



Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District

BUILDING A STRONGER MISSISSIPPI



Habitat for Humanity Gulf Coast “Women Build” 2019

Since 1991, Habitat for Humanity “Women’s Build” project has been bringing women together from all walks of life to make a difference in the communities in which they live; building stronger and safer communities. Volunteers work under the guidance of construction professionals, and also alongside other volunteers and future Habitat homeowners.

On Tuesday, March 19, 2019, Community Bank and SMPDD partnered together for the 2019 Habitat for Humanity of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Women Build event. The team raised \$2,500 which supported the building materials needed. The team of eight volunteers for the project were as follows; First Lady Deborah Bryant, Amy Delcambre, Jennifer Fagan, Leslie Kelley, Mary LaRosa, Bobbie Lynn Tillman and Courtney Williams. Overall, 360 women from the Gulf Coast area are projected to participate in the effort to raise approximately \$150,000 for projects that will run until the end of May.

Way to Go Ladies!

SMPDD PROUDLY PARTNERS WITH THE GOVERNMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:



Covington
Forrest
George
Greene
Hancock

Harrison
Jackson
Jefferson Davis
Jones
Lamar

Marion
Pearl River
Perry
Stone
Wayne

Revolving Loan Fund Spotlight

BRS Auto Repair Shop is owned and operated by Rodney Pickens in Waynesboro who is a recent SMPDD Revolving Loan Fund client. He has worked in the auto mechanic industry since 1994. Rodney, a Jones County Junior College graduate, began his career at Cooley Motor Company in Waynesboro where he remained employed until 2012 as Chief Mechanic. At that time, he founded BRS Auto Repair Shop and has been the owner and operator since that time. Over the last six years, his business has continued to grow and he is now one of the most well regarded mechanic shops in the area. Rodney has built a reputation of quality, trust and dependability in the community.

SMPDD partnered with a local bank in Waynesboro and assisted him in purchasing property to move the auto repair shop to a more desirable location. Please visit Rodney at BRS Auto Repair Shop for your auto repair needs.



BRS Auto Repair Shop
7833 Hwy 184 East
Waynesboro, MS 39367
601-410-9531



MARY H. RICHARDSON COMMUNITY CENTER IN PEARL RIVER COUNTY

SMPDD board member, Donald Hart, led his team in the groundbreaking of the new Mary H. Richardson Community Center. The 5,000 square foot facility will include an event room, a conference room and an activity room. "Besides being an excellent location for a voting precinct, community centers are good meeting places for seniors, children and families," Hart said. "They can offer an enormous variety of educational, social and recreational activities which are tailored to what the members of the community are interested in." He also noted such centers offer afterschool programs, tutoring, health, wellness and exercise classes. They also offer crafts, dance, music performances and lectures. "Enthusiastic members of District I are hoping to create a meeting place for all ages with programming aimed at a wide variety of needs." Hart truly believes it will be an asset to the community and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Pearl River County.

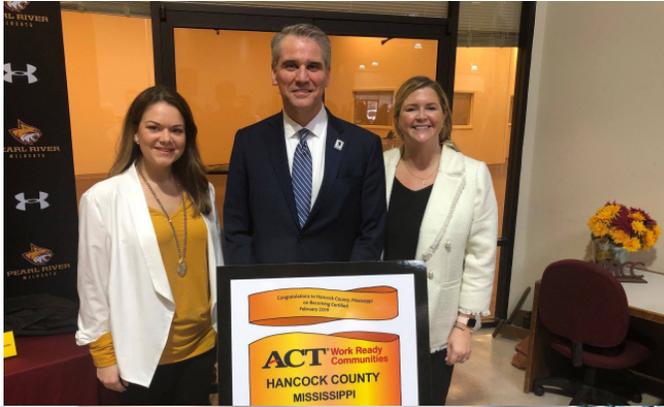
SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



The Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) is administered locally through SMPDD and offers part-time community services training to low income persons aged 55 or older through matching eligible candidates with community service organizations. It is a win for the SCSEP participants as it provides the opportunity to build skills and self-confidence, while earning a modest income. It is a great win for Renaissance as the host agency for current SCSEP participant Evangeline Culberson. She can be found sharing her contagious smile at Renaissance Community Loan Fund's front desk as she greets clients and assists the team with clerical duties.

SMPDD IN THE COMMUNITY

BELOW - CONGRATS HANCOCK COUNTY AND HANCOCK COUNTY PORT AND HARBOR COMMISSION ON YOUR ACT WORK READY STATUS!



BELOW - SANDIE BROCK, MAC PROGRAM SPECIALIST, ATTENDING DHS COMMUNITY RESOURCE AWARENESS FAIR.



LEFT - SMPDD CELEBRATES OLDER AMERICANS MONTH.



ABOVE; TERRY JONES, MAC SPECIALIST, ATTENDING MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, COMMUNITY RESOURCE AWARENESS FAIR AT THE CITY OF COLLINS CIVIC CENTER.



ABOVE- TRISHA MORRISON AND SHONTA DUNCAN AT STONE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.



LEFT; MARY LAROSA AND LESLIE KELLY AT THE GULF COAST WOMEN BUILD.



EMLYN JACKSON AND CALVIN NEWSOM



KEN FLANAGAN AND MORRIS HILL



WIN ELLINGTON AND LINDSAY WARD

MAPDD CONFERENCE 2019



**MISSISSIPPI
ASSOCIATION OF
PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICTS**

The Mississippi Association of Planning and Development Districts (MAPDD) is comprised of 10 Districts who collectively provide services to all counties and municipalities in Mississippi. The PDDs were created in the late 1960s to address problems and issues that go beyond individual political boundaries. MAPDD strives to bring diverse resources together in partnership with local, state and federal entities to strengthen communities. The purpose of MAPDD is to promote coordination and cooperation among the PDDs, to increase their effectiveness and efficiency; provide mutual assistance and the exchange of ideas among peers; and to collectively address and implement strategies that create opportunities for local communities. MAPDD most notably serves as a convener, consensus builder, facilitator, and leader in order to target limited regional resources.

Every year MAPDD holds a conference for all of the Planning Districts to exchange ideas and best practices, build relationships and interact with various department heads and staff during the training opportunities. SMPDD had several staff members that spoke at different sessions during the conference this year; Dr. Susan Bone spoke on the topic overviewing a Dementia Friendly America and Emlyn Jackson educated others on the importance of Cage Codes, E-Verify and Other Mysteries of Grants. Several representatives also spoke on how the PDDs have impacted their areas. The MAPDD Conference had 640 attendees; the largest number of people to date and it will continue to grow each year as each PDD strives to build a stronger Mississippi.



KEN FLANAGAN



**MARLEE STIGLETS, ASHLEY BRISCOE AND
LINDSAY WARD**



MORRIS HILL

AREA AGENCY ON AGING **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Area Agency on Aging's (AAA) annual request for proposal process will begin on May 15th this year. Request for Proposals will be available on our website, www.smpdd.com, may be picked up at SMPDD's Gulfport Office at 10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Gulfport, MS 39503, or can be mailed by calling 228-868-2311. The following are important 2019 dates regarding the proposal process:

- May 15th - RFP's are available**
- May 31st - Notice of Intent to Submit must be received no later than 5:00 PM**
- July 11th - Proposals must be delivered to SMPDD's office no later than 5:00 PM**
- July 12th - Proposals will be opened**

SMPDD will be hosting two (2) RFP training sessions to allow new and current sub recipients to have the opportunity to ask questions and be informed on what is required in the different sections of the RFP to ensure that SMPDD is receiving qualified proposals. Both new and current sub recipients are highly encouraged to attend one of these sessions. The dates and locations are as follows:

•**June 5th - SMPDD Gulfport Office**

10441 Corporate Drive, Suite 1, Gulfport, MS 39503

9:30 AM -11:30 AM

•**June 6th - Laurel Housing Authority, Townley Building**

516 South 13th Ave, Laurel, MS 39440

9:30 AM -11:30 AM

For fiscal year 2020, SMPDD is requesting proposals for the following three (3) services:

•**Congregate Meals Management** – A congregate meal is a nutritionally balanced meal served in a specific location such as a community or senior center. Congregate meals are primarily for the fairly mobile senior population. In order to qualify for this program an individual must be age 60 or older or be the spouse of an eligible person. The purpose of this service is to provide eligible individuals with five (5) nutritious meals per week at centers where they can also obtain social, rehabilitative, and supportive services.

•**Senior Center** - A senior center is a focal point in the community where seniors come together for a broad spectrum of services, educational and recreational programs and activities.

•**Transportation** - Transportation is provided to eligible, older individuals to and from community resources for the purpose of obtaining needed services and goods. In order to qualify for this program individuals must be 60 or older and must not be a resident of a long-term care facility. Trips may include doctors' offices, congregate sites, senior centers, drugstores, recreational trips, and shopping trips.

Current providers of all other AAA services that are not being put out for RFP will receive continuation letters and renewal sub awards.

SMPDD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals in the best interest of the AAA.

What is Healthy You!?

Healthy You! is a wellness benefit that can help you identify potential health problems before they become serious issues. This annual wellness visit is paid at 100% with no deductible, copay, or coinsurance when you or your covered dependents use your Healthy You! Network Provider. By visiting annually with your Healthy You! Primary Care Network, you and the covered members of your family can establish goals to manage your health risks, live a healthier life and feel your best! To get started, visit bcbsms.com to access the Healthy You! Wellness Guide or contact Elizabeth Ladner, Human Resources Manager at 228-314-1459 or eladner@smpdd.com. Make sure to let your Primary Care Provider know you are making a Healthy You! appointment when you call to schedule for yourself or your covered dependents.



SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
10441 CORPORATE DRIVE, STE 1
GULFPORT, MS 39503
PHONE: 228-868-2311 ~ FAX: 228-868-7094 ~ WWW.SMPDD.COM

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

SPOTLIGHT...

SMPDD Welcomes New Marketing Manager



Welcome Aboard Ashley Grayson Briscoe, our new Marketing Manager at SMPDD. Ashley is a graduate from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor in Family and Consumer Sciences. For the past eleven years, she has worked alongside her mother at their family clothing store, Gatlin's, in Gulfport where she was the Manager/Marketing Representative. She also held the position as Business Developer for an in-home care company. She resides in Biloxi with her husband, Bill; their son, Donovan and their four legged baby, Lola.

Ashley is a five year member of the Junior Auxiliary of Biloxi-Ocean Springs where she has served as the project chair for KICKS (Kids in Court Care) for the past four years. In addition to JA, she is also a member of the Coast Young Professionals, Kappa Delta Gulf Coast Alumnae Chapter, Order of Billikins and Krewe of Athena; serving as Captain in 2015. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering, working with children, spending time with family and friends, as well as attending her alma mater during football season, Hotty Toddy!

SMPDD is an Equal Opportunity Employer; auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities

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