



SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES™

Addressing underlying conditions of wellbeing and justice, for all to reach their full potential

Community Connections

A Newsletter of the Shelby County Government's Division of Community Services

Vision Statement

The Shelby County Division of Community Services strives to be a highly organized team and partner, dedicated to promoting a strong community where all people are able to reach their full potential.

Mission Statement

The Division of Community Services promotes ongoing economic security and independence for the people of Shelby County. We do this by promoting, coordinating and delivering services that address the underlying conditions for wellbeing and justice.

Wisdom for the Journey

A Message from the Director's Office



This month, I celebrated the graduation of my daughter from high school. Like so many other parents, I have gone through a wide range of emotions, including excitement and pride in her accomplishments to sadness and fear that my kid will soon begin a new journey away from my loving (and watchful) eyes. One of the best things about this season has been the incredible advice given to graduates across the country. As I

have heard and read much of this advice, I realized that while these words have been intended for graduates, much of it is beneficial words of wisdom for those of us who have long since graduated and work each day.

As we celebrate the achievements of ALL of our graduates, from toddlers to adult, full time working learners, I encourage you to take time to listen to some of the great speeches from the season. While there have been inspirational nuggets from the likes of Oprah Winfrey and Chadwick Boseman, my favorites surprisingly come from advice given to a graduating kindergarten class from their older, wiser 1st grade counterparts.

Check some of them out below. I am confident that you will find a quote or two that are completely applicable as you work each day and maybe just for life in general.

On Teamwork

"To make a friend, all you have to do is play with them."

On Time Management

"You should do your homework every day 'cause if you don't do it now, then you'll have to go back home and do it."

On Work Life Balance

"Don't talk all the time so you can't eat your lunch."

On Customer Service

"Use kind words." "Be nice."

On Facing Obstacles

"Don't be afraid of the big kids." "Don't give up."

On Change

"I would tell them not to be scared. Last year, it was really fun for me and I think they're gonna have fun too."

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018!

May is Children's Mental Health Month

When we think of mental health issues, we most often think about adults with psychological disorders. We often forget that children also experience mental health problems. These issues may be developmental in nature or may become apparent in the school setting. Others may arise in reaction to the child's environment, including reactions to violence in their homes or neighborhoods. Although some tend to think about mental health problems in children as a recent phenomenon, organized efforts to bring awareness to children's mental health dates back as early as 1949 when May was designated as Children's Mental Health Awareness Month.



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Children’s Mental Health Awareness Month Cont’d

We have learned quite a lot since then. Some of the things we now know are rather surprising including:

Mental Illness is “Normal”- Research suggests that only 17% of people avoid mental illness. 41% have mental health issues that have lasted for years and 42% have had short term problems. Depression, anxiety and substance abuse are the most common diagnoses.

Gender Can Affect Mental Health Diagnosis- More children are being diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum with the overwhelming majority being boys. It is thought that girls exhibit symptoms differently and go undiagnosed.

Environment Matters for Mental Health- The environment in which people grow up teaches them how to handle everything from daily stress to serious trauma. Children impacted by prolonged trauma in the home may impact the way their genes behave and may trigger mental illness. Treatment or therapy can have a positive impact on the way children’s brains respond to trauma by helping the brain re-learn new ways to process information and cope with difficult emotions.*



Children’s Mental Health Month is a good time to work toward better understanding mental health problems and to work towards improving society’s reactions to those who struggle with mental illnesses. We can work to better our personal and professional responses to help children to grow up in healthy homes that provide them ongoing support.

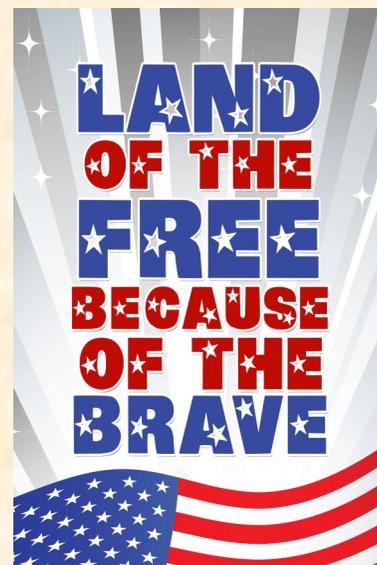
**Based on an article by Joel M. Young, M.D. in Psychology Today magazine.*

Memorial Day Observance

Memorial Day is a day to remember the men and women who died serving in the United States Armed Forces. The true meaning of Memorial Day is sometimes forgotten in modern day society. Many look at it as a long weekend devoted to shopping, family gathering, fireworks and trips.

The Day was originally established as Decoration Day on May 5, 1868. The purpose of the observance was to give Americans an opportunity to decorate the graves of service members killed in the Civil War. After World War I, the observance was expanded to honor all troops killed in American wars. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a National Holiday by act of Congress and was determined to be observed on the last Monday in May. Memorial Day is not to be confused with Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died serving, whereas Veterans Day celebrates the service of all United States military veterans.

During the Memorial Day weekend, many programs were held in Shelby County and throughout the United States to honor those who gave their lives for our Country. Locally, those who made the ultimate sacrifice were honored May 27th at Memphis National Veterans Cemetery and May 28th at West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery. The Shelby County Veterans Service Office remembers the service men and women who courageously gave their all. Thank you.



- Joseph D. Kyles
County Veterans Services Officer





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Community Spotlight: Hope Credit Union

HOPE (Hope Enterprise Corporation and Hope Credit Union) is a community development financial institution, a community development intermediary, and a policy institute that provides affordable financial services; leverages private, public and philanthropic resources; and engages in policy analysis in order to fulfill its mission of strengthening communities, building assets, and improving lives in economically distressed parts of the Mid-South. Its vision is to be a community development financial institution that provides a substantial

service needs of their customers to assist in their transition from poverty to self-sufficiency.

CSA partnered with Hope Credit Union to provide basic income management classes to participants of the Self-Sufficiency program. Participants are given instruction on budgeting, understanding needs versus wants, saving, the importance of good credit and credit restoration. They also learn the value of being “banked” and the services and products offered at financial institutions and how to choose the right bank for their financial needs.

“There is a difference between being broke and being poor. Being broke is a temporary economic condition, but being poor is a disabling frame of mind and a depressed condition of your spirit, and you must vow to never, ever be poor again.”

John Hope Bryant
Founder, Chairman and CEO

number of low-wealth people and communities with the financial tools and resources needed to achieve a better quality of life; that influences policies and resources that impact our constituents and our interests, and that is financially self-sufficient.

Hope Federal Credit Union has 3 area locations to serve you:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1451 Madison Ave, 38104 | 901-721-8124 |
| 2923 Ridgeway, 38115 | 901-795-8980 |
| 3048 Harvester Lane, 38127 | 901-358-4446 |

Hope Credit Union is a partner of The Shelby County Community Services Agency (CSA). The two together strive to fulfill the



Find Us Around Town at Neighborhood Events!

Shelby County Division of Community Services is Coming to a Location Near You!

Join Us at One of the Community Events Listed Here to receive information about the following :

- Services for older adults & adults with disabilities
- Rent , mortgage, utility & medical prescription assistance
- Services for multicultural & Hispanic individuals
- Mental health services
- Veterans services
- Crime Victim services

***Services available on site at these events

Click [here](#) to invite us to your event or organization.

JUNE 23RD & 24TH
6AM-2PM

REMOTE AREA MEDICAL CLINIC
WORD OF LIFE SEVENTH DAY
ADVENTIST CHURCH,
1215 FLOYD AVE

JULY 14TH
10AM

METHODIST COMPREHENSIVE
SICKLE CELL CENTER
251 S. CLAYBROOK

JULY 21ST
11 AM TO 3PM

BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR @
GREATER NEW KINGDOM
531 E. TRIGG, 38106 **

SEPTEMBER 15TH
9AM

PRE-OCTOBER FEST
KINGDOM FELLOWSHIP
BAPTIST CHURCH
3735 NORTH TREZEVAANT

