

## A smile and common sense ...

# Oscar brings his best to table

Oscar Grant is one of those people you can't help but like.

That's the assessment with which Robert Wilford, executive director of CRDC, begins his description of Grant. But, it's only the beginning.

"Oscar has a warm, sincere smile when it appears," he continues. "But sometimes you see that wariness that comes with having been a long-time school teacher. You're always looking beyond the obvious and digging below the apparent."

That, according to Wilford, is one reason Grant is such a valuable member of the CRDC board of directors.

"Oscar is always looking at the 'what if' in any given situation," says Wilford. "He weighs every situation and reacts accordingly. His intelligence and common sense provide him with a sound foundation that is being utilized for the good of CRDC."

Grant, a retired educator, has been a member of the board for the past two years. He has served on the board's

planning committee and filled its chaplain position until recently.

A native of Madison (near Forrest City), he and his wife of 46 years, Alder M. Grant, now reside in Marked Tree. Oscar represents the community sector of Poinsett County.

With a master's degree in education and a bachelor of science in mathematics, Grant also holds an associate of arts degree in solar technology.

The retired educator is a veteran teacher, having taught 12 years of science and mathematics on the junior and senior high school levels, and 30 years as an instructor of physical sciences at Mississippi County Community College. For 12 years, he was chairman of the Division of Science and Mathematics at MCCC.

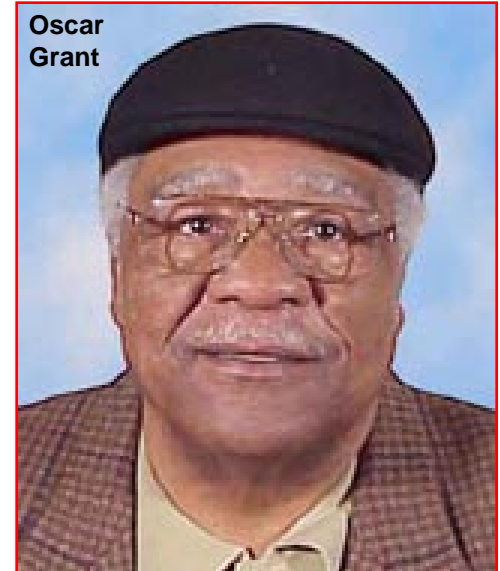
"Oscar brings a lot to the table for CRDC and we are extremely grateful for his input and support," Wilford says.

Grant and his wife are the parents of

three children, two daughters and a son.

When the venerable board member isn't helping move the agency forward, he is busy with his wife, his children or his beloved fishing and gardening.

He will never be accused of having idle hands, Wilford asserts.

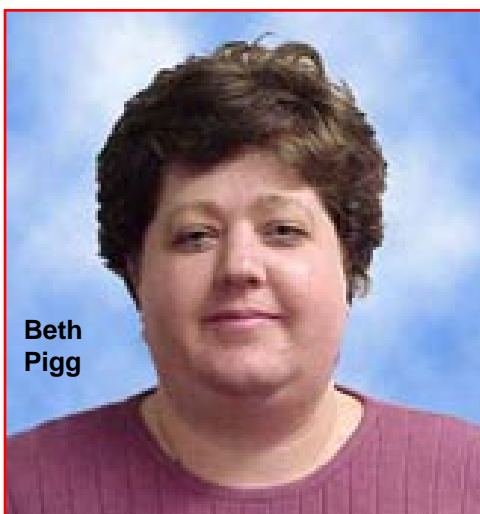


Oscar Grant

## Beth Pigg – our 'can do' lady

If you're looking for that "can do, will do" staffer at CRDC, it is necessary to look no further than a cubicle in the Lawrence Hamilton Building in Jonesboro.

That is where Human Services is housed and where Beth Pigg, CSBG/family services manager for Crittenden, Cross, Poinsett and St.



Beth Pigg

Francis Counties, hangs her hat, so to speak.

A member of the CRDC staff for the past three years and three months, this energetic, gregarious individual has served in a number of capacities, including family services assistant, emergency services specialist, CSBG coordinator and family/community services associate manager. And in each position, she has set new standards for customer service.

Beth stresses that the favorite part of her job is "working with our customers to help them become more self-sufficient."

Providing customers with a means of creating a brighter future for themselves and their families is a goal Beth feels must be attained if those in need of the agency's help are to truly benefit.

And, speaking of goals, Beth will tell anyone who will listen that one of hers is to "increase the type of services

offered through (CRDC's) family services."

The native of Memphis, TN, is one of those people who doesn't see failure as an option. She stresses that agency customers depend on the strength of the programs offered and the thoroughness with which they support the aspirations of those willing to work toward a better life.

During those times that Beth isn't at work, thinking about work or working at home, the human services stand-out likes to spend time with her husband of 20 years, Lee, and their children, Nikki and Chris.

Of course, she also enjoys play time with her favorite canine, a Yorkie named Grady that is laden with energy and exudes a wealth of personality.

And if there's any time left over, she dives into her one obsession, genealogy.

If she still hasn't found out who she is, we can tell her. And we're proud she is a member of the CRDC family!