



# F.A.C.T.S.

Families and Children Together Succeeding

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**Strengthening Mississippi's Schools, Communities and Families**

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- Dr. Leanne Ross
- Ms. Bess Norville
- Mr. Grady Tucker

## MCEC: Here to Make a Difference

As a result of the Community Education Center originally on the campus of Southern Mississippi University closing in the early 1990's, the Center was reorganized as the **Mississippi Community Education Center (MCEC)** and relocated to Jackson, Mississippi in an effort to continue providing services to the state. The **Mississippi Community Education Center** is a non-profit organization designed to provide schools, communities and families with educational services and training programs on a state-wide basis.

The purpose of **MS Community Education Center** is the promotion, improvement and expansion of communities

through concept development, educational processes, and resource referrals. **MCEC** strives to meet the lifelong learning needs of families by uniting educational and business sectors into a collaboration of talent and services, thus creating a more progressive, healthy community.

As a means of achieving these goals, **MCEC's Families First Resource Center** offers a variety of **FREE** program services, such as workshops, classes and presentations on *abstinence education* (promoting abstinence, character education and healthy choices), *fatherhood initiative* (educating involved, responsible and committed fathers), *healthy marriage initiative*

(marriage skills training to form and sustain healthy marriages) and *parent education* (enriching parenting skills with a focus on parent-child interactions) to schools, churches, community organizations and businesses statewide.

**Mississippi Community Education Center** has impacted the lives of families and children throughout the many years and continues to make a difference in communities statewide. With a new year ahead, **MCEC** looks forward to and is committed to serving Mississippi through various means.

For more information on scheduling a workshop please contact our office at **601-366-6405**.

By Dr. Nancy New Boyll, Executive Direc-

## Executive Director's Desk

Dr. Nancy New Boyll is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Community Education Center. Dr. Boyll received her Bachelor of Science Degree in English Education from the University of Southern MS; a Master of Education from MS State University and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern MS. Dr. Boyll is also the founder and Executive Director of New Learning Resources, New Summit School, and New Learning Resources Online.



Dr. Nancy New Boyll, Executive Director

## Families First: Abstinence Education

This fall has offered MCEC many opportunities to reach the youth of Warren County and bring the message of abstinence to them. In addition to presenting the “Just Wait” program to area high and junior high schools, other organizations have invited us to participate in their programs. The Back to School Pep Rally at the Vicksburg Factory



**Debbie Brumitt, Warren County Trainer**

Outlets kicked off the school year with over 3000 teens converging on the mall to see their school’s cheerleaders and bands perform. We were able to set up a booth and give out abstinence information to a hoard of these students as well as their parents, teachers and community leaders.

A citywide “Rally for Kids” was held at the City Park pavilion in October. Kids were bused in from schools from around the city where they enjoyed local musicians, speakers, food and games. In supporting the local community,

MCEC was there with a booth where give-a-ways were used to present the abstinence message to the youth. MCEC continues to work with other Vicksburg/Warren County community groups to ensure our program services reach as many people as possible. We are a part of the [Warren Yazoo County Mental Health Group Coalition](#), the [Make-A-Promise Coalition](#), [The Vicksburg Family Development Center](#), the [Pregnancy Prevention Initiative for Warren County](#) and the [What’s Up Wit Dat? teen group](#).

By Debbie Brumitt, Warren County Trainer

## Families First: Fatherhood Initiative

“24/7 Dad” is the new curriculum that MCEC has incorporated in their fatherhood Initiative Program. Fathers who participate in these classes learn about the importance of the father in children's lives, how to handle and express emotions to their children, effective discipline methods, how to balance work and family, and above all are encouraged to be involved with their children.

“I love when I get the opportunity to instruct fatherhood trainings. It is amazing to hear the stories and be able to effect someone in a positive way, making a difference in not only the fathers,



**Mark Williams, Madison County Trainer**

but in their families and communities as well,” stated Mark Williams, Madison County Trainer.

MCEC ‘s fatherhood class emphasizes the presence and involvement of fathers are crucial to children’s life experiences, by offering practical solutions and effective tools.

By Mark Williams, Madison County Trainer

## Families First: Healthy Marriage Initiative

The 8 Habits of a Successful Marriage Program has been offered by the MS Community Education Center to many co-habit couples, married couples, and single individuals, a program to demonstrate how to build a healthy and stable marriage. Many of the individuals attending this program have expressed how the 8 Habits Program has helped them with alternative

ways to view a marriage and how to break old habits.

As a part of the program, married couples encouraged to have a date night. Many participants enjoy date night because it’s just for the two of them going out for dinner instead of having fast food. It also means having a fun activity that involves only husband and wife, such as going to the movies, bowling, dancing and etc. Including date night in a



marriage brings the couple closer together, creating more harmony and breaking routine.

By Patsy Ross, Leflore County Trainer

**Patsy Ross, Leflore County Trainer**



## Families First: Parent Education

Children are much different today than they were several years ago. They face a new set of challenges that were not present in years past. As a result, parents often get frustrated and feel helpless because of these obstacles society presents. As a way of helping with this issue MCEC offers Parent Education workshops, classes, and presentations. MCEC's Parent Education is a great resource for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, or community leaders by providing practical ways to guide, protect, and prepare children through life.

In our Parent Education workshops we supply parents with skills, such as how to build courage and character in their children, how to redirect their children's misbehavior, effective discipline skills, problem-solving techniques, tips on helping their children through school, how to prevent their children from being involved with drugs, sex, or violence and more.



**Missy King, Madison County Trainer**

MCEC has helped and will continue to help many individuals throughout the state through our Parent Education Program. Recently, MCEC has partnered with several community organizations in the Canton area, such as the [Canton Boys & Girls Club](#), [Canton Parent Center](#), [Notre Dame Education Center](#) and [Region 8 Mental Health Services](#) in effort to reach more people. For information about partnering with MCEC or about classes in your area please contact our office via phone or email.

By Missy King, Madison County Trainer

## 21st Century

The Mississippi Community Education Center 21st Century Learning Center (MCEC 21st CCLC) program is a collaborative effort between MCEC, Leake County Schools, and New Summit School. The project began Fall of 2008 serving students kindergarten through 12th grade with the intent to provide extended day services to the youth that qualified under the 21st Century Learning Center grant proposal. The program offers students the opportunity to partici-

pate in small group learning, directed to their individual needs, in a safe, drug-free environment. The 21st Century Learning Center program is unique in that it offers educational support services that are free to participant students.

MCEC 21st CCLC offers extended day and extended year educational services to K through 12 students. The primary components of the program are reading enrichment, math enrichment, subject

area tutoring, abstinence/character education, physical activity, arts inclusion, parent support, REAL training and technology integration.



By Steve Pickering, MCEC Programmatic Coordinator

Students learn about Honeysuckle while on a nature walk.

## Adult Literacy

Adult illiteracy continues to plague several states in the U.S., Mississippi being one with a high percentage. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 2003 16% of Mississippi's adult population lacked basic prose literacy skills.

In cooperation with Jackson Public Schools, MCEC offers adult literacy and adult education classes at New Summit School in Jackson free of



**Steve Pickering, MCEC Programmatic Coordinator**

charge in response to the great need. The Mississippi Community Education Center was recently awarded a grant from the National Coalition for Literacy to implement capacity building efforts in the state of Mississippi.

"Partnerships, such as this," states Zach New, MCEC Fiscal Manager, "are a great way to be cost effective while still providing exceptional service to adults in the community."

MCEC is dedicated to empowering adults to tackle the issue of adult literacy and positively affecting the issues related to adult literacy in Mississippi.

By Steve Pickering, MCEC Programmatic Coordinator

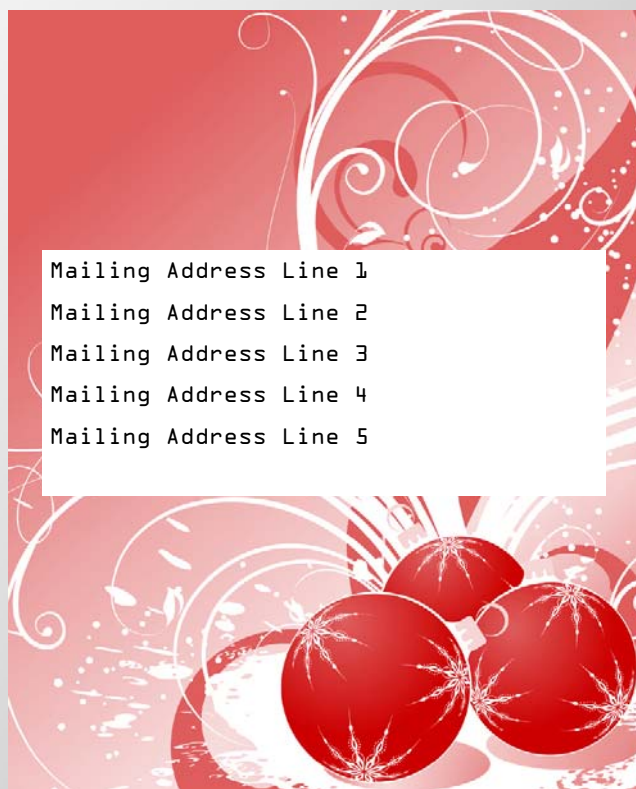


## Mississippi Community Education Center

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Strengthening Mississippi's Schools,  
Communities, and Families

Visit us on the Web!  
[www.mscec.org](http://www.mscec.org)



Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

## Upcoming MCEC Events

### What's going on in your area?

Please visit our website or contact our office for information about events happening in your area

[www.mscec.org](http://www.mscec.org)

Office: 601-366-6405

### Upcoming Events:

***MCEC Sponsored*** 11th Annual Draw Down Fundraiser benefitting  
***New Summit School***

**Mardi Gras Celebration: New Orleans  
Comes to New Summit School**

**Saturday, February 27, 2010**

**5:30pm-10:00pm**

**Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum  
1150 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS**

For more information, tickets, and sponsorship please contact  
Jeanine Pickering 601-982-7827 or [jpickering@mscec.org](mailto:jpickering@mscec.org)



Dr.  
Boyll drawing tickets at the 2009 Draw