



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

*To protect and advance the health,
well-being and safety of everyone
in Mississippi*

Help Shape Mississippi's Statewide Health Assessment and New Comprehensive State Health Plan

Mississippi is launching a new statewide effort to assess the health needs of our communities and help shape the future of health and healthcare across the state.

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is beginning a modern Statewide Health Assessment as a major component of the development of Mississippi's modernized Comprehensive State Health Plan (MCSHP).

Stakeholder engagement for the Statewide Health Assessment begins soon, and we need your participation.

A New Statewide Health Assessment

Over the next several weeks, MSDH and its project partners will engage healthcare facilities, healthcare professionals, professional and industry associations, public health partners, community organizations, and other stakeholders across Mississippi.

The assessment will combine updated health and healthcare data with the knowledge and experience of people working throughout Mississippi's healthcare and public health systems. It will help identify current and emerging needs, regional differences, gaps in access and services, workforce and capacity challenges, health disparities, and opportunities to strengthen health and healthcare across the state.

Mississippi's previous State Health Assessment and planning efforts provide an important foundation for this work. The new assessment will build on that foundation with updated data and new stakeholder input to understand where Mississippi stands today and what should be prioritized for the future.



1-866-HLTHY4U



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We Need to Hear From You

Data alone cannot tell the full story. The experiences of healthcare providers, facilities, professionals, associations, community partners, and others working across Mississippi are essential to understanding what is happening on the ground.

Stakeholders will be invited to participate in activities that may include:

- **Regional town halls and listening sessions** to discuss health and healthcare needs, service gaps, regional challenges, and opportunities;
- **Key informant interviews** with healthcare, public health, association, community, and organizational leaders;
- **Targeted surveys** addressing health priorities, access to care, healthcare workforce, service availability, and system capacity; and
- **Stakeholder and steering committee discussions** to review findings and help identify priorities and strategies.

If you or your organization are invited to participate, please lend your voice to this effort. We also encourage associations and organizations to share engagement opportunities with their members and partners.

Participation from hospitals, nursing homes and long-term care providers, healthcare professionals, professional and industry associations, public health partners, community-based providers, and other stakeholders will help ensure the assessment reflects conditions throughout Mississippi—including rural, urban, underserved, and historically underrepresented communities.

From Assessment to Action

Findings from the Statewide Health Assessment will serve as a foundation for Mississippi's new Comprehensive State Health Plan.

The MCSHP will use updated data, assessment findings, stakeholder input, and applicable state planning requirements to establish priorities and actionable strategies for improving health outcomes, strengthening access to care, addressing workforce and system challenges, and supporting the long-term capacity and sustainability of Mississippi's healthcare and public health systems.



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The goal is not simply to produce another planning document. The goal is to develop an informed, actionable statewide framework grounded in current data and the real-world experiences of the people and organizations serving Mississippians.

Who Is Supporting the Work

MSDH has engaged Premier Healthcare Solutions, Inc. (Premier) to support the Statewide Health Assessment and development of the MCSHP.

Caroline Brazeel, MPH — Project Manager, Senior Director

Caroline is a trained epidemiologist with 16 years of experience in public health, Medicaid, and health systems.

J.T. Lane, MPH — Executive Sponsor, Managing Director

J.T. brings 25 years of experience in public health, Medicaid, and health system transformation.

Caroline and J.T. will begin reaching out to stakeholders with additional information about upcoming engagement opportunities and scheduling.

If you or your organization are invited to participate, please lend your voice to this effort. We also encourage associations and organizations to share engagement opportunities with their members and partners.

Participation from hospitals, nursing homes and long-term care providers, healthcare professionals, professional and industry associations, public health partners, community-based providers, and other stakeholders will help ensure the assessment reflects conditions throughout Mississippi—including rural, urban, underserved, and historically underrepresented communities.

Your Voice Matters

No single agency, healthcare provider, association, organization, or community can fully describe Mississippi's health needs. Broad participation is essential to developing an assessment, and ultimately a State Health Plan, that reflects the needs, resources, challenges, and opportunities across our state.



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Please participate when invited, share engagement opportunities with your colleagues and members, and help ensure your community, profession, organization, and region are represented.

For questions about the Statewide Health Assessment or planning process, please contact:

Caroline Brazeel: caroline_brazeel@premierinc.com

J.T. Lane: JT_Lane@premierinc.com

Thank you for your partnership and for helping shape Mississippi's health priorities for the future.

Your experience matters. Your perspective matters. Your voice needs to be part of the plan.



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