

QUARTERLY VOICE

October 2009

PHOENIX CENTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Phoenix Center's Prevention Team

Phoenix Center's Prevention Program was created in the early 1990's by the Department of Human Resources under a Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant. It was designed to enhance the delivery of services regarding substance abuse and mental health.

Phoenix Center's Prevention Team consist of four members: Lisa Troxell, Supervisor, hired in 1996, Darius Carswell, hired in 2002, Tony Morris, hired in 2004 and Stephanie Reeves hired in 2005. Each team member has to go through an extensive Ropes Course certification to become a Prevention Specialist that provides course activities to groups in our community including schools, churches and business. They are also certified in the Class Action Under-age Drinking Program that allows them to provide education to students about the dangers of alcohol and tobacco usage.

On August 25th and 26th, Marc Fomby came to Houston County to educate our community about the dangers of gangs. It is evident that gangs are growing in our community. Prevention staff, Houston County Board of Education and HODAC collaborated together to hire Marc Fomby, CEO of FTC Prevention Services, to identify gang activity in our community and teach educators and parents the different styles and traditions of street gangs. The goal was to develop a plan for our community to organize prevention strategies for neighborhoods, schools and business. Phoenix Center's Prevention staff played a major role in organizing, marketing and collaborating this event and has received positive feed back from the community of their efforts in the collaboration.



Left to Right: Darius Carswell, Lisa Troxell, Marc Fomby, Chris Brown, Stephanie Reeves and Tony Morris at the Gang Awareness collaboration

Recently the Prevention Team attended the Georgia School of Addiction Studies August 31st—September 4th in Savannah. The GSAS annually selects a Prevention Specialist around the State of GA to receive the Ray Avant Excellence Award. This year, Lisa Troxell was one of the nominees to receive this award. It is an honor to have one of our staff to be a nominee.

The Team went through a 2-day extensive ropes certification and a 1-day inspection of their special equipment for the ropes course September 21st—23rd. This certification of the ropes course ensures the safety of participants. You will see this Team often on the premises of Phoenix Center swing adolescents and adults on cables laughing but also encouraging them keep trying until they succeed.

You will see our Team members in the schools, at Health Fairs around Warner Robins, Perry, Ft. Valley and Roberta and this year they have a booth at the Georgia National Fair October 8th—18th. Their faces are very familiar and has the ultimate respect of our school educators, students, and to many other individuals in our community. Each Team member is a big asset to Phoenix Center and it shows in their work that they enjoy what they do for Phoenix Center.

Submitted by Karen Lynch

Out and About in our Community

Golf Cart Giveaway

JUNE 20, 2009 Was a "SPECIAL DAY" at the Phoenix Center in Fort Valley, Georgia as it was the 1st annual "RALLY FOR RECOVERY" . The objective was to raise money for Phoenix Center's Substance Abuse programs and increase community awareness of the services offered through the substance abuse program. There were multiple participants in the rally including Anchor Hospital, Douglasville, Georgia, who raffled 2 Atlanta Braves tickets and Turning Point Hospital, Moultrie, Georgia, who gave out candy and fliers about their services. The Blue Knights (Sheriff Association of Georgia Motorcycle Club) began raffling tickets to win a Golf Cart from Mike's Golf Carts, Perry, Georgia. Bart Young, CPS and his band participated by providing fantastic live music for the event. The event drew crowds from many of our local group homes, other community organizations and family and friends within our great city. All involved had a fabulous day.

The Golf Cart raffle was the culmination of the event which took place on September 8, 2009 at the Phoenix Center in Ft. Valley. Major Harold Dickey of Crawford County Sheriff's Department and a member of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club sponsored the event and drew the winning ticket for the Golf Cart. The Winner of the Golf Cart was Mrs. Melissa Bryan of Fort Valley, Georgia. "CONGRATULATIONS" to Mrs. Bryan.

See you all next year for our 2nd Annual "Rally For Recovery"

Submitted by: Jacqueline Caskey, LPC



Mrs. Bryan receiving her winning ticket from Jackie Caskey.

MiCasa Staff Appreciation

It is special when others want to recognize you for the good that you do. It is even more special and tender when it is done unexpectedly. In August, the Micasa ladies did exactly that, along with the help of Demetrice Howard, Program Coordinator. They held a surprise Staff Appreciation at STAR for all Micasa staff to let them know how much they appreciate what they do daily to help them in their recovery and every day living.

The event itinerary included a skit where they portrayed each staff person at Micasa. Each resident selected a staff person to address at the appreciation and they shared verbally how that staff person has impacted their stay at Micasa. They provided certificates of appreciation (created by Vickie Gingery) to each staff person. Entertainment was performed by a resident of Micasa. She impressed us with her vocals as she sang an old gospel spiritual by late, James Cleveland, "I Don't Feel No Ways Tired". Refreshments included cookies and punch provided by the clients. It was an emotional evening for staff and residents that will not be forgotten.



Submitted by Sharon Grant, LPC

HUMAN RESOURCES

Welcome New Employees

We would like to welcome the following employees who were hired from July through September 2009:

CSP

Jonathan Snyder
Yolanda Harris

DD

Natashia McKissick

Warner Robins OP

Wanda Walker
Nancy Massingille

Ft. Valley OP

Adrienne Towles
Kim Middleton

MiCasa

Carly Lee
Cynthia Toliver

STAR

Laverne Solomon

NAGH

Shaquoya Gray

Developmental Disabilities Employee of the Quarter

Each quarter, the Developmental Disabilities Program nominates an employee of the quarter that is selected by peers and supervisors. For the 3rd Quarter of FY 2009 (January - March 2009) Keithan Taylor was selected as Employee of the Quarter. Keithan has been with the Phoenix Center since December 2001.

Keithan Taylor



Gwendolyn Rumph was selected as Employee of the Quarter for 4th Quarter of FY 2009 (April—June). Gwendolyn has been with the Phoenix Center since June 1993.



Left— Right:
Jerelene Davis
and Gwendolyn
Rumph

Faithful Service Awards

The Faithful Service Awards recognized employees with 5, 10, 15 or more years of service. We would like to recognize the following employees who have reached these milestones:

5 Years

Lanisha Bohler, CSP

15 Years

Demetrice Howard, STAR
Michael Warrens, DD

25 Years

Nancie Masters, Admin

30 Years

James Parrish, Admin

Congratulations

Tracy Smith (Admin) on the birth of her second grandson, Skyler Mathew Andrews, 7 pounds and 6 ounces on July 29th.



Bart Young (WROP) married Wendy Arnold on September 26, 2009.



Condolences

Our prayers go out to the following staff that have lost their loved ones:

- ◆ Cheryl Kendricks, (SF-I) in the loss of her daughter, Monica Adkison

Phoenix Center Financial Status

FY 2010

<u>Budget</u>	<u>Revenue Collected</u>	<u>% Collected</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>%Expended</u>
\$7,859,556	\$1,160,623	14%	\$1,745,275	22%

At the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year, Phoenix Center BHS is currently in a deficit. Although our accounting books are showing that we are \$584,652 in the red, when we get paid (middle of October) from the state (DBHDD) for our September services, it will bring the deficit to \$204,727.

We are doing the best we can to conserve as much as possible and cut expenses where we can. In the first quarter we have abolished two administrative positions, terminated after hour services at Houston Medical Center and furloughed for three days 15 staff that are pay grade 13 and above and do not perform direct care responsibilities. These are not good times and we feel it here at Phoenix Center.

I would like to encourage everyone to make sure you are doing all you can to perform your duties to the best of your ability. Also, since we have had to cut back on staff, help your co-worker and pull together as a team. When you have ideas of how to save money or generate money, please let your ideas be known. You can communicate with your supervisor or simply contact me at 988-1002, ext. 110. I'll be glad to listen.

Submitted by Sandra Olsen

Employee Appreciation Luncheon

The Employee Appreciation Luncheon held on July 2, 2009 was a huge success. The Human Resource Committee planned the luncheon to honor all staff that worked hard throughout the year. Two individuals received a special \$1,000 monetary award for exceeding their productivity billable for the July 2008 - June 2009 year. Maria Tye and Nathaniel Walker were the recipients of this award and was presented by Phoenix Center's Executive Director, James Singleton. Ken Marsh and Linda Bennett were also awarded a \$50 gift card in appreciation of their leadership that assisted Maria and Nathaniel in reaching their productivity goal. Staff enjoyed the hamburgers and hotdogs that was cooked by James Singleton and Ken Marsh and the homemade ice cream made by Mickey Robinson, Karen Lynch, Nancie Masters, Tracy Smith and Lisa Garrison. The HR Committee appreciated the help from the following staff that assisted the HR Committee with decorations and food preparations: Sandra Olsen, Lisa Garrison, Dudley Wilson, Joe DelBosque and Darius Carswell, We want to thank our CSB Chairperson, Ken Pritchard for the monetary donation that helped purchase the food and to Flint Energies for the use of the BBQ pit.



Left—Right: Board Members Ken Pritchard, Carolyn Miller, Linda Curry and Dr. Dan



Left—Right: Ken Marsh, Linda Bennett, Maria Tye and James Singleton (not pictured Nathaniel Walker)

Submitted by Karen Lynch