HALTING THE POVERTY CYCLE BY PROVIDING A PATH OF UPWARD MOBILITY FOR FAMILIES IN MISSISSIPPI
ABOUT MCEC

Dr. Nancy New
Executive Director, MCEC

Mississippi Community Education Center, Inc. (MCEC)
Dr. Nancy New is the Founder and Executive Director of various educational programs to include the Mississippi Community Education Center, New Learning Resources Inc., Mississippi Dyslexia Centers, Spectrum Academy and New Summit Schools. Dr. New has been able to implement her vision for community education through collaboration with various federal, state, and local initiatives designed to address the vital needs of Mississippians through education services designed to empower individuals and families.

Mission: MCEC strives to meet the lifelong learning needs of families by uniting educational and business sectors into collaboration of talents and services, thus creating a more progressive, healthy community.
THE GEN+ REVIVAL

- Strategic and Holistic Approach
- Supports the Needs of the Whole Family
- Accounts for Needs of Each Family Member
- Helps Families Move Beyond Poverty & Realize a Better, Brighter Future
MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER
STATEWIDE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

MCEC Statewide Operations Include:
- Regional Center Locations
- Family Assessments
- Motivational Interview Techniques
- Trauma-Informed Practices

Programs/Services Accessible Within:
- Community Colleges
- Non-profit organizations
- Churches
- Leaders in the community
- Universities
- State agencies
- Schools
- Businesses
MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER
STATEWIDE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

MCEC Helps:
• Close the gap in Education, Job Readiness & Workforce Development
• Connect Paths Between Family Member Needs and Available Services

MCEC Dual Roles:
• Direct Services Provider
• Program Navigator
THE PROGRAMS OF MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER (MCEC)

- Families First for Mississippi
- Reentry Program
- Fatherhood
- Addiction and Trauma Preventions
- Early Childhood Education
- Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition
- Education/Entrepreneurship
- Youth and Adult Job Readiness
- Drop Out Prevention
Families First For Mississippi Referral & Client Program Flow:

**INTAKE**

- **MDCPS/CARA**
  - Intake 1,255
  - (CARA Referrals = 103)
  - July – Dec
  - Pregnant Females positive for drug use of their newborns positive at birth

- **MDHS**
  - Intake 200,737

- **MDOC FFFM Court Liaison**
  - Intake 2,843

- **Referrals:**
  - 204,835
  - Contacted: 92,991

- **Gen+ Unreachable or Declined:**
  - 111,844

- **MDHs:**
  - 34,401*
  - MDCPS: 1,255
  - MDOC: 2,843

- **MDHS/Gen+ Assessment**
  - 199,544

- **Other Referral Sources**
  - 91,248

- **FFFM Intake**
  - 38,499

- **FFFM Family & Program Assessments**

- **Complete Program Enrollment Forms**

**SERVICES**

- **Education:** 2,866
- **Life Skills:** 16,872
- **Parenting:** 9,713
- **Workforce:** 6,476
- **Youth Development:** 64,834
- **Literacy:** 5,376
- **All Other Programs:** 4,020

- **FFFM Follow-up Measures at 6, 12, 18 Month Intervals**

- **MDHS Follow-up Calls**

- **Receive Program Services**
  - (Duration of service varies by program/service/court order requirements)

- **Enrolled in Program upon Attendance of First Class or Intervention**

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*34,401 Gen+ Primary Referrals & 58,576 Gen+ Family Member Referrals

**Walk-ins, Youth Court, Community Colleges, Public/Private Schools, Treatment Centers, TANF Work Program, Other**

***Program/Services Number Exceeds Total Participants due to several clients receive multiple services. See the SERVICES box.
1. FAMILIES FIRST FOR MISSISSIPPI

“Families First for Mississippi’s main goal is to impact the entire family by offering direct services and connecting the dots between all of the Mississippi family programs.”

Families First Pillars:
- Parenting
- Youth Development
- Workforce and Job Readiness
- Education
- Literacy

The program seeks to strengthen families of all backgrounds and life circumstances by providing the following programs:
- Parenting skills development
- Positive youth development and character education
- Increase graduation rates
- Family financial stability
- Promote literacy (early childhood and adult)
- Job readiness and soft skills
- Positive father involvement
- Nutrition and health
2. REENTRY PROGRAM

The Next Step Re-entry Program connects parole-eligible inmates with resources for housing, employment, educational opportunities, and efforts for reconciliation with their loved ones. MCEC is here every step of the way to provide access to resources for second chances and new beginnings.

The Next Step Reentry Program includes:

- Education (high school diploma)
- Employment (resume and job assistance)
- Personal Development (healthy habits and character development)
- Recovery (Adult Addiction Education Program, free of charge)
3. FATHERHOOD PROGRAM

The Mississippi Community Education Center’s Fatherhood Program is a unique program designed to equip fathers with self-awareness, compassion, responsibility and loyalty to create healthy relationships within their families. This program focuses on cultivating healthy habits for positive character development and growth for a well-rounded man and father.

The five components of Family Life Skills classes are:

- Effective Parenting
- Healthy Relationships
- Conflict Resolution
- Soft Skills (social skills, interpersonal skills, positive attitude)
- Life Skills (communication, problem-solving, critical thinking, self-awareness)

Family Life Skills classes are offered to the entire family to assist with everyday needs. Each participant will have an interview with a field educator to discuss concerns and an individual plan will be tailored to fit their needs. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance after completing 10 hours of Family Life Skills classes.
Adult Addiction Education
The general purpose of the adult addiction Education, Recovery, and Prevention classes are to enhance client awareness, knowledge, and understanding of:

- How addiction affects individuals and families
- How to identify and address addiction risks and behaviors
- Where and how to seek help for addiction
- What to expect from treatment and recovery
- How the dynamic of the change process happens to achieve recovery

MCEC Addiction Educators will use instructional and group interactive strategies to create a comfortable atmosphere of learning and development of an avenue to overcome addiction and underlying issues.
Youth Addiction Education
The Youth Addiction and Prevention Program also teaches healthy coping skills to reduce the risk of addiction tendencies. To achieve the desired outcomes, MCEC’s Families First program will provide age appropriate training that is designed for students grades 6th through 12th.

Youth Addiction Learning Outcomes:
• Identify the major contributing factors for developing a substance use disorder
• Identify how some emotions/feelings are hard to understand
• Describe emotions/feelings that are painful
• Identify thoughts that cause painful social emotions
• Identify situations, circumstances, and relationships that trigger painful emotions
• Describe thinking patterns that cause painful emotions
• Apply coping skills that change thinking patterns that cause painful emotions
5. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early childhood education encompasses a critical stage of human development, from birth through age eight, that forms the foundation for a child’s future health, well-being and learning.

Early Childhood Academy (ECA)

- ECA works directly with the Mississippi Department of Human Services and the Mississippi Community College Board to support families across the state by providing an early childhood services that help parents and caregivers identify high-quality childcare services and learning experiences.
- ECA provides families and childcare providers with ongoing, high quality technical assistance and professional development through resources and referral services, thus ensuring a nurturing learning environment that promotes readiness.
- The ECA provides on-site instructional coaches and technical assistance.
- Early Childhood coaches and professional development specialists are located throughout the state of Mississippi, and work directly with childcare providers and families to provide customized support.
6. MISSISSIPPI TOBACCO-FREE COALITIONS

MCEC’s Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalition are community-based coalitions that work to prevent the initiation of tobacco use among youth, reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, promote tobacco cessation services, and eliminate tobacco-related disparities. The coalition partner with schools, faith-based and community service organizations, businesses, and a number of health advocacy organizations to provide education and resources to the communities that we serve.

MCEC’s Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalitions are funded through Mississippi State Department of Health. MCEC currently operates two of these grants:

- Attala, Leake and Winston Counties
- Montgomery, Choctaw, and Webster Counties

The MCEC’s Mississippi Tobacco-Free Coalitions has three primary goals:

- Youth Tobacco Education
- Adult Tobacco Education
- Community Awareness
7. EDUCATION/ENTREPRENEURSHIP

MCEC’s Entrepreneurship Education Program helps young people, adults, schools, and communities grow through hands-on entrepreneurship education. The Entrepreneurship program prepares individuals to be active, self-sufficient, and productive citizens. As entrepreneurs and people with the knowledge and confidence they gain from learning how to run a business, they contribute to community and economic development.

Entrepreneurship Program includes:

- Comprehensive, professional development programs for instructors
- Experiential, activity-based entrepreneurship curricula with integrated technology and workbooks
- Evaluation and documentation of demographic, learning outcomes, and business development results
- School-based and community-based enterprise modules/trainings
- Rapid response/dislocated worker modules/trainings
8. YOUTH AND ADULT JOB READINESS

Mississippi Community Education Center offers adult employment classes, job fairs, resources, and workshops on many topics to help employees and their families have a successful work-life balance. This free service allows participants the ability to achieve economic security and self-sufficiency.

MCEC programs will provide the following pre-employment:

- Individualized career assessment that evaluates core workforce skills and interests
- Relevant information for potential job openings
- Referrals for those who lack a high school diploma
- Career pathways that match their strengths and interests
- Resume building, job search, application, interviewing, professional clothes closets, and career planning

MCEC programs for post-employment geared towards:

- Parenting
- Conflict resolution
- Stress management
- Time management
- Professional behavior
- Managing a paycheck
- Saving for the future
- Handling life’s demands
- Setting goals and priorities
- Literacy education
LIFE ON THE ROAD...
WORKFORCE PROGRAM
Provided by the Mississippi Community Education Center (MCEC)

MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

BUILDING SOCIAL CAPITAL

KLLM TRANSPORT SERVICES