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***Maximizing Community  
Resources to Reduce Poverty***

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## New Getting Ahead Classes Starting in August

New classes will begin in August for the Fall 2017 semester. Classes will, again, be held at First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church for Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World. Two classes of Getting Ahead While Getting Out will begin around the same time at the Garland County Detention Center.

Please keep this program, the participants, the facilitators, the co-facilitators, and all the volunteers in your hearts and prayers as lives are touched and changed, families impacted, and the community strengthened.

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## We Said Goodbye to Jill Johnson as CCMC's Getting Ahead Program Coordinator

We had a party for Jill Johnson to say goodbye to her as Program Coordinator for Getting Ahead in July. Jill is leaving this position...but we are very happy she intends to continue her involvement in Getting Ahead. She will continue to volunteer as a mentor as well as focusing on the Workplace component as a facilitator. She plans to participate in this segment of Getting Ahead utilizing her past experience in workforce development.

We are very appreciative of Jill's commitment to Getting Ahead and her development of this program over the 2 1/2 years she was at CCMC. We wish her the best in the future and know she will enjoy having extra time to spend with her grandchildren and they will enjoy having her around more, too!

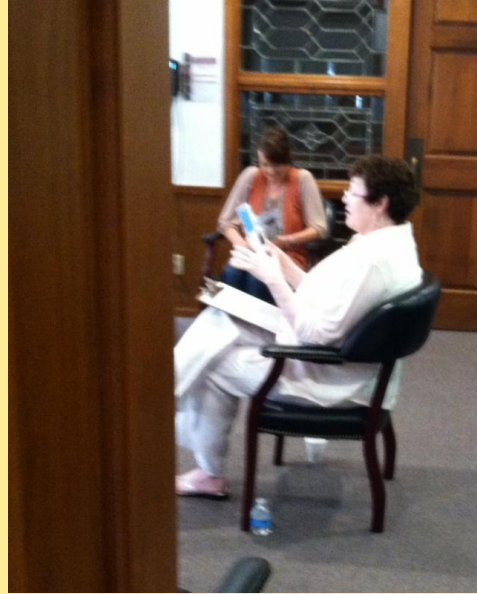


The party was catered by Marilyn Hurst, a CCMC and GA volunteer, and her family. The food was delicious and we all kept going back for more!

We wouldn't let her leave! She graciously stayed to lead

Starla's first GA information meeting. These meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 10:00 a.m., to give potential participants an opportunity to learn more about the program and ask questions.

Then...she joined us for the monthly Graduate/ Mentee meeting at the Garage Church at 6:00 p.m. Thank you, Jill!



The monthly graduate/mentor meetings are a good opportunity for them to get together and visit. This meeting is from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., at the Garage Church, on the 2nd Thursday of each month. A wonderful meal is served thanks, again, to Marilyn Hurst; good news and progress are reported; and problems are shared. It really does feel like you are sitting around the family table.

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## Our Spotlight on CCMC Staff and Volunteers

The spotlight this month shines on a CCMC volunteer -



### **Susan Beard**

**Born:** Lake Charles, Louisiana

**Been in Hot Springs:** 24 years

**Family:** Her family, she says, is very busy and scattered. She has two children and 7 grandchildren...all living in the Dallas area. She and her husband are both retired and love to travel and do volunteer work.

**Her role at CCMC:** Susan registers new patients for CCMC and assists people with signing up for health insurance through both the state and the federal healthcare program...*and any other duties as assigned!*

**Her favorite thing about CCMC:** She said her favorite things about CCMC are that it is Christian-based and that it serves both medical needs *and* strives to teach people how to lift themselves out of poverty.

**Hobbies:** Travel!

*We are very happy Susan is a part of CCMC when she is at home and not traveling! Thank you, Susan, for being an important part of our village!*



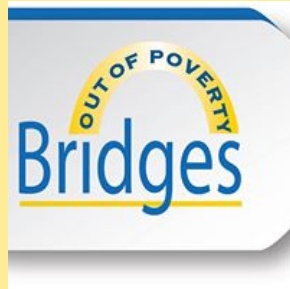
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## CCMC at Oaklawn Health Fair June 30th

CCMC participated in Oaklawn's recent health fair for their employees. Sharon Morel and Nikki Grisham manned the clinic's booth and distributed information about CCMC services and the Getting Ahead program. Specific health issues addressed were hypertension and diabetes.

Approximately 200 Oaklawn employees attended and many community health-related organizations and medical providers were represented. This was our first year to participate and we are looking forward to future opportunities. There are currently four Getting Ahead graduates employed at Oaklawn and we were pleased that two of them were able to come by the booth to say hello!





## Ongoing Monthly Community Discussions Continue

**The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 16!  
Please mark your calendars!**

CCMC continues these important monthly Bridge to Hope Community Discussion meetings on the 3rd Wednesday each month, 8:00-9:30 a.m., at the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce. The next discussion will be held August 16.

We hope you will plan to attend one of these sessions to learn more about how we can all help our community...and its citizens...move forward to sustainability. It will be 90 minutes well spent.

Please call 501.318.1153, ext. 303, to reserve your place or contact us at [awilson@ccmchs.com](mailto:awilson@ccmchs.com). Bring a friend or colleague!

We will save you a seat!



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## Interested in Learning About Mentoring a Getting Ahead Graduate?

There is an information opportunity to find out more about being a GA mentor on **Friday, July 28, at 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**, at CCMC. There is no commitment in coming to this meeting...it is an opportunity to learn about Getting Ahead, it's graduates, and how we can continue helping them along their journey.

Reservations are not necessary...just come and find out what Getting Ahead is about and why mentors are wanted and needed.

We hope to see you there!

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## Need a Speaker at Your Organization's Upcoming Meeting?

CCMC Speakers Always Ready to Share  
the Bridge to Hope and Getting Ahead Stories

If you would like to have a CCMC representative come to your business or organization to talk about Bridge to Hope in Hot Springs and the Getting Ahead stories, please contact Lynn Blankenship at [lynn@ccmchs.com](mailto:lynn@ccmchs.com) or call her at 501.318.1153, ext. 103.

Getting Ahead is about building resources, removing barriers, and supporting the journey from poverty to sustainability for those in our community who want to benefit from this process. The results...a better workforce, a new group of people to contribute to the community, and stronger families.

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## Ongoing Needs at CCMC

CCMC has many ongoing needs. In addition to volunteer help, which is always needed and appreciated, other needs are:

- Prayer support
- Financial support for overhead costs (utilities, medication, etc.)
- Office supplies (paper, pens, notepads, etc.)
- Paper towels, napkins
- Paper plates, cups
- Disinfectant wipes

Costs involved with Getting Ahead include:

Classroom supplies for an entire class (16 participants) - \$200

Workbooks for a full class - \$300

Food for a 16-member class session - \$150

Price per class participant - \$600

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## Monthly Information Meetings for Prospective Getting Ahead Participants

We hold monthly information meetings for prospective participants for Getting Ahead on the **second Thursday of each month**, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Starla Bleifus, Getting Ahead Coordinator, reviews the process and answers questions that attendees might have about the program.

The GA process is a sixteen-week self-discovery process for participants...to learn about themselves, the eleven resources the material outlines, and the journey from poverty to sustainability.

If you know anyone who would be interested in learning more about Getting Ahead, please encourage them to attend one of these important meetings.

**Upcoming information meeting dates are:**

**August 10, 2017**

**September 14, 2017**

**October 12, 2017**

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## Important Meeting Times in July and August

### **Mentor Information Meeting**

Friday, July 28      11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon  
CCMC

### **Information Meeting for Getting Ahead Prospective Participants**

Thursday, August 10      10:00-11:00 a.m.  
CCMC

### **Bridge to Hope Community Discussion**

Wednesday, August 16      8:00-9:30 a.m.  
Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce

*Seating limited - RSVP requested to [awilson@ccmchs.com](mailto:awilson@ccmchs.com)*



Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic  
[www.ccmchs.org](http://www.ccmchs.org)



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