

Service Region Bootheel Counties: Dunklin, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, & Scott
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH
April 2020

**WELCOME NEW CAN MEMBERS
 PICTURED BELOW: NEW MEMBER CAN ORIENTATION**



Youth at Sikeston High School



MBRC Office in Sikeston



Caruthersville Public Library



Sikeston Public Library

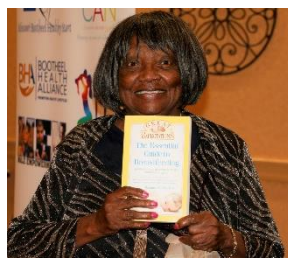


J.LaRae' Academy of Beauty Art



ReachUp Outreach in Caruthersville

**MISSOURI BOOTHEEL HEALTHY START
 AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEERS**



Pictured from left to right (name and number of years volunteering for Missouri Bootheel Healthy Start)
 Rosemary Prude, 18 years; Queen Pitts, 22 years; Mon T. & Eria Grays, 22 years; Brenda White, 15 years;
 Talmadge West, 22 years; Karen Grays, 22years; Not Pictured, Alma Bolanoz, 17 years

VOLUNTEERS NOMINATED FOR SPECIAL RECOGNITION, APPRECIATION, AND SERVICE



Pictured from left to right: Karen Grays, Betty Wilderness, Shawonda Johnson, Ciara Grisso, Jamie Shaw

Karen Grays resides in Dunklin County. She is a widow with three beautiful children, two daughters and one son, as well as two grandsons. Karen enjoys being a CAN volunteer, stating that “If we work together, we can make a big difference and keep a positive attitude.”

Betty Wilderness-Green resides in Scott County. She is a caregiver for her mother and was introduced to the CAN by a classmate at the New Madrid Family Resource Center. She is a member of the Green Memorial COGIC and enjoys decorating. She is active in her community and enjoys promoting CAN by putting out flyers in Sikeston, and Charleston, at the DAEOC Senior Citizens building, and churches. Betty has one son, one granddaughter, and four grandsons.

Shawonda Johnson resides in New Madrid County. She has four children and has been involved with MBRC since 2002. She volunteered as a CAN member for three years and was a contractual worker for one year with the Bootheel Health Alliance program. Shawonda became an active CAN volunteer again in 2015 and is very passionate about the program. Her oldest daughter was born pre-term and had associated health problems, weighing only 4 pounds 3 ounces at birth. Shawonda enrolled in and successfully completed the Healthy Start program in 2006. While in the program, she learned about birth defects and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), and the importance of making sure her children slept on their backs rather than their bellies. As a result of the program, she now knows why healthy eating and prenatal vitamins are essential for pregnant women and the risk factors associated with smoking and alcohol use. Shawonda shares information regarding the benefits of volunteering for CAN, distributes flyers, and encourages community members to participate in the CAN program. She believes CAN helps not only people in the community but also the volunteer. Shawonda is currently 6 months pregnant and is again enrolled in the Healthy Start program. Her oldest daughter, born pre-term with a low birthweight, is now 14 years old and healthy, along with her three other children, two boys, ages 12 and 10, and a 9-year-old daughter.

Ciara Grisso resides in Mississippi County and has three children. During her time in the Healthy Start Case Management program, she accomplished her goal of becoming a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA), and is dedicated to continuous growth. Ciara is a working mother and still finds time to participate in CAN. She finds beauty in helping others, and this outlook encourages her to faithfully attend activities such as FLY, Healthy Start Case Management, and CAN meetings.

Jamie Shaw resides in Pemiscot County and is the mother of two. She became an active member of CAN in January 2020 and regularly attends FLY meetings.

CAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

Community Network Coordinator: Lacosta Ivy

- Sikeston High School
- Southeast Missouri State University Career Fair Cape Girardeau, MO
- Healthy Start Community Baby Shower at CBC Family Life Outreach Center Sikeston, MO
- ReachUp Outreach in Caruthersville, MO
- Annual Diabetes Conference Sikeston, MO



Mikaela Hawkins, MBRC Administrative Assistant & Lacosta Ivy, Community Network Coordinator at Southeast Missouri State University Career Fair



Healthy Start Community Baby Shower at CBC Family Life Outreach Center

COVID-19

Due to COVID-19 we will continue reaching out to you telephonically with tentative of virtual meetings in the future. Visit our website at www.mbrinc.org or Facebook @mbrincorg for office updates and program activities at

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please contact:

Lacosta Ivy, BSW, Community Network Coordinator- 573-471-9400 ext. 335
or message on Facebook at Lacosta Ivy MBRC

Carolyn Davis, Lead Community Health Worker- 573-471-9400 ext. 305

CAN is a component of the Missouri Bootheel Healthy Start Program

CAN MISSION: To eliminate racial inequities in infant mortality and poor birth outcomes by mobilizing the community to do outreach, education, and policy change.

Thank you for your continued commitment and dedication.



Visit us at www.mbrinc.org or contact us toll free at 888.317.4949
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