

PATHWAYS PROCLAMATIONS

Pathways Center for Behavioral and Developmental Growth

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From the Executive Director, Jade Benefield

Pathways Center has so many exciting opportunities as we wrap up Fiscal Year 2009 and move into Fiscal Year 2010. I am pleased to announce that in spite of significant budget cuts this past year, our agency has ended the fiscal year in a positive financial situation thanks to the hard work of our dedicated staff. We are moving into a new era as the Division of MHDDAD has transitioned away from the Department of Human Resources and will be named the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. We look forward to continuing to contract with the new department.



Just in the past six months, Pathways Center has opened and dedicated the newly constructed Turner Center to serve adolescents from around the state and have served ten youth since March 2009. Our West Point facility has recently expanded services to operate five days per week and served the community with a Summer Services youth program. Our Spalding County location is growing and has recently relocated to a larger space and developed an Adult Day Program. With the growth opportunities ahead of us will also come some challenges. We do expect that our state contract will include some additional budget cuts this year, but I expect and believe that our organization will continue to thrive.

Pathways Center celebrates the opening of the Meriwether Turner Center.

On April 2 the new Meriwether Intensive Residential Treatment Center for children and adolescents was officially opened with a special surprise ceremony. The center was dedicated and named after Mrs. Joan Turner for her unending support of this endeavor and her many years of dedication to Pathways. Pathways Center is proud of Mrs. Turner's coordination of this project which is designed to serve at-risk children, youth and their families. Thank you, Mrs. Turner!!!!!!!!!!!! Pictured below are scenes from the dedication ceremony. Special presentations at the event included: Judge David Turner, top row, center picture and Mr. Jade Benefield, Pathways Center Executive Director, center picture on bottom row.



Carroll County News

Mental Health Clinic News

We are sad to say good-bye to Charles Allen, LPC who will be retiring in July. At the same time we want to welcome our new counselor Sarah Hightower. Carroll County continues to grow and expand all of its services. The Adult Day Program continues to thrive and serves over 30 consumers a day. The Child and Adolescent Program has expanded services both in and out of the clinic to children and their families. Recently, we have partnered with Carroll County Child Support Problem Solving Court to develop a 90 day program which focuses on helping parents develop skills necessary to become effective parents.

Sunshine House News by Stephanie Haney, Advisory Board Secretary

On June 30th 2009, The Sunshine House in Carroll County had a big day! Elections were held for the new Advisory Board Committee. There were a number of consumers running for office. The consumers running were as follows: Anthony Parker and Mark Parkman for President. Larry Kidd and Johnny Henry for Vice President. Corey Daniel and Clarence Ackey for Treasurer. Stephanie Haney and Tiffany Person for Secretary. Each candidate gave a speech and talked about what they planned to do to make the advisory board a success. After the speeches were given the secret ballots were cast. The final results of the election were announced and the new advisory board officers were chosen. The following consumers were elected. Anthony Parker is the new President. Larry Kidd is the new Vice President. Clarence Ackey is the new Treasurer. Stephanie Haney is the new Secretary. We congratulated the newly elected officers. The occasion was celebrated by having refreshments and beverages. Everyone had a great time. We look forward to working with our new advisory board.

Coweta County News

We are extremely excited to announce that our Coweta County team is growing. Welcome to Delores Ogletree, our new office manager coming to us from Troup County and welcome to Tameka Snelling our new front office clerk. Both of these ladies do an excellent job coordinating consumer care. Amanda Floyd recently joined our counseling staff. She is a recent graduate of Georgia State University with a Master of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling. Amanda works closely with our consumers and community providers. Amanda currently facilitates our Wellness group. She looks forward to implementing a new development program for teenage parents providing education and support on parenting and prevention. Andrea Hawkins is the Community Support Individual that will be linking our wonderful consumers in Coweta County. Andrea will be teaching the Coping Strategies group for adolescents and the Life Enhancement group for the consumers trying to get their life back on track. Congratulations to Chimere Jackson on her promotion to Coweta County Site Supervisor. Chimere holds a Bachelors of Science in Therapeutic Recreation and a Master of Science degree in Counseling and Psychology. She has been with the agency for two years and also serves as the Adult Day Co-Coordinator for Sunshine House in Carroll County. She will be working closely with staff and community partners ensuring consumer needs are met and quality care is provided for all Pathways consumers served! We welcome our new staff and look forward to new beginnings in Coweta County.

Heard County News

Heard County C&A program has been extremely busy this summer serving many consumers and their siblings. The program staff, Tonya McDonald and Crystal Blacquiere arranged for outings and activities which allowed these children to have positive social interactions and recreational experiences in a therapeutic environment thus fostering coping skills and improving self esteem. Heard County would also like to welcome Dr. Yvonne Gilbert as our new C&A psychiatrist. We are all looking forward to working with her.

Meriwether News

Meriwether County has been excited about the growth of staff and services over the past several months. We are pleased to announce our collaboration with the Meriwether County Board of Education and the teamwork involved with getting their kids enrolled in our services. Since this involvement, we have developed a service for children who have been suspended called the Out of School Suspension (OSS) program. This program was developed to help children to continue educational instructions while not attending school. We want to welcome Paul Dinkins as our Certified Teacher for our OSS Program. We would also like to welcome Nan Jackson to Meriwether County. Nan provides group and individual counseling services to the Outdoor Therapeutic Program (OTP) located in Warm Springs, Ga. Pathways serves as the core provider to many of their residents with Donnie Plummer providing Substance Abuse Group Services for the program. We would also like to announce that along with Carroll County, Meriwether County attended the 12th Annual "Spring Fling" on May 17-19. Attending this event from Meriwether County were Susan Carr, Peer Specialist, Timothy Jackson and Brenda Dyer. New staff for Meriwether County include: Jean Goodwin, C& A Services, James Henry and James Ferguson, Security, Kelly Gray, Counselor and Lisa Parker, Meriwether County Manager

Meriwether Day Treatment News

Staff member Susan Carr and consumers attended the annual Georgia Association of Community Service Board's Spring Fling during May at Simpsonwood in Norcross, Georgia. Approximately 100 consumers from Georgia CSB's gathered for fun, games, dances, the opportunity to share dreams and ways to make them happen. The theme for this year was "Saddle Up Mental Illness and Ride to Recovery". Everyone attending the event had a great time, enjoyed the good food and received many gifts to take home.

Pictured, left to right are Brenda Dyer and Tim Jackson, all dressed up for the Barn Dance at the Spring Fling.



Turner Center News from Chris Bailey, Nurse Manager

Things at the Turner Center are progressing nicely. We have had our first discharges of consumers that have completed treatment with us. We wish the best to these young people as they move on to the next chapter of their lives. I wish to thank all of our dedicated staff for having a positive influence on the lives of these children. Construction on the lower level of the Turner Center is very close to completion. We are considering staff options and are looking forward to opening the doors for the downstairs level in the near future.

Troup County News

Positive Options News

Positive Options began the year with excitement and anticipation of the up coming year. The consumers and staff all made New Years resolutions, which were all broken within the first three weeks of the New Year. In February we had a Valentine's Party where consumers voted for Valentine's King and Queen. Winners this year were Kelly Cox and Jill Price. Easter was celebrated in April with activities and games. In May, consumers were treated to a Mother's Day breakfast provided by Positive Options staff. Thanks to everyone who helped and a special thanks to Fay Morris for making the sausage and biscuits. Positive Options consumers joined with Troup IRP for Family Day on May 15 at West Point Lake. Everyone had a good time and

Troup County News continued...

enjoyed lots of great food. Many consumers were excited about the door prizes they won during the day's festivities. We thank Renay Fannin of IRP for the invitation to join them. To celebrate Father's Day in June consumers remembered their fathers with a party complete with cake, chips, dips, and drinks. Thanks to Fay Morris for making the cake. Consumers have recently elected new consumer representatives for PSR. Congratulations to Sherry, Billy, and Desmond for being selected to fill these positions.

Second Season News

Second Season has been staying very busy. We are also working hard and in the process of getting prepared for the upcoming CARF survey. Anthony Freeman will be moving to Troup Mental Health and will be an asset to them. We are pleased to have Elizabeth Melton from Troup Mental Health join us at Second Season as counselor. We look forward to working with Elizabeth!



Congratulations to Marvin Cameron on receiving his 10 year Service Award! We are very proud of Marvin and his commitment to Second Season. **Way to Go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Shown at left is Janet Haney, Second Season Nurse Manger presenting award to Marvin.

Troup Services Center & Residential News

Everything at the Center has been going well. In April we were able to bring in a new consumer. We are in the process of increasing our enrollment of services to future consumers. Currently we are preparing for our upcoming CARF survey. We have had several Community Employment Service consumers to receive work service award certificates. Congratulations to: Sharon F. 10 years at Burger King, Jimmie R. 16 years at Wal-Mart, and Carl G. 15 years at Wal-Mart. We are very proud and happy about their accomplishments. Way to go!!!!

Congratulations to Annie Veasley on the birth of a happy and healthy grandson! We welcome Mary Craw back to work after her hospitalization and recovery in April. We are truly thankful and happy for her return.

Special recognition and congratulations are in order for Karen Hewitt's daughter, Jessie who graduated from the University of Georgia in May and to Daphne Rivers and her daughter who graduated together from LaGrange College in May. We are proud of you all !!!!

Troup Intensive Residential Program News

IRP welcomes four new staff, Marquita Meadows, Ebony Kelley, Carl Murray, and Yolanda Murray. We currently have twenty-one consumers. Troup IRP held Family Day on May 15th at West Point Lake. At this year's event consumers from Positive Options joined us for this fun event. Consumers and their families had a great day with a cook out with hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by Renay Fannin and many delicious side dishes. Consumers played volleyball, horseshoes, card games, and water balloon toss. The day was filled with food and fun and door prizes which all were excited to receive. Everyone enjoyed the day and are looking forward to more outings. Shown below are consumers and staff enjoying the festivities at Family Day on West Point Lake.



More snapshots from Family Fun Day!



Lamar / Spalding County News

Lamar County News

The Lamar clinic has seen an attendance increase in our after- school programs. This has been a direct result of the staff, specifically Jancey Wilson and Brittany Hahlen, working very hard to build relationships with the local school system and various community partners. The Lamar County Sheriff's Department sponsored a Meth Summit and Pathways Center staff were able to participate in this event and help bring awareness to the community about the dangers of this drug. We set up an information booth and handed out brochures and other promotional items about Pathways Center and about drugs. We also participated in the local community Health Fair by setting up an information booth and connecting with other vendors and citizens of Lamar County. Overall, this past quarter has been very busy for the Lamar clinic. Staff continues to provide quality services to our consumers and are looking for new avenues to increase community awareness about Pathways Center. Keep up the good work!!

Spalding County News

Spalding County recently moved offices due to the growing demand for our services in this community. Our new office is 3300 sq feet and provides plenty of room for all of the services that we provide. One example of our growth is in our Adult Day Program headed up by Randy MacNear. She has been able to expand this program by providing excellent services to these consumers and following up with their care givers. Because of the growth of this program we have officially named it "Harbour House". We have also seen an expansion in our after-school program. Krystal Kirkland has done an excellent job building this program and making contacts within this community. We have also been participating in various community programs such as the Spalding County Health Fair, school job fairs and numerous speaking engagements throughout this county. We are also seeing some growth into Upson and Pike Counties. Overall, the staff in this clinic has done an excellent job expanding services and providing quality services and as a result, this community continues to refer consumers to Pathways Center. Thanks for all your hard work!!

Pathways Welcomes:



Stephanie Ellis joined our Human Resources team June 1, 2009. Stephanie is a Certified Professional in Human Resources (PHR) offering over 17-years of HR experience distinguished by commended performance and proven results in previous roles she has held. Stephanie possesses an extensive background in all human resource functions, including recruitment, performance management, succession planning, employee relations, conflict resolution, benefits and compensation, HR IT systems, learning/training development and facilitation, policy and procedure development, and legal compliance. Stephanie lives in Waco, GA with her husband and three children.

**CONGRATULATIONS !!!!!
FAITHFUL SERVICE AWARDS**

Irma Copeland	Troup	15 years
Patrick Finnegan	Troup	15 years
Karen Hewitt	Troup	15 years
Gail Milton	Troup	15 years
Stanton Harris	Meriwether	10 years
Greg Mitchell	Meriwether	10 years
Catherine Johnson	Meriwether	10 years
Marvin Cameron	Troup	10 years
David Rosser	Carroll	5 years
Akeena Ellison	Meriwether	5 years
Nan Jackson	Meriwether	5 years
Melissa Little	Meriwether	5 years
Kathy Bell	Troup	5 years
Emily Bishop	Troup	5 years
Carolyn Culberson	Troup	5 years
Robert Strickland	Troup	5 years

Snapshots from recent Pathways CPI training!



PATHWAYS MISSION STATEMENT: *Pathways provides services that are family centered, culturally and consumer responsive, and that lead to empowerment, self-sufficiency, and an improved quality of life for person affected by serious and persistent mental, developmental, and behavioral challenges.*



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