

HAPPY
Thanksgiving!

EMSH *Insider*

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MH/IDD Conference



The Department of Mental Health held its 31st Annual Joint MH/IDD (Mental Health/Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities) Conference in Biloxi, MS Wednesday, October 28, 2014. This year's theme, *Moving Forward: Innovation, Integration and Intervention*, captured the renewed focus for our state regarding services for persons with mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The keynote speaker was Mr. Andy Taggart, who helped us understand what families experience when they lose a child to suicide. Presenters of the breakout sessions provided a wealth of information on various mental health issues.

Representing EMSH were Sheila Newbaker and Sharonica Hill with a poster-presentation on Tracking Aftercare Compliance, as well as, Susan Bounds and RoShanda Johnson-Davis with a presentation on "EMSH Community Services: In pursuit of Independence through Innovation, Integration, and Intervention". A member of the audience shared a testimony about her son, who had previously been a client at one of EMSH's Kemper County Group Homes. She stated, "He has been home for several months now and is doing well". She expressed her gratefulness for the caring individuals who worked with him during his stay there and gave credit to the staff for making his transition from the group home back to his own home a success.



Thank you to all who continue to provide the individuals we serve with the best you have to give and for striving to enhance the lives of others.

2014 Benefits Fair

Several vendors set up booths at EMSH's B-Building (Recreation) and JTC's Care Plan Room during our annual Benefits Fair which was held October 13th-15th. Many employees came to make insurance changes or simply to see what benefits were being offered. Pictured below are a few of our co-workers inquiring of the various benefits offered during this year's fair.

Each vendor held a raffle to win prizes donated to encourage participation. Winners are listed below: Legal Shields donated a gift bag which was won by Carol Lee in Health Records, a coffee mug won by JoAnn Cole, Social Worker, a Red gift won by Amber Creel at RPW, and a \$100 Walmart gift card won by Jerry Johnson in Maintenance. Allstate donated a Polaroid Tablet which was won by Ray Ruler at BASAC, a 2.5 gallon Beverage Dispenser donated by Glynn Griffing and Associates was won by Stacey Shirley in Payroll and Business Services donated a \$10 gift certificate to San Marcos that was won by Vanessa Sims in Transportation and a \$20 Walmart Gas Card won by Harold Watkins at JTC. Congratulations to all of the winners and thank you to all who participated in our annual event!



College Cares Day



Meridian Community College Nursing instructors and their students visited our JTC Nursing Facility and Main Campus' Central Park and surrounding areas to host a fun-filled event for our Residents & IRS Tuesday, October 21, 2014.

JTC residents, pictured left, enjoyed decorating pumpkins with a group of MCC students while dances were taught outside of B-Building (Recreation) by some of our Recreation staff and MCC students, pictured right. Recreation staff provided the set up, music and popcorn as the MCC students divided into groups to offer bowling, cake walks, games, basketball, dance, volleyball, face painting, hair and nail fashion and most popular of all.....**REFRESHMENTS!**

Mrs. Gunn, Nursing Instructor who coordinated the event, stated "the nursing students enjoyed working with our IRS and they had a great time". We at EMSSH look forward to working with the Nursing staff and students again in the future.

A BIG Thank You goes out to our Public Safety Department for all they did to assure that we had an enjoyable, safe afternoon.



National School Lunch Week *Adolescents Celebrate Apples*

BASAC celebrated National School Lunch Week with an emphasis on apples Friday, October 17, 2014. A variety of ways to indulge in this simple, but delectable fruit was demonstrated through Volunteer Services' Jo Ann Knight, pictured below with Lester Reed from Recreation. A beautiful display that included an assortment of apples paired with peanut butter and honey as well as applesauce and apple juice was enjoyed by the adolescents who kept coming back for more.



West Point High School Students Tour EMSSH



Twenty eight Health Science students between the ages of 15-18 from the West Point Career & Technology Center in West Point, MS arrived on EMSSH's Main Campus Thursday, October 16th for a tour. The students brought with them a basket filled with goodies to donate to the adolescents at BASAC. Pictured left are Miquell McGlothlin and Maria Britt who accepted the gift with Larissa Ziegelmann, Health Science Instructor and the school's Vo-Tech Director. Prior to the gift basket donation, the students were able to receive information from the following disciplines on what we do here at EMSSH and how we accomplish it: Inpatient Services (Oya Hampton), CDU (Tjwanna Bailey), Outcome Services (Yolanda McDade) and Mental Health Careers (Diane Nobles). The students were able to take a tour via EMSSH Transportation throughout our Main Campus as well as BASAC, Community, S Building and JTC & RPW Nursing Homes after a satisfying lunch in our new Dietary.

INFECTION PREVENTION & EMPLOYEE HEALTH'S NEW OFFICE HOURS ARE FROM 7 AM - 4:30 PM M-F (LUNCH FROM 12-1 PM). PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE TO INSURE OUR AVAILABILITY.

