



STATE of MISSISSIPPI

Strategic Plan for Alzheimer's Disease
and Related Dementias

2020 — 2025

MISSISSIPPI STATE AGENCY SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS

A REFERENCE PROVIDED BY THE CAREGIVER SUPPORT GOAL
GROUP OF THE ALZHEIMER'S STATE PLAN

For More Information:
mindcenter@umc.edu
601.815.4237

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Mississippi Access to Care

The Mississippi Access to Care (MAC) Center is here to help older people and people with disabilities – along with their families and representatives – find long-term care services and supports to keep them living well and independently.

Service:

The MAC Center is a welcoming and accessible place located in Jackson, Mississippi, where people can obtain unbiased information and assistance in locating services and supports. The MAC Center provides a central source of reliable and objective information about a broad range of programs and services. The MAC Center also helps people understand and evaluate the various options available to them regardless of income or eligibility for publicly funded long-term care.

The MAC Center Specialists provide assistance within the local center, over the telephone, within a person's home, or in another convenient location. All assistance is free and confidential.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Website: To access a comprehensive resource directory, visit the link:
<https://www.mississippiacesstocare.org/>.

Contact Information:

To speak with a friendly professional, call toll-free 844-822-4MAC (or 844-822-4622)
Jackson MAC Center
1170 Lakeland Drive
Jackson, MS 39216

The Reassurance Program

Service: The Central Mississippi Area Agency on Aging Reassurance Program is provided by the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD), Central MS Area Agency on Aging, and The MAC Center, and seeks to meet the special needs of people who are elderly or physically challenged and living alone by placing a regular phone call at a pre-arranged time.

Calls are made to:

- Check on the client's well-being.
- Affirm that someone does care by sharing a few minutes in friendly conversation.
- Provide emergency follow-up.

Areas of accessibility: Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo counties in Central Mississippi

Apply for Service:

- Complete the Reassurance Program application at: <http://cmpdd.org/the-canton-mac-center/>
- Submit the completed application by:
 - Email: macjackson@cmpdd.org
 - Mail:
Jackson MAC Center
1170 Lakeland Drive
Jackson, MS 39216

Eligibility criteria: Live in the required counties stated above.

Website: <http://cmpdd.org/the-canton-mac-center/>

Contact Information:

844.822.4622

Fax: 601.391.1104

Email: macjackson@cmpdd.org

Contact Helpline

Service:

24 hour, faith-based, non-profit telephone service available to anyone of any age who needs someone to listen, care, and provide referrals to available resources. Daily calls are made to the elderly or disabled who live alone and a suicide prevention line is also available.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Website: <https://www.contacthelplinegrms.org/>

Contact information:

662.327.2968

Fax- 660.244.3454

P.O. Box 1304, Columbus, MS 39703

Medicaid Waiver Program

Home and Community Based Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program

Agency: Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD)

Service: The State of Mississippi Division of Medicaid and Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) provides home and community-based services to individuals who are at risk or would require the level of care found in a nursing facility called the Elderly & Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program.

Services Include: Homemaker services, in-home respite services, institutional respite, adult day care, unlimited home health visits, home-delivered meals, and escorted transportation. All costs for services are reimbursable to an approved provider and all services must be approved by the Division of Medicaid.

Area of Accessibility: Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, and Yazoo counties in Central Mississippi

Eligibility criteria:

- Beneficiaries must be 21 years of age or older;
- Persons qualify by either SSI or 300% of SSI
- Beneficiaries must score 50 or above on the Medicaid Long Term Care Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) instrument.
- Person must require nursing facility level of care, if assistance is not provided.

Apply for service:

Download the Medicaid Waiver Client Intake Form at: <http://www.cmpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Medicaid-Waiver-Client-Intake-Form.pdf>

A registered nurse and a licensed social worker visit the client on a monthly basis. The registered nurse and licensed social worker, working together as a professional team, must conduct the initial, then yearly assessment to assure that the client qualifies for the program.

Website: <https://cmpdd.org/medicaid-waiver/>

Contact information:

Teresa Shoto
Phone: 888-995-9925

Bridge to Independence

Bridge to Independence is a Northeast Mississippi Planning and Development District (NEMPDD) program that assists individuals who wish to move from qualified institutions to homes in the community. NEMPDD will provide you with a Community Navigator that will help plan and implement a move to the community and coordinate community based support and services such as, Attendant Care, Transportation, Life Skills Training, Caregiver Support, Peer Counseling, and Safety Planning.

Financial assistance will be available for the following areas; Durable Medical Equipment, Security and Utility Deposits, Household Furnishings and Goods, Moving Expenses, Home Modifications for Accessibility, and Therapy such as Physical, Occupational, and Speech. Transition services are available for 365 days following discharge from a qualified facility. After that, individuals will continue to receive Medicaid Waiver.

Agency: Northeast Mississippi Planning and Development District (NEMPDD)

Area of accessibility: Alcorn, Benton, Marshall, Prentiss, Tippah, and Tishomingo counties of Northeast Mississippi

Eligibility criteria:

- 65 years or older
- Must have a physical, mental developmental, or intellectual disability
- Qualify for transitioning back into a home or community from a qualified institution
- Live in Alcorn, Benton, Marshall, Prentiss, Tippah, and Tishomingo counties of Northeast Mississippi

Website: www.nempdd.com

Contact information:

Celita Miller

cmiller@nempdd.com

Mail inquiries to:

Northeast MS Planning & Development District

662-728-6248

662-728-2417 (Fax)

PO Box 600, Booneville, MS 38829

Veterans Benefits Administration

Contacts:

800-827-1000 - Benefits

877-294-6380 - Beneficiary

Memphis TN Veteran's Health Care System

901-523-8990

G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery VA Medical Center

601-364-1511 or 601-362-4471 - Eligibility

Gulf Coast Veteran's Health Care System

228-523-5000

* Must be vested in the VA health care system to be eligible for VA services

Veterans Administration Resources

Respite (In home/inpatient)

Service: Give Caregivers temporary relief from the demands of daily care and support the Veteran's desire to stay in their home and delay or even prevent nursing home placement. Eligible Veteran's receive 30 days of Respite in a calendar year.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicants must meet one of the listed criteria presented below.

Criteria 1- Applicants show 3 or more ADL dependencies

Criteria 2- A significant cognitive impairment accompanied with 2 ADL dependencies and 2 of the following:

- Dependent in 3 or more IADLs
- Recently discharged from a nursing home
- At least 75 years old
- 3 or more hospitalizations in the last year
- Diagnosed with Clinical Depression
- Lives alone in the Community

Respite Programs:

Home Health Aide Services or Home Health Aide Program

Service: A home health aide will spend 3-4 hours at a time with an eligible applicant 2 to 3 times per week. Services include bathing, dressing, or other activities of daily living.

Referral: Consult "NON VA CARE GEC NON-SKILLED HOME HEALTH AIDE"

Home Respite

Service: An aid will visit with the eligible veteran in their home for up to 6 hours at a time. A maximum of 15 visits in a 6 month period.

Referral: Consult- "NON VA CARE GEC RESPITE HOME"

Inpatient Respite

Service: The duration of services is 30 days per calendar year in either CLC or a Contract Nursing Home. Contract Nursing Home Respite Stays have a 10 day trial period in which the caregiver must remain in town and be able to pick up the Veteran if Inpatient Respite is not an appropriate fit for the Veteran.

Referral: "EC INPT RESPITE CARE" consult

Eligibility criteria:

- Veteran must be medically and psychiatrically stable
- 30 days prior to admission, Veteran must have an H&P, labs, TB test, and chest x-ray.

Contract Adult Day Health Care

Service: 2 to 5 days per week at Gulf Shores Adult Day Care Biloxi

Gulf Shores Adult Day Care program provides the following:

- Transportation to and from home
- Activities such as Bingo
- Medication Management while at the facility
- Bathing assistance
- RN nursing care
- Appropriate supervision for Veterans with Dementia.

Referral: Consult-"NON VA CARE GEC ADULT DAY CARE"

(Biloxi VA GCVHCS. Station Memorandum No. 11E-30-15, 2015)

Home Based Primary Care

Service: Primary Care Services provided in the home by the HBPC team.

Eligibility criteria:

- Primarily homebound, bedridden, or terminally ill
- Unable to make clinical visits without excessively taxing effort
- Live within a 60-mile radius of Biloxi VA, the JACC, or MOPC

Referral: Consult "EC OUTPT HOME BASED PRIMARY CARE"

(Biloxi VA GCVHCS. Station Memorandum No. 11E-10-15, 2015)

Medical Foster Homes

Service: "Non-institutional alternative for appropriate chronically-ill and terminally-ill veterans who wish to live in a community setting, but lack the social support needed to remain in their own homes.

(Biloxi VA GCVHCS. Station Memorandum No. 11E-10-15, 2015)

Eligibility

- Requires Supervision
- Free from alcohol or illicit drugs
- Free of communicable disease
- Medically and Psychiatrically stable

Apply for service:

- Must enroll in HBPC
- Medical Clearance from the director of HBPC

Referral: Consult: "EC INPT MEDICAL FOSTER HOME PROGRAM"

VA Long Term Care

Service: "VA is authorized to provide nursing home care to all Veterans who need such care and who meet the minimum length of service requirement."

Eligibility criteria: VA is mandated to provide Long Term Care (LTC) Benefits to Veterans who:

- Require LTC due to a service-connected disability
- Require LTC and have a service-connected disability rated at 70 percent or more.

VA supports institutional extended care in three venues:

Community Living Centers (requires 70% Service Connection or higher)

Services:

- Memory Care Unit
- Long Term Care
- Short Stay Rehab
- Inpatient Hospice

Referral:

- Long Term Care: Consult "EC BILOXI VA LONG TERM CARE/COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER INPT"
- Short Stay Rehab: "EC BILOXI VA SHORT STAY REAHB INPT"
- Memory Care: "EC BILOXI VA LONG TERM DEMENTIA CARE/COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER INPT"
- Inpatient Hospice: "EC INPT HOSPICE CARE FACILITY"

Contract Nursing Homes (requires 70% Service Connection or higher)

- Driftwood Nursing Home- Gulfport, Mississippi
- Stone County Nursing and Rehab Center-Wiggins MS
- Allen Nursing and Rehabilitation-Mobile, AL

- Kensington-Mobile, AL
- Chautauqua-Defuniak Springs, FL
- Rosewood-Pensacola, FL

State Veterans Homes

Veteran Homes in Mississippi:

- Collins Veterans Home
- Jackson Veterans Home
- Oxford Veterans Home
- Martha Jo Leslie State Veterans Home (Kosciusko)

Fees:

- Vary by state
- The veteran does not have to have a Service Connection but those with a 70% Service Connection or greater do not have copayments or fees.

Apply for service:

The application can be found at <http://www.vab.ms.gov/contact.shtml>
(Department of Veteran Affairs, 2016)

VA Hospice

Eligibility criteria:

- Ability to speak limited to approximately ≤ 6 intelligible different words in the course of an average day or in the course of an intensive interview.
- Speech ability is limited to the use of a single intelligible word in an average day or in the course of an intensive interview
- Ambulatory ability is lost (cannot walk without personal assistance.)
- Cannot sit up without assistance
- Loss of ability to smile.
- Loss of ability to hold up head independently
- One or more of the following conditions in the 12 months:
 - Aspiration pneumonia
 - Pyelonephritis
 - Septicemia
 - Multiple pressure ulcers (stage 3-4)
 - Recurrent Fever
 - Other significant condition that suggests a limited prognosis
 - Inability to maintain sufficient fluid and calorie intake in the past 6months (10% weight loss or albumin < 2.5 gm/dl)

(Ross, J. & Sanchez-Reilly, S., 2013).

Inpatient Hospice:

- CLC
- Contract Nursing Home

Referral: Consult "EC INPT HOSPICE CARE FACILITY"

Home Hospice:

- Contract with Community Agencies

Referral: Consult "EC INPT HOSPICE CARE HOME"
(Biloxi VA GCVHCS. Station Memorandum No. 11E-01-15, 2015)

American Veterans Aid & Attendance Benefit

Service: The Department of Veteran Affairs offers a special benefit to war era veterans and their surviving spouses called Aid and Attendance.

This is a tax-free benefit designed to provide financial assistance to help cover the cost of long-term care in the home, in an assisted living facility or in a nursing home.

This Benefit is for those veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person or caregiver in at least two of the daily activities of living such as bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, and transferring.

Benefit Table: All benefits are Tax Free

Status	Monthly Benefit
Surviving Spouse	\$1,228 Monthly/ \$14,742 Annually
Single Veteran	\$1,911 Monthly/ \$22,939 Annually
Married Veteran	\$2,266 Monthly/ \$27,195 Annually
Two Vets Married	\$3,032 Monthly/ \$36,387 Annually

Eligibility criteria:

Requirements

- Must have served at least 90 days of active duty with at least one day during a period of war.
- Must have anything other than a Dishonorable discharge.
- A surviving spouse must have been married to the veteran at the time of his passing.
- Must require the assistance of another person to perform some of the daily activities of living.
- Must meet income and countable asset criteria established by the VA.
- Must be 65 years and older or totally disabled.

Eligible Periods of War:

- **World War II:** December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946, inclusive. If the veteran was in service on December 31, 1946, continuous service before July 26, 1947, is considered World War II service.
- **Korean conflict:** June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955, inclusive.
- **Vietnam era:** The period beginning on February 28, 1961, and ending on May 7, 1975, inclusive, in the case of a veteran who served in the Republic of Vietnam during that period. The period beginning on August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7, 1975,

inclusive, in all other cases. (Note: From February 28, 1961 to Aug 4, 1964, vet must have boots on the ground.)

- **Persian Gulf War:** August 2, 1990, through date to be prescribed by Presidential proclamation or law.

Apply for service:

- Eligible applicants must register by visiting the website below or by using the link: <https://americanveteransaid.com/aid-attendance-see-if-you-qualify/>
- If a veteran does not know if they are eligible or qualify, call (877) 427-8065.
- To acquire a DD214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), complete the request form (SF-180) in either of the following ways:
 - Complete the online request form (SF-180) through the National Archives at: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>
 - Mail or fax a paper version of the SF-180 form
 - Mail:
 - National Personnel Records Center
 - 1 Archives Drive
 - St. Louis, MO 63138
 - Fax: (314) 801-9195
 - Download and print a paper SF-180 version from: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html> *(To download the PDF SF-180 form and print, applicants must have Adobe Acrobat Reader software)*
 - Contact- (1-866) 272-6272 to order a form through the mail
 - Write a letter to request records
 - To view the required information to include, visit: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>

Website: <https://americanveteransaid.com/>

Contact information:

1717 W. Orangewood Ave., Ste. G, Orange, CA 92868

Phone: 877-427-8065

Fax: 714-202-5924

Email: Info@AmericanVeteransAid.com

DisentangleAD Grant Opportunity

Service:

DisentangleAD is a non-profit organization supporting Alzheimer's care in the Pine Belt region of South Mississippi. They provide mini-grants to help with caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease (or related dementia). Grants usually range from \$250.00 to \$1000.00 and are approved for purposes such as small scope home renovations, time limited respite, home care, or counseling, transportation grants.

Area of accessibility: Pine Belt Region

Eligibility criteria:

- Live in the Pine Belt area
- Provide a physician letter or medical record documenting dementia diagnosis

Apply for service: Access the grant application on the website to apply.

Website: <https://www.disentanglead.com/>

Contact information:

- Email: info@disentangleAD.com
- Phone: 601-579-5016

Mississippi Respite Voucher Program

Service:

Through a grant to the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS), funds were approved to provide respite care vouchers to eligible family caregivers. These vouchers may be used to pay an in-home care agency, and Adult Day Center, or a private individual to provide respite care. Vouchers are provided in the amount of \$200.00 per household to approved family caregivers.

Area of accessibility:

Statewide

Eligibility criteria:

Mississippi caregivers providing unpaid care for a dependent person of any age with a significant disability, or chronic illness requiring 24/7 care.

Apply for Service: Call (1.844.822.4622) MS Access to Care Center and speak to a Resource Specialist to receive assistance with completing an application or to request an application from your local office.

- Greenville MAC 662.537.2105
- Gulfport MAC 228.868.2311
- Hattiesburg MAC 601.545.2137
- Jackson MAC 769.777.7319
- Pontotoc MAC 662.488.6983

Contact Information:

James Davis
Home & Community-Based Coordinator
Email: james.davis@mdhs.ms.gov
Phone: 601.359.4929

Home Instead Grant Opportunity

Service:

Home Instead offers home care grants to those providing care to their loved ones living with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

There are two grant options:

1. Recharge Respite Grant
 - A one-time grant of 50 hours of respite care to be used within 3 months.
2. Extended Relief Respite Grant
 - A six-month grant of 25 hours of respite care per week for six months.

Area of accessibility: United States and Canada

Eligibility criteria:

- Diagnosis of Alzheimer's or a related dementia
- Currently living at home
- Caregiver is facing financial and emotional hardships due to the unique challenges of Alzheimer's or related dementia
- Resides in the United States or Canada

Apply for service: Access the grant application on the website to apply

Website: <https://www.helpforalzheimersfamilies.com/get-help/hilarity-for-charity/>

Transportation Services

Service: Public Transportation

Provider: MDOT (Mississippi Department of Transportation)
Public Transportation provided by ConnectMS

Areas of accessibility:

Delta Rides (877-866-8272): The public transit system in this region offers services to employment, medical centers and other destinations. The region also offers a call center that provides connectivity between the systems.

Serves Washington, Western DeSoto, Humphreys, Carroll, Issaquena, Wester Panola, Quitman, Bolivar, Coahoma, Leflore, Sunflower, Sharkey, Tate, Tunica, Tallahatchie, Western Holmes, Western Yazoo, Western Grenada, Warren.

Trans-Con (601-960-0719): The public transit systems in this region offer vanpool and commuter employment trips, non-emergency medical transportation and transportation for students to local colleges and universities. Serves Attala, Madison, Warren, Hands, Rankin, Simpson Counties

SMART (601-445-7568): The public transit systems in this region offer transportation services to local colleges and universities, employment trips to area businesses, as well as non-emergency medical transportation. Serves Claiborne, Copiah, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, Lincoln, Lawrence, Covington, Wilkinson, Amite, Pike, Walthal.

RIDE THE SMILE (662-728-2118): Public transit systems in this region provides educational and employment transportation services, as well as services for medical appointment and recreation for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Serves Marshall, Benton, Tippah, Alcorn, Tishomingo, Prentiss, Union, Lafayette, Pontotoc, Lee, Itawamba, Calhoun, Chickasaw, Monroe

EZTAG (601-650-7498): The public transit system in this region has partnerships with local communities, as well as with regional mental health and rehabilitation providers. Serves Webster, Clay, Choctaw, Oktibbeha, Lowndes, Winston, Noxubee, Leake, Neshoba, Kemper, Scott, Newton, Lauderdale, Smith, Jasper, Clarke

SOUTHERN CONNECT (601-788-6704): The public transit system in this region offer non-medical transportations services for students, faculty and staff of colleges and employment services to area businesses. Jeff Davis, Jones, Wayne, Marion, Lamar, Forrest, Perry, Green, Pearl River, Stone, George, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson

Eligibility for Service: General Transportation, Senior Citizens, Individuals with disabilities, college students, employers.

Website:

www.mdot.gov

www.mdot.ms.gov/connectms/

Contact Information:

Shirley Wilson, Director

swilson@mdot.ms.gov

769-233-4416 or 601-359-7800

Mississippi Department of Mental Health Community Mental Health Centers

Service:

Regional community mental health centers (CMHCs) operate under the supervision of regional commissions appointed by county boards of supervisors from their respective service areas. The 13 CMHCs provide a range of community-based mental health, substance use, and in some regions, intellectual/developmental disabilities services. CMHC governing authorities are considered regional and non-state-level entities. The Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) is responsible for certifying, monitoring and assisting CMHCs. The CMHCs are the primary service providers of outpatient community-based services in the state to adults and children with mental illness, substance use, and intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

Area of accessibility: Varies by region as listed below.

Eligibility criteria: Varies by service.

Website: www.MentalHealthMS.com

Contact information: DMH Central Office: 601.359.1288

DMH Helpline: 1.877.210.8513

Regional Community Mental Health Centers:

Region 1: Region One Mental Health Center

Areas of accessibility: Coahoma, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tunica

Website: www.regionone.org

Contact info: 662.627.7267 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 888.404.8002

Region 2: Communicare

Areas of accessibility: Calhoun, Lafayette, Marshall, Panola, Tate, Yalobusha

Website: www.communicarems.org

Contact info: 662.234.7521 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 866.837.7521

Region 3: LIFECORE Health Group

Areas of accessibility: Benton, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, Union

Website: www.lifecorehealthgroup.com

Contact info: 662.640.4595 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 866.255.9986

Region 4: Region 4 Mental Health Services

Areas of accessibility: Alcorn, DeSoto, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo

Website: www.regionivmhs.com

Contact info: 662.286.9883 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 888.287.4443

Region 6: Life Help

Areas of accessibility: Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington

Website: www.region6-lifehelp.org

Contact info: 662.453.6211 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 866.453.6216

Region 7: Community Counseling Services

Areas of accessibility: Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, Winston

Website: www.ccsms.org

Contact info: 662.524.4347 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 888.943.3022

Region 8: Region 8 Mental Health Services

Areas of accessibility: Copiah, Lincoln, Madison, Rankin, Simpson

Website: www.region8mhs.org

Contact info: 601.825.8800 (Services) | 601.824.0342 (Administration) | Mobile Crisis hotline: 877.657.4098

Region 9: Hinds Behavioral Health Services

Areas of accessibility: Hinds

Website: www.hbhs9.com

Contact info: 601.321.2400 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 601.955.6381

Region 10: Weems Community Mental Health Center

Areas of accessibility: Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Smith

Website: www.weemsmh.com

Contact info: 601.483.4821 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 800.803.0245

Region 11: A Clear Path: Southwest Mississippi Mental Health Complex

Areas of Accessibility: Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Pike, Walthall, Wilkinson

Website: www.aclearpath.org

Contact info: 601.684.2173 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 877.353.8689

Region 12: Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources

Areas of accessibility: Covington, Forrest, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jefferson-Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Stone, Wayne

Website: www.pbmhr.com

Contact info: 601.544.4641 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 888.330.7772

Region 14: Singing River Services

Areas of accessibility: George, Jackson

Website: www.singingriverservices.com

Contact info: 228.497.0690 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 866.497.0690

Region 15: Warren-Yazoo Behavioral Health Services

Areas of accessibility: Warren, Yazoo

Website: www.warren-yazoo.org

Contact Info: 601.638.0031 | Mobile Crisis hotline: 601.638.0031

Department of Mental Health Behavioral Health Programs

Service: The Mississippi Department of Mental Health administers and operates five behavioral health programs. The programs provide inpatient services for adults with serious mental illness and substance abuse.

Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) is a publicly funded behavioral health program of the [Mississippi Department of Mental Health](#). The hospital is located on a 350-acre campus in Whitfield, MS, 15 miles southeast of Jackson, MS. Mississippi State Hospital operates 311 hospital beds and is accredited by the Joint Commission. The hospital beds include Adult Acute and Continued Treatment Psychiatric, Child/Adolescent Psychiatric, Forensic, and Adult and Adolescent Substance Use services. The program also includes a 276-bed nursing home.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Eligibility Criteria: Varies by services requested

Website: www.msh.state.ms.us

Contact Info: 601.351.8000

MSH Satellite Program:

Specialized Treatment Facility (STF) provides psychiatric residential services for Mississippi adolescents who have been diagnosed with a mental disorder. Care is centered around evidence-based or best practice models. Adolescents eligible for admission are between the ages of 13 and 18 who present with a diagnosable disorder and need psychiatric residential services. STF also provides an alcohol and drug prevention program.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Eligibility Criteria: adolescents age 13-18 who have a diagnosable psychiatric disorder in need of long-term residential treatment

Website: www.stf.ms.gov

Contact info: 228.328.6000

East Mississippi State Hospital (EMSH) is a behavioral health program that provides inpatient services for adults with serious mental illness, nursing home services, as well as transitional, community-based care. EMSH main campus is located in Meridian. Satellite programs are North Mississippi State Hospital (Tupelo), South Mississippi State Hospital (Purvis) and Central Mississippi Residential Center (Newton).

Area of accessibility: Choctaw, Clarke, Clay, Covington, Forrest, Greene, Jasper, Jefferson-Davis, Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Leake, Lowndes, Marion, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Pearl River, Perry, Scott, Smith, Wayne, Webster, Winston counties.

Eligibility Criteria: Varies by program needed.

Website: www.emsh.state.ms.us

Contact Info: 601.581.7600

EMSH Satellite Programs:

North Mississippi State Hospital (NMSH) is an acute care psychiatric facility offering treatment and services for mentally ill adult men and women in northeast Mississippi. The 50-bed hospital was opened in Tupelo, in 1999.

Area of accessibility: Alcorn, Benton, Calhoun, Chickasaw, DeSoto, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Marshall, Monroe, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Yalobusha.

Eligibility Criteria: Mental health civil commitment required

Website: www.nmsh.state.ms.us

Contact Info: 662.690.4200

South Mississippi State Hospital (SMSH) in Purvis is an acute-care, regional behavioral health program with the primary purpose to offer a continuum of services for adults with mental illness within the patient's region of residence. This closer proximity allows family, friends and community to more actively support the treatment, recovery and aftercare of the patient.

Area of accessibility: Lamar, Forrest, Marion, Perry, Greene, Wayne, Jones, Covington, Jefferson Davis, Pearl River, Stone, Hancock, Harrison, George and Jackson counties.

Eligibility Criteria: mental health civil commitment required

Website: www.smsm.ms.gov

Contact info: 601.794.0100

Central Mississippi Residential Center (CMRC) in Newton provides a short-term group home and supported housing services designed to assist individuals with Serious Mental Illness in making the transition to independent living in a community setting.

Area of accessibility: statewide

Eligibility Criteria: Individuals eighteen years of age or older with primary diagnosis of serious mental illness.

Website: www.cmrc.ms.gov

Contact Info: 601.683.4200

Acute Care Hospitals

Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health

Service:

Acute Care Hospitals provide in-patient medical care and other related services for surgery, acute medical conditions, or injuries. These services are usually for a short-term illness or condition.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

- There are 112 non-federal medical/surgical hospitals in 2016.
- There are currently 128 hospitals- 58 government and 36 private

Eligibility criteria: None

Website: www.msdh.state.ms

Contact Information: 601-576-7400

Food Services

Service:

The Older Adult Nutrition Program provides nutritionally balanced meals to older individuals in a variety of settings including congregate facilities such as senior centers; or by home-delivery to older individuals who are homebound due to illness, disability, or geographic isolation. Services are targeted to those in greatest social and economic need with particular attention to low income individuals, minority individuals, those in rural communities, those with limited English proficiency and those at risk of institutional care. Nutrition Services Programs help older individuals to remain independent and in their communities.

Eligibility criteria:

- Each individual is screened for services by a qualified assessor utilizing the State's Consumer information form
- Clients receive a score which indicates need for certain critical services
- All services are classified as Level I (0-21); Level II (22 and above)
- All services require that the individual be 60 years and older or disabled
- Participants must be 60 years of age or older or the spouse of someone 60 years of age or older.
- These sites are open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
- Meals are served between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.
- Planned programs and activities are available to participants at the centers.

Northeast

Area of accessibility: Alcorn, Benton, Marshall, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo

Apply for service:

North East Mississippi

Call for Services: 662-728-6248

619 East Parker Drive

Post Office Box 600

Booneville, MS 38829

Website: www.ndpdd.com

Contact Information: 662-728-6248

Three Rivers

Area of accessibility: Calhoun, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, Union

Apply for service:

Three Rivers Planning and Development District

Call for Services: 662-489-2415
75 South Main Street
PO Box 690
Pontotoc, MS 38863
Website: www.trpdd.com
Contact Information: 662-489-2415

North Delta

Area of accessibility: Coahoma, Desoto, Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tunica
Apply for service:
North Delta Planning and Development District
Call for Services: 662-561-4100
220 Power Drive
PO Box 1488
Batesville, MS 38606
Website: www.ndpdd.com
Contact Information: 662-561-4100

South Delta

Area of accessibility: Bolivar, Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Sunflower, Washington
Apply for service:
South Delta Planning and Development District
Call for services: 662-378-3831
1427 S. Main Street
PO Box 1776
Greenville, MS 38702
Website: www.sdpdd.com
Contact Information: 662-378-3831

North Central

Area of accessibility: Attala, Carroll, Holmes, Grenada, Leflore, Montgomery, Yalobusha
Apply for service:
North Central Planning and Development District
Call for services: 662-283-2675
28 Industrial Park Boulevard
Winona, MS 38967
Website: www.ncpdd.com
Contact Information: 662-283-2675

Golden Triangle

Area of accessibility: Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, Winston

Congregate meals are also offered at Caledonia, Columbus Friendly, Eupora, Macon and Mathiston nutrition centers.

Apply for service:

Golden Triangle Planning and Development District

Call for services: 662-324-7328

106 Miley Drive

PO Box 828

Starkville, MS 39759

Website: www.gtpdd.org

Contact Information: (662) 324-7860 Ext. 1113

Central

Area of accessibility: Copiah, Hinds, Madison, Rankin, Simpson, Warren, Yazoo,

Apply for service:

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District

Call for services: 601-981-1511

1170 Lakeland Drive

PO Box 4935

Jackson, MS 39296

Website: www.cmpdd.org

Contact Information:

Chelsea Crittle, Ph.D.

601-981-1511

East Central

Area of accessibility: Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott, Smith

Apply for service:

Call for services: 662-323-2636

P.O. Box 828

Starkville, MS 39760-0828

Website: www.gtpdd.org

Contact Information:

Melody Benseid

662-324-7860 Ext. 1113.

Southern

Area of accessibility: Covington, Forrest, George, Green, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Stone, Wayne

Apply for service:

South Mississippi Planning and Development District

Call for services: 228-868-2311

10441 Corporate Drive, Ste. 1
Gulfport, MS 39503
Website: www.smpdd.com
Contact Information: 228-868-2311

Southwest

Area of accessibility: Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike,
Walthall, Wilkinson

Apply for service:

South West Mississippi Planning and Development District

Call for services: 601-446-6044

100 South Wall Street

Natchez, MS 39120

Website: www.swmpdd.com

Contact Information: 601-446-6044

Services for the Blind

Agency: Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind

Service:

The Older Blind Program provides services to assist the legally blind older individuals adjust to their blindness. The services provided are:

- Evaluation and/ or recommendation of appropriate and necessary aids and appliances, such as talking clocks, writing guides, low vision aids, etc.
- Low vision assessments for magnifiers and other optical devices
- Independent living skills training
- Peer support groups and other supportive services such as reader services and transportation and advocacy
- Orientation and mobility training
- Peer, individual, and group counseling

Area of accessibility: The services are available to participants throughout the state of Mississippi. A location finder is located on the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services website.

Eligibility criteria:

The participants should be age 55+ and legally blind. They should also have a significant secondary disability.

Apply for service: Please visit a location which can be found on the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services website.

Website: www.mdrs.ms.gov/VocationalRehabBlind

Contact Information: 1-800-443-1000

Hearing Services

Mississippi Relay Services

Service: CapTel Captioned Telephone

Mississippi Relay Services is a communications system that allows hearing persons and deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired persons to communicate by telephone. As mandated by the Public Service Commission, all providers of basic local exchange telephone service must share in the cost of providing Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS). Sprint Relay provides TRS service on behalf of all basic local exchange service providers in Mississippi. Relay Services are fast and easy to use. There is no additional charge to use this service. Only normal telephone charges will be applied. There are no limits to the length or number of calls you place.

Area of accessibility: Mississippi Relay Services is available statewide.

Eligibility criteria:

Mississippians who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired may be eligible to receive a free CapTel phone through the state's equipment distribution program (third party certification of hearing loss from an audiologist or doctor may be required).

Apply for service:

To learn more or to apply for a CapTel telephone, contact Teresa Burns, Customer Relations Manager at CapTel.

Website: <http://www.mississippirelay.com/captel>

Contact Information:

Teresa Burns
Customer Relations Manager, CapTel
Email: Teresa.burns@sprint.com
Phone: 601-936-5012 (Voice)
601-206-0206 (Videophone)
601-709-4624 (TTY)

University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) Hearing Care

Service: UMMC Hearing Care

Hearing assessment and treatment of hearing loss for adult and elderly patients. Selection, fitting and monitoring of: amplification devices, assistive listening devices, and personal sound amplifiers (PSAP). Concussion screening for falls. Evaluation and treatment for facial nerve injuries and tumors, tinnitus (ringing in the ears), dizziness, vertigo, or imbalance.

Area of accessibility:

Service available to all Mississippians (must be able to travel to UMMC in Jackson for evaluation).

Eligibility criteria:

Patients experiencing hearing loss, concussion, facial nerve injuries and tumors, tinnitus, dizziness, vertigo, or imbalance.

Apply for service: Call (601) 815-6064 to schedule an appointment

Website: https://umc.edu/Healthcare/Hearing/Hearing_Home.html

Contact Information:

UMMC Hearing Care – Audiology Clinic
(601) 815-6064

MS Project Start

Agency: Success Through Assistive Rehabilitation Technology

Service:

Program provides access to the acquisition of assistive technology to all Mississippians of all ages and disabilities. They focus on assistance with technology for hearing, mobility, communication and performing activities of daily living. The program is funded through the Assistive Technology Act for the State of MS and operates under the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration of Community Living. The MS Department of Rehabilitation Services is the lead agency for the program.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Apply for service:

Staff is available Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm.

601-853-5249 or 800-852-8328 (in MS only)

Several locations around the state.

Website: projectstart@mdrs.ms.gov

Contact Information:

Jamie Tucker, Project Director

Home Modification

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, Office of Special Disability Services

Service:

- Assistive Aids – Assistive technology such as hearing aids and communication devices.
- Durable Medical Equipment – Assistive devices to assist the participant with their activities of daily living, including but not limited to, wheelchairs, hoist lifts, and bath lifts.
- Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (Home Modifications) – Modifications to the participant's home to make it easier to access and navigate, including but not limited to, ramps and door widening. Modifications cannot increase the total square footage of the home.
- Vehicle Modifications – Modifications to the participant's vehicle to make it accessible for them, either as a driver or passenger.
- Orthotics and Prosthetics – Custom braces and artificial limbs to help increase mobility and independence.

Area of accessibility: Statewide

Eligibility criteria:

- Must have a severe physical or mental impairment which substantially limits his/her ability to obtain, maintain, or advance in employment.
- Must not be eligible to receive duplicate services under any other program.

Apply for service: To request information regarding services, begin by completing the form listed on the website. Once you have submitted this form, someone will contact you to discuss your goals, the nature of your disability, and the services that can be provided.

Website: <https://www.mdrs.ms.gov/Pages/Request-Services.aspx>

Contact Information:

Marquessa Wells
Phone: 800-443-1000

City of Jackson Housing Rehabilitation Program

Service:

- The purpose of the Housing Rehabilitation Program is to improve the livability of a home, to extend its life for a minimum of 10 years, and to meet the current minimum building

codes, whenever possible. Major emphasis is given to housing problems affecting safety and health (such as gas leaks, outdated and hazardous electrical wiring, and plumbing).

- The actual amount of repairs needed will be determined from an inspection and evaluation of the home. This type of assistance can vary depending on the needs in a home; however, not all homes can be repaired. If the home has too many major problems, it may not qualify for our regular housing rehab/repair program, but we may be able to help with emergency repair(s) for safety reasons.

Area of accessibility: City of Jackson

Eligibility criteria:

- The property to be rehabilitated must be located in the City of Jackson city limits.
- Must be owner-occupied for a minimum of one year.
- You must qualify at 80% of the area median income.
- Priority is given to those who have not received assistance before.
- Owner may be required to live in the home for a specified period of time.

Apply for service: Application, however, applications are not being accepted at this time.

Website: <https://www.jacksonms.gov/housing-rehabilitation-program/>

Contact Information:

Valerie Tucker

Email: vtucker@jacksonms.gov

Phone: 601-960-2155

Funeral/Burial Assistance

Burial assistance is limited in Mississippi and the best way to cope with the cost of burial or cremation is to plan ahead with a pre-paid funeral or through a burial or life insurance policy that will cover the cost. Social Security does provide a one-time benefit of \$255.00 to the surviving spouse or dependents of the deceased, but this requires application through Social Security.

Social Security Administration

Social Security can help you when a family member dies (Available in English and Spanish)
Call 1-800-772-1213 or TTY 1-800-325-0778 if you are deaf or hard of hearing

[Visit ssa.gov](https://www.ssa.gov)

The Veterans Administration will pay a burial allowance for a non-service connected death of \$300.00 and a service connected death of up to \$2,000.00. These benefits require application through the Veteran's Administration.

If a Mississippi resident dies without the ability or resources to pay for a funeral or cremation and there is no family to pay, the obligation then becomes the responsibility of the county coroner in the county where the person resided. How the coroner provides this service varies from coroner to coroner, some may bury in a pauper's cemetery while others may offer cremation services. The county coroner may be of assistance to families who are unable to manage final expenses.

FEMA Funeral Assistance Program

Service: Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred on or after January 20, 2020.

Eligibility: To be eligible for COVID-19 funeral assistance, [the policy states:](#)

- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after Jan. 20, 2020 for a death attributed to COVID-19.
- If multiple individuals contributed toward funeral expenses, they should apply under a single application as applicant and co-applicant. FEMA will also consider documentation from other individuals not listed as the applicant and co-applicant who may have incurred funeral expenses as part of the registration for the deceased individual.
- An applicant may apply for multiple deceased individuals.
- The COVID-19-related death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.
- This assistance is limited to a maximum financial amount of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application.
- Funeral assistance is intended to assist with expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation.

Apply for Service:

Phone: 844-684-6333

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Friday

9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. EST

- Call this dedicated, toll-free phone number to complete your COVID-19 Funeral Assistance application with a FEMA representative. Multilingual services are available.
- If you use a relay service, such as your videophone, InnoCaption or CapTel, please provide the specific number assigned to you for service. It is important that FEMA is able to contact you, and you should be aware phone calls from FEMA may come from an unidentified number.

Website:

More information regarding this assistance can be found at:

<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>

Legal Assistance

State Attorneys and Pro Bono Assistance

Agency: The Mississippi Bar Association

Service: Pro Bono Legal Services

Uncompensated legal services performed for the public good without any expectation of either direct or indirect remuneration, including referral or other fees.

Area of accessibility:

Pro bono services are available through a variety of organizations statewide.

Eligibility criteria:

Low income and disadvantaged people in Mississippi, people with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, Native Americans living on the Choctaw Indian Reservation, and victims of racial and economic injustice.

Apply for service:

Contact the respective agency directly to inquire about availability and eligibility of pro bono services.

Website: <https://www.msbar.org/for-the-public/pro-bono-resources/>

Contact Information:

Contact the respective agency directly to inquire about availability and eligibility of pro bono services.

American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi (ACLU-MS)

www.aclu-ms.org

601-354-3408

Through advocacy, education and litigation, the ACLU of Mississippi defends and protects the constitutional rights of people across Mississippi.

Counties Served: Statewide

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Clinic

www.catholiccharitiesjackson.org

601-355-8634

This program provides support and legal representation to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The purpose is to provide victims civil litigation services for emergency and non-emergency protective orders. Other legal services include child custody, restraining orders, housing claims, financial claims, and other feasible claims arising out of or stemming from domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Counties Served: Hinds, Madison and Rankin

Choctaw Legal Defense

www.choctaw.org

601-650-7487

Choctaw Legal Defense serves Native Americans living on the Choctaw Indian Reservation.

Counties Served: Jones, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Scott and Winston

Disability Rights Mississippi

www.drms.ms

601-968-0600

Disability Rights Mississippi is a statewide nonprofit agency which provides free legal services to people with disabilities in Mississippi. The organization handles matters in the following areas: special education, Americans with Disabilities Act, protection from abuse and neglect, Medicaid and community services.

Counties Served: Statewide

Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence and Northcutt Legal Clinic

www.gcwcfn.org

228-864-7144

Crisis Line: 1-800-800-1396

Pine Belt Office: 601-705-0139

The Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence and the Northcutt Legal Clinic are dedicated to the prevention of violence, especially among family members. The Legal Clinic provides services with a full-range of services that deal with the abuse they have suffered and the consequences of that abuse, including divorce, protective orders, child custody and visitation, child support and paternity. The Clinic also helps with problems related to public assistance, housing and employment. For more information about the services provided by this organization, click here.

Counties Served: Harrison, Jackson, Hancock, Pearl River, Stone, George, Covington, Forrest, Greene, Jasper, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Lamar, Marion, Smith, Perry, and Wayne Counties of Mississippi

Mission First Legal Aid Office

www.missionfirst.org/legal-aid

601-608-0056

The Mission First Legal Aid Office was established as a partnership between the Mississippi College School of Law and Mission First. It provides legal services and counsel to underserved residents of the Jackson area whose household income is less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Counties Served: Hinds, Madison and Rankin

Mississippi Center for Justice

www.mscenterforjustice.org

601-352-2269

The Mississippi Center for Justice is a nonprofit, public interest law firm committed to

advancing racial and economic justice. Supported and staffed by attorneys, community leaders and volunteers, the Center develops and pursues strategies to combat discrimination and poverty.

Counties Served: Statewide

Mississippi Center for Legal Services

www.mslegalservices.org

1-800-498-1804

The Mississippi Center for Legal Services provides free civil legal assistance to eligible poor persons within 43 counties in South Mississippi. In order to qualify, most programs require a household income below 125% of the federal poverty level.

Counties Served: Adams, Amite, Claiborne, Clarke, Copiah, Covington, Forrest, Franklin, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Hinds, Holmes, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Leake, Lincoln, Madison, Marion, Neshoba, Newton, Noxubee, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Rankin, Scott, Simpson, Smith, Stone, Walthall, Warren, Wayne, Wilkinson, and Yazoo.

Mississippi College School of Law Clinical Programs

www.law.mc.edu/academics/clinics/

601-925-7180

Mississippi College School of Law offers clinical opportunities for students to serve low-income and disadvantaged people with adoption, family, HIV/AIDS employment and housing discrimination and youth court matters.

Counties Served: Hinds, Madison and Rankin

Mississippi Immigrant Rights Alliance

www.yourmira.org

601-968-5182

The Mississippi Immigrant Rights Alliance educates the non-immigrant community in Mississippi on immigrant issues, educates immigrant workers of their rights, and unites human rights advocates in Mississippi on local, statewide, and national immigrant rights agendas.

Counties Served: Statewide

Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project

www.mvlp.net

601-960-9577

The Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project was founded in 1982 as a joint program of The Mississippi Bar and Legal Services. In addition to making referrals to volunteer attorneys, the Project also operates the Stewpot Homeless Legal Clinic, Pro Se Divorce Clinic, Guardianship Clinics, and Family Law Clinics.

Counties Served: Statewide

Mississippi Worker's Center for Human Rights

www.msworkers.org

662-334-1122

The Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights' (the Center) is a membership organization that fights worker mistreatment through organizing, legal advocacy, community education and outreach and most importantly, through organizing and the development of indigenous worker leadership. Among the issues the Center addresses are: unfair labor practices; employment discrimination; hostile work environment and hate violence; retaliation; sexual harassment; wrongful dismissals and workplace safety and health hazards.

Counties Served: Statewide

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services

www.nmrsl.com

1-800-498-1804

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services provides free civil legal assistance to eligible poor persons within 39 counties in North Mississippi. In order to qualify, most programs require a household income below 125% of the federal poverty level.

Counties Served: Alcorn, Attala, Benton, Bolivar, Calhoun, Carroll, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Coahoma, DeSoto, Grenada, Humphreys, Issaquena, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery, Oktibbeha, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tate, Tippah, Tishomingo, Tunica, Union, Washington, Webster, Winston, Yalobusha

Pro Bono Initiative of the University of Mississippi School of Law

www.law.olemiss.edu/academics-programs/clinics/pro-bono-initiative/

662-915-7429

The Pro Bono Initiative of the University of Mississippi School of Law provides law students with short-term immersion in practice through mini-clinics supervised by a professor and volunteer attorneys. Students work directly with clients, collaborate on policy initiatives with state advocacy groups, and prepare and present educational programs to high school and college students.

Counties Served: DeSoto, Lafayette, Lee and Washington. Some clinics have a statewide reach.

Southern Poverty Law Center

www.splcenter.org

601-948-8882

The Southern Poverty Law Center works to reform juvenile justice and education in Mississippi. The organization seeks reform through public education, community organizing, litigation, legislative advocacy, training and technical assistance.

Counties Served: Statewide

University of Mississippi School of Law Clinical Programs

www.law.olemiss.edu/academics-programs/clinics/

662-915-7429

The University of Mississippi School of Law offers clinical opportunities for students to serve low-income and disadvantaged people across Mississippi and affect systemic change through policy initiatives and law reform projects. The University of Mississippi School of Law has clinical programs in the following areas: child advocacy, criminal appeals, elder law, family, housing and a low-income tax clinic.

Counties Served: Statewide, but primarily North Mississippi

Adult Protective Services Program

Agency: Mississippi Department of Human Services Aging and Adult Services

Service: Adult Protective Services Program

Adult Protective Services investigates reports of abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults in the home setting. The purpose of the investigation is to determine the validity of the report and to assess the need for protective services. Services from the agency are intended to preserve the vulnerable person's rights to a least restrictive setting while maintaining his or her well-being.

Service Area: Statewide

Eligibility: The vulnerable person must meet the definition of a vulnerable person according to the Mississippi Vulnerable Persons Act.

Apply for Service: Any person who knows or suspects that a vulnerable adult has been or is being abused, neglected or exploited can report by calling the vulnerable person's hotline toll free at 844.437.6282 or online at www.mdhs.ms.gov/adults-seniors/ or contacting the Adult Protective Services Hotline at 601-359-9663.

Contact Information:

Anita Ballard, Adult Protective Services Director

Email: anita.ballard@mdhs.ms.gov

Phone: 601-359-4319

Website: www.mdhs.ms.gov