

# GCTC Students Tour and Volunteer



Health Science students (back, l to r) Gracie Barnette, Gracie Hobson, Emily Smith, Lacy Martin, Macy McNatt, McCasland Ferguson, Christina Dowdle, Kirklynn Tyler, (front) Cora Beach, Kristin Salley, and Megan Wilson toured the Montgomery Veterans Association Medical Center in Jackson.



Teacher Academy students (l to r) Jordan Bryant and Nicolas Johnson volunteered at the Food Pantry.



Teacher Academy students (back, l to r) Jordan Bryant, Monnae Willis, Kennedy Hardy, Kayla Ringo, and (front) Ashlee Hankins volunteered at the Swamp tours during Downtown Jubilee.

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Student Services Coordinators

Students at the Grenada Career and Technical Center have been learning about different careers and community organizations through field trips and volunteer work in the community. These activities inspire them to accomplish their goals of studying and eventually working in healthcare, education, and other service occupations.

On October 19 the Health Science classes toured the G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi. This real-world experience helped the students gain first-hand knowledge forging a connection to the information learned in the classroom. The tour included several departments

such as Radiology, where the technician showed them scans from an MRI machine.

Another stop was the Lab where many different career opportunities are performed daily including phlebotomist, medical laboratory technician, pathologist, cytotechnologist and medical laboratory scientist. Each lab technician explained their daily job responsibilities.

They visited an actual operating room, viewed the different instruments used, and were allowed to tour the surgery floor seeing doctors performing operations. Students were allowed to “suit-up” to enter the surgical floor.

The head of the Pharmacy Department of the VA Hospital explained the critical nature of handling medicine and the

last stop was the prosthetics lab, where they observed a technician constructing a prosthetic device for a patient. This field trip taught the students about many different job opportunities available in the Health Science field.

Students in the Teacher Academy program participating in the Educators Rising Club volunteered at the Grenada Food Pantry on October 19. They moved and opened boxes, swept, cleaned, organized food items, and filled sacks on an assembly line. They exceeded their goal of 350 sacks by filling 400 paper sacks. The grocery items donated by local businesses benefit the hundreds of people who receive food each month at the food distribution center. The students learned the importance of volunteering to support the many organizations to help people in

need within the community.

Educators Rising students also participated in Grenada’s Downtown Jubilee on September 19 as a community service project. They encouraged people to take a free tour to learn about the Chakchiuma Swamp Natural Area. They distributed information about the wagon ride tour and the trail walking tour. A guide provided interpretive information about the importance of preserving natural resources in swamp areas.

All of these activities encourage the students to work diligently to achieve their goals and to become well-informed community citizens.

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