

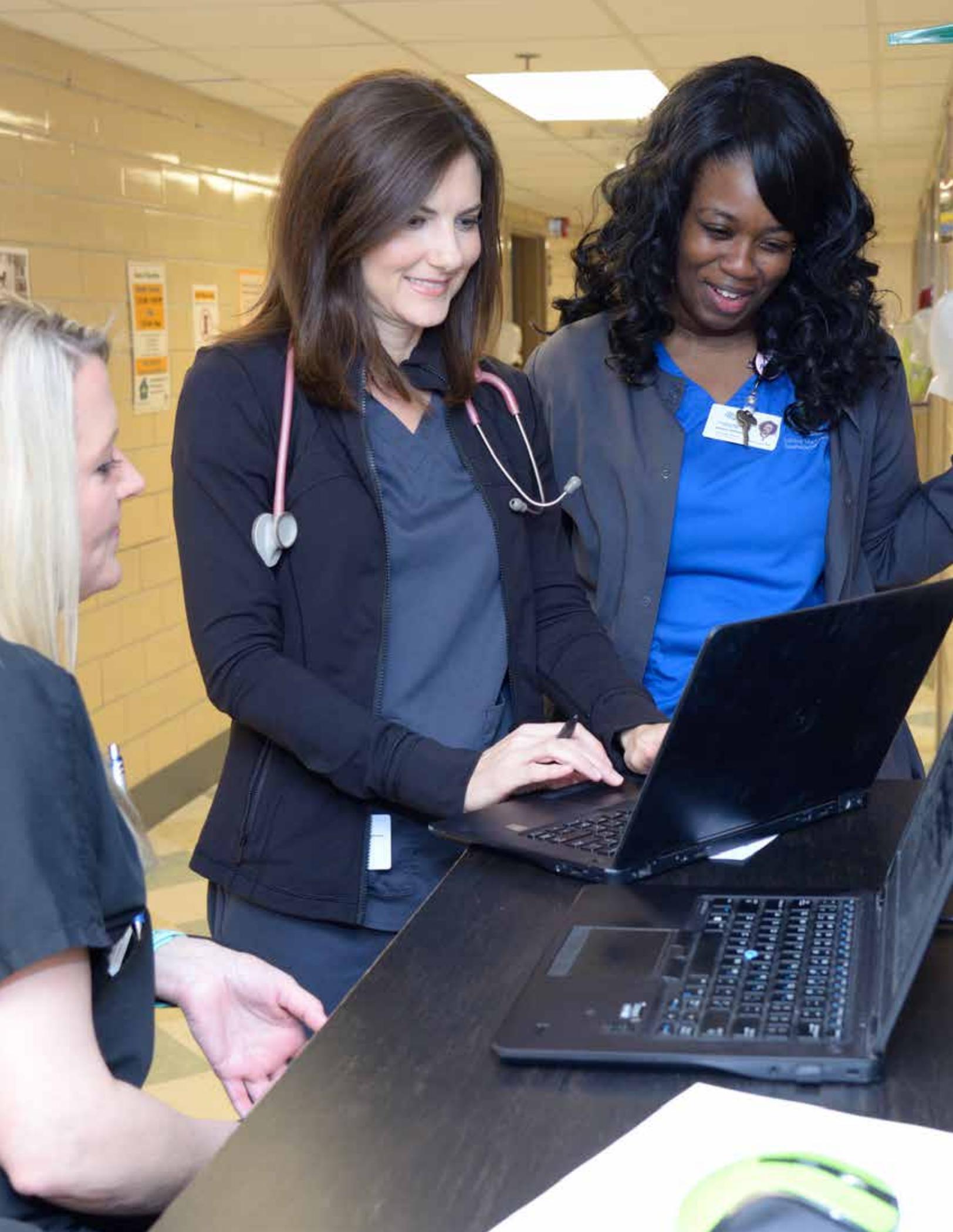
Annual Report

2018



DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE

Solutions for a Healthy Tomorrow





Dear Friends,

If I had to choose two words to best describe this past year at Delta Health Alliance, those two words would be: **On. Mission.**

When Delta Health Alliance was created 20 years ago, our mission was clear - create positive change in healthcare for the Mississippi Delta. That positive change, if our mission were to be successful, would improve access to health-related services, build capacity, and promote healthier lifestyles in some of the most rural, poverty-stricken communities in the U.S. Not long into our endeavors to improve the health of our communities, we learned that to really change the healthcare narrative, we must also focus on education. The two go hand-in-hand.

We're not on this mission alone, however. Thanks to a diverse partnership portfolio that brings together federal funding agencies such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Justice, we have been able to establish programs in the field that produce results depicting meaningful change. Other partnerships with national foundations such as Bayer/Monsanto Corporation, Whole Kids Foundation, Sesame Workshop, and March of Dimes allow us to implement programs to develop resources addressing hunger and abuse among our children. State funding partners like the Mississippi Department of Health, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Department of Human Services provide crucial funds to fill in gaps and create sustainability.

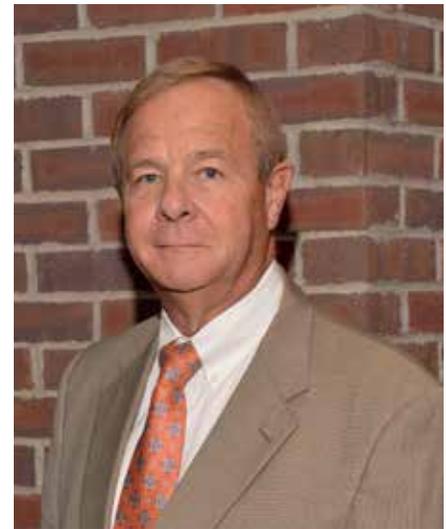
In addition to our funding partners, we rely heavily on our local medical providers and their clinical delivery sites as well as our school districts and daycare facilities to help us find the people who will benefit most from our over 30 unique programs. We know that it's crucial to do our work through those in the local community, since long-lasting change occurs only when it is embraced by the people in the community.

As you read through this annual report, I hope you gain a better understanding of what challenges our Mississippi Delta communities face in the health and education areas. Through the data graphics included, you'll be able to understand how the collaborative efforts of Delta Health Alliance is providing comprehensive analysis of relevant data and statistics so that we can continue to understand the core causes of poor health and lack of educational opportunity.

I feel honored to be part of a team made up of many Deltans striving to complete this important mission to expand healthcare and education in the Mississippi Delta. While we haven't completed our mission yet, I feel we get closer every day. I hope you feel the same sense of progress as you read this year's report.

Sincerely,

Bill Kennedy
Chairman, DHA Board of Directors



Bill Kennedy, Chairman
DHA Board of Directors



U.S. Congressman
Bennie G. Thompson

"We must be committed to providing a better life for our children and parents in the Mississippi Delta. By doing so, we must understand their educational and healthcare challenges which are often unique to our rural region of our country. By using qualified data to better understand these challenges, and by partnering with educators and health care providers who work every day in these communities, Delta Health Alliance plays an important role in leading to better understanding and meaningful change."



Mississippi Senator
Eugene "Buck" Clarke

"The healthcare and education challenges of the Mississippi Delta are best addressed by those of us who are here, every day, working hand in hand with the leadership of our rural medical facilities, our school districts, and early headstart programs. Delta Health Alliance has proven to be an important and credible resource for these healthcare and educational efforts, providing measurable outcomes that point all of us toward success."



U.S. Senator
Cindy Hyde-Smith

"The Delta Health Alliance is dedicated to finding innovative ways to improve health care and educational outcomes where it is greatly needed, the Delta. Mississippi has a vested interest in improving the quality of life for all its citizens, and the DHA is a partner in this important and ongoing work."



Mississippi State Representative
Willie Bailey

"Delta Health Alliance improves healthcare on several fronts including educating children and adults, increasing access to quality healthcare and reaching out to families to make sure they have the resources needed for success. Efforts like this are the ones that are moving the needle in our communities, and we are fortunate to benefit from the work of Delta Health Alliance."



Mississippi Senator
Willie Simmons



U.S. Senator
Roger Wicker

"Our state has unique healthcare challenges that are best served by forward-looking and community-centered approaches. The Delta Health Alliance has been an important and successful partner in the fight to improve health outcomes and education for Mississippians."



Mississippi State Senator
Derrick T. Simmons

"It is a privilege and an honor to work with Delta Health Alliance on public policy and other related matters to advance the Mississippi Delta region. Its work is extremely important and vital to the area."

"Through the Indianola Promise Community, Early Headstart Collaborative efforts, and many other educational and health-focused initiatives, Delta Health Alliance has made a positive impact in our communities and proven to be a valuable partner to our schools and health professionals."

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Promise Neighborhood Extension

Based on the outcomes of the Indianola Promise Community, implemented nearly five years ago, the U.S. Department of Education awarded Delta Health Alliance a \$6,000,000 extension grant to continue the initiative in Sunflower County. Programs including SPARK, Parents as Teachers, Imagination Library, Literacy Fellows, LINKS, and Summer Camps will be funded from the extended funds.

Mobile Medical Clinic

Acting as an extension of the Leland Medical Clinic, the Mobile Medical Clinic is staffed with a Licensed Nurse and/or Nurse Practitioner, and includes all supplies needed to provide services related to wellness check-ups, annual physicals, and urgent care. The mobile clinic will be used by communities, companies, and other medical providers to bring health care right to those who need it most.

Healthy Babies Collaborative

To help reduce costs and improve patient care, the Division of Medicaid teamed up with Delta Health Alliance and Cerner to manage a pilot project aimed at reducing diabetes and preterm births. More than 14% of Mississippi's population is diabetic, and for every patient who does not progress to diabetes, the program would save \$7,900 annually. For every pre-term birth avoided, the program would save \$55,000. The pilot project covers 10 counties in the Delta and combines sophisticated health technology with trained case workers on the ground providing one-on-one patient care.

Delta STAR

Delta Health Alliance received \$600,000 in funding over three years to provide new services and programs for people who live in rural communities and who are struggling with alcohol and substance abuse addiction. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Health Services & Resource Administration, Office of Rural Health Policy. The new program provides community-based services to help treat and manage alcohol addiction and substance abuse. Most of the participants are expected to come as referrals from the Sunflower County and Washington County court systems.

Delta EATS

Thanks to two new grants, Delta Health Alliance's school and community garden program is expanding. With \$8,000 in funding from Monsanto and \$34,961 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, more children will get hands-on experiences with gardening and learning about healthy eating. Funding from Monsanto in Hollandale will be used to install, build, and develop a school garden site located at Sanders Elementary School in Hollandale. Once in place, the garden infrastructure will provide an exciting and interactive outdoor learning space.

The Agriculture Department grant will be used to provide resources to groups throughout the Delta who want to establish school garden-related activities and other projects that support farm-to-school networks and gardening education efforts.

The American Cancer Society recommends that all women over 40 have an annual mammogram, and those women at high risk should have a mammogram and MRI every year, beginning at age 30. The Leland Medical Clinic now has the latest equipment to provide digital mammograms. Full-field digital mammography is a mammography system in which the X-ray film is replaced by solid-state detectors that convert X-rays into electrical signals. A digital mammogram allows abnormalities to be seen more easily by radiologists.

LMC Mammography

Delta Health Alliance was awarded a two-year \$750,000 grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services to implement a Teen Pregnancy Prevention program in the Delta counties of Bolivar, Coahoma, Humphreys, Leflore, Sunflower, and Washington. The partners include Delta State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Coahoma Community College, and Mississippi Delta Community College. Additional partners include the A Step Ahead, Capps Center in Indianola and local non-profit agencies offering GED programs.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Delta Health Alliance now partners with Sesame Workshop, the non-profit educational organization behind Sesame Street, to bring the Sesame Street in Communities (SSIC) initiative to young children and families in the Mississippi Delta with a focus on Leland and Indianola, MS. Sesame Street in Communities is a nationwide initiative to support parents, caregivers, and community providers in their efforts to give all children, especially the most vulnerable, a strong and healthy start. Sesame Street in Communities selected the Delta because of the community's existing collaborative efforts to improve children's health and wellbeing, spearheaded by Delta Health Alliance and its approach to improving health outcomes through education, health and home visiting programs for children starting at birth. This partnership is the only rural initiative by Sesame Workshop.

Sesame Street In Communities

Delta Health Alliance was awarded a \$150,000 grant from the Phil Hardin Foundation to implement programs in the Ruleville elementary school to ensure incoming students are academically ready for kindergarten and to provide third grade students with the support they need to pass the third grade reading test. The grant will cover the 2019-2020 school year in Ruleville. The Phil Hardin grant will support a kindergarten entry "boot camp", called Promise School, where students learn skills that they will be assessed on, as well as skills to enable them to learn successfully in a classroom setting. The grant will also fund a group of special classroom teachers, called "Literacy Fellows," to work directly with third grade students to help improve their reading skills.

Phil Hardin Foundation Partnership



Leland Medical Clinic

SUPPORTED BY DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE



Leland Medical Clinic

The Leland Medical Clinic, Owned and operated by Delta Health Alliance since 2013, is the medical home for individuals and families throughout Bolivar, Sharkey, Sunflower, and Washington Counties and beyond. The Clinic provides clinical and behavioral health services for more than 2,464 patients. Clinical services now include management of acute and chronic illnesses, wellness exams and checkups, immunizations, pediatric care, work-injury treatment, drug testing, preemployment and school physicals, digital x-rays, mammograms, full lab tests, and nutritional and exercise consultations. LMC began offering mammography services in 2018 providing over 168 mammograms.

Leland Medical Clinic uses Electronic Health Records to facilitate delivery of care by allowing providers to spend more time examining the patient and less time on record keeping. The staff can connect electronically to pharmacies and area hospitals and patients have real time access to their own medical records via our online portal. The electronic patient portal is called "Follow My Health" and allows patients to communicate with the clinic staff through a computer or portable device using secure email. Patients can go online and request prescription refills and other services through a high-speed, secure data connection. Over half of the clinic's patients have been using the portal and it gives patients 24/7 access to clinic information, scheduling and other important services.

The medical clinic employs two nurse practitioners, a part-time physician, a dietician, three nurses, and two front office staff on a daily basis. LMC's behavioral health team consists of a psychiatric nurse practitioner and two licensed professional counselors.



Patient-Centered Medical Home

Leland Medical Clinic is a recognized Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA.) The PCMH model makes the patient a vital part of the clinical care team. Leland Medical Clinic is recognized for being committed for a patient-centered medical approach to care and continuous commitment for quality improvement.



WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT A PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOME?

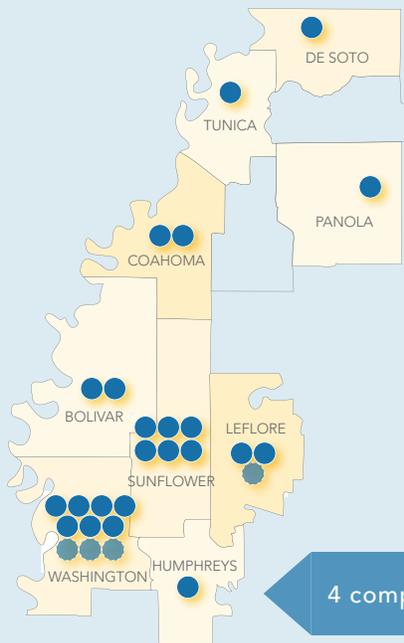
- Results in a better experience for patients
- Increases staff satisfaction resulting in providing better care
- Improves management of a patient's chronic condition like diabetes or hypertension
- Lowers overall health costs
- Improves Patient-Centered access by emphasizing using health technology allowing patients to view their health information or communicate with providers.

The PCMH approach means that the entire staff of Leland Medical Clinic, as well as the patient, work together as a team by focusing on all aspects of the patient's health using enhanced technology and chronic disease management. Using enhanced technology allows the staff to spend more time with the patient.

Leland Medical Clinic, supported by Delta Health Alliance since 2013, is a NCQA Recognized Patient Centered Medical Home.

Mobile Medical Clinic

The Mobile Medical Clinic, operated by Leland Medical Clinic, brings the services of a local health facility right to the doorstep of communities and businesses. It provides convenient and quality medical care by offering wellness check-ups, physicals, and urgent care needs.



23 locations across 9 counties are ready to schedule their Mobile Medical Clinic dates

4 companies have voiced interest



Delta Heart Health NETWORK

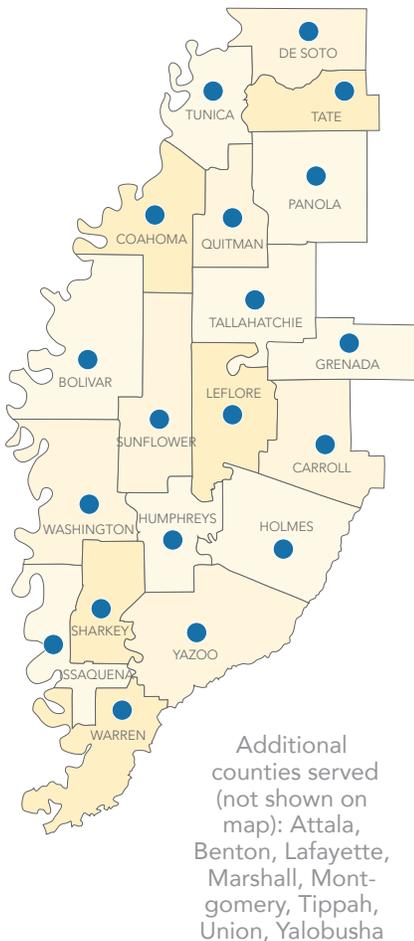
SUPPORTED BY DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE

Delta Heart Health Network

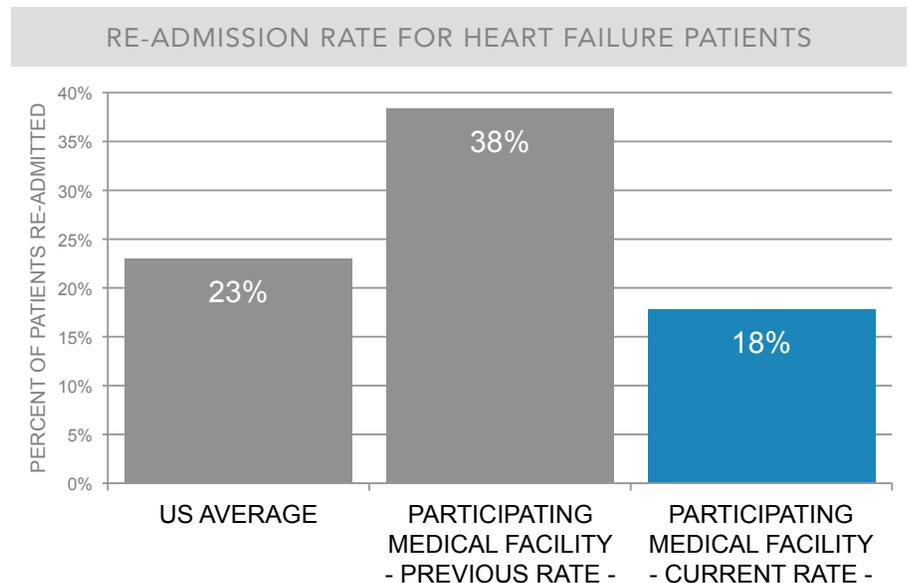
The Delta Heart Health Network has been developed to specifically address cardiovascular disease and its impact on obesity in 21 counties throughout the Delta and in north and north central Mississippi. The project uses Electronic Health Records to identify patients who may be particularly at-risk for cardiovascular disease and analyzes gaps in their care. The initiative is a collaboration between Aaron Henry Community Health Centers, Mallory Community Health Centers, and the Leland Medical Clinic.

Clinicians across the service area have access to evidence-based, best practice standards of care for cardiovascular disease and can customize treatment plans to assist patients in making better health care choices, particularly those living in rural areas.

In addition, trained DHA staff work with patients between the hospital setting and out-patient clinic to facilitate improved care and to help manage medications. Finally, community outreach workers host education sessions and screenings in venues throughout the service area.



DHA worked with a local hospital to identify the most common diagnosis for patients who readmitted to the hospital within 30 days and focused efforts on heart failure patients, which is a growing healthcare burden and one of the leading causes of hospitalizations nationwide.



(1) US Average: Go AS, et al. Heart disease and stroke statistics—2015 update: a report from the American Heart Association. *Circulation*. 2014;129:29–323. (2) Previous rate: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (n.d.). Hospital Compare: Data sources. (3) Current rate: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (n.d.). Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program. January 2019

Small Provider Quality Improvement Program

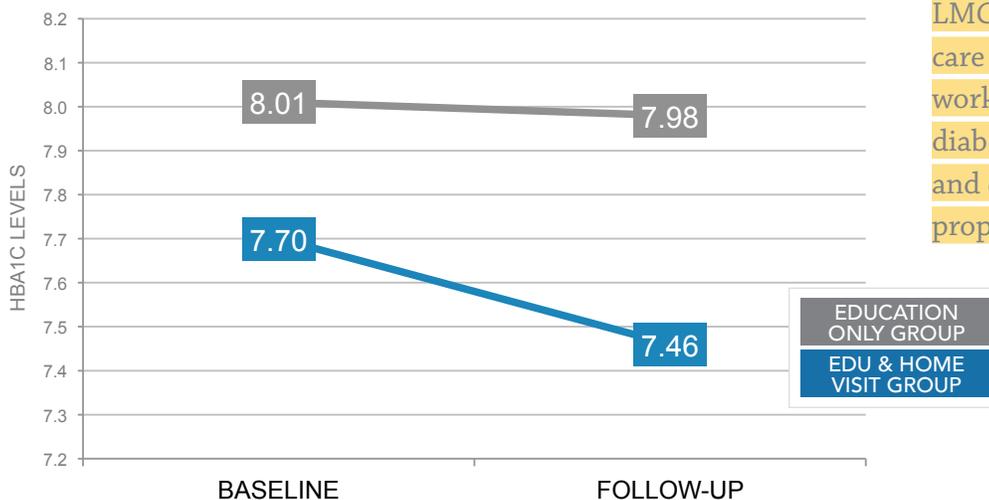
The Leland Medical Clinic, a Patient-Centered Medical Home supported by Delta Health Alliance, has implemented a quality improvement program through its Mississippi Delta Quality Improvement Initiative (MD-QII) which evaluates and operationalizes care for high-risk, underserved patients with chronic conditions. LMC staff are trained in the HRSA approved Lean Model for Quality Improvement to improve delivery of care for patients with chronic illness. The existing certified Electronic Health Record (EHR) system is used to collect, report, and analyze information on key quality measures. These two components, the Lean Model and EHR data, combined establish a series of coordinated, systematic activities which monitor, assess, and improve its quality of health care through an increased understanding of available resources, process measures and compliance, and the impact of interventions on outcome of care and patient satisfaction.

The QI activities are reviewed monthly allowing Leland Medical Clinic to continually improve upon its processes with timely and meaningful data to help administrator, information technology specialists, providers and patients track and plan for care.

The benefits of the MDQII program refines LMC's delivery of care practices while focusing on the following patient-centered goals: reduce emergency room visits and 30-day hospital re-admission rates, improve health outcomes, and enhance chronic disease management, and stronger engagement of patients in developing and implementing customized health plans.



HEMOGLOBIN LEVELS BY INTERVENTION GROUP



LMC focuses on preventive care and has targeted working with patients to get diabetic A1C levels steady and even lower for a growing proportion of patients.

Electronic health records from individuals enrolled in LMC PCMH home visitation randomized control trial with valid, distinct Hemoglobin A1C values at both baseline (or shortly thereafter) and follow-up.



Delta Futures Teen Pregnancy Prevention

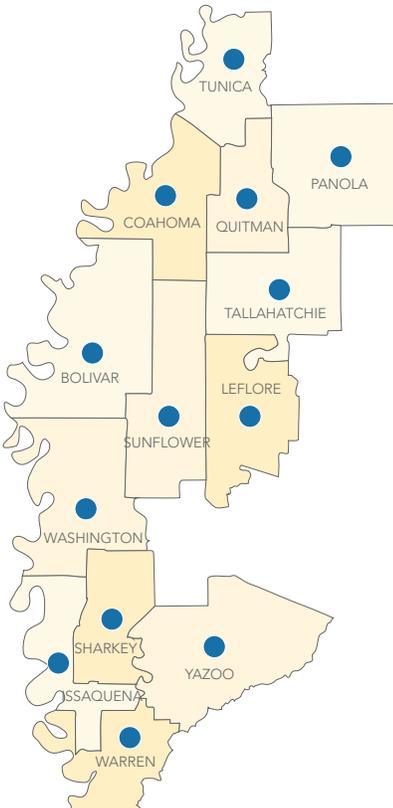
Delta Futures Teen Pregnancy Prevention is DHA's project that is helping reduce teen pregnancy in the Mississippi Delta through the comprehensive, three year program. Currently, Delta Futures is working with nine public school districts, five private school districts, five local Rural Health Clinics, and over 30 community and faith organizations to prevent teen pregnancy and lower sexually transmitted diseases. Since its inception in 2016, Delta Futures has served 9,165 youth and young adults.

All of the curricula are evidence-based and developed to increase acceptance among the students. The courses utilized in schools have been approved for use by the Mississippi Department of Education and are coordinated with other risk-avoidance efforts that may already be underway in those settings. All program materials are medically accurate, age appropriate, culturally and linguistically relevant, and inclusive of all youth in each community.

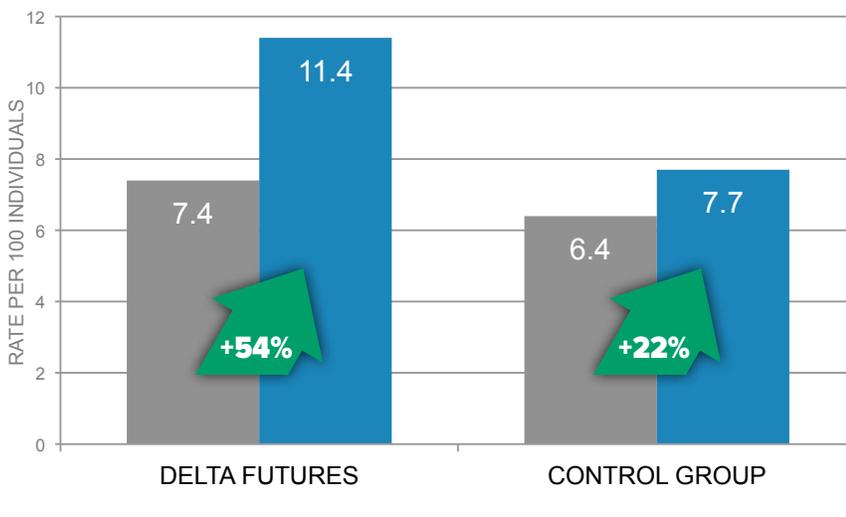
Moreover, this DHA program is unique in that the lessons and materials are taught by community health liaisons, professional staff trained just for this project. Early assessments show that after participating in the program, students report higher intent to use birth control, higher motivation to use birth control, and higher perceptions of risk from sexual activity. Through Delta Futures, teens learn essential information about HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases; ways to handle social and sexual pressures; ways to communicate assertively with friends and potential sexual partners; refusal skills, negotiation skills and problem-solving skills; and the proper use of condoms.

To extend Delta Futures resources and education to more young adults, Delta Health Alliance added another tier to the program. In 2018 through a two-year funding grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Delta Futures is now training young adults living in the area to serve as peer teachers helping other young adults become aware of strategies

for planning their future relating to pregnancy and families. To complete this work, DHA is partnering with Delta colleges and universities (Delta State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Coahoma Community College, and Mississippi Delta Community College) and the Capps Center in Indianola and local non-profit agencies offering GED programs.



PATIENTS VISITING HEALTH PROVIDER FOR CONTRACEPTION



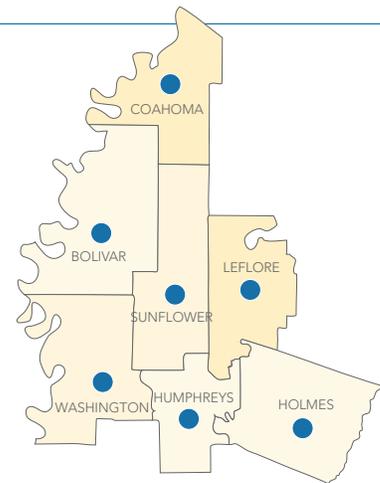
Accountable Health Community

Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, DHA has created the Delta Accountable Health Community to improve access to a broad range of health care services while lowering the cost for individuals in Bolivar, Coahoma, Holmes, Humphreys, Leflore, Sunflower and Washington Counties.

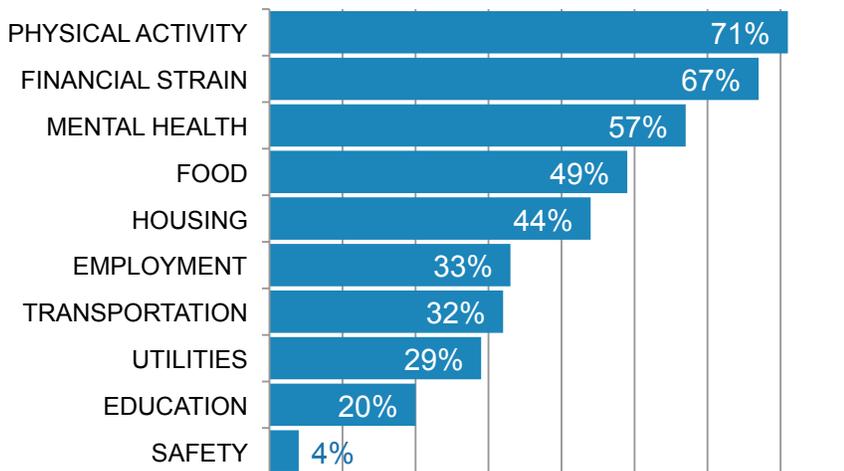
The goal is to reduce avoidable health care utilization, lower the cost of health care, and improve the health and quality of care for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries by using a broad range of healthcare and community partners to assist patients with accessing needed services.

Through the MS Delta Accountable Health Community, DHA recruited 8 clinical delivery sites and 9 community-based organizations that serve as partners in providing patients with health-related social needs while using new technologies, improved awareness and use of community services and support, and a more robust evaluation of health-related social services to improve care.

As part of ACH, the program aligns clinical and community services to ensure health related social needs (housing, utility needs, food insecurities, inter-personal violence, and transportation) are identified and referrals are made to address needs.



PERCENT OF SCREENED POPULATION BY HRS NEED



77% PATIENTS WITH AT LEAST ONE HEALTH-RELATED SOCIAL NEED

23% ELIGIBLE FOR NAVIGATION

Screening Tool, Accountable Health Community. Data reflects 69 patients screened at Leland Medical Clinic during August 2018.



N115A
WOMEN



Community Health Center
1234 Main Street
City, State, ZIP
Phone: (555) 123-4567
Fax: (555) 987-6543

Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network

Delta Health Alliance, through grant funding from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, has created a 'first of its kind' network in Washington and Sunflower counties with the Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network. Through current grant funding, the Network will ensure affordable care regardless of your ability to pay. The services are offered through Leland Medical Clinic, or if transportation is a problem, can be offered in the comfort of your home through enhanced telemedicine technology.

The Network significantly expands the mental health and behavioral health services it provides to patients in Sunflower and Washington Counties. The goal of Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network is to improve chronic illness outcomes by engaging patients with specific mental health and behavioral health services by significantly expanding the number of people in Washington and Sunflower eligible to receive a wide range of mental health services.

The services will be provided through the Leland Medical Clinic, and additional counselors at the clinic are made possible with this funding. In addition, the grant helped build high-speed video connections between the Leland Medical Clinic, Parkwood Behavioral Health Center and Desoto Family Counseling Center so that patients in the Delta will have access to a variety of other specialists through video conferencing sessions.

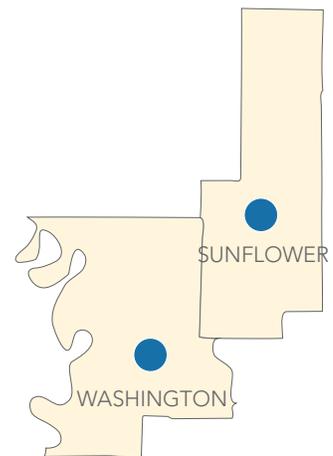
Eligibility criteria for participants include:

- Persons age 18 or older and can give consent
- Persons with one or more chronic medical conditions
- Patients with behavioral/emotional health conditions including, but not limited to depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder
- Persons who are not currently receiving counseling services



Deer Creek
Behavioral Health
NETWORK

SUPPORTED BY DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE



Electronic Health Services

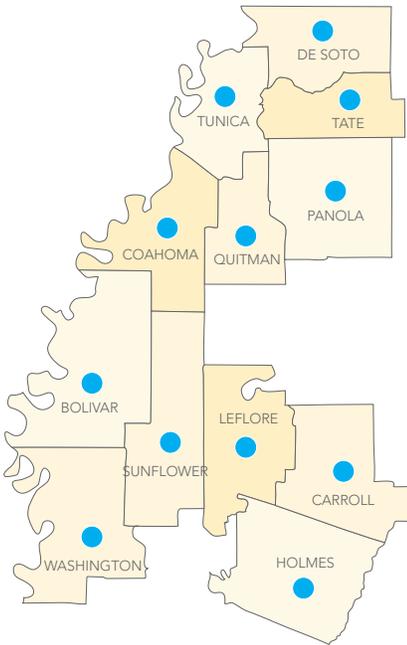
Why Electronic Health Records (EHR)?

It's real-time health information placing the patient at the center of care. Health Information Technology is woven into our everyday lives enhancing some of our most important relationships – you and your health care providers.

Since Delta Health Alliance began to install Electronic Health Records in the Delta in 2009, our EHR initiative has grown into a state-of-the-art system that connects more than 169 health care providers in 53 clinical delivery locations with more than 447,247 patients across the state (270,651 in the Delta) into a seamless electronic recordkeeping and reporting organization that is at work 24/7.

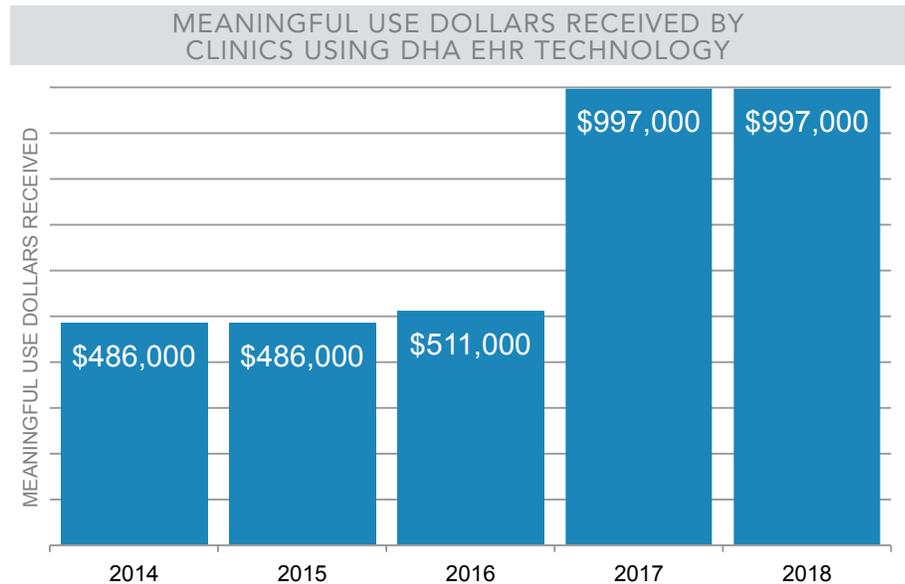
Maintained and operated by DHA, the system allows patients to contact clinics anytime day or night, put in prescription refill requests, and check on appointments, while letting physicians and nurses have instantaneous access to patient records from any connected health care provider. The system also allows for filing prescriptions online, and consolidating of all billing and practice management into one comprehensive suite of programs. The system has been integrated at rural health clinics, private practices, hospital based clinics and other health related businesses.

Once patients are entered into the system and their records are uploaded, they can obtain treatment at facilities that have authorized access to our secure EHR network.



Additional counties served (not shown on map): Forrest, Perry, Lamar, Pearl River, Covington, Madison

Meaningful Use guidelines provide incentives to encourage eligible clinicians to electronic health records to promote better patient and provider communication. These payments went to physicians and clinics in the Delta because they were able to attest to expanding their capacity and services through the EHR administered by DHA.



Meaningful Use is what providers need to attest to in order to access their quality payments. We support our EHR clients in achieving these milestones in reporting so that they can qualify. www.healthit.gov/topic/meaningful-use-and-macra/meaningful-use-and-macra

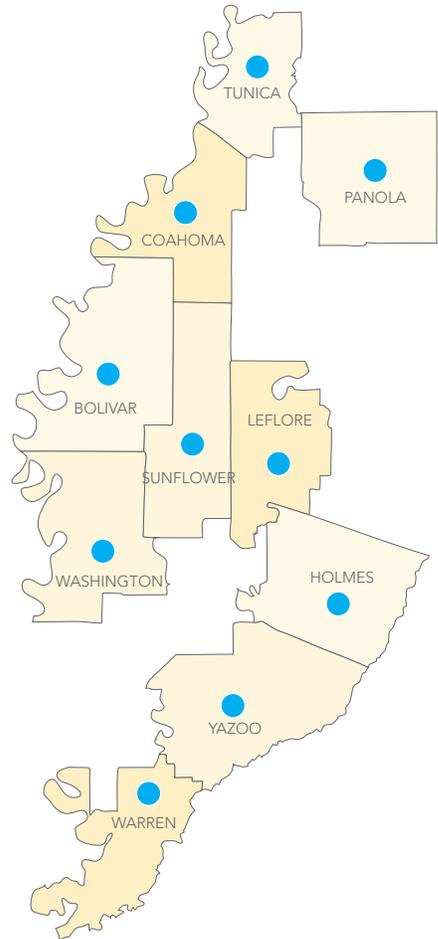
Medicaid Population Health Demonstration Project

Delta Health Alliance has partnered with the Mississippi Medicaid Division and the Cerner Corporation to create a pilot project that will transform rural clinics in the Delta into medical homes, similar to the patient-centered medical home model at DHA's clinic in Leland.

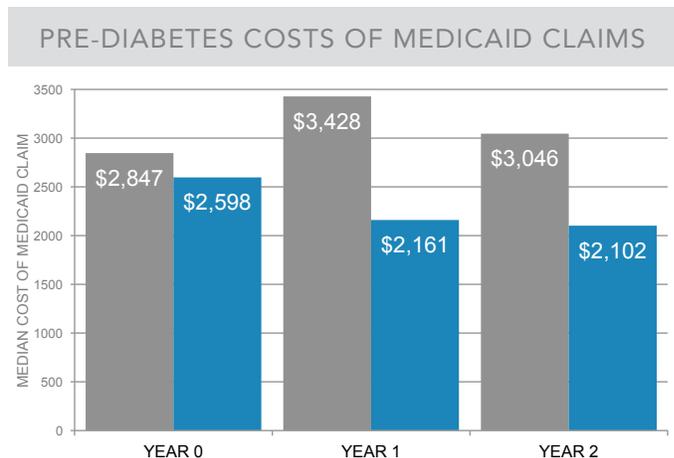
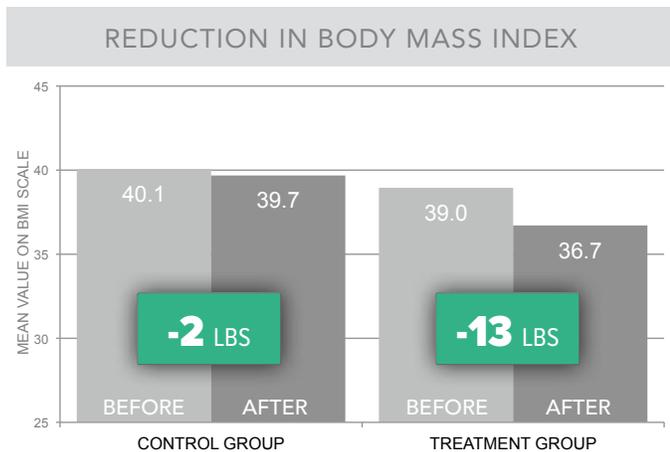
Eligible patients will be able to access care locally through one of these clinics as their permanent medical home, providing access to a wide range of preventative, general, and specialty care services. The clinics will operate through a team-approach to care, driven by the patient's needs and preferences, to better manage chronic care conditions and to prevent avoidable hospitalizations. These certified clinics are also serving as training locations and healthclinic incubation centers, to assist other providers in transitioning to the Patient Centered Medical Home Model to improve patient outcomes and care coordination, while decreasing overall costs of care.

Participants receive practical experience, tool kits, sample forms, and starter materials for replication of the model in their own clinic settings. Clinicians learn how to foster and develop a local network of health partners to facilitate neighborhood support, including implementing community gardens, encouraging municipal support of exercise programs and recreational facilities, and working with faith-based partners.

For each patient who does not progress to diabetes, the state Medicaid program saves \$7,900 annually and a patient's long-term health is greatly enhanced.



The Medicaid Demonstration Project identifies patients at risk of developing diabetes and helps them make lifestyle changes to prevent them from progressing to diabetes. These patients are Medicaid beneficiaries, so this saves money for Medicaid and MS taxpayers, and helps patients avoid illness.



Mean BMI at baseline versus approximately 540 days after enrollment for patients in control group versus patients enrolled and with at least 3 engagements with the Pre-diabetes Program. Data sourced from DHA's electronic health records system.

Mean costs billed to Medicaid for patients enrolled in intervention versus control group. Costs sourced from Medicaid claims data compiled by Cerner corporation.

Expanding Educational Opportunities



Imagination Library

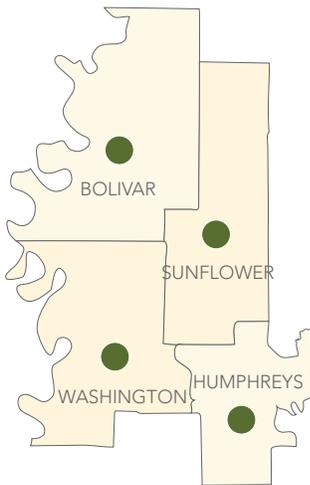
Imagination Library, the program for children ages 0 to 5 that delivers a free, age appropriate book each month to a child's home, is a vital part of Delta Health Alliance's efforts for children to enter kindergarten ready to learn.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the program, new kindergarten students at the elementary school in Indianola took a school readiness assessment. The results of the assessment give teachers and school officials information about the prereading and pre-math skills of each student, which they use to help design the kindergarten curriculum.

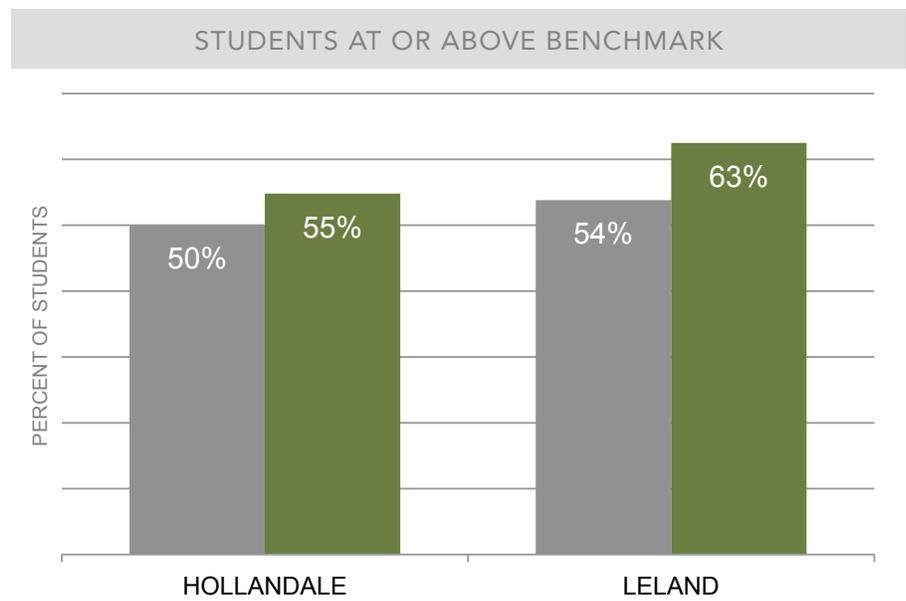
Meanwhile, as part of the kindergarten registration process, parents of these students completed a kindergarten entry survey that determined whether or not they participated in the Imagination Library program. With the kindergarten readiness scores from the assessment, we were able to compare the readiness scores of the group of children who received Imagination Library books with the group of children who did not participate in the Imagination Library program.

Evaluation of the program's effectiveness show that students enrolled in the IL program as twice as likely to be kindergarten ready and two and a half times as likely to be kindergarten ready in math.

In addition to children receiving books in their home, the Imagination Library staff works with local daycares and Head Starts by reading weekly in the classroom and providing literacy resources to those teachers. DHA's Early Learning program provides parents at-home activities that coordinate with the monthly book.



A child who participated in the Imagination Library intervention was twice as likely to be kindergarten ready in reading as a child who did not receive the IL program. Participating kids were two and a half times as likely to be kindergarten ready in pre-math.



STAR early literacy, fall 2018, Hollandale and Leland school districts.

Tobacco-Free Coalition

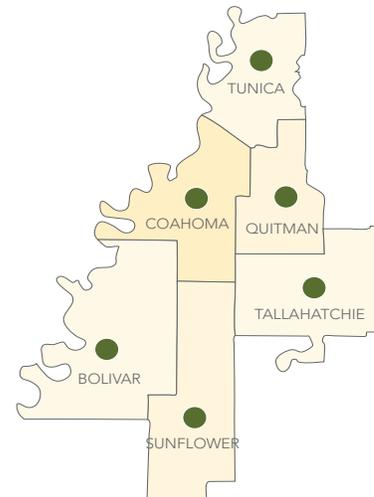
DHA Tobacco-Free Coalition project operates in six Delta counties; Bolivar, Coahoma, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, and Tunica. The program is recognized for Exemplary Service by the Mississippi Department of Health year after year. Our staff work directly with schools and community organizations to prevent the initiation of tobacco use among youth, reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, promote tobacco cessation services, and eliminate tobacco related disparities.

Hundreds of Delta high school and elementary students in the six service counties have learned about the dangers of tobacco use through a series of eight lessons beginning with a pre-test focusing on students' initial knowledge of tobacco and its dangers, and concluding with a post-test on knowledge gained from the course on cessation and prevention. The program comprised of three primary componets:

- Teaching students the importance of abstaining and ways to abstain from tobacco use.
- Teaching students the effects of tobacco on the body, including the effects of second-hand smoke.
- Teaching students the ways in which tobacco use amplifies chronic diseases.

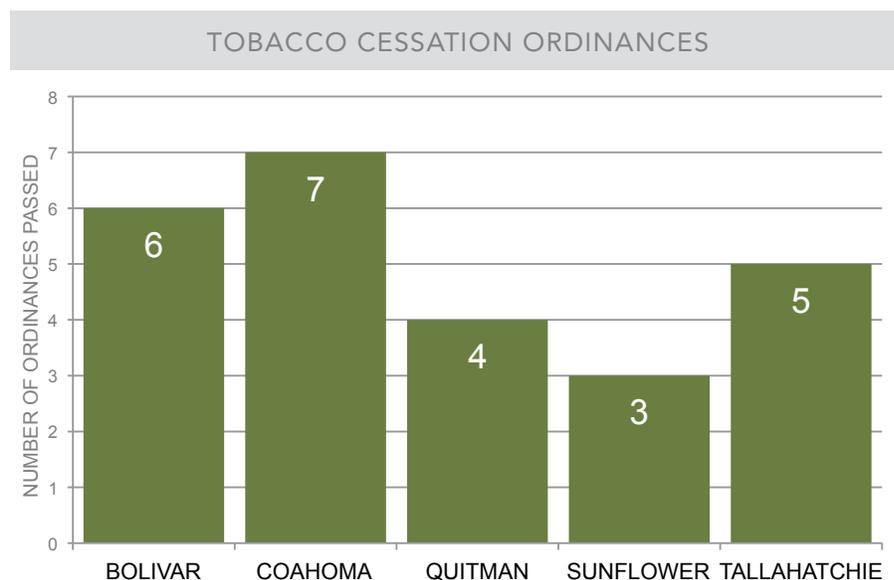


COALITION OF COAHOMA AND TUNICA COUNTIES



Tobacco prevention is also important because it relates so closely to the chronic diseases that are prevalent in the Delta. Teaching students the role that tobacco use plays in chronic illnesses and conditions such as obesity, asthma, hypertension and diabetes helps drive home the message that tobacco has no place in anyone's life.

As a result of its outreach program, smoke free ordinances have been adopted in the Delta municipalities of Coahoma, Friars Point, Clarksdale, Jonestown, Lyon, Marks, Sledge, Tutwiler, Sumner, Charleston, Beulah, Drew, Moorhead, Duncan, Alligator, and Indianola, as well as Coahoma County and Delta State University in Cleveland.





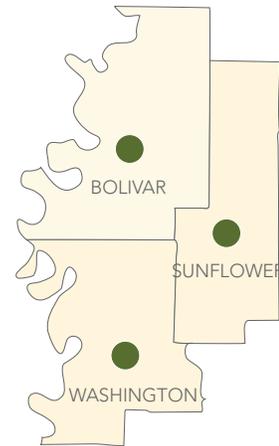
Delta EATS - Edible Agriculture Teaching Students

Delta EATS (Edible Agriculture Teaching Students) connects 5th grade students and curriculum with a school garden and opportunities to cook in an outdoor kitchen with harvested produce. This enhances academic achievement and cultivates an empowering opportunity for students to gain the knowledge and values to make food choices that are healthy for them, their communities, and the environment. DHA's Delta EATS team is composed of the Delta EATS Program Manager, Education Coordinator, AmeriCorps Food-Corps and DeltaCorps service members, and Delta State University Dietetic Interns. Together, the team partners with schools administrators, food service and cafeteria staff, and 5th grade teachers to conduct numerous activities.

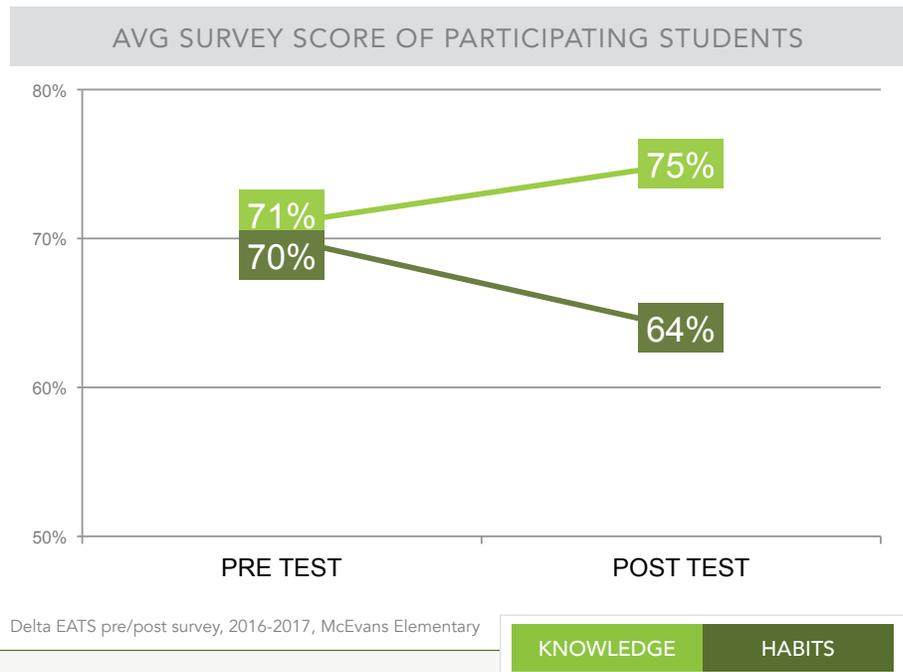
- Design, install, and maintain robust school garden sites
- Coordinate and teach weekly garden and cooking lessons for 5th grade that are rigorous and connected to academic standards for English and Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Support School Garden Teams that guide each garden's vision and support activities
- Promote fruits and vegetables through regular taste tests, cooking with students, and promoting healthy foods bulletin boards
- Host Family Garden Nights to connect parents and the school community to the garden
- Provide summer garden camps for students at the school garden sites

Delta EATS uses best practices from model school garden programs from across the country in the areas of garden design, classroom procedures and management, garden rituals, and growing methods. One best practice is splitting each garden class into three small groups of 6-8 students. For each garden lesson, two small groups are each led by a trained Delta EATS team member, and the third small group is led by the 5th grade teacher. Our garden design also aligns with this practice as each small group has its own learning station, garden bed, and supplies. Delta EATS also uses the square foot garden method. This method not only helps maximize garden bed plantings, but allows for structured student procedures and incorporation of mathematics. Together, these best practices, and many more, allow for efficient and effective instruction for students.

Currently, Delta EATS is operating school gardens in Shaw (Bolivar County) and Leland and Hollandale (Washington County) with plans to expand its reach into communities.



Delta EATS improves knowledge from pre to post test, but not yet habits. Children are missing access to the food needed for healthy habits.



Expanding Educational Opportunities



Delta DREAMS

Delta DREAMS (Dollars Reinvested in Education and Assests to Maximize Success) is a community-driven collaboration between Delta Health Alliance and regional banks, economic development agencies, service groups, housing authorities, community representatives, universities, and faith-based partners all united by a shared vision of increasing economic self-sufficiency for low-income families living in rural communities.

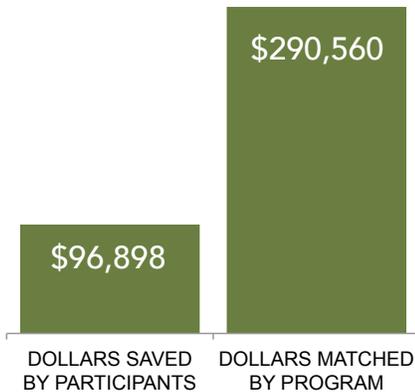
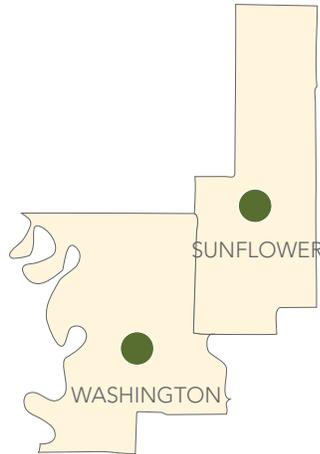
Funding partners include Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, Mississippi State University and Delta State University.

Delta DREAMS operates this way: Students, working with Delta State University, complete a financial literacy course to help them become savvier with money by learning how to reduce debt, establish credit, save money and change poor financial behavior. Second, students must commit to saving \$625 over six months to be eligible for a 4 to 1 match through Mississippi State and the federal government for a total of \$2,500 that can be used for college tuition and fees.

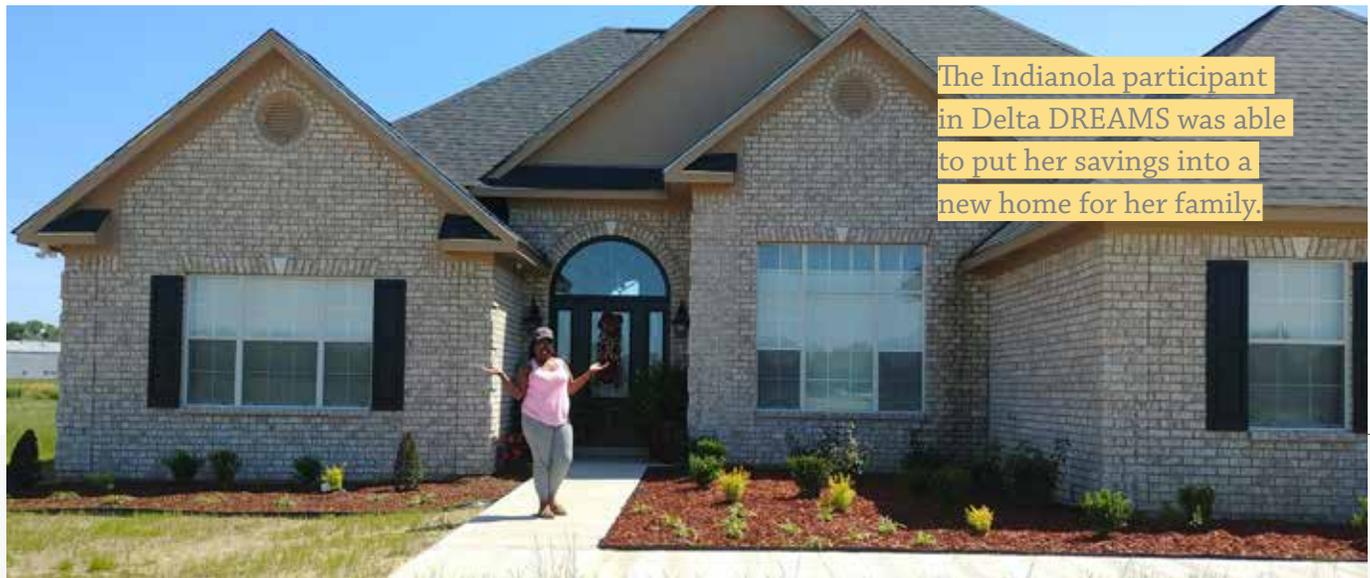
Delta DREAMS is about changing behavior when it comes to money. DHA manages the program, collecting the necessary information to ensure that students are staying on track and meeting their financial goals.

The requirements to receive match funds to assist with post-secondary education are:

- Must be a Mississippi resident
- Must have earned income
- Must participate in an IDA (Individual Development Account) program for a minimum of 6 months and make regular minimum deposits
- Complete a financial literacy course including obtaining certification
- Household income must fall under twice the US Federal Poverty Guidelines established by the Department of Health and Human Services.



Program activity roster



Delta Assault Response Team Network (DART)

The United States Department of Justice has awarded a three-year, \$499,945 grant to Delta Health Alliance to create rapid response teams in four Delta counties to address violence against women. The four counties are Bolivar, Leflore, Sunflower, and Washington.

Called the Delta Abuse Response Team network, or DART network, these teams will provide services for victims of domestic violence, working in tandem with other organizations.

According to Dr. Karen Matthews, Delta Health Alliance CEO, “The new program will offer a new multifaceted approach to addressing the critical needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in rural communities in these four counties. This collaborative program is designed to operate in close coordination with existing victim service providers, state and local agencies, law enforcement, healthcare clinicians, housing officials, and neighborhood associations.”

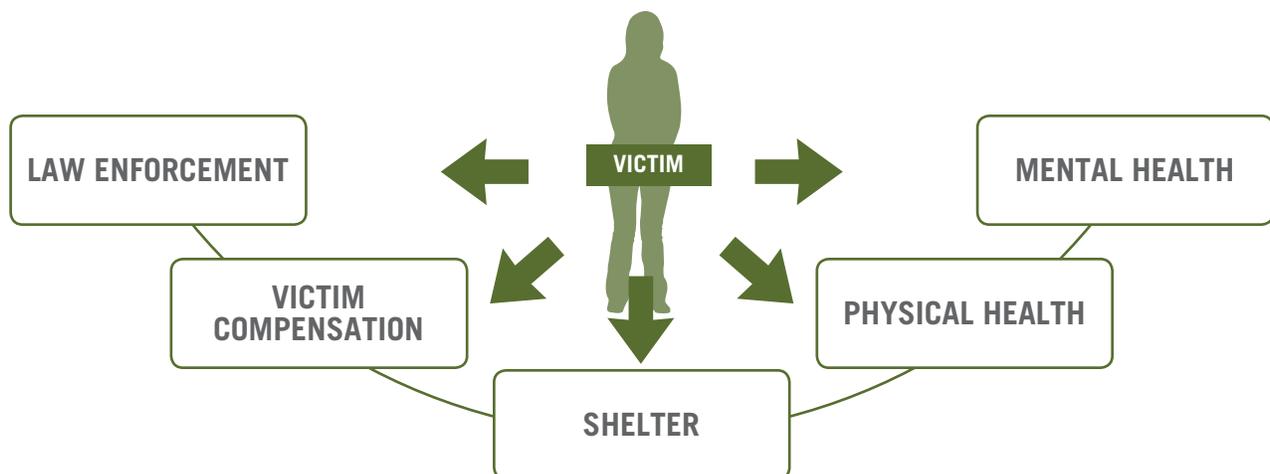
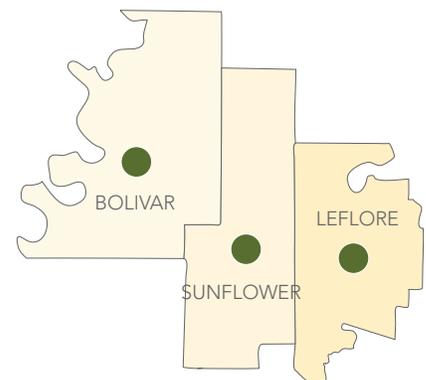
The Rapid Response network will consist of specially trained counselors to serve in initial response teams for reports of interpersonal violence; victim legal advocate, who will provide information and access to resources; robust training programs for local law enforcement, social workers and community leaders specifically on the topics of stalking and sexual assault; and logistical support for partner programs in need of expansion into underserved areas.

Partnering organizations joining the DART network are: Leland Medical Clinic, Universal Parenting Place at Leland Medical Clinic, ACE Awareness Foundation, Our House, Inc., Bolivar County Community Action Agency and their rapid rehousing service; the Social Services Collaborative; and North Mississippi Rural Legal Services and the Cities of Leland, Indianola, and Greenwood. Services for DART will be provided in Bolivar, Leflore, Sunflower and Washington counties.



Delta Assault Response Team NETWORK

SUPPORTED BY DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE





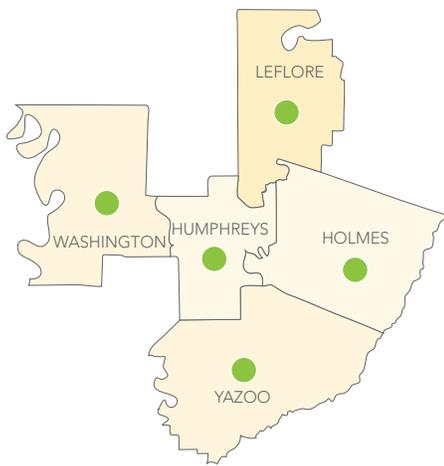
Delta Home Visiting Initiative (DHVI)

Parents as Teachers & Healthy Start Collaborative

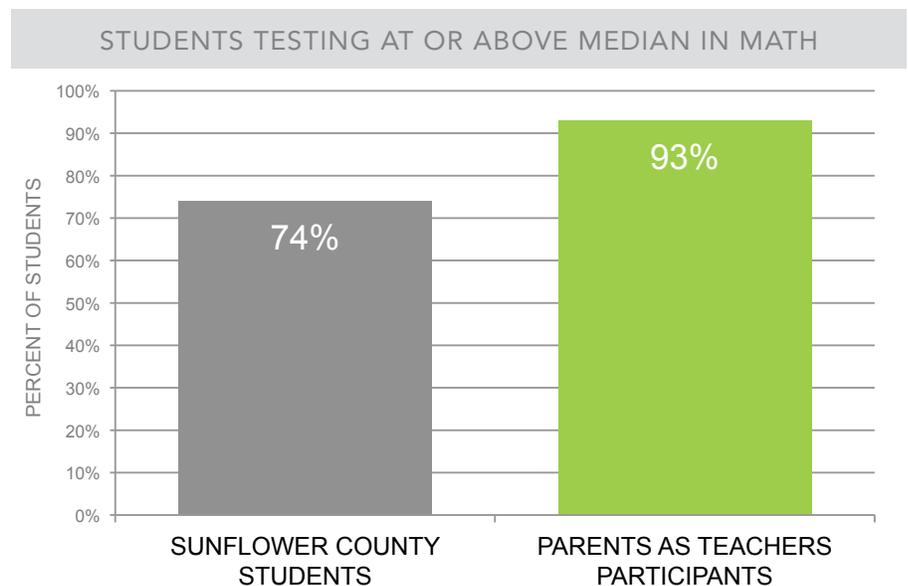
Delta Home Visiting Initiative is Delta Health Alliance's home visitation program that assists parents by providing the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.

The Delta Home Visiting Initiative utilizes an evidence-based early childhood home visitation curriculum that builds strong communities, reinforces families and facilitates the development of children who are healthy, safe, and ready to learn. DHA's certified parent educator staff members work one-on-one with high-risk expectant mothers and parents of children ages zero to five to emphasize parent-child interaction, development-centered parenting, and family well-being. There are four interrelated components of the model, including personal home visits, group connection meetings, screenings, and easy access to a comprehensive resource network.

Parent educators, recruited from the communities they serve, receive extensive training and learn to work with and develop a relationship with parents to provide infants and young children with the stability and enriched environment they need to thrive. One key to the program's success is that the parent educators are from the same community as the families with whom they are working.



PAT kids are the most at-risk children we serve, but they show up better prepared for Kindergarten than the county average children.



(1) County students: Initial math assessment (STAR Math) taken by first graders in Sunflower County excluding Lockard Elementary, fall 2015-2017. (2) PAT Participants: Initial math assessment (STAR Math) taken by program participants in PAT in first grade, fall 2015-2017.

Universal Parenting Place (UPP)

The Universal Parenting Place is a safe and secure space for parents to use with their children. They can talk, read books, do homework, play games or watch a movie. It is a great place for parents to simply relax with their children. In addition, because licensed counselors staff the center throughout the day, parents have access to professionals to help with questions or challenges they may have, no matter how large or small.

The center is offered to all in the community, no matter anyone's income. UPP sites are dedicated to delivering practical information, guidance, and emotional support for family related issues or concerns. In addition to one-on-one parenting counseling, there are regularly scheduled open group sessions.



46 PARENTS RECEIVING FREE THERAPY

154 CHILDREN IN DIRECT THERAPY

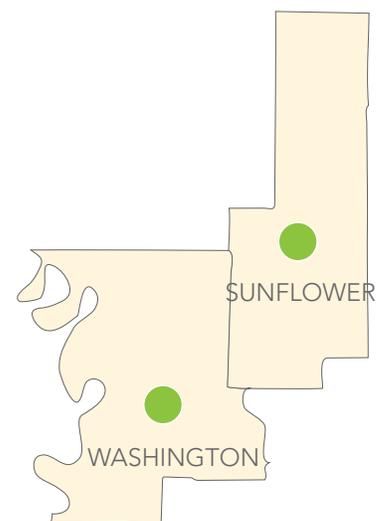
75 IMPACTING CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD



Sesame Street in Communities

Through the new partnership, Sesame Street in Communities and Delta Health Alliance are working together to reach parents and caregivers through DHA's network to strengthen children's school readiness, help children cope with traumatic experiences, and increase understanding of autism. Sesame Street in Communities supplements programming at the Leland Medical Clinical and Universal Parenting Place as well as DHA's community and home-based programs that seek to reach underserved children and families and to provide resources that health and education providers can use to address difficult conversations with the families they serve.

Sesame Street in Communities services and resources will be available through Delta Health Alliance's Leland Medical Clinic and their Early Head Start Childcare Partnership office located at 114 2nd Street in Indianola.





Indianola Promise Community (IPC)

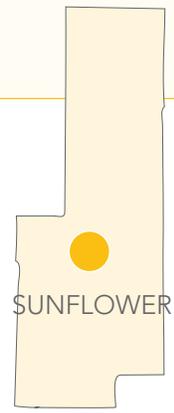
The Indianola Promise Community, or IPC, has served the Indianola, MS community and surrounding area since 2009 ensuring the healthy development of Indianola children and families. IPC unites health care, education, government, community and faith-based services to develop a “pipeline” of academic, family, and community resources from pre-natal care through third grade and beyond for students creating a path for students to gain meaningful careers and earn financial independence.

Modeled on the successful Harlem Children’s Zone in New York City, the initiative received a huge boost in 2013 when DHA was awarded a five-year, \$30 million federal grant to dramatically expand IPC’s footprint in Indianola. At the time, the grant for Indianola was the second awarded program that served a rural area. In 2018 and due to its nationally recognized achievements for the work in Indianola Promise Community, Delta Health Alliance received a two-year US Department of Education Promise Neighborhood funding extension, one of three recipients throughout the country. This funding allows DHA and its partners (local agencies and grassroots organizations throughout Indianola) Indianola to jointly carry out IPC’s goal: to ensure Indianola children are ready for school, that students who need help get help quickly, and that young people stay in school through graduation and transition to post-secondary education.

IPC offers a collective approach, with agencies and services complementing each other and working together in a coordinated fashion.

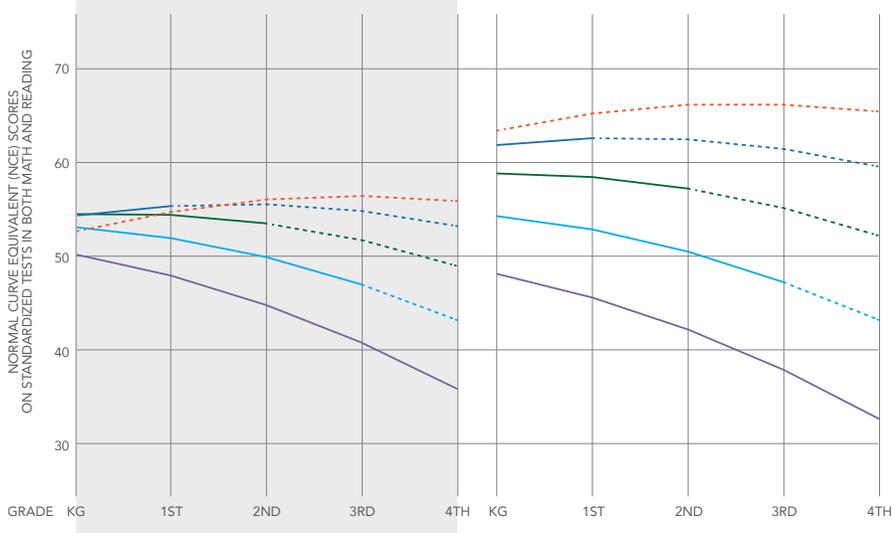
IPC is governed by a local Steering Committee and makes use of a broad number of task forces and committees that bring together a number of different community organizations to collaborate on goals and objectives.





SUNFLOWER

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRESSION



COHORT 13/14 COHORT 14/15 COHORT 15/16 COHORT 16/17 COHORT 17/18

Marginal effects model using NCE scores from all STAR, iReady, and MAP assessments for IPC-served schools and non-IPC served schools in Sunflower County.

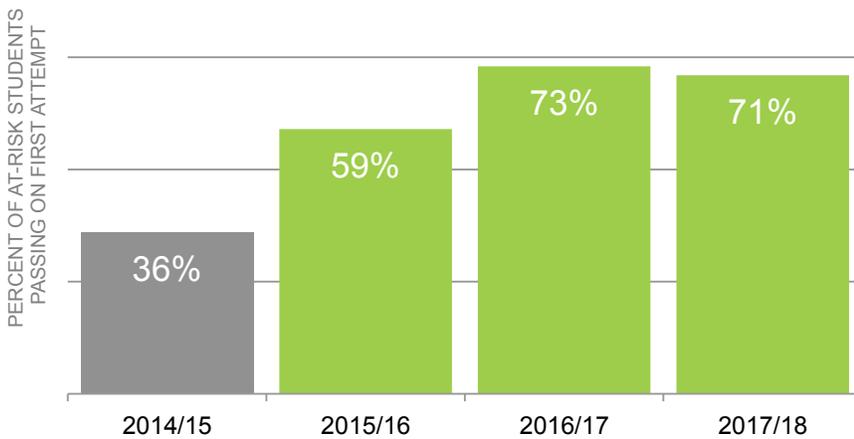
IPC PROGRAMS

- Delta Parents as Teachers (PAT)
- LINKS (Linking Individuals, Neighborhoods, and Kids to Services)
- Imagination Library
- SPARK with Children's Defense Fund
- Teacher Development
- Literacy Fellows
- IPC Summer Camps
- Afterschool Program

IPC/PARTNER PROGRAMS

- Early Head Start Childcare Partnership
- Delta Futures
- Excel by 5
- Indianola Literacy Coalition
- Financial Literacy
- Indianola Youth Council
- Mayor's Health Council

3RD GRADE READING GATE - FIRST ATTEMPT PASS RATE



MAAP 3rd grade reading assessment for Carver Elementary, Mississippi Department of Education



Deer Creek Promise Community (DCPC)

Similar to the Promise Community in Indianola, the Deer Creek Promise Community focuses on the students who attend the Hollandale School District and the Leland School District in Washington County.

As with IPC, the project is being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. This grant, and the one that funds the work in Indianola, are two of only three grants awarded to rural areas in the country.

The goal of the Deer Creek Promise Community is to ensure that all children served by the Hollandale and Leland school districts are ready for Kindergarten, that students get help quickly, that young people graduate, and transition to post-secondary education. The Deer Creek Promise Community initiative consists of 30 programs that work together to expand the health care and educational opportunities for children and their families in Arcola, Hollandale, Leland and the surrounding un-incorporated areas.

The Deer Creek Promise Community “pipeline” of programs unites health care, education, government, community, and faith-based organizations to provide families within the DCPC service area with academic, family, and community resources focusing on Early Childhood, School K-12 grades, College & Career, and Community & Health.

This initiative offers a collective approach, with our partner agencies complementing each other and working together in a coordinated fashion. Each program is rigorously assessed against objective criteria in order to ensure its success. The partners have committed to work with all segments of our population; to communicate regularly and share data; and to support comprehensive solutions that can drive sustainable improvements in the Deer Creek community of Washington County.

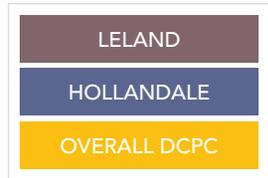
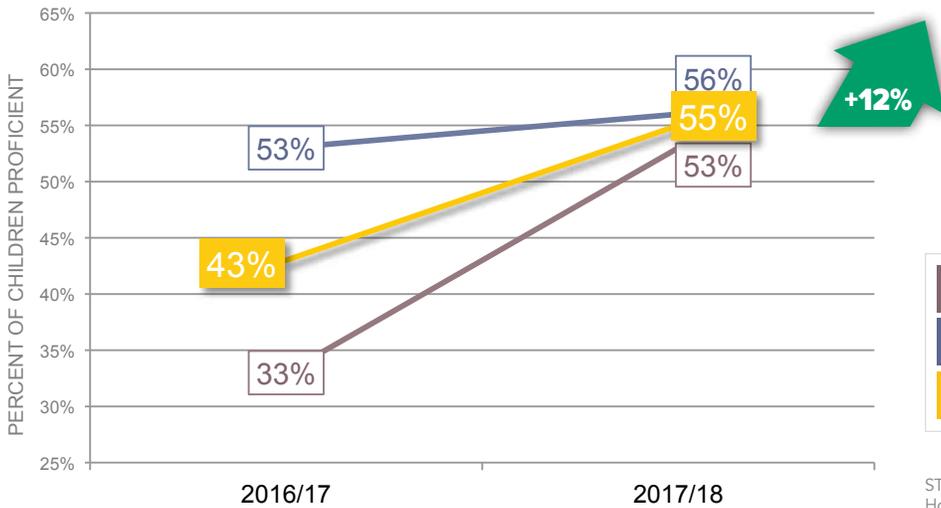
DCPC GOALS

- Children enter Kindergarten Ready
- Students are proficient in core subjects
- Students successfully transition from middle to high school
- Students graduate from high school
- Students enter college without the need for remediation and complete within traditional time.
- Students are healthy
- Students are safe
- Students Live in stable communities
- Families support learning in schools
- Students have access to 21st century learning tools





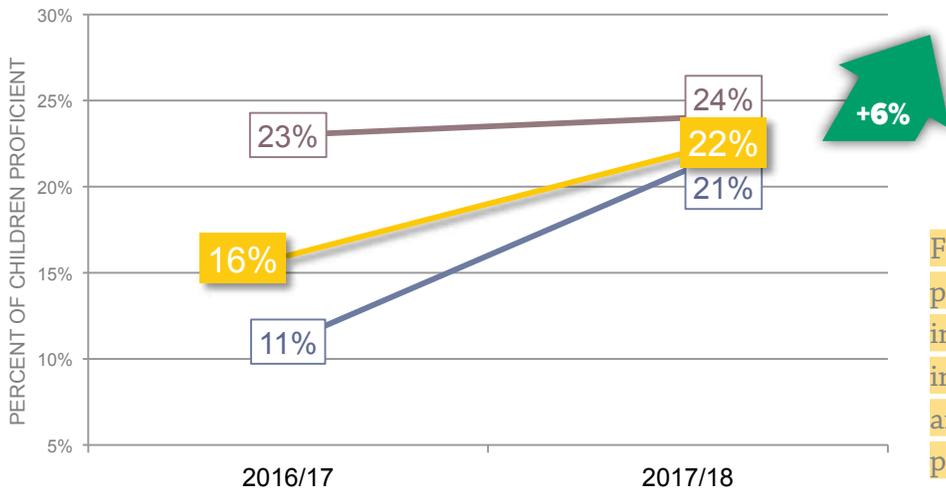
CHILDREN AT OR ABOVE K-READINESS BENCHMARK (55TH PERCENTILE)



STAR Early Literacy Assessment, Leland School District, Hollandale School District

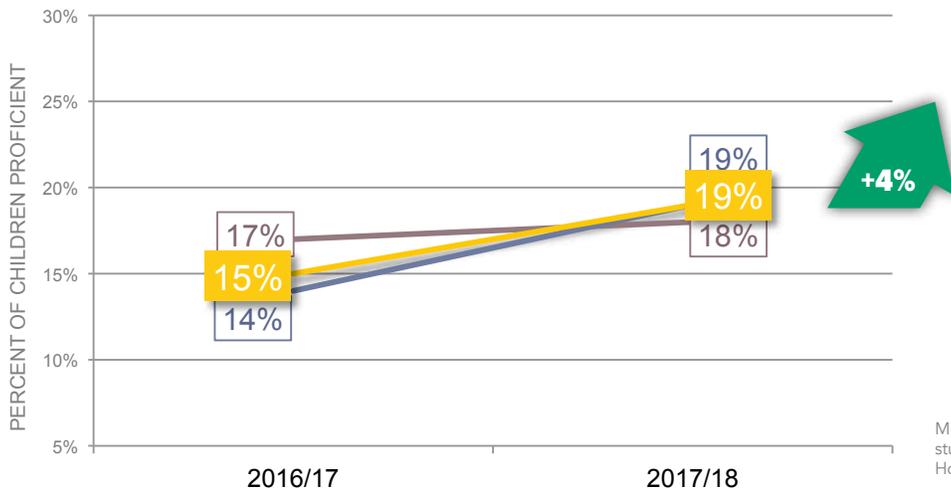
PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL IN MATH AND ELA

MATH



From baseline to year 2, proficiency rates for students in the DCPC footprint have increased in both math and reading, by 6% and 4% points, respectively.

ELA



Mississippi Department of Education: 3rd to 8th grade students, MAAP Assessment, Leland School District, Hollandale School District



Early Childhood Initiative (EHS-CCP)

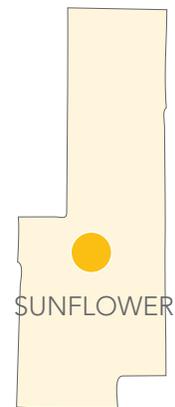
The Sunflower County Early Head Start Childcare Partnership (EHS CCP), sponsored by Delta Health Alliance, is a unique opportunity which brings together the best of Early Head Start and private child care through layering of funding to provide comprehensive and continuous services to low-income infants, toddlers, and their families.

After receiving a multi-million-dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, DHA worked with six child care centers in Sunflower County, along with other community partners, to create the Sunflower Childcare Coalition and operate a system of private day care centers that meet Early Head Start standards. The six facilities underwent renovations to create a more welcoming learning environment and installed state of the art Landscape Structures playgrounds featuring the Talking is Teaching DigiFuse® panels developed in partnership with Too Small to Fail's "Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing" campaign. In 2018, EHS-CCP launched a website that parents can communicate with daycare teachers through a secure parent portal.

Since forming in 2015 with operations beginning the following year, the EHS-CCP has adhered to five primary goals:

- (1) Building capacity and providing technical support of child care centers in Sunflower County.
- (2) Providing training and certification for all centers.
- (3) Increasing parental engagement at centers and improving access to support services.
- (4) Increasing the number of children enrolled in and utilizing the child care subsidy program.
- (5) Improving the financial viability of centers.

In 2018, EHS-CCP enrolled 200 children in 6 daycare facilities showing a 51% increase in enrollment. Two hundred sixty-five children (235 families) are enrolled in the six designated center receiving services offered through the program with 259 of those children now have continuous, accessible health care and are up-to-date on immunizations.



EHS-CCP Learning Strategy

APPROACH TO SCHOOL READINESS

EHS-CCP seeks to ensure children under its care are ready for school by implementing a comprehensive suite of evidence based programs that touch each child at critical points on his or her pathway to kindergarten.

PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The Family Service staff conducts home visits with parents twice a year to establish goals and ensure that families are on target as they endeavor to achieve those goals using the Life Skills Progression and the Family Partnership Agreement.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND COMPLIANCE

As part of ongoing parental engagement, parents and families are educated on the importance of health compliance and its correlation with attendance and school readiness.

POLICY COUNCIL AND PARENT COMMITTEE

The Policy Council is comprised of parents of currently enrolled children and community representatives and meet monthly allowing parents to advocate for change in the centers, and plan events and activities for the year.

PARENTS INVOLVED IN EDUCATION

EHS-CCP staff provided opportunities for parents to enhance skills, knowledge, and understanding of education and child development. Home visits and Parent/Teacher conferences are valuable in building respectful relationships with parents and in developing a broad understanding of every child in the program.

EHS-CCP By The Numbers

YEAR 2 FACTS

ANNUAL FUNDING

\$3.8 MILLION

DHA was awarded this annual grant by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

ENROLLMENT

6

CHILDCARE FACILITIES

200

FUNDED SLOTS

265

TOTAL CHILDREN SERVED

51%

INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT

235

TOTAL FAMILIES SERVED

MEDICAL & DENTAL CARE

259

CHILDREN WITH CONTINUOUS, ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE

July 2017 through June 2018

DHA Partners

FUNDING PARTNERS

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Guaranty Bank and Trust
March of Dimes
Mississippi Division of Medicaid
Mississippi State Department of Health
Mississippi State University
Monsanto
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services
U.S. Department of Justice
Whole Kids Foundation

REGIONAL & NATIONAL PROGRAM PARTNERS

AmeriCorps*VISTA
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
Girl Scouts – Heart of the South
Hope Credit Union
Office of Adolescent Health
Parents for Public Schools
Parents as Teachers
Rhodes College
Save the Children
Sesame Workshop
Teach for America
University of Memphis
University of Tennessee
Urban Child Institute

STATE PROGRAM PARTNERS

Capps Technology Center
Children's Defense Fund
Delta Council
Delta Housing Development Corporation
Delta State University
Entergy
Excel By 5
March of Dimes
Mississippi 211
Mississippi Access to Care Network

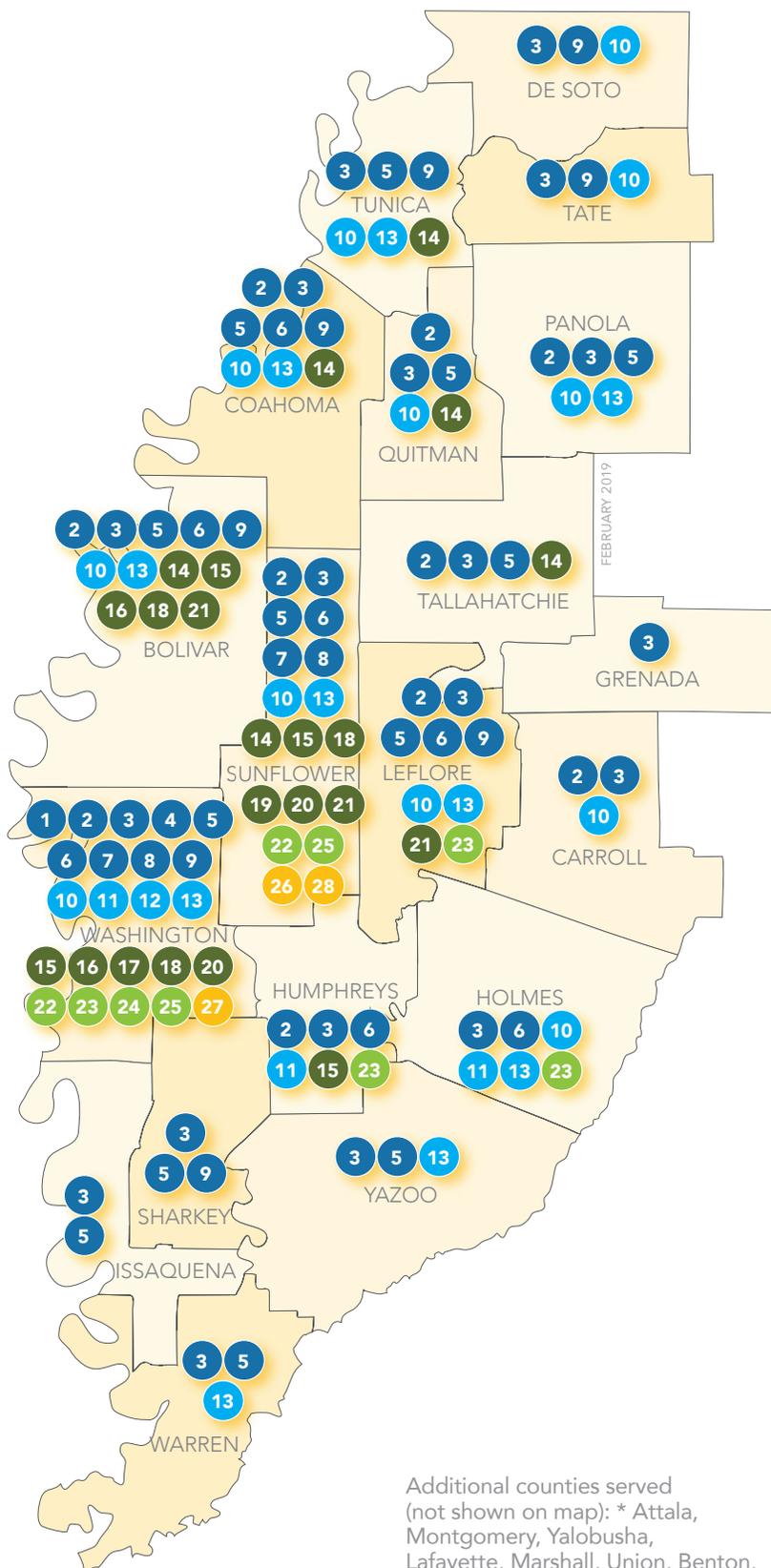
Mississippi Center for Education Innovation
Mississippi Center for Justice
Mississippi Delta Community College
Mississippi Department of
Employment Security
Mississippi Department of Human Services
Mississippi Food Network
Mississippi Health Advocacy Program
Mississippi Low Income Childcare Initiative
Mississippi State Department of Education
Mississippi United to End Homelessness
Mississippi Valley State University
Planter's Bank and Trust
Renasant Bank
South Delta Regional Housing Authority
Southern Bancorp
University of Mississippi Center for
Excellence in Literacy Instruction
University of Mississippi – Jumpstart

LOCAL PROGRAM PARTNERS

Aaron E Henry Community
Health Service Center
B.B. King Museum
Bayou Academy
Bolivar County Community Action Agency
Bolivar County Council on Aging
Burn Healthcare Institute
Carroll County School District
Chosen Generations
City of Greenwood
City of Indianola
City of Leland
Clarksdale Municipal School District
Coahoma County School District
Coahoma County Youth Outreach
Delta Arts Alliance
Dr. Andrea Smith
Forever Lifting Youth (FLY Zone)
Friendship MBC
G Hope MBC
Girls to Women/Men to Boys
Greenville Christian School
Greenwood Leflore Hospital
Greenwood Public School District
Hollandale Economic Community
Development Foundation

Hollandale School District
Indianola Family Medical Clinic
Indianola Literacy Coalition
Indianola Mayor's Health Council
Indianola P-16 Council
King Temple
Leflore County Health Center
Leland Deacon Alliance
Leland School District
Mallory Community Health Center
Mississippi State University
Extension Carroll County
New Jerusalem MBC
New Mount Zion MBC
North Sunflower Medical Center
On Track Community
Development Corporation
Our House, Inc
Parents for Public Schools
Pave /Med Ed Services
Pecan Grove Therapeutic Home
Quitman County School District
Rainbow Learning Center
Raspberry Men's Club
S & S College of Hair
South Delta School District
South Sunflower County Hospital
St Luke MBC
Sunflower County Childcare Association
Sunflower County Consolidated
School District
Sunflower County Freedom Project
Sunflower County Judicial System
Sunflower County Ministerial Alliance
Sunflower County United for Children
Sunflower Humphreys County
Progress, Inc.
Town of Arcola
Town of Hollandale
Vicksburg-Warren School District
Warren-Washington- Issaquena-Sharkey
Community Action Agency, Inc.
Washington County Economic Alliance
Washington County Judicial System
Washington County Opportunities, Inc.
Washington County Sheriff's Department
Yazoo City School District
Yazoo County School District

DHA Initiatives



Additional counties served (not shown on map): * Attala, Montgomery, Yalobusha, Lafayette, Marshall, Union, Benton, Tippah, ** Forrest, Perry, Lamar, Pearl River, Covington, Madison

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

1. Leland Medical Clinic
2. Leland Medical Therapy*
3. The Delta Heart Health Network**
4. Small Provider Quality Improvement Program
5. Delta Futures Teen Pregnancy Prevention
6. Accountable Health Community
7. Deer Creek Behavioral Health Network
8. Delta Systems of Treatment And Rehabilitation (*Delta STAR*)
9. Delta Opioid Task Force (*DOT*)

INCREASING HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

10. Electronic Health Services***
11. U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
12. Delta Health Information Network
13. Medicaid Population Health Demonstration Project

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

14. Tobacco-Free Coalition
15. Imagination Library
16. Monsanto Nutrition Grant
17. Monsanto Delta EATS (*Edible Agriculture Teaching Students*)
18. Delta EATS (*Edible Agriculture Teaching Students*) Community Foods Planning Project
19. Early Head Start Childcare Partnership
20. Delta DREAMS
21. Delta Assault Response Team Network (*DART*)

HELPING FAMILIES

22. Parents as Teachers
23. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy Start Collaborative
24. Universal Parenting Place
25. Sesame Street in Communities

BUILDING PROMISE COMMUNITIES

26. Indianola Promise Community (*IPC*)
27. Deer Creek Promise Community (*DCPC*)
28. Phil Hardin Early Childhood Initiative (*Promise Community Expansion*)



A large, stylized graphic on the right side of the page, consisting of overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of blue, resembling a stylized human figure or a group of people.

Delta Health Alliance

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