

# BUILDING A COMMUNITY BY LEARNING AND GIVING



The Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center started the 18-to-39 Parental Empowerment Project with the goal of connecting a thousand young adults in Phillips County with the resources that could speed their growth and improve their lives and those of their children.

Thirty-one young citizens in July attended BGACDC's Community Outreach Fair, where they engaged with leaders of more than a dozen government agencies and community institutions that could advance their education, job training and careers, improve their health care, provide legal assistance and transportation, assure their count in the census, and spur them to get involved in civic affairs of the community. Lifelong learning is a principal vision of BGACDC and a big antidote to poverty and discrimination.

The discussions were led by representatives of the Delta Cultural Center, Phillips County Community College, Section 8 of the federal Housing and Urban Development Department, the Marvell-Elaine School-based Health Center, Legal Aid, the Phillips County Health Department, Phillips County Extension Service, Kindred Hospice, Thrive graphic-design center and community-development project at Helena, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the state Division of Workforce Services and others.

BGACDC will follow up with everyone later to determine the benefits that the participants received from the fair.