Velmesha Howard, Social Work Intern, Apex therapist

Velmesha Howard is a current MSW student at Valdosta State University. She will graduate in May 2023 with a master's in social work. Velmesha is trained in CPR First Aid, CPI, CANS/ANSA, AMSR, and QPR. Velmesha obtained one year of experience working with LBHS residential program as a housing support technician providing daily skills to clients, ensuring medication was administered and taken properly, along with monitoring behaviors. Velmesha transferred to the outpatient child and adolescent unit within Legacy BHS, where she provides individual and family therapy to youth and young adults. Before working at LBHS, Velmesha worked at Lowndes Public Defender's office as a social worker where she connected offenders and their families with resources and worked closely with adolescents to decrease unwanted behaviors. Velmesha has linked families to resources at state and local levels throughout her time in the positions described above. Velmesha continues to build her skills to help and support families in our community.

Ashley Dailey, Bachelor of Science, Paraprofessional

Ashley Dailey is a current case manager at LBHS working with families with mental health and substance abuse diagnoses by assisting with finding resources in the community and educating individuals on life skills and coping skills. Prior to her case management role, Ashley served as a Pre-Service Coordinator at LBHS Behavioral Health Crisis Center, where she helped families with the check in process for when they dropped loved ones off for inpatient care by giving them information on how long the stay could be as well as what items they could bring with them and times when the family member would be able to contact the clients. Prior to graduating college, Ashley worked at a theme park for four years ensuring families enjoying their time spent together in safe manner. While in college Ashley rushed a sorority where she was involved in an easter egg hunt for the families and the children of individuals who were apart of the Haven which is an emergency women's shelter for those who have been involved in domestic abuse. Ashley is trained in CPR First Aid, CPI, QPR and CALM.

Charly McDonald, Bachelor of Science, Paraprofessional

Charly has been with LBHS for almost a year in a case manager's role where she assists individuals with finding resources within the community while providing education on life skills and coping skills. In college, Charly volunteered with CASA SOWEGA as a child advocate for children involved with DFCS. Charly's life goal is to work with families, strengthening the bond between family members and couples. Charly's patient personality and motivation to learn has provided clients seeking mental health and substance abuse treatment hope and determination to accomplish their goals. Charly is currently trained in CPR First Aid, CPI, QPR, CALM while actively pursuing training in Family Violence.

Caitlyn Disparti, Bachelor of Arts, Paraprofessional

Caitlyn is a current case manager at LBHS. Caitlyn has obtained her Bachelor of Arts in psychology and is currently pursuing her master's in school counseling. Caitlyn has worked in the school setting as a prevention specialist providing group and individual sessions to students with behavioral and mental health problems. Caitlyn has also carried a case manager for school aged youth helping students establish coping skills for their mental health disorders, as well as providing support and education to the families. Caitlyn has a passion for working with youth and families. Caitlyn is trained in CPR First Aid, CPI, QPR, and CALM.

Bonita Williams, Master of Arts, Paraprofessional, Jail In-Reach Coordinator

Bonita Williams is the current Jail In-Reach Coordinator at Lowndes County Jail for LBHS. Bonita has her Master of Arts degree in counseling from Prairie View A&M University. Bonita invested 27 years as a special education educator in the Dallas Independent School District, before retiring in 2019. Bonita is certified in Special Education K-12 and School Counseling in the state of Texas. Bonita has dedicated many years to training and educating parents of special needs children. Bonita has worked with support groups for parents of special needs students and coordinated activities on their behalf. Bonita possesses a passion and concern for

