

# News to **S.M.I.L.E.** About

## SMILE 5K Race



We are extremely excited to announce our 7th Annual 5K Race. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year and provides critical resources to support people with developmental disabilities in their community. Please join us in soliciting sponsors, runners and in person on Saturday,

April 29th at Lilburn City park and Greenway Trail. See our website at [www.smile4.info](http://www.smile4.info) or call the SMILE office at 770-279-5115 for detailed information. Come support our runners and for those of you who have made contributions, we sincerely thank you. Last year's race resulted in donations of approximately \$19,000 and was used to purchase a 12-passenger van.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Welcome to SMILE New Clients/New Staff

Family & Friends of SMILE

SMILE Volunteers

Happy Birthday

Student Volunteers

Support Coordination

Mardi Gras Ball

Staff Going That Extra Mile

Day Program Activities

Community Living Supports



## Welcome to SMILE

### New Clients

Ashley  
Coco  
Joshua  
Taj

### New Staff

Del – Program Director  
Bill – Finance Manager  
Diane – Client Service  
Coordinator  
Idriys – Compliance Officer  
Margarette – Office Manager  
Tiffany – DSP  
Adonna – DSP  
Maria – DSP  
Chevyonne – DSP  
Ashley Ramsey – DSP

## Family & Friends of SMILE

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Renewing Medicaid & Food Stamp Benefits

### This Mail Is Important!!!

Please open and respond immediately. Call our office or the Supports Coordinator or need assistance. Look for the logo below.



Division of Family and Children Services

The inside may look like this:

#### “GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES”

Contact Letter and Information/Verification Checklist for Aged, blind, and Disabled Medicaid

|                         |                     |             |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| _____                   | A—Unit --           | County DFCS |
| _____                   | Client ID: 12345678 | AU: _____   |
| Lawrenceville, GA 30044 | FAX: 678-123-4567   | Date: _____ |

xxxx “We received your Medicaid application/review. In order to make an eligibility determination on your case, we need the information or proof listed below. Failure to provide this by the time requested will result in closure of your case or denial of your application.”

## SMILE Volunteers

Two of our own clients are also volunteering with seniors in the community. They certainly connect with these seniors and they are doing meaningful work while making a difference.

### Great things by other companies serving the special need community

**Darden’s Delights, Inc.** makes delicious pies and part of the proceeds is used to support organizations that improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. They can be reached at 404-973-8760 or [www.dardensdelights.com](http://www.dardensdelights.com).



**Zumbathon** by Jennifer Joy to benefit the Special Kneads and Treats, Inc. Bakery. They employ special need adults in our community by equipping them with the skills to not only contribute to their community but to also build a sense of pride. They are currently in Lawrenceville but will soon relocate to Snellville. Please call Jennifer at 404-819-7943.

**ZUMBAthon**



## Happy Birthday

### January

Terry

### February

Inna

Mary

### March

Gloria

Anna

Joseph

Casey



## Mardi Gras Ball

Congratulations goes to Kenneth who was crowned King for the Mardi Gras event in February.



### Staff Going that Extra Mile

- Lucy Chasengnou, DSP – Extra mile for organization and flexibility
- Beverly Manning, House Manager – Extra mile with flexibility
- Veronica Keen, House Manager – Extra mile for creative talent
- Chris Pieper, House Manager – Extra mile with Family CLS
- Tiffany Lewis, DSP – Extra mile with medical appointments
- Vanessa Dube, Administrative Assistant – Extra mile for administrative organization

## Student Volunteers

Ongoing project with Georgia Gwinnett College students. The students have been involved in a class project which include selecting a non-profit organization where they could contribute their technical knowledge to fill a need. After sitting with the Administrative staff at SMILE, this



group of nine students were broken into two teams. The first team elected to create a brochure for SMILE while the other created an Instagram account. Both projects were well received and we thank these great talented people for their contribution.



## Support Coordination

The Supports Coordinator is the case manager who oversees the services provided to our clients they conduct annual meeting and visit/monitor them on a regular basis (monthly or quarterly). Below are a list of the agencies in our area that provide Support Coordination.

Atlanta Regional Commission  
(ARC)  
[www.atlantaregional.com](http://www.atlantaregional.com)  
Atlanta: 404-463-3218

Benchmark Human Services  
<http://benchmarkhs.com/services/case-management>  
Milledgeville: 478-451-0557

Columbus Community Services  
[www.columbusorg.com/community-services/support-coordination](http://www.columbusorg.com/community-services/support-coordination)  
West Central: 770-916-1091  
East Central: 706-736-0401  
South West: 229-435-3212

Compass Coordination  
[www.compassga.net](http://www.compassga.net)  
Cartersville: 678-372-6626

Creative Consulting Services  
[www.creativeconsultingservices.org](http://www.creativeconsultingservices.org)  
Winder: 770-868-5949

Georgia Support Services  
[www.georgiasupport.com](http://www.georgiasupport.com)  
Dublin: 478-275-4845  
Savannah: 912-354-8446

Professional Case Management  
Services of America (PCSA)  
[www.pcsasc.com](http://www.pcsasc.com)  
Valdosta: 229-241-1540  
Tucker: 770-939-7370

## Day Program Activities

Taco Day at the Day Program in March was a lot of fun. They had a piñata and the clients were eager to get as many treats as possible.



Overall the day program is continuing to learn and gain more life skills such as baking, sewing and working on recipes. They are also learning various aspects of drawing. So, they all will be completing an art drawing soon.

---

## Community Living Supports – CLS

### In Lisa's Words



Lisa enjoys working at the front desk at SMILE for many reasons.

“This job makes me feel very comfortable and I feel responsible for answering the phone. I truly appreciate that the staff is very patient with me.” “I particularly like the help and encouragement I receive from them.” When we asked how it makes her feel when others have mistaken her for staff. She says that it makes her feel appreciated.

Some of the things she has learned at the front desk is putting the extra effort to avoid making mistakes. I look forward to continuing volunteering at the SMILE office.

She does not consider herself a “princess” she says because she takes her job very seriously. “I would like to work on my listening skills and maybe learn to become more aware of my voice in an office environment.” We think you are doing a wonderful job Lisa.

## St. Mary's Independent Living Extensions

**St. Mary's Independent Living Extensions (SMILE)** is a nonprofit organization of trained caregivers who work around-the-clock to enrich the lives of adults with developmental disabilities by maximizing independence, breaking down barriers and advocating for greater community access.



120 Gloster Road Suite 3  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
Office: 770-279-5115  
Fax: 770-923-2059  
Emergency Line: 404-452-0858

