



Mississippi Families
for Kids



IMPACT REPORT

2022 Year In Review



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

MFFK SUPPORTERS,

This first year as Executive Director of Mississippi Families for Kids has been exciting and full of growth. In the short span of 12 months, we have been able to establish and develop meaningful partnerships to create a far-reaching impact in the state. We have set record numbers in fundraising and family support as well as received special recognition for our work with children and families. I am honored to have the privilege of leading a team of professionals who have set the standard for provider and community engagement.

The mission of Mississippi Families for Kids is to ensure the permanence and well-being of children and families through educational development, specialized training, and community-based services. We have carried that mission throughout 2022 as we worked to provide wraparound services to families seeking placement, families needing social support to maintain permanency, and those interested in supporting families through direct service or advocacy. Social services, early intervention, and mental health are top priorities for the agency as we strive to make sure families and communities have the support they need to reach their fullest potential.

I'd like to acknowledge the Board of Mississippi Families for Kids, who have been instrumental in ensuring that we not only provide quality services but continue to enhance service provision through programmatic growth. We have been able to accomplish this goal by increasing service delivery, equipping staff with the necessary tools through professional development, and expanding our visibility within the community through various media streams. The agency thrives with the support of several entities including the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, the MS Department of Child Protection Services, the MS Department of Health, Wendy's franchisees, private funders, and individual donors.

In 2022, we were able to leverage the Children Are Reaching Expectations (CARE) program funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) to implement behavioral health programs in identified Jackson Public Schools. We were also successful in expanding the reach of Help Me Grow by providing statewide screenings. Staff members have presented all over the nation from the MS Department of Mental Health's Trauma-informed Care Conference to the Help Me Grow National Forum. Other new endeavors include a grant from the Office of the Attorney General to receive professional development in trauma-informed care to enhance services to victims of human trafficking; the MS Department of Health has increased support for respite services; and we were able to conduct a series of camps for youth with a grant from CT3. [We have been recognized for our community impact by the Wendy's Community Foundation and received the honor of "Non-Profit of the Year" from the Mississippi Business Journal.](#)

We continue to work with children and youth as well as families to find and maintain permanency through adoption services, counseling, parent and professional training, developmental resources, kinship care, respite services, and other outreach efforts. None of this would be possible without the support of our stakeholders like you. It is because of the support of each of you - whether big or small, financial or in-kind - that MFFK continues to thrive. This year has been a momentous one. Thank you for joining us in creating a more healthy, inclusive, and empowering Mississippi that will make a difference for generations to come.

SINCEREST THANKS,

Nadeane Cattrell



NADEANE CATTRELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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ABOUT US

Vision

To make a large impact on the permanency and well-being of Mississippi's families and children

Values

Inclusiveness

Collaboration

Compassion

Innovation

Transparency

Empowerment



OUR SERVICES

Our mission

Since our non-profit inception in 1998, we've had the same goal: **provide Mississippi with free or at cost permanency planning programs that promote stronger families and a more engaged and informed community.**

MFFK offers educational development opportunities, training, activities, and support like counseling to families and children so children can stay in their family of origin or find a forever home.

The "normal" family model isn't so normal after all.

Families can look like:

- Kinship Care Families
- Foster Families
- Adoption Families
- Mixed or Blended Families



Adoption & Foster Care Training & Placement

- **Wendy's Workforce Development** adoption program
- **Adoption and Foster Care** licensing and support



Family & Child Counseling & Support

- **Respite Care** for children and youth with special health care needs
- **Children Are Reaching Expectations Program (CARE)** for ages zero-eighteen
- **Incredible Years Therapeutic Program** for ages three-five to teach conflict resolution
- **Relatives Raising Others' Children** kinship care services
- **General counseling** for individuals, families, and groups with children ages three-twenty-one



Developmental Care Services

- **Help Me Grow** developmental screenings and support funded by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation
- **Rated Positive Girls** youth development program for ages six-twelve
- **Real (Realizing Excellence Among Leaders) Fly Guys** leadership support group for ages six-twelve



Advocacy

- **Black Family Summit**
- **Early Childhood Development Initiative**



20
22





IMPACT

OVER 5,000
MISSISSIPIANS
IMPACTED
IN 2022



Family & Child Counseling & Support



Developmental Care Services

15

CARE sites established

150

Children receiving
counseling

341

Children, families, and educators served
through the CARE program

68

Parents and grandparents
being supported through
Relatives Raising Others'
Children

358

Children served through Help Me Grow

351

Developmental screenings
completed through
Help Me Grow

460

Impacted by
Respite Care

310 hrs

Of training given to caregivers,
providers, and educators

BY THE NUMBERS

225

Families being served to
foster or adopt

6

Children/youth
matched with
potential families

4

Families
licensed

1

Reunification

16 referred and trained, 3 hired, 14
representatives throughout the state

Wendy's Workforce Development Job Program for
foster care children

2

Government supported
programs- CARE &
trauma-informed care for
victims of human trafficking

1

New award- Non-Profit of
the Year from the MS Business
Journal

2

Youth
Leadership
Camps held

2

National Presentations on
Mental Health



Adoption & Foster Care Training & Placement



Advocacy



MFFK SERVICES IN ACTION

We decided to grow our family through adoption in Fall of 2019. We contacted MFFK to complete our home study so we could make our dream a reality.

God answered our 8-year prayer for a child, and January 7, 2021, we received the call that we were matched with Rachel. It was an instant connection. We made the drive from Mississippi to Louisiana almost every weekend for the next 7 months, and we finally got to bring her home in August 2021. That was the day that it felt real.

We began to have every morning together and tuck-ins at night. We began to do car rider lines and homework together. We began feeling more like a family on this day because Rachel was FINALLY in her forever home.

March 15, 2022 was our Adoption Day!

We have created so many memories together as a family, and we are forever thankful that we gained our daughter through adoption. Going through infertility, it makes you question if God hears your prayers and if He is truly there for you. Don't lose hope. He has a plan bigger than what you are praying for.

Sincerely,
The Bryant Family



SPENDING COMMITMENT



**Adoption &
Foster Care**
13%



Help Me Grow
49%
(dedicated grant
money included)



**Outreach, Events,
Advocacy, &
Admin**
21%



Counseling
17%

**WHERE OUR
DOLLARS WENT**

"We are living through an unprecedented moment in time, but what gives me hope is our equally unprecedented commitment to responding to the needs of children and families in our state.

Over the past year, individuals and businesses all across our nation have opened their hearts to help those we serve. The Wendy's Community Foundation Award enabled the organization to conduct respite activities for families, provide uniforms and other essentials to children in need, and grow support services for young people in the foster care system. The Levon Owens Scholarship Fund supported the sustainability of families needing emergency assistance. A grant from Amerigroup helped to provide training to staff for direct service delivery. Funding from CT3 allowed us to enhance our Youth Leadership Camp in ways we could never accomplish before. MFFK saw an increase in donors who transformed passion into impact on the cause they care about most by gathering their resources to fundraise on behalf of the organization. We are mindful that every dollar we receive goes to strengthen the families and communities of Mississippi.

While the needs and the incredible potential of our state's children and families have never been greater, every day we see the impact of our efforts. The lasting impactful change we want to see will take time. That is why we are becoming fully equipped to affect change in the long term. We can do this because of the incredible faith and foresight of our staff, Board, donors, partners, and supporters who have made permanent commitments to Mississippi Families for Kids. On behalf of our dedicated and talented Board, I offer my sincere gratitude. Thank you for inspiring us and for joining us in nurturing the success of Mississippi's children together.

Hays Collins- President
Liquid Creative & Wendy's/Perimeter Foods



Pictured:
Hays Collins &
Nadeane Cattrell

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shun Hatten-Secretary
Jackson Convention & Visitor's Bureau

Addy Keith- Member
Community Bank

Anthony McInvale-Member
McInvale Heating, Plumbing & Gas

Chris Gray Sr.- Member
Hinds County Government

Greg Odom-Member
NAPA Auto Parts

Larry Leggett-Member
United Johnson Brothers of MS

Martha Ulmer-Member
Carlisle Corporation

Supriel Hodges-Member
Hope Credit Union

Tamicalyn Foster-Member
Regions Bank

Willie Abston-Member
Abston Law

Yolanda Wilson-Member
Jackson Pediatric Associates

Lisa Smith- Member
Retired

OUR TEAM

There is something special at MFFK. Threaded through our staff's DNA is the ability live out MFFK's values. They are professional, knowledgeable, supportive, welcoming, and a breath of fresh air for children and families that are put in unthinkable situations.

We've seen tremendous growth in our non-profit, which has led us to expand our team. We are excited about offering more programs and services to families now that we have added more licensed therapist, child specialists, and social workers.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Whether you are giving as an individual, group, or business, you make our services possible. Each dollar directly funds our services, programs, and events.

Thank you for your commitment to Mississippi families in 2022!



Wendy's Community Foundation

Wendy's has been an unwavering supporter of MFFK. In 2022, their Community Foundation gave \$5,000 to be put towards community service. We appreciate their consistent dedication to making sure our children and families are taken care of!



CT3

We'd like to formally thank CT3 for their generous contribution of \$40,000 to our Youth Leadership Camp. Their donation made a huge impact for hundreds of students in the Jackson area at camps where they learned about mental health, financial management, healthy relationships, cultural competency, and more!



Good Men of Golf Association

Thank you to the Good Men of Golf Association for their contribution of \$2,000 dollars to our services and their effort to spread awareness about our non-profit. They have also chosen MFFK as their charity of choice for 2023! Thank you for your commitment to children and families!



Amerigroup

We'd like to give a round of applause to the Americogroup who gave \$15,000 to our training and emergency assistance efforts. Because of their donation, we are able to make a large impact on those families that are having the hardest of days!

Our "Homes for the Holidays" for children
in our programs was a huge success.
200+ children given Christmas gifts





mffk.org/donations

General Giving

You can give a one-time donation through our website and choose which area of MFFK you want your donation to go to. You can also set up a fund at MFFK by contacting us.

Sponsorships

We host numerous events throughout the year that you or your business can sponsor including our Youth Leadership Camp, Wendy's Golf Classic, Winter Gala, Homes for the Holidays, and more.

Check out our website or social media for more information.



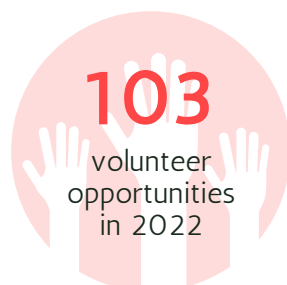
Referrals and third-party giving

Donations don't have to be monetary! We'd love your support by following us on social media, sharing our content, or referring our services to a friend.

You can also choose MFFK as your preferred charity through Amazon and Kroger to support us while you shop, at no cost to you. More information can be found on our website.

Volunteering

We love our volunteers! Your time can make a huge impact. Contact us to learn more.





Mississippi Families
for Kids

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
HERE'S TO CHANGING
LIVES IN 2023!

Learn more



mffk.org | 601.957.7670 | info@mffk.org

