

SBH *Insigh*ter

New to the Team!

Girard Medical Center's Senior Behavioral Health Services welcomed a new Community Outreach Coordinator, Mike Willis, LCP, in June of 2011. Mike attained a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology at Pittsburg State University. He has worked as a therapist in outpatient mental health in the Kansas City area and Southeast Kansas for the past 25 years. As a member of the Pittsburg community, Mike has been active in the local Sunflower Kiwanis service organization and on the board of the Crawford County Children's Advocacy Center. Mike's primary duties with Senior Behavioral Health include provision of inpatient and/or outpatient admission assessments and marketing / education to referral sources and the community. He has been

a welcome addition to our team. We also added a full-time Nurse Manager to our inpatient program, Jinelle Gonzales MSN, ARNP, FNP-C, in January of 2012. As a member of the southeast Kansas community most of her life, she attained a Master's degree in Nursing at Pittsburg State University. She has worked in the health care field for over 20 years and has been an RN for 16 years with experience in a variety of settings including psychiatric, medical and long-term care. Gonzales says, "I am passionate about mental health and I'm excited to be part of a great Senior Behavioral Health Team. This program is providing a much needed service to our community." Jinelle lives in Ft. Scott with her children. Jinelle enjoys furniture restoration, visiting local flea markets and antique stores.



Community Outreach
Coordinator
Mike Willis, MS, LCP



SBH Nurse Manager
Jinelle Gonzales
MSN, ARNP, NP-C

Welcome



“ I am *passionate* about mental health and I'm *excited* to be part of a great Senior Behavioral Health Team. This program is providing a much needed service to our community.” ”

Free SBH Services!

Last Wednesday of
each month

FREE

Memory/Depression
Screenings
1:00-3:00pm

Grief Support Group
3:00-4:00pm

Call 620.724.7288
for more information

Senior Behavioral Health started offering free monthly Depression and Memory Screenings as well as a Grief/Loss Support Group in October of 2011 at the Structured Outpatient Program building at 804 W. St. John in Girard.

The free Depression and Memory Screenings take place the last Wednesday of each month from 1-3 p.m. Directly afterwards is the Grief/Loss Support

Group from 3-4 p.m.

Our outpatient therapists administer the assessments and facilitate the support group. An appropriate referral for assessment would include anyone age 55 or older who has been experiencing signs of depression or memory difficulties.

Those who wish to may have a brief results report faxed to their primary care physician

so that medical interventions may be considered. Those 55 and older considering attendance to the Grief/Loss Support Group are welcome no matter what issues are at the root of their discomfort.

Whether referring yourself or others, please call 620-724-7288 to sign up for participation in any or all free services. Walk-ins are also accepted.

Did you know?

According to the Alzheimer's Association, 5.4 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's, and caring for them will cost the country \$200 billion this year. If the incidence of the disease continues on its current trajectory, 16 percent of Americans age 65 and older will have Alzheimer's by 2050, and caregiving costs will

climb to \$1 trillion.

GMC has worked to do its part to raise funds for Alzheimer's research by contributing \$500 for the local walk, as well as by sponsoring a T-shirt fundraiser encouraging people to help "solve the Alzheimer's puzzle." So far, GMC employees have raised more than \$1,000 through T-shirt sales for the local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

As stated by Mike Willis, "Funding toward the development of a cure for Alzheimer's increases the potential for administering more effective modes of treatment to GMC

patients who suffer from such a debilitating disease."

Southeast Kansans can get involved in the fight against Alzheimer's by participating in this year's Walk to End Alzheimer's. Check-in starts at 9:30 a.m. at Immigrant Park, with the walk scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

Companies interested in becoming corporate sponsors for the event may donate \$250 to be a Remembrance Sponsor, \$500 to be a Forget-Me-Not Sponsor or \$750 to be a Pacemaker Sponsor. Contact Mike Willis at 620-724-7288 for more information.

2012 Southeast Kansas Walk to End Alzheimer's

Saturday, May 19
Immigrant Park
Pittsburg, Kansas
9:30 a.m. Check-in
10 a.m. Walk Begins

Co-Chairs

Suzie Sexton
620.231.7340

Lynette Emmerson
620.223.3120

Chapter Staff
Paula Shaw

