



# HUDSPETH REGIONAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

## HRC CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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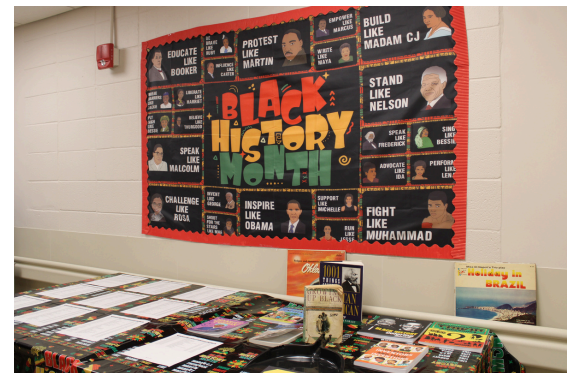
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It is been said that those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it. Fret not! HRC kept the memories of African-American achievements and excellence alive. The Rosewood Cottage hosted a Black History program on February 19th which included songs, poetry, trivia, and a tribute to black sororities and fraternities. Committed to education, the Rosewood Cottage staff set up tables with information about black inventors, musicians and politicians.

The Brandon/Rankin and Morton Group Homes enjoyed and participated in a program produced by Mellody Hollins, Community Services. The program included a Rosa Parks reenactment, poetry, praise dance, a parade of historical African-Americans, and a sing-along guessing game.



# NEW DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

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Congratulations are in order: Anedra Webster is the Director of the Brandon and Rankin Group Homes, but now she has taken residence in Administration as the new Director of Community Residential Programs. Below, Mrs. Webster sheds light on her transition:

Tell me about your new role as Director of Community Residential Programs.

*As the Director of Community Residential Programs, I will be responsible for the overall day to day operations of ten (10) ICF/ IID group homes within the Community Residential Programs.*

How has your previous role as B/RGH Director prepared you for your new one?

*The role of a Group Home Director is pivotal in ensuring a safe and supportive environment for the individuals we serve. My previous role as B/RGH Director has equipped me with strong leadership and management abilities that are directly relevant to the position of Director of Community Residential Programs. I developed knowledge of ICF/ IID regulations, Department of Mental Health regulations and State regulations per compliance requirements. Additionally, my experience with working collaboratively within a team environment has prepared me to inspire a positive and inclusive work culture. These experiences have honed my ability to make informed decisions in the best interest of the individuals and Hudspeth Regional Center, making me well-suited for the challenges of this new role.*

What will you miss most about your former role?

*While I am excited for my new role, I will miss the close-knit team dynamic we have formed, and the sense of camaraderie we share. Engaging in discussions and brainstorming sessions has truly enhanced our professional growth and development. I will also miss the relationships and bonds I have created with each individual at B/RGH. I have learned their likes, dislikes, favorite colors and activities. I have even learned what each of their facial expressions implies. Conversely, I am confident I can apply these same insights in my new role.*

What would you like to accomplish in your new role?

*I would like to create an environment that empowers my staff to work efficiently and productively by sharing a common vision, encouraging them to develop their strengths, and inspiring them to do their best at all times. Secondly, I would like to develop the Day Programs to provide structured activities and support. I want them to enhance our individual's quality of life by offering opportunities for socialization, learning and community involvement. Lastly, I would like to strengthen their community engagement. Through organized activities and outings in the community, they will have the opportunity to explore new environments, stimulate their curiosity, and foster a sense of belonging and purpose. It can also offer a change of scenery that can be refreshing and invigorating*





# NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY





# NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY CONTINUED



[hrc.ms.gov](http://hrc.ms.gov) Facebook & Instagram: @hudspethregionalcenter



# SERVICE AWARDS

The annual Service Awards, aka Pin Ceremony, were held on February 26th in the Chastain Auditorium. Employees received certificates and pins for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service at HRC. For the first time, Longevity Certificates and pins were given to 10 and 20-year employees courtesy of the Mississippi State Personnel Board.

This year's ceremony had a special guest in Shirley Miller. Mrs. Miller is not only the mother of one of this year's recipients, but an HRC alum who organized the first Service Awards at HRC. We were delighted to have her. Congratulations to the all the recipients!



Shirley Miller and Jerrie Barnes, Facility Director



5-year Recipients



10-year Recipients



15-year Recipients



20-year Recipients



25-year Recipients

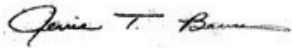


## The Director's Note

During this legislative session, I will visit the Capitol on March 4th and make contact with some of the Senators and Representatives within HRC's catchment area. I encourage you to reach out your local legislators and explain how important the work we do at HRC and within the Department of Mental Health is and how we would appreciate their support.

As I mention every month, please continue to practice the protocols that are in place. Continue washing your hands and sanitizing your spaces as frequently as possible. Do not hesitate to get tested if you begin experiencing symptoms.

Sincerely,



Jerrie T. Barnes  
Facility Director



Faye Williamson and Linda Jackson

Congratulations to Faye Williamson and Linda Jackson on retiring from HRC! You will be missed.

### Important Dates in March

- 3rd: Lent begins
- 4th: IDD Day at the Capitol
- 5th: Ash Wednesday & Basketball Game
- 8th: International Women's Day
- 9th: Daylight Saving Time begins
- 17th: St. Patrick's Day
- 20th: First Day of Spring
- 27th: Employee of the Year Luncheon

For any submission requests or feedback, contact Timila Bell, Public Relations, at (601) 664-6017 or [timila.bell@hrc.state.ms.us](mailto:timila.bell@hrc.state.ms.us)