

Pathways to Permanency: FOSTERING FAMILIES



"Mississippi's children are our future workforce, parents, caretakers, taxpayers, lawmakers, social workers, and teachers... I believe Mississippi's children are our future, and our future depends on what happens to them now."

-Commissioner Andrea Sanders

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October Support Group Listings
- 2025 Replanted Conference November 8-9 at Hope Church Tupelo
- 2025 Children's Mental Health Conference October 30 at Lincoln Co. Civic Center
- Check with your <u>local MDCPS</u>
 <u>office</u> to see if they might be
 hosting a community Trunk or Treat!

GOOD NEWS

- <u>Canopy Children's Solutions</u> broke ground on the expansion of their CARES Center in Jackson.
- 579 children were adopted and found their <u>forever families</u> from July 2024 -June 2025!
- Sunnybrook's new <u>Transportation & Driving Pilot Program</u> is opening doors across Mississippi.

Faces of Foster Care: Kim & Ric Jordan



"In 2017, after hearing a radio article about the need for foster parents in Mississippi, we sold our home and moved to start our foster care journey. Never did I think this would lead us to move to the Jackson Metro area in the heart of Mississippi. When I help a child in care, I get to walk alongside a family to advocate for a better future. In my opinion, helping vulnerable children is the number one thing we can do today to have a better world tomorrow."

The Jordans are also <u>Angels in Adoption</u> Honorees for 2025.



Tips & Tools

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Check out these tips to help teach your kids to be safe online.

Cybersecurity Tips for Parents

Community Corner

Thanks to the amazing team at MHS Mobile
Dental, foster youth received free dental care right here at State Office. From cleanings to cavity checks, they made every child feel seen, safe, and cared for.



Faces of Foster Care Feature

Do you want to be featured in the newsletter or give someone else a shoutout? Send us a brief, encouraging statement about someone who has positively impacted your foster care journey or a memorable moment about your own experience with foster care.

Faces of Foster Care Form

Updates & Reminders

- There are some important changes to <u>foster parent licensing</u>. For more info on foster care licensure, email <u>fprecruitment@mdcps.ms.gov.</u>
- Foster Parent Bill of Rights
- There are now six <u>licensed foster</u> care agencies in addition to MDCPS.

Contact Us

- fprecruitment@mdcps.ms.gov
- 1-800-821-9157





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