



## *March*

Developmental Disabilities  
Awareness Month

National Women's History  
Month

Red Cross Month

Social Worker Month

Multiple Sclerosis

Awareness Month

DHS Blue & You Fitness  
Challenge

3/4 Mardi Gras

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

*The Blue Umbrella*  
**6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Anniversary**  
*party!*

 **ATTENTION!**  
date change due to weather

**WEDNESDAY, MAR.12**  
**10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**  
[blueumbrellaar.org](http://blueumbrellaar.org)

**A silent auction will be held in-store and online with a variety of items crafted by our artists.**



## *Family Bistro Update*

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is a diverse group comprised of parents/guardians of children with special healthcare needs. The PAC advocates and educates families, government agencies, and healthcare professionals on issues that affect children with special healthcare needs.

The PAC is an extension to DHS/DDS Children's Special Services/Title V and hosts a free annual conference. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Bistro Conference & Disability Expo will be held on April 12, 2025 in Cabot, AR at the Veterans Park Event Center.

See the flyer below for registration and event details. Registration can also be found on the website at [www.arkansaspac.org](http://www.arkansaspac.org).

We hope to see you there!

~submitted by Danielle Kimbrough, DDS CSS Title V Program Coordinator

### 12th Annual Family Bistro & Disability Resource Expo

**Saturday, April 12th**  
**8:15am-4:00pm**  
**Veterans Park Event Center**  
**508 N Lincoln St. Cabot, AR**



ARKANSAS  
PAC INC.  
Parent Advisory Council

#### SESSIONS

- Title V– Stacey Schratz
- Camp Aldersgate– Luke Nipper
- Parent Panel
- Autism Resources– Renee Holmes
- Care Planning– Natilie Wooldridge
- Lunch & Vendor Parade
- Learns & Leads Act– Christin Harper
- Let's Talk Transition – Cindy Roach
- Anti-Bullying– Jennifer Edwards
- Guardianship & Special Needs Trust– Chip Cross
- DD Network Listening Session– Johnathan Taylor & Karen Barnett



Connecting with us is simple just scan the QR Code using your camera and this will direct you to our website and our Facebook page.

## *Children's Special Services in the community*



Top row l-r: Acea Edington (Craighead County 4H), Hannah Raines (CSS), and LeAnn Edington (CSS)

Bottom row l-r: Acea Edington, Roseann Cheshier (Poinsett Co. DCFS), Lia Baker (Poinsett Co. DCFS), Kershawna Mills (Poinsett Co. DCFS), LeAnn Edington, Acea Edington, and Leslie Easley (Delta House)

Children's Special Services (CSS) staff collaborate with community partners to help Arkansans. Delta House is a group that has set up a house in Marked Tree, AR for kids to be able to go to when they first come in to care and wait while workers are looking for placement. They also have the house set up so that instead of having to sit in the county office and have their weekly family time visit, they can do the visit there and be in a home like setting. Delta House helps find resources for the families in Poinsett County when the families start working with DCFS.

LeAnn Eddington, Administrative Specialist II and Hannah Raines, RN case manager assisted with this project.

Ag For Autism Bowl Bash 2025



LeAnn Eddington Administrative Specialist II in Poinsett county for CSS and Shelly Barnes, RN Case Manager in Craighead county volunteered their time last Saturday preparing for the Ag for Autism Bowl Bash. Ag for Autism is a local non-profit that has assisted many of our children with a diagnosis of Autism with sensory items and other medical items for our children.



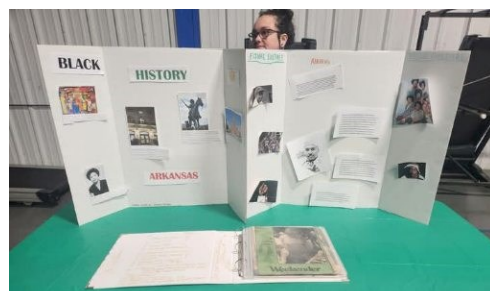
## Conway HDC Black History Program

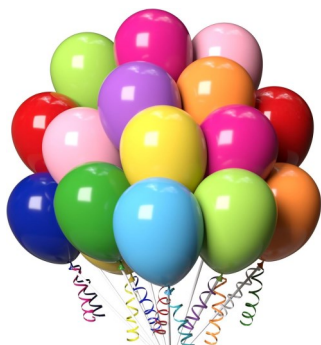


Every February, our job celebrates the achievements and history of African Americans as part of Black History Month. Thanks to Christopher Perry and our choir for gracing us through song with special guest vocalist, Marvin Williams. I'm thankful for being apart of history.

We had different stations where both staff and residents were able to walk through activities such as museum exhibits and film screenings. I represented Madam C.J. Walker.

Submitted by~ Kiffany Anderson





HAPPY  
*Birthday*



Tommy Tarpley 3/12

Victor Eackles 3/30

## Save the date

**March 12th:** Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month DDS Event | DHS Administrative Complex

**March 24-28:** Most schools Spring Break

**May 4-10:** Public Service Recognition Week



## *Comments, Suggestions, Q & A*

Let us know what you'd like to see featured in upcoming editions and also, if you'd like to be a guest writer! Please send all comments, suggestions, and Q&A to: [yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov) by the 15th of the month.