



Golden Triangle Planning & Development District, Inc.

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Comprehensive
Economic
Development
Strategy.

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Medicare Part D Open Enrollment October 15 – December 7 2022

On April 4, 2022, Center for Medicare & Medicaid released information about Medicare Part D drug plan parameters for the upcoming year 2023.



- Part D Deductible \$505 for 2023 - increases from \$480 in 2022
- Initial coverage limit \$4,660 for 2023 – increases from \$4,430 in 2022
- Out of pocket threshold \$7,400 for 2023 – increase from \$7,050 in 2022
- Total covered Part D spending at the out-of-pocket expense threshold for beneficiaries not eligible for the coverage gap discount program is \$10,516.25 – increase from \$10,012.50 in 2022
- Estimated total covered Part D spending at the out-of-pocket expense threshold for those eligible for the coverage gap discount programs is \$11,206.28 – increase from \$10,690.20 in 2022

The rise in these limits will increase the amount all individuals pay for prescription drugs. If you need assistance evaluating your current plan or any plan available for 2023, please contact our office at 662-324-7860. We will schedule a time to compare your coverage .

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Executive Director Rudy Johnson
along side ARC Federal Co-Chair
Gayle Manchin
at a visit to the East Mississippi
Communiversy.

Home and Community Based Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program

What is the Elderly and Disabled Waiver?

The Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Waiver is a statewide program designed to offer assistance to qualified Medicaid beneficiaries. The program allows qualified individuals to remain in their home or other community-based setting as an alternative to nursing facility or other institutional care.

Who is qualified?

- ✓ Beneficiaries must be 21 years of age or older
- ✓ Persons qualify by either SSI or 300% of SSI
- ✓ Beneficiaries must score 50 or above on the standardized assessment
- ✓ Individual must require nursing facility level of care, if assistance is not provided
- ✓ Beneficiaries who are eligible to receive Home and Community-based Services under this waiver must first be approved through the Division of Medicaid.

What services are offered under this waiver?

- ✓ Case Management: Everyone who participates in the waiver is assigned to a case management team. This team consists of a Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker. They are responsible for managing and coordinating services for each participant.
- ✓ Personal Care Services (PCS): Personal Care attendants that provide supportive services in the home of the participant. Duties include bathing and personal care, light housekeeping, laundry, meal preparation, and errands.
- ✓ Adult Day Care Services: This service is a structured program that allows participants to socialize with other participants. The facility provides supervision, group activities, and nutritious meals.
- ✓ Expanded Home Health Services: Covered services include: nurse, aide, physical and speech therapy.
- ✓ Home Delivered Meals: A well-balanced meal is delivered to the home of the participant who is unable to leave the home without assistance and/or is unable to prepare meals.
- ✓ In-Home Respite/Institutional Respite: Respite service is provided to participants on a short-term basis because of the need to relieve the primary caregiver. This service can be provided in the home or in an approved institutional setting.
- ✓ Transition Assistance: Medicaid beneficiaries residing in a nursing facility who wish to transition from the facility back into the community.

To refer an individual to the Elderly and Disabled Waiver program, complete an intake form on GTPDD website or call 662-30-2003.



ARC visits Northeast Mississippi

Newly appointed ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin and members of her staff recently visited Mississippi. They met with several partners, including **The Communiversity** at East Mississippi Community College, where ARC support is creating education pathways and connecting students with high-growth technical jobs. The ARC team then met in Water Valley for a discussion at **Base Camp Coding Academy** where free training is provided to high school graduates interested in becoming software engineers. The three-day tour concluded with the announcement of a \$740,331 grant for the Springs Industrial Park development project in Marshall County.

Ms. Manchin, from West Virginia, was sworn in May 6, 2021 as the Appalachian Regional Commission's thirteenth federal co-chair. Nominated by President Biden, Manchin will work directly with ARC's 13-member governors, their state alternates and program manager and a network of local development districts/planning and development districts. Mississippi's ARC office is located in Tupelo and is served by Program Manager Mike Armour and Project Manager Andrea Rose. All seven (7) counties of the Golden Triangle Planning and Development District (GTPDD) fall within the ARC region and PDD staff Phylis Benson and George Crawford share the responsibility of preparing and administering grants.

Work on Nate Wayne Drive in Macon is Progressing



Nate Wayne Drive in the City of Macon is a dead-end street that provides access for numerous residents to Highway 45, Mississippi 145 and all of downtown Macon. One section of Nate Wayne Drive has a corrugated metal cross drain under the street. This culvert has corroded and has caused cavities and collapsing of the existing road bed. The current condition is a danger to the traveling public, school buses, and emergency vehicles.



The City of Macon has received grant assistance from the Community Development Block Grant Program that is administered by the Mississippi Development Authority to contract a new bridge and drainage structure. It is proposed to replace the corroded metal pipes with concrete culverts. The cross drain will be designed on a 25-year flood frequency, with 10-minute duration and 7 inches per hour frequency. The proposed street will have two (2) ten-foot lanes with two-foot shoulders



The Golden Triangle Planning and Development District is administering the project with the project engineer being Calvert-Spradling Engineers of West Point, Mississippi. Ausbern Construction Company of Okolona, Mississippi is the general contractor.



Could the Next SUCCESS STORY be YOU?

Keyante is currently a senior at West Point High School. She began the Gateway In-School Workforce Program her junior year.

When first meeting Keyante, my impression of her was that she was an outgoing person. Keyante had never held a public job and lacked work experience so I was cautiously optimistic about her work ethic. After going through the essential job skills training, she was placed at a retail store as a sales associate to complete her internship. She proved to be a quick learner and a very good sales associate. She called one day to share that she personally made two sales on her own. She expressed much enthusiasm for her job. She was offered a permanent job with the business once the internship ended. While working there she continued to show improvement. Her employment did not last long due to an issue not caused by anything she did, but she felt it best to give her notice and find other employment. It did not take her long to find another sales associate job with Dollar Tree.



While working at Dollar Tree she received an opportunity to apply for a summer internship with Yokohama. She, along with nearly three hundred other applicants, applied. Of those three hundred only thirty could be hired. I received a call from a very excited Keyante sharing that she was chosen as one of the thirty to receive the internship. We discussed her ability to continue with Dollar Tree while working at Yokohama. She spoke with manager of Dollar Tree and got her schedule worked out so that she could continue there while taking part in the summer internship with Yokohama. She did an excellent job throughout the summer and was able to successfully work both jobs.

Yokohama held an award program for the youth who successfully completed the summer internship. Each intern was given two guest tickets. I was honored to be asked by Keyante to attend along with her mother. It was a pleasure to be present when Keyante received her certificate of successful completion. In addition, Yokohama offered her a job working four days a week after school. The Yokohama **management was obviously very impressed with Keyante's job skills to offer her this continued opportunity** to work and develop her skills. In addition, she is completing her senior year at West Point High School and plans to continue working at Dollar Tree on weekends.

I am so proud of Keyante. She has impressed me with her strong work ethic, her outgoing personality, and her desire to excel in all that she does. She has exceeded expectations and I have no doubt she will be a valuable asset to future employers as she pursues her career goal.

(Written by Myra Halford, WIOA Career Counselor)

If you are a junior or senior enrolled in Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, or Winston county high schools and are interested in increasing your employability skills through workforce training and a paid internship in your local community, contact Mitzi Lawrence @ 662-324-7005.

YOU might be our next SUCCESS STORY!

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

FOR OLDER ADULTS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

CREATE A NETWORK OF SUPPORT
TO HELP YOU IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

PREPARE FOR A POWER OUTAGE IF YOU USE ELECTRIC MEDICAL DEVICES.



talk to a health care provider about what to do



identify an alternative power source for devices



inform your emergency contacts of the plan



Plan how you will **communicate** if you have a communication disability.



Plan for your **transportation** if you need help evacuating.



Plan how you will evacuate with any **assistive devices**.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN AN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

- Contact information for important people and care providers
- A list of medicines you need, dosage instructions, and any allergies
- Styles and serial numbers of all medical and assistive devices
- Need-to-know information for first responders and others who might need to help you



Food, water, and essentials for you and pets or service animals

Medicines, medical supplies, batteries, and chargers

Copies of Medicaid, Medicare, and other insurance cards



Learn more: acl.gov/programs/emergency-preparedness

Columbus Sr. Center News....

These two have set a record for the Sr. Center with the most closed books and the most points in a game of Hand & Foot! Congratulations ladies!



Pictured below are Amy Doris Heppler & Roma Williamson.

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**We're on the
Web:
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JULY

Lucille Booth	14 years
Tammy Castle	22 years
Diana Granger	09 years
Myra Halford	0 years
Kim Mills	22 years
Mitzi Phelps	23 years
Regina Rambus	15 years

AUGUST

Spencer Broocks	19 years
Angel Coggins	18 years
Robbie Harris	08 years
Queen Kidd	10 years
Anna Lancaster	09 years
Mitzi Lawrence	22 years
JAngelia Sansing	16 years

SEPTEMBER

Ruthie Colter	20 years
Tiffany Gilliland	09 years
Tim Heard	29 years
Amy Sanford	11 years
Andrea Scott	09 years
Santreena Triplett	19 years

Staff Anniversaries

Staff members that have served at least 5 years at the GTPDD.