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Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency

UCHRA's Choices Program is on the Move

"We're excited about the growth of our Choices In-Home Services Program!" stated Marla Hale, Community Services Assistant Director and supervisor of the program. "We're even more pleased that an increasing number of Upper Cumberland residents are receiving these services," she continued.

Choices, a Tenn Care Program, is designed to provide an alternative for some Medicaid-eligible persons to "choose" continuing to live in their own homes or in assisted living, rather than being placed in nursing homes. Generally, the costs to maintain a person

to his/her home are lower than the costs of living in a Nursing Facility. This "choice" is possible because of the variety of support services provided through Tenn Care. The distinction of "in-home services" is made because Choices also provides transportation services and home delivered meals, both also provided through UCHRA, to Medicaid-eligible residents.

In the Upper Cumberland region, Tenn Care has contracted with two Maintenance Care Organizations (MCOs), Amerigroup Corporation and United Health Care, to administer the Choices Program. Through

In-Home Services, homemaking, personal care, respite, and home modification services are provided to "Members" of the two MCOs. Caseworkers employed by the MCOs determine the type(s) of care and amount of services required by individual Members in order for them to continue living in their homes. The MCO, then, refers that Member (based upon the Member's preference, if they have one) to an eligible contract agency. Hopefully, UCHRA that will provide the prescribed service(s).

According to Michelle Driver, In-Home Services Coordinator, "Currently approxi-

mately 25 contracted, part-time Caregivers serve 31 active Choices Members on a weekly basis." She continued, "Current Members receive as many as 40 hours of service per week or as few as 2." Again, the main goal of the Choices Program is to keep Members in their home as opposed to a Nursing Facility.

We request that UCHRA employees, friends, and Board Members help spread the word in the Upper Cumberland communities that UCHRA provides quality and compassionate in-home services through the Choices Program.

Secret Santa Returns to Residential Homes



Standing behind a generous stack of anonymously donated Christmas gifts for UCHRA's three residential centers are: (l to r) Brian Swearingen, Residential Services Director; Teresa Hutchings, Residential Services Assistant Director, and Jamie Hickey Carter, Chance Residential Case Manager.

For the third year in a row, a large number of Christmas gifts were anonymously donated to the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA) for the youth staying in the three residential centers, Chance for Girls, Indian Mound for Boys and Youth Impact Center for Boys.

People seem to put their wants and needs on hold during the holiday season by practicing the importance of giving. This year was no exception to the gift giving spirit. Each child was presented an Under Armour duffel bag filled

with clothing and other essentials.

"It is through such anonymous donations that we are able to give children a chance to have a Merry Christmas. Many children come into our centers with very few personal belongings. These gifts add to the true meaning of Christmas. We are glad to be able to give them something that they can carry with them when they leave us not withstanding all they have learned while being at our homes," stated Brian Swearingen, UCHRA Residential Services Director.

NEW UCHRA EMPLOYEES

Linda Young	12/19
Vance Anderson	12/20
Michael Kingsbury	12/28
Timothy Brown	01/04
Larry Byers	01/09
Danielle Moseley	01/12
Susan Pogue	01/13
Nancy Peipher	01/19

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cookbooks will be available for purchase in February

Surplus Fleet Vehicle Auction
Saturday, January 28th

January Employee of the Month



JULIE LICHTLE

Awarded UCHRA Employee of the Month for the month of January.

where she processes work orders, schedules appointments, runs reports, and files paper work.

Before Julie was an employee of UCHRA, she was a pre-school teacher.

“I love the group of people I work with at UCHRA, Litchtle said. I also enjoy getting P.O. numbers from the fabulous ladies in bookkeeping, as there is never a dull moment.”

In her time away from the office, she enjoys relaxing with friends and family.

Again, congratulations to Julie Lichtle for being awarded January Employee of the Month. Don't forget to place your vote for February's employee of the month. Ballots are located in the front lobby and are counted every third Tuesday of each month.

Congratulations to Julie Lichtle for being awarded January Employee of the Month. Julie has been an employee of the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency since October 2010. During her time here, she has worked in the transportation department as the Intake Specialist at the shop

Transit Operators Make the Wheels on the Bus Go Round



DONNA MOONEYHAM

Awarded Transit Operator of the Month for the month of January

why she's been married to her husband Nathan for 28 years. Donna and Nathan have two sons, Adam and Grant.

Donna has 3 hobbies, her family, fishing and basketball. Since 1999 Donna has added to the hobby list, driving the UCARTS van. “When I receive all the smiles and thank you's, it makes me grateful that I can assist these people through my job,” Donna said.

Donna Mooneyham came to the Van Buren County UCHRA family on December 15, 1999. Donna always carries a smile and has something nice to say. That's probably



The last class of Court Appointed Special Advocates was sworn in on December 1 by Judge John Hudson of the Putnam County Juvenile Courts. Volunteers left to right: Peggy Semmes, Bobbie Smith, Rachel Robinson, Heather Lewis, and Melissa Parks. The next training class begins in March.

Todd Gannon has been selected to replace Larry Davis as Cannon County Coordinator effective Monday, January 30th.

UCHRA Featured in TDOT Newsletter

TDOT's Multimodal Transportation Resources Division (MMTR) hit a major milestone. Perhaps not to the scale of the “Wilderness Road,” but in mid-December, MMTR was instrumental in seamlessly transporting a customer across the entire state – from Clinton to Memphis – using only public transportation. Four of the ten rural public transit agencies in Tennessee were involved in this effort including East Tennessee, Upper Cumberland, Northwest Tennessee and Southwest Tennessee. When contacted by the program grants manager at Probation, TDOT and the rural transit agencies immediately set into motion a well-orchestrated plan

to transport a client in Clinton in need of transportation to a special residential substance treatment facility in Memphis. Because the trip would cross multiple service areas and would require the client be closely monitored, coordination and timing were essential. The transport van left Clinton at 8 a.m. and with stops in Crossville, Nashville and Jackson. The van was able to arrive in Memphis by 6 p.m. that same day. This act, unnoticed except by a few, accomplished two things: it fulfilled a long-term goal of MMTR to cross the state using only public transportation and perhaps more importantly it may have forever changed the life of one individual.

UCHRA Receives Additional Funding

UCHRA Transportation Department recently received good news from the Multimodal Transportation Resources Division of TDOT in the form of \$1.3 million of additional funding. The funding is the result of a hold that was placed on past applications for the Intercity Bus Program, which UCHRA'S Transportation division applied. Governor Bill Haslam certified to the Federal

Transit Administration that the Intercity Bus service needs were being met adequately by the rural public transportation providers on October 31, 2011. As a result the Division of Multimodal Transportation Resources is able to act on previously delayed contracts. This money will help to meet the demand for public transportation services in the Upper Cumberland region.

Thank You for your service!



30 Years

Linda Tramel

25 Years

Mitzi Bradford
Larry Davis
Cindy Mabery
Stacy Cummings
Mary Harris

20 Years

Kathy Weaver

15 Years

Janice Campbell
Belinda Frizzell
Sheila Robinson
Judith Thompson
Bonnie Clinton
Jamie Edwards

Cynthia Holland
Lacinda Smith
Sheila Winningham
Sandy Carter
Jamie Carter

10 Years

Tom O' Brien
Marla Hale
Charles West
Judy Tzum Sanchez
Lavada Scott
Evelyn Brown
Sherrie Cox
Holly Montooth
Marcia Hodges
Leanna McClain
Hilda Starkey
Cindy Stanley
Rita Mayfield
Wayne Flynn

Marvin Dukes
Peggy Davis
Wayne Farris
Leslie Watson
Beth Stephens

5 Years

Ashley Dobson
Jennifer McCulley
Kathy Turner
Pam Gore
Beverly Almo
Emily Boyd
Bennie Cross
Lisa Locke
Ida Rose Norris
Jeff Rader
Florence Redmon
Jewell Savage
Donald Burden
Robert Dolder

Cathy Driver
Tommy Fairbanks
Pamela Farless
Ronnie Lewis
Donita Lloyd
Donnie Martin
Gary Petrucci
James Prater
Dewey Sessoms
Jason Sklenka
Rene Verhaeghe
Roger York
Star Kirkpatrick
Carol Morse
Leslie Ritenour
Johnnie Thompson
Donald Willis
Charlie Frasier
Frank Martin