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(Grandparents Raising And Nurturing Dependents with Disabilities)



NEWS

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Meet Our New Care Team



Anais Hairston was born in the Golden State, also known as California. She was raised in New York. She obtained her Bachelors of Science degree in

Public Health from the HBCU, Delaware State University. Anais has eight years of experience as a case manager. She has spent a majority of her career working within the child welfare system, with vulnerable adults, as well as the disabled, she brings additional expertise to our team from her years in the field. Anais has relocated from Florida to Atlanta with her 3 children, whom she affectingly refers to as her 3 hooligans. The family has been on the Atlanta scene for a year. When she is not working, she is a sports mom who is shuttling children between practices, games, and events. Anais is not only excited to see what Atlanta has to offer but ISDD as well. She is looking forward working with you all and serving the Gwinnett area. Welcome to the ISDD team Anais, we are glad you joined us!



Bisi Smith is a native from Atlanta, Georgia. She has specialized in case managing low income families to maintain stability financially for an

average of six years. Her goal is to mentor as many individuals that cross her path. She truly believes that her purpose is to serve and help others reach their full-fledged potential. She is an Army veteran who served as a United States Sergeant for eight consecutive years. After completing her military obligation, she was able to obtain her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the illustrious Spelman College. She is a candidate for her Masters of Science from Saint Leo University. In her spare time, she is a loving daughter to her mother, a supportive younger sister to her older siblings, an adventurous aunt to her nieces and nephews and a good listener to her friends. She is beyond honored to share her experiences, in hopes that it will aid in the journey of kinship care.



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Meet Our New Care Team Continued...



Nea Wells is one of our newest case managers to join the team. She is a Georgia native who was raised in Rockdale County. She graduated from the University of West Georgia with a bachelors in Sociology. After completing her bachelor's degree she

obtained her masters in Social Work from Kennesaw State University. Nea was raised by her grandmother and has a strong connection and

understanding of some of the challenges faced by kinship families. One of her favorite quotes is "Being a family means you are a part of something very wonderful. It means you will love and be loved for the rest of your life." –Lisa Weed. She has a passion for working with children and families. Her ability to build connections with children and teens have made her a favorite during the child and teen support groups. A fun fact about Nea is that she really likes to eat, the self-proclaimed foodie knows some of the best restaurants around town. She is excited to meet everyone and we are elated that she is a part of our team.

Georgia Breast Cancer Genomics Project

The Georgia Department of Public Health has partnered with the Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (CORE) to provide a free online screening tool to assess hereditary risk for breast and cervical cancer. This tool is designed to quickly identify who should be referred for screenings and genetic counseling and is available to women of all ages in the state of Georgia. To determine whether you may benefit from BRCA testing complete the Breast

Cancer Genetics Referral Screening Tool located at www.breastcancergenescreen.org.

If a positive screening result is identified, start by contacting your local county health department or other provider(s) near you that offer screening. If you have additional questions about the genomics testing program, contact 404-584-1178.

For more information check out:

<https://dph.georgia.gov/BCCP>

LIHEAP Heating Program

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is available to all income eligible households. This program offers a payment of \$350, \$450, or \$500 once per program year to be applied to your home energy bill.

They will begin accepting applications for the LIHEAP program on November 1, 2023, at 11:00 AM for seniors only (ages 65+). Applications for the general population will be accepted, starting December 1, 2023. All services are provided by appointment only.

Apply for assistance at your local Community Action Agency.

Take the following documents to your appointment:

1. Proof of Income for all household members for the past 30 days
2. Proof of Social Security number for each person in the household
3. Most recent Gas and Electric Bill for the household
4. Proof of citizenship or legal immigrant status

Link to: [Georgia Community Action Agencies](#)

Call 1-404-657-3426 for additional information

Client of the Month- Deirdre Chambers

Each month we select a Project GRANDD caregiver to highlight so we can get to know each other.

Ms. Deirdre Chambers is a 66 year old grandmother that is raising her 13 year old grandson Eric, whom she's had since birth. She has been a member, contributor, and active participant of ISDD for over 10 years. She is an extremely dedicated grandmother. She teaches him life skills and healthy habits, and exposes him to the world through travel. Ms. Chambers and Eric also have strong social support through active church participation and visiting with family. Ms. Chambers has a heart for helping others and is always offering resources and support to other caregivers. Some advice she has for others is always make time for pampering yourself and don't be afraid or ashamed to ask for help. Part of her self-care routine is catching one of her favorites, The Cosby Show. It is a blessing to have the Chambers family as part of ISDD Project GRANDD!



Favorite quote: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13 - NKJV)

SUPPORT GROUPS

A light dinner will be served 6:00pm – 6:30 pm during family meetings.

AM Virtual Adult Support 10AM-12PM	10/3- Support and Sharing https://bit.ly/ISDDadult Phone: 256-581-5048 PIN: 611 544 546#	Google Meet: https://bit.ly/ISDDadult Phone: 256-581-5048 PIN: 611 544 546#
Gwinnett PM Family Support 6PM-8PM	10/9- Support and Sharing RSVP: https://bit.ly/PGGwinnettPM or 470-310-3458 <i>A light dinner will be served 6:00pm – 6:30 pm</i>	Conference Center at Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center (Rooms B & C) RSVP: https://bit.ly/PGGwinnettPM or 470-310-3458
DeKalb AM Adult Support 10:30 AM- 12:30PM	10/10- Support and Sharing RSVP: https://bit.ly/DeKalbAM or 470-310-3458	DeKalb County Library System: Covington Highway Branch RSVP: https://bit.ly/DeKalbAM or 470-310-3458
Fulton PM Family Support & Adult Virtual 6PM-8PM	10/17- Support and Sharing RSVP: https://bit.ly/FultonPM or 470-310-3458 <i>POTLUCK Sign up:</i> https://bit.ly/ISDDPotluck	Fulton Public Library System- Metropolitan Branch RSVP: 470-310-3458 or https://bit.ly/FultonPM <i>Google Meet: Link Above</i>
DeKalb PM Family Support 6 PM-8 PM	10/24- Support and Sharing RSVP: https://bit.ly/DeKalbPM or 470-310-3458	New Life Community Alliance RSVP: https://bit.ly/DeKalbPM or 470-310-3458



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