

Mississippi Association of Child Care Agencies

The Newsletter of Mississippi Association of Child Care Agencies Winter 2009

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Note from President



Pearl S. Buck once said, “If our American way of life fails the child, it fails us all.” It’s true. If as Americans, our way of life can cause a child to stumble, we all stumble. Thankfully, you and other supporters, our public partners, and our friends have been stepping stones rather than stumbling blocks. Working together through MACCA, we are offering solutions and helping to bring about change. 2009 has been a challenging year and the coming year holds many uncertainties for us as we serve the most vulnerable children and youth in the state. Please talk to other licensed child care agencies and explain to them that MACCA needs them to become an active member. With the commitment and active participation I know we can be heard and make a difference.

2008-2009 MACCA Officers

Mississippi Association of Child Care Agencies is proud to announce the 2008—2009 MACCA Officers.

President: Chris Cherney,
Mississippi Children’s Home
Services

Vice President: Tina Aycock,
Hope Village

Secretary: Sheila Brand,
Sally Kate Winters

Treasurer: Reginald Starks,
Youth Villages



*Pictured left to right:
Reginald Starks, Sheila Brand,
Chris Cherney & Tina Aycock*

Out of the need for the development of a comprehensive and an on-going policy regarding the needs of children and youth in out-of-home care, the Mississippi Association of Child Agencies, Inc. (MACCA) was formed. Today MACCA exists with a primary mission to speak with a unified voice to enhance the quality of life of Mississippi’s Children in out-of-home care and their families through services of advocacy, education and empowerment.

For more information on how you too can help the children of MS in out of home care please e-mail Mary Ann Goodwin at marykoneone2000@yahoo.com

2009 MACCA Members

Agency Members:

- Catholic Charities
- Christians In Action
- Faithhaven
- Hope Village
- Methodist Children's Home
- MS Children's Home Services
- MS Stepping Stones
- Natchez Children's Home
- Sally Kate Winters
- Southern Christian Services
- Youth Villages

Membership in the Mississippi Association of Child Care Agencies is open to any non-profit licensed child care facility in Mississippi. For more information on how you can become a MACCA member you can contact Mary Ann Goodwin, MACCA Coordinator at 601-942-0451.



*Children
are one
third of our
population
and all of
our future.*

Upcoming Training Seminar

Workshop Title: "Those Crazy Things You Say and Do!"

February 26, 2010
Region 8 Mental Health
613 Marquette Rd.
Brandon, MS

Presenters:

Sandy Malone- Staff Development Coordinator, Lake Forest Ranch Christian Camp and Conference Center
Jerry Jackson, LMFT- Assistant Director, Lake Forest Ranch Christian Camp and Conference Center

Workshop Summary:

Understanding the unique temperament of people helps to give a filter for understanding in relationships. It gives a valuable tool for helping people know what is important to them and why they respond to certain situations differently than others. Often our own reactions to life's issues are a mystery to us, as well as others. Understanding the unique make-up of the basic temperaments and blends helps to walk with understanding with the people in our lives.

We will be looking at a model of temperament evaluation that correlates with the function of our soul- mind, will and emotions. A self-test will be given and explained to help the individual understand himself/herself, co-workers and their clients.

Understanding the Unique Self -Thinker - Feeler - Doer - Multi-Blend - Multi-Faceted

2009 MACCA Trainings

Mississippi Association of Child Care Agencies hosted 2 training seminars for MACCA members in 2009. The first training was facilitated by A.Homer Cook & Associates. The training was held January 30, 2009 at Region 8 Mental Health Center. The title of the session was "How We Act Makes A Difference." Attendees learned the importance of how their actions affect the children that they serve as well as were able to learn from other agencies different strategies in han-

dling various conflicts. Pictured above are Fred Wilson, Mary Gibbs, Monica Thomas, and Robin Aucior of Hope Village which were very helpful in sharing ideas to enhance services of the agencies.

MACCA members also enjoyed another training at the Lookin' to the Future Conference in July. The training was facilitated by Scott Migdole, LCSW, ACSW, COO, Yale Behavioral Health. MACCA



members were trained on Mid Management Supervision and Personnel issues.

Member Happenings

Sally Kate Winters Family Services

Sally Kate Winters Family Services is pleased to announce the addition of Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Basic Center Program funded through the Family and Youth Services Bureau. SKWFS has modeled the services offered from emergency shelter programs in South Mississippi in an effort of identifying gaps of services for runaway and homeless youth in North Mississippi. The Basic Center Program began October 1, 2009 through a grant award made pursuant to the legislative authority of the Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act of 2008, Title III of Public Law 110-378 (as amended). The Basic Center Program is designed to provide temporary emergency shelter and support services that assist runaway and homeless youth in crisis, reunite youth with their families, and strengthen family relationships. Youth eligible for the program must meet the following criteria:

- * Runaway Youth—A person under 18 years of age who absents himself or herself from home or place of legal residence, without the permission of his or her family.
- * Youth at risk of Separation from the Family— An individual who is less than 18 years of age; and who has a history of running away from the family of such individual whose parent, guardian, or custodian is not willing to provide for the basic needs of such individual; or who is at risk of entering the child welfare system or juvenile justice system as a result of lack of services available to the family to meet such needs.

Under this program Sally Kate Winters Family Services will designate four shelter beds to serve the Runaway and Homeless Youth population in North Mississippi. An array of services will be offered utilizing direct services, a strong referral system, and various service linkages to meet the overwhelming needs of runaway and homeless youth. Community awareness will also be a strong component of the program to ensure that youth are aware of the services available and community leaders have the knowledge to secure these services for identified youth.

Reminders

- Memberships to MACCA are renewed annually. An invoice will be mailed out to current members in January. Please rejoin so that we may continue to work together to enhance the lives of our children here in Mississippi.
- Check out our new website at www.msassocchildcareagencies.org

Member Happenings

Mississippi Children’s Home Services

Mississippi Children’s Home Services Jean Austin Bagley Campus on the corner of N. West Street and Woodrow Wilson is officially open to serve more Mississippi children in need of special educational services and psychiatric residential treatment. The ribbon cutting for the new facility was held on November 20th with Key Note speaker Lieutenant Governor Phil Bryant. Over 200 individuals attended the ceremony and took tours of the new campus’s three ten-bed cottages for children and youth and the William Louis Albritton arts and education building that will accommodate up to 60 students at a time.

After opening remarks and a Dr. Seuss poem read by children living in the new cottages, Lt. Governor Phil Bryant announced to the crowd that he’d helped with many ribbon cuttings but never one like this. “It’s amazing to see what lives will be changed and what lives will be saved [on this new campus],” said the Lt. Governor. The new campus was made possible by a generous gift from Jim and Jean Bagley which enabled MCHS to purchase the 21 acres adjacent their current property in Jackson with the intent of developing additional facilities and services for vul-

nerable children and youth and their families. The arts and education building is named in honor of W.L. Albritton the father of MCHS Board President Carol A. Biedenharn. The children and youth who will be cared for on this campus have serious emotional and behavioral problems as well as special educational needs.

If you have agency information that you would like to have published in the next newsletter please send your information to:

Mary Ann
marykone2000@yahoo.com

Who must do the difficult things?

THOSE WHO CAN

Who must do the impossible things?

THOSE WHO CARE

For additional information on how you may become a MACCA member Please contact :

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