



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin



A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

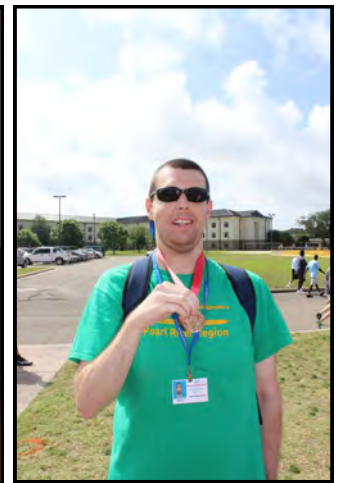
Summer Games 2017

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The Pearl River Region, formerly known as Area 2, had approximately 44 athletes and 23 staff to attend the Summer Games at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, May 19 –21. Boswell Regional Center represented well! The athletes competed in various events and won several medals. Just as in the past, the highlight of Summer Games is the competitiveness of the volleyball matches. The gym was wall to wall with everyone rooting for their team. In the end, both Boswell Regional Center teams came out on top. The Boswell Braves and The Bad Boys took home the gold medals! All athletes and coaches had an amazing time, and they are looking forward to next year already.

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, May 2017 Issue.



Summer Games



Spotlight on Tara Dickerson

By: Tara Dickerson



Years of Service: 6 months (5 ½ years as a State employee)

Resides: Mize, MS

Favorite Color: Teal

Favorite Team: Mize Bulldogs

Favorite Food: Mexican

Favorite Restaurant: Jose's

Favorite Vacation Spot: Cozumel

Favorite Music: Contemporary Christian

Favorite Song: Trust in You by Lauren Daigle

Favorite Movie: The Notebook

Favorite Hobby: Reading/Spending time with family

Highlight information:

My name is Tara Cole Dickerson and I am a lifelong native of the Smith/Simpson County area. My husband, Rainey, and I have been married for sixteen years and we have three children. Jacie and Jacob are fifteen and Joanna is thirteen. We enjoy spending time with our children and attending their extracurricular activities. We are members of Waco Church of God in Mize. My husband and our children are my greatest blessings; I am so thankful for each one of them. I hold a Master of Education degree from William Carey University.

My undergraduate degrees include a Bachelor of Science in Education from William Carey University and an Associate of Liberal Arts from Jones County Junior College. I earned my Associate degree right after high school, and went into the workforce as a Bookkeeper and Proof Operator at Peoples Bank in Mendenhall. However, shortly after being blessed with our twins, my husband and I decided that it was in our family's best interest for me to leave the workforce. Two years later we were blessed with our daughter. Although my journey in the field of education was not an easy accomplishment, I could not have done it without the love and support of my husband and children.

I began working in my current position at Boswell Regional Center in December 2016 after working with Mississippi State University Extension Service for five years as a Trainer and Field Supervisor. During my time with Mississippi State University Extension Service, I had the opportunity to write and present workshops at state and national conferences. Prior to my work with Mississippi State University, I had the opportunity to teach at Millcreek Schools and Mendenhall Elementary. It has been such a privilege to play a small role in making a difference in the lives of each one of my students. I am honored to serve the individuals at Boswell Regional Center as the Day Services Program Supervisor.



You Are Appreciated



Boswell Regional Center offers specialized program options to Mississippians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. BRC appreciates the nurses that play such a vital role in caring for the individuals. BRC celebrated Nurses Appreciation Week with cake, ice cream, cookies and punch. Pictured are some of the wonderful nurses at Boswell Regional Center. **Pictured Left to Right:** Sarah Kennedy, Sandra Weeks, Teresa Windham, Vanessa Fells, Ashlee Robinson, Bonita Sullivan, Joshua Rowe, Jayci Brown, Kay Maddox, Hannah Smith, Hope Roberts, and Angela Bratcher.

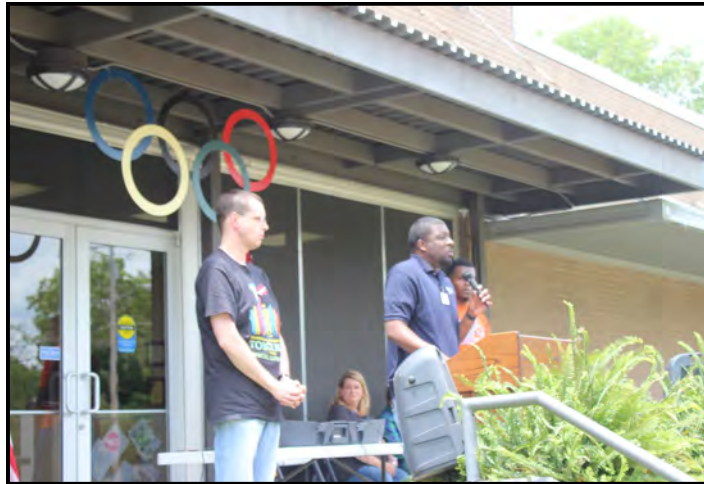


Pictured Left to Right: Dean Sullivan, Shelia Robinson, Angela White, Beth Hall, and Angela Murphy

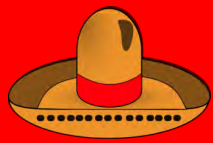


MAC Nurses pictured Left to Right: Annie Murray, Bathsheba Dampeer, Jennifer Terrell, Latasha Taplin, Lacey Bates, and Latasha Grady

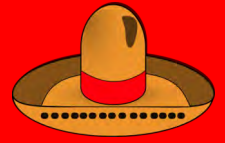
Torch Run



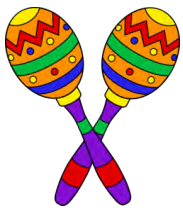
Special Olympics Torch Run is an annual event that kicks off the beginning of Summer Games! This event was held at Boswell Industries downtown Magee on May 17th with all law enforcement lining up at the Magee City Park. Representatives from The Simpson County Sheriff's Department, Mendenhall Police Department, United States Marshal Services, Biloxi Police Department, Magee Police Department, The Mississippi Highway Patrol, Magee Fire Department and Boswell Regional Center Campus Security paraded down Main Street. As the sirens blasted and the lights flickered, the individuals yelled and waved with excitement. This event lets everyone know that the Special Olympics Summer Games at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, MS is approaching! This year Jamie Bynum, Recreation Staff; DaShun Mikel, BRC Campus Security and W. Turnage, recipient receiving services, had the honor of running the lit torch through downtown Magee. The guest speaker for this special event was Miranda Holloway, US Marshal Services. Calvert Sims, Jr., Area 2 Director, stated, "Boswell Regional Center would like to thank the City of Magee and Mayor Jimmy Clyde for allowing BRC to have this special event and for always being so willing to assist in any way. Bring home the gold!!!"



Spring Fling 2017



The weather was perfect for BRC's Spring Fling 2017! This year's event was held on Thursday, May 25th, at Green Park and at the beautiful BRC Lake on campus. The activities included a fishing rodeo, bubble blowing, remote control car racing, arts and crafts, kick ball, dancing, and face painting. The theme was "Mexican." As piñatas hung from the trees and street signs, everyone enjoyed churros and virgin margarita snow cones. Several of the individuals cast their fishing rods in the BRC Lake and the excitement showed on their faces. A big thanks to Beth Luper and Lisa Hill with the creative design of the beautiful and colorful theme related T-shirts. Also many thanks to all those who worked diligently and hard to make this a successful event. Spring Fling is always the sign of summer being just around the corner.

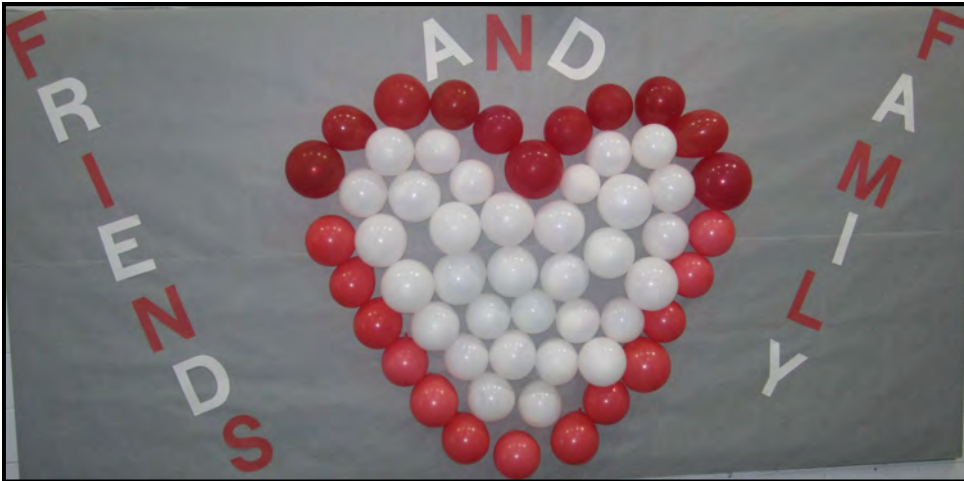


May Day at Dream Haven



On May 4th, Dream Haven held a May Day Participant Appreciation Cookout for all Day Service participants. The individuals enjoyed grilled hamburgers, sausage dogs, potato salad, baked beans, and soft drinks. They also enjoyed fresh buttered popcorn as a surprise treat. All individuals received a Certificate of Appreciation before departing. Everyone was all smiles and overjoyed with the food, the socialization, and the awards.

MAC Friends and Family Day



Mississippi Adolescent Center Friends and Family Day was held on May 26th. It was a great success! The guys enjoyed the waterslides, outside games, water balloons and water guns. They ate till their heart and stomachs were content! The menu consisted of hotdogs, hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad and homemade ice cream!

Clara Bell Walker and Lester Evans Awards



D. Herrington (left) is this year's winner of the Clara Bell Walker Award. A. Forest (right) is this year's winner of the Lester Evans Award. These awards are given in memory of two outstanding citizens who were a part of the program provided by Boswell Regional Center several years ago. Each year two people are chosen who exemplify the excellence that was displayed by Ms. Clara Bell Walker and Mr. Lester Evans. Ms. Herrington and Mr. Forest are definitely worthy of these awards.



Boswell Regional Center also recognized Outstanding Business of the Year at the Friends and Family Recognition Program. This year Peoples Bank was awarded this title. Debbie Walker, Assistant Vice President, accepted the certificate. Ms. Walker is pictured with Friends and Family President, Rev. Ike Durr. BRC appreciates all of the business sponsors and the time and effort each gives to the people of BRC.



Favorite Staff

Pinelake-Alexis Womack
Fairway-Lillian McGill
OakBrook- Francis Lofton
Ridgeview-Zachary Graves
Magee Autism-Montrell Price
Brookhaven-Doris Dixon
Wesson-Paulette Mathis

THANK YOU



Zachary Graves



Lillian McGill



Francis Lofton



Montrell Price

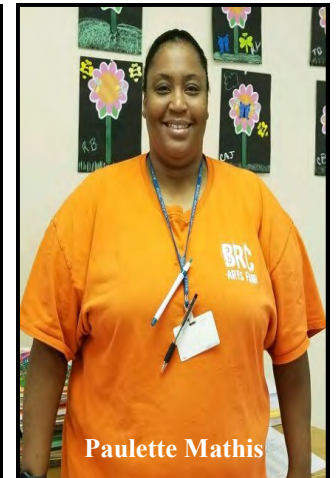
The individuals served at Boswell Regional Center had the opportunity to select their favorite Direct Support Professional for each program. The winning staff members and their work locations are listed above. They were recognized and presented with a certificate at the Friends and Family Recognition Program on May 25th.



Alexis Womack

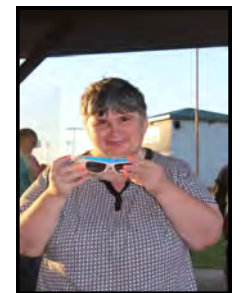


Doris Dixon



Paulette Mathis

Thank You PriorityOne Bank



On May 23rd, PriorityOne Bank hosted a Spring Fling cookout for the ones served in the community. The sky was overcast, but the rain held off. Everyone gathered at the Magee Sportsplex at 6:00 p.m. while recreation provided music. Some danced while others lined up to get their hot dog, chips and soda. The PriorityOne Bank staff are always welcoming as they continue to support BRC. Boswell greatly appreciates their efforts! After dancing, eating, and fellowshiping, the staff gave everyone a little surprise; sunglasses! As the individuals smiled with glee and hugged necks, everyone began to depart. Thank you, PriorityOne Bank for your help in "Making Dreams Become a Reality."

BRC Orientation Classes



May 1st Orientation Class, Left to Right: Brittany Crane (Community Services), Maggie Graham (Pinelake), Laytoyia Griffin (Community Services)



May 16th Orientation Class, Back Row Left to Right: Corshun Williamson (Ridgeview), Raven Cuyler (CS - Broadhead), Akelah Carter (Oakbrook), Dionne Brown (Oakbrook), Consondra McIntosh (CS - Rials Creek), Tiffany Harris (CS - Mendenhall Retirement), Leah Green (CS - Broadhead), Tonia McKinely (CS - Rials Creek), Charlene Jones (CS - Floater) **Front Row Left to Right:** Erika Berry (CS - Cedar Crest), Aretha Berry (CS - Rials Creek), James Phillips (Ridgeview), Otha Jenkins (CS - Broadhead)

Governor's Service Award



Boswell Regional Center employee receives Governor's Service Award in recognition of 10 years of state service. Andrew Amason was recognized for the dedication to BRC at the May Directors' meeting. Congratulations!

BRC EOM



During the May Directors' Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff: Employees of the Month for April are Laura Harris, Ridgeview; Stanley Sullivan, Maintenance and Diane Brown, Community. Congratulations to each of you!

Pastor's Corner



**Bro. Rudy Jackson,
BRC Chaplain**

Facing Our Trials

A. Parnell Bailey visited an orange grove where an irrigation pump had broken down. The season was unusually dry and some of the trees were beginning to die for lack of water. The man giving the tour then took Bailey to his own orchard where irrigation was used sparingly. "These trees could go without rain for another 2 weeks," he said. "You see, when they were young, I frequently kept water from them. This hardship caused them to send their roots deeper into the soil in search of moisture. Now mine are the deepest-rooted trees in the area. While others are being scorched by the sun, these are finding moisture at a greater depth."

This story reminds me of a passage of scripture in James 1:2-3 "My breather, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations" (or trials). Vr.3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

So the deeper we have the roots of our faith in the truths of God's Word, the more fruit we will bear in the drought times of our lives. The more droughts we endure the deeper the roots run. We tend to grow in our spiritual walk the most when our trials are at their highest. So the next time you find yourself in the middle of a problem, just remember there is a lesson to be learned, there is a growth to be expected, and there is a character to be conformed into and that is the image of Christ.

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



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
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*Where Dreams Can
Become Reality!*