

# 2002 HIGHLIGHTS

**Center Hosts Public Forum.....January 18, 2002**  
*The Board of Directors hosted a public forum for consumers to speak out against the Governor's Medicaid cuts. 150+ attended the event along with members of the media.*

**Rep. John Boozman Visits Center.....April 2, 2002**  
*Rep. John Boozman and Deputy Chief of Staff Donna Hutchinson toured the Center and discussed behavioral healthcare issues.*

**55,000th Record Opened.....April 2002**

**Center Celebrates 30 Years.....April 19, 2002**  
*The Center celebrates 30 years providing behavioral healthcare to those in our communities.*

**Cindy Buckner Named "Employee of the Year" .....April 19, 2002**

**Sharon Strawn named "Practitioner of the Year" .....April 19, 2002**

**Acute Psychiatric Care Restructured.....May 2002**  
*The Center restructures psychiatric care due to the closing of Sparks Hospital inpatient psychiatric wing on June first.*

**DHS Director Visits Center.....May 9, 2002**  
*The Center hosted personnel from the Arkansas Department of Human Services to discuss behavioral healthcare. Guests included: DHS Director Kurt Knickrhem, DHS Deputy Director John Selig, DMS Director Ray Hanley, and DMHS Director Richard Hill.*

**Playground for Pre-Schoolers.....June 2002**  
*A pre-schoolers' playground was built by Eagle Scout candidate Drew Cogbill for use by the LEAP children.*

**Children's Garden.....July 2002**  
*The kids from the Afterschool Program plant a garden in the breezeway between the Fitness Center and the Primary Service Center.*

**Washington Lobbyist Visits Center.....August 2002**  
*Jon Westin with the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare visits the Center to learn the workings of a community Center. Jon is in Government Relations and advocates for Behavioral Healthcare issues in Washington D.C.*

**Board Chair Wins National Award.....August 6, 2002**  
*Board Chair Warren Blaylock wins the prestigious Kathleen Peak Award at the Annual Meeting of the Mental Health Council of Arkansas.*

**9-1-1 Memorial Picnic.....September 11, 2002**  
*The Center remembered those who died in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks by having a memorial picnic on the Primary Service Center grounds.*

*Therapeutic Day Treatment Program Starts.....October, 2002*  
*Child & Family Services unveils the Therapeutic Day Treatment Program. The TDT is a school-based program currently in 2 Van Buren schools offering intensive therapy for children in serious need.*

*Advanced Practice Nurses Join Staff.....November 2002*  
*Director of Clinical Services hires two Advanced Practice Nurses to help with medication management responsibilities.*