

QUARTERLY VOICE

April 2009

PHOENIX CENTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Jacqueline Caskey, LPC

Ms. Jacqueline Caskey, LPC, has worked in a variety of capacities with Phoenix Center. While attending Fort Valley State University, Ms. Caskey did her internship at Phoenix Pointe. She was then hired in November 2005 to work in our Single Point of Entry (SPOE) Department which ended May 2006. Ms. Caskey was then hired in February 2007 to work in the Ft. Valley Office providing substance abuse services. She has since completed her Masters Degree from Fort Valley State University in Mental Health Counseling. She went on to pass her test for LPC and recently became fully licensed as a LPC.

Ms. Caskey is also otherwise known as "Ms. Jackie" in the Ft. Valley area. She has contributed so much in getting the Phoenix Center name known in the community as a resource to many people who would otherwise continue to be lost on their own. She has participated in numerous health fairs, educational programs and events, kept that "line of communication" open with Adult Probation and Parole, and advocated for clients and Phoenix Center at local agencies such as DFCS in Peach and Crawford Counties.

Recently she has set her sights on 2 areas of community needs in the Peach County area:

1) FVSU - Collaborating with Program Directors within the student body to assist current students with mental health and substance abuse issues. She proposed Phoenix Center services to be offered at FVSU at 2 separate presentations. The first was held at Phoenix Center Office in Fort Valley. She did a "first class" job welcoming them into a partnership with Phoenix Center. The second presentation was held on campus with the Director of Student Affairs, Dr. Terence Smith, and many other program directors. Both Power Point presentations were educational and proposed a "win-win" situation for both FVSU and Phoenix Center. Currently we are still in talks about this partnership.

2) The second area she has been concentrating on is Substance Abuse among the high school students. Ms. Caskey recently educated the entire Peach County High School staff and faculty about drugs and alcohol in the area. Her Power Point presentation was exceptional and received rave reviews by all who attended. Her ability to teach them the "street language" concerning drugs and alcohol of the students they teach was a complete success. They have expressed interest in more educational events such as this to help them help students who are in trouble.

Ms. Caskey maintains her own business after-hours and weekends from Phoenix Center called "Ms. Jackie's Hot Wings". Everyone in the Tri-County area raves about "Ms. Jackie's Hot Wings." She is also very involved in her church, Shiloh Baptist Church, and is on the Board of Directors at the Feed Center (a non-profit agency for at risk children) in Fort Valley.

As you can see, Ms. Caskey likes to stay busy!!!! We are proud to have her as part of our Fort Valley Team at Phoenix Center. We certainly hope she can keep up this pace of keeping the Phoenix Center name in the spotlight here in the "Valley."

Submitted by Patty Winter, LCSW



Jackie Caskey, LPC

Out and About in our Community

Prevention Sponsors Perry High School Event



Phoenix Center's Prevention Program collaborated with Perry High School to help teenagers and parents understand the laws of underage drinking. J. Tom Morgan, who is a former District Attorney of DeKalb County and is currently a trial lawyer in Decatur was the guest speaker at Perry High on March 12th and Houston County Crossroad Alternative School on March 13th. He spoke to students and parents about the laws, their rights, and punishments for breaking laws. Mr. Morgan left such an impression on school and community officials that they are now looking into bringing him back to Houston County to speak with the Juvenile Justice District Department.

Pictured : J. Tom Morgan and Lisa Troxell

Submitted by Lisa Troxell

MiCasa/STAR Consumer Celebration

On March 27, 2009, STAR/MiCasa staff and current consumers organized a graduation celebration for consumer Shonda Carr. Shonda accepted in 2008 that she had a disease and was brought to MiCasa by DFCS with her son, Cameron, who she calls "her world". She began the program 12--months ago and since then has obtained her GED which she is excited to accept her diploma on June 12th. Shonda and Cameron will be moving to Savannah on April 1, 2009 to begin her after-care program at the Savannah Counseling Center. She thanked Demetrice Howard, Rosetta Anderson, Delphine McKenzie, Sharon Grant and remaining staff for their help in her road to recovery.

Demetrice acknowledged 5 consumers with 1-year or more of graduating from the program that were there to give Shonda their support to recovery. Demetrice gave an inspirational speech to Shonda saying "An addict, any addict, can stop using, loose the desire and find a new way to live". Ken Pritchard, Board Chair, stood to give a speech and was so moved by the celebration almost left him speechless. Ken gave Shonda his umbrella stating "the rain will come but she has an umbrella to use for protection". Her mother, Susan Carr, was recognized in the audience and thanked Phoenix Center staff for "giving her daughter back to her". Kevin Clemets, Probation Officer, and Lois Camper, DFCS Case Manager, Carolyn Miller, Board Vice Chair, and James Singleton was also in attendance.

MiCasa consumers presented a recital describing to Shonda what she has meant to them. There were many personal stories given by consumers on their sobriety as an encouragement to Shonda. Demetrice and staff created a Power Point presentation, with the help of Phoenix Center's IT Department, of Shonda and Cameron's time with MiCasa and STAR. Congratulations Shonda on your recovery and to Phoenix Center staff for continuously encouraging and guiding her through the program .

Submitted by
Karen Lynch



Pictured from left to right: Demetrice Howard, Kevin Clemets,, Delphine McKenzie, Carolyn Miller, Susan Carr, Shonda Carr, Meave Brennan, James Singleton & Ken Pritchard

Developmental Disabilities Employee of the Quarter



Tim Fields, SST, from SF-I won the DD Employee of the Quarter (October—December). Mr. Fields was nominated and selected by his peers and DD Supervisors. He has been with Phoenix Center since December 2001. Congratulations Tim.

Tim Fields pictured with consumers at SF-I—Photo by Rufus Johnson

Submitted by Karen Lynch

HUMAN RESOURCES

Welcome New Employees

We would like to welcome the following employees who were hired from January through March 2009:

CSP

Linda Baker
Gloria Bostick
Gwen Jones
Jennifer Jordan

DD

Emory Askew
LaQuenia Jackson
Brandie Wilson

IT

Joe Del Bosque

WROP

Dr. Villafane

Admin

Deanna Revell

Condolences

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

- ◆ Barry Hayes (WROP) in the loss of his father-in-law, Jack Sandifer, mother-in-law, Meral Sandifer, and nephew, Christopher Oody.
- ◆ Dimesha Walton, (Ft. Valley CSI) in the loss of her father, David Walton.
- ◆ James Releford (CSP) in the loss of his daughter, Margie Releford Jones.

Deborah Becker, RN, CNS-PMH

Phoenix Center would like to introduce Mrs. Deborah Becker. Mrs. Becker is a Clinical Nurse Specialist working primarily at the Crisis Stabilization Program. However, she may provide additional coverage as needed in the Warner Robins Outpatient Program seeing adult mental health or addictive disease consumers. Mrs. Becker has been employed by the Phoenix Center for at least four (4) years. She has had major roles assisting our Crisis Stabilization Program in writing critical policies, audit compliance, corrective action plans and service delivery protocols that were approved by the Office of Regulatory Services who provides our licensure to operate. Mrs. Becker has recently exceeded Phoenix Center's expectations of her initial contract with us by achieving her DEA credentialing that permits her to write some prescriptions. We congratulate her on this vast accomplishment in her career. She is very professional, hard working and an ambitious person. We are very pleased and fortunate to have Mrs. Becker as a part of our medical team.

Submitted by James Singleton

Military Corner

Please keep in your prayers for the following staff family members:

- ◆ Karen Floyd's (Ft. Valley) son-in-law, Richard Duarte, being deployed to Iraq March 31st.
- ◆ Mickey Robinson's (Admin) son, David Isaac Soto was deployed to Iraq in August 2008 and is expected to return to the US in May 2009.
- ◆ Nancie Masters (Admin) daughter, Ashlee Decker, joined the Air Force Reserves and was deployed to San Antonio Texas on March 24th. Ashlee is expected to be in training for 8-weeks.

Phoenix Center Financial Status

FY09

Year-To-Date thru March 2009

<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>REVENUE COLLECTED</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
\$8,320,549	\$4,759,001	\$5,451,525

Our expenditures still exceed our revenues. However, even though it may not look good to you, there is a small positive that I can see. The deficit that I reported at the end of November 2008 was (647, 606). The deficit at the end of March 2009 is (692,524). The slightly good news is that the deficit has only grown by \$44,918 in four months. I know this doesn't seem like much to be bragging about, but because of efforts over the last four months from the clinicians, managers, billing & UM staff and front clerical staff, we have been collecting more from private pay, insurance and Medicaid & Medicare. Phoenix Center has collected approximately 50% more on average each month in these revenue sources in this last four month period than was collected in the first five months of the fiscal year. It takes all of us to keep Phoenix Center a financially viable organization. We are very much needed in the three communities we service, so keep up the good work and let's start reducing this deficit.

Submitted by Sandra Olsen

Phoenix Center Establishes A 501 (C) 3

We are very fortunate to have a very innovative, concerned and involved Board of Directors. As we move forward as an entity that is held accountable as a service provider of the Department of Human Resources, our Board understands our strengths and weaknesses that impacts our continued existence. They were informed of our many budgetary constraints and challenging strategies that we've had to undertake as alternatives to survive and provide quality services to the clientele of Houston, Peach and Crawford Communities. The Board had been working on resurrecting Phoenix Centers 501 (C) 3 status since October 2007. I recommended to the Board approximately eight (8) months ago my desire to complete the application for establishing a 501 (C) 3 entity for the Phoenix Center. With permission from the Board, an application was submitted and we were awarded this status in January 2009. We titled this entity Tri-County Behavioral Health, Inc. Our hope is that this organization can help us establish business sponsorships, corporate donations, charitable contributions, and raise funds to enhance our current budgetary needs. On March 7, 2009, Our Board received six (6) hours of training from Terri Theisan on how to effectively establish and develop a 501 (C) 3 Board. This experience was very rewarding and presented us with the necessary mind-set that is needed to move forward with recruitment of our new Board. We are pleased to have this new entity as part of the Phoenix Center organization. Our hope is that we can create and generate revenue streams that will compliment the Phoenix Center Community Service Board.



Front Row: Sandra Olsen, Linda Curry, Terri Theisan & James Singleton

Back Row: Ken Pritchard, Wayne Robinson & Harold Dickey

Not Pictured: Carolyn Miller & Karen Lynch

Submitted by James Singleton