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## MDHS issues request for proposals on \$36 million in services across Mississippi

(Jackson, Miss.) – As part of its ongoing commitment to helping Mississippi families move from a state of crisis to a state of self-sufficiency, the Mississippi Department of Human Services is requesting proposals to provide services in low income, at-risk areas of the state.

The agency will primarily invest Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant dollars, in concert with public and private partners to fund the programs.

"These programs are further examples of our commitment to providing families in their greatest time of need with a greater chance to succeed," said Christopher Freeze, MDHS Executive Director. "We will continually look for ways to efficiently use resources available to assist children and families in need pursue happy and productive lives."

The RFPs will provide services in the following areas:

- Funding for non-profit organizations to implement After School Program Activities in multiple locations, with a priority given to entities that target children and youth attending schools in high poverty/low performing schools or at-risk youth attending schools in high poverty areas where high juvenile justice referrals take place. Emphasis will be placed on assisting students who have been truant, suspended, or expelled to improve academic achievement. The programs will also focus on literacy; academic tutoring services and remedial education activities; career exploration assessment and activities; leadership and personal development; and work-based learning activities. Funding will be in an amount not to exceed \$15 million.
- Effectively and cost-efficiently provide a broad spectrum of Family Dynamics services throughout the State of Mississippi. The purpose of this initiative is to train, educate, encourage, and assist parents in meeting the nurturing, financial, growth and development needs of their children. Funding will be in an amount not to exceed \$6 million.

• Effectively and cost-efficiently provide quality Workforce Training and Education Programs throughout the entire State of Mississippi. The programs will provide education and workforce training programs that target youth ages 16 to 24 and adults ages 18 to 59 who are unemployed or underemployed, by providing adult education, career and technical education and workforce training programs. Funding will be in an amount not to exceed \$15 million.

For more information on the request for proposals, go to the Mississippi Department of Human Services website at https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/subgrant-procurement.

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