

An aerial photograph of the Mississippi State Capitol building, featuring a large central dome and classical architectural elements. The building is surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky. In the background, a water tower and other city buildings are visible.

# **STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS**

**State of Mississippi Recovery Plan**  
2024 Report





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>GENERAL OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>II. USE OF FUNDS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>III. PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>IV. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>V. LABOR PRACTICES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>VI. USE OF EVIDENCE/PROGRAM EVALUATION .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Expenditure Category: 1.12 Mental Health Services.....	16
Expenditure Category: 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings .....	16
Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers.....	19
Expenditure Category: 2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System .....	20
<b>VII. PERFORMANCE REPORT .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>VIII. PROJECT INVENTORY .....</b>	<b>23</b>
Department of Employment Security .....	23
1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.....	23
2.10 ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS .....	24
2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES.....	25
2.27 ADDRESSING IMPACTS OF LOST INSTRUCTIONAL TIME.....	29
7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.....	30
Department of Environmental Quality.....	30
5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.....	30
5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE .....	31
5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER .....	32

7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.....	33
Department of Finance and Administration .....	34
Bureau of Building (BOB), Grounds and Real Property Management.....	34
1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.....	34
1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS .....	35
3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS.....	37
5.1 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER .....	38
5.2 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE .....	39
5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE.....	41
5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER .....	42
5.8 CLEAN WATER: WATER CONSERVATION.....	43
5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT .....	44
5.11 DRINKING WATER: TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION.....	44
5.12 DRINKING WATER: LEAD REMEDIATION, INCLUDING IN SCHOOLS AND DAYCARES.....	45
5.13 DRINKING WATER: SOURCE .....	46
5.14 DRINKING WATER: STORAGE .....	47
5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.....	47
Independent Schools.....	50
1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS (NURSING HOMES, PRISONS/JAILS, DENSE WORK SITES, SCHOOLS, CHILDCARE FACILITIES, ETC.).....	50
5.2 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE .....	51
5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER .....	51
5.11 DRINKING WATER: TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION.....	51
Insurance Health.....	52



1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES).....	52
Tourism .....	53
2.35 AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY .....	53
Hinds County District Attorney's Office .....	56
3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS.....	56
Department of Child Protection Services.....	57
2.13 HEALTHY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENTS: SERVICES TO FOSTER YOUTH OR FAMILIES INVOLVED IN CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM .....	57
3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS .....	61
3.3 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: OTHER .....	62
3.4 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY ... ..	63
7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.....	64
Department of Mental Health .....	64
1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES .....	64
Department of Military .....	66
1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS .....	66
5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE.....	67
5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT .....	67
Department of Public Safety .....	68
1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.....	68
1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS .....	69
2.8 HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS.....	71
3.4 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY ... ..	71

3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS.....	72
5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER .....	75
6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES .....	76
Department of Transportation .....	78
6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES .....	78
Institutions of Higher Learning .....	78
2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES.....	79
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.....	79
1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.....	80
3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS .....	80
Office of State Public Defender .....	81
3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS.....	81
State Court Backlogs.....	81
3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS.....	82
6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES .....	82
State Department of Health .....	83
1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES.....	83
1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES).....	84
2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES.....	85
5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.....	85
7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.....	86
University of Mississippi Medical Center.....	87
6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES .....	87

# General Overview

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has delivered substantial relief to the American people after the COVID-19 pandemic. As a recipient of ARPA funding, Mississippi has implemented programs that not only focus on the immediate impact of the pandemic but also result in generational change for our State. As of July 1, 2022, the State of Mississippi received \$1,806,373,345.90 in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury in addition to \$268,046,958 for Mississippi Non-entitlement Units of Local Government (NEUs). The Mississippi Legislature appropriated, and Governor Tate Reeves signed into law the \$1.8 billion ARPA funding over the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Legislative Sessions. Agencies work with the Mississippi Department of Finance & Administration (DFA) to develop strategies for using SLFRF funds under ARPA guidance.

The Governor and Legislature assessed the State's most significant needs in the wake of the pandemic as the following:

- Infrastructure, including drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater projects
- Impacted industries, including tourism and healthcare
- Backlogs in the judicial system, including criminal case backlogs, autopsy backlogs, and other laboratory backlogs
- Public health and public mental health needs
- Child welfare and the State's foster care system
- Workforce development, specifically to disproportionately impacted groups

Of the SLFRF funds appropriated, the State has made expenditures exceeding \$429.5 million, a four-fold increase over the prior year. Most of these expenditures have gone toward the State's infrastructure. In fiscal year 2024, almost \$55 million was expended on infrastructure projects by the Bureau of Buildings, including water and sewer repairs, as well as heating, ventilating, and air (HVAC) projects. Approximately \$40 million was spent by the Department of Health on rural clean drinking water and sewer projects, with another \$40 million sent to cities and municipalities by the Department of Environmental Quality for water infrastructure projects. With the majority of funding allocated towards infrastructure projects, there will be an even greater increase in expenditures during FY 2025 as these projects move into the construction phase.

The State made significant investments in the hard-hit tourism industry. Destination Marketing Organizations and Main Street Associations across the state have received multiple rounds of funding and have fast-tracked efforts to increase tourism traffic. The State's tourism industry is showing signs of recovery, with tourist attractions, such as the Grammy Museum Mississippi, fully reopening to the public.

Mississippi's healthcare system was bolstered by direct aid provided to hospitals, as well as investments in healthcare training. The State invested in increased ICU bed capacity and provided loan repayment to frontline nurses practicing in hospitals and extended care facilities.

The State has also invested heavily in child welfare, workforce development, and the amelioration of backlogs in the justice system. The State expects continued progress in these programs in FY 2025.

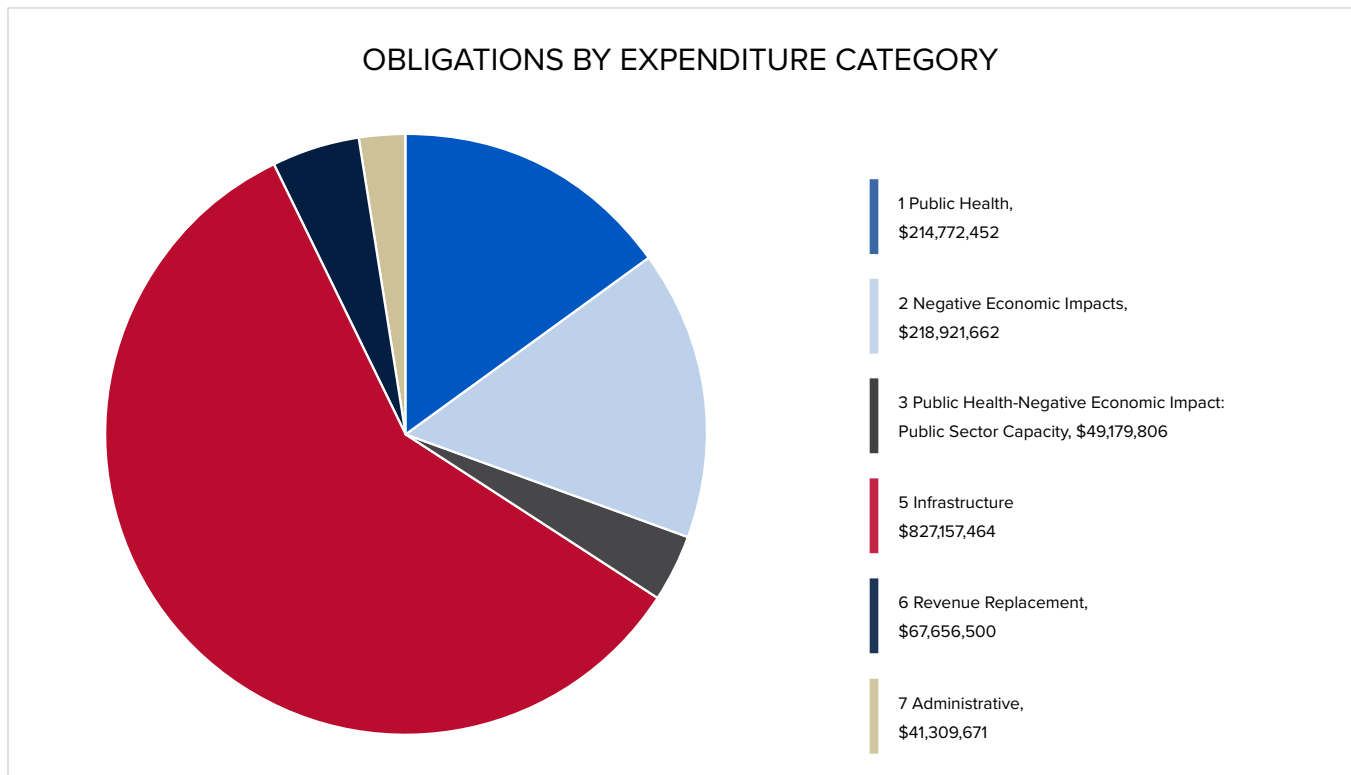
In the 2024 legislative session, the State allocated funds to surface transportation projects in accordance with recent Federal guidance. State leaders carefully reviewed existing uses of funds and made reappropriations to surface transportation projects and other eligible infrastructure projects to create a positive impact across the communities of Mississippi as the State continues to recover from the effects of the pandemic.



## II. USE OF FUNDS

### Strategies and Goals

Upon receiving its award of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“SLFRF”), Mississippi began the dual tasks of rebuilding from the damage caused by the pandemic and transitioning into a post-pandemic future. At the time the State’s last report was filed, approximately \$111 million in SLFRF had been expended on pandemic relief measures. Currently, the State’s SLFRF spending exceeds \$429.5 million, with significantly more expected in the next six to nine months. Thus, while the State’s objectives remain the same as in 2023, it has made marked progress toward reaching those goals.



### Water/Sewer Infrastructure

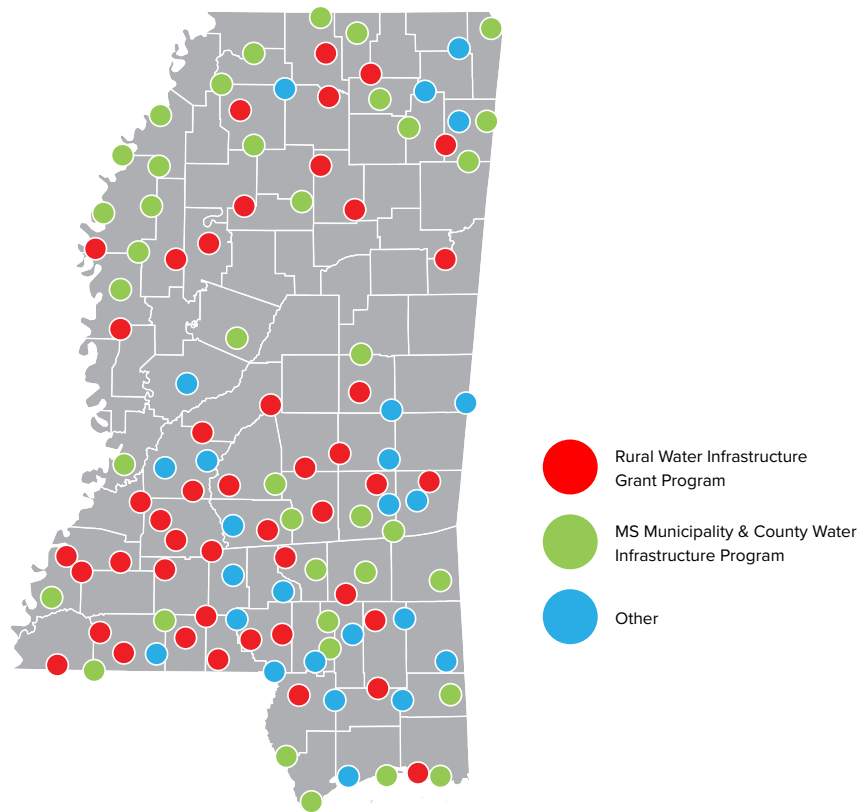
As noted in the 2023 plan, the State identified the repair and replacement of aging water and sewer infrastructure as a critical need. This process was slowed and exacerbated by the effects of the pandemic. To meet this need, the State allocated \$300 million to the Mississippi Department of Health to administer the Rural Water Association Infrastructure Grant Program. This program grants funds to counties and municipalities to provide clean drinking water to rural and economically disadvantaged portions of the State. The State committed additional funds to the program in FY 2024, bringing the total to \$404 million committed to the program. Most of these projects have completed the design phase and are now proceeding to construction. The median household income of the areas served under this program averages \$43,549.

Along with water and sewer infrastructure for rural areas, the State is also investing approximately \$465 million in city and larger metropolitan area water and sewer infrastructure through the Mississippi



Department of Environmental Quality. Other water and sewer projects are being undertaken by the Department of Finance and Administration Bureau of Buildings at mental health facilities, correctional facilities, and state parks that saw increased use during the pandemic.

#### WATER/SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

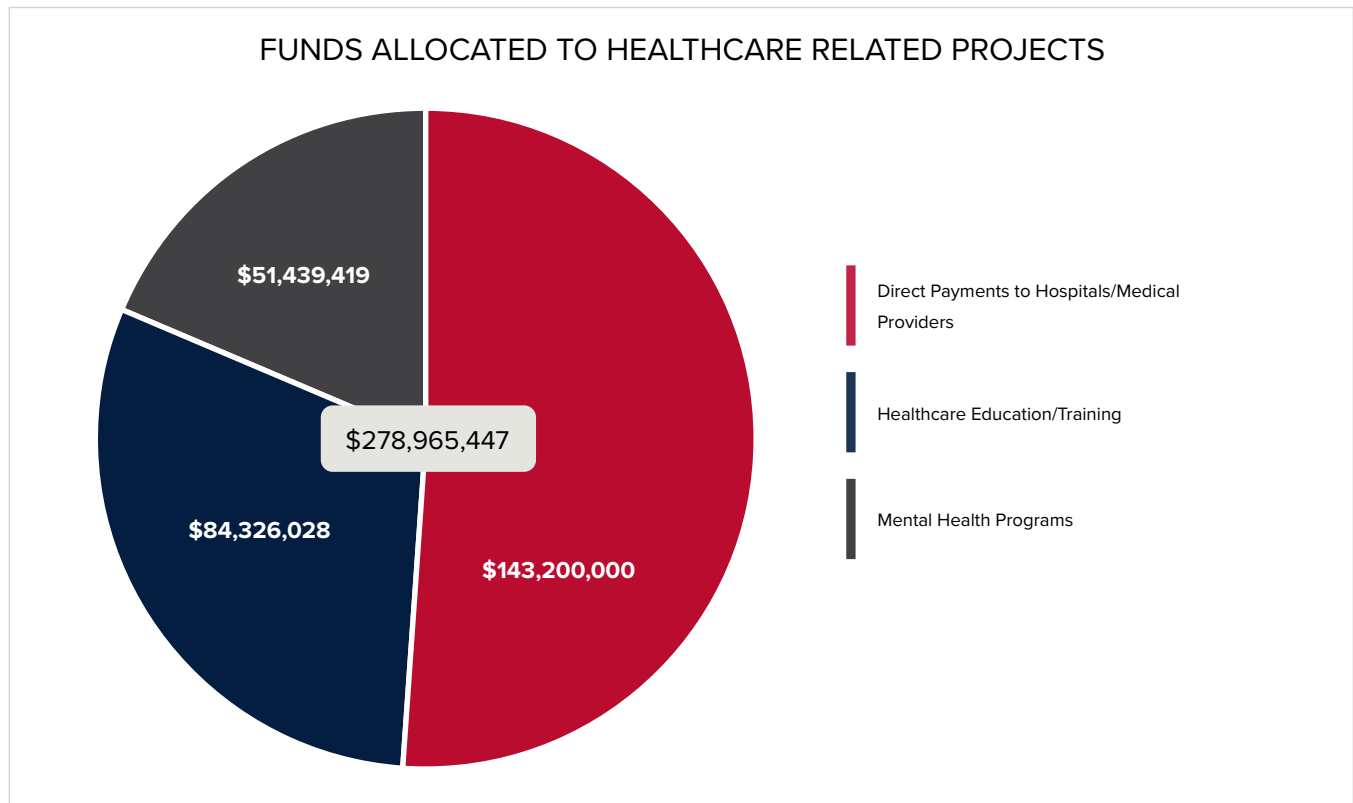


### Public Health

The pandemic brought to light aging infrastructure in congregate areas, including schools, public buildings, and state offices. Many of these buildings were originally designed to maximize occupancy in smaller spaces. Funds allocated to these projects are creating open and spacious floorplans that maximize distance among occupants; creating and expanding outdoor spaces to accommodate and encourage greater use; and finally upgrading and replacing inefficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. These changes will work together to minimize transmission of COVID-19 in congregate settings and prepare the state for a post-pandemic future.

The State has also invested SLFRF in the hard-hit healthcare sector. While some areas of the healthcare industry saw an increase in revenue due to the pandemic, others were harmed by increased costs and a lack of healthcare workers. The State utilized funds in several different ways to bolster its healthcare system. Hospitals which had suffered economic harm due to the pandemic received direct benefits to compensate for their economic loss. Funds were directed to the Department of Health to operate a program through local providers to transition their business models to better serve the public post-pandemic. The State also offered funds to hospitals for the creation of additional intensive care units and beds to deal with increased need caused by the pandemic.

Recognizing the healthcare staffing shortages resulting from the pandemic, the State created a nursing loan repayment program for nurses serving in the areas of greatest need: hospitals and long-term care facilities. In addition, the State used funds to expand training programs for nurses and other healthcare workers, including paramedics. Funds were also used to expand existing fellowship and residency programs for physicians. Finally, the State used funds to provide career navigator programs to assist students who are interested in pursuing a career in the healthcare field.



Recognizing that the pandemic impacted not only physical health but also mental health, the State used approximately \$50 million to bolster the Department of Mental Health. The Department of Mental Health subgranted these funds to community mental health centers across the state to operate critical programs. These include services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), mobile teams to respond to crisis situations, court liaisons, crisis intervention training for law enforcement, and staffing of crisis stabilization units.

### Long Term Recovery

In addition to bolstering the healthcare industry for long term recovery, the State also provided funds to the hard-hit tourism industry. The State approved two rounds of funding for the marketing organizations ("DMOs"). These funds are being utilized to market and promote the state's various tourist attractions, which has a trickle-down effect of revitalizing the entire tourism industry.

The State also provided two rounds of funding to Main Street organizations. These funds are used to revitalize historic downtown areas across the state by adding signage, creating more attractive outdoor recreation areas, and improving the appearance of facades and other exterior features. This will draw more tourists to historic rural areas in Mississippi and help sustain the industry.

The State provided funds to the unique Grammy Museum Mississippi to defray costs of building maintenance and improvement that suffered during the pandemic. The museum is also increasing floor space for greater distancing between guests and increasing its outdoor exhibits and programs to further alleviate congestion. The Museum will continue to draw tourists to the Mississippi Delta, the birthplace of the blues.

The State placed its remaining long term recovery funds in workforce development programs through the State's office of workforce development, Accelerate Mississippi. Accelerate has utilized funds for various programs, including training at colleges, training of health care workers, career coaching in high school for students that lost instructional time due to the pandemic, and wrap-around services to enable disadvantaged individuals to participate in training programs.

### **Public Sector Capacity**

The State's justice system was hampered by backlogs in state courts caused by court closures during the pandemic. Funds have been used to hire additional district attorneys in the State's most populated county. Funds also support the State's public defender office through the hiring of additional staff and payment of expenses.

The State's Administrative Office of Courts received funds to hire temporary judges to ease backlogs at courts across the state. While significant progress has been made in clearing backlogs, it is anticipated that temporary judges will continue to work through the end of 2026.

The Department of Public Safety received funds to address backlogs in autopsies and forensic testing which were severely exacerbated by the pandemic. These funds have been used to upgrade facilities for testing, hire additional physicians to perform autopsies, and put in place measures needed to clear forensic testing backlogs.

Department of Public Safety funds have also been used to purchase much-needed equipment and to upgrade its systems to deal with the heightened risk of cyber threats.



### III. PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

The COVID-19 pandemic touched every individual across the country whether directly or indirectly. Although larger metropolitan areas for the most part had resources to address the needs in their areas, the more rural populations were not in the same position. As such, Mississippi has targeted the funding provided through the ARPA SLFRF program to address the challenges that were and are still currently being faced by the citizens and industries in these rural areas as a result of the pandemic. More than 62% of the State's population reside in non-metropolitan areas. 40% of the total population represent minorities and of those, 62.3% live in non-metropolitan areas.

The most critical need continues to be addressing the aging drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure across the State. To tackle this need, the State allocated more than 48% of SLFRF dollars to two large-scale infrastructure programs: The Mississippi Municipality & County Water Infrastructure Program (MCWI) and the Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program. These programs provide funds to rural water associations, local municipalities, and counties to make investments in necessary infrastructure improvements to promote public health, safety, and efficient administration. Funds for the MCWI Program are leveraged with local funds to ensure that these local communities have enough funds to cover all the improvements needed to provide long-term, lasting solutions for those citizens.

A separate program investing funds in the State's institutions of higher learning will provide critical improvements benefiting some of Mississippi's populations that were most significantly impacted by the pandemic. Funding under this program has been made available to Tougaloo College, a historically black college located in Jackson, MS and will support an institution which has suffered from enrollment and funding declines compounded by the pandemic in addition to aging infrastructure. The college serves segments of the population that have experienced higher-than-average socio-economic hardships. Planned usage of the funding will ensure improved water infrastructure benefiting the students, faculty and surrounding community.

In addition to the need to invest in infrastructure, the pandemic also highlighted challenges in the healthcare industry, particularly in rural areas. According to the 2022 Mississippi Rural Health Plan<sup>1</sup> published by the Mississippi State Department of Health, the State has 111 hospitals, 31 critical access hospitals, and 186 Rural Health Clinics. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities were at the center of the public health emergency delivering essential services and critical care to the State's residents. As a result, hospitals suffered significant impacts due to the pandemic including reduced capacities, increased staffing turnover and burnout, and revenue loss all while contending with increased operational expenses and other challenges in efforts to serve MS communities. To tackle these challenges, the State established multiple programs focused specifically on fortifying the healthcare industry in addition to behavioral and mental health services, programming and resources.

Another focus area in the State has been education and training. In particular, certain populations such as military personnel (transitioning out of service), single parents, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities faced disproportionate impacts from the pandemic with many stuck in low-wage jobs with too few resources to support their efforts in pursuing a higher-wage career. Through SLFRF funding, the State has developed multiple programs aimed at increasing the capacity of existing training programs, developing new training/education programs as well as providing wrap-around supportive services for individuals among specialized populations impacted by COVID-19 and have a need and desire to work.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://msdh.ms.gov/page/resources/66.pdf>, pp.15-16.

The State has also recognized a significant need regarding children in the foster care system. As such, SLFRF funding has been appropriated to address the challenges identified. Funding is being used to hire additional case workers to ensure that foster care children are getting the attention they deserve and are being well cared for. Additional funds are going toward providing comprehensive career training, exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming for older youth still in foster care as well as other needs including professional development, transportation support, and comprehensive funding for driver's education. The State has also allocated funds to provide evidence-based solutions that allow families to stay together by providing resources for immediate needs as well as insuring adoption and permanency plans are in place for current foster care children allowing them to be placed in permanent, loving homes. This focus on the foster care system aims to elevate this disadvantaged population group so they can become productive, healthy members of society once they exit the foster care system.

SLFRF investments will also support clients serviced under the Office of the State Public Defender (OSPD) and Hinds County Public Defender Office (HCPDO). The vast majority of the population served by the OSPD and HCPDO are considered disproportionately impacted by the pandemic with many of them considered indigent and identifying as part of a racial or ethnic minority group. Secondarily, as individuals within the legal and justice system pending case disposition, the adverse impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic were particularly severe as a result of being housed in jails for extended periods due to delays caused by the pandemic. Investments in the State's legal and court systems will allow for a much-needed remediation of case backlog and more efficient disposition processes which, in turn, will enable the OSPD to provide more efficient service delivery for their clients including transitioning them into social services programs to address housing or mental health care needs. These coordinated efforts will ultimately increase individuals' opportunity for success upon release from custody.

The State is committed to elevating those in disadvantaged population groups and those living in more rural areas to ensure they have the tools and resources available to flourish in their communities. Our State is only successful if its citizens are successful and thriving. These programs will give the State's most vulnerable populations an added advantage and opportunity to recover from the devastating impacts from the pandemic and reach their highest potential.

## IV. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mississippi's allocation of ARPA SLFRF funding was appropriated by the State Legislature through the required legislative process. On November 13, 2021, the Legislature's ARPA Subcommittee held a hearing on proposed uses of funds, including presentations from neighboring states on their uses of funds. Following this, the subcommittee conducted a series of public hearings over several weeks, inviting members of the public and media. Various State agencies presented their areas of greatest need. The Legislature used this input, along with federal guidance, to determine SLFRF appropriations for future sessions. The Governor and Legislature continue to engage with citizens, including special interest groups, on the use of ARPA funds.

The State provides the Transparency in Mississippi Government website to ensure visibility and accessibility to state government financial activity, as mandated by law. This site is part of the State's effort to set new standards for transparency and accountability. The Department of Finance and Administration regularly updates a variety of financial data. Public feedback and comments are solicited through The Mississippi Public Meeting Notice Website, where State Agencies post notices of regular meetings.

At the agency level, community engagement is integral to the development and progress of SLFRF funded initiatives. For instance, the Bureau of Buildings collaborates with various state agencies to address infrastructure needs using SLFRF funds. As projects progress, agencies inform the public through social media and other outlets about ongoing improvements. This collaborative approach ensures strategic and streamlined recovery efforts from the public health emergency.

State agencies utilize various communication channels to keep the community informed about public health emergencies and available resources. Social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook, along with agency websites, are used to distribute information and receive feedback. Entities such as the MS Institutions for Higher Learning, UMMC, and the MS State Department of Health hold public meetings and sessions to gather feedback from stakeholders.

As SLFRF funded initiatives progress, agencies will continue to engage with their communities and each other to ensure the needs of Mississippians are appropriately addressed.



## V. LABOR PRACTICES

The State of Mississippi is making critical investments to revitalize the State's infrastructure so that people can live decent, healthy, and productive lives. These projects improve public health and safety, provide lasting community and environmental benefits and support local construction jobs. Project labor agreements will not be utilized in most cases. However, due to the size and scope of its infrastructure projects, the Bureau of Buildings (BOB) has adopted a Workforce Continuity Plan to promote strong labor standards for all capital projects with budgets in excess of \$10 million. The Workforce Continuity Plan provides contract terms and conditions that require that contractors working with the agencies shall pay for qualified labor necessary to properly execute the work involved. Additionally, the Workforce Continuity Plan provides that all workers receive appropriate training for the work that they are doing, including necessary safety training. Contracts will also call upon the contractor to designate a safety officer to be responsible for project safety standards.

Where applicable, the project professional (architect/engineer) will be responsible for monitoring the projects' compliance with Davis-Bacon labor standards. It is anticipated that Davis-Bacon will apply to certain BOB projects which exceed \$10 million, although no projects have yet reached this threshold.

State agencies and their subrecipients will prioritize hiring local contractors and workers and will comply with Davis-Bacon wage requirements when applicable.

MDEQ oversees the Mississippi Municipality & County Water Infrastructure Grant Program (MCWI), aimed at essential investments in water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. For MCWI projects surpassing \$10 million, program subrecipients must certify compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. Additionally, all subrecipients of infrastructure projects are obligated to adhere to the Equal Employment Opportunity Act. No projects have met the \$10 million threshold for Davis-Bacon application; however, it is anticipated that some will reach the threshold.

Awards under the Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program are for less than the \$10 million threshold. Some of these projects are braided with other federal funding, such as CDBG funding. In these cases, the projects are required to adhere to all requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act.

All projects with capital expenditures greater than \$10 million will adhere to the requirements of the Davis-Bacon and related acts, and any other applicable labor requirements. To promote effective and efficient project delivery, all agencies, subrecipients, and the contractors for these projects will adhere to strong labor standards and are obligated to ensure timely payment of salaries and wages to their employees. This includes ensuring fair wages for workers, maintaining safe working conditions, and complying with relevant labor laws and regulations.

## VI. USE OF EVIDENCE/PROGRAM EVALUATION

### Expenditure Category: 1.12 Mental Health Services – Use of Evidence

The State of Mississippi has allocated \$51,439,419 to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) for the purpose of supporting mental health programs and services. The project for State Required Mandates plans to meet the needs of Mississippians by increasing the utilization of community-based services for behavioral and mental health.

DMH follows the evidence-based [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's \(SAMHSA\) National guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care – A Best Practice Toolkit](#) for the administration of the State Required Mandates programs, including:

- 988 Funding
- Mobile Crisis Response Teams
- Crisis Stabilization Units
- Mental Health First Aid and CIT; and
- Peer Respite Programs

DMH utilizes SAMHSA's Sequential Intercept Model for its court liaison program, and SAMHSA's National Guidelines for Child and Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Care in its Intensive Community Support Specialists Program. The evidence used to support SAMHSA's model programs ranges from moderate to strong.

In addition to relying on the SAMHSA's best practices for its programs, DMH is conducting the following program evaluations:

- Assessing resource acquisition, existence, and utilization for the individual services outlined in this plan and contracted through subrecipient grant providers.
- Reviewing day-to-day operations and activities, including the substantive review of service efficacy, by making site visits and auditing participation in the programs. KPIs and other outcomes/outputs are within subrecipient documents, which are also part of the evaluation.
- Overall executive review conducted regularly for feedback in adjusting the evaluation of the programs, or the structure of the evaluations.

### Expenditure Category: 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings – Use of Evidence

#### HVAC Improvements

The agencies represented by the State of Mississippi mitigation projects faced unique COVID-19 challenges in its facilities, such as elevated risk of viral introduction and high risk of rapid transmission. The State has allocated funds to mitigate COVID-19 transmission in congregate settings by improvements to heating,

ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. When indoors, ventilation mitigation strategies can help reduce viral particle concentration. The lower the concentration, the less likely viral particles can be inhaled into the lungs (potentially lowering the inhaled dose); contact eyes, nose, and mouth; or fall out of the air to accumulate on surfaces. Although it is not known exactly how much the concentration of viral particles in the air needs to be reduced to mitigate the risk of viral infection, ventilation mitigation strategies still provide a reasonable approach to reducing risk. Not all interventions will work in all scenarios and their selection must be carefully evaluated prior to adoption.

The use of evidence from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Ventilation in Buildings<sup>2</sup>](#), suggests that these ventilation interventions can reduce the spread of disease, but they will not eliminate risk completely. These interventions are intended to lower transmission risk by lowering the concentration of infectious particles in a room. Below are some of the recommendations from the CDC to improve air circulation and air cleanliness.

- Ensure HVAC systems provide at least the minimum outdoor air ventilation requirement in accordance with ventilation design codes.
- Include HVAC controls to monitor and control the quality of outdoor air ventilation in air distribution systems.
- Rebalance or adjust HVAC systems to increase total airflow to occupied spaces when possible.
- Upgrade central HVAC filter efficiency to a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV)-13 or better.
- Inspect HVAC systems.
- Clean existing air distribution systems including but not limited to ductwork, grilles, registers, diffusers and existing equipment.

The CDC goes on to state:

Improving ventilation (air flow, filtration, and treatment) can help you protect building occupants from respiratory infections. Good ventilation can also help you provide clean air and maintain a healthy indoor environment.

Droplets and small particles that people breathe out can contain viruses. Because people can get respiratory illnesses from breathing in these droplets and viral particles, it is important to use protective ventilation strategies to prevent them from accumulating in indoor air. Ventilation systems bring fresh, outdoor air into rooms, filter or disinfect the air there, and improve air flow. Making ventilation system upgrades or improvements in your building can increase the delivery of clean air and reduce potential contaminants in indoor spaces. This can help reduce the number of viral particles in the air.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, per the CDC,

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Ventilation in Buildings," <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Improving Ventilation in Buildings," <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/improving-ventilation-in-buildings.html>.



the Lancet Commission Report<sup>4</sup> that draws on available scientific evidence proposes ACH levels of 4 as “Good,” 6 as “Better,” and >6 as “Best,” underscoring that ACH represents a scale:

TABLE 1.

Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Diseases; The Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe School, Safe Work, and Safe Travel

	VOLUMETRIC FLOW RATE PER VOLUME	VOLUMETRIC FLOW RATE PER PERSON		VOLUMETRIC FLOW RATE PER FLOOR AREA	
	ACHe	cfm/person	L/s/person	cfm/ft <sup>2</sup>	L/s/m <sup>2</sup>
GOOD	4	21	10	0.75 + ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	3.8+ ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation
BETTER	6	30	14	1.0+ ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	5.1+ ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation
BEST	>6	>30	>14	>1.0+ ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation	>5.1+ ASHRAE minimum outdoor air ventilation

The evidence base used by the Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel is also used. It states:

To advance this conversation around health-based ventilation targets for airborne respiratory pathogens, the Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel reviewed the scientific evidence around ventilation and disease transmission for SARS-CoV-2 and other airborne pathogens. We found that when we look at the totality of evidence – and despite differences across studies, experts, and metrics – there is coalescence around ventilation targets above current minimums. Based on this assessment, the Task Force proposes the following Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, which are feasible and achievable right now with existing and widely available approaches and technologies.<sup>5</sup>

The State of Mississippi has allocated \$92,514,582 for prevention of COVID-19 in congregate settings by way of mitigation and prevention improvements to HVAC systems.

4 Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, Lancet+Covid+Commission+TF+Report+Nov+2022.pdf (squarespace.com), pp. 3-8.

5 LANCET COVID-19 COMMISSION, Task Force on Safe Work, Safe School, and Safe Travel - Proposed Non-infectious Air Delivery Rates (NADR) for Reducing Exposure to Airborne Respiratory Infectious Diseases, Lancet+Covid+Commission+TF+Report+Nov+2022.pdf (squarespace.com), page 3.

In addition, the state has invested \$7,004,572 in HVAC and social distancing improvements at independent colleges and universities in the state. The HVAC improvements rely on the CDC guidance and Lancet Task Force evidence listed above. Social distancing measures rely on well-known CDC evidence<sup>6</sup> as well as studies by other organizations such as the Mayo Clinic.

### **Expenditure Category: 2.10 Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers - Use of Evidence**

The State allocated \$10,400,000 for assistance to unemployed or underemployed workers via the Workforce Development: Wrap-Around Services program, administered by the Mississippi Department of Employment Security. The funding through this program removes barriers to education and training by providing services such as transportation and access to high-quality childcare. The program increases the capacity of existing and new training programs to provide wrap-around services to individuals and industries impacted by COVID-19.

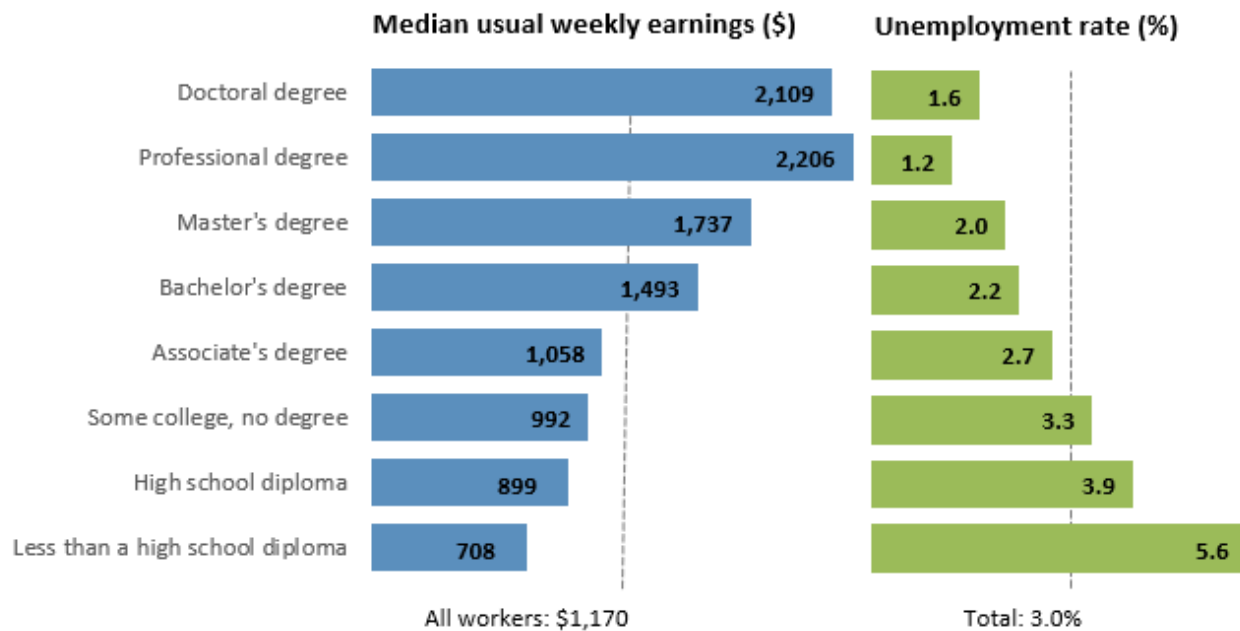
Evidence indicates that providing access to training and education helps people who want to get into higher paying careers. The program relies heavily on evidence from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. For example, the Bureau of Labor, in its article “Learn more, earn more: Education leads to higher wages, lower unemployment”<sup>7</sup>, states:

Wondering if it pays to stay in school? Here’s one reason to continue: workers’ earnings increase as educational attainment rises, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). In 2023, for example, workers aged 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$899. Workers whose highest level of education was a diploma made \$1058 per week, or just over 25 percent more than those who didn’t finish high school—and earnings improved with every level of education completed. (See chart – next page)<sup>7</sup> Each level of education you complete may help you develop more skills, give you access to higher paying occupations, and signal that you are able to follow through on important tasks, such as planning and meeting deadlines, that employers value.

6 Evaluating the Effectiveness of Social Distancing Interventions to Delay or Flatten the Epidemic Curve of Coronavirus Disease - Volume 26, Number 8—August 2020 - Emerging Infectious Diseases journal - CDC

7 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Education Pays, April 2024, Education pays, 2023 : Career Outlook: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov)

### Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment, 2023



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

The program is administered by state agencies and non-profit organizations through subrecipient agreements. The program benefits those most in need of these supportive services, including military personnel, single parents, current and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

### Expenditure Category: 2.13 Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System - Various

The State of Mississippi is investing \$55,102,000 in funds to promote healthy childhood environments including services to foster youth and families involved in child welfare systems by providing comprehensive career training, exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming, addressing needs of older youth who age out of the system, and services aimed at reducing foster care utilization so that families stay together.

#### Older Youth - Use of Evidence and Program Evaluation

Training programs will rely on an evidence base and on program evaluations. The [LifeSet](#) program, provided by Youth Villages, will be utilized. LifeSet provides intensive case management for program participants. LifeSet is one of the first, and now the largest, evidence-informed programs helping young people who age out of foster care.

In addition, upon completion of training programs in transportation and driving, supportive case management, and supervised independent living, participants will complete questionnaires measuring the performance and satisfaction with the training. Evaluations will be completed within 30 days of each program's conclusion. Once evaluations have

been completed, information will be compiled and made publicly available.

### Continuum of Care – Use of Evidence

The Continuum of Care program teaches a Structured Decision Making (SDM) Model to promote the safety and well-being of children and adults. The program is administered by the Evident Change organization. According to the [California Evidenced-Based Clearinghouse \(CEBC\) for Child Welfare](#), the [Structured Decision Making \(SDM\) Model by Evident Change](#) received a rating of 3-Promising Research Evidence.

### Immediate Solutions – Use of Evidence

Immediate Solutions consists of a program known as Intercept, which is administered by the Youth Villages organization. Intercept is rated as a Well-Supported program by the [Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse](#). Three independent evaluations conducted by the Center for State Child Welfare Data at Chapin Hall on the [Intercept model](#), (2) child welfare entry prevention and (1) permanency and re-entry prevention, found that:

- **Placement:** Intercept reduces the chances of out-of-home placement by 53% following a maltreatment investigation. The effect of Intercept is sustained at six and 12 months after Intercept services end.
- **Permanency:** Compared to a matched comparison group, after controlling for how long they were in care, the odds of achieving permanency were approximately 24% higher for the Intercept group.
- **Placement:** A third evaluation of a unique sample of youth found that the likelihood of out-of-home placement is 37% lower for youth referred to Intercept than for the comparison group.



## VII. PERFORMANCE REPORT

Mississippi has established a centralized system through the Department of Finance and Administration to provide guidance and oversight to the State Agencies appropriated SLFRF funds. Each agency is encouraged to create effective and efficient processes to maximize the impact of SLFRF dollars in the communities across the State. DFA provides guidance, training, and other resources to ensure programs are implemented in compliance with federal requirements as well as applicable State requirements. Agencies routinely provide updates on the status of their programs to assure the State that the funds allocated will be obligated and spent within the required timelines and that the intended goals will be met.

Specific key performance indicators are included in the Project Inventory section where applicable. Currently five programs require the outlined mandatory performance indicators. Three of those programs are in the early stages of implementation. Two programs, the MS Department of Employment Security's Career Coaching Program and Wrap-Around Services Program have made substantial progress during FY 2024 as indicated below.

MANDATORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS As of June 30, 2024	
ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS (EC 2.10)	
Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	3,033
Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs	2,952
ADDRESSING IMPACTS OF LOST INSTRUCTIONAL TIME (EC 2.27)	
Number of students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs	25,814

DFA is also responsible for compiling the quarterly Project and Expenditure Reports. As such, a reporting portal was established for agencies to submit their information to this centralized system on a monthly basis. Data is reconciled to the State's accounting system and performance data is reviewed monthly to ensure projects remain on track and agencies are maintaining all required reporting information. This allows the State to address any issues well in advance of the quarterly reporting deadline and keeps the State informed of the progress of its programs. DFA also performs monitoring at the agency level to ensure that systems are in place to review and maintain supporting documentation so that it is accessible for future audits.

VIII. PROJECT INVENTORY

Department of Employment Security

(via the State Office of Workforce Development known as AccelerateMS)

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://acceleratems.org/>

<https://impact.acceleratems.org>

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.B	AccelerateMS - Mississippi Health Sciences Training Infrastructure Grant Program	\$20,000,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS has awarded these funds to William Carey University, College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUCOM) under the Health Sciences Training Infrastructure Program. WCUCOM has been recognized as number one in the nation for placing Mississippi’s medical school graduates in rural areas, 6th for underserved areas, and 8th for primary care fields.<sup>8</sup> This project is intended to increase and expand training for physicians in rural and underserved areas to help better serve patients that may not have access to needed healthcare providers.

This facility will allow for advanced simulation, training in high-quality value-based care, and the latest in ultrasound and diagnostic training. This training will be geared toward the unique needs of Mississippians: diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular issues. The training will be made available to medical students and post-doctoral trainees, as well as practicing physicians as continuing medical education.

Project Schedule

The Subrecipient Agreement with William Carey University was signed in April 2023. The project has been divided into two phases: Phase 1 involves constructing the WCUCOM-IPC, and Phase 2 will focus on renovating existing WCUCOM classrooms. Construction of the WCUCOM-IPC is on schedule and the project is expected to be substantially completed by July 2025. The bidding process for Phase 2 closed in April 2024.

**Phase 1:** Construction progresses well and is roughly 25% complete. Of the \$11,764,000 contract price, \$3,040,987 has been billed by the general contractor. No changes affecting the projected completion date have occurred.

**Phase 2:** Bidding, contractor selection, and pre-construction meetings are complete, and the notice to proceed has been given. Demolition began in June 2024.

8 See <https://www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-medical-schools/william-carey-university-04162>.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The University has contracted with an engineering firm and construction contractor to complete work for this project. Once construction is complete, the University will also work with state and local healthcare organizations to support residency programs and to increase the number of training slots in the State of Mississippi.

Key Performance Indicators

- 1. Number of medical students enrolled with WCUCOM: **754**
- 2. Number of residents participating in single certificate or training programs: **200**
- 3. Number of residency programs supported by WCUCOM through presentations and educational opportunities: **8**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.A.1	AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program: Wrap-Around Services for Specific Populations	\$10,400,000

2.10 ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED OR UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated \$10,400,000 to the Wrap-Around Services for Specific Populations program. The program aims to increase the capacity of existing training programs and develop new training/education programs to provide opportunities for those individuals and industries impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible applicants include State agencies, community-based organizations, and non-profit partners. This program provides retraining, mentoring, career pathway coaching, and back-to-work support such as transportation, childcare, and financial literacy training. The program will benefit the following specific populations: military personnel (transitioning out of service), single parents, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, underemployed individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

Project Schedule

Application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022 and Subrecipients were notified of award in December 2022. Of the eight projects awarded, three have been completed. Two projects are more than 60% complete and the remaining three are well underway but will likely continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Central MS Planning and Development District
- Delta Health Alliance
- Goodwill Industries of Mississippi
- MagCor/MDOC Works
- Midtown Partners
- Mississippi Low-Income Child-Care Initiative
- Mississippi Military Department
- Refill Jackson Initiative

Key Performance Indicators

- 1. Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 306
- 2. Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 5,647
- 3. Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

The project uses United States Department of Labor guidance and data as an evidence base. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.A	AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program: Training at Colleges and IHL	\$21,027,687

Project Overview

As part of the AccelerateMS Workforce Development Program, \$21,027,687 has been provided to the State’s community colleges and Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs), enabling them to provide outreach, education, and training program expansion toward filling employment gaps and bolstering economic recovery among the following negatively impacted industries: healthcare, supply chain/logistics, and emerging sectors including advanced manufacturing, electric vehicles, and data analytics.

Project Schedule

The application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022. 29 awards were made to subrecipients in October 2022. They are currently at various stages of completion. Three projects are complete and nine are substantially complete. Of the remaining 17 projects, 12 are more than 50% complete. It is anticipated that this program will continue through early 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- East Central Community College
- East Mississippi Community College
- Hinds Community College
- Holmes Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Madison County School District
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- MS Achievement School District
- Mississippi Delta Community College
- Mississippi State University
- Northeast Mississippi Community College



- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- Pearl River Community College
- Tishomingo County School District
- University of Southern Mississippi

Key Performance Indicators

A total of 11,583 individuals have been trained since the beginning of the period of performance in the following sectors:

1. Healthcare sector: **1,699**
2. Logistics & Construction sector: **661**
3. Emerging sectors: **9,223**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.B	Mississippi Allied Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program	\$2,500,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated \$2,500,000 to the Mississippi Allied Health College and Career Navigator Grant Program. These funds are provided to hire professionals or navigators to offer individual assistance and guidance to students to assist them in many areas, from maneuvering challenges while enrolled in college programs and understanding the job market, to helping retain and graduate nursing and allied health students at community and junior colleges.

Project Schedule

The application period for this program opened in June 2023 and final awards were made in August 2023. Of the ten projects awarded, six are well underway. The remaining four are in early stages of implementation. It is anticipated that this program will continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

AccelerateMS has partnered with ten community colleges through subrecipient agreements to hire “navigators” to provide individual assistance and guidance to students. The navigators must be registered nurses with at least two years of experience in nursing. Nursing program navigators ultimately focus on key areas including college success, persistence, career navigation, and advancement.

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Copiah Lincoln Community College
- East Central Community College
- East Mississippi Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Northeast Mississippi Community College
- Northwest Mississippi Community College

- Pearl River Community College
- Southwest Mississippi Community College

Key Performance Indicators

	Practical Nursing	Associate Degree Nursing
1. # of Navigators providing assistance	16	16
2. # of Students Assisted by Navigators	641	1,447
3. Retention Rate	83.01%	84.15%
4. Graduation Rate	75.20%	77.45%

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.C	AccelerateMS Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program	\$21,406,009

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated \$21,406,009 to the Accelerate Mississippi Nursing/Allied Health Grant Program. These funds are provided with the purpose of increasing capacity in nursing and allied health training programs, including accredited paramedic programs, job sectors which were severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

The application period for this program opened in June 2023 and closed July 2023. Final award notifications were issued in August 2023. 21 subgrants were awarded to 17 Colleges and Universities. Most of these projects are still in early phases and will likely continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is the provision of grants to universities and community colleges and other entities providing healthcare-focused training programs. The program also prioritizes jobs within the nursing and allied health fields that are currently experiencing staffing shortages in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare providers across the State.

The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Baptist Health Sciences University
- Blue Mountain Christian University
- Coahoma Community College
- East Central Community College
- East Mississippi Community College
- Itawamba Community College
- Jones College
- Meridian Community College
- Mississippi Delta Community College

- Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- Mississippi State University
- Mississippi University for Women
- Northwest Mississippi Community College
- Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.
- Pearl River Community College
- Singing River Health System
- University of Mississippi Medical Center

Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of Nursing students enrolled in training program: **2,076**
2. Number of Allied Health students enrolled in training program: **952**
3. Number of Nursing students completing training program: **1,283**
4. Number of Allied health students completing training program: **734**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2371.A	Accelerate Mississippi Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant Program	\$3,000,000

Project Overview

AccelerateMS allocated \$3,000,000 to the Physician Residency and Fellowship Start-Up Grant Program. These funds are provided with the purpose of creating new or increasing capacity in existing physician residency and fellowship programs in hospitals, which were severely impacted by the disruption to the economy and workforce caused by COVID-19.

Project Schedule

The application period for this program opened in June 2023 and closed July 2023. Final award notifications were issued in August 2023. Five subgrants were awarded to medical centers across the State. Most of these projects are still in early phases and will likely continue into 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is the provision of grants to general acute care hospitals in the State of Mississippi to facilitate the implementation of this program. The following Subrecipients will assist in implementing this program:

- Baptist Memorial Hospital – DeSoto
- Delta Health System
- Memorial Hospital at Gulfport
- Mississippi Baptist Medical Center
- North Mississippi Medical Center

Key Performance Indicators

1. There were a total of 96 training slots in residency/fellowship created and a total of 38 training slots filled in family medicine, osteopathic neuromusculoskeletal, and internal medicine specialties.

2. A total of 20 Mississippi counties are impacted by the program: Hinds, Rankin, Madison, Leake, Attala, Humphreys, Yazoo, Harrison, Hancock, Stone, Washington, Sunflower, Bolivar, Sharkey, Issaquena, Coahoma, DeSoto, Marshall, Tate, Tunica

## 2.27 ADDRESSING IMPACTS OF LOST INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.C	AccelerateMS - Career Coaching Programs	\$8,000,000

### Project Overview

The legislature appropriated \$8,000,000 to AccelerateMS for the Career Coaching program. The targeted population is disproportionately impacted high school students (grades 9-12), although middle school students may also participate. Career coaches assist students in maximizing their potential and passions by road-mapping paths to colleges, majors, classes, and internships. A strategic plan may also be put in place for the student to guide them through their final years within the K-12 schooling system while educating them on successful interview practices and resume building.

### Project Schedule

Application period for the grants opened in July 2022 and closed in August 2022. Subrecipients were notified of their award in August 2022 and given a deadline of September 2022 to hire career coaches. Five projects were awarded and all are anticipate to be complete by the end of 2024.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

AccelerateMS has partnered with the following Subrecipients to assist in implementing this program:

- Economic Development Authority of Jones County
- Central Mississippi Planning & Development District
- Three Rivers Planning & Development District
- Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District
- South Delta Planning & Development District

### Key Performance Indicators

1. Students participating in evidence-based tutoring programs – **15,834**
2. Individual job applications received - **3,921**



## 7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1517.1388	Administrative Expenses	\$1,220,000

### Project Overview

The legislature appropriated \$1,220,000 to AccelerateMS, with the Department of Employment Security acting as fiscal agent, to be used for professional services in connection with the administration of AccelerateMS's ARPA/SLFRF programs.

### Project Schedule

The professional services agreement is effective through the end of December 2026. As most of this agency's programs will continue into 2026, these services will be needed throughout that timeframe as well as the closeout phase.

The Department of Employment Security (MDES) will be serving as the fiscal agent and providing reimbursement support and closeout services for duration of each AccelerateMS ARPA/SLFRF program.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

HORNE serves as the first level of reimbursement review, while MDES completes the final reimbursement review and payment processing functions. MDES coordinates with AccelerateMS and HORNE to complete grant setup and any necessary modifications within their reimbursement software, GranTrak.

## Department of Environmental Quality

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://mswaterinfrastructure.com/>

## 5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.B	MCWI Grant Program Administration: Eligible Drinking Water Projects	\$139,418,379

### Project Overview

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are being used to make necessary investments in drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. MCWI drinking water eligible uses include projects that are eligible under the EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, infrastructure to improve access to safe drinking water for individuals served by residential wells, dam and reservoir rehabilitation, and certain eligible lead remediation projects as outlined

by the US Treasury’s Final Rule. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities. This includes providing safe, reliable drinking water in areas that lack infrastructure, providing sewage collection and treatment infrastructure in unsewered areas, providing stormwater management infrastructure, and providing regional development of infrastructure to serve multiple communities.

The Eligible Drinking Water Project, project ID SB.3056.B, has a total budget of \$139,418,379 within the total \$465,734,274 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program.

As of June 30, 2024, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated \$133,265,921, or 95.6%, of the total MCWI Grant Program funds obligated to date for eligible Drinking Water Projects. This amount reflects 158 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning 60 counties in the State of Mississippi.

5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.C	MCWI Grant Program Administration: Eligible Clean Water Projects	\$218,365,155

Project Overview

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds may be used to make necessary investments in drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. MCWI eligible wastewater uses include projects that are eligible under the EPA’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund as outlined by the US Treasury’s Final Rule. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities. This specific emphasis entails addressing the needs of an economically disadvantaged community, including providing safe, reliable drinking water in areas that lack infrastructure, providing sewage collection and treatment infrastructure in unsewered areas, providing stormwater management infrastructure, and providing regional development of infrastructure to serve multiple communities.

The Eligible Clean Water Project, project ID SB.3056.C, has a total budget of \$218,365,155 within the total \$465,734,274 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program.

As of June 30, 2024, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated 100% of the total MCWI Grant Program funds allocated to date for eligible Clean Water Projects. This amount reflects 204 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning 62 counties in the State of Mississippi.

## 5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.D	(MCWI) Grant Program Administration: Eligible Storm Water Projects	\$83,397,740

### Project Overview

Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are being used to make necessary investments in drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure. MCWI stormwater eligible uses include the implementation of nonpoint source pollution management programs established under the Clean Water Act; measures that manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water; watershed projects meeting the criteria set forth in Section 122 of the Clean Water Act; reuse or recycling of stormwater or subsurface drainage water; green infrastructure; culvert repair, resizing, and removal, replacement of storm sewers, and additional types of stormwater infrastructure as outlined by the US Treasury's Final Rule. The Grant Program is available to eligible local governments and public utilities in the State with a specific emphasis to economically disadvantaged communities. This specific emphasis entails addressing the needs of an economically disadvantaged community, including providing safe, reliable drinking water in areas that lack infrastructure, providing sewage collection and treatment infrastructure in unsewered areas, providing stormwater management infrastructure, and providing regional development of infrastructure to serve multiple communities.

The Eligible Storm Water Project, project ID SB.3056.D, has a total budget of \$83,397,740 within the total \$465,734,274 provided to the Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program. As of June 30, 2024, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated \$83,134,407, or 99.7%, of the total MCWI Grant Program funds allocated to date for eligible Storm Water Projects. This amount reflects 87 executed subaward agreements with municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning 28 counties in the State of Mississippi.

## RESPONSES FOR ALL EC 5 PROJECTS

### Project Schedule

Of the 449 projects awarded under the MCWI grant program, nine projects have completed work and 82 are underway. The remaining projects are in early phases of implementation. This program will continue into 2026 with final invoices due to MDEQ by September 2026.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program, created by Senate Bill 2822, 2022 Regular Session, will provide reimbursable grants to municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission. \$441,184,274 has been provided to fund the MCWI Grant Program. Municipalities and counties applied for grants that are matched with the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds awarded to them under ARPA on a one-to-one basis. Municipalities that received less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) in the total allocation of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds are eligible for a two-to-one match. With the passing of Senate Bill 2444, all eligible grant applications submitted in Round 2 will be funded under the program.

As of June 30, 2024, MDEQ, through the MCWI Grant Program, has obligated \$434,768,483, or 98.5%, of the total

budget for all EC 5 projects. This amount reflects 449 executed subaward agreements to 261 municipalities, counties, and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission spanning the State of Mississippi by means of subaward agreements.

## Key Performance Indicators

*Number of reimburseable grants to municipalities, counties and public utilities not regulated by the Public Service Commission for necessary investments in the following:*

Drinking Water Projects	158
Stormwater Projects	87
Wastewater Projects	204

## 7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3056.A	MS Municipality and County Water Infrastructure (MCWI) Grant Program Administration: ADMIN EXPENSES	\$24,550,000

### Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is administering the MCWI Grant Program and may retain a maximum of five percent (5%) to cover the cost of administration. Moreover, MDEQ has adopted Rules and Regulations as to the administration of the program, has determined eligibility based on submission of applications for match funds, and has ranked eligible applications. MDEQ has awarded funding and is monitoring the funded programs to assure compliance with federal and state laws, rules, and regulations. To ensure the proper development and management of the program, MDEQ has contracted with HORNE for program assistance and Butler Snow, LLP for legal assistance.

### Project Schedule

Final reimbursement requests are not due from subrecipients until September 2026. As such, these administrative services will continue through that time as well as the subsequent closeout period. Some of the key milestones accomplished through these services are included below.

- **4/26/2022** – Senate Bill 2822 established The Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022.
- **7/28/2022** – MDEQ hosted a webinar to inform potential applicants of MCWI Grant Program rules and regulations. This webinar was recorded and made available on [www.mswaterinfrastructure.com](http://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com).
- **8/18/2022** – MDEQ hosted a face-to-face discussion to inform potential applicants of MCWI Grant Program rules and regulations. This webinar was recorded and made available on [www.mswaterinfrastructure.com](http://www.mswaterinfrastructure.com).



- o Round 1 - MCWI Grant Program Application Portal opened for Round 1 submissions on 9/01/2022 and closed on 9/30/2022. Applications were reviewed, scored, and ranked. The highest ranked eligible projects were funded in accordance with program guidelines. Grant agreements were prepared for execution between MDEQ and its Subrecipients.
- o Round 2 - MCWI Grant Program Application Portal opened for Round 2 submissions on 12/01/2022 and closed on 1/31/2023. Applications were reviewed, scored and ranked. Senate Bill 2444 amended The Mississippi Municipality and County Water Infrastructure Grant Program Act of 2022, removing scoring requirements and allowing for the funding of all eligible Round 2 submissions. Grant agreements prepared for execution between MDEQ and its Subrecipients
- **February 2023** - The MCWI Grant Program Reimbursement Portal opened for submission of reimbursement requests.
- **June 2024** – The MS Legislature reauthorized the MCWI Grant Program during the 2024 Legislative Session. Reimbursement requests continue to be reviewed and paid. MDEQ has done a program outreach to all sub-recipients updating them on the recent U.S. Treasury guidance regarding the December 31, 2024 obligation deadline.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (Grant Administrator)
- HORNE (Program Assistance)
- Butler Snow, LLP (Legal Assistance)

### Department of Finance and Administration

Agency/Project Websites:

<https://dfa.ms.gov>

### Bureau of Building (BOB), Grounds and Real Property Management

#### 1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 522-057	BoB - MSDH Central Operations - Main Campus - Other Public Health Services	\$3,000,000
GS# 522-060	BoB - MSDH Central Operations - Rankin County - Other Public Health Services	\$9,000,000
GS# 516-012	MS Emergency Management Agency	\$2,000,000

## Project Overview

BOB will implement the above-referenced capital projects on behalf of the Mississippi Department of Health and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. These projects will include improvements to a medical countermeasure warehouse for the Department of Health's Office of Emergency Planning and Response and improvements to the Department of Health's Underwood Building at their main campus to accommodate the Department's Pharmacy Operations. This initiative is intended to support the Department of Health in its crucial role in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by consolidating and optimizing the facilities of key operational groups for greater efficiency and effectiveness. The projects managed on behalf of the MEMA provide roof and HVAC replacement to the agency's SELOC building.

## Project Schedule

GS# 522-057 is in the early planning phase and is anticipated to be under contract by October 2024. GS# 522-060 and GS# 516-012 are currently in the design phase. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024 and will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms

The bureau plans to utilize qualified design professionals and contractors to improve/perform capital improvement programs. Design professionals will work with the using agencies to design a suitable project to suit the unique needs of that agency and facility. At the conclusion of the project, the design professionals will assess the project to ensure that the using agency's goals have been achieved.

## 1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 350-038	BoB - Capitol Facilities (Sillers/Gartin/Woolfolk) - Mitigation	\$14,350,000
GS# 358-063	BoB - Capitol Projects at State Buildings - GS#358-063/371-182	\$4,400,000
GS# 371-181	BoB - Dept. of Finance and Administration (Waller Craft Ctr.) - Mitigation	\$1,000,000
GS# 374-010	BoB - Bolton Building - Mitigation	\$3,850,000
GS# 519-008	BoB - Workers' Compensation Commission - Mitigation	\$3,039,148
GS# 322-041	BoB - Central MS Correctional Facility – Mitigation	\$4,832,388
GS# 322-046	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility/Public Health	\$367,291
GS# 320-086	BoB - Delta Correctional Facility – Mitigation	\$2,085,621
GS# 320-090	BoB - East Mississippi Correctional Facility – Mitigation	\$212,316

GS# 320-085	BoB - Marshall County Correctional Facility – Mitigation	\$5,477,959
GS# 320-097	Marshall Country Correctional - HVAC Upgrades	\$122,041
GS# 321-272	BoB - Mississippi State Penitentiary – Mitigation	\$3,800,000
GS# 323-025	BoB - South Mississippi Correctional Institution - Mitigation	\$7,880,000
GS# 323-028	South Mississippi Correctional Institution – ARPA Mit - Area I & III	\$457,819
GS# 320-072	BoB - Walnut Grove Correctional Facility - Mitigation	\$5,070,000
GS# 421-099	BoB - Boswell Regional Center - Mitigation	\$1,270,000
GS# 411-129	BoB - East Mississippi State Hospital - Mitigation	\$3,050,000
GS# 422-175	BoB - Ellisville State School - Mitigation	\$4,000,000
GS# 422-178	Ellisville State School – ARPA Mitigation II	\$7,000,000
GS# 423-104	BoB - Hudspeeth Regional Center - Mitigation	\$4,700,000
GS# 435-010	BoB - Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility - Mitigation	\$900,000
GS# 412-202	BoB - Mississippi State Hospital - Mitigation	\$9,000,000
GS# 424-096	BoB - North Mississippi Regional Center - Mitigation	\$5,150,000
GS# 426-026	BoB - North Mississippi State Hospital - Mitigation	\$750,000
GS# 427-015	BoB - South Mississippi State Hospital - Mitigation	\$790,000
GS# 312-125	BoB - Oakley Youth Development Center - Mit. - Prevention in Congregate Settings	\$4,100,000
GS# 505-034	BoB - State Fire Academy - Mitigation - Prevention in Congregate Settings	\$2,519,505

## Project Overview

The above-listed projects are designed to improve air quality and filtration systems in buildings across the State of Mississippi, thereby mitigating the spread of COVID-19. BOB will implement capital projects to provide, replace, and/or modify HVAC equipment and related ductwork to improve air quality via increased outside air circulation and improved filtration. Existing ductwork will be cleaned, and automated controls will be provided, replaced, and/or modified to facilitate operation and control of ventilation systems. Incidental modifications to life, safety, and other building systems will be made where required to facilitate the primary work or where such work triggers code compliance. The target population will be state employees and the users of the various state facilities.

## Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, 7 of these projects are currently in the planning phase, 2 are currently advertising for construction contractors, 4 have had construction contracts awarded, and 11 are actively under construction. All projects are expected to be completed prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Buildings will utilize architect and engineering design professionals and contractors to perform capital improvement projects. Design professionals will work with the using agencies to design a suitable project to suit the unique needs of that agency and facility. After the project, the design professionals will assess the project to ensure that the using agency's goals have been achieved.

## Use of Evidence

These projects use CDC guidance and data as an evidence base, along with other sources. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

### 3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 604-024	BoB - Clarkco State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$5,128,000
GS# 617-029	BoB - Paul B. Johnson State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$4,200,000
GS# 618-046	BoB - Percy Quin State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$6,562,112
GS# 619-041	BoB - Roosevelt State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$8,209,888

## Project Overview

BOB has initiated the above-referenced projects for the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks (MSDWFP). These consist of capital improvements to state park facilities to promote tourism and to mitigate wear and tear caused by increased use during the COVID-19 pandemic. Projects include upgrades to existing RV campgrounds, cabins, lodges, and other amenities within state parks. The target population is State Park visitors and State employees serving at these facilities.

## Project Schedule

GS# 604-024 is currently accepting construction bids with an anticipated award during quarter three of 2024. The remaining projects are currently in the construction phase. These projects will be completed prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

BOB has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these locations. BOB, its contractors and the MSDWFP are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

### 5.1 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 006-413	BoB - Walnut Grove Correctional Facility - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$800,000
GS# 215-058	BoB - Southwest Mississippi Community College - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$833,334
GS# 321-271	BoB - MS State Penitentiary - Wastewater Treatment	\$12,253,036
GS# 323-024	BoB - South MS Correctional Institution - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$22,587,912
GS# 422-169	BoB - Ellisville State School - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$11,718
GS# 617-028	BoB - Paul B. Johnson State Park - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$225,000
GS# 634-003	BoB - Lake Lincoln State Park - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$800,000
GS# 604-026	BoB - Clarkco State Park - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$300,000
GS# 613-023	BoB - Leroy Percy State Park - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$600,000
GS# 624-015	BoB - Wall Doxey State Park - CW - Wastewater Treatment	\$714,000

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-listed projects. This work will address aging wastewater infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues at various locations across the State. Projects will include replacing aging wastewater treatment facilities, improving existing wastewater treatment facilities, and installing perimeter fencing around a lagoon.

## Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, GS# 006-413 has been awarded and transferred to the subrecipient the Town of Walnut Grove. Of the remaining projects, eight are in the planning phase and one has been awarded the construction contracts. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three, 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

One project, GS# 006-413, is being carried out by a Subrecipient. The remaining projects are being managed directly by BOB. The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.2 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 101-334	BoB - Alcorn State University - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$603,194
GS# 102-280	BoB - Delta State University - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$1,925,000
GS# 103-322	BoB - Jackson State University - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$4,868,024
GS# 104-205	BoB - Mississippi University for Women - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$1,725,000
GS# 105-366	BoB - MSU - Main Campus - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$3,175,000
GS# 106-275	BoB - MS Valley State University - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$975,000
GS# 107-324	BoB - University of Mississippi - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$543,974
GS# 113-156	BoB - MSU DAFVM - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$1,900,000
GS# 201-086	BoB - Coahoma Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$833,334
GS# 203-069	BoB - East Central Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$223,643
GS# 204-088	BoB - East Mississippi Community College - DW - Source	\$826,076



GS# 210-074	BoB - MS Delta Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$433,334
GS# 214-079	BoB - Pearl River Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$433,333
GS# 312-124	BoB - Oakley Youth Development Center - Infr. - CW - Collection/ Conveyance	\$1,100,000
GS# 320-074	BoB - Walnut Grove Correctional Facility - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$537,382
GS# 320-081	BoB - Quitman County Work Centers - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$500,000
GS# 321-274	BoB - MS State Penitentiary - Lagoon - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$848,000
GS# 322-042	BoB - Central MS Correctional Facility - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$2,355,000
GS# 411-128	BoB - East MS State Hospital - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$489,306
GS# 412-201	BoB - Mississippi State Hospital - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$3,300,000
GS# 421-102	BoB - Boswell Regional Center - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$605,990
GS# 422-170	BoB - Ellisville State School - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$2,000,000
GS# 424-093	BoB - North MS Regional Center - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$2,466,854
GS# 425-071	BoB - South MS Regional Center - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$12,200
GS# 617-027	BoB - Paul B. Johnson State Park - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$3,156,700
GS# 618-045	BoB - Percy Quin State Park - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$1,443,680
GS# 619-040	BoB - Roosevelt State Park - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$2,253,420
GS# 604-025	BoB - Clarkco State Park - CW - Wastewater Collection & Conveyance	\$1,684,000
GS# 613-022	BoB - Leroy Percy State Park - CW - Wastewater Collection & Conveyance	\$823,200

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced wastewater collection and conveyance projects. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues at various locations in the State of Mississippi. Projects identified include improving wastewater collection and conveyance, repairing and replacing sewer lines lift stations, replacing sewer force mains, decommissioning an abandoned sanitary sewer treatment facility, repairing and/or replacing a sewer grinder, and other similar sewer infrastructure projects within the expenditure category listed.

## Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, one project is complete and eight are well underway with construction. 16 are in the planning/design phase, and five are currently advertising for construction contractors. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three, 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 113-160	MSU - DAFVM	\$225,000
GS# 321-275	Mississippi State Penitentiary	\$5,095,000
GS# 204-092	East Mississippi Community College CW - Other Sewer Infr.	\$7,256
GS# 421-098	Boswell Regional Center	\$6,510

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced clean water and sewer infrastructure projects. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues at various state-owned facilities across the State of Mississippi. Projects identified include decommissioning lagoons to tie into municipal wastewater systems and repairing and replacing security lights at sewer lagoons and security lights at water wells.

## Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, GS# 113-160 is currently in the design phase, GS# 321-275 has initiated construction and GS# 421-098 is currently advertising for construction contractors. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

### 5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 104-208	Mississippi University for Women	\$2,408,838
GS# 108-313	BoB - USM - Main Campus - CW - Stormwater	\$3,175,000
GS# 203-066	BoB - East Central Community College - CW - Stormwater	\$606,976
GS# 207-057	BoB - Itawamba Community College - CW - Stormwater	\$833,333
GS# 209-068	BoB - Meridian Community College - CW - Stormwater	\$833,333
GS# 212-072	BoB - Northeast Mississippi Community College - CW - Stormwater	\$833,333
GS# 214-082	BoB - Pearl River Community College - CW - Stormwater	\$400,000
GS# 312-127	BoB - Oakley Youth Development Center - Infr. - CW - Stormwater	\$1,100,000
GS# 320-071	BoB - Walnut Grove Correctional Facility - CW - Stormwater	\$1,480,000
GS# 320-079	BoB - Delta Correctional Facility - CW - Stormwater	\$2,100,000
GS# 320-080	BoB - Wilkinson County Correctional Facility - CW - Stormwater	\$1,841,145
GS# 322-040	BoB - Central MS Correctional Facility - CW - Stormwater	\$11,130,000
GS# 421-106	BoB - Boswell Regional Center - CW - Stormwater	\$247,500

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced stormwater infrastructure projects. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues at various state-owned facilities across the State of Mississippi. Projects identified include stormwater line installation and improvements, replacing and repairing stormwater drainage systems, and improvements to stormwater infrastructure.

## Project Schedule

As of this report's date, two of these projects are currently in the design phase, one is in the process of advertising for construction contractors, and 11 are currently under construction. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.8 CLEAN WATER: WATER CONSERVATION

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 320-076	BoB - Walnut Grove Correctional Facility - CW - Water Conservation	\$2,900,000
GS# 320-078	BoB - Delta Correctional Facility - CW - Water Conservation	\$1,440,000
GS# 505-033	BoB - State Fire Academy - Infr. - Water Conservation	\$150,000

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced water conservation projects at various facilities across the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include the installation of water meters to improve water efficiency and promote water conservation.

## Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, GS# 320-076, GS# 505-033, and GS# 320-078 construction contracts have been awarded and construction is well underway. All projects are expected to be completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 421-105	Boswell Regional Center	\$3,500
GS# 428-023	BoB - Community Services Division -DW - Treatment	\$10,693

### Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced drinking water treatment projects at various facilities in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include the installation of water meters and efforts to improve water efficiency.

### Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, GS# 421-105 is currently in the process of advertising for construction contractors, and GS# 428-023 is in the design phase. Both projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements to these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.11 DRINKING WATER: TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 101-338	BoB - Alcorn State University - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$8,606,015
GS# 106-278	BoB - MS Valley State University - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$950,000
GS# 110-105	BoB - USM - GCRL - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$11,425
GS# 202-087	BoB - Copiah-Lincoln Community College - DW - Transmission/ Distribution	\$833,334
GS# 203-070	BoB - East Central Community College - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$2,716
GS# 206-086	BoB - Holmes Community College - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$833,333

GS# 208-069	BoB - Jones Community College - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$833,333
GS# 210-078	BoB - MS Delta Community College - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$400,000
GS# 213-067	BoB - NW Mississippi Community College - DW - Transmission/ Distribution	\$833,333
GS# 321-277	BoB - MS State Penitentiary - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$7,550,000
GS# 323-026	BoB - South MS Correctional Institution - DW - Transmission/ Distribution	\$1,175,000
GS# 421-104	BoB - Boswell Regional Center - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$30,000
GS# 424-094	BoB - North MS Regional Center - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$533,146

### Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced drinking water transmission and distribution infrastructure projects based at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and all regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include replacing water lines and replacing water utility systems.

### Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, four of these projects are currently in the planning/design phase, four are currently in the process of advertising for construction contractors, and five have had construction contracts awarded. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.12 DRINKING WATER: LEAD REMEDIATION, INCLUDING IN SCHOOLS AND DAYCARES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 422-173	BoB - Ellisville State School - DW - Lead Remediation	\$3,413,520



Project Overview

The above-listed project is a drinking water lead remediation project based at Ellisville State School. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues.

Project Schedule

Construction contract has been awarded and is to be completed prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

5.13 DRINKING WATER: SOURCE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 107-329	BoB - University of Mississippi - Main Campus	\$2,235,330
GS# 109-228	BoB - UMMC - DW - Source	\$2,789,670

Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced projects to address drinking water storage issues at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include replacement and repair of water storage tanks and facilities and improvements to drinking water storage facilities, including refurbishments of elevated tanks.

Project Schedule

As of the date of this report there are two in the design phase and 2 projects are currently being advertised for construction contractors. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.14 DRINKING WATER: STORAGE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 103-326	BoB - Jackson State University - DW - Storage	\$13,431,976
GS# 205-091	BoB - Hinds Community College District - DW - Storage	\$833,333
GS# 211-070	BoB - Mississippi GC Community College District - DW - Storage	\$833,333
GS# 422-174	BoB - Ellisville State School - DW - Storage	\$351,282

### Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-referenced projects to address drinking water storage issues at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include replacement and repair of water storage tanks and facilities and improvements to drinking water storage facilities, including refurbishments of elevated tanks.

### Project Schedule

As of the date of this report there are two in the design phase and 2 projects are currently being advertised for construction contractors. All projects are expected to be awarded by quarter three 2024, with all completed before the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## 5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 321-278	BoB - MS State Penitentiary - DW - Other Water Infr.	\$4,665,000
GS# 421-103	BoB - Boswell Regional Center - DW - Other Water Infr.	\$60,000

## Project Overview

BOB has allocated funds to the above-reference projects which will address other drinking water infrastructure improvements at various locations in the State of Mississippi. This work will address aging infrastructure and regulatory compliance issues. Projects identified include installing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) systems and repairing and refurbishing water tower facilities.

## Project Schedule

GS# 421-103 construction contract has been awarded as of April 2024. GS# 321-278 is currently accepting construction bids with an anticipated award in June 2024. All projects will be complete prior to the December 2026 expenditure deadline.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Bureau of Building has contracted with qualified design professionals and contractors to complete the capital improvements at these facilities. BOB, its contractors and the designated agencies are working closely together to ensure the unique needs of each facility are met.

## BOB DISSOLVED PROJECTS JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
GS# 102-288	Delta State University	\$0.00
GS# 107-328	BoB - University of Mississippi - Main Campus - DW - Transmission/ Distribution	\$0.00
GS# 320-077	BoB - Marshall County Correctional Facility - CW - Water Conservation	\$0.00
GS# 213-064	BoB - NW Mississippi Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$0.00
GS# 108-307	BoB - USM - Main Campus - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$0.00
GS# 110-103	BoB - USM - GCRL - CW - Wastewater Collection/Conveyance	\$0.00
GS# 102-288	BoB - Delta State University - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$0.00
GS# 425-073	South Mississippi Regional Center	\$0.00
GS# 103-325	BoB - Jackson State University - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$0.00

GS# 201-089	BoB - Coahoma Community College - DW - Treatment	\$0.00
GS# 201-090	BoB - Coahoma Community College - DW - Transmission/Distribution	\$0.00
GS# 208-066	BoB - Jones Community College - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$0.00
GS# 321-276	BoB - MS State Penitentiary - Campus - CW - Wastewater Collection/ Conveyance	\$0.00
GS# 412-204	BoB - Mississippi State Hospital - CW - Water Conservation	\$0.00
GS# 425-073	BoB - South MS Regional Center - CW - Stormwater	\$0.00
GS# 422-172	BoB - Ellisville State School - CW - Stormwater	\$0.00
GS# 610-014	BoB - LeFleur's Bluff State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$0.00
GS# 616-013	BoB - Natchez State Park - Public Sector Capacity - Admin Needs	\$0.00

*The above-referenced projects had their budgets reduced to accommodate priority projects' needs for additional funding. Any remaining funds after budgeted project completion will be put toward the above-referenced projects, as available. All the projects above have been allocated a zero- dollar budget and will not be moving forward this time.*

## Independent Schools

### 1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS (NURSING HOMES, PRISONS/JAILS, DENSE WORK SITES, SCHOOLS, CHILDCARE FACILITIES, ETC.)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.B	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program (SB 2700) - HVAC Projects	\$9,061,747.00

#### Project Overview

This initiative will fund heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in congregate settings at multiple independent colleges across the State. The projects will involve replacement and/or modifications to HVAC equipment and related ductwork to increase air quality via increased outside air and improved filtration. Existing ductwork will be cleaned. Automated controls will be provided, replaced and/or modified to facilitate operation and control of ventilation systems. Incidental modifications to MEP, life safety, and other building systems will be made where required to facilitate the primary work or where such work triggers code compliance of those systems. The densest meeting areas, classroom sites, and other key locations will be prioritized to ensure continued operation during a pandemic. Some colleges are undergoing renovation of existing facilities to increase social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines.

#### Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, all subgrants have been awarded. The program is currently at 21% of expenditures, with at least one school in the construction phase. All projects have not yet commenced, but detailed timelines will be available within the next fiscal year.

#### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

DFA has partnered with the following colleges and universities through subgrant agreements to facilitate the completion of these projects.

- Belhaven University
- Mississippi College
- William Carey University (WCU)
- Blue Mountain College
- Millsaps College
- Rust College

#### Use of Evidence

The projects rely on CDC and other guidance as the evidence base for HVAC and social distancing renovations. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

## 5.2 CLEAN WATER: CENTRALIZED WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND CONVEYANCE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.E	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program – (SB 2700) – Water Infrastructure Projects	\$223,500

### Project Overview

A total of \$223,500.00 has been allocated for a complete sewer distribution center infrastructure upgrade at the Tougaloo College – Jackson, MS. campus. Specific use of funds is intended for clean water improvements by replacing sewer lines to improve sewer distribution issues adversely impacting facilities at the college.

## 5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.F	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program – (SB 2700) – Water Infrastructure Projects	\$179,453

### Project Overview

A total of \$179,453.00 has been allocated for a complete stormwater drainage infrastructure upgrade at the Tougaloo College - Jackson, MS. campus. This project will eliminate facility intrusion problems by improving stormwater drainage adversely impacting facilities at the college.

## 5.11 DRINKING WATER: TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3064.D	Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (MAICU) Infrastructure Grant Program – (SB 2700) – Water Infrastructure Projects	\$335,300

### Project Overview

A total of \$335,300.00 has been allocated for a complete water distribution center infrastructure upgrade at the Tougaloo College, Jackson, Mississippi campus. Specific use of funds is intended to improve access to clean drinking water by replacing and adding water lines to improve water pressure adversely impacting facilities.



## RESPONSES FOR ALL EC 5 PROJECTS

### Project Schedule

The entirety of the MAICU water and infrastructure upgrades project is expected to occur over the span of 24 weeks, with the entity prepared to begin as soon as funds are transferred. Stormwater drainage improvements are expected to begin about 10 weeks into construction and conclude prior to the start of the sewer system upgrades.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism will be a monitored grant award to the partnering school, Tougaloo College.

### Insurance Health

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://dfa.ms.gov/insurance>

## 1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB:1664.A HB:1717	Insurance - Covid-19 Medical Claims	\$90,221,856

### Project Overview

The Department of Finance and Administration – Office of Insurance appropriated SLFRF funds to reimburse COVID-19-related medical expenses incurred by the State and School Life and Health Insurance Plan. Reimbursable medical claims incurred by the State include those related to testing and treatment of COVID-19 and management of any associated symptoms and medical conditions.

### Project Schedule

The initial claims summary was processed in July 2022 and reimbursed to the Office of Insurance in December 2022. Additional funds were allocated in 2023 and to date, all funds have been disbursed. A portion of the funds appropriated by the State were allocated out of interest earned. Total funding for the program was \$95,000,000. This project is complete.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This section is not applicable for this program.

## Tourism

### 2.35 AID TO TOURISM, TRAVEL, OR HOSPITALITY

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1518.A	Tourism at Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs)	\$30,000,000
HB.1719	Tourism at Destination Marketing Organizations (DMOs) – Round 2	\$20,568,750
HB.1518.C	Mains Street Revitalization Grant Program	\$5,000,000
HB.1719.B	Mains Street Revitalization Grant Program – Round 2	\$2,570,200
HB.1719.C	Grammy Museum (HB 419)	\$1,000,000

#### TOURISM AT DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS (DMOS)

##### Project Overview

The travel, tourism and hospitality industry is considered a “severely negatively impacted” industry under SLFRF. The Tourism Destination Marketing Organizations (DMO) project is intended to target the impacted tourism industry in Mississippi by providing funds for DMO advertising and marketing.

The purpose of this initiative is to increase the contributions of the tourism industry to the overall state economy. Services to be provided include multimedia marketing and advertising, including digital media, broadcast media, and printed media, and tourism development and administrative costs to conduct marketing activities. Funding provided to the DMOs is based on the proportion of a DMO’s contribution toward total tourism visitors in the state.

##### Project Schedule

The DMO Grant Program began taking prequalification applications in August of 2022. DFA then determined the eligible participants and began accepting organizational information in November of 2022.

After the information was confirmed, eligible participants submitted their financial information in January of 2023 and funds began being disbursed later that month. The DMOs began reporting expenditures in March 2023 and continue to provide monthly and quarterly reports that are monitored for accuracy. As of the date of this report, all funds have been awarded and subgrants executed. It is anticipated that most funds will be expended by the end of 2025.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

DFA is partnering with DMOs across the state to facilitate completion of this program. The DMOs are monitored as subrecipients of ARPA funding by a third-party administrator, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, which assists in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

## TOURISM AT DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS (DMOS) – ROUND 2

### Project Overview

In response to need, the Mississippi Legislature created an additional round of funding for DMOs during the 2023 legislative session. The funds are being used for the same purposes as the funds distributed in the first round of the program.

### Project Schedule

The second round of the DMO Grant Program began taking prequalification applications in January 2024. All applications were submitted and reviewed by April 2024, and, after the information was confirmed, eligible participants submitted their financial information.

Distribution of funds began in March 2024, and all DMOs received their funding for Round 2 by April 2024. The DMOs continue to provide monthly and quarterly reports that are monitored for accuracy. All funds have been obligated as of the date of this report, and it is anticipated most will be expended by the end of 2025.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

DFA is partnering with DMOs across the state to facilitate completion of this program. The DMOs are monitored as subrecipients of ARPA funding by a third-party administrator hired for this program, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, who assists in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

## MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

### Project Overview

These funds were allocated for distribution to the members of the Mississippi Main Street Association as revitalization grants for aiding the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry impacted in the State.

A total of \$5,000,000 was appropriated for disbursement to the following communities:

- Eight (8) communities with a population over 25,000 at \$125,000 per community.
- Forty (40) communities with a population of less than 25,000 at \$100,000 per community.

The Mississippi Main Street Association has 48 members across Mississippi whose mission is to promote the historic environment of downtown commercial areas. Working with the principals established by the National Main Street Center, these small towns will use these funds to promote their communities through projects like public art improvements, historic preservation projects, façade improvements, historic walking tours, branding and marketing activities, etc. to promote tourism within their communities in Mississippi.

## Project Schedule

The Main Street Revitalization Grant Program began taking prequalification applications in October of 2022. Once the information on the applications was confirmed, financial plans were accepted and reviewed starting in February of 2023. Distribution of funding also began in February of 2023, with the final subrecipients receiving their funding in February 2024. Subrecipients started submitting reporting documentation for review in fall of 2023. It is anticipated that all funding will be expended by December 31, 2026.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The delivery of this program will be through subrecipient agreements with the Main Street Organizations. DFA has also partnered with a third-party administrator hired for this program, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, who assists in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

## MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM – ROUND 2

### Project Overview

These funds are a second round of funding to the members of the Mississippi Main Street Association to be used as revitalization grants for aiding the travel, tourism, and hospitality industry impacted in the State. Funds were appropriated in the 2023 legislative session.

A total of \$2,570,200 is currently allocated for disbursement as revitalization grants by the Mississippi Main Street Association to the following communities:

- Eight (8) communities with a population over 25,000 at \$68,000 per community.
- Thirty-three (33) communities with a population of less than 25,000 at \$61,400 per community.

### Project Schedule

The Main Street Revitalization Grant Program used the prequalification applications from Round 1 of funding for Round 2 consideration. DFA began accepting financial plans and distributing funds to subrecipients in March 2024. DFA has distributed all funds as of June 2024. Subrecipients started submitting reporting documentation for review in April 2024. It is anticipated that all funding will be expended by December 31, 2026.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The delivery of this program will be through subrecipient agreements with the Main Street Organizations. DFA has also partnered with a third-party administrator hired for this program, Carr, Riggs & Ingram to assist in the review of applications and expenditures for compliance with ARPA guidelines.

## GRAMMY MUSEUM

### Project Overview

The state set aside \$1,000,000 of SLFRF to benefit the tourism industry by making improvements to and promoting the Grammy Museum Mississippi (GMM) in Cleveland, Mississippi. GMM is one of only two Grammy Museums in the

United States, with the other being located in Los Angeles, California. During the pandemic, GMM was forced to temporarily close and later operate at significantly reduced capacity. As a result, the museum itself and the state as a whole saw a decline in tourism traffic and revenue.

GMM is using the SLFRF funds to repair and renovate portions of the museum that were neglected due to a lack of visitors and attendant activity during the pandemic. Funds will also be used to upgrade and improve portions of the facility which became dated. Outdoor exhibits and facilities will be expanded and improved to promote social distancing, and indoor exhibits will be modified to allow greater distancing among visitors. Finally, GMM will advertise its improvements and full operating status via social media and other forms of marketing in order to kickstart stalled museum visitation.

### Project Schedule

GMM submitted a project plan in November 2023 detailing its proposed utilization of SLFRF. This plan was finalized and GMM began the process of making needed repairs and upgrades in February of 2024. As of June 2024, approximately 20% of the project funds have been approved for expenditure. It is anticipated that all funding will be expended prior December 31, 2026.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The delivery mechanism for the program will be through contractors and vendors procured according to the uniform guidance to make necessary repairs, renovations, and upgrades to the museum. GMM will also contract with marketing agencies to promote the museum.

Funds are distributed by DFA to GMM via a monitored subgrant agreement. HORNE is retained as a third-party administrator to review expenditures for compliance with Treasury SLFRF guidance and the uniform guidance. Carr, Riggs, & Ingram assists in monitoring the program.

### Hinds County District Attorney's Office

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://hindsda.com>

## 3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB1625.A	Court Backlog: District Attorneys and Staff OFFICE EXPENSES	\$4,863
HB1625.B	Court Backlog: District Attorneys and Staff PAYROLL	\$1,903,880

### Project Overview

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mississippi court dockets became backlogged with criminal cases. The Hinds County District Attorney's Office (DA Office) was appropriated SLFRF funds to provide additional salaries and office expenses for temporary legal assistants and support personnel to assist in remediation of the Hinds County criminal case backlog.

### Project Schedule

Hiring staff and other personnel within the Hinds County DA Office began in July 2022 and has culminated with five attorneys (ADAs), two criminal investigators, and one paralegal. This additional staffing will be needed until the backlog has been substantially reduced. Expenditures related to office expenses are complete as of June 30, 2024. Payroll expenditures will continue through December 2024.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Hinds County DA Office is working collaboratively with other state agencies and entities to remediate the case backlog exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Department of Child Protection Services

Agency Website:  
<https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/>

### 2.13 HEALTHY CHILDHOOD ENVIRONMENTS: SERVICES TO FOSTER YOUTH OR FAMILIES INVOLVED IN CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.A	Older Youth	\$8,000,000
HB.1611.C	Continuum of Care	\$1,145,250
HB.1611.D	Immediate Solutions	\$24,100,000

### OLDER YOUTH

#### Project Overview

The MS Department of Child Protection Services (MDCPS) has implemented several initiatives for this project to support the goal of providing services to older youth presently in the care of the state agency as well as former foster youth who have been released from care but lived most of their lives in MDCPS custody. Resources and supportive programming under this initiative are designed to enable older youth to become productive community members through the acquisition of basic life skills and workforce/employment /educational assets.

Funds will be used to support thriving futures for older youth by providing services such as comprehensive career training (including supportive case management), exploration, internship, apprenticeship, and work-based learning programming. Other needs being addressed include professional development, transportation support, housing, and comprehensive funding for driver's education to assist in the attainment of driver's permits, driver's licenses, insurance, and vehicles. The needs of older youth who age out the system are increased as the youth require additional support and services to ensure they have opportunities for success once they exit care.



## Project Schedule

The agency submitted Requests for Proposals (RFP) in order to solicit potential subrecipients and vendors to assist in carrying out these initiatives. MDCPS completed the RFP process in May 2024, with services aiming to begin October 2024. All program obligations will be completed by July 15, 2024 with spending for all projects and services completed by December 31, 2026.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

After a thorough RFP process, the agency intends to deliver services and programs by way of vendors and subrecipients for the benefit of the designated target populations of in-care older youth and former foster care older youth.

## Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of families served by home visiting: 0, services have not started.
2. MDCPS will document how many youth are reached through activities, classes, trainings, etc. offered through the program. The exact number will be determined during the RFP and vendor selection process. The information will be updated as the services are rendered.
3. Number and types of events/activities that are offered and provided to the older youth: MDCPS will document how many activities, classes, trainings, etc. are offered. The exact number will be determined during the RFP and vendor selection process. This information will be updated as the services are rendered.

## Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

This project will provide program evaluations and use of evidence to support its initiatives.. See Use of Evidence/Performance Evaluation, Section VI, for additional information regarding program evaluation-based references.

## CONTINUUM OF CARE

### Project Overview

The purpose of this project is to establish a structured decision-making (SDM) model to enhance assessment processes and case decision support services for families and children receiving child welfare agency services. The evidence- and research-based system identifies the key points in the life of a child welfare case and uses structured assessments to improve the consistency and validity of each decision. The SDM model consists of the following assessments which will be used to determine the most appropriate approach to reducing subsequent harm to children under their care and to expedite permanency:

- Intake assessment: The screening section of the intake assessment helps child abuse hotline workers determine if the current report requires a child protective services (CPS) investigation response. The response priority section helps workers determine how swiftly an investigation must be initiated for those reports accepted for investigation.
- Safety assessment: The assessment helps workers at all points in a case determine if a child may safely remain in the home, with or without a safety plan in place.
- Risk assessment: Used to estimate the likelihood of future child welfare system involvement and assists investigation workers in determining which cases should be continued for ongoing services and which may be closed at the end of an investigation.
- Family strengths and needs assessment: The FSNA informs case planning by structuring the worker's

assessment of family caregivers and all children across a common set of domains of family functioning. For the case plan, priority areas of need are chosen as the focus of efforts to improve family functioning and child safety.

- Risk reassessment: For families receiving in-home services, the actuarial risk reassessment helps the ongoing service worker determine when risk has been reduced sufficiently that the case may be recommended for closure.
- Reunification assessment: For families with a child in out-of-home care with a goal of reunification, this assessment helps the worker determine when a child may safely be returned to the home, or when a change in permanency goal should be considered. The assessment has three sections that focus on risk, caregiver-child visitation, and safety integrated system of placements for children that emphasize family-based arrangements with community support.

## Project Schedule

MDCPS has been contracting with Evident Change to implement services since April 5, 2023. The agreement is deliverable based and ARPA payments will end on December 31, 2026.

- Intake assessment: Development of the Intake Assessment is ongoing. Input and development officially began with workgroups starting to provide input in September 2023. Other workgroups and individuals have provided input throughout the program year. The Intake Assessment is in the process of being developed. Multiple drafts have been provided and are being revised to ensure the Intake Assessment fits the specific needs of Mississippi.
- Safety assessment: Input and development officially began with a workgroup providing input in April 2024.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The agency has partnered with Evident Change, a nonprofit that uses data and research to improve social systems for individuals, families, and communities through research, public policy, and practice.

## Key Performance Indicators

This program is still in the developmental stage. The below mandatory key performance indicators will be tracked as the program progresses.

1. Number of children served by childcare and early learning services: 0
2. Number of families served by home visiting: 0

## Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

Evident Change's SDM relies on an evidence base. The full \$1,145,250 program budget is being invested in Evident Change's evidence-based model. See Use of Evidence/Performance Evaluation, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

# IMMEDIATE SOLUTIONS

## Project Overview

This program is designed to reduce foster care utilization by providing prevention services to children and their families of origin. Family intervention specialists are employed and use an integrated, trauma-informed approach to offer individualized services intended to meet the needs of children. The program includes intensive in-home

services to children and youth at risk of entry or re-entry into out-of-home placements or who are currently in out-of-home placements. The Program's key components include:

- **Clinical Oversight:** Specialists receive guidance from their direct supervisor, as well as a licensed clinician who is a trained expert in the model, to ensure implementation of sound clinical practices. All treatment plans are approved to confirm safety practices are highlighted and long-term success is the primary focus of services. Service planning and implementation utilize Youth Villages' clinical portal, a tool to aid in case conceptualization and ensure that the most appropriate research-informed intervention is delivered based on driving factors. The case conceptualization process ensures that Intercept services are individualized to each youth and family.
- **Service Coordination:** If a child or family's needs are beyond the typical work done by Intercept, the specialist coordinates with community providers working with youth and families including schools, medical professionals, and family support services. These services are intended to be in place prior to discharge, in order to teach and empower families regarding how and when to access services going forward.
- **Individual Youth Support:** Specialists work directly with each youth to build rapport and determine the best approach for that youth. Interventions related to youth behaviors are determined through the case conceptualization process, which is led by a licensed clinician who is a trained expert on the Intercept model.
- **Family and Other Caregiver Support:** Specialists work with the entire family and support system for each youth, including providing parenting skills education such as consistency, appropriate discipline techniques, communication, and coping strategies. Caregiver support also includes specialists assisting the caregiver in addressing their own mental health needs.

## Project Schedule

MDCPS has sub granted funding to Youth Villages since October 2022. Youth Villages is a nonprofit organization designed to provide help for children and young people who face a wide range of emotional, mental, and behavioral problems and to find solutions using proven treatment models that strengthen the child's family and support systems and dramatically improve their long-term success. The agreement will end on September 30, 2026 once funds are spent and contractual services are delivered and completed.

Subsequent plans include the addition of a feature in the new Pathways system that will track the number of children that come into custody after receiving a prevention service(s). Pathways is estimated to go live by May 2025.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDCPS has sub granted to Youth Villages to provide their evidence-based Intercept® program model of services.

## Key Performance Indicators

1. Number of staff members assisting youth: 111
2. Number of children served: The number of children this program serves has been determined, but services have not been charged to the SLFRF. Numbers will be applied once SLFRF funds are used. Currently, MDCPS has over 3,700 children in custody eligible for these services. Now, the number of referrals made to the vendor determines if the program is being utilized. From October 1, 2022, to the present, there has been a total of 1,031 youth that have been referred and provided services.
3. Number of families served: From October 1, 2022, to the present, there have been 490 referrals for families to acquire these services. In addition, there have been 754 caregivers who have also been referred and provided services.

- 4. Number of children and families referred for the services rendered through this program: Once SLFRF funds are utilized, the number of children and families that are referred and benefit from these services will be determined and applied.

Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

The Youth Villages Intercept program relies on an evidence base. The full \$24,100,000 budget is being invested in Intercept to service foster youth or families involved in child welfare systems. See Use of Evidence/Performance Evaluation, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.B	Stabilize Workforce	\$5,981,950

Project Overview

The Stabilize Workforce project is intended to defray eligible operational expenses, specifically the hiring of additional staff. This staff include approximately one hundred additional case carrying staff, twenty area social work supervisors (ASWS) to supervise case carrying staff, and eighty-two additional case aides to assist in supporting education, medical, and transportation needs of children in foster care. The COVID-19 pandemic caused an increase in the number of foster care cases assigned to each caseworker. Additional staff has allowed MDCPS to reduce the number of cases assigned to each caseworker, thereby improving services provided to foster care children and families.

The pandemic caused a unique strain on the agency and its ability to provide services to the children and families it serves. As schools and business opened back up after the pandemic, there was an increase in the number of allegations of abuse and neglect, increase in the number of investigations conducted and an increase in the number of children coming into MDCPS custody. All three of these factors, in addition to increased turnover and recruitment issues, caused an increase in the foster care caseloads that were assigned to each worker.

The opportunity for services was also reduced as a larger strain had been placed upon the agency and outside partners the agency utilizes. The agency has since used ARPA funds to increase staffing paid directly by the agency, as well as enter into a contract with a temporary healthcare staffing agency to provide further assistance and caseload support to areas in demand. The agency has also implemented a career ladder for all case carrying and supervisory positions, provides more financial resources to caseworkers as well as additional training and educational opportunities through internal and external partners. This has allowed the agency to provide a better working environment to decrease turnover and recruit stronger candidates.

In addition, with workforce stabilization, the decreased workload on the caseworkers has allowed the caseworkers to provide better services to the children and families of Mississippi. Caseworkers are able to increase the amount of time spent with each child and family, provide more direct assistance and make more accurate referrals to refer children and families to other resources. This impact can be seen by the number of children and families that are taking advantage of these services.

MDCPS continues to work diligently to serve those children and families that are reaching out in need of assistance. By utilizing ARPA funds to strengthen the agency and providing new avenues of services, MDCPS can continue to

help build towards a stronger Mississippi and accomplish its mission of protecting children, supporting families, and encouraging lasting family connections.

**Project Schedule**

MDCPS began increasing staff in April 2023. The project concluded at the end of June 2024. The agency will continue its increased staffing efforts with other funding sources.

**Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

The primary delivery mechanism will be through an increased number of MDCPS case-carrying staff.

**3.3 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: OTHER**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.F	Temporary Staffing	\$10,000,000

**Project Overview**

Funds are being utilized by the MDCPS for purposes of defraying eligible operational expenses in the utilization of contract services through a healthcare staffing agency to address increased child welfare system caseloads brought on by the pandemic. The additional contracted services has allowed the agency ample time to recruit and hire state employees to assume the workload in supporting critical needs of children and youth in the State’s child welfare/ foster care system. The timeframe for these services is August 2023 through the end of the ARPA award. The contract services have allowed the agency to provide support to state employees with extremely high caseloads. High caseloads are critical to the safety of children. Additionally, the contract services are providing additional personnel to address the backlog caused by extreme staffing shortages during the pandemic.

**Project Schedule**

MDCPS initially contracted services with VieMed Healthcare Staffing Services in August 2023. The agreement was renewed for the period of performance April 1, 2024 - December 31, 2026.

**Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

VieMed Healthcare Staffing Services provides temporary workforce needs in providing critical components of care for children and youth in custody including housing, educational, medical, and transportation needs.

3.4 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.E	Expedite Adoptions	\$5,874,800

Project Overview

Funds are being used to increase legal support and the acquisition of a legal case management system to provide MDCPS the capacity needed to adequately manage the approximately 10,600 open cases across the state.

The contracted law firm will assist with developing, implementing, and maintaining a pilot program for MDCPS attorney representation at all stages of the proceedings involving a child for whom MDCPS has custody, including, but not limited to, shelter, adjudicatory, disposition, permanency, termination of parental rights, and adoption hearings. Using the obligated ARPA funds to manage this pilot program will enable the agency to develop a system of agency representation which provides consistent training for attorneys and support staff along with procedures for consistent interactions between legal staff and direct services staff that can be implemented statewide by contract attorneys, AG attorneys, and agency attorneys. The data collected through the pilot program can then be used to chart a long-term plan for agency representation that will lead to better outcomes for children in Mississippi.

In addition to increased legal support, the agency is using funds to implement a case management software system for tracking children in MDCPS custody through all stages of proceedings until permanency is achieved. This system will further play a critical role in establishing desired best practices for matter management, including operational efficiency and collaboration, enhanced matter reporting and analysis, risk avoidance, improved management of legal spending, better allocation and use of human resources, and the collection of reusable knowledge resources.

These investments provide MDCPS the capacity to achieve favorable resolutions for children and families without avoidable delay, prevents termination of parental rights proceedings and assists the Youth Court in moving cases forward and children toward permanency, which would in turn prevent future backlogs.

Project Schedule

The contract for legal support is in effect through 2026. Procurement of the case management system (LawBase software) was finalized in May 2024. Software installation is planned to be completed by September 2024 with full implementation complete by December 2025.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDCPS will increase legal services capacity through contracting with Baker Donelson law firm. Baker Donelson will develop, implement, and maintain a pilot program for MDCPS attorney representation at all stages of the proceedings involving a child for whom MDCPS has custody, including, but not limited to, shelter, adjudicatory, disposition, permanency, termination of parental rights, and adoption hearings.

The Baker Donelson contract attorneys will provide primary representation in a select group of counties separate from those counties being covered by agency attorneys and/or AGO attorneys. Baker Donelson will coordinate services so that AGO and agency attorneys can be dedicated to performing the same work as the contract attorneys to allow the use of existing resources to scale the program to more counties so more data can be gathered.

The goal of the pilot program will be twofold: (1) create a model that could be used statewide for MDCPS representation, and (2) measure the impact on key metrics of having a dedicated attorney representing MDCPS in the youth courts across the state.

Once attorneys are in place in the designated counties, MDCPS will determine what impact, if any, consistent agency representation has on key metrics such as: overall time that children remain in custody; timeline for each stage of proceedings; type of outcome/plan; turnover of CPS employees; closing of foster homes; and referral to in-home services. The pilot program will also give MDCPS an opportunity to gauge the number of attorneys needed for a statewide rollout of agency representation.

The data collected through the pilot program will then be used to chart a long-term plan for agency representation that will lead to better outcomes for children in Mississippi.

## 7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1611.G	Administrative Expenses	\$2,498,000

### Project Overview

Funds have been used to procure a firm to provide program administrative functions consisting of professional accounting and auditing services for the ongoing purpose of overseeing the MDCPS entire program budget, aspects of program management, technical oversight, compliance, and monitoring of federal funding requirements.

### Project Schedule

Expenditures under this project will continue over the life of all of the programs under this agency.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The agency procured the services of HORNE to provide these services.

## Department of Mental Health

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://www.dmh.ms.gov/>

## 1.12 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2865.A	State Required Mandates	\$51,246,514



## Project Overview

The purpose of the State Required Mandates project is to assist Mississippians with behavioral health needs (mental health and addiction) following the COVID-19 pandemic by increasing the utilization of community-based services for behavioral health. Funds were appropriated to the Department of Mental Health (DMH), which is administering the funds through subgrants to Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs). The subrecipients are using these funds to respond to increased rates of behavioral health challenges at a population level or, at an individual level, new behavioral health challenges or exacerbation of pre-existing challenges, including barriers to accessing treatment.

Subrecipients are using these funds to target the response to public health impacts and for other operational expenses. Specifically, funding supports critical behavioral and mental services including but not limited to:

- 988 Implementation – Emergency mental health reporting,
- Crisis services for serious mental illness (SMI) for sixty (60) more beds in the state,
- Mental health first aid for public safety training,
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement,
- Peer support services,
- Court/Law enforcement/hospital liaisons pilot program for up to eighteen (18) liaisons,
- Intensive Community Support Specialists (ICSS) for children and youth at the seven Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) that do not have an ICSS,
- Adolescent offender program, adding one program in each of the thirteen (13) CMHCs,
- Intellectual and Developmental (IDD) crisis services and support.

## Project Schedule

The implementation of State Mandated Projects began in Fall 2023, with the CMHCs beginning to submit requests for reimbursement funding in January 2024. Expenditures are expected through December 2026.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanisms for this funding is through subrecipient grants to certified providers. There will also be some contractual and employee expenditures, although minor in relation to total funding. Partners include Community Mental Health Centers, certified providers, 988 Lifeline Crisis Centers, and organizations with the expertise and knowledge to successfully carry out the intended projects who are selected based on competitive selection mechanisms and/or a procurement process.

## Use of Evidence

This project relies on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National guidelines as its evidence base. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

### DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH DISSOLVED PROJECTS JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2865.C	Community Mental Health Centers	\$192,904

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Mental Health provides services through CHMCs located across the state. These are the primary outpatient providers of the state’s mental health services, which include alcohol/drug abuse treatment, intellectual and developmental disability treatment, and treatment for children with mental illness or emotional problems. Although the CMHCs receive funding from DMH, and are certified as services providers by the agency, they are not units of state government. Because they are regional entities, they operate semi-independently and lack certain cross-functionality. The state appropriated funds to carefully consider options to link the CMHCs with a shared electronic health records system.

The planning phase of this program began in FY 2023. DMH contracted with a consultant, BerryDunn, to work with the CMHCs to produce specifications for a statewide EHR system. The work was completed and specifications drawn up for the system in March, 2024. Following the delivery of the specifications, the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services would have been required to draft a request for proposals based on the specifications.

Ultimately the state determined that the project would be impractical because of the complexity of implementation. It was unclear whether the desired system could be procured prior to December 31, 2024, or fully implemented prior to December 31, 2026. The project was dissolved and the remaining funds were diverted to other projects. There were no program evaluations completed due to the project being dissolved.

Department of Military

Agency and/or Project Website:  
<https://www.ng.ms.gov/depts/state-resources/bid-opportunities>

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2961	HVAC Equipment Replacements and Upgrades	\$5,000,000

Project Overview

The Department of Military was appropriated \$5,000,000 to fund expenses related to the purchase and installation of chillers and large HVAC units at Mississippi National Guard buildings, including Camp Shelby and the St. Martin Readiness Center, necessary to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The buildings include:

- Joint Forces Training Center Headquarters (CSJFTC) (Bldg. 1001)
- Operational Readiness Training Center (ORTC) (Bldg. 3334)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) Headquarters (Bldg. 3500)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) General Studies (Bldg. 3575)
- 154th Regional Training Institute (RTI) (Bldg. 3576/3577)
- St Martin Readiness Center, St Martin, MS

All the above mitigation projects are intended to improve air quality and filtration systems to aid in mitigation and prevention of COVID-19.

### Project Schedule

This project is in the Construction phase and projected to reach 50% completion by January 2025. Construction on this project should be completed by August 2025.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism is direct contracting with design and construction firms to complete the project.

### Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

This project relies on an evidence base in accordance with CDC guidance and data. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

## 5.5 CLEAN WATER: OTHER SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3019.B	Repairs/Upgrade to Sanitary Sewer System Drainage Basins 10-16, Camp Shelby Training Site	\$9,391,000

### Project Overview

The Military Department is using these funds to make repairs to the sewer systems at Camp Shelby which is considered one of the largest state-owned training centers in the United States and part of the Mississippi National Guard. Planned improvements include installing new service lines, steel casing, erosion control, and other improvements to seven drainage basins and the overall sewer system.

The proposed sewer project aims to enhance compliance with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) wastewater discharge permit and fulfill their environmental stewardship responsibilities. During and after heavy rainfall events, which are common at Camp Shelby, the plant flow often exceeds the permitted flow, leading to process upsets and violations of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater discharge permit for Camp Shelby. By upgrading the sewer system, better management of runoff and sewage discharge can be achieved, thereby reducing pollution to surrounding communities.

### Project Schedule

Construction on drainage basins 10-13 are 33% complete with an anticipated completion date of October 2026. Design for drainage basins 14-16 are 50% complete with an anticipated completion date in August 2024.

## 5.10 DRINKING WATER: TREATMENT

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3019.C	Military ARPA Fund – Water Well Filtration System	\$1,000,000

Project Overview

The Military Department is using these funds to add a water filtration system for a water well located at Camp Shelby, considered one of the largest state-owned training centers in the United States and part of the Mississippi National Guard. Improvements included supplying and installing a high-capacity filtering system, lime treatment, potassium permanganate equipment, and detention basin. The filtration system underwent rigorous testing, demonstrating exceptional performance and meeting the stringent standards set by the Department of Health.

Project Schedule

As of the date of this report, this Water Well Project has successfully completed both its design and construction phases. Final approval from the Department of Health was given in May 2024, showing that the drinking water was at safe levels.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism was through direct contracts with engineering firms and construction contractors to complete the water well.

Department of Public Safety

Agency Website: <https://www.dps.ms.gov/>

1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.F	Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog_ Morgue	\$4,792,487

Project Website: <https://www.dps.ms.gov/forensic-laboratories>

Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$4,792,487 to complete building renovations to a state-owned building in Oxford, MS for an additional Medical Examiner’s Office (ME Office) to serve Mississippi’s northern region. The Mississippi ME Office experienced significant impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with only two facilities located in central and southern regions of the State to carry out work. Currently, deceased individuals from the Northern region must be transported to other facilities causing significant backlogs in autopsies and reporting delays with the surge of deaths during the pandemic.

The rise in unclaimed bodies exceeded the ME Office’s storage space and limited its ability to process new cases. State statute mandates that “anyone in the custody of law enforcement, including in-custody deaths, are to be autopsied.” The overwhelming number of in-custody deaths attributed to COVID-19 outbreaks contributed to the facilities’ storage space limitation. Creating the new ME Office will remediate these issues and an enumerated list of other problems.

Project Schedule

MDPS finalized the purchase of the property on June 21, 2024. The agency approved the schematic design in a meeting with the Bureau of Buildings on June 25, 2024. MDPS will have the architects finalize their schematic design documents and anticipate having those designs available for bid by August 1st, 2024. Costs will be inclusive of equipment purchases for the necessary outfitting of the morgue facility with the majority of equipment purchased by August 31, 2024.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

State agencies involved in this planning are the DFA Bureau of Buildings and the MS Department of Public Safety/ Medical Examiner’s Office. External partners involved are the professionals selected for the project through the DFA Bureau of Building.

1.4 PREVENTION IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.K	MLEOTA - HVAC	\$1,500,000
SB.3014.D	MHP Troop J and East Hattiesburg DL buildings – Mitigation	\$27,031

Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers’ Training Academy (MLEOTA)

Agency and/or Project Website:  
[Law Enforcement Officers’ Training Academy | Mississippi Department of Public Safety \(ms.gov\)](#)

Project Overview

The MS Department of Public Safety (MDPS) is investing ARPA funds totaling \$1,500,000 for the purpose of funding improvements to HVAC equipment and related ductwork within the Administration Building at the MS Law Enforcement Officers’ Training Academy (MLEOTA) campus. This includes the provision, replacement, and/ or modifications to HVAC systems to increase air quality via optimizing flow of outside air and improved filtration to mitigate the transmission of and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Existing ductwork will be cleaned and/or replaced where needed. Automated controls will be provided, replaced, or modified to facilitate operation and control of ventilation systems. Incidental modifications to MEP, life safety, and other building systems will be made where required to facilitate the primary work or where such triggers code compliance of those systems.

The required HVAC work will improve the indoor air quality and provide proper ventilation and temperature control for the health benefit of the DPS staff, students and members of the public who work and/or visit the MLEOTA campus.

## Project Schedule

The Bureau of Buildings is currently in the process of finalizing the job order contract. Once this has been completed the procurement process will begin and the project schedule will be further established.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

State agencies involved in this planning are the DFA Bureau of Buildings and the MS Department of Public Safety/ MS Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy. External partners involved are the professionals selected for the project through the DFA Bureau of Buildings.

## Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects have strong evidence to support its initiatives. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

## MHP Troop J and East Hattiesburg DL buildings - Mitigation

Agency and/or Project Website:

[Highway Patrol | Mississippi Department of Public Safety \(ms.gov\)](https://www.ms.gov/highway-patrol)

## Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$27,031 to replace aging and malfunctioning HVAC units at the Mississippi Highway Patrol (MHP) – Troop J District Office and the East Hattiesburg Driver's License building.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, MDPS has determined that the HVAC units for the two state-owned facilities have aged past their useful life and need to be more effective in providing proper ventilation and temperature control. Two HVAC units will be replaced at the MHP – Troop J District Office and one at the East Hattiesburg Driver's License building. The new HVAC units will improve the indoor air quality and provide proper ventilation and temperature control for the health benefit of the agency employees and the public.

## Project Schedule

MDPS is currently working to obtain quotes for this project. Once approved, DPS Maintenance will send to procurement for review and approval by August 31, 2024. The goal is to have the new units purchased and installed by October 31, 2024.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS is planning to hire a contractor to install the needed HVAC units by October 2024.

## Use of Evidence/Program Evaluation

These projects have strong evidence to support its initiatives. See Use of Evidence, Section VI, for additional information regarding evidence-based references.

## 2.8 HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE: SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://www.dps.ms.gov/public-safety-planning/standards-and-training/Death-Benefits-Trust>

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.779.1	Law Enforcement Death Benefits Trust Fund	\$2,200,000

### Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) administers the Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Death Benefits Trust Fund which was created in 2016 to allow the MDPS to pay \$100,000 to the beneficiaries of law enforcement officers or firefighters, including volunteer firefighters, who have died while engaged in the performance of the individual's official duties. Due to COVID-19, there was a surge in deaths of public safety officers. As such, the definition of "cause of death" under this program was amended to include death covered under the Safeguarding America's First Responders Act of 2020.

This Act creates a general presumption that a public safety officer who dies from COVID-19 or related complications sustained a personal injury in the line of duty. SLFRF funds are being used to cover claims where the cause of death is COVID-19 related.

### Project Schedule

This program commenced in March 2022 and the final payment was processed in November 2022.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This is an application-based program whereby the chief law enforcement officer or public agency director of the "Employer" for the deceased individual submitted documentation to MDPS on behalf of the covered individual. The application was then reviewed by MDPS for eligibility under the program.

## 3.4 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: EFFECTIVE SERVICE DELIVERY

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.J	Website Design	\$200,000

### Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) will invest \$200,000 of SLFRF for the purposes of a website redesign which can be considered an operational expenditure necessary in response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, funds will be used by the agency to deliver services more efficiently and effectively while easing administrative burden in providing the public a more streamlined and efficient experience in accessing DPS' services and resources across 12 areas/divisions/sub-agencies.



## Project Schedule

MDPS is currently in the planning and procurement process of this project. Once a vendor has been chosen, DPS will have this project obligated by September 30, 2024.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Department of Public Safety will select a vendor by September 30, 2024. MDPS will work with the chosen vendor in redesigning the agency's website to make it more user-friendly and less difficult to navigate.

## 3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.B	MS Forensics Lab Backlog	\$3,032,109
SB.3014.C	MDPS Cybersecurity Improvements	\$262,255
SB.3014.E	MDPS Cybersecurity Director & Operations	\$150,000
SB.3014.G	Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog_ Reports	\$958,637
SB.3014.H	MDPS Cybersecurity Technology Improvements 2	\$661,972

### Mississippi Forensic Laboratory Backlog

Agency and/or Project Website:

<https://www.dps.ms.gov/forensic-laboratories/Crime-Lab>

## Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$3,032,109 to address the backlog in the Mississippi Forensic Laboratory (MSFL) attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic through the hiring of specialized personnel. At the onset of the pandemic, MSFL made necessary operational accommodations to minimize employees' exposure to the virus during the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in a significant backlog of 16,000 cases within the disciplines of firearms and drug analysis. The backlog is delaying the processing of evidence related to law enforcement investigations, autopsies, and other critical areas, which is attributed to the time limits in the laboratory and the necessary time to complete the required analysis with the limited staffing. The budgeted funding is being used to contract with a forensic laboratory subject matter expert firm to mitigate the backlog.

## Project Schedule

MDPS has procured a firm to provide staffing support in January 2024. The firm is in the process of acquiring qualified staff and plans to begin work on the forensic backlog are to begin before June 30, 2024. The current funding will accommodate these services until December 2026.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The MSFL will engage outside forensic laboratory subject matter experts to support backlog reduction efforts in the following sections:

- Forensic Chemistry (Controlled Substance)
- Toxicology

## MDPS Cybersecurity Improvements

### Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$262,255 for cybersecurity improvements due to the data exposure that resulted from increased remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic. The budgeted funding was used to purchase computer equipment, software, and services to mitigate the increased exposure of remote access to internal systems and resources, allowing MDPS to protect its technology infrastructure and improve the security of citizen information.

### Project Schedule

This project is completed and closed. Unused funding will be allocated to other projects.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS procured cybersecurity upgrades and systems from three vendors: MNJ Technologies, ConvergeOne, and Logista.

## MDPS Cybersecurity Director & Operations

### Project Overview

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$150,000 to hire a Cybersecurity Director as head of a new Cybersecurity Division under the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) to lead the State's cyber preparedness and operations efforts.

The Cybersecurity Director was hired in 2022. The Director aided in the following initiatives:

- Worked with state partners and the Mississippi Cybersecurity Planning Committee to establish programs that will assist with the identification of threats, hazards, gaps, and capabilities for the state, as well as local governments.
- Helped with the distribution of state and local infrastructure needs assessments to identify threats, hazards, caps, and capabilities.
- Created infrastructure best practices for state and local entities.

The increased remote workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic brought to the forefront the problem of cybersecurity with the workforce's use of personal computers, insecure work connections, and outdated security software causing significant exposure to cybercrimes, attacks, and threats, potentially costing the State millions of dollars in lost wages,

product delays, and infrastructure shutdowns even if there was an occurrence, prior to the implementation of this project. Establishing a Mississippi Cybersecurity Unit and hiring a Cybersecurity Director allowed the State to improve its protection of technology, infrastructure, and citizens' data.

### **Project Schedule**

This project is closed, and all funding was fully expended in October 2023.

### **Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

Funding for this project was used for salary only so no outside partners were involved in the delivery.

## **Medical Examiner's Office Autopsy Backlog Reports**

### **Project Overview**

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) was specifically allocated \$958,637 to assist in the remediation of the autopsy report backlog. This funding includes both the Mississippi Forensic Laboratory and the Office of the State Medical Examiner (ME Office).

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a reduction in the ME Office's staff by two full-time forensic pathologists, as well as a significant turnover in support staff, leaving 2,000 incomplete autopsy reports from as far back as 2019 in addition to bodies decomposing awaiting autopsies. The ME Office began contracting with locum pathologists to assist in the remediation of the backlog. The budgeted funding was used to pay for contract locum physicians, materials for staff doctors, and support staff assigned to facilitate remediating the report backlog.

### **Project Schedule**

This project was completed and closed in November of 2023.

### **Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

The Department contracted with locums tenens physicians to directly address the autopsy backlog. Other partners integral to the autopsy process included all state, federal, and local law enforcement agencies as well as coroners, district attorneys, the Attorney General's Office, State Fire Marshal's Office, etc. External agencies included hospitals for medical records, vendors for consumables, and service contracts for toxicology, neuropathology, and cardiac path reports. Transport agencies and/or funeral homes are also essential when body transfers are needed to expedite autopsies.

## **MDPS Cybersecurity Technology Improvements II**

### **Project Overview**

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$661,972 to improve the cybersecurity posture of MDPS by transitioning from Microsoft 365 G3 Security Level to the higher G5 Security Level. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in rapid transitions of its operations and systems to allow personnel to work remotely. This transition increased exposure to cybersecurity attacks and threats, exposing vulnerabilities within data systems and compromising public safety operations and citizen information. The Microsoft security transition will improve MDPS's cybersecurity posture, increasing the protection of technology infrastructure and citizen data.

**Project Schedule**

Microsoft made a change to their authentication process which has slowed the transition process to the new system. DPS will continue the transition process while navigating this change with plans to fully expend all funds by December 2026.

**Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

MDPS is working with Microsoft support to ensure that the MFA administration is configured correctly. Internal MDPS team members will implement the transition of users to the new MFA system.

**5.6 CLEAN WATER: STORMWATER**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.A	MS Highway Patrol - Troop H, Meridian – Infrastructure	\$645,067

**Project Overview**

MDPS budgeted \$645,067 for stormwater improvements at the Mississippi Highway Patrol (MHP) – Troop H facility in Meridian, MS. The MHP – Troop H facility is a state-owned building that is suffering from longstanding drainage issues heightened by stormwater damage affecting MHP – Troop H’s vehicle storage building, concrete pavements, and existing retaining wall caused by increasing storm-related incidents.

This water infrastructure initiative is to provide an installation of a new stormwater drainage system, replace a damaged retaining wall with the installation of new concrete, install a new sloped concrete pavement for improved drainage and replace damaged utility stations.

**Project Schedule**

Project kickoff meeting was held in June 2023. The architect completed designs in drawings in April 2024. Construction phase is in process as of June 2024 with anticipated completion of project occurring prior to December 2026.

**Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

This project will be managed by the MS Bureau of Building, Grounds, and Real Property Management in partnership with MDPS. Third-party contractors will be hired to complete the work associated with this project.

## 6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB1542.A	Premium Pay for Local Law Enforcement and Firefighters	\$8,684,000
HB1952.A	Law Enforcement Tasers	\$2,900,000
HB1952.B	Law Enforcement Radios	\$600,000

### Premium Pay for Local Law Enforcement and Firefighters

#### Project Overview

This funding was allocated to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) to administer the Premium Pay for Local Law Enforcement and Firefighters Program. This funding allows the MDPS to pay \$1,000 of premium pay to eligible law enforcement officers or firefighters, including volunteer firefighters. Funds are distributed to eligible officers/firefighters through the counties, municipalities, and other governmental entities who employed them.

#### Project Schedule

MDPS began accepting applications from law enforcement agencies and fire departments in July 2022. In December 2022, MDPS began making premium pay payments to all law enforcement agencies and fire departments with qualifying officers/firefighters. This program is completed.

#### Program Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS worked with counties, municipalities and other governmental entities across the State to identify eligible participants for this program. MDPS also partnered with the Department of Insurance to confirm certification status of the firefighters identified as potentially eligible under this program.

### Law Enforcement Tasers

#### Project Overview

Mississippi Department of Public Safety was appropriated \$3,500,000 out of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund for the purposes of purchasing eligible equipment for law enforcement officers employed by and through the Mississippi Department of Public Safety.

MDPS intends to utilize \$2,900,000 of ARPA funding to purchase tasers to assist in the policing efforts of the Mississippi Highway Patrol and other agency law enforcement divisions. These tasers would ensure that approximately 500 law enforcement officers are equipped with the most up to date tasers available on the market and will provide them with a non-lethal law enforcement tactic that will assist them in regaining public trust that may have been lost during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

MDPS anticipates state procurement approval by August 2024 and will work to find a vendor to have the purchase obligated by September 30th, 2024.

Program Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS will work alongside the MS Department of Information Technology Services to identify an acceptable vendor for the procurement of equipment.

Law Enforcement Radios

Project Overview

Mississippi Department of Public Safety was appropriated \$3,500,000 out of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund for the purposes of purchasing eligible equipment for law enforcement officers employed by and through the Mississippi Department of Public Safety.

MDPS intends to utilize \$600,000 of ARPA funding to purchase portable radios to assist in the policing efforts of the Mississippi Highway Patrol and other agency law enforcement divisions. These radios would ensure that approximately 50 law enforcement officers are equipped with modern technology providing them with long range, Wi-Fi enabled equipment that will assist them in regaining public trust that may have been lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project Schedule

MDPS will procure and purchase these items from the State contract. The MDPS MIS Director is currently in the process of negotiating features and costs with prospective vendors. MDPS will have this purchase obligated by the September 2024 deadline.

Program Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MDPS will work alongside the MS Department of Information Technology Services to identify an acceptable vendor for the procurement of this law enforcement equipment.

DPS DISSOLVED PROJECTS JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3014.I	Law Enforcement In-Car Systems and Body Cameras	\$4,145,208

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) budgeted \$4,145,208 for the acquisition of in-car camera systems and body cameras for approximately 575 law enforcement officers within the Mississippi Highway Patrol, Capitol Police, and Commercial Transportation Enforcement Division. The purpose of this project is to facilitate regaining public trust and promoting transparency among community and law enforcement that may have been compromised during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This project was cancelled under EC 3.5 as the state legislature, during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session, appropriated \$3,500,000 by way of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund for acquisition of eligible law enforcement equipment including non-lethal tasers and portable radios.

**Department of Transportation**

Agency and/or Project Website: [MDOT Home Page \(ms.gov\)](#)

**6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3165	Surface Transportation Projects (STP)	\$50,000,000

**Project Overview**

During the 2024 Mississippi Legislative Session, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) was appropriated \$50,000,000 out of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund for a series of Road Resurfacing projects. These projects are part of MDOT’s Three Year Plan and have been prioritized statewide based on analysis by MDOT’s Pavement Management System. Selection criteria take into consideration current pavement condition, the significance of the route, traffic needs, surface continuity, economic development, and future construction programming.

**Project Schedule/Timelines**

A definitive timeline is still being determined, but these investments in Mississippi’s roadways are scheduled to take place beginning in the fall of 2024 and will extend to 2026. A detailed timeline will be provided once the projects commence.

**Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners**

MDOT has partnered with HORNE to assist with the administration of these projects once commenced.

**Institutions of Higher Learning**

Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board

Agency and/or Project Websites:

<http://www.mississippi.edu/ihl/>

[Nursing Retention Loan Repayment Program \(NULR\) – Mississippi Office of State Financial Aid](#)



## 2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.2373	Skilled Nursing Home and Hospital Nurses Retention Loan Repayment Program (NULR)	\$6,000,000

### Project Overview

The Skilled Nursing Home and Hospital Nurses Retention Loan Repayment Program (NULR), to be administered by the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board (Postsecondary Board), was created for the purposes of strengthening, improving, and preserving the nursing sector across Mississippi in recognition of the challenges and significant impacts incurred by the healthcare industry, particularly nursing, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is designed to retain new nurses in Mississippi's skilled nursing homes and hospitals by helping them repay their student loans.

Under the original program, newly licensed nurses who commenced full-time employment either at a skilled nursing home or a general acute care hospital for the first time between March 1, 2022, and June 30, 2025, are eligible to participate. Successful applicants may receive subsequent loan repayment funds for up to two additional years, with a maximum repayment amount of \$6,000 per year and a total maximum payout of \$18,000 over the three-year period. Application deadlines vary annually, corresponding to the fiscal year. All final payments to loan servicers must be completed by December 2026.

During the 2024 legislative session, legislation was passed which expanded the program not only to first-year nurses, but also to any nurse who has outstanding loans. The program is available both to licensed practical nurses and registered nurses, although they must be employed by an acute care hospital or skilled nursing facility.

### Project Schedule/Timelines

The project schedule is based on four NULR application cycles:

- **Cycle 1:** March 20, 2024 - September 15, 2023. The NULR was created during The Mississippi Legislative 2023 Regular Session in SB.2373. Applications subsequently followed its passage.
- **Cycle 2:** October 1, 2023 - September 15, 2024.
- **Cycle 3:** October 1, 2024 - September 15, 2025.
- **Cycle 4:** October 1, 2024 - September 15, 2026.

If all funds are expended prior to the beginning of a cycle, the program will be closed out and the additional cycle will not be started.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The Postsecondary Board is a subgrantee of DFA for the administration of this program. The Postsecondary Board accepts applications through a website developed in collaboration with MSDH. After applications are reviewed and approved by the Postsecondary Board, the Board makes monthly requests to DFA to draw down funds. The funds are then paid by the Board directly to the loan providers of the applicants.

### Mississippi Emergency Management Agency

Agency and/or Project Website: <https://www.msema.org>

### 1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3018.A	COVID-19 Expenses	\$1,902,709

#### Project Overview

Funds for this project are being used to retrofit/upgrade the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the State Emergency Logistical Operations Center (SELOC) through the following:

- SEOC parking lot repairs
- Upgrading the audio-visual system on the SEOC floor
- Expanding the current PPE inventory tracking system
- SELOC roof replacement (partial cost)
- SEOC maintenance building repairs (partial cost)
- SEOC chiller and HVAC system upgrades (partial cost)

These improvements will benefit the general public by increasing Mississippi's Emergency Management Agency's (MEMA) effectiveness in responding to future outbreaks. An additional \$2M is being allocated to this project through an appropriation to the Bureau of Building (BOB), Grounds and Real Property Management. As BOB has been tasked with managing the contracting and oversight for this project, all remaining funds have been reappropriated to that agency. As such, this project will be reported under that agency for future reporting periods.

#### Project Schedule/Timelines

This project is currently in the construction phase which began in January 2024. As of the date of this report, MEMA has completed less than 50% of the work under this project. All work is expected to be complete by December 2024.

#### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MEMA is partnering with BOB on the construction components of this project.

### 3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKFORCE: PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC SAFETY, OR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3018.B	COVID-19 Expenses: Salaries	\$1,257,291

#### Project Overview

MEMA has been one of the leading State Agencies for the State of Mississippi's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These funds were to defray eligible COVID-19 expenses incurred by MEMA. The agency used these funds for salaries for personnel within accounting, information technology (IT), logistics/ warehouse, and executive staff.

## Project Schedule/Timelines

As of the date of this report, MEMA has completed all work under this project.

### Office of State Public Defender

Agency and/or Project Website: <https://www.ospd.ms.gov/>

## 3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1627.A	Court Backlog: Office of State Public Defender PAYROLL	\$1,348,334
HB.1627.B	Court Backlog: Office of State Public Defender OFFICE EXPENSES	\$34,367

## Project Overview

The Office of State Public Defender (OSPD) was appropriated SLFRF by the Mississippi Legislative House Bill 1627 (2022 Regular Session) to fund additional salaries and office expenses for public defenders assigned to special temporary courts. In the 2023 Regular Session, the Mississippi Legislature reappropriated unspent funds in SB 3052 and appropriated additional funds in SB 2961, for continuation of the project from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. The total appropriations are \$1,382,702.

The COVID-19 pandemic had many impacts on the criminal justice system in Mississippi. Processing and procedural times resulted in longer jail stays and the inability of defense teams to investigate in communities resulting in delays in resolving cases. Most defendants are from low-income communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the programs offered through the OSPD serve only this subpopulation of defendants. The OSPD budgeted funds for salaries for temporary public defenders. Adding these temporary public defenders and contract workers assisted the OSPD in mitigating the backlog.

## Project Schedule

The staffing plan was developed with the county defender office and the courts between April 2022 and June 2022. The attorney staff began work in August 2022. Additional personnel were hired shortly thereafter. Project will continue through December 2024.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The county public defender represents individuals in cases backlogged due to the pandemic. OSPD partnered with Hinds County special defenders to prepare, investigate, and help move cases to disposition.

### State Court Backlogs

Agency and/or Project Website:  
<https://courts.ms.gov/>

### 3.5 PUBLIC SECTOR CAPACITY: ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1628.A	Trial Docket Congestion	\$3,208,555

#### Project Overview

The Mississippi Supreme Court was appropriated \$3,208,555 in SLFRF funds for temporary Special Judges, support staff, and operational expenditures needed to assist in remediating the court case backlog. The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically decreased the number of jury trials, court hearings, and criminal pleas from a combination of factors, including order grants to postpone jury trials and restrict in-person court proceedings due to lack of space preventing the courts from adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols. In addition, court staff was decreased to help alleviate the spread of COVID-19. Due to the increased crime rate caused by the pandemic, the exacerbated court backlog has resulted in overcrowded jails with pre-trial detainees.

#### Project Schedule

Initially starting in October 2022, this project has been closed due to changes in FY2025 legislative appropriations effective as of May 2024. The Courts will resume work to remediate case and court docket backlogs through separate legislative appropriations.

#### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Partners for this project include:

- Retired, experienced Senior Status special judges appointed to alleviate backlogs.
- Elected, sitting permanent trial judges confronted with backlogs in their own courts.

### 6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1949.A	Closure of Backlog and Overcrowded Dockets	\$600,000

#### Project Overview

A total of \$600,000.00 was appropriated during the 2024 Regular Legislative Session under HB 1949, out of the state's Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Lost Revenue Fund and allocated to the Administrative Office of Courts for the purpose of defraying the cost of eligible expenses under ARPA – SLFRF.

The Courts of Mississippi will address state-wide court related backlogs, including criminal, civil, county, justice, and juvenile cases across the chancery, circuit and county court systems. Funding will allow the Judiciary to make great strides in eradicating the backlog at all levels through the appointment of special judges.

#### Project Schedule

The schedule for this project will be determined once commenced.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

Partners for this project will include retired, experienced Senior Status special judges appointed to alleviate backlogs and elected, sitting permanent trial judges confronted with backlogs in their own courts.

### STATE COURT BACKLOGS DISSOLVED PROJECTS JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1628.B	CPS Adoption Court Backlog	\$1,500,000

The Mississippi Supreme Court was appropriated SLFRF funds to provide temporary Special Judges to help alleviate the backlog of adoption cases in Child Protection Services and operational expenditures necessary to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project's backlog was alleviated without the use of ARPA SLFRF-appropriated funding.

### State Department of Health

Agency and/or Project Website: [www.msdh.ms.gov](http://www.msdh.ms.gov)

### 1.14 OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3060.A	Local Provider Innovation Grant Program	\$25,000,000

### Project Overview

Grants provide transitional assistance to healthcare providers for the benefit of the public. Grant awards were initially capped at \$250,000, but due to the number of applicants, the maximum grant awarded was approximately \$135,000. The target population benefitting from this program are Mississippi healthcare providers and their patients. For purposes of this grant program, "Providers" are defined as a facility that is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by law to provide health care in the ordinary course of business in the State of Mississippi, including, but not limited to, skilled nursing facilities, direct primary care clinics, provider- owned clinics, rural health clinics, academic medical centers, community health centers, and independent physician practices.

### Project Schedule

Subrecipient agreements were executed in FY 2023 and have been extended into 2025. Current expenditures are at 26% of total program funds. It is anticipated that funds under this program will be expended by January 2025.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The MS State Department of Health (MSDH) has established subrecipient relationships with multiple local healthcare providers to deliver this program. MSDH has also partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1614.A	Field Hospital Program: Central Operations	\$2,500,000

### Project Overview

The State Medical Response System coordinates a variety of resources, ranging from medical equipment to specially trained staff, that can be shared by hospitals and state agencies when responding to the exceptional demands of emergencies or disasters. The mutual aid and teaching of the State Medical Response System allow hospitals to increase their capacity during a local or statewide crisis, ensuring better care for local residents who require emergency medical assistance.

The State Medical Response System is hosted by the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC), coordinated by the Mississippi State Department of Health, and supported by the Mississippi Hospital Association to covered individuals.

### Project Schedule

This project is in its early stages. It is anticipated that expenditures will be complete by December 2024.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MSDH has executed a subrecipient agreement with UMMC to complete the delivery of this activity.

## 1.6 MEDICAL EXPENSES (INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE CARE FACILITIES)

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3060.B	Hospital Expanded Capacity Program: Reimbursing Hospital for ICU and Negative Pressure Beds	\$12,000,000

### Project Overview

During the pandemic, many hospitals across the State were required to expand their treatment capacity by acquiring additional ICU beds and negative pressure beds. The program makes grants to hospitals as a reimbursement for these expenses incurred from March 3, 2021, through December 31, 2023. These funds are expended first for the refund to hospitals for creating ICU beds at a maximum of \$200,000 per bed. The remaining funds are expended to reimburse hospitals for creating negative pressure beds at a maximum of \$50,000 per bed. The department may retain a maximum of \$150,000 to defray administration costs.

### Project Schedule

This program began receiving applications in FY 2023. As of the date of this report, MSDH has expended \$3,275,583.04 for work under this project. It is anticipated that all funds will be expended by December 2024.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This is an application-based program whereby hospitals will submit their expenditures to MSDH for reimbursement. MSDH has partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance.

## 2.36 AID TO OTHER IMPACTED INDUSTRIES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.271	MS Hospital Sustainability Grant Program	\$64,239,371

### Project Overview

During the pandemic, many hospitals across the State were facing financial difficulty to remain open to serve residents across the State. This program was established for the purpose of strengthening, improving and preserving access to hospital care services for all Mississippians and to address the challenges faced by hospitals due to the COVID- 19 pandemic. Hospitals receive direct aid proportional to the economic harm they suffered as a result of the pandemic.

### Project Schedule

Initial awards were made in July 2023. As of May 2024, all eligible applications have been awarded and disbursed. Program is in closeout phase.

### Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

This is an application-based program whereby hospitals have submitted proof of financial losses to MSDH for consideration under this project. MSDH has partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with application review, reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance.

## 5.15 DRINKING WATER: OTHER WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1538.A	ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program	\$385,300,000

### Project Overview

The MS State Department of Health was initially allocated \$300,000,000 to fund the ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program. An additional \$74,000,000 was added to the program in 2023 and \$30,000,000 in 2024 for a second round of grants. A portion of these funds are set aside for administrative costs. This program was created to assist rural water associations in implementing drinking water infrastructure projects allowable under SLFRF guidelines and the EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and related to supply, treatment, transmission & distribution, lead remediation, and storage of drinking water.

The target population of the proposed Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program is to fund drinking water infrastructure projects within rural communities that may have limited access to potable or safe drinking water



and faced health disparities before the pandemic, possibly contributing to more severe health outcomes during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Generally, a rural community is defined as a population of 10,000 or less. The maximum funds to any rural water association from first-round grants under this program shall not exceed \$2,500,000. The maximum funds to any rural water association from second-round grants under this program shall not exceed \$2,000,000. Round 1 subrecipients are ineligible for Round 2 funding.

Project Schedule

Round 1 subgrant agreements have all been executed. Round 2 subgrants are anticipated to be executed by October 2024. The program has expended approximately \$40 million at present, with a significant increase in expenditures expected as products enter construction phases. All subgrants require expenditures to be completed by September 15, 2026.

Key Performance Indicators

- 1. Number of applications selected for grant award: 193.
- 2. Number of grants awarded: 151.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MSDH expects to award approximately 193 grants to rural water associations throughout the State between the two rounds. Each rural water association will contract with the necessary professional service providers (e.g., engineers, attorneys, etc.) and construction contractors to perform the needed improvements.

These professional service providers will be assisting the rural water associations with the implementation of the infrastructure projects. MSDH has partnered with Fontaine Engineering, LLC, and Harper Raines Knight & Company to provide program delivery support and technical assistance. Mississippi Water and Waste Services, a Mississippi Rural Water Association, Inc subsidiary, will also support outreach and technical assistance to eligible grant recipients.

7.1 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1538.A	ADMIN EXPENSES ARPA Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program	\$18,700,000

Project Overview

The purpose of this project is to pay for administrative related expenses related to the Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program. Mississippi HB.1421 allows for up to 5% of total budget allocation for admin expenses.

Project Schedule

The duration of this project is dependent on the duration of the Rural Water Associations Infrastructure Grant Program of which all funds are expected to be requested by closeout through December 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

MSDH utilizes minimal internal staff and has partnered with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company to assist with reporting, procurement, compliance, and technical assistance and with Fontaine Engineering for program administration.

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Agency and/or Project Website: <https://www.umc.edu>

6.1 PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
SB.3010.A	UMMC School of Nursing Building - Lost Revenue Transfer	\$55,000,000

Project Overview

These funds are provided to construct a new facility for the School of Nursing (SON) at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC). The current educational facility is 75 years old and cannot meet the needs of increased enrollment and shifting curriculum requirements.

The Nursing field has traditionally needed more qualified nurses. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated this problem because of the sudden increase in hospitalized patients. The added stress of COVID-19 led to burnout, with a record number of nurses retiring or leaving the profession for other opportunities. COVID increased scarcity and turnover among the nursing ranks at UMMC and other Mississippi organizations. A new facility will allow the UMMC School of Nursing to increase enrollment by 25%. It will also allow the School of Nursing to implement curriculum changes that focus on simulation training, which are increasingly focused on by national accreditation standards. Education has changed dramatically in the last decade, and this new facility is critical for attracting, educating, and retaining high quality nurses in Mississippi.

Project Schedule

The project was initiated in August 2023, with the demolition of the original nursing school building. Demolition was completed in February 2024. Immediately following the completion of demolition, construction began on the new building in March 2024. Construction is expected to continue through 2025 and will be completed in the Spring of 2026.

Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism for this project is through publicly procured architect/engineering firms and construction firms.

PROJECT ID	PROJECT NAME	BUDGET
HB.1722	UMMC Adolescent Psychiatric Program	\$6,000,000

## Project Overview

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) houses Children's of Mississippi, the sole children's hospital in the state, catering to pediatric and adolescent patients across Mississippi. Children's of Mississippi currently offers psychiatric and behavioral health services covering a range of conditions, including aggressive or compulsive behaviors, depression, anxiety, self-harm tendencies, and developmental delays, for children up to 12 years old on campus. Additionally, outpatient services are available at the Center for the Advancement of Youth Center for those up to 17 years old, providing access to a multidisciplinary team for ongoing therapy. However, services for adolescents aged 13 to 17 are significantly limited, resulting in them being accommodated in regular hospital patient rooms with 24-hour observation until alternative placement can be arranged, which may take considerable time.

UMMC is committed to addressing this disparity by establishing a cutting-edge adolescent behavioral health inpatient facility that emphasizes high-quality patient- and family-centered care while addressing the needs of the community, medical center, and staff. Funds will be used to meet the mental, emotional, and physical needs of this unique adolescent patient population through the creation of an Adolescent Behavioral Health Inpatient Unit (ABHIU). This new 10-bed short-term inpatient unit will be constructed on the second floor of existing UMMC hospital space once the pediatric medical support and patient services currently occupying the area are successfully relocated. Following this relocation, the identified space will undergo comprehensive renovation to ensure compliance with building codes and to establish a safe and functional environment for these adolescent patients.

The demand for behavioral health services among Mississippi's children and adolescents is increasing. According to information from The State of Mental Health in America 2022, Mississippi ranks last in the nation for youth with major depression who did not receive any mental health treatment. The ABHIU project aims to address this urgent need by providing Mississippi with a leading-edge adolescent behavioral health unit that promotes high-quality patient- and family-centered care and effectively addresses the needs of the community, medical center, and staff.

## Project Schedule

The project will be completed in three phases. Phase A of the project, which began on March 25, 2024, is anticipated to be completed in November 2024. This phase will include the creation of new administrative offices on the second floor of the existing building. When completed, the existing administrative offices on the first floor will then be moved to the new offices on the Second floor.

Phase B of the project began at the same time as Phase A. This phase involves the renovation of the PTOT (Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy) section of the second floor. It is also expected to be completed in November 2024.

Phase C will include the completion of the 10-bed inpatient facility on the second floor. This phase is currently in the design stage, with the bid date anticipated for mid-September and construction expected to begin in November. It is anticipated that Phase C construction will begin immediately following the completion of phases A and B. Phase C construction will reach substantial completion by October 15, 2025.

## Primary Delivery Mechanisms/Partners

The primary delivery mechanism for this project is through publicly procured architect/engineering firms and construction firms.

