

Women of Guilford County



Hanna Pettus

Hanna is an Alabama girl, born and raised. She grew up in a small town called Lexington, about 50 miles west of Huntsville. After going to a small K-12 school where she graduated with 62 people, Hanna decided that she needed to leave home for college. She attended Auburn University, where she received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Horticulture. The entire time she was in college she had always said that she wanted to live in the Carolinas, but she never really thought that would ever become a reality. Being from a small town, a lot of people never leave. If they do, a lot of times they go back. Something about the atmosphere of Lexington makes it a great place to raise a family but Hanna wanted to be different. She wanted to get out and grow. So as she began my job search she found the Urban Horticulture Extension Agent position in Guilford County and went for it. She's so glad she did because this community has welcomed me with open arms and she couldn't be happier. **WJ**

Kenyatta Jennings-Richardson

Kenyatta Jennings-Richardson is a life-long resident of Greensboro and loves calling the Piedmont Triad home. Kenyatta has served as the Shelter Services Coordinator for Clara and Carpenter House since January, 2014. Her greatest passion is helping women in crisis to take back their lives and she has spent the last 12 years of her career working to assist families in crisis and experiencing homelessness; first as the Executive Director at Guilford Interfaith Hospitality Network (now operating as Family Promise of Greater Guilford County) and, then as Assistant Shelter Director at The Greensboro Salvation Army Center of Hope. Her professional background and concern for community affairs has led her to a number of volunteer opportunities and community collaboration projects.

Kenyatta received her Bachelor of Arts in Communications at Winston-Salem State University and recently received her MPA, Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Nonprofit Management from The University of North Carolina Greensboro.

Kenyatta is the mother of two and spends her free time traveling and volunteering in her community. **WJ**



Kristy Shoffner

Kristy Shoffner, a Greensboro native, has worked for Family Service of the Piedmont since 2000. As a Healthy Start Lead Caseworker, she provides in-home parenting education and support for families of Guilford County.

Kristy attended East Carolina University, received The North Carolina Family Support Credential through Duke University and is a certified North Carolina Parent Educator.

She grew up in a diverse family that fostered appreciation of culture and embraced the concept of One Love. As a child, her parents opened their hearts and home to provide foster care for many children which she credits as the source of her career path.

"Outside of Human Service, pregnant women are my passion," shares Kristy. "I am also a certified birth doula providing physical, mental and emotional support for birthing families during labor and volunteer services at the YWCA Greensboro. I enjoy reliving life through the lens of my 5 year old daughter, spending time with family and friends, crafts and traveling. **WJ**

Brenda White

A survivor of domestic violence, Brenda White thanks God for being alive today. In April of 2012, Brenda was almost murdered by her husband. She was stabbed 10 times, tied to the oven door, and left for dead. As a survivor, Brenda uses her experience as a motivational speaker and advocate for victims of domestic violence. She travels to various cities sharing her story, inspiring others. A native of Blackstone, Virginia. She received a Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Bennett College in Greensboro. Upon graduating, she began her professional career with the Greensboro Police Department where she worked for over 30 years.

"I was introduced to Family Service of the Piedmont the day after being stabbed, "I will always be grateful to them for their unconditional support. I now can smile and help others just as I was helped."

Brenda's new focus is to make a difference in the lives of victims of domestic violence through sharing her story and volunteering with domestic violence victims. Her passion is to educate communities on the prevalence of domestic violence. Brenda has one adult daughter, son-in-law, 3 grandchildren and a host of supportive family and friends. **WJ**

