



Healthy Teens. Happy Teens.

WHO WE ARE. WHAT WE DO. WHO WE SERVE.

TEEN HEALTH
MISSISSIPPI





TEEN HEALTH MISSISSIPPI STORY.

The birth of Teen Health Mississippi can be attributed to the development of Creating Healthy and Responsible Teens (CHART) sex education program in the early years of Mississippi First. Though many policymakers were vocal advocates for better teen health, it was a federal funding opportunity that sparked the CHART initiative. CHART has now reached thousands of students in the Magnolia State. From the growth of the CHART initiative, we became keenly aware of the need to expand our work:

1. Engaging youth advocates and community stakeholders to increase awareness of important policies relating to teen sexual health, and
2. Providing training and resources to develop the capacity of youth-serving adults and organizations to effectively implement research-based strategies, programs, and services that are guided by key positive youth development practices.

OUR MISSION.

Teen Health Mississippi ensures that all Mississippi teens have access to high-quality sex education and youth-friendly healthcare services.

All of Teen Health Mississippi's work is conducted in partnership with youth and falls within three primary domains: **policy and advocacy, training and capacity building, and programs and initiatives.**

OUR LEADERSHIP.

Welcome to Teen Health Mississippi! At the start of 2019, Teen Health Mississippi will be a standalone nonprofit with offices in Jackson, Mississippi and Clarksdale, Mississippi. This exciting transition has been two years in the making. We are so grateful to our parent organization, Mississippi First, for their guidance and foresight to know that one day we would be able to better serve the youth of Mississippi if we were an independent organization. **Our future is bright!** We will

continue our partnerships with the Mississippi State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We will expand our trainings to reach even more practitioners, teachers, parents, and youth-serving providers across the state. We will work with policy makers, school districts, and youth to make sure more students have access to comprehensive sex education. Teen Health Mississippi is an organization founded to best serve our youth. Everything we create and do is driven by our youth partners. They serve on our board, run the Mississippi Youth Council,

and provide ongoing advice on all our projects.

Please continue to follow us!
Our journey is just beginning.



HOPE CRENSHAW
Executive Director

OUR TEAM.



JOSH MCCAWLEY
Deputy Director

Josh provides issue education and advocacy for local- and state-level policies related to teen sexual and reproductive health. He provides district advocacy for the CHART sex education policy, grades K-5 human growth and development education curricula, and other professional development opportunities.



MONICA COLEMAN
Director of Education and Training

Monica supports THMS's efforts to expand access to and improve the quality of sex education and youth-friendly healthcare services for teens in Mississippi. She also monitors and evaluates systems for THMS's education and training efforts while supporting the strategic growth of the organization.



JUSTIN LOFTON
Youth Engagement Coordinator

Justin coordinates the Mississippi Youth Council, a group of passionate youth activists to support and promote high-quality comprehensive sex education for all young people. He oversees the coordination of Mississippi Youth Summit, an advocacy meeting where young people learn advocacy skills to fight for issues important to them.

OUR BOARD.

Marni von Wilpert,
Board Chair

Jacqueline Smith,
Board Member

Jamie Sproles,
Board Member

Kathryn Carroll,
Board Member

Holly Smith,
Board Member

Sanford Johnson,
Board Member

Triuna Taylor,
Board Member

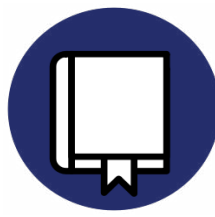
HOW WE WORK.

Our work is organized into 3 different domains: **policy and advocacy, training and capacity building, and programs and initiatives.**



Policy and Advocacy

Teen Health Mississippi is dedicated to championing public policies that ensure optimal sexual health for every Mississippi teen. We engage youth as advocates for high-quality sex education as well as affordable, confidential, and research-based youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services.



Training and Capacity Building

Teen Health Mississippi provides training and resources to build the capacity of youth-serving adults and organizations to effectively implement research-based strategies, programs, and services that are guided by key positive youth development practices.



Programs and Initiatives

Teen Health Mississippi develops and implements programs and initiatives that ensure that Mississippi teens are empowered with the essential knowledge, skills, and resources to make informed decisions about their sexual health. We work with youth-serving adults and organizations to ensure they have the capacity to address the unique sexual health needs of Mississippi teens.

OUR HISTORY.

2010

In partnership with the Mississippi State Department of Health, Mississippi First launched the Creating Healthy and Responsible Teens (CHART) sex education initiative, starting our work in teen health.

2013

In 2013, Mississippi was named a WISE (Working to Institutionalize Sex Education) state. Mississippi First was awarded funding to implement WISE in Mississippi.

2014

Mississippi First founded the Mississippi Youth Council (MYCouncil). Mississippi First hired its first full-time employee to focus on teen health. They would become a founding staff member of Teen Health Mississippi.

2015

New funding helped Mississippi First continue to expand its teen health work and hire another full-time staff member. Mississippi First received a CDC grant and launched Focused Pregnancy Prevention for Mississippi Teens (Focus4Teens).

2016

Mississippi First formed Teen Health Mississippi and expanded the team to 5 full-time staff.

2017

Teen Health Mississippi began the spin-off process in order to become a standalone nonprofit.



OUR 2018.

TRAININGS.

We trained 363 teachers and askable adults this year! We offer a variety of trainings that address the following topics: Core Skills in Sex Education, LGBTQ, Cyberbullying, Self-Esteem and Body Confidence, Adolescent Development, How to Have 'The Talk' with Teens, and 21st Century Classroom Management.

POLICY AND ADVOCACY.

The majority of our policy and advocacy work is dedicated to the Mississippi Sex Education Law. We work with the Mississippi Youth Council and stakeholders from across the state to advocate for policies and increase access to high-quality sex education and youth-friendly healthcare across the state.

PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES.

We work with youth-serving adults and organizations to ensure they have the capacity to address the unique sexual health needs of Mississippi teens. Our programs include *Focus4Teens*, *CHART*, *Grades K-5 Human Growth and Development*, *LinkedUp*, and *ME. (Mind Elevation.)*

VISIT TEENHEALTHMS.ORG TO LEARN MORE.

WHO WE SERVE.

All our work is dedicated to youth. Youth are the foundation of all our trainings, policy and advocacy, and programs and initiatives. Our formal partnerships include the Mississippi Youth Council (MYCouncil), MYSummit, and MYVoice. We also make sure that youth serve in leadership positions (even on our Board of Directors!) and we are often hosting focus groups with youth to discuss our work and strategic planning.





DONATE TODAY!

You can donate today at teenhealthms.org, mail your gift to **125 S. Congress Street, Suite 1224, Jackson, MS 39201**, or call our Executive Director at **601.487.1228** for more information on how you can make a difference at Teen Health Mississippi.

To stay-up-to-date on our initiatives, follow us on social media or online at teenhealthms.org.