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# HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM CCMC!

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## Two Upcoming January CCMC Meetings

**This Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 8:00-9:30 a.m. at the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, 659 Ouachita Avenue -  
Bridge to Hope Breakfast Meeting**

This meeting will focus on how we can help our workforce and our community. It will be a broad overview of Bridge to Hope which was developed as a way to think and talk about poverty. It was developed to assist individuals, organizations, and communities in doing four things:

1. Prevent poverty
2. Alleviate the suffering of those in persistent poverty
3. Assist individuals and families to make the transition out of poverty
4. Eliminate poverty

An RSVP is required due to limited seating. Please contact Ann Wilson at [awilson@ccmchs.com](mailto:awilson@ccmchs.com) or by phone at 501.318.1153, ext. 303 to reserve a seat.

**Friday, January 27, 2017, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Ouachita**

# Behavioral Health & Wellness (CCS), 125 Dons Way - Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop

Please join us as we discuss reducing the social costs of poverty, strengthening the workforce, and building a more prosperous and sustainable community for Hot Springs, Arkansas. Bridges brings people from all sectors and economic classes together to improve job retention rates, build resources, improve outcomes, and support those who are moving out of poverty.

There is a \$50 registration fee for this event which includes lunch and a *Bridges Out of Poverty* book.

The Bridges Out of Poverty community process helps communities:

- Move individuals from poverty to self-sufficiency
- Reduce social costs related to crime, poor health, and welfare
- Strengthen educational attainment and job skills
- Enhance economic development
- Improve on-the-job productivity
- Revitalize neighborhoods
- Build sustainable communities where everyone can live well

Come and be a part of this vital discussion! For the January 27th workshop [\*\*Purchase tickets here\*\*](#)

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## **New Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World Class Started Yesterday...January 16, 2017!**

A new class of Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World started yesterday... Monday, January 16, 2017...at First Baptist Church. Please include these participants in your thoughts and prayers as they begin this remarkable process into self discovery and sustainability for themselves and their families.

## **Two New Getting Ahead While Getting Out Groups Began Their Journey on Monday, January 9, 2017**

We are excited as the 10th and 11th GAWGO groups began sessions on Monday, January 9th. There is usually a waiting list for GAWGO and, at the end of this part of the journey...graduation day is a heartfelt occasion for everyone involved. We are happy to be a part of GCDC through this process.

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**Dr. John Wayne Smith Honored at Recent  
Hot Springs of Arkansas Chapter DAR**

On December 10th, Dr. John Wayne Smith received The NSDAR Community Service Award, presented by The Hot Springs of Arkansas Chapter DAR. As always, Dr. Smith, we're proud of you!



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## Getting Ahead Graduates Successfully Employed at Oaklawn Park

An article in the November 20th Sentinel-Record reporting on four Getting Ahead graduates employed full time at Oaklawn for ninety days, began with a quote from Eric Jackson, Oaklawn's general manager, "Of all the things that I have seen trying to make a dent in poverty and assistance, I don't think I've ever seen any quite as impressive as this. We're watching people change their lives, and change their futures, right in front of our eyes. And as an employer, I will tell you it is pretty darn neat."

The article went on to say many good things about the Getting Ahead process, explaining that it is designed to help people move from public assistance into the workplace.

Oaklawn has a 30-60-90 day program, where it evaluates employees after 30 and 60 days, and celebrates with them when they reach 90 days of employment. "We had a 100-percent success rate," Jackson said.

In addition, Governor Hutchinson sent a commendation to Mr. Jackson for Oaklawn Racing and Gaming's working with CCMC and their graduates as a way of strengthening the Hot Springs community and the state's workforce.

Thank you, Oaklawn, and congratulations to these four GA graduates. We wish you many years of successful employment at Oaklawn!

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## Getting Ahead Graduate, Lori Donnor, Highlighted in OUTREACH Article



A graduate of the first CCMC Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World in 2015, Lori Donnor, and The Garage Church were highlighted in the January/February 2017 issue of OUTREACH. In the article, Lori says, "I walked in darkness for 30 years. I have healed." She went on to say that with Getting Ahead, she learned to investigate her strengths and weaknesses and develop an action plan to stick to her goals. Jill Johnson, CCMC Getting Ahead Coordinator, said, "Lori continues to be an example to other Getting Ahead graduates and participants of the Getting Ahead process and is a mentor to many of them. As a matter of fact, she serves as a role model to us all!"

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**Please save the date and join us for the  
13th Annual Chocolate Festival on  
February 5, 2017, 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
Hosted by Embassy Suites.**

**EAT CHOCOLATE FOR CHARITY!**  
*A delicious way to spend the afternoon!*

Admission is \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, and \$50 VIP

Silent auction from 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Purchase your tickets from CCMC or Embassy Suites.

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**CCMC Speakers Always Ready to Share  
the Bridge to Hope and Getting Ahead Stories**

If you would like to have a CCMC representative come to your business or organization to talk about Bridge to Hope in Hot Springs and the Getting Ahead stories, please contact Lynn Blankenship at [lynn@ccmchs.com](mailto:lynn@ccmchs.com) or call her at 501.318.1153, ext. 103.

The Getting Ahead story is about building resources, removing barriers, and supporting the journey from poverty to sustainability for those in our community who want to benefit from this process. The results...a better workforce, a new group of people to contribute to the community, and stronger families.

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**Ongoing Needs at CCMC**

CCMC has many ongoing needs. In addition to volunteer help, which is always needed and appreciated, other needs are:

- Prayer support
- Financial support for overhead costs (utilities, medication, etc.)
- Office supplies (paper, pens, notepads, etc.)
- Paper towels, napkins
- Paper plates, cups
- Disinfectant wipes

Costs involved with Getting Ahead include:

- Classroom supplies for an entire class (16 participants) - \$200
- Workbooks for a full class - \$300
- Food for a 16-member class session - \$150
- Price per class participant - \$900

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## **Monthly Information Meetings for Prospective Getting Ahead Participants**

Please remember that we hold monthly information meetings for prospective participants for Getting Ahead. The 2nd Thursday of each month, from 10:00-11:00 a.m., Jill Johnson, Getting Ahead Coordinator, reviews the process and answers questions that attendees might have about the program. The GA process is a 16-week self-discovery for participants...to learn about themselves, the 11 resources the material outlines, and the journey from poverty to sustainability. If you know anyone who would be interested in learning more about Getting Ahead, upcoming information meeting dates are:

- January 12, 2017
- February 9, 2017
- March 9, 2017

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## **Other Important Meeting Times in January 2017**

### **Bridge to Hope Breakfast Meeting** - *as noted in first article*

Wednesday, January 18      8:00-9:30 a.m.  
Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce  
*Seating limited - RSVP requested to [awilson@ccmchs.com](mailto:awilson@ccmchs.com)*

### **Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop** - *as noted in first article*

Friday, January 27      9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Ouachita Behavioral Health & Wellness (CCS)  
*\$50 registration (includes lunch and a Bridges Out of Poverty book)*

**[Purchase Tickets Here](#)**

### **Mentor Orientation**

Thursday, February 9  
CCMC

11:00 a.m.-noon



Cooperative Christian Ministries and Clinic  
[www.ccmchs.org](http://www.ccmchs.org)



STAY CONNECTED: