

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### *Photo and Interview Opportunities*

**Information Contact:**

Olivia Hicks

501-353-8259 | [ohicks@mhpteamsi.com](mailto:ohicks@mhpteamsi.com)

### **October Proclaimed as National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

*Celebration planned for October 5 at Arkansas State Capitol*

- WHO:** Leslie Rutledge, lieutenant governor of Arkansas; Jonathan Taylor, executive director of the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD); Christy Pettis, mathematics instructor for Arkansas School for the Deaf; Joseph Baxter, commissioner of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services (ARS); community leaders and community members.
- WHAT:** Lt. Gov. Leslie Rutledge will provide remarks to proclaim October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month at a ceremony on Oct. 5 at the Arkansas State Capitol.
- WHEN:** Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023  
10 a.m.
- WHERE:** Arkansas State Capitol Building Rotunda  
500 Woodlane St., Little Rock, AR 72201
- WHY:** The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is a member of the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD). The Council's purpose is to connect people with developmental disabilities to the resources and programs they need to be independent, be productive and be integrated and included in all parts of community life. GCDD, along with network partners, works to implement the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act in Arkansas to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of community services that allow increased opportunities to live and work locally. GCDD is funded by a grant from the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Community Living \(ACL\)](#) through the Administration on Disabilities Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD). Learn more at [GCDD.Arkansas.gov](http://GCDD.Arkansas.gov).