

# Brandi's Hope

By: Maggie Pohlman, MOT/S  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
College of Health Professions



# About Brandi's Hope

- Created by Danny and Brenda Cowart in honor of their daughter who was born with Trisomy 18
- Opened in June 2010
- Brandi's Hope provides community services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities ages 18+
- **Goal and Purpose:** Support individuals the way they choose to be supported. Choice is the fundamental driving force in their philosophy.



# Locations

- **Pascagoula\***
- **Picayune\***
- **Tupelo\***
- Gulfport
- Hattisburg
- Meridian
- Natchez

Currently serve 194 individual people and families across the state of MS

# Services Provided

- Home and Community Supports
- Adult Day Services
- Prevocational Services
- Supported Employment Services
- Community Respite Services
- In-Home Respite Services
- Behavior Support/Intervention Services
- OT, PT, ST



# Home and Community Supports

- For individuals that live in Brandi's Hope housing
- Each person has their own direct support professional
  - Ensures daily living needs are met
  - Ensures adequate functioning in the home and community
  - Provides safe access to the community
- Automated telephone clock in system



Retrieved from: [www.brandishope.com](http://www.brandishope.com)

# Adult Day Services

- Provide support that an individual needs and request to help them have a meaningful day
- 8am-3pm
- Transportation to and from Brandi's hope is provided if needed
- Activities promote self help skills, socialization, work/vocation participation, and leisure/fun
- Activities also extend into community settings



# Prevocational Services

- Provided to individuals who are not expected to join the workforce within one year and are no longer eligible to receive educational services
- Activities are directed to teach general skills
  - Communication skills
  - Teamwork
  - Personal management skills
  - Problem solving skills





# Supported Employment Services

- Provide support necessary to achieve and maintain employment
- Individual creates their own employment goals
- Site manager and/or direct support professional checks in with employer to ensure individual is an effective team member



# Community and In-Home Respite Services

- Provided when other types of services are not available such as the evenings or weekends
- Provided when the usual care giver is unable to provide care due to hospitalization, illness, or injury.
- Ensures that their family member is in a safe place and receiving the care he/she needs



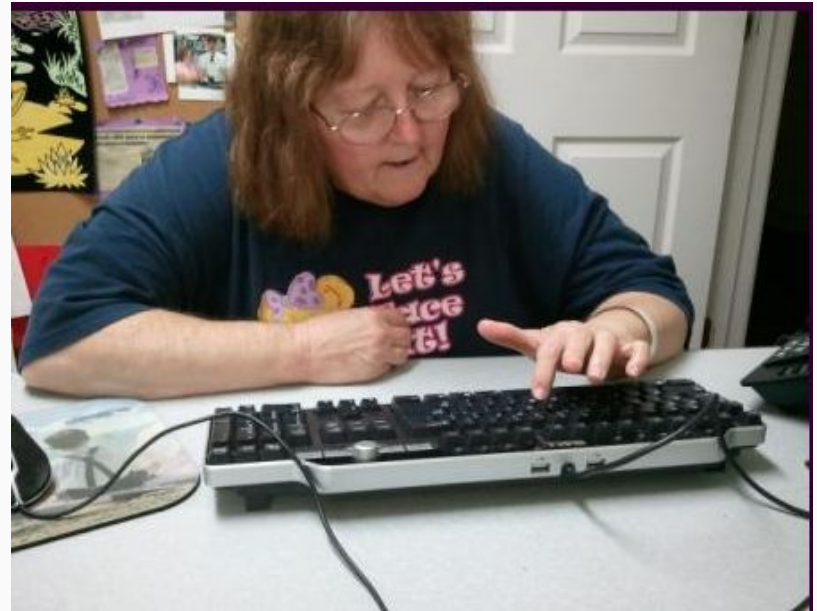
# Behavior Support/Intervention Services

- Provided to individuals whose behavior problems cause them to:
  - Not be able to benefit from other services provided
  - There is a concern for the individual to cause harm to themselves or others
- Site manager meets with family to discuss recommendations and provide information regarding community resources



# PT, OT, and ST

- Ensure that services are provided and/or accessed
- Provide transportation to and from therapy services
- For individuals living in Brandi's Hope housing, the direct support professional will attend tx sessions, if requested, to learn orthotic management, stretching techniques, and other HEP activities



# Referral Process

# Intellectually Delayed/ Developmentally Delayed Waiver

- NMRC in Oxford to be evaluated to obtain the ID/DD Waiver
- ID/DD waiver is Medicaid funded
- Provides eligibility to receive home and community based services like Brandi's Hope
- There are no age restrictions as to when the evaluation can be completed
- **To arrange for an evaluation call:  
662-513-7728**

# Beginning Services at Brandi's Hope

- Once the ID/DD waiver is obtained, the individual gets placed on the Brandi's Hope waiting list
- The date of the evaluation determines the spot on the waiting list
- Can be 10+ years before services are received
- If residential services are desired, it must be included in the evaluation POC
- The primary caregiver can contact NMRC to request to add residential services

# Brandi's Hope Tupelo

745 Rex Avenue

Tupelo, MS 38801

**Wanda Keith**-Site Manager

662-553-4448

wkeith@brandishope.com



Questions?

# References

Danny, C. (2015). Retrieved from <http://www.brandishope.com>

Mathis, E. (2008). Home and community based services. Retrieved from <http://www.nmrc.state.ms.us/hcbs.html>

Pictures as noted