



SUPPORTED BY DELTA HEALTH ALLIANCE

# The Deer Creek Promise Community

## DEER CREEK PROMISE COMMUNITY COMES TO HOLLANDALE *By: Anthony Powell*

**You may have heard something about this new project. We are sending this report to you as a way of informing you about this exciting new project, but also we want to solicit your involvement and ideas.**

The purpose of the Deer Creek Promise Community is simple – to work with your local school district in creating a pathway for children to prepare themselves for postsecondary education and for the workforce.

Delta Health Alliance is the Stoneville-based organization that received the grant from the U.S. Department of Education. We will be working with the Leland School District, the Hollandale School District, and all of the communities and families that participate in those two school systems for the next five years.

**This is a long term commitment.**

We have held several meetings with your school district leaders to begin preparations for the grant. We plan on having many more, including with parents and the community.

All of the money we will be spending will focus on these four areas. The grant we received does not allow us to spend money on major building renovations or construction.

While our major partners in Hollandale are the school district and the city, we have many more we are currently working with and others we would like to hear from. Review the list on the back side along with how to get in touch with us.

The first program for Hollandale will be a group of summer camps we will be sponsoring. Look for information to come your way about how to obtain registration forms for children and students. In upcoming months, we will have major KICKOFF ceremonies in Hollandale, Arcola and Leland.

Check out our Q&A about the Deer Creek Promise Community. Review our Partners. And get in touch with us. We want to hear from you, and we look forward to working with you!

### Q&A

**...What is the Deer Creek Promise Community?...** This is a new project that consists of nearly 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 unincorporated areas.

**...What is the goal of the Deer Creek Promise Community?...** To ensure that all children served by the Hollandale and Leland school districts are ready to learn, that students who need help get help quickly, and that young people graduate and transition to post-secondary education.

**...What is different about the Deer Creek Promise Community?...** We work together and unite health care, education, government, community, and faith-based organizations to develop a “pipeline” of academic, family, and community resources. Everyone works together to build a “pipeline” of programs that start with prenatal care and continues through high school graduation. Our programs complement each other and work together in a coordinated fashion. Also, each program is rigorously assessed against objective criteria in order to ensure its success.

**...How will you work?...** Our staff will work through partners and directly with families and students. We are hands-on!

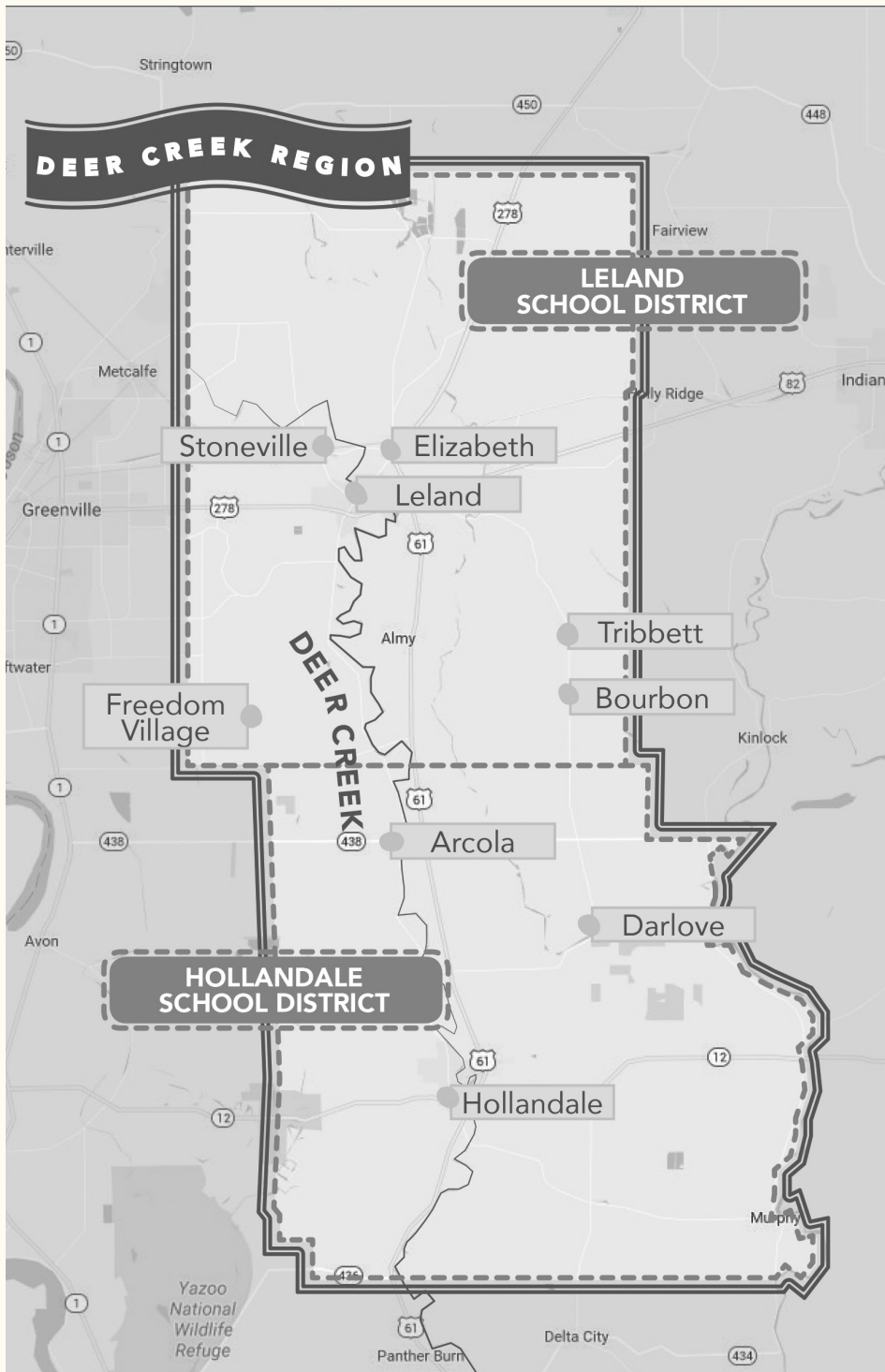
**...Where did the grant come from?...** Delta Health Alliance obtained the grant by competing for it with groups from all over the country with the U.S. Department of Education. It is modeled after a similar grant that created the Indianola Promise Community in Sunflower County. This grant, and the one for Indianola, are two of only three grants awarded to rural areas in the country.

### THE FOUR GOALS OF THE DEER CREEK PROMISE COMMUNITY

- 1 Helping children get ready for kindergarten
- 2 Helping third grade students read on a proficient level before the end of their year
- 3 Making sure students know their English and Math as they move into middle and high school grades
- 4 Working with high schoolers on college and career preparation

# A NEW OPPORTUNITY

## FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE LELAND AND HOLLANDALE SCHOOL DISTRICTS



### OUR PARTNERS

- Care Bears Child Development Center
- Children's Defense Fund
- City of Hollandale
- City of Leland
- Delta Council
- Delta Housing Development Corporation
- Dolly Parton Foundation
- Imagination Library
- Fun-Shine Daycare Center
- Girls Scouts Heart of the South
- Guaranty Bank & Trust
- Hollandale School District
- Keplere Institute
- Leland Deacon Alliance
- Leland Medical Clinic
- Leland School District
- Lil Darlings Learning Center
- Mississippi Delta Community College
- Mississippi State Department of Education
- Mississippi State Department of Health
- Monsanto
- Mother Goose Learning Center Site 2
- South Delta Regional Housing Authority
- Teach for America
- Town of Arcola
- United States Department of Education
- Warren-Washington-Issaquena-Sharkey Community Action Agency, Inc
- Washington County Economic Alliance
- Washington County Opportunities, Inc.
- Washington County Sheriff's Department

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