This is a quarterly newsletter to keep our community informed

JANUARY 2024 MLK Birthday Celebration

January 13, 2024 - The Piney Woods Civic Club MLK Program Daingerfield Annex @ 6 pm Shelby Allen, Guest Speakerj Bishop Jesse Biles Youth Choir, Faith Temple Youth Choir

January 15, 2024 -MLK Parade Daingerfield City Park 10 AM - Parade 10:30 AM-2:00 PM Speakers, Music Refreshments

COMING EVENTS:

"Community Conversations" are on going throughout Morris County. These conversations are designed to learn from our community members what they need to improve their lives. These cafes can be held in your church, at your job, your home, a park or your home.

We will have food, refreshments at each Community Cafe and arrange transportation for all events if needed.



WE NEED YOUR INPUT!
Call or contact us.
Info@morriscc.org
903-305-2277 or
430-226-9100
www.facebook.com/morriscountyco











2023, LOOKING BACK, Building a Healthier Community. Together.

Looking back on 2023, we have many accomplishments we want to share that we can all be proud of:

- ➤ The successful completion of our 2020-2023 Strategic Plan
- ➤ Through the generous donation of Attorney Nelson Roach, MCC has acquired a permanent home in downtown Daingerfield which we refer to as "THE MCC BUILD-ING". It includes an 8000 square foot commercial building with a kitchen that will be used for nutritional training, two bathrooms, a 1000 square feet space that will be used for health care screenings, 10 cubicles that are being used for training, a Computer Lab, agency brochures and resource area, private offices for MCC Executive Committee/Chairs, a Board room for meetings, and space for large training events and meetings.
- ➤ The generous donation of \$25,000 from an anonymous donor to our programs.
- ➤ We have completed eight (8) Memorandums of Understanding with agencies and healthcare professionals to come to the MCC Building on an ongoing basis. These resources will allow community residents to have greater access to health care resources locally and offer solutions to the needs the residents addressed in the

Survey in 2019. They are as follows:

- 1. Titus Regional Medical Center will provide a representative to help people with Medicare applications and issues involving their Medicare benefits. www.titusregional.com or
- 2. The Franklin County Rural Health Clinic Dr. Latortue to come weekly with a Medical Aid to provide screenings to determine healthcare needs, smoking cessation, CDC-approved vaccinations, substance and opioid screening, overdose training of Naloxone and certifications for First Responders. FCRHC will make referrals as needed to appropriate healthcare needs and will provide MCC with a Continuum of Care process for tracking Transportation will be provided if needed, and if a resident has no insurance, the clinic offers a sliding scale payment plan. www.fcrhc.com and www.healandrecovery.com or 903-537-8222 for appointments.
- 3. Workforce Solutions Will provide jobseekers with a list of available good jobs with benefits; job training and tips for successful interviews. Good jobs help build stronger families and strong families build strong communities. www.netxworkforce.org or 903-572-9841.
- 4. The East Texas Council on Alcohol and drug abuse (ETCADA) Will provide screenings, counseling, intervention and recovery services, a peer recovery coach, and referrals as needed. www.etcada.com or 903-753-7633
- 5. Lake Regional Community Center Will provide mental health counseling and resources. www.lakesregional.org or Crisis Hotline 877-466-0660
- 6. ARC-TEX ADRC Will provide resources for senior citizens ages 60 and older that promote quality of life and quality of care. Services provided range from congregate meals, home delivered meals, benefits counseling, care coordination, caregiver support, advocacy for residents in long term care, and transportation services.
- 7. www.atcog.org or call 903-832-8636 Safe-T Crisis – Will provide emergency shelter, children's advocacy, and counseling. www. safe-tagency.com or 903-572-0973; Hotline 800-799-7233
- 8. MCC Training & Education Committee Will offer Budgeting and Financial Literacy classes. Please call 430-226-9100 for schedule.

MCC Building Grand Opening May 2023

One of the many opportunities the new building has brought to MORRIS COUNTY was the ability to bring in various organizations, healthcare agencies, nonprofits, and institutions like Texas A& M who are willing to to serve and teach the community. This local access to resources, education, and opportunities will empower our community to apply what they receive to better their lives.



Texas A&M Hogg Foundation Program Managers, Ricky Ybarra and Tammy Heinz



Attorney Nelson Roach, Roach Law Firm



Margine Mims, Founder, Honorary Chairman of the Board



MCC Vice-President Joan Cook, Johnny, Scott, Martha, Baker, MCC Founder, Margine Mims, Tolita Teddleton, Maudie Peters, Beverly Austin, Lisa York, and seated President Greg Frazier and attorney Nelson Roach.



MCC Winner of the Community Service Award presented by the Daingerfield Chamber of Commerce.

NOVEMBER 2023 WOMEN AND TEENS RETREAT

We want to express our appreciation to all our committee, donors, partners, teenagers, healthcare agencies, speakers, panelists, volunteers, Lakeview center staff, and participants for making the Women and Teen's Retreat a huge success! This year's retreat focused on providing more resources on business, careers, and healthcare resources. Additionally, we were fortunate to have Dr. Heather Clark from Texas AM conduct a community conversation session to get feedback on what the community wants going forward. Your feedback will be instrumental in guiding our strategic plans for 2024 through 2027 and in obtaining the funds needed to implement those plans.

Our theme for 2023, BELIEVE, played a significant role in helping us achieve our goals and objectives. As we move forward, building on our belief, our theme for 2024 will be FAITH. We are excited to announce our plans for the 2024 business and career track. Our goal is to bring in specialists in the field of artificial intelligence to discuss new technology and its potential impact on opening and expanding online businesses. Additionally, we are bringing back a panel of healthcare professionals who will be available to answer your questions directly. We believe that these topics are important for the continued growth and success of our industry, and we are committed to providing you with the latest insights and information. Join us for what promises to be an exciting and informative event!

Thank you once again for your support and dedication to our cause. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at info@ morriscc.org



Beverly Austin MCC Director, Event Program Chair



Margine Mims MCC Honorary Chairman of the Board, Event Program Co-Chair



Tolita Teddleton MCC Director, Event Program Committee Co-Chair



Annetta Whetstone Our Inspiration for "I'm Every Woman"



MCC Board Member Martha Baker



Linda Evans was having a ball!



Many thanks to Shannel Willis for her insightful tips on the "DREAM BIG THINK LOGICAL" business and career panel



Many thanks to Tegra Chism for choreographing the having a senior moment segment.



Krizia Linwood, KK creations. Thank you for the lovely decorations.



Mistress of ceremony, Jeannette Doddy



Panama Chanel Willis shown here with her daughter and mother with Jeannette Doddy mistress of ceremony



Jeannette Doddy, MCC Board member, Maudie Peters, shown here with Lili Fernandez, RN and Janette Martinez,MA Franklin County Rural Health Clinic, speaking about the CDC approved vaccinations.



The "My Health, My Life, My Choice" Panelist" featuring Kris Linwood, Texas Workforce Solution, Benefits for Senior Citizens , Suzanne Guzman, nurse practitioner Carlethia Sims, TMF Vaccination Resource, Robin Strait, Cardiology Nurse Practitioner, Dr. Boingoc Dihn, Psychiatrist UT Health, and Dr. Dineo Mogapi Daniel, Pharmacist, Walgreen's.



Panelist, Dawn Curtis, and Women and Event Chairman, Beverly Austin



Panelist, Lesia Lewis, Superintendent, Daingerfield, ISD and Summer Nilsson.



Many thanks to the youth organizations that attended the women's retreat. Thank you ladies.tv





Panelist and SUPERINTENDENT Pewitt CISD Melissa Reid



Best selling Author, Summer Nilsson with the teens



Tegra Chism shown here with the Senior ladies in "Having a Senior Moment!"



Many thanks to the Daingerfield varsity cheerleaders and they're awesome Coach and leader, Renay Smith



Many thanks to the Daingerfield cheerleaders, and the Pewitt cheerleaders for helping with door prizes

CPR Classes at the MCC Building for the Women of Purpose.





In May 2023 local law enforcement trained Board Members at the MCC Building on safety measures to protect them and the public visiting the building.

























Prevention, Assessment, Recovery, and Transition Needs Assessment Classes at MCC Building

Mindy Robertson, the Director of Prevention at East Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse ETCADA, recently organized a successful Regional Needs Assessment conference on Prevention, Assessment, Recovery, and Transition PART of the Solution at the MCC Building. The conference featured panelists such as Lydia Kelly, Acting Agent in charge of the US Drug Enforcement DEA, and Karen Gage, a Region 8 Licensed Professional Counselor, who discussed the impact of trauma and stress on children. Other panelist centered on youth prevention programs. The conference was aimed at improving the well-being of the community by providing local access to information close to home. The conference was a great success and provided valuable resources to attendees.











2023 - Women of Purpose Thanksgiving Dinner

Mrs. Margine Mims created the MCC Women of Purpose for senior senior women to have a place to come for training, recreation, networking, community conversations and other activities.

In November the Women of Purpose prepared a Thanksgiving, dinner for Civic leaders, MCC Board of Directors and staff, Faith based ministry, and, Volunteers.













Economic Development for Small Towns in Bastrop, May 2023

The Daingerfield Economic Development Corporation sponsored Daingerfield EDC Board Member, Beverly Austin, to attend the Economic Development for Small Towns in Bastrop in May 2023. She shared what was learned at the convention that by leveraging our individual strengths and fostering a strong community spirit, small towns have the potential to attract enterprises and visitors and engage residents in the local culture, while also preserving their unique identity.



Chet Garner of PBS's The Daytripper, shared his experiences from the road about what makes a small town special.









COMMUNITY NEWS

Morris County Collaborative to Host the 2024 ALL-Grantee Meeting in Morris County. Dates and Agenda are pending.

In September the Morris County Collaborative, traveled to Falfurrias, Texas, for the All-grantee meeting the hosted by BEHOLD, one of the five grantees funded by the Hogg Foundation. We learned strategies for sustainability and ways to help our community thrive.

The name Falfurrias roughly translates to "Land of Heart's Delight" in Lupin Apache. As the county seat of Brooks County, Falfurrias is perhaps best known for producing a legendary brand of butter. The Falfurrias Butter creamery, which dates back to 1909, is currently the headquarters of the Falfurrias Facts, the town newspaper and another local institution.

More rural than the bustling Rio Grande Valley, the area has fewer job opportunities, a child poverty rate close to sixty percent and a declining population. In addition, Brooks County has historically been listed as a health professional shortage area. Challenging social conditions such as these have inevitably led to health disparities and poorer mental health outcomes for Brooks County residents in comparison to other Texans.

Inside this story:

- Behavioral Health Outreach and Leadership Development Project (BHOLD), is transitioning from an initial planning phase to a phase of project implementation.
- Having established a robust and inclusive collaborative that reflects Brooks County's historically underrepresented population, BHOLD is implementing programs based on a strategic plan developed at the community level.
- Community engagement and momentum continues to grow.



the BUDDY Organization A fiesta at the ranch with great food, entertainment with Mariachi's and hospitality.





Mexican meal.



Group photo of all five counties during a tour of **Falfurrias**







The people of Falfurrias are committed to improving their community. Shown here is the BEHOLD coordinator with the County Judge and School Superintendent.

MCC Travels to Falfurrias







Museum directors husband and wife team.
We discussed strategies to engage the Hispanic community.



Founder Margine Mims, the MCC Group of Board Members, BUDDY Organization and community members attended the conference.



Tammy Heinz, Beverly Austin, and Heather Clark, DrPH, Texas A&M School of Public Health enjoying the festivities.



MCC was joined by community partners, Richard Lee and Minister Alfred Key, Jr., the BUDDY Organization.



The conference featured many breakout sessions that included speaker Curtis J. Donaldson, Director of Rural Medicine, Office of the Dean, School of Medicine, Texas A&M Health. Mr. Donaldson partners the School of Medicine with local providers to bring in students who wish to become professional healthcare providers. He connects providers with schools to incorporate the program, so schools are graduating the next health care providers for the local community.



Tammy Heinz, Program Officer and Consumer & Family Liaison, Rick Ybarra, Program Officer, the Hogg Foundation coordinated the conference.



The All-Grantee Conference was centered on Sustainability. This year earmarks MCC's sixth year of operation and 1/1-2 years in the implementation phase. Consultant Tom Klaus, CEO Tenacious Change, presented on Making A Lasting Change in the Community. Tenacious Change focuses on helping nonprofit organizations become more resilient. Tom does this through organizational studies and analysis, Adaptive Strategy Planning, building movements for change, and developmental evaluation.

The Morris County Collaborative is in the implementation phase of the grant, and is in the process of updating its strategic plan for 2024 through 2027.

AREA HEALTH FAIR HELD AT THE DAINGERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Many Thanks to all of our healthcare partners

The MCC Sponsored Health Resource Fair was coordinated by Martha Baker, MCC, resource manager, and SHAC Coordinator. The resource fair had over 70 vendors and 161 attendees. The event included TRMC, nutritional health coordinator, Christina Graham, Judge Reeder presenting on Elder Law, Karen, Gage, Lakes Regional, presenting on Mental Health, Emily trip DEA agent, presenting on Internet Safety, dr. Jean Latortue, presenting on the CDC approved and ACP recommended vaccines. Also, Guy Cayo, CEO UT Health Pittsburg participated in the health fair.



Martha Baker, MCC Resource Management, coordinated the well-attended Daingerfield Area Health Fair. Martha has been coordinating these events for the past 30 years, is the SHAC Coordinator for Daingerfield, Pewitt and Hughes Springs ISD, founder Ounce of Prevention and a passionate community advocate. The event drew over 70 agencies and organizations to Daingerfield High School. Surrounding her from left to right, Dr. Jean Latortue, Franklin County RHC, MCC Partner; Kate Schlee, MCC Office Manager, and Mrs. Margine Mims, Founder MCC.









Nephrology and Family Practice at Titus

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Collaboration is key P in excellent patient care! Dr. Singh from Cancer Care at Titus met with our team recently to discuss the collaboration of care between our departments to better serve our patients.

X



Teleshia Coleman, Nurse Practitioner, Nephrology & Family Practice at Tyler and Dr. Singh, Cancer Care at Titus, working together to bring more focus to public health. It is always good when healthcare specialist talk to each other about your health.

We are here for you!

























































Stayin Alive Grand Gala was a huge success! Titus Regional Medical Center 2023 Gala - Chairperson Teleshia Coleman FNP-C

Following a three-year hiatus, Terry Scoggin, CEO, TRMC, brought the gala back and selected Teleshia Coleman as this years Chairperdon. The guests were asked to Grab their grooviest platform shoes and prepare for a night of disco and dance to celebrate 70 years of saving lives with quality care at TRMC. This Gala was a way to gather, give and see various projects at TRMC grow from your support. As TRMC leads the transformations for healthier tomorrows in the communities they serve, it first starts with the most vulnerable of us, which is why in 2023 TRMC plans to focus on funding on an Infant Abduction Alarm System. This purchase will allow TRMC to protect the families of our community's most precious cargo. This fun and hilarious fundraiser brought in numerous sponsors and raised above the goal. Many thanks to Terry Scoggin, Teleshia Coleman and Committee, and to all who participated.



The Daingerfield Cheerleaders assisted with valet parking and received hefty tips!



Teleshia Coleman, Gala Chair and Committee.



Mr. Bentley, N.P. Becca Bentley, Marie LaTortue, Dr. Jean LaTortue



Student wait staff was trained and efficiently managed food service for over 400 people. Wow!



Brandi Fife, MCC Directors Maudie Peters



MCC Board Members attending The gala were Maudie Peters, Greg Frazier, and his wife, Wilma, Gerri Chism, Charlie Young, and his wife, Eva.



Jo Austin II and Teleshia Coleman, Event Chair



Dance the night away! What a night to remember! The food was great!

NALOXONE TRAINING AT DAINGERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Beverly Austin, Project Director at the Franklin County Rural Health Clinic and MCC Board Member, recently led a training session for 21 DLSISD students on the use of Naloxone for overdose. The training session is designed for First Responders, healthcare professionals and others who may encounter someone in an overdose state. The instructor of the students is Angie Ayers, RN. Mrs. Ayers designed the healthcare course at DLSISD to prepare students to become future healthcare professionals, with many expressing interest in becoming Social Workers, Nurses, and Medical Aids.

Dr. Jean Latortue, Medical Director at the Franklin County Rural Heath Clinic (FCRHC), is preparing for the students to visit the clinic for a tour, lunch, and to speak with the nursing staff and Medical Aids. All students who completed the course will receive a Certificate of



Beverly Austin, Certified Naloxone Instructor, Project Director, FCRHC, DLSISD Superintendent Lesia Lewis, and Angie Ayers, RN, DLSISD Instructor.

Completion. We are excited for this opportunity to provide valuable education and experience to these aspiring healthcare professionals.







Happy Veterans Day to all our Veterans!



Thank you for your service



A delicious meal provided Daingerfield police enjoyby Danny Carey and the Daingerfield High students.

ing their meal with and without dessert



Thank you to the students for serving the meal.



Superintendent DLSISD, Lesia Lewis



Joe Austin II, US Air Force, and Keynote Speaker, father Joe Austin, Sr., US Army



DLSISD Elementary School performing for the Veterans.

Nonprofit Froggie's Helping Hands provided Thanksgiving Dinner in honor of his supporters and community.



Minister Arlando Buford and members of the Williams Chapel Baptist Church performs.



Don Martin, MCC Board of Directors speaking.

THANKSGIVING DINNER DRIVE-THRU AT HERMAN HALL EVENT CENTER

Vicki West of the Herman Munch West Foundation had an event on November 17. Several sponsors made this a successful community event. One of the sponsors was UT Health who set up a Mammogram Mobile Clinic for 25 residents. The pictures showcase the young men of Daingfield High School Basketball Team. For the past three years they have assisted us in preparing over 100 Thanksgiving plates to give out to the community. Kudos to all of those young men! Many thanks to Coach Curtis Lewis for his participation with this event and inspiring community involvement of the basketball team.















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If you want to catch some of Pewitt CISD's cheerleaders in the Macy's Thanks... See more

































First place Froggie's Helping Hand, Lone Star Parade First Place, BUDDY Organization, Daingerfield Parade

To all our partners, donors, organizations, civic leaders, volunteers, and the residents of MORRIS COUNTY. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





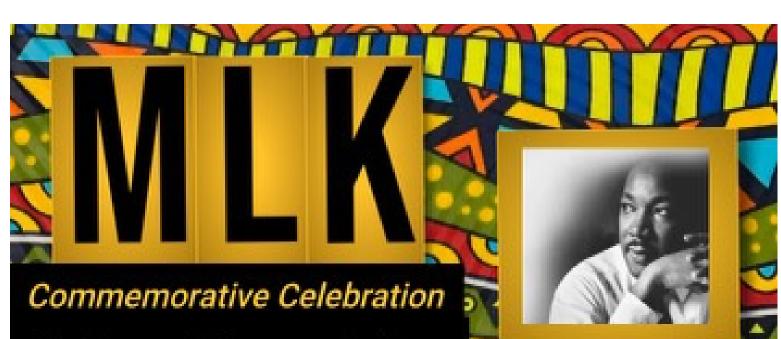
Kids, come meet Santa, take a photo, and get
a Christmas Stocking filled with goodies! Come to the MCC Building, 200
Jefferson Street, Downtown Daingerfield (behind City Hall)
Friday, December 15, 2023 from 5 - 7 PM
For kids 0-7 years only whose parents have registered them at
430-226-9100



Sponsored by the Morris County Collaborative, Partners, and the MCC Women







The Dream Begins with Me

HONOREES

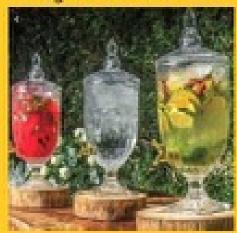
Mr. J. C. White Mrs. Lesia Lewis Mr. Roy Henry

SPEAKER

Mr. Rafael Boyd Pilgrim's Complex Manager Saturday

JAN 13, 2024 5:00 PM

Refreshments



Pilgrim's Community Center
Oaklawn Park
Sponsored by NAACP Branch 6243
Mount Pleasant, Texas
Dress Sunday Best

Tickets \$25 903/285-2317 713/294-1870

