



TEEN HEALTH
MISSISSIPPI
T H M S

Annual Report 2022



WHO WE ARE

MISSION

Teen Health Mississippi's mission is to ensure that all young people in Mississippi have access to high-quality sex education and youth-friendly healthcare services.

VISION

We hold before us the vision of healthier communities where young people have access to essential knowledge, skills, resources, and support so they may grow into healthy adults and move communities forward.



"Teen Health Mississippi is definitely ... giving me hope that we can empower our peers, we can empower our family, our communities. I'm really proud to be a part of that." —Shelby Spain, MYCouncil youth partner

OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Teen Health Mississippi uses a 360-degree youth partnership model to increase access to sex education and youth-friendly reproductive healthcare. We then work with trusted adults (parents, educators, counselors, healthcare providers, etc.) to empower youth to make informed decisions for their lives. We are an inclusive organization anchored in the universal principles of fairness, respect, and equity for all. We serve whole communities because when youth are healthy, whole communities benefit.



A LOOK AT YOUTH PROGRAMS

MYCouncil teaches youth about advocacy and policy-making. Annually, about 20 youth attend Capitol Day and have met with as many as 60 legislators about sex ed and youth-friendly health care. Members have co-authored 3 bills and met with peers to discuss youth SRH, sex ed, and more.



MYSummit is a 2-day advocacy and civic engagement training led by youth. Starting with **27** youth in 2019 and growing to **75** in 2022, youth identify problems and create solutions. Projects funded by MYSummit's seed grants have included wellness events focusing on mental and sexual health.

Project ME. and **MYVoice** are peer-to-peer projects that link youth to factual information about their sexual and mental health. These projects have reached over half a million online and provided over **12,000** supports through resource guides, sexual health supplies, and youth-led training.



MYInnovation uses **human-centered design, peer support, and civic engagement** to expand access to healthcare and treatment for youth living with or at risk of getting HIV. Innovators will begin their design sprints and prototyping in early 2023.

More2Me is a 4-week program designed to support youth in the justice system regarding sexual health, goal setting, and social networks. The project has been piloted with **18** youth and **3** trusted adults in New Mexico and the MS Delta. The next phase is rigorous evaluation in 2023.



TESTIMONIALS

"I work with Teen Health Mississippi because I see a difference that this organization is making. I see the youth who are being educated, who are being involved in this work, and they're going on to either serve on our board or they're working in education or they're working in health, so I see the long-term impact that this work is going to have."
—Sanford Johnson, THMS board member

"Working with Teen Health Mississippi and Project ME., my life has changed drastically. I know so much more than I used to, as well as I'm providing great information for my peers, family members, school members, teachers, parents, etc."
—Zakyla Chapman, Project ME. influencer

"Being a part of Project ME. and THMS has impacted my life greatly. It has taught me the importance of raising awareness in my communities, schools, and to my peers about sexual health and mental health and much more of that nature beyond just health." —A'Davion Bush, THMS youth partner

The youth are the next generation. This is going to be stuff that everybody on the ME. project can tell their kids, like, "Hey, I was on this project, and I learned this and that about safer sex, so now I can share this information with you, and you can share with your friends." ... That's information that you can keep passing on and passing on and passing on. Adults working with youth is going to help the people that are coming next." —MaKena Bailey, THMS youth partner

"Because of THMS, I want to work in the reproductive health-care and sex education space for the rest of my life. ... THMS helped me realize what I was meant to do with my life."
—THMS youth partner

“Working with THMS and @mindelevationms has impacted my life in so many ways. Not only have I got to meet new people who know so much about the programs and the information that we work with, but I’ve also gotten to spread the knowledge that I learned to people my age to better our community as a whole.” —Kayle Amos, youth partner

"I work with Teen Health Mississippi because I want to see Mississippi be better. Teen Health has a vision for the future, and that future is very much needed by youth and by everybody in Mississippi today. They have the passion, they have the drive, and that's why I'm here." —Germany Gray, board member and youth partner alumni



SELF-
CONTROL

SOCIAL
INTELLIGENCE

MISSISSIPPI
YOUTH
SUMMIT
2019

Unconventional Advocacy

Lead.

Think.

Create.

Inspire.

5
TEEN HEALTH
MISSISSIPPI
1009
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



SCAN ME

**2017-2022
Years of
Impact**

5-Year Impact by Numbers

Youth Voice



2,000+ in Youth
Activist Network

High-Quality Sex Ed for All Young People



3 Sex Ed Bills
co-authored by youth

Making An Impact



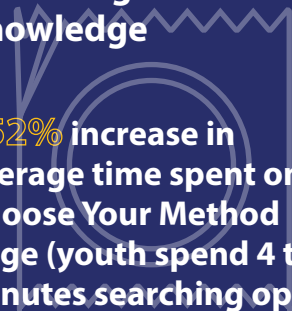
1,067 youth served
through our Emergency
Relief Fund in 2020 at
the height of COVID-19

Resources for Youth



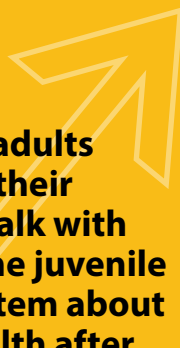
56,602 resources
booklets downloaded
and distributed

Increasing Knowledge



152% increase in
average time spent on
Choose Your Method
page (youth spend 4 to 10
minutes searching op-
tions)

More2Me



100% of adults
increased their
ability to talk with
youth in the juvenile
justice system about
sexual health after
training

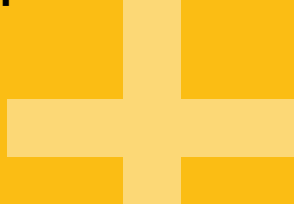
FY2022 by the Numbers

Creating Waves of Change



**First In-Person
Mobilizing Youth
Summit Since 2019**

Mental Health Impacts Sexual Health



**90% of staff trained
in Mental Health
First Aid**



**600 ME. Resource Guides
distributed**

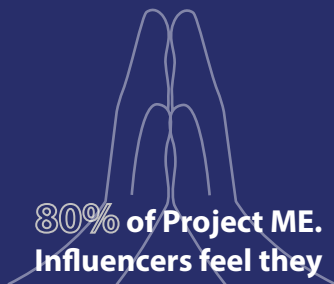
**1,345 LinkedUp resource
guides distributed**

**1,183 PAF resource guides
distributed**

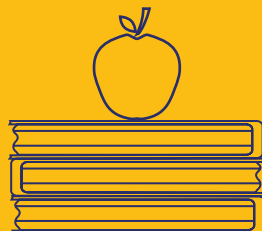


**890,348
digital reach**

**1,321 Choose Your
Method website
Method Card clicks**



**80% of Project ME.
Influencers feel they
are making a
meaningful impact.**



**MYSummit
participants gave the
event a score of 4.7/5.**

A LOOK AT TRAINING PROGRAMS

The **THMS Training Cadre** explores established, inaccurate narratives about sexual health and challenges them with healthy, positive, and inclusive community conversations. The Cadre supports communities in developing culturally relevant solutions, shaping new narratives and creating key messaging that support youth and the wider community. To date, we've trained 1,849 adults on our curricula topics listed below. Topics include: Expectant and Parenting Youth, Parent Training Series, Trusted Adult Training Series, Foundations in Sex Education, LGBTQ Inclusivity Training Series



Mental Health Trainings: THMS has conducted 7 AMHFA and YMHFA trainings for youth-serving professionals and community members. In 2023, we will train teachers at Jackson Public Schools, with a potential reach of up to 20,000+ students.


Our **Youth Friendly Healthcare Training Series** works to increase youth access to sexual and reproductive healthcare, educating practitioners on confidentiality and consent laws, barriers to youth friendly healthcare, other topics to support youth access to high quality healthcare. From 2019 to 2022, 1,042 current and future healthcare providers have received information about youth-friendly healthcare.



Voices for Healthy Youth will establish mental health policies and provide trainings to youth and adults in Harrison and Gulfport Counties. Initial phases of power mapping and narrative exploration have begun and trainings are set for 2023. This project is set to impact up to 16,478 students.



2023 and Beyond: A Focus on Narrative and Advocacy



Advocacy and Civic Engagement

- Increasing youth engagement politically and civically across all youth programs.
- Addressing Young Adult Voter Registration through all programs.
- Establishing the Young Adults' Guide to Civic Engagement to be distributed along with other youth material.

Meaningful Narrative Development

- Creating cohesive new campaign messaging created by youth, for youth regarding contraceptive access.
- Encourage use of narrative and storytelling as a means to engage young people, community leaders, clinicians, and legislators regarding access to better SRH services.

Contraceptive Access

- Further promoting Choose Your Method website among 13-24 year olds.
- Teaching clinicians and nurse practitioners to use Choose Your Method as a teaching tool.
- Increasing distribution of Safer Sex Kits and other SRH resource material.

**We made it to 5
years, but we're
not done.**



This year, we're celebrating 5 years of Teen Health MS. Since 2017, we have been working hard to improve sex education, youth-friendly healthcare, and adolescent mental health. Each year, new cohorts of youth leaders have shaped our work. With our youth, supporters, funders, and staff, thousands of young people have new access to trusted adults, medically accurate information, and youth friendly healthcare. We made it to five years, but we're far from done.

THANK YOU!

We'd like to thank our donors and supporters. It's because of you that we can look ahead to the next five years and continue impacting the lives of young people and their communities. Donate at teenhealthms.org or mail a check to THMS at 125 S. Congress St., Suite 1330, Jackson, MS 39201.

The FY 2022 audited financial statement will be posted to teenhealthms.org in the beginning of 2023



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