Wesley George, 27, is quite a young man. He loves church, loves the color blue, (newsletter in blue to honor Wesley), loves to watch Unsolved Mysteries, loves to listen to the radio and loves to go to work. George arrives at 8:00 A.M… always on time and arrives with a smile on his face. George pulls a four hour shift at KI BOIS Community Action Recycling Center and at the end of each day he always asks, “Did I do a good job today?”

Although quiet in nature, when it comes to doing his job, George is always ready and willing. George wears several hats… one day he may be on the truck collecting material to be recycled…..the next he may be shredding or you may find a broom in his hand sweeping up all those paper particles. According to Tommy Taylor, Job Coach “George is very positive and works hard. He is also very thoughtful as he brings a card or gift to everyone on holidays and their birthday.”

George lives at home with his mother, Diana, two siblings and a niece. His room is decorated with old western photos of John Wayne, The Lone Ranger and Tonto. According to his mom, Diane, “Before Wesley started working at the Recycling Center, he mostly stayed home. Now he feels like he fits into the community. He loves to grocery shop and helps other individuals put groceries in their car. Having this job has really made a difference in not only his life, but all of our lives.”

George also lives by Matthew 6:3……But when thou doest alms, let not the left hand know what the right hand doeth: His mom told him if you do good deeds without bragging….you will get rewarded in heaven. Wesley replied, “I won’t tell anyone!”

Left, Wesley doing what he loves to do———recycling!

In 1987 President Ronald Reagan declared March to be Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, urging “all Americans to join me in according to our fellow citizens with such disabilities both encouragement and the opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential.”

Now 30 years later, KI BOIS Community Action continues to lead the way in its programs to assist those with developmental disabilities. These are people who are living and working in the community and making their voices heard in all aspects of life.

KI BOIS Community Action strives to build more welcoming communities through education and outreach. We hope you will join us this month as we celebrate people with Developmental Disabilities.
From the Desk of the Executive Director / CEO

Community Action Partnership: Helping People, Changing Lives. KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Incorporated is one of 20 Community Action Agencies in Oklahoma and 1000 in America in partnership. Community Action principles make us unique and distinctive. Community Action opens doors and leads the way: We provide access to the opportunities people need to improve their lives, to help themselves and each other. Community Action turns hope into reality: We identify the needs of the entire community, collaborate with others in the community, and take action to improve life for everyone in the community. Community Action emphasizes: Our staff and volunteers are from the community they serve. Community Action treats people with respect: We treat people the way we want to be treated. Community Action says “yes”: If we do not provide the needed service, we will link you to those who do. Community Action gives a voice to the poor: Through our advocacy, we seek to make society more flexible and responsive to the needs of the poor. Community Action mirrors the diversity of our communities: Our local boards include low-income people, local public officials, and business and community groups. The promise of Community Action: “Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.”

Carroll Huggins, CCAP
Executive Director / CEO

Congratulations Head Start

for meeting the criteria to become a Certified Healthy Early Childhood Program. The Certified Healthy Early Childhood Program recognizes early childhood program sites that make a positive impact on the health of employees and patrons. Left, Head Start Health and Safety Coordinator Vanessa Farrow and Assistant Head Start Director Sherry Hollinger are shown holding the award.

Congratulations Head Start on a job well done!
Developmental Disabilities’ Job Coach Tommy Taylor is an awesome artist!

Ecclesiastes 3...

1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
2 A time to be born, and a time to die: a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted:

It’s A Girl

Taylin Jade was born February 27, weighing 8 lbs, 7 ounces and was 19.9 inches long. Parents are TJ Brown and Brianna Coffey.

Great Grandparents are KI BOIS Disabilities / MH Coordinator- Barbara Harris & husband Ronnie of Poteau.

Taylin was also welcomed home by big brother, Kainyn Brown

In Loving Memory

Jean Daniels

December 10th, 1943 - March 3rd, 2017
Daniels worked in the KI BOIS Community Action Developmental Disabilities Program for many years.

Kerisa Spears

April 2nd, 1972 - March 6th, 2017
Spears was a KI BOIS Community Action employee and worked in the Permanent Supportive Housing Program.

James Sheives

August 2nd, 1937 - March 5th, 2017
Sheives was the husband of long time Head Start employee Diane Sheives. Sheives is also the step grandfather to Sara Jo Smith and her husband, Blake. Blake works in the IT Department for KI BOIS Community Action.
This Explains Some Things

On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years." The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?" And God saw it was good.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span." The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?" And God, again saw it was good.

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years." The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?" And God agreed it was good.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years." But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?" "Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you. There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service. If you are looking for me I will be on the front porch.

Compliments of John Jones
Housing Director

Happy First Day
of Spring
Monday, March 20th!
Board Member Tidbits

KI BOIS Community Action LeFlore County Board Member Henry Burris was recently re-elected to Office No.2 on the Spiro School Board.

This will be Burris’ sixth, five year term.

Families that play together stay together

Together, you can find ways for your whole family to move more and activate a healthy lifestyle. Use these family-friendly tips to get started.

Go for a family walk or bike ride after dinner.
Walk the dog together.
Visit the zoo.
Keep a Frisbee, football, soccer ball or baseball gloves in your car at all times.
Do chores together, like yard work or washing the car.
Plan an active family vacation. Avoid resorts that cater to adults only.
Go to the swimming pool together.
Do mini-squats, step touches, march or walk in place while watching TV.
Visit a museum.
Turn on some music and groove with your kids.
Go camping together.
Have a water balloon fight.

For more information go to...

Thank you Haskell and Latimer County Healthy Living Program Coordinator Denice Daniels for encouraging us to move!

Did You Know.....

C. 387: Patrick was born in Britain not Ireland.
C. 403: At age 16, Patrick is kidnapped and sent to Ireland as a slave.
C.409: Patrick escapes
C.432: Believing he’d been called to spread the word of God, Patrick returns to Ireland.
C.434-435: Patrick sees success converting the Irish to Christianity, reportedly baptizing 12,000 people in a single day near Killai.
Late 400s: Patrick dies

Whitefield School Gym
107 S. Redding, Whitefield, OK
Tuesday, March 28th
5:30pm until 8:30pm

Provided at no cost to all women in the community. Bring a friend!
Organizational Standards

This month we are going to continue our review of the new organizational standards, specifically, we are going to look at Data and Analysis.

CATEGORY NINE: Data and Analysis

The Community Action Network moves families out of poverty every day across this country and needs to produce data that reflect the collective impact of these efforts. Individual stories are compelling when combined with quantitative data: no data without stories and no stories without data. Community Action needs to better document the outcomes families, agencies, and communities achieve. The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding confers the obligation and opportunity to tell the story of agency-wide impact and community change, and in turn the impact of the Network as a whole.

### Standard 9.1
The organization has a system or systems in place to track and report client demographics and services customers receive.

### Standard 9.2
The organization has a system or systems in place to track family, agency, and/or community outcomes.

### Standard 9.3
The organization has presented to the governing board for review or action, at least within the past 12 months, an analysis of the agency’s outcomes and any operational or strategic program adjustments and improvements identified as necessary.

### Standard 9.4
The organization submits its annual CSBG Information Survey data report and it reflects client demographics and organization-wide outcomes.

In order to meet Standards 9.1 and 9.2, it is imperative we track all clients and the services they receive as well as the outcomes produced by those services. Many of you have heard of the CAPTAIN outcomes software. CAPTAIN is the system we use to meet Standard 9.1 and 9.2. If a staff person tells you they need information to enter in CAPTAIN, please help them! They are working hard to help ensure we meet Standards 9.1 and 9.2.

Every year, in February, KI BOIS Community Action is required to submit a CSBG – Information Survey (IS) to meet Standard 9.4. The IS reports on every penny and every person that comes through our doors. This amounts to a lot of pennies and a lot of people! Once the Information Survey is submitted, we prepare a report for the Board of Directors entitled “Accomplishments, Coordination of Funds and Outcomes of Efforts.” This report is based on the information submitted in the IS along with other agency outcomes and year to year comparisons. This report is presented to the Board every year in March to meet Standard 9.3. The Outcomes of Effort report is available for you to read. It can be found on the KI BOIS website under the Resources tab.

As always, thank you for reading. Happy St. Patrick’s Day! Remember to wear your green!!

Linda
**The KATS driver made the difference…**

**BY CHARLA SLOAN, DIRECTOR**

*It’s 4 am, KATS drivers* are starting their engines. They are getting ready for another not so routine day of providing medical transportation for area residents located throughout eastern Oklahoma. We have over 150 dialysis clients who ride three times a week. The patient is at the dialysis center for at least four hours doing their dialysis, which makes it hard for the family with jobs to take them.

The rider might be just around the corner or might be miles away in the isolated communities of rural Oklahoma. From the doctor’s appointments to dialysis, every trip has its unique characteristics. No ride is just routine. These stories reflect just a few of these not so routine trips.

**In Tahlequah.** Chris, KATS driver, found Shelly lying on a cliff behind her trailer house. She had been there for hours. Chris knew she always goes to dialysis, so he took the time to look for her. Called the ambulance and saved her life.

**In Porter.** Terri went to pick up her rider for dialysis. Russell didn’t come out so she knocked on the door but Russell didn’t answer. Instead of leaving and going on to pick up her other riders she looked in all of the windows and saw him lying on the floor. She found a door not locked and went in. He was very swollen and barely breathing. She called for an ambulance and they took him to ICU. He is still there. Terri calls and checks on him daily.

**Recently in Latimer County** another client suffered a stroke and was taken to McAlester Regional Hospital. They pronounced her brain dead and placed on life support. Her husband Danny (also a client) has a vehicle which was out of commission so the nurse contacted KATS to see if it would be possible to provide transportation for him to say his goodbye’s to his wife. We were honored to take him at no cost. He later called after her passing to tell us how much he appreciated KATS.

**We had a rider** in the Beggs area who was diagnosed with cancer. His wife left him because she couldn’t deal with it. The rider could not speak due to the cancer and the home health care provider kept messing up his appointments. Redonna and Trish were able to set his appointments up and got him to the treatment that he needed. His son, who lives in Houston, said his Dad wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the caring people of KATS.

**We not only provide** medical trips we transport many people helping them to get off welfare. We provided transportation for Breanna, a single mom. She rode with KATS for several years and she is a college graduate now working as a Counselor at Shared Blessing. We have helped many of our riders to become nurses, teachers and electricians.

So when you see the many buses and vans running up and down the roads of Oklahoma, just wonder who we are helping to stay out of a nursing home, taking someone to work or to a medical appointment.

There are hundreds of instances where the KATS driver made the difference in the lives of the most fragile population. These stories only reflect a few. Monday through Saturday throughout the year KATS makes a difference.

KATS is the avenue to independence for thousands of Oklahomans. Whether it’s a trip across town or services out of the area, KATS will try to connect you. Our mission is “To provide a safe and reliable trip at a reasonable cost.

Editor’s Note: Since 1995, KATS has been under the leadership of Director Charla Sloan and has become the largest public transportation system in Oklahoma. To date KATS serves 12 counties which includes Adair, Cherokee, Haskell, Hughes, Latimer, LeFlore, McIntosh, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Pittsburg, Sequoyah and Wagoner Counties.

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**In 2016, KATS provided 673,950 passenger trips, drove 5,144,994 revenue miles and accomplished this with a transit fleet of 228 vehicles.**
KI BOIS Community Action
Job Posting
March 13th, 2017

KI BOIS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAM

JOB TITLE: HABILITATION TRAINING SPECIALIST - PT/FT (Stigler Group Homes, Poteau, McAlester, Ada, Ardmore, Pauls Valley and Sulphur)
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Will serve as direct support staff for consumers. Ability to handle sensitive issues while protecting others’ welfare. Able to exercise patience, understanding, creativity and flexibility. HS Diploma/GED, valid DL and auto insurance. Must complete Foundation, CPR and First Aid Training (and any other training as required/requested.) Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs.

KI BOIS Area Transit Program

JOB TITLE: TRANSIT DRIVERS (Contact local Transit Office to verify opening)
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Maintain a valid driver’s license. Good driving record. Must be physically able to assist passengers and their belongings while entering and exiting the vehicles. Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs and provide wheelchair assistance. Should have knowledge of area resources and live within convenient distance of city where job opening is available.

KI BOIS OAKS REHABILITATIVE SERVICE CENTER

JOB TITLE: SUBSTANCE ABUSE TECH - PT (McAlester)
JOB SUMMARY: Assist clinical staff by providing logistical and support services to residential clients. HS Diploma/GED.

KI BOIS HEAD START PROGRAMS SOUTH and NORTH

JOB TITLE: CERTIFIED TEACHER - FT (Westville)
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Must have BA and be certified in Early Childhood Education.

JOB TITLE: TEACHER'S AIDES AND SUBS – PT (Inquire at your local center.)
JOB REQUIREMENTS: Must have HS Diploma/GED and enjoy working with children.

ALL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO CONTINUED PROJECT FUNDING. All positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public - unless otherwise noted. Deadline for all openings: Until Filled. CURRENT AGENCY EMPLOYEES – please submit a letter of interest, and updated resume (if applicable) to Human Resources. Applications for new hires are available online at www.kibois.org, or may be picked up at any KI BOIS Community Action office. Applications should be returned to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. P. O. Box 727 Stigler, OK 74462, Attention: Human Resources or e-mailed to doylene.knowlton@kibois.org. Fax: 918.967.9100.

Applicant will be subject to a criminal history records search, as well as drug testing. KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. It is the policy of the KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. to not discriminate against or deny equal employment opportunity to any applicant or employee on the grounds of race, sex, color, age, national origin, genetic information, religion, or disability, so long as the disability does not render the person unable to do the work for which employed. All employees of KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. are "at will" employees.

KIBOIS COMMUNITY ACTION FOUNDATION, INC.
IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER!