The Benefits Enrollment Center

A Person-Centered Approach to Benefits Outreach and Enrollment

The Community Development Center has been selected to partner with the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disabilities to provide assistance to seniors and adults with disabilities for enrollment into need-based public benefit programs.

- Counseling & Enrollment Assistance for Need-Based Benefit Programs:
  - Medicare part D Extra Help
  - Medicare Savings Programs
  - Medicaid
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (food stamps)
  - Supplemental Security Income
  - Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Programs

- CDC Services Eligible Only For:
  - Adults living with disabilities, age 21 and over
  - Seniors, age 65 and over

Phone Counseling:

WEDNESDAYS 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Appointments Only:

THURSDAYS 12:00 - 4:00 PM

Family Support Office
Community Development Center
111 Eaglette Way
Shelbyville, TN 37160
931-684-7673
family.support@cdctn.org
(please park in the rear)

The Benefits Enrollment Center is separate from the Family Support Program. It will not take away from the time and services provided by the CDC to the families we are serving.
A Story of Great Generosity and Friendship

Mandy Jean, 20, lives in Bedford County with her mom Carol, who serves on our Family Support Local Council. Carol is a single mom and a Detective for the Shelbyville Police Department. Not long ago Carol found it was becoming increasingly difficult to lift Mandy, who has cerebral palsy, into the front seat of their minivan. Carol’s hands didn’t have the strength they once did, and then this past August, she was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. With this turn of events, it became evident that Carol needed a van with a wheelchair ramp. She talked with the Family Support Coordinator about the possibility of using Mandy’s funds to help with the purchase, “but they are so expensive,” Carol expressed.

It wasn’t long before a group of Carol’s friends told her they wanted to help. She said no, but they had already begun a fundraising effort called the "Friends of Mandy Jean". In just a few short months, enough money was raised to buy Mandy this like-new 2001 Dodge Caravan with a wheelchair ramp. Now she rides just behind the front seat with her wheelchair securely tied down. Going places has become a lot easier! The story doesn’t end here, Carol and Mandy paid this act of kindness and generosity forward by giving their old van to another family in need.

May 15th - All Receipts In!

Don’t forget about our new deadline.

May 15th, the absolute last day to have all receipts, invoices, estimates, etc. to the FS Coordinator. After this date all dollars that have not been spent will move to the waiting list, as directed by your Local Council. We currently have more than 100 families waiting for services.

If you have documented expenses already, go ahead and send those in now. Help us get your dollars to you sooner!

If you have any questions about spending your remaining funds, call or email Christy at 931-684-7673 or family.support@cdctn.org.

Family Support Office will be closed:

March 31-April 4
(No checks this week)

Franklin County
One Day Community Outreach
Saturday, May 17
9:00 am -3:00 pm
Downtown Winchester

Sponsored by the Southern TN Christian Medical and Dental Association

- General Medical Screenings
- Tooth extractions and cleanings
- Clothing
- Food
- Information about local resources

To share Christ with the people of Franklin County and show His love by providing the most basic needs of food, clothing, and healthcare.

Meeting with you, face-to-face, at least one-time per year, is a required piece of the Family Support Program. Our sign-up times are the perfect opportunity!

As most of you have learned, the Family Support Program operates on a fiscal year basis, from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Each year active families MUST SIGN UP to request services for the new year. Family Support is not an entitlement program, therefore, being an active Family Support client does not assure you receive services every year.

Meeting face-to-face, gives us the opportunity to talk about your needs for the new year. Even when the need doesn’t change, such as respite/sitter care, it gives us a chance to verify personal information, to sign necessary paperwork, to share resources, and to catch up!

It is very important that you make every effort to sign up in person. Not doing so, could detain your consideration for allocated funds, (and if at all possible, please bring the family member who is actually receiving services). In hopes of making this more convenient we are hosting sign-up events in four counties and you may sign up at any site. (Please let Christy know if you will be signing up in a county other than the one in which you live.) The dates, times and places are listed on the back of this newsletter. Our Local Council members will be helping at each site in hopes of keeping your waiting time to a minimum.

To prepare for your time with the Coordinator these are the items you need to bring in order to complete the sign-up process:

1. Picture of the client - new clients only
2. Proof of residence (copy of current utility or telephone bill, letter from social security, etc.)
3. Proof of disability must state the disability (current medical note from a physician, therapist or school, or a copy of your child’s IEP)
4. Proof of Citizenship - new clients only (copy of birth certificate or SSI award letter)
5. If you use a sitter, homemaker, or personal assistant we need current information including, names, addresses, and a copy of their social security card or Federal ID number.

United Ways of Bedford, Franklin, Coffee and Moore Counties

Our Family Support Program is very fortunate to receive funding through the United Way programs in four out of the six counties we serve. These dollars are very important for helping individuals on our waiting lists and for our Family Support families facing a crisis situation. It’s this time of the year that we begin presenting to the United Way allocation committees, asking for grant dollars for the new fiscal year. We ask that you support our efforts and support United Way in your area through participation in giving through employee campaigns and by participating in the many community events sponsored by United Way.
You may sign-up at any of the sites listed. If it is more convenient to sign up with a county other than where you live, or at the Family Support office in Shelbyville, let Christy know so that she will have the necessary paperwork on hand. Other arrangements must be made if it is impossible to attend any of the sign up times. You may reach Christy at 931-684-7673.

**Very important for you to make every effort to sign up in person!**