



Community Development Center

# In and Around the CDC

113 Eaglette Way, Shelbyville, TN 37160

[www.cdctn.org](http://www.cdctn.org)

Winter 2017

## Tennessee Disability Day on the Hill and Legislative Reception



John Shouse, speaking at *Disability Day on the Hill 2016*.

Photo by Kyle Jonas. Permission for use granted by Janet Shouse

Tennessee's *Disability Day on the Hill 2017* is Wednesday, February 8th, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at 301 6th Avenue North, Nashville. This day is set aside during the TN General Assembly's legislative session to provide an opportunity for families, advocates, and professionals to talk with state legislators about the issues important to people with disabilities. Legislators and policymakers listen to and rely on their constituents to share their knowledge and experiences. This is a chance to educate your Representatives and Senators about the issues that affect your life. You are encouraged to call and set up a meeting with your area legislator. On Tuesday, February

7th, there will be a *Legislative Reception*, hosted by the Tennessee Disability Coalition, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend the Legislative Reception, but you will need to register for the event. The reception is being held at the Sheraton Hotel downtown, 623 Union Street, Nashville. Vouchers will be provided at the event so you may park at the Sheraton for free. The secure link to register for the reception is: <https://tndisabilitydayonthehill17.splashthat.com/>.

### Mark Your Calendar

Martin Luther King Day	January 16
Governing Board	January 26
Valentine Day	February 14
Presidents Day	February 20
Daylight Savings Time	March 12
St Patrick's Day	March 17
Spring Begins	March 20



### Inside this Issue

Disability Day on the Hill	Page 1
Early Intervention	Page 2
Children's Center for Autism	Page 2
Family Support	Page 3
Independent Support Coordination	Page 4
Happening Now	Page 5
Milestones	Page 6

# Early Intervention Welcomes.....

The Early Intervention program welcomes Michaela “Mickey” Moffitt to the CDC family. Mickey recently accepted the position of Home/Community Based Early Interventionist. The HCB/EI provides direct support services to children in the Early Intervention program.

Teah Obeidalla joins the Children’s Center for Autism (CCA) in the position of Registered Behavior Technician (RBT). Teah will assist staff in the delivery of therapeutic strategies to the children in the CCA afternoon program. She is currently working towards her certification as an RBT.

**\*We’re celebrating one year of service!\***

**Children’s Center for Autism**

**Friday, February 17, 2017      10:30 am—2:00 pm**

**Marshall County Child Development Center  
1600 Jason Maxwell Boulevard, Lewisburg, TN**



## Children’s Center for Autism

The Children’s Center for Autism (CCA) is seeing many successes within our programs. Since our grand opening, held in February 2016, CCA has served 24 clients and a greater number of families who were looking for assistance in their communities. We made many changes throughout the year and have expanded our services. The expanded services include behavior consultation services for children ages 5-12, pre-enrollment services for children currently on the CCA waitlist, additional clinical therapy sessions in the afternoon, and adding TEIS vendor services for children in the birth to three population. We are pursuing credentialing for insurance with one of the TennCare providers as well as private insurance providers. The ability to bill insurance will greatly increase our ability to further our mission!

In our classroom, we have added sensory boxes, gross motor areas and a fun sensory wall (pictured below). These *Please Do Touch* items help integrate different stimuli, or “sensations,” in our environment. Children on the Autism Spectrum often have a sensory component to their personality, whereby some children need more sensory input and some need less and seek to avoid it. These additions to our classroom help our sensory seekers meet that need and our sensory avoiders learn to cope with different stimuli. This is an easy activity to incorporate in schools and homes. One of our local schools has modeled their sensory time after CCA’s. We love sharing our ideas and knowledge with others who work with children on the Autism Spectrum!



# Family Support

The Family Support Program announces the addition of Iris Montes to Family Support Local Council. Iris will be representing the Franklin County community. She is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University with a double major in Multimedia Journalism and Global Studies. While attending MTSU, Iris was also a member of the Order of Omega Honor Society and a recipient of the Who's Who Among Students Award.

Iris is preparing to pursue a dual Masters degree in Journalism and Juris Doctor and serves as the area coordinator for Lambda Theta Alpha, overseeing all chapters across Tennessee.

Iris is very excited to serve on the Family Support Council, "because I understand first-hand how helpful it is for families with special needs to have a support system and feel a sense of community." Iris has Spina Bifida and is a recipient of Family Support services. She lives in Decherd, has one brother and is the daughter of Mariana Montes and Miguel Montes.

We appreciate Iris' willingness to share her time, experience and knowledge with the Council and look forward to working with her.



## No Budget Cuts !

The Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) recommended that there not be any cuts to the Family Support Program for the coming year. We appreciate the work of those involved in preserving this valuable program which serves more than 4,000 families across Tennessee and the 215+ families served by the Community Development Center.

## Family Support 3rd Annual Yard Sale.

Preparation for the annual Family Support Yard Sale has begun and we are now accepting donations. You may drop off items at the Community Development Center in Shelbyville, Bedford County Child Development Center building. Please call Christy at 931-684-7673 if you have any questions or if you need to make other donation arrangements. Monies raised at this event help those on the Family Support waiting list and to administer the FS program. Last year's event raised just over \$2,000 .



## 3rd Annual Family Support Program Yard Sale

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

**7am - 2pm**

**Shelbyville**



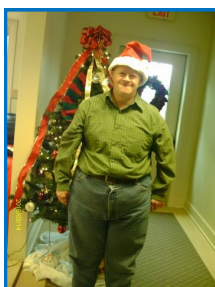
# Independent Support Coordination



The Community Development Center's two ISC offices, pictured in staff photos above, celebrated their Annual Christmas Open Houses. Columbia, in the photo on the left, celebrated on Thursday, December 1st and on the right, Shelbyville celebrated the following Wednesday, December 7th. Guests were greeted at the door for pictures at the special Christmas photo stop then enjoyed cookies, coffee and hot chocolate with holiday music. There was time to chat and visit with friends. This year, everyone was invited to compete in the Ugly Sweater Contest with a chance to win a special prize. As they left, guests received a gift from their ISC and a Christmas card with their own photo attached. Thanks to everyone who attended and made our Christmas Open House bright!



Pictured left are Doug Young and Ray Kelley in front and Ronald Beard, John Lindsay, and Fred Brown in back.



Stephen Nichols  
in his Santa hat!



Pictured above are Bobby Martin, Laurie Coleman,  
Andrew Monday, Betty Chunn, and Elizabeth Brown.



Bobbi Tidwell was the  
winner of the Columbia  
Ugly Christmas Sweater

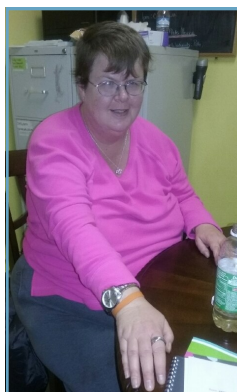


The Columbia and Shelbyville Independent Support Coordination offices of the Community Development Center came together on December 22nd for a Personal Outcome Measures (POM) Refresher training provided by DIDD Central Office's Courtney Kelly and Latrese Johnson. The training was held in Columbia at the Maury County Health Dept.

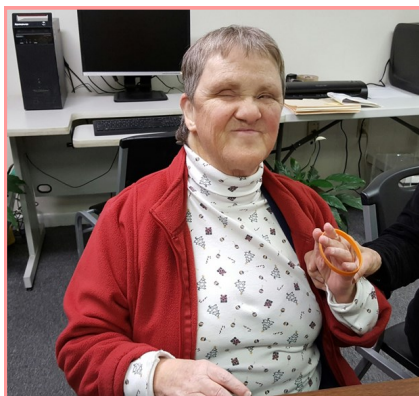


# #ItsMyLifeTN Campaign

People with disabilities can and should speak up on how they want their lives to look. With the “It’s My Life” wristband campaign, DIDD is encouraging persons supported to express their desires and goals. If a person attends a two day People Planning Together (PPT) class or speaks up during their annual ISP meeting, they can receive an orange wristband like those pictured below. At the **Community Development Center**, our Independent Support Coordinators are getting the people excited about standing up and speaking out. Thanks to all those who encourage others!

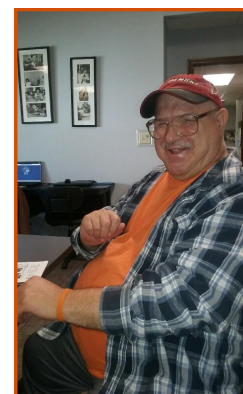


S.E., seen in the photo on the left, earned her wristband when she participated in her meeting.



Brenda A. , at left, is smiling happily while participating at her meeting!

GM, pictured right, earned his wristband by participating in the [#ItsMyLifeTN](#) campaign. Way to go!



On December 14th, Skills Development Services in Tullahoma happily hosted representatives from the Tullahoma Housing Authority who donated gifts to everyone attending the center. Skills thanked them for their continued generosity with an extra-large thank you card signed by everyone.

On December 20th, Skills had their facility Christmas party, where everyone exchanged gifts and spent some time with Santa. All had a great time with friends!



The Community Development Center holds an annual office door decorating contest during the Christmas season. Six entries were received this year. Staff then voted and the winner was Holly Shadix's door (seen at right) themed with a “Grinch Who Stole Christmas.” Holly was presented with a special certificate and prize. Thanks to Holly and all of the creative entries.





James Singleton	January 5
Jennifer Williams	January 22
Taylor Sullivan	January 23
Kelly Nichols	January 29
Sandra Faulkner-Markley	February 6
Robert Jacobi	February 16
Melinda Black	March 6
Cindy Hatchett	March 18
Sue Long	March 30



**#PROUDTOBENONPROFIT**



“Do not follow where the path may lead...go where there is no path and leave a trail.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



## Happy Anniversary

Lori Wade	January 6	12 yrs
Kelly Nichols	February 1	1 year
Rachel Rudolf	February 8	1 year
Taffe Cunningham	March 1	16 yrs
Kristen Quinn	March 1	6 yrs
MaRandi Mitchell	March 23	2 yrs
Nycole Pinard	March 26	5 yrs
Taylor Sullivan	March 28	1 year
Teresa Winnette	March 31	20 yrs

## Community Development Center's Mission Statement

Providing supports and services to children, families and individuals with disabilities while addressing the health and well-being of all persons in the communities in which we serve.



<http://www.cdctn.org>

Vision  
Mission  
& Values



<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityDevelopmentCenter>

Community Rewards Program



**GIVINGMATTERS.COM**  
an initiative of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee

<http://givingmatters.guidestar.org>

<https://smile.amazon.com/>

Welcome to  
**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.