

Helen Newman observes 31 years of service Head Start vet celebrates

Helen Newman, supervising area manager for CRDC's Child Development Head Start program, will be the first to tell anyone that the past 31 years in community action have been filled with a healthy measure of truly gratifying experiences.

"I am so very grateful and thankful for everything and everyone that I have been a part of through the years," she emphasizes. "I have thoroughly enjoyed working within CRDC with the administrators, staff, children, parents and communities ... 'helping to make a difference.'"

Her present duties include supervising area managers within Lee, St. Francis, Crittenden, Cross and Craighead Counties, and monitoring all classroom procedures and documentation, as well as other activities as assigned.

While Helen has been a member of the CRDC staff for the past five years and has earned glowing praise from her immediate supervisor, Charlie Granberry, director of child development, the early childhood education specialist spent her first 26 years with East Central Arkansas

Economic Opportunity Corporation (ECAEOC).

Prior to starting her career in community action programs, Helen obtained a BSE degree with majors in early childhood education and elementary education. She has also completed 15 hours of post-graduate studies and met requirements in alcohol/drug abuse counseling and grant writing.

The native of Marianna has served in various capacities including Head Start teacher, assistant head teacher, handicap coordinator, parent involvement, home visitation, special aide, education specialist, assistant to the Head Start director and alcohol/drug abuse director.

She is the mother of two, Stacie and Steven, both of whom attended two years in Head Start. Her hobbies include singing and walking.

She counts among her many accomplishments the completion of various training sessions in the field of early childhood education in her steady advancement up the agency ladder.

She is especially proud of the fact that she is an ordained minister and says

she gives "thanks to Almighty God" for all she has accomplished.

Robert Wilford, executive director of CRDC, says "Helen represents the level of professionalism we seek in our staff at Head Start. Our program is one of the largest and best in Arkansas and we are all proud of it. Helen's contributions to the program are too many to mention."



Helen Newman

The screenshot shows the website for Crowley's Ridge Development Council, Inc. (CRDC). At the top, the logo and tagline "Helping People ... Changing Lives!" are visible. A navigation menu on the left includes links for About Us, History, Resources, Directors, Staff, Publications, Affiliations, Funding, Contact, Bulletin Board, and Employment. The main content area features a celebratory banner with the text "We're celebrating our ... ANNIVERSARY!" and "... of 'Helping People ... Changing Lives!'". Below the banner is a map of the region with county names and a "Substance Abuse Treatment" icon.

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