

Enabling Technology Open House!



Friday, April 4
1-3 pm
Enabling Technology Company / ETC
Open House
Bill Brewer Office Complex
47 Conrad Drive
See technology & useful household
items as well as our Driving Simulator

Last quarter we announced the formation of our Enabling Technology Company (ETC). We want you see for yourself the great innovations that are available to help persons live full and independent lives in their own homes and the community.

Bank3 Helps Fund Driving Simulator!



Bill Brewer, CEO & Nora Buckley, COO accept a donation from Bank3's Jana Keightley & Cody Gobbell to purchase a driving simulator that will help persons interested assess their readiness for driving like Jordan pictured below.



We are proud to have been accredited by SHIFT for the next 3 years. This emphasizes our commitment to providing Employment opportunities to those we support!



Our gratitude to Kelly Sorrell, Employment Services Director and his team who led us through the process!

Need to Know

April 25 – Spring Banquet
May 26 – Memorial Day Holiday
July 4 – July 4th Holiday
[Click here](#) for full calendar.

CEO Corner



William D. Brewer, Jr.
Chief Executive
Officer

Can it be Spring already?? If we go by the calendar, it is right around the corner. If we go by the weather, it depends on what day it is. As I write this, it is sunny and 70 degrees after having snowed less than a week ago! Spring is official on Thursday, March 20 but don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Sunday, March 9!

I came across the newsletter I did this time in 2023. A lot has happened since then! I was announcing Selmer was moving to their new offices. In Jackson, we were getting ready to make the transition to our current Conrad locations.

Sometimes it seems the work we do is kind of like the weather and always changing and in transition! That leads me to the announcement that I will be retiring December 31, 2025 or maybe January 1, 2026 to get the holiday pay! LOL

There is still plenty of time for goodbyes and reminiscing for me, but I'm excited to announce that Nora Buckley has been named to be the 3rd CEO in MHDS history. I've always taken pride in the fact that MHDS is not only a great place for the individuals we serve but also a great place for our employees to work!

During this transition, other promotions are below. Our Board & Management have always made decisions based on what is best for those we support and that philosophy will continue in the years to come!

Thanks for all YOU do for OUR Agency!

Executive Team Promotions effective 3/1/2025



Nora Buckley
Incoming CEO

Has served 10 years as MHDS Chief Operations Officer. Nora has built a 30-year career helping persons with intellectual disabilities enjoy full and secure lives. She has been in leadership roles with other IDD agencies. She earned her BS in Social Work from Arkansas State University.



Deana Shephard
Chief Operations Officer

Spent 10 years as MHDS Director of Operations. She has 29 years of experience as a Social Worker and Case Manager. She received her BS in Human Environmental Science from the University of Tennessee at Martin.



Tomika Barbour
Director of Operations &
Quality Assurance

Has served 10 years as MHDS Quality Assurance Director. She has given 26 years of experience to the IDD field. She earned her Masters in Business Administration from Bethel University.

Supports For A Lifetime!



We share in the fun of life with those we support but we are also there for the challenges. Danny from Selmer has recently received radiation and got to ring the bell to signify completion of his treatment. We took him to his appointments, helped him understand every step of the process and comforted him when he needed it. We are grateful to staff who give the care and compassion in hard times as well as enjoy the good times!

Helping Realize Dreams!



Sandy of Jackson's goal is to visit each of the 56 TN State Parks! She got her first stamp in her Passport at Montgomery Bell in February. Sandy has added stamps for Pinson Mounds & Natchez Trace as well. She also has a walking stick she'll add medallions to for each park she visits. Thank you to staff, Danny, for helping her realize this dream! We'll be sharing her ongoing story on Facebook.

Management Team Updates!



Kawanna Stewart
Bolivar Site Director

Manages daily operations.



Blake Carden
Facilities Director

Manages the agency facilities and Supported Living homes in all locations.



United Way
of West Tennessee

Holiday Happiness!



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