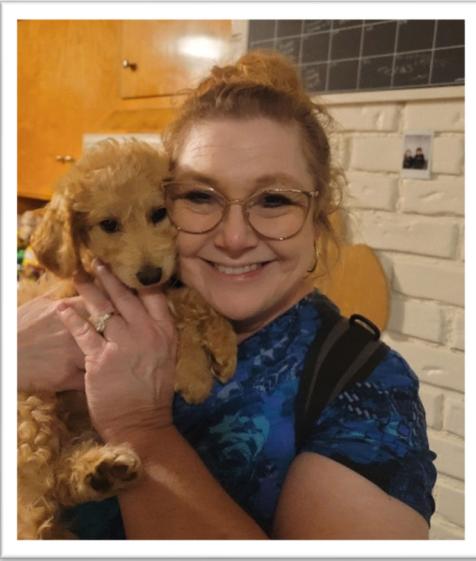




OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADER RECOGNITION

August 22, 2024



Name: Joni Rowley

Role: Case Manager

Organization: Community Action Services and Food Bank

Background:

Former elementary school PE teacher, Joni Rowley, came to Community Action in January of 2021 as an intern. As a Community Health Education student with her CHES certification, she was looking for an organization that served the homeless. Because of her efforts as an intern, she was hired as a Case Manager in August of 2021. Joni is an absolute joy to work with. She loves her clients and genuinely wants what is best for them. She is a good listener, spends the time needed to hear their stories and needs, and works hard to find the resources needed to put them on a better trajectory towards stable housing and a better future. She thinks creatively, is persistent, and goes the extra mile to support those she is working with. She is a bright spot in some hard days!

Recently, she worked with a single mother with a disabled adult child. The family had struggled to find and keep adequate housing due to several factors. Because of Joni's generous time and kind efforts, the family was able to find a permanent housing and are doing well. Without Joni's care, the family would have continued to be on the street without much hope.

Despite her own health issues, Joni stepped up to serve as a team leader at the warming centers and provided delicious treats helping the centers feel like home. She also serves as an after-hours case manager and works to shelter those in need at night, weekends, and holidays.