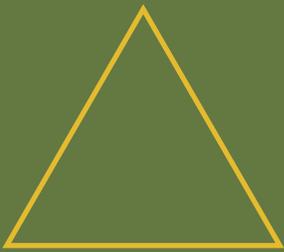


GOLDEN TRIANGLE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.



In this issue:

WIOA 2-3

Medicaid Waiver 4-6

Staff Anniversaries 6

Contacts Social Media 7

*P.O. Box 828
106 Miley Drive
Starkville, MS
39759*

GTPDD prepared to use new mobile mapping system for county mapping

Director Rudy Johnson

The Golden Triangle Planning and Development District is prepared to use a state-of-the-art mobile mapping system for county mapping next year.

Acquired through an Appalachian Regional Commission grant, the GTPDD Mapping and GIS team’s Trimble MX50 mobile mapping system uses light detection and ranging to measure distances for mapping.

Using light in the form of lasers, the Trimble MX50, attached to a truck, can measure two million object points per second while traveling at speeds up to 75 mph and collecting 20 GB of 3D mapping data per mile.

The Trimble MX50 can extract features such as power poles, street signs, address points, curbs and gutters, power lines, slope of the road and more.



With these feature extractions, the new equipment can help the GTPDD counties with highway assets, utility assets, city assets, accurate ground models, engineering profiles and cross-sections, road surface information, addressing and more.

With the team ready to begin mapping Choctaw County in 2024, the GTPDD is excited to take this new equipment out on the road in our counties and get to work.

MERRY
Christmas

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

GATEWAY IN-SCHOOL WORKFORCE PROGRAM TRAINEE POSITIONS OPEN

The GTPDD's Gateway In-School Workforce Program is celebrating completion of another year in Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Webster and Winston counties!

In early August, the WIOA staff began the recruitment of junior and senior Career Center students interested in obtaining a Career Ready Certificate, developing workforce skills and practicing those skills through an internship in a local business where salary and workers' comp are paid through WIOA funds.

The ultimate goal is that the youth, with the help of the Gateway Career Counselors, will find full or part-time employment, continue their education or enlist in the military. The WIOA staff continues to work with the youth for a minimum of twelve months after their program internship to enhance the youth's chances of meeting one of these goals.

Program progress indicates that at the end of December, 61 youth were certified into the program. All 61 of these youth completed essential job skills training. Forty-seven of these participants chose to begin their internship immediately, while the remaining 14, due to personal and school related obligations, chose to begin their internship hours in January 2024. For most of these students, this is their first job, so their first paycheck is a milestone to remember.

The staff also has been working with 87 youth who completed the program last year to assure they stay on a positive track. According to the latest report, 95 of these youth (95%) have met their goal of employment, continuing their education or joining the military.

The WIOA staff is very proud of the accomplishments of these young people and the contribution they are making in their local communities.

Positions are available for 30 self-motivated, energetic, dedicated-to-succeed youth living in Lowndes, Noxubee and Webster counties to participate in this innovative program during the spring 2024 semester. Participants must be in school and of junior or senior standing, preferably enrolled in Career Tech classes.

If you know any youth residing in these counties who need job skills, work experience or assistance to continue their education, tell them about the Gateway Program and have them contact Myra Halford (Lowndes and Webster) at 662-324-7932 or Keith Jeffries (Noxubee) at 662-324-7586.

New sessions will start mid-January, so help us spread the word about our program!

A CLOSE-UP OF SUCCESSFUL GATEWAY IN-SCHOOL WORKFORCE PROGRAM STUDENTS



GTPDD AND MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH CLIENTS



To celebrate this joyous time of year, the GTPDD sponsors the provision of Christmas gifts to Medicaid Waiver clients. Warm clothes, blankets, toiletries, food and household items are among the gifts purchased and delivered to clients.

Many elderly people do not have family or friends to share the holiday spirit with and Medicaid Waiver staff make sure they are remembered.



HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED ELDERLY AND DISABLED WAIVER PROGRAM

What is it?

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 a home or community-based setting as an alternative to nursing facility care or other institutional care.

What are the qualifications?

1. Beneficiaries must be 21 years of age or older;
2. Medicaid eligible;
3. Require the same level of care as someone applying for admission to a nursing facility.

Contact our Medicaid Waiver Office:
662-320-2003.

What services are offered under this waiver?

- **Case Management:** Everyone who participates in the waiver is assigned to a local case management team. This team consists of a Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker. They are responsible for managing and coordinating the services for each participant.
- **Personal Care Services (PCS):** These are supportive services provided in the home of the participant. They include assistance with light housekeeping, laundry, meal preparation, bathing, dressing, personal hygiene and activities of daily living.
- **Adult Day Services:** This is a structured program that focuses on the strengths and abilities of the participant. This service allows participants to contact connections with their community and/or use all of their retained skills. Depending on the specific facility, the following services are provided: supervision and/or assistance with ADLs, group activities, nutritious meals and medication monitoring.
- **Home Delivered Meals:** A well-balanced meal is delivered to the home of the person who is unable to leave their home without assistance and/or is unable to prepare their own meals.
- **Institutional Respite and/or In-Home Respite:** This is provided to participants on a short-term basis because of the absence of or need for relief for the primary care giver. This can be provided in the home or other licensed respite care centers.

Medicaid Waiver RNs and LSWs:

Choctaw:

Tina Gill, RN
Kaylee Tisdale, LSW

Lowndes #3:

Lindsey Livingston, RN
Angelia Sansing, LSW

Oktibbeha #2:

Jennifer Grantham, LSW

Winston:

Kim Mills, RN
Lauren Smith, LSW

Clay:

Mitzi Phelps, RN
Lesa Wilson, LSW

Noxubee #1:

Rachael Unruh, RN
Jennifer Bridges, LSW

Oktibbeha #3:

Paige Winfield, RN
Christina Bland, LSW

Lowndes #1:

Angie Whitaker, RN
Jessica Rodgers, LSW

Noxubee #2:

Tammy Castle, RN
Kallie Hubbard, LSW

Oktibbeha #4:

Krystal Taylor, RN
Megan Aucoin, LSW

Lowndes #2:

Cindy Reese, RN
Tennie Simpson, LSW

Oktibbeha #1

Tina McWhorter, RN
Andrea Wright, LSW

Webster:

Sydney Thompson, RN
Lisa Woods, LSW

Staff Anniversaries: 5+ Years

October

Joanne Peterson 30
Melody Benseid 25
Annie Sanders 25
Lauren Smith 23
Willer Glenn 18
Charlene Jones 18
David Alexander 15
Diana Prince 12
Lisa Woods 07

November

Jessica Foxx 23
Alicia Barry 22
Glenda Fason 16
Cynthia Reese 11
Lindsey Livingston 11

December

Maria Lopez 20
Glen Edmonds 10
Mary Camp 06
Lady Swords 06
Krystal Taylor 06
Kristy Whitaker 05

CONTACTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA



Main Office: 662-324-7860
Pharmacy: 662-320-2011
Aging: 662-320-2001
Solid Waste: 1-800-217-6909



Main Office:
gtpdd@gtpdd.com
Pharmacy:
PharmHIT@gtpdd.com



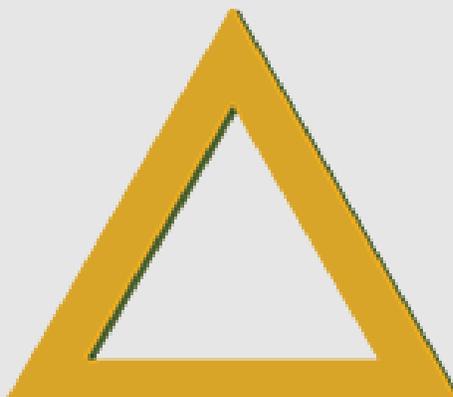
@GTrianglePDD



Main Office: 662-324-7328
Pharmacy: 662-320-2004



The GTPDD is online at www.gtpdd.com.



GOLDEN TRIANGLE

Planning and Development District, Inc.