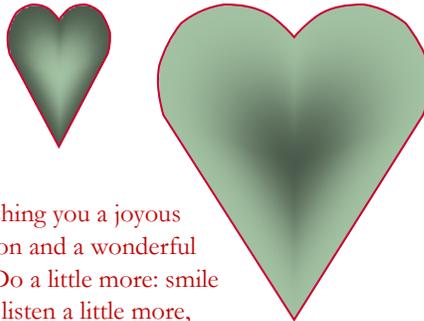




Season's Greetings!



DECEMBER

Safe Toys & Gifts Month

- 12/1 World Aids Day
- 12/7 Pearl Harbor Re-
membrance Day
- 12/10 Human Rights
Day
- 12/12-20 Hanukkah
- 12/15 Bill of Rights Day
- 12/21 Winter Solstice
- 12/25 Christmas
- 12/26– 1/1 Kwanzaa
- 12/31 New Year's Eve

Here's to wishing you a joyous Holiday season and a wonderful New Year. Do a little more: smile a little more, listen a little more, help a little more, forgive a little more, seek peace a little more. Life is precious and a vapor, here today, gone tomorrow. Make memories and cherish those you hold dear. Love a little more!

Congratulations to Tammy Benbrook on the birth of her grandson! What a precious gift!



December Birthdays

- 12/6 Stacey Curtis
- 12/9 Tora Aldridge
- 12/12 Melissa Stone
- 12/13 Beverly Monk
- 12/16 Isaac Perry
- 12/18 Rodney Farley
- 12/19 Karensa Richmond
- 12/22 Patricia White
- 12/24 Linda Navarro
- 12/25 Karen Lawson
- 12/31 Kent Ballew
- 12/31 Stacey Schratz

Christmas Holidays off: December 25th and 26th
New Year's Day off: January 1

DHS Central Offices will be closed. We especially appreciate the sacrifice of HDC staff (after Job Swap Day) working these holidays.

DDS Job Swap Day, Nov 17th

CHDC employees Swap for the day!



Sally Sellers shadowed Chris Perry



Sarah Murphy, Tyler Smith, Rebekah Hildahl, Ashley Horne



Priscilla McVay shadowed Peyton Sullins



Rick Whitaker shadowed in laundry



Qushona Carolina shadowed Sarah Murphy



Melissa Rushing shadowed Lara Prine



Teresa Bailey shadowed Sandy Smith



Amanda Nelson shadowed in the kitchen



Tamara Hill shadowed in the laundry



Lisa Hancock, Jennifer Evans, Courtney Mazique, Melissa Allen



Dawn Stehle, Cindy Gillespie, with JoAnne Warner shadowing Melissa Stone



Rita Cressell shadowed Angie Garis

DDS Job Swap Day Responses



1. What was the most enjoyable part of the day?

To me, it was working alongside direct care staff members and seeing their reaction to their “department head” putting on gloves and assisting with resident personal care. It definitely made an impact on morale.

I enjoyed seeing exactly what our physical therapist and occupational therapist work environment was like, what type of work issues would come up, and how they interacted with our residents.

Watching how all of the laundry staff all knew what their duties were and how they all jumped in and worked as a team to get all the laundry done in such a short time.

2. What was the least enjoyable part of the day?

I didn't really have one.

Waiting for the laundry to dry, down time.

I would say the least enjoyable part of the day was getting out of bed in the middle of the night to come to work, ha!

3. What did you learn?

How much laundry is processed each day, how many employees it takes, and how much laundry they pick up each hour.

I learned about wound care, new wheel chair configuration and physical therapy treatments for a resident who had partial hip replacement.

Although I've assisted with direct care before, it's been several years since I did so; this experience reminded me of the hard work direct care staff do every single day to take care of the residents we serve.

4. Will you change anything as a result of your experience?

I've already implemented a few changes— encouraging office staff participation in the residences (i.e. transporting residents to training areas, doctor appointments, other miscellaneous duties in the homes), as well as spending more time in the residences myself interacting with staff and residents.

I think this gave me a better appreciation for PT and OT practices.

I have more respect for the laundry staff's jobs and all the hard work that they do. I didn't realize all that went into their job until I did the swap/shadow.

5. Did you find this experience beneficial? Should we do it again?

Yes

Although it was interesting about the process and how much laundry is washed each day, I do not think it was beneficial to my current job and responsibilities.

I found this experience beneficial and would definitely recommend for it to be conducted again.

Meet Julio Diaz, Admin II, QA 3 years



Superintendent Steven Farmer shares, "We are proud of Julio and his continued volunteer work within the community, especially Miracle League Softball."



Dear Julio Diaz,

Congratulations on your selection to Team Arkansas for the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle, Washington!

You are on the threshold of a wonderful adventure. Representing your state during Special Olympics USA Games is an honor and you should be proud of this achievement!

As a member of 2018 Team Arkansas, you inherit a huge responsibility. Your role on Team Arkansas does not rest with competition performance. You will be expected to exhibit high behavioral standards and uphold good sportsmanship responsibilities that come with being a part of the team. You are an example to Arkansas athletes!

Your commitment to Team Arkansas starts today! As you train hard for this experience please remember the athlete oath, "Let Me Win. But If I Cannot Win, Let Me Be Brave in the Attempt."

Sincerely,

Irvin Humphrey III
Team Arkansas Head of Delegation

Jennifer Grantham
Team Arkansas Assistant Head of Delegation



Special Olympics Arkansas 2115 Main Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114
(501)771-0222





DDS is having our annual Holiday Party potluck style. The Director's Office will provide the smoked turkey and ham. If you would like to participate, please email Yvette Swift what **dish, drink, or cash donation** that you will bring. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please email her your name and 5 gift choices (max \$20). If you would like to participate in the holiday lip sync contest, please email your song choice and solo or group member names.

We will pull names Thursday, December 7th. Drop by Yvette's office or email yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov for a name. Thanks and looking forward to seeing everyone!

DDS Congratulates Ed Jennings, of CHDC, on 56 Years of Service, the longest working State Employee in Arkansas!

ARKANSAS STATE CAPITOL
500 WOODLANE STREET, SUITE 270
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201



PHONE: (501) 682-2144
FAX: (501) 682-2874
E-MAIL: LG.STAFF@ARKANSAS.GOV

TIM GRIFFIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 11, 2017

Ed Jennings

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Thank you for your 56 years of service to the Conway Human Development Center. You have contributed immensely not only to the community and people of Conway, but also to the entire state of Arkansas.

As the longest working state employee, your work ethic and selflessness provide a great example of what it means to be a public servant. I congratulate you on your retirement and wish you the best in the years to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (501) 682-2144 if I can ever be of service to you.

Sincerely,

Tim Griffin
Lieutenant Governor



FACEBOOK: LTGOVTIMGRIFFIN TWITTER: @LTGOVTIMGRIFFIN WEBSITE: LTGOVERNOR.ARKANSAS.GOV INSTAGRAM: LTGOVTIMGRIFFIN



Comments, Q&A, Suggestions

Please send all comments, Q&A, and suggestions to yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov