



DIANNE V. CURTAIN/Staff Photographer

Roberta Jones now is working at CSH after getting help from PEACH program

Breaking the cycle

Program aims to move people off welfare and into working world

By Loretta Crosby
Staff writer

Roberta Jones always wanted to be a nurse. But after getting pregnant in her early teens and leaving home, she took a job at a local pizza parlor to help support herself and child.

Even with the job, Jones still qualified for and received public assistance from the Department of Family and Children Services.

But her \$100-a-week paycheck and assistance payments were not enough.

"Every week I was paying bills, and sometimes I was lucky to have \$2 left," the 21-year-old Baldwin County resident said.

Jones soon decided she did not want to continue living like that. Eventually, a talk with guidance counselor led her to a federal grant to pay for her nursing education at Macon Tech. Then other things started to happen for Jones.

At first the Job Training and Partnership Act program offered assistance in helping with expenses while she got an education to get into the job market. Then came the letter from the Positive Employment And Community Help program.

PEACH has one major goal: to help motivated clients break the cycle of long-term dependency on welfare assistance.

The federally funded, state-supported program, operated by the county Department of Family and Children Services, targets certain clients who receive welfare assistance payments and Medicaid.

Without duplicating the efforts of the JTPA program, it attempts to overcome barriers to employment and self-sufficiency by offering child care, transportation and vocational, educational and employment assistance to program participants. Also offered are classes on the importance of timeliness, punctuality, dressing and conducting a job interview.

It also gets participants enrolled in GED classes or helps them complete application forms for financial

aid to attend college.

"Mainly we are involved with vocational training through Macon Tech," with participants training in practical nursing, clerical skills and office procedures, said Eva Stevenson, the local PEACH supervisor. About five participants attend Georgia College or Georgia Military College, she said.

SINCE THE PROGRAM began in 20 Georgia counties in 1986, almost 15,000 adults receiving welfare assistance have enrolled in college or technical schools, and 10,599 have found permanent jobs, state officials report.

As of Oct. 1, 128 counties were participating in the program, which came to Baldwin County in April 1991.

Among the expenses Jones said PEACH covered were \$10 a day for school-related expenses, such as transportation, and \$3 for meals. It also paid for her nursing pin and nursing review and offered to pay for her state board exam. When her 6-year-old was out of school this summer, the \$60 a week for his day care was covered.

Jones also receive emotional support from Mary Lundy, her DFCS caseworker, when she worried about some of her classes at Macon Tech.

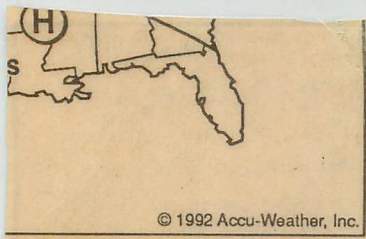
"She's not trying to tell you what to do," Jones said. "She'll listen and give you encouragement. She'd say, 'You're going to make it.'"

And if the goal of the program is to move people off welfare and into the working world, it has worked for Jones, who graduated from Macon Tech in September and now is working full time as a graduate practical nurse at Central State Hospital. She plans to return to school in January to work on her RN degree and wants to volunteer to help with the PEACH program.

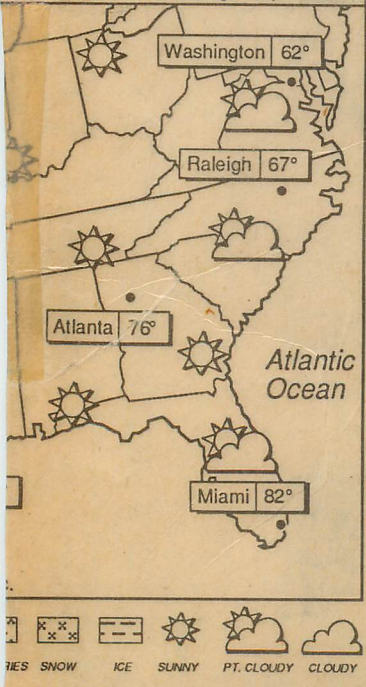
Jones admits it took courage to take the first step in deciding she wanted a better life for herself and son. She encourages others to follow her example.

"The decision is not Family and Children Services', it's yours," Jones said. "It's up to you to decide this is not enough.

"If you go out there and find out about one thing, the door to the others will be opened. It's not going to come to you."



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for daytime conditions and high temperatures



145.85
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NYSE Diary

Advances:	848	New highs	
Declines:	925		71
Unchanged:	575	New lows	
Total issues:	2348		60

Total volume: 266,310,720

Local-interest stocks

Stock	Last	Chg
Atlanta Gas Light.....	.36	- 1/8
Baxter International.....	.32 3/4	- 1/4
Central & Southern (b).....	.4	
Champion Int'l.....	.24 3/4	
Coca-Cola Ent'prises.....	.11 1/2	- 1/8
Engelhard.....	.31 1/2	+ 5/8
Freeport McMoran.....	.19	
Food Lion.....	.10	
Grumman.....	.20 5/8	+ 1/8
International Paper.....	.64	
Knight-Ridder.....	.57	- 1
Louisiana Pacific.....	.51 3/8	
McDonald's.....	.42 1/2	- 1/4
NationsBank.....	.45 1/2	+ 1/8
Scientific Atlanta.....	.29 1/2	+ 1/2
Shaw Industries.....	.24 3/8	- 1/4
Shoney's.....	.19 1/2	+ 1/2
Southern Co.....	.36 3/8	- 1/4
Union Camp.....	.44	- 1/4
Wal-Mart.....	.62	+ 3/4
Winn-Dixie.....	.67 1/2	+ 1/8

(b) - bid

Provided by Edward D. Jones and Co.

BellAtl	47 1/4 - 1/4	Navistr	2 1/8 ...
BellSo	52 1/4 - 1/4	NflkSo	59 1/4 + 1 3/8
Boeing	37 3/8 + 3/8	Nynex	84 3/4 - 3/4
Borden	28 + 1/4	OcciPet	16 3/4 ...
CPCs	47 7/8 + 1/4	OhioEd	22 - 1/4
Chevrn	72 3/4 - 1/8	OwenC	31 + 7/8
Chrysr	26 3/8 + 7/8	PPG	60 1/4 + 5/8
CocaCl s	40 1/2 - 1/4	PacTel	42 - 1 1/8
vjColGs	20 1/2 - 3/4	Penny	75 1/4 + 1 1/2
CurtWr	28 1/4 - 1/8	PepsiC	40 1/8 ...
DPLs	19 3/4 - 1/8	Pfizer	75 3/8 + 7/8
DelVal	9-16 ...	PhilMr	78 3/8 + 3/4
DialCp	38 + 1/4	PhilPet	25 3/8 ...
DowCh	54 1/4 + 1/2	Polaroid	31 ...
Dressr	19 3/8 - 1/8	Praxarn	15 3/4 ...
DuPont	46 1/4 - 3/4	Primca	42 5/8 + 3/4
EKodak	42 - 3/8	QuakrO	64 7/8 + 3/8
Eaton	76 3/4 + 1 1/2	RalsPu	41 1/2 ...
Exxon	62 3/8 ...	Rockwl	25 5/8 - 1/4
FMC	46 3/8 + 1	SFePC	12 1/2 ...
FabriCtr	11 + 1/4	SaraLee	58 7/8 + 7/8
FordM	38 3/4 + 5/8	ScottP	36 3/8 + 3/8
GTE	34 1/8 ...	Sears	42 1/2 - 1/8
GenCrp	9 1/4 + 1/8	SwBell	67 1/2 - 2
GnDyn	97 - 3/4	Texaco	61 1/2 + 3/8
GenEl	76 - 1/2	Timken	25 3/8 + 1/2
GnMill	68 3/8 + 1/4	Trinova	21 1/2 - 5/8
GnMotr	31 + 1 1/4	USWst	37 3/4 - 3/4
GM Es	29 3/4 + 1/2	USXMar	17 1/4 + 1/8
GaPac	54 7/8 - 1/8	USXUSS	24 1/2 + 5/8
Gillete	58 7/8 - 5/8	UCarb	13 - 1/8
Gdrich	41 1/2 - 3/8	WstgEl	12 7/8 ...
Goodyr	64 1/2 + 1/2	Weyerh	35 7/8 + 1/4
GtAtPc	25 1/2 ...	Whrlpl	36 7/8 + 1/8
Herculs	57 1/2 ...	Wolwth	32 3/8 ...
Humana	22 1/4 - 3/8	Xerox	78 -

Calendar

Memorial Library.
Monday

Next Yearwood speaks on day lilies and irises.

Bulletin board

Military digest
Pvt. Jessica M. Proctor has com

INSURANCE HELP: An investigator from the state insurance commissioner's office will be in the Baldwin County probate judge's office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to offer free assistance with insurance problems.

POLITICAL DEBATE: An open debate on the presidential candidates is at 7:30 p.m. in Room 126 of Maxwell Student Union at Georgia College. Moderated by debate coach David Muschell, the session focuses on how candidates stand on the issues and how they address them.

CHAMBER MUSIC: A free program of chamber music by performers of the Southeastern Music Festival begins at 8 p.m. at Max Noah Recital Hall in Porter Fine Arts Building on the Georgia College campus.

Tuesday

BLOOD DRIVE: The American Red Cross bloodmobile will be at the auditorium at Central State Hospital from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

GARDEN CLUB: The Carrington Woods Garden Club meets at 10 a.m. at Mary Vinson Memorial Library. Ear-

WOMANLESS BEAUTY CONTEST: A womanless beauty contest starts at 7 p.m. in Russell Auditorium on the campus of Georgia College, sponsored by the American Heart Association. Admission is \$3 at the door.

CITY COUNCIL: Milledgeville City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Wednesday

BHS BASKETBALL BOOSTERS: The Baldwin Basketball Boosters meet at 6 p.m. in the Baldwin High School library.

DANCE: The Milledgeville Georgia Bulldog Club sponsors a dance at 8 p.m. at Milledgeville Country Club. Terry Lee and the GTs will play '50s and '60s soul music. Tickets are \$25 per couple. For information, call Jim Cunningham at 453-8203.

"On the calendar" appears daily. Send the information, along with your name and telephone number, to *The Union-Recorder*, P.O. Box 520, Milledgeville 31061. Items also may be delivered to our office on Garrett Way or sent by fax by calling 452-9539. Deadline is 5 p.m. two days before publication.

pleted basic training at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C. She is the daughter of Mike Proctor of Sparta and the granddaughter of Edith L. Blair of Cartersville.

Florida lottery

Here are the winning numbers selected in the Florida lottery:

Cash 3
Wednesday - 0-3-4
Play 4
Wednesday - 7-1-8-9

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