This award seeks to recognize Direct Support Staff who, by virtue of their daily efforts go beyond the expectations of their position, promote a sense of dedication, humility, and heartfelt commitment to the individuals served by Boswell Regional Center. The award hopes to raise the awareness of individual contributions to BRC, show appreciation for those individuals who contribute to the realization of these goals, and recognize those who excel in making BRC a better place to work and care for the individuals we serve. All Direct Support Staff are eligible to receive this award.

Tracy Dampier began his career with Boswell Regional Center in 2000. He was a dedicated employee who showed outstanding dedication and love for the individuals he cared for. Tragically his life came to an all too short end in 2011 when he was killed in an automobile accident. This award is dedicated to him and the memory of the commitment he showed to BRC. Lance received a plaque, a certificate, \$100 presented by Debbie Walker, Branch Manager at Peoples Bank, and a two piece chicken dinner from Popeye's in Magee.



Pictured: Steven Allen, Director of BRC; Lance Adams; Debbie Walker of Peoples Bank; and Cindy Womack, Assistant Director of BRC.

Longevity Award After 36 Years!



Pictured: Steven Allen, Director of BRC; Rev. Ike Durr, President of the Friends and Family Association; Ronald Britt, recipient; Cindy Womack, Assistant Director of BRC; and Matt Armstrong, Bureau Director of IDD.

January Employee of the Month

During the February Director's Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff, Employee of the Month for January was LaKeshia Floyd, contractor staff at BRC.



February Employees of the Month



During the March Director's Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff: Employee of the Month for February was DeAnne Clark, Nutritional Services and Robin Moss, Expressive Arts.

Governor's Service Awards



Boswell Regional Center employees receive Governor's service awards in recognition of a total of 30 years of state service. They were recognized for the dedication to BRC at the March directors meeting pictured are Curtis Ducksworth (10yrs), Cathy Jones (10yrs), and Jeramy Little (10yrs).

Saying Goodbye

While it's hard to see our co-workers retire from Boswell Regional Center, we are happy that they'll be free to participate in all those things they've been planning on doing upon their retirement. Whether it's fishing trips, travel, spending time with grandchildren or other employment, we congratulate them on reaching this milestone and wish them well. Each retiree is honored with a certificate and a chance to say goodbye to their fellow employees at a retirement reception.



Recent retirees; Magdalene Logan (Autism Services) and Mary Smith (Community DD) are pictured above.

Career Day

Magee Middle School had their Career Day program at Copiah Lincoln Community College on March 28. Two staff members from Boswell Regional Center attended the career fair to represent the psychology profession. Vicki Kettleman and Sondra Wells Arthur, both of whom have master's degrees in psychology, passed out brochures that answered questions such as, "What is psychology?", "How can I become a Psychologist?", and "What different types of work can a psychologist do?" Ms. Sondra stated, "These children are so amazing. They are so smart and interested in what they want to do with their lives at a young age."

Many other professions were represented. Among them were nurses, state troopers, a veterinarian, dentist, a pet groomer, and cake decorators. There were even two state marshals, who have protected federal judges, demonstrating how to use a protective shield. If the children at this career day represented the future of Magee, then there a great days ahead!



Vicki Kettleman and Sondra Wells Arthur represent Boswell Regional Center at the Magee Middle School Career Day as some of Magee's bright young minds learn about various professions.

Choose Your Cover

What is sunscreen?

Sunscreen filters out the sun's dangerous UV (ultraviolet) rays. These invisible rays can cause skin cancer. Some skin cancers can cause death if not found and treated early.



Who should wear sunscreen?

People of all skin colors can get skin cancer from the sun's UV rays. Those who are most likely to get skin cancer from these rays have:

- Lighter natural skin color.
- Skin that burns, freckles, gets red easily, or becomes painful from the sun.
- Blond or red hair.
- Blue or green eyes.
- A family member who has had skin cancer.

Also, people who spend a lot of time outdoors, either for work or play, are more likely to get skin cancer from UV rays.



Which sunscreen should I use?

Use a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or higher. Sunscreens come in many forms, including ointments, creams, gels, lotions, wax sticks, and sprays.



Follow the directions on the package for using a sunscreen product on babies less than 6 months old. All products do not have the same ingredients; if your or your child's skin reacts badly to one product, try another one or call a doctor.

When do I need to apply sunscreen?

The sun's UV rays can damage your skin in as little as 15 minutes. Put sunscreen on before you go outside, even on slightly cloudy or cool days. Don't forget to put a thick layer on all parts of exposed skin. Get help for hard-to-reach places like your back.

Sunscreen wears off. Put it on again if you stay out in the sun for more than 2 hours, and after you swim or do things that make you sweat.



CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

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 In Honor of

By: _____

Acknowledgement should be sent to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

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.

Fundraisers

Some examples of fundraisers that have been held are:

Scrub Sales

Jewelry Sales

Book Fairs

RADA Knives

T-shirt Sales

Special Hosted Events



Friends & Family Association



How to become a member...

Membership Information

Indicate at right which type of membership you wish by placing a check mark in the appropriate box.

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 2012-2013

- Single/BRC Employee - Free**
- Single/Non-employee \$5** Membership Card
- Bronze \$25** Membership certificate designating level of giving
- Silver \$50** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
- Gold \$100** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
- Platinum \$500** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
Publicity in local media
Boswell 35th Anniversary cookbook