

Merry Christmas to All!



West Central Georgia Regional Hospital Regional Reflections

December 2015

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Since opening in 1974, West Central Georgia Regional Hospital (WCGRH) has stood as a beacon of hope for consumers in need of behavioral healthcare services in the State of Georgia

QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The Joint Commission Corner

Means of Egress (Exits): Clear and Unobstructed

Joint Commission Standard: LS.02.01.20

Staff must have a basic understanding of means of egress. Keeping hallways and exits clear of obstructions is important for several reasons: (1) fire rescue (2) employee health and safety (3) compliance with the Joint Commission and CMS.

Fire Rescue

Compliance with the Life Safety Code is not an option, it is a requirement. This code clearly requires exits and hallways to be clear and unobstructed. If there is a fire or other catastrophic event, you need to be able to escort the Individuals as well as yourself out of the building or within a safe area as quickly and safely as possible. This cannot be done if there is equipment, furniture, etc. blocking the pathways or exits.

Compliance

The Joint Commission and CMS include enforcement of this as part of accreditation. Both Joint Commission and CMS have adopted the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Codes by statute, which is why issues like compliance with the Life Safety Code is not an option, but a requirement.

Door Locking:

The Joint Commission expects all staff affected by door locking to understand why the locking is required and how to unlock the doors in an emergency. The provision that when locking patients behind a closed door all staff carry keys to facilitate emergency exit is rooted in patient safety. History has shown that when doors are locked and staff did not have keys readily available, lives can be lost.



Restructuring of The Governing Body at West Central Georgia Regional Hospital

The Governing Bodies have been restructured at all DBHDD hospitals. West Central held their opening meeting on November 17, 2015. The members of the Governing Body are: John Robertson, Regional Hospital Administrator; DBHDD Commissioner Frank Berry; Ms. Judy Fitzgerald, Chief of Staff; Ms. Amy Howell, General Counsel; Mr. Jeff Minor, COO; and Dr. Emile Risby, Director of Hospital Operations. Also present at today's meeting were Greg Hoyt, Office of Hospital Operations; and Lavin Gartland-Briggs, Assistant Commissioner of Public Relations.

The Governing Body refers to the entity, required by law, regulation, and standard, that is legally responsible for the conduct of the hospital as an institution and that provides for effective hospital governance, management, and budget planning.

This meeting was both productive and informative. Our senior leadership team met with the board and provided them with a detailed report of the current operations of the hospital and discussed opportunities for improvement and discussed projects and improvements that will require their assistance.

The Commissioner and the board toured the campus and were thoroughly impressed; frequently making statements about how friendly our staff was and how the environment here was so positive. The Commissioner and some of his team enjoyed some cookies and pies made by the Individuals in the treatment mall kitchen.

One major thing to come from the meeting was the board voted to approve the hospital's new mission, vision, and goals which are:

WCGRH'S NEW MISSION

Commitment to safe, person-centered, and dignified therapeutic interventions that will guide and encourage individuals during their recovery

WCGRH'S NEW VISION

To be a leader in the innovative and holistic treatment of each individual served for a life of recovery and independence

WCGRH'S NEW GOALS

To provide a safe environment for our individuals and staff

To provide active recovery-oriented treatment

To provide a successful discharge for our individuals

To maintain or improve the quality of care and services while using fiscal responsibility to maintain a strong financial foundation

West Central Individuals Sharing Talents with Commissioner Berry



During the November 17th, 2015 visit of Commissioner Berry to West Central, our Individuals showed off their talents in numerous ways. During Yetunde Taiwos' Cultural Experience Group, the Individuals made the Commissioner a Tie/Dyed Shirt in the same fashion as the ones they had made for themselves. Commissioner shared that his children had similar shirts and that now he could wear his shirt and be cool.



Another art project lead by Team Facilitator, Tina Middleton produced business card holders for not only Commissioner Berry but also for the other members of the Governing Body. Using an empty cassette case, Mrs. Middleton and five of our Individuals transformed the plastic case, five tiles in various colors and black lettering into an attractive place to display business cards. Although most were able to identify the pieces of creative art as business card holders, some were stumped and surprised to learn that the main material used in this project was a recycled cassette case.



Topping off the day, the Commissioner and the other members of the Governing Body, were treated to cookies and pies that had been prepared by our Individuals in the Daily Living Skills Group under the direction of Latanya Eadie and Monika Rivera. Although it had not been long since eating lunch, Commissioner Berry was not about to disappoint the Individuals who had made these goodies for him. Pulling up a chair, our Commissioner sampled both the cookies and pie while amazing several of our Individuals by remembering information they had shared with him during his last visit to West Central. As one of our Individuals remarked, "I can't believe you remembered all that about some little person like me".

WCHRH Annual Mayor's Motorcade



Come Join In at the Mayor's Motorcade
Wednesday, December 9th
Parade 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM





STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0090

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

August 5, 2015

TO: State Department Heads and Other Officials
FROM: Governor Nathan Deal *Nathan Deal*
RE: 2016 State Holidays

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 1-4-1, the following is the list of state holidays when the Capitol and state agencies will be closed in 2016:

New Year's Day	Friday, January 1
State Holiday	January 19 – will be observed on Friday, November 25
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	Monday, January 18
Washington's Birthday	February 15 - will be observed on Tuesday, December 27
State Holiday	April 26 - will be observed on Monday, April 25
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30
Independence Day	Monday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September 5
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10
Veterans Day	Friday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 24
Christmas Day	December 25 – will be observed on Monday, December 26

West Central Georgia Regional Hospital Construction

Below is captured photos of the old Entrance sign to hospital being removed.



Photos of New WCGRH sign being installed



Newly Installed
West Central Georgia
Regional Hospital sign



State of Georgia and
Developmental Disabilities

West Central Georgia
Regional Hospital
3000 Schatulga Road
Columbus, Georgia 31907
(706) 568-5000

Web Page
www.wcgrh.org



EMPLOYEE NEWS



November 1st.



*Left to Right: Row 1: Kavedia Nobles, CherRon Banks, Miosotis Ridley,
John Robertson, RHA,*

*Row 2: Richard Jones, Jasper Teal, Robbie Page, Taejdrion Golden,
Ortrail Russel*

State of Georgia and
Developmental Disabilities

West Central Georgia
Regional Hospital
3000 Schatulga Road
Columbus, Georgia 31907
(706) 568-5000

Web Page
www.wcgrh.org



EMPLOYEE NEWS



November 16th.



Left to Right: Row 1: John Robertson, RHA, Nelsondria Brown, Erica Daniels
Row 2: LaRhonda Bailey, Shirley Martin, Chancie Luzum, Yarthia Piliportor



Left to Right: Row 1: John Robertson, RHA, Ida Fitzpatrick, Sherronna Turner,
Joshua Hill, Row 2: Kendall Scott, Sandra Buczek, Shannon Floyd

News From Human Resources

FAITHFUL SERVICE AWARDS

5 Years

Charmeian Edwards

Charlene Lee

Frances Thomas

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SERVICE TO OUR HOSPITAL AND THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Human Resources Monthly

Dec 2nd. Manager Approval by Noon
Please reconcile and move FSLA to OT Premium
Dec 15th. Pay Day
Dec 17th. Manager Approval by Noon
Please reconcile and move FSLA to OT Premium
Dec 31st. Pay Day

Did You Know? E-Performance:

Every employee has access to their e-performance documents thru their self-service which is located at www.team.ga.gov. Your employee I.D. and Social Security or password created will allow you entry. If you have forgotten your password or do not remember your questions—Call 1-888-896-7771. All employees who have an I.D. issued to them when hired have access to all of their personal information and the ability to make any necessary changes without having to come to H.R. However, H.R. is always available if you need assistance or have trouble with the site.

Orientation is on December 1st. and December 16th. In HR from 1:00-5:00 PM

HAVE YOU ACCESSED YOUR SELF-SERVICE INFORMATION LATELY?

Any Questions please do not hesitate to call Human Resources (706) 568-2260

Goodbye and Farewell

Jerrie Allen	Amber Hart	Zandra Lamar	Alimaou Sanni
Melanie Bowens	Stephanie Jackson	Crystal Lawrence	Sheila Sutton
Tameika R Brooks	Rebecca Jannergren	June Park	Kristina Taylor
Vivian Calhoun	Catoya Johnson	Shaquella Pipkins	Kenya Williams
Jeremy Davis	Kimberly Kimble	Jasmine Powell	Brandon Wright

Human Resources Department

HR Representatives:

Peri Johnson, Human Resources Manager
Sandra Brown, Employee Relations Specialist
Vonceil Plump, Personnel Tech II
Paul Fahnstock, Recruiter
Shannon Hearn, Recruiting Tech
Pat Altman, Benefits and Worker’s Comp
Michele Trowers, Leave/Payroll Specialist
Ivonna McCoy, Program Associate

Suggestions or Questions:

Any questions? Please contact HR at (706) 568-2260

If you have any ideas or topics you would like to see featured in the Human Resources section, please submit them to the Human Resources Department



Staff Development & Training

Here is our **“Block” Schedule for Annual Updates** in December! You will attend according to your Safety Care date, and must attend the entire block. You will then be current for the next year!

Block 1:

Tues, Dec 1: 8:00 Safety Care Recert
 Wed, Dec 2: 8:00-10:00 Seizure
 10:00-12:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
 1:00-3:00 PNS
 Thurs, Dec 3: 8:00 CPR and First Aid

Block 2:

Mon, Dec 7 : 8:00 CPR and First Aid
 Tues, Dec 8: 8:00-10:00 Seizure
 10:00-12:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
 1:00-3:00 PNS
 Wed, Dec 9 : 8:00 Safety Care Recert

Block 3:

Wed, Dec 16: 8:00 Safety Care Recert
 Thurs, Dec 17: 8:00-10:00 Seizure
 10:00-12:00 Infection Control and Incident Management
 1:00-3:00 PNS
 Fri, Dec 18: 8:00 CPR and First Aid

Positive Behavior Supports (PBS):

Thurs, December 17, 8:00-5:00

Safety Care Initial Dates: December 4-7-8





Staff Development & Training (continued)

According to policy 03-402 Safety Care Training and Certification, “Employees must recertify within 365 days of initial certification or the last required recertification. If an employee fails to meet this recertification requirement for any reason, he/she is no longer a certified Safety Care Specialist **and is not authorized to use Safety Care skills or strategies.**” This means the employees must recertify BEFORE their expiration date, or they will be no longer certified as a Safety Care Specialist.

You are Invited....



Staff Development & Training
is hosting a **“Sweets & Treats”** party on
Tuesday, December 15th
2:00p.m.-4:00p.m. in Honor Hall.

Admission Price= A “Sweet Treat” to share!

We will have holiday music, small ornament crafts, and a photo station- so come get your holiday picture taken with your friends!

December Birthdays



Happy Birthday to All !

1	Willie Townsend
1	Dealva Holloman
1	Nicky Crawford
3	Floretta Doner
4	Phillip Reed
4	Timothy Bronson
5	Samuel Cheraisi
6	Eugene Lott
7	Kevin Leonard
7	Reginald Gilmore
8	Johanna Joyner
9	Christopher McCanham
10	Charmeian Edwards
10	Leslie Wynn
11	Cletus Oguchi
11	Martina Baggs
12	Sabreena Thomas
15	Karen Wolfgang
15	Sandra Talpade
15	Vickie Beale
15	Ronnie Flores
16	Kenneth Smith
16	Bunita Johnson
16	Stacey Lane
17	Brittany Underwood
17	Myron Gaskins
18	Sarah Holiday

18	Jessica Smith
19	Karen Butts
19	Tamika Battle
20	Jamal Bandy
20	Sun West
21	Faye Meadows
21	Eugene Brown
21	Sheree Kenan
21	Starlet Short
22	Glenda Carter
23	Andrea Brown
23	Mack Harris
24	Amber Heiskill
24	Gerald Bee
25	Viola Strong-Williams
25	Kavedia Nobles
25	James Grant
26	Betsy Bishop
26	Aisha Thornton
27	Rebecka Snider
27	Brent Eaton
29	Cedric Jones
29	Yetunde Taiwo
29	Wendell Rosemond
29	Valona Baldwin
31	Ivan Brown
31	George Morgan

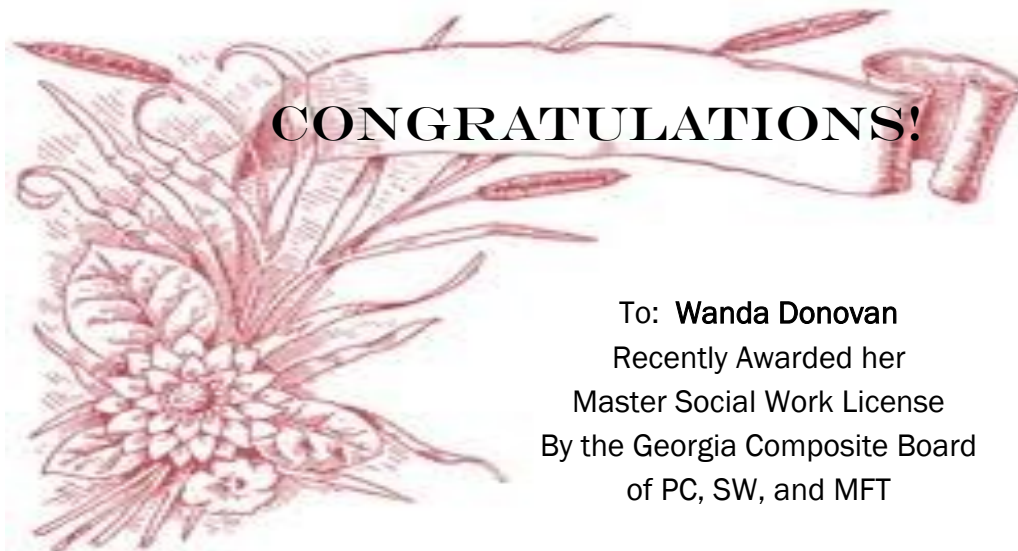
A Message from your newspaper editor!



A sincere wish that each of you enjoy your Christmas holidays! However you spend it, whether you travel or stay local, please be safe.

A special "Thank you" to all those who help support our newspaper throughout 2015.
I look forward to sharing more interesting articles from our staff for the 2016 editions.

Please remember to submit your articles no later than the 3rd week of each month.



To: **Wanda Donovan**
Recently Awarded her
Master Social Work License
By the Georgia Composite Board
of PC, SW, and MFT



Germ gloves and scarves—*Oh, my!*

Winter is coming, and with that, comes colder weather. And during the cold weather season, it's common to see many runny noses, coughs, sore throats, and respiratory infections such as the flu.

Be honest: Have you ever used your scarf or gloves to wipe your nose or cover a sneeze/cough when a tissue wasn't available? *Oh, my!* And then with your runny nose-contaminated glove, you touch a steering wheel, doorknob, public transit railing, or seat—all the time spreading the germs to others.

Then, with your contaminated scarf that you used to cover a cough or a sneeze, you offer it to your child because she is colder than you are or hang it up in the office next to co-workers belongings. This is called cross contamination. *Oh, my!*

And do you take your gloves off with your teeth? If you do, the germs from your gloves are going right into your mouth. *Oh, my!*

Think about this—if you don't wash your hands when appropriate, like after using the bathroom, then put your gloves on, the *INSIDE* of the glove is now contaminated. *Oh, my!*

You wash your hands, right?

Also remember to wash your gloves and scarves on a regular basis, preferably once per week or when soiled.

There are no scientific studies that support all this, but it stands to reason that gloves and scarves are just as germey as other fabrics that haven't been cleaned—maybe more so because they are less likely to be cleaned on a routine basis. Leather and suede gloves would most likely need to be dry cleaned, and knit gloves would probably not fare too well in the washing machine. But think about how germey they are after people cough, sneeze, and wipe their noses with their gloves and scarves!

Most germs will survive for two or three days on inanimate objects—some longer. They don't have to look soiled or smell bad to be loaded with germs either!



Association for Professionals in
Infection Control and Epidemiology

1275 K Street, NW, Suite 1000 • Washington, DC 20005 • www.apic.org/patientafety

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/APICinfectionpreventionandyou

Winners of the recent WCGRH 2016 Nursing Conference Raffle held November 18, 2015.



Gas Grill: Dr. Nargis Fakhri



AL Cooler : Leona Walton—Off Campus
GA Cooler: Gwen Brazel –PRN
Auburn Cooler: Freddie Cunningham,
Environmental Services



Nursing Services would like to thank everyone for their support with this campaign!!!!

Attention All Employees

Reminder! Annual Tuberculosis Screening

All WCGRH employees must complete the Georgia State Hospital Employee Health Screening Form **during the month of their birthday**

TB screening is required during each employee's Birthday month

Tuberculosis screening is conducted in Nursing Services, Building 1, Room 25

Skin Tests are given on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Please follow these guidelines for completing the
Annual Employee Health Screening:

- If you have the skin test performed off campus, you still must return the results to Nursing Services and complete the Employee Health Screening Form.
- If you have another job also requiring PPD Testing, we will provide you with a copy of your results.
- If you have had a positive skin test in the past, you are still required to complete the Employee Health Screening Form.

Please Note: If Annual Tuberculosis is not completed within your birth month, Employee cannot work until the screening is completed.

Questions? Please contact Nursing Services at (706) 568-5109



West Central Georgia Regional Hospital & Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities



Values: Dedication, Integrity, Excellence, Knowledge Accountability, Collaboration, Safety, Innovation, Respect

Mission Statement: Commitment to safe, person-centered, and dignified therapeutic interventions that will guide and encourage individuals during their recovery.

Vision Statement: To be a leader in the innovative and holistic treatment of each individual served for a life of recovery and independence.

Goals:

- To provide a safe environment for our individuals and staff.
- To provide active recovery-oriented treatment
- To provide a successful discharge for all individuals
- To maintain or improve the quality of care and services while using fiscal responsibility to maintain a strong financial foundation.

Regional Reflections is published monthly. The mission of the newsletter is to provide a forum to educate and inform its readership on issues in behavioral health, strengthen teamwork, and archive hospital events and activities.

Regional Reflections staff welcomes items including articles, article ideas, news items, letters and photos submitted for publication. However, all items are subject to editorial discretion and will be printed on a "space available" basis. Please contact the editor if you have any questions or concerns regarding the newsletter. Thank you for your support.



J

John L. Robertson, Regional Hospital Administrator
 Phone: (706) 568-5000
 FAX: (706) 568-2257



Sara Moran, Editor
 Phone (706) 568-2185
 Email:
 Sara.Moran@dbhdd.ga.gov

WCGRH is an equal Opportunity employer



WCGRH Foundation, Inc. is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization established in 1993 under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3), 509(a), and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) by individuals interesting in enhancing the services and programs provided for the clients and staff of WCGRH.

Your tax deductible gift supports the Hospital's mission as stated above.
 Website:
<http://www.wcgrh.org/scfoundation.htm>



Accredited by the Joint Commission

Fraud Abuse Hotline: To report concerns regarding fraud and/or abuse, call the WCGRH Compliance Hotline at (706) 569-3082 or the Office of Inspector General Corporate Compliance Hotline at 1-800-447-8477. You may e-mail questions or concerns to WCGRH Compliance Office@dhr.state.ga.us or call The WCGRH Compliance Officer, Felicia Hardaway at (706) 568-2471



Certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services