

In This Issue

FROM THE DIRECTOR AGING

- Legal Information

LOANS

- Featured Business

MEDICAID WAIVER

GTPDD Anniversaries

PLANNING

- HOUSING
- CalStar Products
- CDBG Applications Due

Sr. Enrichment – Starkville

- Kay Hardy

WIA

- Performance Review

Bobby Gann – 40 Years of Service

From the Director..



Rupert L. "Rudy" Johnson
Executive Director

On January 1, 2014, the GTPDD lost a dear friend and coworker. Glenda Thompson lost a battle that she had been fighting for over a year.

Glenda had served the seniors of Oktibbeha County since March of 1985. She started out as a meal deliverer, but was quickly promoted to Site Manager. Glenda was in charge of distributing over 5000 home delivered meals a month to seniors of Oktibbeha County. In addition to supervising meal delivery, she also worked in the GTPDD office to ensure that paperwork from the other nutrition sites was accurate.

Glenda went above and beyond for her family and friends, and the people in her community. Even in the office, she was known as the "sweet tooth" queen, always keeping everyone stocked up on their favorite candies.



The GTPDD office is centrally located in
Oktibbeha County in the Starkville
Industrial Park.

We must count ourselves extremely blessed if at some time during our lives we happen to be a friend of a wonderful human being like Glenda, whose zest for life and capacity to live life to the fullest were inspiring.

Glenda gave of her time so willingly and never expected anything in return. Her loves included her family, friends, reading, collecting movies and movie memorabilia, and her collection of moccasins (footwear) – just to mention a few.

Her hard work and diligence earned her much deserved respect and love among her GTPDD peers and the seniors of Oktibbeha County. Her smile and “spunkiness” will be greatly missed in the lives of her coworkers, family, friends and the seniors she served each and every day.



In Memoria

Glenda Thompson

August 9, 1945 – January 1, 2014

GTPDD Employee

Aging. . .

Free Legal Assistance

To individuals age 60 and over
Sponsored by
North Mississippi Rural Legal Services
&
Golden Triangle Area Agency on Aging
NMRLS can prepare
--A Will
--Power of Attorney
--Advance Health Care Directive

If interested, call Bobby Gann
AAA Director
662-324-7860, Ext. 1104

Loans. . .

Featured Business. .

(as submitted by Dawn Vickers)

VICKERS PERSONAL CARE HOME

Director/Owner: Dawn Vickers, R.N. (662) 295-7476

MISSION

You and your loved ones deserve the highest possible medical and personal care. Vickers Personal Care Home's caring team of health professionals strive to carry out the kind of loving treatment given to your loved ones and their families as if in the familiar surroundings of their own home. Maintaining a safe and secure environment provided by our staff.

Everything we do for your loved one, we do with praise and adoration to our Heavenly Father. We provide with God's help, the highest quality of care possible. We are a family joined together with your family, to give your loved one a warm, loving home full of peace and joy. Our goal is to provide every need possible, while going above and beyond to love and provide care for your entire family. We will trust God for our every need, and in faith know, **"WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE". MATTHEW 19:26.**

SERVICES

RN staff in facility daily and on call 24 hours/7 days a week to supervise medication administration and provide medical observation and evaluation of each resident.

Manager/Assistant Manager staffing and live on site.

Two caregivers (CNA) staffed 24 hours a day in addition to Manager and RN coverage.

Cooks provide three nutritious meals daily. Resident diets are prepared according to physician orders and reviewed and approved by registered dietician. Daily snacks provided, including scheduled diabetic snacks.

Clothing laundered daily per staff.

Scheduled daily activities and exercise per resident abilities. Sunday church service/music provided for residents that wish to participate.

Transportation provided for residents in approved situations.

We will gladly explain all costs and verify coverage before you make any decisions.

VICKERS PERSONAL CARE HOMES ARE LEGALLY CERTIFIED AND LICENSED BY THE HEALTH FACILITIES LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

(cont' page 4)

Loans cont'...

VICKERS' LOCATIONS



Twelve-bed facility (5 Private/4 Semi-private Rooms) located at
238 Springs Valley Road
Mathiston, Mississippi 39752
Phone: 662-263-4685



Eighteen-bed facility (18 Private Rooms) located at
114 North Montgomery
Starkville, Mississippi 39759
Phone: 662-323-4617

Medicaid Waiver...

THE ELDERLY & DISABLED MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM

The Medicaid Waiver Program provides home and community-based services that assist clients to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization. Eligibility is determined through a comprehensive preadmission screening instrument encompassing activities of daily living, sensory deficits, cognitive deficits, behaviors and medical conditions. Clients must be over twenty-one years of age and qualify for Medicaid.

Fourteen Case Management teams currently serve the GTPDD. Each team consists of a registered nurse and a licensed social worker who visit the client on a monthly basis to provide, monitor and coordinate the services that are offered through this program. These services may include: Home Delivered Meals, Homemaker Services, In-Home Respite, and Non-Emergency Transportation (NET). This program is available statewide, but the GTPDD covers Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, and Winston counties.



An additional service provided at no cost to GTPDD clients, is a medication management program. Medication noncompliance has been proven, in many studies, to be the primary reason individuals do not continue in a positive direction of improved health and independence. By addressing this issue directly with clients enrolled in the Waiver program, GTPDD strives to meet the number one goal of the Mississippi Healthy Waiver Program: *Keep Individuals In Their Homes As Long As Possible!* To this end, GTPDD has created its own In-Home Pharmacy Service. Pharmacy staff will coordinate refills, contact your physician for refills, review your medications for drug interactions, provide free pricing, as well as deliver your prescriptions to your home. There is no additional charge for these services. If you would like more information on the Golden Triangle PDD Pharmacy, please call 662-320-2011.

Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.

Volume 1, No. 14

Page 6

Med. Waive. cont'...

Michelle Harris is the RN Supervisor for the Medicaid Waiver Program. Current team members are:

Choctaw

Tina Gill, RN
Rachel Embry, LSW

Clay

Mitzi Phelps, RN
Stephanie Cannon, LSW

Lowndes #1

Libby Wansley, RN
Janice Miller, LSW

Lowndes #2

Cindy Reese, RN
Lesa Wilson, LSW

Lowndes #3

Lindsey Marsh, RN
Angelia Sansing, LSW

Lowndes #4

Christy Massey, RN
Audie Strain, LSW

Noxubee #1

Jana Peterson, RN
Lauren Smith, LSW

Noxubee #2

Tammy Castle, RN
Emilie Hamilton, LSW

Oktibbeha #1

Tina McWhorter, RN
Lynn Herndon, LSW

Oktibbeha #2

Stacy Elkins, RN
Jennifer Grantham, LSW

Oktibbeha #3

Helen Smith, RN
Beverly Baker, LSW

Oktibbeha #4

Charlotte Dowd, RN
Jennifer Bridges, LSW

Webster

Lynette Hunt, RN
Chris Bingham, LSW

Winston

Kim Mills, RN
Suzanne Winstead, LSW

Anyone interested in this program or would like additional information should contact the Medicaid Waiver office at 662-324-7860, option #3.

January

Phylis Benson	20 years
Janice Davis	06 years
Robert Dill	06 years
Jessie Evans	15 years
Jacqueline Jackson	05 years
Tricia Jones	20 years
Jennifer Lindsey	05 years
Rosie Spencer	11 years
Patricia Warren	06 years
Liz Wyatt	14 years

February

George Crawford	36 years
Lorene Cummins	10 years
Regina Cunningham	05 years
Jenny Grantham	10 years
Michelle Harris	11 years
Lynn Herndon	08 years
Jana Peterson	05 years
Ida Spann	09 years
Scott Stewart	06 years
Mary Ann Thompson	09 years
Libby Wansley	09 years
Queen Wilson	07 years

March

Ella Bell	05 years
Jimmy Cole	20 years
Sylvia Fair	11 years
Stephanie Fenton	10 years
Bobby Gann	40 years
Ethel Goss	11 years
Carla Guyton	05 years
Dixie Higginbotham	08 years
Deborah Hill	11 years
Jennifer Odom	07 years
Barbara Ray	15 years
Tekela Taylor	06 years

Staff Anniversaries-Staff members that have served at least 5 years

Planning...

FY2013 HOME Investment Partnership Applications Submitted

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) has received, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an allocation of \$7,233,129 for the FY2013 HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME). The HOME program is designed to strengthen partnerships between public and private agencies to provide affordable housing within state and local communities. The HOME program was created to help communities by:

- Providing very-low and low-income persons with decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing;
- Assisting in the design and implementation of a game-plan for achieving decent, affordable housing within a community;
- Strengthening partnerships among government and private agencies in the production of decent, affordable housing; and
- Making various forms of technical and financial assistance available to communities.

GTPDD staff recently prepared and submitted five (5) HOME applications that are currently under review. MDA received 67 applications, requesting approximately of **\$35,000,000** from an allocation of \$3,948,129 in the Homeowner Rehabilitation/Reconstruction category.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION/RECONSTRUCTION APPLICATIONS

Applicant	Number of Homeowners	Funds Requested
Artesia	3	\$290,574
Choctaw County	3	\$313,228
Maben	5	\$511,162
West Point	4	\$378,214
Winston County	5	\$511,162
Total	20	\$2,004,340

Planning cont' . . .

CalStar Products is Nearing Completion in the Golden Triangle Industrial Park

CalStar Products, Inc. purchased an industrial building in the Golden Triangle Industrial Park in Lowndes County with the help of the Lowndes County Board of Supervisors and the State of Mississippi. The company was the beneficiary of a funding package of over \$6,000,000, which consisted of funding from the Community Development Block Grant program, the Capital Improvement Loan program, and the Lowndes County Board of Supervisors. Improvements to the building included the construction of an access road, water and sewer connections to the facility, and the custom finishing of the building to meet the requirements of the new company. The company initially has invested approximately \$5,000,000 and will hire 55-60 new employees over a three-year period. The facility will occupy an existing 100,000 square foot building on 23 acres in the park.



CalStar Products, Inc. develops and manufactures innovative sustainable building products for commercial exteriors and hardscapes. The company is headquartered in the Silicon Valley with manufacturing currently in Wisconsin. CalStar provides the next generation of green bricks and pavers.

FY2014 CDBG Applications Due May 12-16, 2014

Local units of government should plan immediately for the upcoming FY14 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application process. CDBG Public Facilities applications will be accepted by the Mississippi Development Authority on May 12 - 16, 2014.

The FY2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Final Statement outlining the application process for this year has been released by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). The minimum threshold requirements are that at least 51% of the project beneficiaries are of low and moderate income and applicants must have no open Public Facility (Regular or Small Government), Emergency/Urgent Needs, or Self Help grants. It is anticipated that a significant decrease in funding will be available for local units of government, as this year's allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is projected to be \$23,800,000.

It is important for governmental entities to remember that the Community Services Division of MDA must receive an audit-reporting package within nine (9) months following the end of the fiscal year. The Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133 require a single audit for state and local governments, which expend \$500,000 or more in federal awards for that year. Entities, which expend less than \$500,000 a year in federal awards, are exempt from federal audit requirements for that year, but an acceptable Funding Certification Form must be submitted to MDA. Failure to provide this information to the Mississippi Development Authority in a timely manner will **disqualify** an applicant from submitting a CDBG application during the fiscal year. Any governmental entity needing assistance with this matter should contact the PDD.

Sr. Enrichment-Starkville...

Let me tell you about a lady, a lady named Kay,
She's with us at the Senior Center every day.
She's checking in & paying attention, & seein' we're all okay,
With beauty, grace & charm in her own special way.

In Greek her name means "pure" or "chaste" & "happy" or "rejoice" in Latin;
We think these fit her to a T, 'cause she's exceptional as mighty fine satin.
Her name in English is "Keeper of the Keys."
Right from the start you'll give her the ones to your heart..
And she won't even have to say 'please.'

She's an independent woman, a truly special one;
You should hear all the things she's been through & all the things she's done!
Nowadays she's a reader & a comic & a puzzle guru too;
It's an honor just to know her & for her to spend her time with you.

As a daughter, wife, & mother & precious grandmother too,
She has always spread her joy in, around & through.
She's an angel God holds very dear & we're very blessed to have her here;
She's one who brightens every day with friendship warm as a sweet sun's ray.

She's just the kind of lady you want for a friend.
She has courage & compassion – on that you can depend.
You only have to meet her to know she's heaven-sent,
And once you get to know her - you'll agree - she's excellent !!!

She was new in town. Moved here to help taxi grandsons to after-school exploits. When the Senior Enrichment Center first opened, she came quietly to most every scheduled activity. She made friends easily and soon became the person to know because she made everyone feel so comfortable. Her sense of humor was one you had to love because her dry wit could sure make you laugh.

She soon knew everyone and just sort of melded into being the backbone of the Senior Center crowd. In her own quiet, caring way she took care of whatever needed doing. She made small purchases of something she thought was needed at the Center, (like a first aid kit or a measuring tape to measure puzzle height and width). She brought her own vacuum cleaner in and spiffed up the place now and then. She made sure Bridge groups were four to a table on Bridge days. She knew who wanted coffee and how they took it. On and on her service went.

In addition to serving as maitre d' for the Senior Center, she also found time to provide rides for friends who had a doctor's appointment or a flight leaving at daybreak or some other need. She did things with friends that she knew they would enjoy. And she still had time for chauffeuring the grandsons in the afternoons.

Sr. Enr. cont' . . .

Anyone who was asked would say she was the best friend ever. Ever.... Then in the few shortest weeks anyone could imagine, she got sick and her doctors here couldn't figure out how to help her. So she had to go to The Great Physician to be healed. And healing is what we all wanted for her even though we miss her more than the best spoken words can possibly say.

But she didn't leave us empty-hearted. She left us with memories and a legacy that told the story of Jesus simply by the way she lived. The way she lived proved that love is a verb. (Submitted by Sr. Enrichment participants.)

Kay Hardy 1933 - 2013



WIA *(Workforce Investment Act) . . .*

WIA COUNSELING TO CAREER PERFORMANCE REVIEW

WIA Youth Providers in the Mississippi Partnership Area recently received performance and participation reviews. Below are the findings for the Golden Triangle Counseling to Career Program.

Performance Measures	CONTRACT GOALS	ACTUAL PERFORMANCE	STATUS
New Enrollments (thru 12/31/2013)	40	40	Met
Literacy & Numeracy Gains (10/1/12 – 9/30/13 exits)	71.0%	87.27%	Exceeded
Placement in Employment, Education, or Military (10/1/12 – 9/30/13)	71.5%	75.34%	Exceeded

There were three categories reviewed to see if the Golden Triangle WIA Counseling to Career Program is meeting contract requirements. Those included: number of new enrollments; number of youth who increased their reading, math or language skills; and number of youth who found a job, continued their education or enlisted in the military upon completion of the program. As shown above, Golden Triangle PDD staff/ youth met or exceeded contract goals in all areas. Congratulations on a job well done!



Youth Served Per County - March 31, 2014

	Youth to be Served Contract Goal	Current Number of Youth Served	Current Percent of Youth Served	Available Positions Remaining
Choctaw	20	17	85%	3
Oktibbeha	27	23	85%	4
Webster	16	8	50%	8
Winston	20	16	80%	4
Overall	83	64	77%	19

Pictured above
Webster County
students &
Oktibbeha
County students
below.

Another critical measure of the success of the Counseling to Career Program is the number of youth served throughout the program year (7/1/2013 – 6/30/2014). The table above shows the contract goal, number served thus far, and remaining positions available. Currently sixty-four youth are being served and there are nineteen openings remaining. To participate in the C2C program youth must be 21 years or younger, not currently in school, seeking a job, and residing in Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Webster or Winston counties. The final sessions for this program year will begin the first of April in all four counties. If you know youth who are seeking employment, have them contact the WIA staff for an application. (662-324-7860 Choctaw & Winston ext. 1125, Oktibbeha & Webster ext. 1115) Remember, there are only nineteen slots remaining and these will be filled on a first-come basis.



With your help, the 77% can be increased to 100%!

Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.

Volume 1, No. 14

Page 12



Bobby Gann, Director of Aging Services, along with GTPDD Staff, celebrated his 40th year with the Golden Triangle Planning & Development District. Thank you, Bobby, for your support of the Senior Citizen population.



Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.

Post Office Box 828
Starkville, MS 39760