

April, 2023

Helping People. Changing Lives.
Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



KI BOIS NEWS

Aker, Means, Johnson & Weaver Take Top Awards At Foster Grandparent Recognition

On March 17, 2023, Foster Grandparent volunteers and guests gathered at the Armory in Tahlequah to be celebrated and honored. The 2023 Banquet theme was the 1940's. Several volunteers and KI BOIS staff members dressed the part, including Foster Grandparent Program Director Shaunda Noah and her Assistant Coordinator Yukari Garcia and KI BOIS employees Sandie Rutherford, Denice Daniels and Kathy Healy.

After a warm welcome by Carroll Huggins and Larry Hall, volunteers and guests enjoyed singing by the Cherokee Singers, a great meal from Country Cottage and seeing their peers honored with service awards and other top awards.



Jo Akers - Volunteer of the Year

Jo Akers - Volunteer of the Year has volunteered at Salina Elementary for 9 years, in addition to other years for another agency. According to FGP Director Shaunda Noah, "Mama Jo has battled through health issues and maintained her volunteer work even through illness. She has stayed strong with the Foster Grandparent Program in order to help her students and community."



Lori Means - Partner of the Year

Lori Means - Partner of the Year is the Superintendent at Marietta Public School and serves on the Foster Grandparent Program Advisory Board. She has been a champion of the Foster Grandparent Program since the day KI BOIS started administering it. Shaunda says, "Lori Means currently has 13 volunteers on campus and is always eager to accept more. She believes in the benefits that our volunteers give to the students and I appreciate her more than she even knows."



Sandy Johnson (left) and Debbie Weaver - Teacher of the Year

Sandy Johnson & Debbie Weaver - Teacher of the Year

These two amazing ladies have mentored volunteers for many, many years and have gone above and beyond for their volunteers.

**** Continued on Page 3 ****

From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO

R. Carroll Huggins



Most of our monitoring is complete for this year. Each report has been excellent. This is due to the hard work of our staff. Keep up the good work.

Our annual agency audit has been completed by the Landmark CPA firm. It is another good audit. Congratulations to our financial staff who work hard on a daily basis to keep us in compliance at all times.

Our funding at the federal level continues to be good and should so in FY2023-24. We will be getting new funding for Veterans, Transit, CSBG, Homeless Programs, and Weatherization. The state budget for next year is still being considered but increases are expected.

Remember that we are the voice of the elderly, handicapped, poor, and needy in our service area. Keep up the fine work that you are doing each day.

As you enjoy this beautiful spring season with your family and friends please remember the brave men and women who wear the uniform of our country who are protecting our country. Please pray for their safety and pray for the leaders of our nation.

***Carroll Huggins, CCAP
Executive Director / CEO***

KI BOIS COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board

Cecil Williams
Board Chairperson

Joy Walker
1st Vice Chair

Frank Phillips
2nd Vice Chair

Jan Coplen
Secretary / Treasurer

Kodey Toney
Parliamentarian

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- Gene Bass
- De'Anne Booth
- Jeremy Bullard
- Henry Burris
- Joyce Cleveland
- Rosalind Didlott
- Lyndon Emberton
- Roy Gordon, Jr.
- Chuck Regan
- Charlie Rogers
- Bud Smithson
- Janice Williams
- Jonathan Wynn

Executive Leadership

R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP
Executive Director/CEO

Tom Marlatt, CCAP
Associate Director/CFO

Larry Hall, CCAP
Associate Director/COO

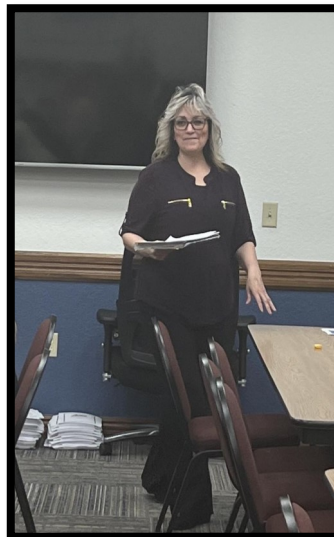
KI BOIS NEWS

is published monthly by
KI BOIS Community Action
Foundation, Inc.

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Royce.Alverson@kibois.org



KI BOIS Community Care Director Susan Roberts and Case Manager Jamie Stinson celebrated their birthdays at the Community Care February staff meeting. Happy Birthday ladies. Have a great year and thank you for all you do for the people you serve.



KI BOIS Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Director Sandie Rutherford was the guest speaker during Lunch & Learn at the Stigler Board & Administration office on March 22nd. She spoke on this wonderful volunteer program that KI BOIS administers and gave the history of the program.

For more information about RSVP, contact Sandie at 918-967-3325, or visit our website, www.kibois.org.



April 9
April 24

May 14
May 25
May 29

Easter Sunday
KI BOIS Executive Board Meeting

May is Community Action Awareness Month!

Mother's Day
Company Picnic / KI BOIS Board Meeting
Memorial Day Holiday



Working with Families & Children

2023 Conference

FRIDAY
APRIL 21, 2023
8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

An intensive one-day workshop designed to explore the many dimensions of child abuse and working with families. Presented by the Pittsburg County Child Abuse Prevention Task Force.

LOCATION:

KIAMICHI TECHNOLOGY CENTER
301 KIAMICHI DRIVE
MCALISTER, OK 74501

Dominic Carter



Child Sexual Abuse Survivor
TV Political Commentator
Mental Health Advocate
Author

I Have Been Running my Entire Life - I am Finally Free!

A compelling first-person account from a victim of childhood sexual abuse. Dominic Carter was sexually abused by his own biological mother who suffered from severe mental illness. Dominic spent almost his entire life hiding his painful dark childhood secret, which almost destroyed him. Oprah Winfrey magazine released an article on Dominic titled "Sexually Abused Men. Could your husband be one of them?"

Whitney Anderson



Human Trafficking Subject Matter Expert & Consultant
Co-Founder/Executive Director of The Dragonfly Home in Oklahoma City

Identifying and Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking

In this training, videos and case studies will be utilized to discuss legal definitions and the AMP Model, common types of human trafficking in Oklahoma, situational vulnerabilities, Trafficker recruitment methods, barriers to exiting human trafficking, red flags and indicators (How victims commonly present in your setting), practical application of trauma-informed approach related to human-trafficking victim interaction, and Oklahoma-based resources for victims.

Cecilia Guerra



Master of Social Work
Family Advocate
Intervention Specialist

Domestic Abuse/Child Abuse Prevention and Outreach

In this training, videos and case studies will be utilized to discuss domestic violence and child abuse, and what can be done to increase prevention, education and outreach. Cecilia Guerra has developed a multitude of programs that focus on the prevention and education of domestic abuse, dating violence, sexual assault, and child abuse.

Registration Information

Register online: [Evenbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
\$45 - Register by April 10, 2023
\$60 - Registration after April 10, 2023

Lunch is included

To register by mail:
Complete registration form and mail with check or money order to Ryan's House Child Advocacy Center
All checks and money orders must be payable to:
PC CARE/CAPTIF
NON REFUNDABLE

For questions regarding registration or interest in becoming an exhibitor/vendor, please contact
Jesseka Whitman at (918)421-1994 or
jesseka@ryanshousecac.org

8:00 - 8:15	Welcome
8:15 - 9:15	Dominic Carter
9:15 - 9:30	Break
9:30 - 10:30	Dominic Carter
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:45	Cecilia Guerra
11:45 - 12:30	Lunch - Awards
12:30 - 2:00	Whitney Anderson
2:00 - 2:15	Break
2:15 - 3:45	Whitney Anderson
3:45 - 4:00	Closing

Contact:
Ryan's House Child Advocacy Center
535 Short Stonewall
McAlester, OK 74501
(918)420-2273
nfo@ryanshousecac.org



Teacher of the Year Continued...

Sandy Johnson is a teacher at Salina Elementary and will be retiring at the end of the school year. She has been the teacher for three volunteers, including Evelyn Brown, Betty Sitsler and Jo Aker. Shaunda says, "Sandy has worked with multiple volunteers over the years and has gone beyond the call of duty even after they retire. She's been a blessing to the program and volunteers and will be missed."

Debbie Weaver is kindergarten teacher at Whitefield Public School. Her volunteer, Radah Bray, has been by her side for twenty years. Together they have mentored countless students. Shaunda brags, "Debbie Weaver has attended awards banquets and supported Radah for many years. I regret that she couldn't make it this year when she, herself, received recognition. Debbie knows the importance of the Foster Grandparent Program and has been a champion of it since KI BOIS began administration in 2011."

Congratulations!

Who Is Eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program?

- Has an income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines
- Participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline
- Participates in Tribal specific programs, such as Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribal TANF, or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations
- Is approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income program



This is a great resource for low-income families and the elderly. With the continued reliance on high speed internet, this program will help to alleviate the costs associated with WIFI access.

Share this with family, friends and co-workers. The majority of the population in the KI BOIS service area qualify for this.

Find out if you qualify and how to participate. Visit: fcc.gov/ACP





FOR YOUR INFORMATION

GAMES
DRAWINGS
FOOD
FUN

KI BOIS community Action

COMPANY

PICNIC

CELEBRATING KI BOIS 55TH BIRTHDAY

THURSDAY
MAY 25TH 2023 | 11AM

KI BOIS
TALENT
SHOWCASE

ROYE PARK
1215 N.W. 10TH STREET - STIGLER

Do you have a talent? The stage is waiting for you!

Please let Royce Alverson know if you are interested in performing at the company picnic.

Contact Royce at 918-967-3325, ext. 134, or email to Royce.Alverson@kibois.org.



In honor of KI BOIS' 55th Birthday, a company picnic is scheduled at Roye Park in Stigler on May 25th from 11am to 1pm. This will be a time to gather with co-workers and reflect on the many years that KI BOIS has been helping people and changing lives here in Eastern Oklahoma.

Attendees will enjoy a great picnic lunch and be entertained by some of our talented staff. In addition, there will be door prize drawings throughout the event. The Grand prize winner will take home a Blackstone grill, donated by KI BOIS Executive Director/CEO Carroll Huggins and his wife, Lana.

It is not mandatory to attend. Employees having an active pay status on the May 12th payroll will be entered into the drawings. Leadership understands that depending on an employees job duties or responsibilities, he or she may be unable to attend. Therefore to make it fair, employees **DO NOT** have to be present to win a door prize.



KI BOIS TALENT Showcase

WE WANT YOU!

Contact Royce Alverson if you are interested in performing at the picnic in May.
Royce.Alverson@kibois.org or call
918-967-3325 ext. 134.

IN *Action*



Over 70 service providers attended the Sequoyah County Resource Spring Roundtable at People, Inc. in Sallisaw on March 29th. This project allows for networking between outreach staff and strengthens everyone's ability to help the clients they serve. It is led by Sequoyah County Coordinator Melissa Lowe.

VFW, KI BOIS SSVF, and other volunteers partnered with the Food Bank of Eastern OK in McAlester on March 17th to bring in the quarterly veteran mobile food pantry and provide food to around 100 veteran

Foster Grandparents

Share Today. Shape Tomorrow.

What a fun day! All of these wonderful volunteers should be honored every day.

Foster Grandparents assist in local organizations -- including faith-based groups, Head Start Centers, schools, and other youth facilities. They help children learn to read, provide one-on-one tutoring, and guide children at a critical time in their lives.

For more information, visit our website.... www.kibois.org.



IN *Action*

FGP Recognition Banquet 2023





**EMPLOYMENT
Opportunities**

All employment opportunities are posted on our website, www.kibois.org. *These positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public.* (ALL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO CONTINUED PROJECT FUNDING.)
Deadline for all openings: Until Filled. Current employees – please submit a letter of interest to Human Resources.

Applications may be picked up at any KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. office or printed from the website, www.kibois.org. Applications should be returned to:

**KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc.
P. O. Box 727, Stigler, OK 74462
Attention: Human Resources**



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*.



**KI BOIS Community Action
Foundation, Inc.**

Mission Statement

KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. is a community-based organization dedicated to eliminating the causes of poverty and bettering the economic, mental, physical and social well-being of all people - most importantly the disadvantaged - by utilizing effective coordination and administration of available resources and information.