

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

june

Joe Branch 6/25
Stephanie Chapps 6/8
Jeff Cline 6/16
Lisa Coggins 6/9
Amber Denza 6/25
Shalynn Duke 6/15
Terri Evans 6/6
Tawanda Harris 6/2
Vonda Keasler 6/24
Dr. Mervin Leader 6/29
Ken Medley 6/11
Lisa Milgrim 6/30
Carrie Moffitt-Reeves 6/18
Cindy Rhoads 6/14
Jim Thurman 6/8



july

DeShawn Denson 7/23
Cary Brown 7/28
Derick Carter 7/18
Sarah Carter 7/29
Robert Channing 7/3
Emily Cline 7/27
Rhonda Cooley 7/15
Mandy Erwin-Smith 7/23
Amy Harding 7/23
Bobbie Harris 7/29
Nancy Hazlewood 7/13
Tamarah Love 7/4
Deva Martinez-Eason 7/12
Bob Puckett 7/23



august

Carolyn Ballard 8/5
Lauren Betts 8/22
Richard Bryce 8/28
Carrie Elam 8/13
Suzanne Eudaly 8/18
Lori Hoggard 8/2
Jimmy Hubbard 8/5
Courtney Johnson 8/23
Pam Knowlton 8/8
Heather Leach 8/2
Laura Madden 8/11
Jessica Mirabella 8/3
Paula Norvell 8/22
Lauren Orbison 8/17
Tom Ray 8/9



Baby Congratulations!



DeShawn Denson, Jonesboro Case Manager, new baby boy, *DeShawn Jr.*
April Green, Mt. Home Administrative Assistant, new baby girl, *Maddie*
Tamarah Love, Osceola Therapist, twins, *Chloe Brooke*, and *Kyle Jeffrey*
Tom Ray, Ash Flat Clinical Supervisor, and **Cynthia Ray**, Ash Flat Therapist, on the birth of their 8th Grandchild, *Vann Ellis Aubrey*

Bridget Crecelius, Jonesboro Therapist, new baby boy, *Luke*.
Thankfully, Bridget's husband, who was hurt in a boating accident, was able to be there for the birth of their baby, and has since returned from rehab.

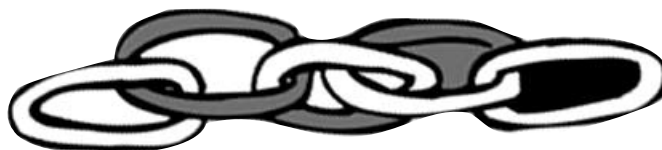
Wedding Congratulations to:

Samantha Smith, Walnut Ridge Case Manager, married Phillips James Mansfield on May 17th, 2008.

Sympathy to:

Julie Veteto, Trumann Administrative Assistant, for the loss of her grandfather.
Vonda Keasler, Walnut Ridge Therapist, whose grandson, Michael Keasler, lost his long battle with leukemia. He fought a valiant fight!
Christie Walker, Osceola Clinical Assistant, for the loss of her brother.

Your LINK to Families, Inc.



Staff Newsletter • Issue 19 • June, 2008

Upcoming Continuing Education Series:

June 20 9:00 - 12:00
July 25 9:00 - 12:00

Linda Nash, LCSW, Jonesboro Therapist

Stan Gray, LCSW, Jonesboro Therapist & **David Smith**, LMSW, Trumann Therapist

Jonesboro Clinic Training Room

"Mandated Reporting"

"Basics of ACT"

See below for more information on ACT.

From Stan Gray:

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) grew out of the research and development of Relational Frame Theory, which began in the 1980's. While RFT is very difficult to summarize, it is basically the study of the creation of memory, and the effects of verbal communication/skills on the thinking processes and behavior. As part of that research, a series of theories on intervention began to be developed and ACT eventually became formalized as a treatment modality in about the mid-1990's. The publication of "Acceptance and Commitment Therapy" in 1999 helped to solidify ACT as a mainstream intervention model. That book has been used as a text for graduate level ACT courses, such as the course at UALR's School of Social Work. I have been told that the newer book, "Learning ACT: A Skills Training Manual for Therapists" will be the text in the fall at UALR. Basically, ACT is about where traditional cognitive-behavior therapy was in the early 1980's in terms of public knowledge. Within 10 years, the basic tenants of ACT will be common knowledge among mental health professionals.

I have been practicing ACT therapy since March and am very excited about the potential this treatment modality offers for facilitating meaningful progress in the lives of our clients.

Therapists interested in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy or ACT practitioners within Families, Inc., are invited to contact me at the Jonesboro Clinic 870.351.5020 or email sgray6924@sbcglobal.net, to discuss the possibility of forming a network of ACT practitioners.

CONGRATULATIONS ABOVE & BEYOND AWARD WINNER...

niki martin

2008 First Quarter Winner
LMSW / Paragould Clinic
THANK YOU, NIKI!!

"I was compelled to send this, after seeing how perfectly Niki Martin, LMSW, handled a case that she knew was going to require special attention. Despite having an overwhelming caseload, Niki accepted a client with ties to a Families, Inc. employee. In these situations, most therapists choose not to do so for fear of criticism. However, Niki jumped in, did a great job, and worked with the client through a terrible life event.

Niki's clinical expertise became evident after she started with this case. The client's name was omitted from staffing questions and requested privacy to discuss clinical issues. She continually focused on what was best for the client.

When uncontrollable events disclosed that Niki was the therapist working with this client, she did not comment on the case to peers. She accompanied the client through a tragic event, and demonstrated kindness, compassion, and skill within a public venue. The other therapists and case managers recognized how perfect of a match we made by assigning Niki to this case. Her peers sent me a volley of text messages and emails nominating her for recognition.

Niki says she was 'just doing her job'. We call it going 'Above and Beyond' in a very special way." Submitted by Clinical Supervisor, Joe Branch

*Families, Inc. Staff -
Supporting our communities...and our clinics!*

Families, Inc. supports the March for Babies

At the recent **March of Dimes "March for Babies"**, we had 23 walkers and raised \$366! We were represented, in our specially designed shirts for the event, in Jonesboro, Batesville, and Little Rock. A special thank you to **Tonya Wright**, Jonesboro Medical Records clerk, for coordinating our participation.

Families, Inc. & Exchange Club of Jonesboro Partner to raise money for CAC

The Exchange Club of Jonesboro used the Families, Inc. parking lot recently to sell Boston Butts. It was very successful and a lot of money was raised for the development of a local Child Advocacy Center. Several Families, Inc. staff are working hard to get that program up and running.

Families, Inc. & Friends continue to support Joy

Joy is continuing treatment at Vanderbilt. For updates and to leave her messages, visit the www.caringbridge/visit/joydavis. A few support bracelets are still available by calling Anna Gatlin at 870.268.7680 Ext. 118. Through donations for the bracelets, we have raised approximately \$600 for the Caring Bridge site.

Welcome to NEW STAFF... since March 28, 2008

JONESBORO

Sheila Collins, LMSW
Sandy Beliew, RN
Leigh Ann Short, LCSW
Therapist
Jessica Mirabella
Case Manager
Ra'Shele Elrod
Intern
Lindsie Sutton
Accounting Clerk
Stacy Medley
Marketing Associate

MOUNTAIN HOME

Brandy Long
Clinical Assistant
Adam Perkins
Case Manager
SEARCY
Helen Adams
Filing Clerk
Elizabeth Moore
Kristen Sober
Micah Thompson
Joshua Keene
Ashley Weigand
Interns

OSCEOLA

Kaisha Jones
Stacy Sanders
Christy Shempert
Bridgette Fielder
Torian Bell
Case Managers
James Dalton
Intern
TRUMANN
Carrie Elam, LAC
Therapist
Latasha Delaney
Case Manager

PARAGOULD

Keisha Wood, LCSW
Therapist
POCAHONTAS
Ashley Taylor, LPN
Clinical Assistant
Justin Tedesco, LMSW
Therapist

Congratulations! Congratulations!

Jason Turner, Business Development Coordinator, has been named Trumann Clinical Supervisor.

Dawn Layer, Public Relations Coordinator, has been named Director of Marketing.

Lisa Bowen, Walnut Ridge Therapist, has achieved the credential of LPC.

Leah Evers, Pocahontas Therapist, and **Helen Shirron**, Searcy Therapist, have both achieved the credential of LCSW.

Marc Wilson, LCSW, Walnut Ridge Clinical Supervisor, has been oked to provide services to Medicare clients.

Ash Flat clinic has completed the remodeling of the new office and **Mt. Home** has moved into their new "home".

Thank You! Thank you!

Mandy Erwin-Smith, LCSW, RPT-S, recently provided a "Lunch and Learn" entitled "How to implement an effective time out". A number of Jonesboro staff took advantage of this opportunity.

Joe Branch, LPC, Paragould Clinical Supervisor, and **Jason Turner**, LMSW, Trumann Clinical Supervisor presented a continuing education program on *Ethics* to 32 therapists, case managers, and interns.

A number of staff attended a workshop entitled "Active Shooter in Our Schools" sponsored by the Craighead County Crisis Response Team.