

EFFICIENCY AND INNOVATION



DONALD BULLOCK

Department of Health and Human Services, Murdoch Developmental Center

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Vehicle/Equipment Repair Supervisor Donald Bullock's job responsibilities entail performing all aspects of vehicle maintenance, repair and fabrication for over 100 vehicles, plus other motorized and landscaping equipment. Still, Bullock's full plate doesn't stop him from going well beyond what is expected of him by finding ways to repurpose and reuse existing vehicles and equipment to best suit the needs of the residents and staff at the Murdoch Developmental Center in Butner. By applying his mechanical expertise, Bullock consistently delivers resourceful solutions demonstrating dedication to his work.

Before Bullock's dedicated efforts, Murdoch's grounds crew spent countless hours gathering and clearing autumn leaves from the campus' numerous 60-year-old oak trees. Determined to find a more efficient way to keep parking spaces visible and free of leaves, Bullock designed and built a large vacuum attached to a gated trailer. The device makes it much easier to clear the leaves and effortlessly transport them directly into the compost pile on campus. When staff struggled to transport non-ambulatory residents on group outings, Bullock jumped in with another brilliant fabrication. Using a cargo trailer, Bullock led the construction of a fully enclosed mobile unit equipped with air conditioning, running water, a changing bed and storage space for necessary supplies in adherence to all state and federal regulations. As a result, Murdoch's staff no longer have to worry about how to give residents the privacy and dignity they deserve when tending to their bedside needs. Similarly, Bullock was instrumental in customizing a pontoon boat that allows Murdoch residents to enjoy a local lake. The customizations Bullock added to the boat include wheelchair tie-downs designed to the specific needs of Murdoch residents' chairs, equipment to assist in loading chairs from the dock to the boat and other safety features put in place with Murdoch's population in mind.



Donald Bullock's innovative mind consistently improves the lives of Murdoch Developmental Center's staff and residents. He proactively creates and implements projects outside of his job requirements with enthusiasm and efficiency. The State of North Carolina proudly recognizes Bullock for his brilliant ideas and initiative.