



FAMILY SERVICES

Partner Family News & Notes

FAMILY SERVICES WELCOMES NEW FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST, CRISTAL HUNT

In efforts to better serve our current and future partner families and applicants, the HFHMGC Family Services Department has added a new Family Services Specialist to the staff.

Cristal Hunt is a former employee of the Moss Point School District and a native of Moss Point. She recently earned her Master's in Business Administration and will bring employment counseling, education and computer instruction experience to the staff.

Cristal will assist the current staff with processing incoming applications, partner family questions and concerns, orientation and all

other things family services.

Management hopes that the addition of another specialist will provide those partner family's that may need more assistance the opportunity for more one on one attention. We also hope that the addition of a new specialist will enable the department to become more efficient in preparing a greater number of families for homeownership.

As HFHMGC develops new programs and processes aimed to assist more families in becoming homeowners, Cristal's addition to the staff will be essential in facilitating the new

programs and assisting current partner families with the transition.

The staff is looking forward to working with Cristal and she is equally excited to begin meeting and interacting with our current partner families.

Cristal will be in office beginning in October and will be available to answer all questions about Family Services just as the existing staff. If you have any questions or are just in the neighborhood please stop by and welcome Cristal Hunt to the Habitat family!

HFHMGC Introduces New Policies

HFHMGC is introducing several new policies in the coming months that will affect our current Partner Families. Here is a sneak preview of just some of the changes coming your way!

-Volunteer Services would like to thank all of our "little Partner Family members" for sending in all the beautiful thank you cards, but beginning in October we will not accept any coloring sheets in exchange for sweat equity hours.

-All applications will now come through the HFHMGC office. Anyone who is interested in applying for a Habitat home will have to attend a mandatory prescreening meeting.

Our first meetings will be held on October 17 from 10 am until 12 pm and October 18 from 5pm to 7:30 pm. Those people interested in applying must contact the office (374-4946) and register for one of the meetings. **PEOPLE NOT REGISTERED WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND!!**

-Current partner families will now be divided between Specialists, Cristal and Tomesha. Check your October SE statement to see who you should contact with any questions or concerns. **You may be helped by any Family Services Staff member in the absence of your assigned specialist or if your specialist is unavailable.**

-EFFECTIVE NOV. 1 HFHMGC WILL ACCEPT CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS ONLY AS A FORM OF PAYMENT.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October 4-Home Depot Kids Workshop

October 11 & 25-Lowe's Kids Workshop

October 31-Halloween

Don't forget to turn in your sweat equity vouchers for October by October 31st.

ERICA HIGGS,
FAMILY SERVICES
MGR. EXT. 318

CRISTAL HUNT,
FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST
EXT. 325

TOMESHA JOHNSON,
FAMILY SERVICES
SPECIALIST, EXT.
324

FLOWER ROBINSON,
FAMILY SERVICES
GENERALIST, EXT.
300

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE?

DO YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER? IF SO, PLEASE LET US KNOW! EMAIL SUGGESTIONS TO TJOHNSON@HFHMGC.ORG OR CALL 228-374-4946 EXT. 324 AND LEAVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON THE VOICEMAIL.

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September's Sweat Equity All-Stars



Latoya Thompson

Tiffany Miller



Daisy Garner

Latasha Thomas



Ronda Monroe

Tiffany Wright



Barbara Magee

LaKeisha Liddell



LaKenya Wilson

Veronica Silver



Damonica Braxton

Gail McCoy

Tawonna Pope

Yalayna Green

These Partner Families completed their Sweat Equity in September and are one step closer to homeownership!!



Need some Building Community SE hours? Like to meet new people? If so, contact Flower by Wednesday of each week to attend the Habitat Village Volunteer Dinner! There is limited space available each week and only PF members are able to attend and get hours.
COME AND MEET THE PEOPLE WHO KEEP HABITAT MOVING!

Reminder
Any outside volunteer work must be approved by a Family Services staff member **BEFORE** it is performed. An **OUTSIDE REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEER WORK** form must be **completed, on file and approved** in order for the hours to be counted. If this form is not turned in your hours may not be counted.

PARTNER FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

BRITTANY TODD



Partner Family:

Brittany and daughter, Madison 2

Occupation: Account Specialist-Hancock Bank, 3 years

Residing City: Gulfport

Partner Family Since: June 2008

“Brittany has only been in the program for a few months. She has gotten off to a great start and Family Services is looking forward to working with her.”

-T. Johnson, Family Services Specialist

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!! PLEASE READ!!!

DEDICATIONS

Dedications are now optional for all HFHMG C Partner Families.

If the house sponsor does not wish to participate in a dedication the partner family can choose not to have one. However, if the house sponsor or partner family desires a dedication the affiliate will host one.

SWEAT EQUITY CORNER

Q: How many hours do I have to earn?

A: Single Partner Families (SPF) have to earn a minimum of 200 Sweat Equity hours total during their partnership. Multiple Adult Partner Families have to earn at least 300 hours of SE during their partnership.

Q: How many hours do I have to complete each month?

A: Single Partner Families must complete 20 hours of sweat equity per month. Multiple Partner Families must complete 30 hours of sweat equity per month.

Q: Where or how do I complete the minimum monthly requirement?

A: You can get your monthly minimum in any category you choose until you have reached the maximum amount of hours designated in that category for your family size. If you want to work 20 hours of construction each month that is absolutely fine. If you want to send out donated people to meet your monthly minimum for you that is fine too, but you have to meet that monthly minimum!

Q: What if I can't meet my monthly minimum? Will I be kicked out of the program?

A: If you can't meet your monthly minimum at any time please contact the office to discuss alternatives. If possible, please communicate with Family Services before you neglect your monthly minimum requirement.

Q: When should I turn in my SE?

A: If you can't meet your monthly minimum at any time please contact the office to discuss other options. Arrangements can be made for short or long SE breaks or special agreements. Please communicate with Family Services before you neglect your monthly minimum requirements.



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