

# THE BIOS NEWS

APRIL 2009

## ANCOR Recognizes Terrie Malone

By: Shannon Holcomb

Terrie Malone, Sapulpa, Oklahoma, was selected as the Oklahoma representative for ANCOR's 2009 Direct Support Professional Award. Terrie has been a phenomenal asset to Bios over her many years of service. Terrie's vast experience in exiting people out of institutional settings and setting up programs to provide the support needed in living successful lives is invaluable. Her loving touch has provided a support team and home to two gentlemen in particular which is unmatched by any other. Both gentlemen utilize wheelchairs for mobility, have health issues that become serious if not monitored closely and require added support for mealtime. One thing that stands out to me with Terrie is that none of those issues are noticed when she assists both gentlemen in the community. They have developed a large circle of friends, they host parties at their home on a regular basis and they are seen as very active members of their community. In regard to Terrie's leadership, as the Director for our office, I rely heavily upon Terrie's experience when it comes to mentoring new Program Managers and know that I can always count on her should I need a helping hand on any project which comes up. Terrie's expectations of teaching people to provide top quality service to the people we serve is above and beyond any expectations anyone has in this field. She ensures that people know we are here to support the people we serve in every way and reinforces that the people we serve need to be seen as participating members of their community in every way possible. I am very grateful that Bios hired Terrie years ago and even more grateful that she has chosen to stay with us as we work hard to change people's lives daily because she is a huge part of that.



*Both the Oklahoma Senate and the House of Representatives held a Resolution on their floors in recognition of Terrie Malone on March 18, 2009.*

## A Family Reunited

By: Misty Bunnell

We all love to spend the Holidays with our family and that is what our friend Nolen was able to do for Thanksgiving. Because it had been almost a year since he had last seen his family, when his Aunt, Debbie and father, Chris called to invite Nolen to spend the holiday with them, he was very excited. Nolen's Aunt Debbie wrote to Bios about the hard work Nolen and his staff has done to ensure that Nolen is safe and happy.



*Nolen and his Bios Team!*

"It was good to see how Nolen has changed. He is doing much better now that Bios has been working with him. We are glad he is doing so well. Your visit at Thanksgiving and at our home with staff was good. Nolen has real good people working with him. I am glad he has so many people that really care for him. I know he wants to live with his father, maybe one day. He has become a real good guy. We love him so much." From: Aunt Debbie.

It's always rewarding to see our friends grow and be a part of their families but when the family member sees the progress that our Bios friends make with the assistance of our loyal employees, it is an amazing feeling. It's a feeling of joy that should make us all see that the dedication the staff provides really does work. And with the dedication that Nolen's staff has, the sky is the limit.

## President's Corner



*Eddie Miller, President/ CEO  
Bios Companies*

Bios recently celebrated the lives and the passing of two people who touched and impacted the lives of many, Teddy and Brenda. Just as with others that have gone before them, we once again discovered from the pain of loss, the joy we received from them in our lives.

This enlightenment occurs because we have chosen to make a difference; to willingly know and care for each other.

Such is our journey at Bios. Often our journey is several years, sometimes it is brief. Since we can't possibly know the amount of time, we must endeavor to make the most of it. We must strive to be "Rock Stars" as Kirk Elam likes to say. In doing such

we are building each others' lives; building each others' memories.

On a personal note, I want to thank each of you for making their memorial services special. Your eulogies, comments, and blessings were wonderful testaments to the lives of Teddy and Brenda. It's nice to know they will continue to live on in the hearts of so many.

## Welcome Karen Sherrick, Julie Beaulieu and Jolynn Officer

The **Bios Bartlesville** office is thrilled to announce the return of **Karen Sherrick** as our newest Vocational Program Manager. This is Karen's third "re-tread" as Jolynn likes to say. She has an extremely successful history of finding people with disabilities jobs in the community, so we are looking forward to seeing what she comes up with. When Kirk Elam asked her how it felt to be back, she said, "It feels a little like an old shoe." Kirk of course thought the worst and said, "What? Stinky." To which Karen replied, "No. It's like an old shoe that you dig out of the back of your closet, try on, and it fits perfectly." We're all just glad she doesn't think we stink!



**Bios at Home** welcomes two new members to our leadership team: **Julie Beaulieu**, Marketing Representative, received her M.S. in Marketing from the University of Colorado. She brings experience in sales, advertising, and promotional marketing with her. Julie's kind personality and business knowledge make her a great fit for our marketing role. "I took this job because I wanted to work for a compassionate company that had the customer's best interest at heart." Welcome to Bios at Home Julie!



**Jolynn Officer**, Director of Nursing, brings years of experience as a professional hospital nurse, as well as over ten years in home health nursing. Jolynn has served as DON for Bios Corporation for the past eight years. Jolynn really understands Bios at Home core values and we're thrilled to have her "on board." Welcome to the team Jolynn!



## What is HIPAA?

By: Susan Rutledge

Have you visited your health care professional recently and were asked to sign a form discussing the privacy of your health information/records and following HIPAA? You most likely signed the form but were maybe asking yourself, **“What is HIPAA?”**

**HIPAA is The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule.** The Privacy rule provides you with federal protection for your personal health information and allows you rights regarding the disbursement of this information to others. It is also balanced in that it allows your personal health information to be disclosed when needed for patient care and other important purposes. Your health privacy is important and this law allows you the right to decide in many cases, who can receive your personal health information.

### Who is and who is not required to follow this law?

Organizations required to follow this law are called covered entities. They include people associated with your health insurance companies, health care providers such as doctors, pharmacies, psychologists, nursing homes and dentists as well as those with the health care clearinghouse. Those that do not have to follow the law include: life insurers, employers, worker compensation carriers, school/school districts, state agencies such as child protective services, law enforcement agencies and municipal offices (courts).

**What of your personal information is protected?** Information that is contained within your medical charts, conversations your doctor has with other health professionals, billing information at your doctors’ office/hospital and information that is in your insurer’s computer system. Safeguards by the covered entities must be put in place to ensure your private information is protected.

**Who can look at my information without my permission?** The law sets rules and limits as to who can actually look at your information without your permission and why that information would be used. This would include: Health care providers consulting for your treatment and care coordination, to protect public health such as reporting a widespread disease, to be able to pay the doctors and other healthcare professionals who treated you, your family and/or friends that you have identified as assisting you with payment or involved in your health care or to make required reports such as to local law en-



SHIRLEY I. THOMPSON	04/01	RENEE D. LARONGE	04/13
GAIL A. DEASON	04/02	DANIEL HETTRICH	04/13
LINDA L. WILLERTON	04/02	T MARIA WELDING	04/14
CHRISINA L. MCCRAW	04/02	BRANDI L. JOHNSON	04/16
KATHI L. ROYAL	04/02	BLESSING FUBORO	04/17
ANGELA D. BROWN	04/03	MARSHA G. GIBSON	04/17
CHERYL R. ELLIS	04/03	JOAN E. ADAMS	04/17
SHIRLEY A. DAVIS	04/03	TAMMY L. THOMISON	04/17
AMBER N. BALDERAS	04/03	JOSHUA M. DENNISTON	04/18
HAROLD M. PANTALL	04/04	JULIE D. TORGESON	04/18
JAMES D. PARRETT	04/04	LEANNA M. HOYT	04/18
BERT A. SIMMONS	04/04	EMILY A. STEWART	04/18
HERMAN W. WELCH Jr.	04/04	LATASHA M. MURPHY	04/18
MINDY L. BALES	04/05	JONATHAN S. REESE	04/18
STANLEY J. SISNEY	04/05	GLORIA LEE	04/18
MARY J. HOWARD	04/05	TARA M. VANDYGRIF	04/19
ANNETTE C. PILLOW	04/05	KEVIN T. WESLEY	04/19
RICARDO SANTIAGO	04/05	BILLY R. BATTLE	04/19
APRIL PANTER	04/06	MICHAEL L. DUCK	04/20
KAMETRIC ARMSTRONG	04/06	DALLAS W. WADE	04/21
ROBERT E. LEWIS Jr.	04/06	CRYSTAL S. MEDINA	04/21
CATHERINE L. MORRIS	04/06	RENITA HUDSON	04/22
DEBBIE J. MURRAY	04/07	ADENIYI BALOGUN	04/24
MARY F. LEE	04/07	JULIE M. PAULSON	04/25
LAKEASHA CARTER	04/07	SUSAN F. RIDER	04/26
SHARONDA BREWER	04/07	ALPHONSO HENRY	04/26
MICHELLE L. GARRISON	04/08	HEATHER N. BOWLING	04/26
TRUDY R. MANER	04/08	JESSICA HIX	04/27
CONNIE J. SPEAR	04/09	PAULA K. WEBER	04/27
RHONDA CURTIS	04/09	RITA A. BEAYRD	04/28
TIFFANY D. CARPENTER	04/11	ERIC DIGOLLO	04/28
KRISTI M. TATRO	04/11	JEREMIAH DABNEY	04/28
DELORES PILLOW	04/11	DIANE E. ROBERTS	04/29
BARBARA J. OVERSTREET	04/12	CLABIE C. PILLOW	04/29
CAROL LILLY	04/12		

forcement. Without your written permission, your health information can not be given to your employer, to be used for marketing or advertising purposes or sharing of private notes regarding your health care.

Your rights under this federal law include: being able to see your health records, requesting a copy of your health records or having records corrected, receive notice that tells you how your information is used and shared and a report if it has, receive information telling you of your rights to privacy and circumstances in which you need to give permission for release of your information, right to ask that your information not be shared, ask that you be reached somewhere other than your home and right to file a complaint.

If you believe that a covered entity has violated your health privacy rights, you have the right to file a complaint with your regional Office of Civil Rights. Complaints must be filed in writing either on paper or electronically by mail, fax or email. You must name the entities involved and what act you believe violated the privacy rule and it must be filed within 180 days of when it occurred.

# ALL AROUND BIOS

## Bios of Tennessee

Tuesdays/  
Thursdays

Fun and Games  
Fairview Commu-  
nity Center  
10:00-2:00

May Fest Cookout

May 1st  
Maury County Park

1:00-4:00



Bios Easter Egg  
Hunt

April 10th

Maury County Park

4:00



## Bios Bartlesville Summer Camping

June 6-7th at  
Oolagah  
Lake at  
Hawthorn  
Bluff

August 8-9th  
Birch Lake at  
Campground  
across the dam

### April Anniversaries



YORK, KAREY L.  
BLAKLEY, JIMMIE D.  
DENNISTON,  
JOSHUA M.  
MILLER, ALLEN D.  
SLY, SHERRY  
TOWNSEND, KAREN  
GYLES, DAVID S.  
MALOY, IVONA  
MCCORMICK,  
ROBERT E.  
POLK, ARMA L.  
WILSON, JOAN K.  
EDWARDS, KEVIN .

ELLIS, STACIA A.  
KNAPP, JOYCE M.  
MARTINEZ, MANUEL  
TALLANT, RHONDA  
WORMSER, COLETA  
BAILEY, JEAN A.  
CRUM, KEVIN D.  
LIPSCOMB, C  
BARGER, MARLENE  
HOOVER, LISA V.

## Bios Sapulpa-Tulsa

I would like to recognize  
**Johnnika Scroggins** for her  
exemplary care of Jeff. Jeff

By: Shannon Holcomb has faced some health challenges re-  
cently which have required him to be in the hospital. It is  
amazing how many hospital staff have complimented  
Johnnika in regard to the care she provides Jeff. I am very  
grateful to Johnnika for going the extra mile in being a  
friend to Jeff and ensuring all of his needs are met. John-  
nika you are an example of what we hope all Bios employ-  
ees strive for. Thank you!!

Congratulations  
New Grandmother



Paula Simmons

# Bios Safety News



Contributions: Karla Montgomery

## Brain Tumor or Brain Worm?

*Woman Diagnosed With Brain Tumor Actually Had A Brain Worm, sound bizarre?*  
Well read on...

We've heard of worms coming out of our intestines, but worms in the brain? Even though it sounds as though it is something right out of a Twilight episode or a horror movie, it happens in real life. Rosemary Alvarez, a mother of four, from Arizona, got the shock in her life when her doctor told Rosemary that she had a brain tumor. She was scheduled for surgery and after the operation, her doctor told her that she did not find a brain tumor. Instead, he found a worm feeding off on her brain cells.

This condition is known as neurocysticercosis, a common parasitic disease of the central nervous system. Varied clinical manifestations occur, due to deposit of larvae of the parasitic worm that is found in cerebral parenchyma, meninges, spinal cord, muscles, eyes and skin. The eggs of this parasitic worm are everywhere, like bathrooms, soil and even in food like raw or improperly cooked or raw pork. Believe it or not, many people have been diagnosed with this disease. This nasty parasite can easily be prevented from entering your system by **thoroughly washing your hands with soap when eating and ensuring that you're eating well-done pork.**

The doctors also say that when going outdoors, be sure to have an alcohol handy to wash your hands, so that you will not have these parasites eating your brain. Simple, proper hygiene every day, plus ensuring that pork meat is properly cooked is basically all you need to prevent these nasty parasites from spreading to you or your family. For more information, visit: [http://media2.foxnews.com/112008/worm\\_tumor\\_700.wmv](http://media2.foxnews.com/112008/worm_tumor_700.wmv).

### *Report On the Job Injuries:*

Karla Montgomery, Risk Manager

Pager: 1-866-768-1655  
Cell Phone: 918-230-1610



*Safety Check*

### Safety Committee Members

Mark Moskal-Tulsa  
Sherry Wood-Sapulpa  
Cora Scott-Muskogee  
Arma Polk-OKC  
Michael Bunnell-TN  
Marlene Barger-Voc/OK  
Tammy Thomison-Bartlesville

# Cell Phone Numbers Go Public

By Juanita Williams

In April, 2009, cell phone numbers will be released to telemarketing companies nationwide. You may start to receive telemarketing calls on your cell phone and taking the calls will result in charges to you.

**To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone:**

**888-382-1222**

This will put your number(s) on a nationwide DO NOT CALL list for five years. *(You must call from the phone you are blocking.)*

Help others, by passing this on to your friends and people you serve ... it only takes a minute of your time and could save you lots of money.



Brandon Widmar	4-1
Patrick Deinert	4-1
Amy Storie	4-3
April Panter-Crenshaw	4-6
Patrick Vanidestine	4-6
Lonelia McQueen	4-8
Barbara Brown	4-9
Billy Eubanks	4-10
Lovenia McQueen	4-11
Aaron Endicott	4-13
Daniel Hettrich	4-13
Roberta Lewis	4-13
Rosie Pitts	4-13
Dacoda Calcote	4-15
Bobby McLemore	4-17
Emily Stewart	4-18
Latasha Murphy	4-18
Kevin Wesley	4-19
Dallas Wade	4-21
LaDonna Wilson	4-21
Winifred Graham	4-24
Julie Paulson	4-25
Maggie Burum	4-26
Jessica Hix	4-27
Richard Alexander	4-27
Richard Dowden	4-29



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