

# The Quarterly Update

Making A Good Community Better

2024-2025 Winter Edition



## From The ED:

**1975.** The year that the Ford F150 was introduced, pet rocks were the favorite toy, gas was .56 cents per gallon, Saturday Night Live premiered and Jaws was the most popular movie.

Also in 1975, a group of Gaston County parents, professionals and community leaders got together and decided it was time. Time to stop housing people with disabilities in distant institutions. Time to bring families back together in their community. Time to put together an organization that could make that happen. In that moment, Gaston Residential Services was born.

As we celebrate our 50th anniversary this year, we have so much for which to be proud and thankful. We thank the people we serve and their families for the trust they put in us to provide care and support. We thank the staff who work 24/7 to provide that care and support, and the clinical teams, administrators and board members who keep our operations going.

We are also proud to continue to live up to our motto: Making a Good Community Better by making sure each individual continues to live in homes and neighborhoods near family and friends, to work in jobs they enjoy and to participate in and be an integral part of the community that surrounds them.

If you haven't already, check out the Gaston's Great Podcast from January 23 titled "Transforming Lives": 🎧 YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/WihP2x8a1RU>

Our Viva Las Vegas Fundraiser and 50th Anniversary Celebration is also fast approaching. Sponsorships and donations are still being accepted. Tickets are on sale now! You can find more information in this newsletter and at <https://www.grsinc.org/news-events/viva-las-vegas.html>

Our goal is to raise \$50,000.00 for 50 years of service.

Finally, I am so thankful to be a part of GRS for the past 35 years. From being a direct support professional, case manager and the supported living director, every year and role I have had has been an absolute pleasure. I'm thankful for Rita Thuot, for being the leader and director of this organization for it's first 40 years, and I'm honored to have been entrusted in that role for the past 7 years.

I hope to see you at Viva Las Vegas in May!

Best always,  
Darlene

AWESOME  
SINCE  
1975  
LIMITED  
EDITION

*In Loving Memory of*  
VERONICA  
"LYNN"  
DICKERSON

01/19/1957-02/04/2025

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*Your life was a blessing, your memory is a treasure, you are loved beyond words and missed beyond measures.*

*With all our love,*  
**Gaston Residential Services**



# SLEIGHING DOWN

# GINGERBREAD LANE



# CONTEST WINNERS



1ST PLACE: CHERRYVILLE

2ND PLACE: SECOND AVE

3RD PLACE: WILLOW ST



Mamie, Michael, Tim, and Debbie are all smiles as they enjoy their Christmas gifts! A heartfelt thank you from everyone at GRS to those who contributed to the Brandon Towery Gift Fund.



Thanks to the Brice Family, who donated their unit at the Chetola Resort many years ago, several GRS people served get to enjoy the beautiful NC mountains every November. This is a trip most anticipated every year. The Brice family's very generous donation, in addition to the Brice fund, assures that the people we serve are well looked after. It also keeps the memory of Dixon Brice alive in our hearts.



## Thanksgiving 2024



# What's Happening in Advisory Council? Building Snow Balls!



## Out and About In The Community



# Happy Workiversary

5 Years

Dylan George  
Rusty Hall  
Bridgeat Lipscomb

15 Years

Angela McConneaughey

30+ Years

Tonda Stillwell

20+ Years

Herman Dade  
Martha Severson  
Sherry Thompson  
Tammy Hopper  
Angela Guill  
Bless Rider  
Teresa Dunovant

## Upcoming Events

**Guardianship Advocacy - Advisory Council -  
March 26, 2025 - 1pm-3pm**

**Viva Las Vegas - May 16, 2025 - 7pm-11pm**

*Tickets are now available for purchase, and donations for  
the event are being accepted.*

*Please scan the QR code below to access ticket sales and  
make donation contributions.*



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