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**Library's JobLINC and LINC 2-1-1 Invite Customers to
'Get Connected MEMPHIS'!
*Coming to Central Library Saturday, August 22***

MEMPHIS, TN – Connecting Memphians to community resources, jobs, and information has been the goal of Memphis Public Library’s LINC Department for 40 years, JobLINC Career Services for 25 years, and LINC/2-1-1 for 10 years. To celebrate these major milestones, the Memphis Public Library & Information Center will host ***Get Connected MEMPHIS***, **10 am – 2 pm** on **Saturday, August 22, 2015** at the **Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library** (3030 Poplar Avenue). City of Memphis **Mayor A C Wharton** will **speak at 11 am**, along with Diana Bedwell (United Way vice president of community impact) and Mike Carpenter (The Plough Foundation executive director). Diane Rudner, also representing The Plough Foundation, will attend the event as well.

This community fair is an opportunity for customers to “connect” with organizations like The Church Health Center, Workforce Investment Network, American Red Cross, Dixon Gallery & Gardens, the Family Safety Center, Baptist Operation Outreach Mobile Unit for the Homeless, Southern College of Optometry MobilEYES Clinic, the Aging Commission of the Mid-South, the Memphis Police Department, food trucks, and many more. (See complete list below.) Lifeblood will host a blood drive during the fair also.

“The Memphis Public Library is the go-to place for information and referrals,” said Director of Libraries Keenon McCloy. “Through this community event, we aim to help our customers ‘connect, learn, and grow’, while helping to ensure ‘prosperity and economic opportunity for all’ – according to the Mayor’s Strategic Priorities. Whether connecting people to employers or essential services during challenging times, JobLINC and LINC/2-1-1 are tremendous community resources!”

LINC/2-1-1 Public Services Supervisor and event planner Audrey May added, “It is so important that people know how to find information. We have collected numerous community agencies to showcase the kinds of services people have access to through calling LINC/2-1-1.”

Attending organizations include:

1. Baptist Operation Outreach Mobile Unit for the Homeless
2. Durham School Services
3. LeMoyne-Owen College Science Lab
4. Memphis Animal Services (pet adoptions)
5. Memphis Fire Department
6. Memphis Police Department
7. Dixon Gallery & Gardens – Art Education & Outreach
8. Kona Ice (food truck)
9. Memphis City Beautiful – Mobile Tool Bank
10. Southern College of Optometry MobilEYES Clinic
11. SouthernDawgs (food truck)
12. Aging Commission of the Mid-South
13. Alliance Healthcare Services
14. Church Health Center
15. City of Memphis – Office of Community Affairs
16. Family Safety Center
17. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis
18. Hope for the Mid-South
19. HopeWorksMemphis Center for Independent Living
20. Memphis Crisis Center
21. Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center
22. Mid-South Spay & Neuter Services
23. Peace Corps
24. Seedco
25. Shelby County Community Services Agency
26. Shelby County Health Department – Emergency Preparedness
27. Shelby County Trustee – Bank on Memphis
28. Social Security Administration
29. Tennessee Career Center
30. U.S. Peace Corps
31. United Way of the Mid-South
32. Vet Center
33. American Red Cross
34. Lifeblood
35. Workforce Investment Network

“*Get Connected MEMPHIS*” will bring together what’s great in Memphis,” noted JobLINC Services Agency Manager Robyn Stone. “We will bring together community agencies that are doing good in Memphis and mobile vehicles that meet people where they are. There is something for everyone at *Get Connected MEMPHIS* and at your Library,” she concluded.

For more information about Get Connected MEMPHIS, call (901) 415-2785 or (901) 415-2718.

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**About The Memphis Public Library & Information Center:**

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center (MPLIC) is committed to satisfying the customer’s need to know. With 18 Library locations throughout the Greater Memphis area, MPLIC offers an array of programs, services, and resources for citizens and visitors to enjoy. They include JobLINC mobile career services, LINC/2-1-1 telephone referral services, a TV and radio station (WYPL TV-18, WYPL FM 89.3), a small business center, laptops for checkout and free Wi-Fi access, in addition to books,
e-books, DVDs, records, compact discs, and educational programs for children, teens, and adults. Customers can find age-appropriate services and a list of Library locations at www.memphislibrary.org.

Memphis Public Libraries are publicly and privately funded. Approximately three million people visit the Memphis Public Library & Information Center each year.

**About The City of Memphis:**

Under the leadership of Mayor A C Wharton Jr. since 2009, Memphis is becoming a City of Choice by focusing on creating safe and vibrant neighborhoods, investing in young people, creating economic opportunities for all, and delivering excellence in government. Memphis is famous around the world for the convergence of creativity and innovation that produced its most famous exports – legendary music; the company that invented modern world commerce – FedEx, and the international leader in curing catastrophic childhood illnesses – St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. It has a celebrated entrepreneurial history, more Fortune 500 companies than any other Tennessee city, and it has been named one of the best cities in the U.S. for startups.  It is famous as home for Elvis Presley’s Graceland, Sun Studios, Stax Museum of American Soul Music, Beale Street, the National Civil Rights Museum, and the most unspoiled riverfront on the Mississippi River. City of Memphis, which employs more than 6,000 people with an annual budget of approximately $650 million, has developed and led programs that have dramatically reduced crime, increased jobs, improved Memphis’ quality of life, and attracted national attention and investments in the city. For more information visit [www.memphistn.gov](http://www.memphistn.gov).