

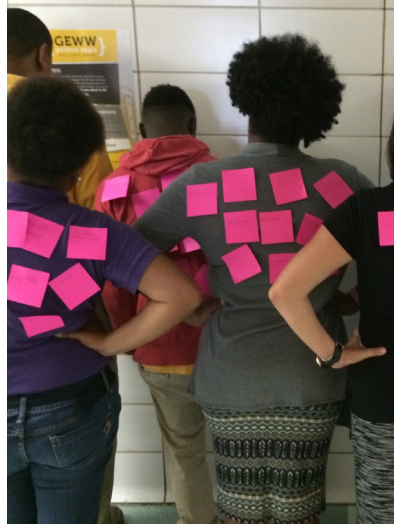
Housing



Health



Employment



Education



Institute for Disability Studies Organizational Curriculum Vitae

Fiscal Year 2015
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015



Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton, executive director of the Institute for Disability Studies, center; and office assistants, from left, Reagan Ratcliff, Dan Lewis, Haley Graham and Grant Carter, with Office Manager Laura Waldrop. (October 31, 2014)

Letter from the Executive Director

March 1, 2016

Dear Colleagues:

The Institute for Disability Studies (IDS), Mississippi's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, took its place on the Southern Miss campus 40 years ago. Since then, the organization has touched the lives of thousands of Mississippians with disabilities, and the lives of their families. Through a range of services, including early childhood education, housing, employment, health, and recreation, IDS' projects do make a difference.

The Institute for Disability Studies is currently funded solely through external grants and contracts. In fiscal year 2015, IDS received \$3,958,991 in grants and contracts. The staff at IDS have truly worked hard this past year. Therefore, IDS recognizes their service by highlighting academic and community service accomplishments. This curriculum vita describes IDS' scholarly activities between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

Sincerely,

Beth Bryant-Claxton, PhD
Executive Director
Institute for Disability Studies (MS UCEDD)
The University of Southern Mississippi



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IDS Report Card FY 2015

The University of Southern Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies (IDS), Mississippi's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), has been committed to enhancing the lives of Mississippians with disabilities for 40 years. This report reflects IDS' education, research and service efforts to support people with disabilities and their families from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, in the current emphasis areas of housing, education/early intervention, health and recreation, and employment.

38

Programs and Projects

42

Faculty and Staff

21,802

Hours of Technical Assistance



8,311

People Assisted

180

New Awareness Materials Developed

Including

2

Journal Publications

12

Conference Presentations



and Continued Distribution of

29

Existing Materials

Reaching

16,418

Individuals, Family Members and Professionals

2,186

Hours of Community Training and Academic Instruction



495

Hours of Training to

392

UCEDD Trainees and University Students

Educating a Combined Total of

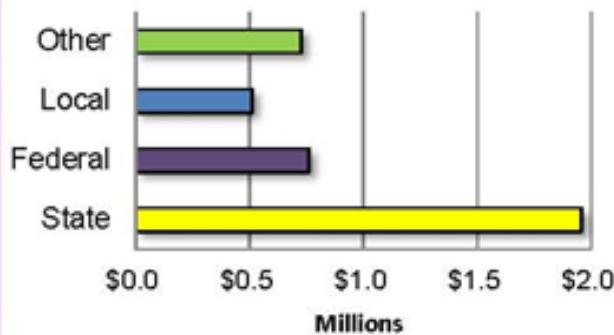
2,681

People

IDS is currently funded solely through external grants and contracts. In the past fiscal year, IDS received:

\$3,958,991

in grants and contracts



Yielding **49** Research Activities



About the Institute

The Institute for Disability Studies (IDS) at The University of Southern Mississippi has been committed to enhancing the lives of Mississippians with disabilities for the past 40 years. The Institute employs 32 professional staff and eight part-time support staff. Staff members represent the disciplines of special education, psychology, child development, social work, adult education, public health, rehabilitation counseling, nursing, law, communications, and other relevant disciplines.

During FY 2015, a total of 392 classroom students, graduate assistants and practicum students received short and intermediate-term training. Technical assistance was provided to 8,311 individuals, and 4,039 people participated in outreach training. Direct clinical services were provided to 257 clients and other direct services were provided to 2,209 clients. IDS's 38 projects disseminated 168 new products developed in FY15 and continued to use more than 25 existing materials, including electronic products. Individual materials disseminated totaled more than 26,000 items.

The Institute for Disability Studies has four current emphasis areas: **education and early intervention, housing, health and recreation, and employment.**

In FY 2015, there were six projects in the emphasis area of early intervention and education. Throughout the year, Early Years Network: Children with Special Needs which is a part of the Early Years Network, Growing Mississippi's Children, provided 621 technical assistance hours and made 359 technical assistance visits to licensed childcare centers throughout Mississippi. The Training, Resources, and Information for the Advancement of Disability (TRIAD)

AmeriCorps project is an inclusive service program funded through the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service. This year, 33 young people with and without disabilities have served the community through TRIAD by working on training activities that help teach others to be financially responsible.

IDS' health emphasis area was comprised of six projects. IDS served as evaluator for the Mississippi Division of Medicaid's Money Follows the Person program, Bridge to Independence. The Family to Family Health Information, and Education Center focused on assisting families of children and youth with special health care needs. The Tobacco Control Strategies project focuses on gaining a better understanding of tobacco use among individuals with disabilities. In addition, the recreational programs offered at the IDS Gulf Park campus increased from three to six and individuals from the community actively participated in these recreational programs.

In FY15, there were 11 projects in the housing emphasis area, including Mississippi Home of Your Own project which has assisted Mississippians with disabilities and their families in becoming homeowners for more than 18 years.

The Mississippi Partnerships for Employment project for youth and young adults with ID/DD worked with partners, the Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Mississippi, to promote the employment of people with disabilities in Mississippi.



Grants and Contracts

FEDERAL GRANTS

University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities CORE
 07/01/12-06/30/17
 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 Total \$1,080,300 Current \$545,919

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (Jackson)
 03/16/09-12/31/14
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 \$7,328,985

Mississippi Home of Your Own
 Mississippi Development Authority
 12/16/10-03/25/15
 \$500,000

Homesaver
 07/01/11-06/30/17
 Mississippi Home Corporation
 \$36,500

Mississippi Access to a Coordinated System of Services for Children and Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (MACSS)
 09/01/11-08/31/14
 Health Resources and Services Administration
 \$286,568

City of Jackson HOME Investment Partnership
 09/21/12-09/30/15
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 \$477,808

Mississippi Fair Housing Initiative Program
 11/01/12-06/30/15
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 \$98,817

Mississippi Family to Family Health Information and Education Center
 06/01/14-05/31/15
 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 \$95,700

Shelter For All - Mississippi United to End Homelessness
 07/01/14-06/30/15
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 \$189,493

MHC Comprehensive Counseling
 10/01/14-06/30/15
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 \$17,400

STATE GRANTS

Advocacy TEAM Mississippi
 10/01/12-09/30/15
 Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities
 \$50,000

Tobacco Control Strategies for Mississippians with Disabilities
07/01/13-06/30/15
Mississippi State Department of Health,
Office of Tobacco Control
\$99,000

Project START 4
10/01/13-09/30/14
Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation
Services
\$17,400

Early Years Network: Special Needs
07/01/14-09/30/14
Mississippi Department of Human Services
\$225,205

GAGE (Get Active Get Engaged)
07/01/14-06/30/15
Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation
Services
\$75,000

TRIAD AmeriCorps
09/01/14-08/31/15
Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service
\$174,166

Early Years Network: Special Needs
10/01/14-09/30/15
Mississippi Department of Human Services
\$905,240

Project Start
10/01/14-09/30/15
Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation
Services
\$17,400

Project Stick (Adapted Art and Recreation)
10/01/14-09/30/15
Mississippi Council on Developmental
Disabilities
\$30,000

Project SEARCH Southern Miss
10/01/14-09/30/15
Mississippi Council on Developmental
Disabilities
\$70,000

CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS AND
CONSULTATIONS

Assistive Technology Evaluations
07/01/11-06/30/15
\$28,872

Mississippi Partnerships for Employment
10/01/11-09/30/15
Mississippi Council on Developmental
Disabilities
\$121,661

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities Program (LEND)
07/01/12-06/30/15
Health Resources and Services Administration
\$78,883

Disability Resource Directory Database
10/01/12-09/30/14
Disability Rights Mississippi
\$2,000

Bridge to Independence
10/01/12-06/30/15
Mississippi Division of Medicaid
\$49,999

Medicaid Housing
5/01/13-09/30/14
Mississippi Division of Medicaid
\$75,000

Children's Medical Program
07/01/14-06/30/15
Mississippi State Department of Health
\$20,000

Mississippi Public Broadcasting

11/01/15-06/30/16

\$1,250

FOUNDATIONS

Hard Rock Recreational Program

02/01/14-09/30/14

Hard Rock Hotel and Casino-Biloxi

\$1,000

USM Golden Eagles Wheelchair Basketball

04/01/14-09/30/14

Private donors

\$8,945

PRIVATE DONATIONS

Federal Home Loan Bank - Bancorp South

09/01/14-09/01/15

\$147,000

Federal Home Loan Bank - BankPlus

09/01/14-09/01/15

\$147,000

Yakin' with Vets: Boosting Veteran's Life

On and Off the Waters

03/01/14-09/30/14

USOC

\$13,334

Ji & Li Family Foundation

03/15/2015-present

\$10,000

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING
AND AGREEMENTS

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VI -
Housing

Pearl River Valley Opportunity (PRVO) -
Housing

Various Lender Partners - Housing Program
Support Agreement

Various Realtors in Jackson - Exclusive

Home Listing Agreements for Neighborhood
Stabilization Program

City of Gulfport Leisure Services - Recreation

Legend

- Ⓔ Ⓔ Early Childhood/Education
- Ⓔ Employment
- Ⓕ Housing
- Ⓕ Ⓔ Health/Recreation



Research

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD SUBMISSIONS

Westbrook, A. Assessing the Early Years Network: Children with Special Needs, Screening and Referral Services

This project proposes to assess the EYN:SN screening and referral services by analyzing the frequencies of screens conducted by the EYN:SN staff while meeting the scope of services for the grant. Additionally, outcomes of screening tools will be analyzed.

Approved (10/14-10/15) ©©

Young, R. Nicotine Usage Survey for Mississippians with Disabilities

The purpose of this project is to determine the prevalence of nicotine usage by Mississippians with disabilities to identify barriers that prevent them from receiving nicotine cessation information and accessing available cessation resources. The survey will investigate factors that may potentially motivate individuals with disabilities to access tobacco cessation programs. *Approved (03/15-03/16) ©©*

LaVergne, L. & Westbrook, A. Inclusion of Children with Special Needs: Children with Special Needs: Assessing Attitudes and Beliefs of Early Childhood Providers

Project is part of the Early Years Network: Special Needs program. The goal of the research is to assess the attitudes and beliefs of early childhood teachers, teacher assistants and directors related to inclusion of children with special needs before and after receiving technical assistance. *Approved (5/1/15-4/30/16) ©©*

Alliston, J. & Li, M. What Matters to Me

The purpose of this survey is to collect baseline data that assesses issues related to employment, housing, transportation, education, voting, health care and long-term care that affect the daily lives of Mississippians with disabilities. The results of the survey will be used to guide system change efforts regarding employment and other important issues for people with disabilities in Mississippi.

Approved (05/15-05/16) ©© © © © ©

Young, R. & Alliston, J. Postsecondary Educational Needs Assessment for Parents of Children with Intellectual Disabilities

The purpose of this project is to collect baseline data that assesses the need for increased number and availability of postsecondary education programs with Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD).

Approved (06/15-06/16) ©©

LaVergne, L. & Westbrook, A. Assessing Early Childhood Inclusive Practices

This project seeks to analyze inclusion of children with special needs in the early childhood environment. The goals of this project include: 1) analyze the impact of the EYN:SN on inclusion practices of participants and 2) assess inclusion practices of preschool programs who are Tier 3 centers (centers with a quality start rating of 3, 4, or 5).

Approved (8/10/15-8/9/16) ©©



Education

TEACHING - THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI COURSES

Alliston, J.

CD: 450 Administration of Child and Family Programs

An evaluation of policies and procedures, organizational structure, leadership and management of child and family programs. Designed to provide students with opportunities to develop administrative and leadership skills and develop sound philosophy regarding programming for children and families.
Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2015

Alliston, J.

CD: 477 Developmental Disabilities in Early Childhood

Overview of contributing factors to atypical early development, assessment, identification and management of at-risk conditions; legal/ ethical issues; and legislation/ litigation. Focused on the critical impact of developmental disability in early childhood.
Summer 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Summer 2015

Alliston, J.

CISE 809

Doctoral seminar focusing on grant writing, policy analysis, and program evaluation in elementary, secondary, and special education. Designed to plan research, write and evaluate skills to produce grant proposals acceptable for submission to funding entities.
Summer 2014

Briceno, N.

CD: 352 Behavior and Guidance of the Young Child

Designed to present developmentally appropriate behavior patterns and evidence based guidance principles for young children in and outside of the classroom setting.
Summer 2015

Briceno, N.

CD: 352L Behavior and Guidance of the Young Child Lab

An interactive experience for the application of evidenced-based principles for guiding young children in a classroom setting.
Summer 2015

Crosby J.

UNV 101: University 101

An introduction to higher education and a general orientation to the functions and resources-including health and disability related services of the university. Encouraged development of active learning skills and promotes responsible decision-making.
Fall 2014

Westbrook, A.

SPE: 400 Psychology and Education of Exceptional Children

An introduction to exceptional children focusing on characteristics, approaches and policies relating to their education and citizenship. Brief histories, legal influences and unique processes of exceptional schooling were emphasized.
Fall 2014, Fall 2015

Young, R.

UNV: 101 University 101

An introduction to higher education and a general orientation to the functions and resources-including health and disability related services of the university. Encouraged development of active learning skills and promotes responsible decision-making.
Fall 2014

Young, R.

DPH 420: Communicable and Chronic Diseases in Man

Designed to introduce problems, and control and prevention of communicable and chronic disease in modern society.
Spring 2015

TEACHING - OTHER UNIVERSITIES

Bates, D.

URP 520/720: Urban Housing Policy

Jackson State University
Examined the political, sociocultural, and economic influences that shaped housing policies surrounding urban and rural housing concerns.
Fall 2015

GUEST LECTURES

Young, R.

DPH 784: Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health

Provides instruction on qualitative methods and how these methods are applied for research and/or evaluation purposes in public health.
Fall 2014

TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND CONFERENCES

Alliston, J. (March 26, 2015) Transitioning into a Self-Advocate Training, Oak Grove High School and Hattiesburg High School, Hattiesburg, MS.

Alliston, J. (September 20, 2014). Sharing Your Voice, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Alliston, J. (November 17, 2014). Sharing Your Voice. Webinar, Online.

Baker, R. (March 19, 2015). Assistive Technology for Occupational Therapists, Long Beach, MS.

Briceno, N., Bowlin, K. & Westbrook, A. (November 2014-May 2015). Early Years Network Special Needs Credential, Tupelo, Jackson, and Hattiesburg, MS.

Briceno, N., Bowlin, K., Henson, A. & LaVergne, L. (Fall 2014-Fall 2015). Learn the Signs. Act Early. Understanding Autism, Statewide in Mississippi.

Bruton, B. (April 2015). Developmental Screening in the Early Learning Environment, Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Crosby, J. (February 2015). Career Assessment, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (February 2015). Communications, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (February 2015). Getting to Know You and Roles You Play, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (February 2015). Job Identification and Goals, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (February 2015). Workplace Social Skills, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (March 2015). Being a Self-Advocate as a College Student, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (March 2015). Interest vs. Abilities, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (March-April 2015). Articulating and Following Directions Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (March-April 2015). Becoming a Self-Advocate, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (April 2015). Artistic Expression, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (April 2015). Mock Interviews, Hattiesburg High School, Oak Grove High School, Petal High School, Petal, MS.

Crosby, J. (June 2015). TRIAD AmeriCorps Training: Team Development and Service Project Initiatives, Hattiesburg, MS.

Crosby, J. (June 6, 2105). Pre-employment training 101 for youth with disabilities UCEDD Webinar for MS Parent Training and Information Center. Online.

Dear, F., Hicks, C. & Steele, H. (July 2014June 2015). Home of Your Own Homebuyer Education Workshops, West Point, Hattiesburg, Jackson, McComb, Vicksburg, and Starkville, MS

Robinson, C. (October 2014-June 2015). Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Workshops, Jackson and Moss Point, MS

Robinson, C. (October 2104-June 2015). Fair Housing Education Workshops, Pearl, Pascagoula, Hattiesburg, Vicksburg, D'Iberville, Biloxi, Gulfport, Pass Christian, Long Beach, Jackson, and Moss Point, MS

TRIAD Service AmeriCorps Members. (September 2014-June 2015). Financial Literacy, Forrest and Lamar Counties, MS

Legend

- Ⓔ Ⓔ Early Childhood/Education
- Ⓔ Employment
- Ⓕ Housing
- Ⓕ Ⓔ Health/Recreation



Publications and Creative Work

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Filce, H. G., & LaVergne, L. (2015). Absenteeism, Educational Plans, and Anxiety among Children with Incontinence and Their Parents. *Journal of School Health*, 85(4), 241-250. ©©

Li, M. (2015). Relationship between perceived cancer attitudes and engaged cancer-related health risk behaviors among minority college students. *Student Administrator Personnel*. ©®

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Alliston, J. (2015). MSPE Employment Preparation Through Daily Life. Presented at the annual meeting of Mississippi disAbility MegaConference, Jackson, MS. ©

Alliston, J. (2015). Postsecondary Transition: Parenting to employment. Presented at the annual meeting of Working Together Special Education Conference, Jackson, MS. ©

Alliston, J., & Young, R. (2014, October). Step up to your future. Presented at the 2015 Southwest Disability Conference, Albuquerque, NM. ©

Bates, D. (2015, October). Asset Mapping: Tri-County Area. Presented at the annual conference with MS/AL American Planning Association in Orange Beach, AL. ©

Briceno, N. (2014, October). Council for exceptional children: Mississippi CEC State Conference, Biloxi, MS. ©©

Briceno, N. (2015). Including all children using universal design for learning guidelines. Presented at the Southern Early Childhood Conference, New Orleans, LA. ©©

Bryant-Claxton, B. (2014). Clinical education teams (CET): Learning through case presentation. Presented at the National Association for the dually-diagnosed Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. ©©

Li, M. (2014, November). Poster presented at the annual meeting of Association of University Centers on Disabilities Conference, Washington, D.C. ©®

Westbrook, A. & Jones, R. (2015). Expository text: engaging every student. Southern Early Childhood Association. 66th Annual SECA Conference, New Orleans, LA. ©©

Westbrook, A. (2014). Learn the signs. Act early. Mississippi Early Childhood Association. MsECA Conference, Hattiesburg, MS. ©©

Westbrook, A. & LaVergne, L. (2015). Supporting children with special needs. Mississippi Early Childhood Conference. MECC Conference, Natchez, MS. ©©

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE
POSTERS

Jones, R., Westbrook, A., & Evans, M.
(2014). Bringing expository text to life for
young children. Association for Childhood
International. ACEI Conference, Vancouver,
BC, Canada. ©©



Campus and Community Services

EDITORIAL AND REVIEW ACTIVITIES

Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton
June 2015

Grant Reviewer, Mississippi Developmental
Disabilities Council

Dr. Rebekah Young
Fall 2014

Journal of Human Sciences and Extension,
Reviewer

CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES

Beth Bruton

- Mississippi Board of Nursing - PNP/RN
License # R858140 (1999)
Expires 12/31/2016

- Pediatric Nursing Certification Board -
Certification # 97233 (1997)
Expires 2/28/2016

Kati Collins

- Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist -
Certification #60962 (2012-Present)

Jesse Davis

- Mississippi Real Estate Brokers License
(10/31/14 - 10/31/16)

Tyler Edwards

- Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
Certification # 62622 (2013-Present)

Stephanie Farris

- State of Mississippi Teaching License-
Elementary Education (K-6) (2008-Present)
- State of Mississippi Teaching License-

Special Education, Mild/Moderate
(2010-Present)

Ann Henson

- Certificate to Administer Inclusive Classroom
Profile (January 2015)

Cassie Hicks

- Certified Money Manager (2014-2015)
- NHNLA Housing Counseling Program
Manager

- National Homeownership Certifications
- Neighborworks Center for Homeownership
Education and Counseling
- Money Management International
National Council of LaRaza

Dr. Leslie LaVergne

- State of Mississippi Teaching License-Special
Education, Mild/Moderate 2014-Present
- Certificate of Reliability, Inclusive Classroom
Profile (2014-Present)

Dr. Mina Li

- State Certified Supervisory Manager

Charity S. Robinson

- Mississippi Real Estate Brokers License
(2014-2016)

Bruce Smith

- State of Mississippi Teaching License for
7-12 (Social Studies) (2010-2017)

Heather Steele

- National Homeownership Certifications
(2014-2015)

- Neighborworks Center for Homeownership Education and Counseling
- Money Management International National Council of LaRaza

Dr. Rebekah Young

- Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES #15317) (2008-Present)

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston

Self-Advocacy Youth Summits

Two youth summits were held: Hernando on September 17, 2014, and Hattiesburg on September 29, 2014. Self-advocates and allies educated youth with disabilities on self-advocacy and how to transition to adulthood. A total of 85 youth attended.

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston

Take Your Legislator to Work Day Event

A Mississippi Representative job shadowed a woman with ID/DD at the Gulf Coast Armed Forces Retirement Home on October 23, 2014.

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston, Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton

2015 Second Annual Employability Job Fair

This community housing event was held on March 3, 2015, in Jackson to promote job opportunities for people with disabilities. Over 500 people participated in the event.

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston, Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton, Alma Ellis

Disability Partnerships Day at the Capitol

This event was a disability-focused collaboration to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities to Mississippi legislators on March 17, 2015. Topical information was disseminated to 252 people.

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston

National Disability Employment Awareness Month/National Disability Mentoring Day Celebration

This October 2014, event was held to promote employment opportunities and options for youth with disabilities. Fifty-two youth with disabilities participated in a various events on the Southern Miss campus including a tour of the post office, tour of the radio station, lunch at Fresh Food and a Dance Celebration presentation by the College of Art.

Jin Joo M. Crosby

Project SEARCH Career Fair

This event was held in Hattiesburg on April 6, 2015. Petal High School, Oak Grove High School, and Hattiesburg High School students with disabilities participated in this career fair to find employment opportunities with area businesses. A total of 86 students participated in the event which provided the students an opportunity to build employable skills.

Alma Ellis, Dr. Rebekah Young, Dr. Jerry R. Alliston

Disability Partners Community Forums

Joint community forums held annually with DD Network partners—Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Mississippi. In 2014, forums were held in Southaven, Hattiesburg and Philadelphia on August 7, 14 and 19, 2015, respectively. These forums provide resources and allow community input on disability issues.

Alma Ellis, Keishawna Smith

Disability Awareness Day at the Capitol

This annual event held February 11, 2015, allowed advocates and organizations to participate in a day-long display and meet with state legislators. More than 200 people attended.

Shelley Ezelle

Early Years Network: Allies For Quality Care Directors Meeting

A meeting was held in Hinds County on February 26, 2015, with early childhood child care directors to provide information regarding the services provided by the program. Programs presented included:

Special Needs Credential, Directors Training, Technical Assistance and Trainings, and Parent Navigation.

Shelley Ezelle, Leslie LaVergne
Parent Advocacy Council Meeting/The Arc State Legislation Meeting/Armed Forces Community Information Fair/Autism Parent Support Group Meetings were held October 14, November 12, and November 13, 2014 and March 21, 2015, respectively, with various agencies and families to discuss the Early Years Network: Special Needs Program with an emphasis on Parent Navigation and Developmental Screenings.

Shelley Ezelle
Early Years Network: Allies for Quality Care Parent Meeting
A meeting was held March 31, 2015, with child care facilities and their families to discuss the Early Years Network: Special Needs Program with an emphasis on Parent Navigation and Developmental Screenings.

Cassie Hicks, Jesse Davis, Fran Dear
NSP Homebuyer Advantage Parade of Homes
This community housing event was held on January 17, 2015, to showcase the IDS Neighborhood Stabilization Program's newly renovated homes in Jackson. Over 100 residents attended and were given an opportunity to purchase affordable homes.

Amanda McNeil
Project Recovery RRH Program Support
Program support was provided at the PCC Meeting on March 13, 2015, in McComb through dissemination and program presentation. A program was presented and materials were disseminated at Lincoln County Health Department monthly departmental meeting on March 31, 2015. A vendor booth was manned and a presentation was made on May 15,

2015, at Multicounty bi-monthly orientation.
Keishawna Smith, Alma Ellis

Empower Yourself, Improve Your Health Minorities Health Disparities Awareness Day

This event was held on April 30, 2015, at the Jackson Medical Mall. Sessions covered information about Sickle Cell Disease, Diabetes, and healthy eating habits for individuals with chronic illness.

Tanya Smith, DeMetra Bates

2014 Diversity Dash

Held on November 21, 2014, this event took place on the University of Southern Mississippi. The Shelter For All Program partnered with the USM Master's Level Program on a 5k run. All donations from this event went toward the homeless families being served by IDS.

Heather Steele, Cassie Hicks

Hattiesburg Community Housing Resource Fair

The housing fair held June 4, 2015, showcased product, services and resources available to families of Hattiesburg and surrounding areas seeking assistance to purchase a home or mortgage assistance to keep their home from foreclosure. Consumers received information regarding home loans, available grants, legal services, and more.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Jerry R. Alliston

- Chair of the Community Education and Dissemination Council for the Association of University Centers on Disability
- Disability Studies Working Group, Interdisciplinary Studies, USM
- Executive Board Member of the Association of University Centers of Disability
- President, Association for Talent Development
- Secretary for Association for People

Supporting Employment First of Mississippi

Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton

- Board member, Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Disability Studies Working Group, Interdisciplinary Studies, USM
- Forrest County Multidisciplinary Assessment and Planning (MAP) Team
- Lamar County Multidisciplinary Assessment and Planning (MAP) Team
- Mental Health Aspects of Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities Special Interest Group (SIG), Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD)
- Research consultant, Asbury Fellowship, School of Nursing, USM

Jin Joo M. Crosby

- Foster Grand Parent Senior Corp Advisory Council
- Hattiesburg Public School Parent Assembly Council

Stephanie Farris

- Mississippi Early Childhood Association Executive Board - Northwest Member-At-Large,

Dr. Mina Li

- Multicultural Council, Association of University Centers on Disability
- Research Council, Association of University Centers on Disability
- Southeastern Health Equity Council

Dr. Alicia Westbrook

- Council on Community Literacy and Reading

Dr. Rebekah Young

- Research consultant, Asbury Fellowship, School of Nursing, USM

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- DeMetra Bates- American Planning Association

- Nicole Briceno - Mississippi Early Childhood Association

- Alma Ellis - Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities, Mississippi disAbility MegaConference Board

- Stephanie Farris- Mississippi Early Childhood Association, National Accreditation for the Education of Young Children

- Ann Henson - Mississippi Early Childhood Association, Southern Early Childhood Association

- Cassie Hicks - Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas, Mississippi Economic Council, United Way of Southeast MS, BancorpSouth/ The First Bank Advisory Council, Area Development Partnership

- Keishawna A. Smith - Mississippi disAbility MegaConference Board, City of Jackson ADA Advisory Council, Hinds County Human Resource Agency Policy Council

- Heather Steele - Bancorp South Advisory Council, The First Bank Advisory Council

- Dr. Rebekah Young-American Public Health Association, Education Law Association, Mississippi Public Health Association, Mississippi Rural Health Association

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Ryan Arnold - Master's Level Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member

- Kimbell Bingham - STEP UP Council member

- Jasmine Blackwell - Bachelor's Level Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member

- Dusty Crawford - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps member, STEP UP Council member

- Wendy Davenport – Housing Graduate Assistant (Jackson Office)
- Victoria Moore - Social Work Intern (USM School of Social Work)- Project Recovery
- Mauri Gunnell - Master’s Level Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member
- Audora Hill - Undergraduate Social Work volunteer, STEP UP Council member
- Katelin Holmes - STEP UP Council member
- Ashley Moffett- Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program, graduate assistantship
- Alanna Buckley- Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program, graduate assistantship
- Kerri Inmon - Undergraduate Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member
- Shaque Jeffries - Undergraduate Social Work intern
- LaQuanna Listrunk - Master’s Level Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member
- Jefria Jones - Undergraduate Social Work intern
- Kathleen LeHigh - Master’s Level Library Science intern
- Hannah Littlejohn - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member
- Michaiah Lopez - Undergraduate Social Work volunteer, STEP UP Council member
- April Mayfield - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member

- Megan Metcalfe - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member
- Jaz Morton - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member
- LaToya Olive - Undergraduate Social Work intern, STEP UP Council member
- Kimberly Packwood - Undergraduate Social Work volunteer
- Christin Petters - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps
- Chanchez Smith - STEP UP Council member
- Victoria Wilson - Work Study student
- Delaney Kent- Work Study student
- Lonnie Craig - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member
- Mercedes Chao - TRIAD Service AmeriCorps, STEP UP Council member
- Tymaiya Gray- Undergraduate Biological Sciences office assistant
- Devin Bellman- STEP UP Council member Gulf Park, Coastal Civitan member
- Tyler Edwards- STEP UP Council faculty advisor

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dr. Beth Bryant-Claxton
 Graduate, National Leadership Consortium
 on Developmental Disabilities, University of
 Delaware
 June 2015



Press

IDS IN THE NEWS

HOYO - Homebuyer Education Workshop Press Releases (2014, July to 2015, June) Ellis, Alma
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/mississippi-home-your-own-homebuyer-workshop-set-west-point-1>
Press releases for 19 homebuyer education workshops held during the fiscal year in locations around the state.

Sen. Cochran Tours Educational, Community Resources at Southern Miss Gulf Park Campus (2014, August) Schmermund, Charmaine Williams
<http://www.usm.edu/news/node/7218>
News story highlighting Dr. Rebekah Young leading a tour of IDS GP facilities and discussing adaptive recreation programs.

Family to Family Press Release (2014, September) Ellis, Alma; Smith, Keishawna
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/new-family-family-parentfamily-liaison-links-families-children-special-health-care-needs-hea>
Press release about F2F program and new Parent Coordinator Shawn Smith.

Bryant-Claxton Named Executive Director of IDS (2014, October) Ellis, Alma
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/bryant-claxton-named-executive-director-ids-southern-miss>
Press release naming Dr. Bryant-Claxton as new executive director.

IDS Gulf Park - New Name for IDS Gulf Park (2014, October) Ellis, Alma
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/southern-miss-institute-disability-studies-has-new-name>
Press release announcing new name for IDS Gulf Park facility (formerly Technology Learning Center).

IDS Gulf Park - National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) Press Release (2014, October) Flowers, Ashley-Nicole
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/southern-miss-institute-disability-studies-gulf-park-joins-broad-effort-observe-national-dis>
Press release on annual observance of NDEAM.

Teamwork Supports Staff and Mission at IDS (2014, October) Ellis, Alma; Alliston, Jerry
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/team-work-supports-staff-and-mission-institute-disability-studies>
Press release about National Disability Employment Awareness Month and support staff at IDS.

HOYO - Jean Jones Named Housing Initiative Partner of the Year (2014, November) Ellis, Alma
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/jean-jones-named-2014-housing-initiative-partner-year-institute-disability-studies>
Press release naming Jean Jones IDS Housing Initiative Partner of the Year for 2014.

Alliston Elected to National Board (2014, November) Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/southern-miss-ids-coordinator-alliston-elected-national-board>

Press release announcing Dr. Jerry Alliston's election to AUCD Board

MFHIP Fair Housing Workshop to be Held in Long Beach (2014, November) Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/institute-disability-studies-hold-free-fair-housing-workshop-long-beach>

Press release announcement of fair housing workshop in Long Beach for Mississippi Fair Housing Initiatives Program funded by the Mississippi Development Authority.

NSP - MS Home Corporation, City of Jackson Press Conference (2015, January) Bryant-Claxton, Beth; Davis, Jesse; Hicks, Cassie Neighborhood press conference with Jackson Mayor Tony Yarber on NSP/MHC partnership

NSP - MS Home Corporation, City of Jackson Clarion Ledger Newspaper Article (2015, January 17) Davis, Jesse

<http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2015/01/16/city-wants-sell-homes-million-spent/21894577/>

Online and front page article (Saturday, January 17) about press conference and NSP program homes

NSP - Television News Segments from MHC, COJ Press Conference (2015, January) Davis, Jesse Davis interviewed at the MS Home Corporation/City of Jackson press conference for news segments that appeared on WLBT and WJTV on Fri., Jan. 17-Sat., Jan. 18, 2015.

Project Recovery - Rapid Re-housing Program Provides Services for Homeless Women, Children (2015, January 29)

<http://news.usm.edu/article/project-recovery-rapid-re-housing-program-provides-ser>

[vices-homeless-women-children](#)

WDAM Midday Report (2015, February), McNeil, Amanda Amanda McNeil interviewed live about Project Recovery Program.

MHC/CC - Credit Education Workshop Press Release (2015, March) Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/free-credit-education-workshop-set-march-26-tupelo>

Press release for credit education workshop.

MHC/CC - Renter Education Workshop Press Release (2015, March) Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/free-renter-education-workshop-set-march-24-meridian>

Press release for credit education workshop

CORE/Southeastern Health Equity Council (SHEC) - Youth Health Equity Fellow, (2015, April), Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/institute-disability-studies-host-2015-youth-health-equity-fellow>

Press release naming Lavonne Brown as SHEC fellow.

MSPE - House Bill 836 to Provide New Direction for Employment of People with Disabilities (2015, April) Ellis, Alma

<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/house-bill-836-provide-new-direction-employment-people-disabilities-mississippi-communities>

Press release about passage of House Bill 836 on competitive employment for people with disabilities.

Family to Family - Television News Segment (2015, April) Smith, Keishawna A.

Shawn Smith interviewed at the Jackson Medical Mall at the 2015 Minorities Health Disparities Awareness Day for news segments that appeared on WLBT and WJTV on Thur., April 30, 2015.

MSPE - Competitive Employment Act (2015, May), Ellis, Alma; Alliston, Jerry
Ellis, A. (n.d.). Competitive Employment Act Signals Improved Opportunities for people with Disabilities. Southern Miss Now.
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/competitive-employment-act-signals-improved-opportunities-people-disabilities>
Press release on signing of Competitive Employment Act for People with Disabilities by Governor.

HOYO - Hattiesburg Housing Fair Press Release (2015, May) Ellis, Alma; Steele, Heather; Hicks, Cassie
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/free-housing-fair-set-june-4-national-homeownership-month>
Press release detailing information about June 4 housing event.

LEND Students Complete Program Press Release (2015, May) Bruton, Beth
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/southern-miss-students-complete-extensive-leadership-training-program>
Press release naming students who completed LEND program.

Midday Mississippi Interview (COJ) (2015, June). Dear, Franzetta
Fran Dear interviewed on WLBT Midday MS about the City of Jackson Housing program on June 9, 2015.

WLEZ FM Interview (2015, June) Dear, Franzetta
Fran Dear interviewed on WLEZ FM with Jim Pollard about the City of Jackson housing program on June 3, 2015.

Project Search Hosts Job Fair (2015, June), Ellis, Alma and Crosby, Jin Joo
<http://www.usm.edu/news/article/project-search-program-southern-miss-hosts-job-fair>
News article covering a job fair hosted by IDS at The University of Southern Mississippi's Hattiesburg campus to promote the hiring of young adults with disabilities.

Project SEARCH Mississippi (UCEDD MS) (2015, March 2), Crosby, Jin Joo and Ellis, Alma
http://www.aucd.org/ecp/template/news.cfm?news_id=11020&parent=0&parent_title=AUCDigest:%20to%20be%20done&url=/ecp/template/news_mgt.cfm?type%3D406%26topic%3D204
Press release on Project SEARCH.

Institute for Disability Studies

www.usm.edu/disability-studies

<https://www.facebook.com/msusmids>

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