



HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 5

CURRENT STUDENT SPOT LIGHT: KELLY KUKENDALL

Kelly is just one of those people that you must meet. Her hard work and determination shine brightly like stars in the sky. She is a wonderful mother to her son, Stephen and an equally wonderful wife to her husband, Tim. Kelly has many admirable qualities. The quality that I admire most is her determination to get the job done and be successful. She has completed many emergency management training activities and continues to move along the same field training with the American Red Cross.

Kelly is definitely someone that you want to have on

your team. She is hard-working and strong-willed, rarely taking no for an answer in any situation that she feels passionate about. On a personal level, Kelly is a great friend. She is ALWAYS extremely supportive and gives great advice. (a cheerleader of sorts)

Along with Katrina Pearsey Kelly has lead the way for the Human Services Club to establish the Felicia Claxton Memorial Scholarship. With much work to go, Kelly continues to work tirelessly to ensure that the scholarship dream becomes a reality. I can not wait until the day comes

when we have the opportunity to give a student the gift of education. Although we are continuing to work together as a club to raise the funds to establish this scholarship, Kelly is responsible for the vision. I am so proud to call Kelly a friend!



Hard at work wrapping hot dogs!

I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure--which is:
Try to please everybody.

Herbert Bayard Swope

GRADUATE SPOT LIGHT: Shirley Atterton

I am married to Billy McKissick Jr. and we live in Summerville, GA. We have one son two beautiful grand babies. I entered the Human Services Program In Fall 2005 and graduated Fall 2007. I am now working at The Department of Family and Children Services in Rome, GA as an ABD Medicaid Specialist. ABD stands for aging, blind, and disabled. I am continuing my education at Shorter College working towards my Bachelors in Human Services. I entered in to the program this year and will graduate in 16

months. My future plans include staying with DFACS and working with ABD Medicaid. I am so grateful for Susan Claxton. She is the driving factor behind me beginning the Human Services Program. She is a great asset to Georgia Highlands College.

I love helping others and I feel like obtaining my Associates in Human Services helped me determine what I wanted to do with the rest of my life.

I am a 49 year old female and living proof that you can do it if you work hard and put your mind to it!

Most of the shadows of this life are caused by our standing in our own sunshine.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Pictures From the Felicia Claxton Memorial Scholarship Ride



WHAT WE HAVE DONE...

- * First Annual Felicia Claxton Scholarship Ride
- * Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Event with the Hospitality House/Domestic Violence Task Force
- * Ride for the Children with the Open Door Home
- * "Remember My Name" Ride for Victims with the Hospitality House/Domestic Violence Task Force

WHAT WE ARE DOING...

- * Making a difference in our community
- * Gearing up for another exciting semester
- * Planning for the 2nd Annual Felicia Claxton Scholarship Ride

Agency Spot Light: Hospitality House

The Hospitality House is celebrating its 30th year of providing quality care to the child and adult victims of domestic violence in Floyd county. Our 27 bed facility is the service hub from which we provide victims with emergency food, clothing, and shelter. Additionally we provide support services which are important to empower families to become safe and self sufficient. In addition to the services that we provide for victims of domestic violence, we work with community partners to provide a continuum of care. To best serve victims of violence we complete a variety of tasks daily to support the empowerment of victims as they set goals and work on becoming self sufficient.

We rely heavily on the support of the community to help us provide our clients with the things that they need to help rebuild their lives. We accept donations of food, clothing, toys, house hold items, furniture, and anything/everything else a person may need in their homes.

Volunteers are utilized to assist staff with providing childcare, conducting children's support groups, sorting donations and are sometimes trained to answer crisis calls and intake procedures.

For more information contact The Hospitality House at hosphse@comcast.net

Advisor's Corner:

Susan Claxton



Making a difference- one star fish at a time...



Spring semester is just around the corner. The Human Services courses taught include: Social Problems, Group Process, Death and Dying, Abnormal Psychology, and Theories of Personality. **Remember** these classes are only taught once a year so sign up as soon as possible.

As I sit here trying to think of what to write in this newsletter I look above my computer and see a wonderful testament to the students in the Human Services Program. My office is a menagerie of pictures, cards, and other memorabilia that students have left behind. Each thing represents a student who has come into my life and has not only left these things, but also "footprints" on my heart. I receive an email or letter telling about the things they are doing in their lives and how the HMSV Program has truly helped them on their journey and I look up and thank Steve Burns and Jim McKeel for their dedication and influence that they gave this program. I am blessed to be a part of something so great but I am only the facilitator, the students are the catalyst of change and helping. I hope that each of you have a wonderful holiday and I will see you next semester!

Words from the Human Services President

Shannon Williams

I am so happy that I have had this great opportunity to be an integral part of a club that is so passionate and dedicated to helping those in need. I feel as if I have been born into a new family of the most wonderful people that I could ever have met in my life.

On a personal note: After receiving some pretty devastating health news I experienced a plethora of emotions which caused a tail spin. I wasn't sure which way was up and which way was down and to be honest, I don't think I even cared. I kept the news to myself for a while until I felt like I was going to explode. Upon sharing the news with the club I was

showered with hugs, encouraging words, and prayers that allowed a glimpse of light into my darkness. The love and compassion of those closest to me has helped me through one of the toughest times that I have had to face. The members of this club- MY FRIENDS- are so very special to me that words can not express, nor actions show my gratitude and appreciation for all that has been done for Jenna and I. You guys mean the world to me! Thanks for rescuing me from myself. I truly love you all!!! HUGS!!!

- Shannon



We will continue to post this picture of Felicia to remind us all why we are working so hard to make the scholarship dream a reality.

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In this period of scarce resources, community agencies face unparalleled challenges in meeting existing needs. The Human Services Program/Club works to build collaborative relationships among public and private community organizations in order to help build, shape, and strengthen relationships between Georgia Highlands and the communities within their service area.



Human Services Club

Human Service Advising Information

To all Human Service majors and those thinking of joining the Human Service program:

Be advised that these classes are only offered in the **Fall**: SOCI 1110 Intro to Social Services; HMSV 1120 Interpersonal Communication and Helping Skills; and PSYCH 2140 Principles of Behavior Analysis.

These classes are only offered in the **Spring**: SOCI 1160 Social Problems; SOCI 2145 Death and Dying; SOCI 2130 Group Process; and PSYCH 2128 Theories of Personality.

Please contact Mrs. Claxton to set up an appointment to go over your schedule as soon as possible

to avoid any confusion with which classes are offered when.

Also, HMSV 2160 Field Work Practicum I must be taken after you have taken PSYCH 1120 and during your last two semesters.

Human Service Core classes are not taught in the Summer

Students Without Borders is taking a trip to Australia in May 2009. Mrs. Claxton is offering SOCI 1101 as part of the trip and Erica Simpson is offering COMM 1100. For more information please contact Mrs. Claxton.

The man who makes a success of an important venture never waits for the crowd. He strikes out for himself. It takes nerve, it takes a great lot of grit; but the man that succeeds has both. Anyone can fail. The public admires the man who has enough confidence in himself to take a chance. These chances are the main thing after all. The man who tries to succeed must expect to be criticized. Nothing important was ever done but the greater number consulted previously doubted the possibility. Success is the accomplishment of that which most people think can't be done. -C.V. White