

LAUREL
MAYOR'S



COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN
FREE FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE

FIRST EDITION
PRINTED 2023

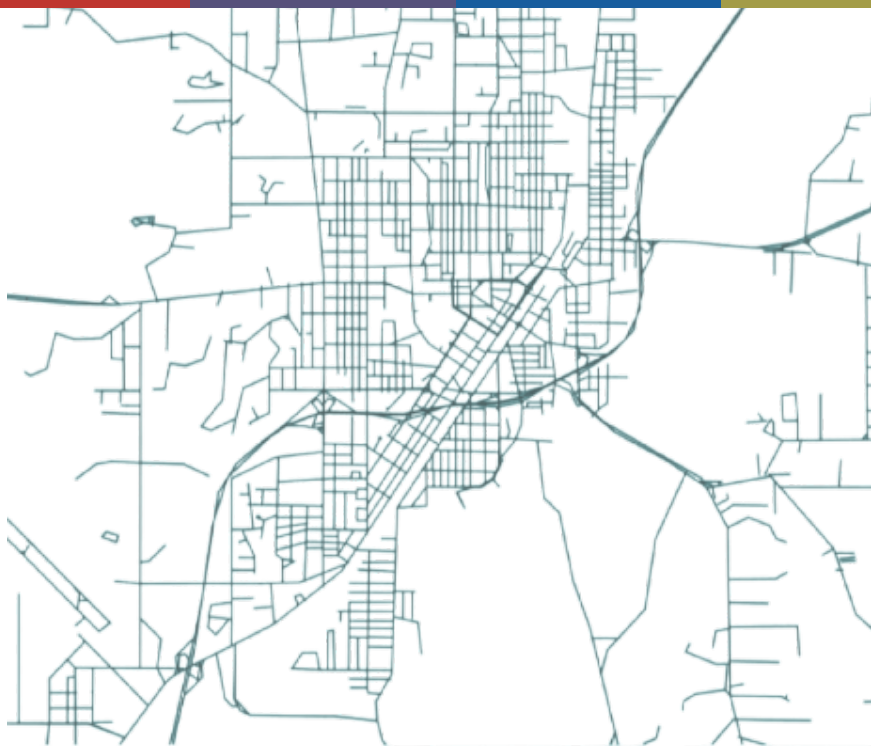


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QUICK REFERENCE

Mississippi 211

1-866-472-8265

211 is a statewide hotline that offers information on a broad range of services, including housing, food banks, health resources, and child care.

United Way of the Pinebelt - First Call for Help

601-649-4357

United Way does not offer direct assistance, but can refer individuals to partner agencies that may meet their needs.

Nurse Link®

1-800-882-6274

Nurse Link® is a free community service. All calls are answered and recorded by registered nurses with combined experiences in pediatrics, home health, and physicians' offices.

Poison Control

1-800-222-1222

If your child has ingested a substance that you think might be poisonous, call Poison Control immediately.

Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-222-8000

If you suspect a child is being abused physically, sexually, or verbally, call the Mississippi Child Abuse Hotline to make a report.

IN EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911.

LEARNING BEGINS AT BIRTH

When you talk, read, and sing with your child—even before she can use words—you're building her brain and helping to prepare him or her for success in school and in life.

SIGN UP NOW for FREE BOOKS through IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Every child born in our community is eligible to receive books in the mail from birth to their 5th birthday that are FREE to YOU through a partnership with Nurture Our Future!

Just put in your info here:

**<https://imaginationlibrary.com/check-availability/>
and the books will start arriving every month.**

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD FROM BIRTH

Tips for Infants

TALK!

- Your touch and voice help your baby learn. Listen to the sounds your baby makes and repeat them. When they coo, coo back. Your touch combined with this back-and-forth “baby language” are the first steps in talking.
- Everywhere, talk about what you see and what your baby is looking at: “Wow, I see the four dogs, too!” “I love that red truck you’re playing with. It goes beep beep!”
- As you feed your baby, use words to describe what foods taste, feel, and look like. “This yogurt is smooth.” “That yellow banana is sweet!”

READ!

- Read a book or tell a story to your baby every day – beginning at birth.
- Cuddle with your baby as you share a book. It doesn’t matter how young your child is; even newborn babies are learning when their parents read with them.

SING!

- Hold your baby close during bedtime and sing a favorite song again and again. Singing the same song can help your baby feel calm and safe.
- Sing silly songs about your day to help get your baby’s attention during diaper changing.

Tips for Toddlers

TALK!

- Everywhere you go, talk about what you see. A stop sign, a traffic light, or a tree might seem boring to you, but it’s a whole new world to your child, so teach them about it!
- Young children learn best during playful, everyday activities. Play “I-Spy” in the grocery store together. Choose a color and encourage your child to point out objects that match the color.

READ!

- You can inspire a love of books and words in your young child by reading or telling a story together every day.
- Point to the pictures, letters, and numbers in books. Ask open-ended questions as you share the book together. “What do you see? How does he feel? What would you do if you were her? What’s your favorite page?”

SING

- Sing during everyday activities like driving in the car, or during bath time. It can be repetitive and simple, like “Wash your toes, wash your nose!”
- Singing songs that have basic counting or rhyming patterns also helps children learn basic math skills. “One, two, buckle my shoe. Three, four, open the door.”

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Visit <https://mississippithrive.com/resources/> for other easy, everyday ways you can help your baby learn and grow, and find out questions to ask your doctor about your child’s growth and development, AND find child care providers and doctors.

**SUPPORT FOR
BASIC NEEDS:
HOUSING, FOOD,
UTILITY PAYMENT
ASSISTANCE
and OTHER
NECESSARY ITEMS**

Laurel Housing Authority*

701 Leontyne Price Boulevard, Laurel, MS 39440

Phone: 601-425-4651

Apply for subsidized housing: <https://laurelha.net/Housing.aspx>

Salvation Army

Financial Assistance: Utilities, Housing, Medication/ Prescription/Grocery Assistance/Food Boxes

Emergency Shelter: Men, Women, and Women with Christmas Assistance: Families and Seniors and the Angel Tree

205 North 13th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

Email: Raymond.pruitt@uss.salvationarmy.org

601-428-4232

Website: <https://salvationarmyalm.org/laurel/>

Jones County Department of Human Services

Provides: DHS Economic Assistance, TANF, SNAP Food Stamps, LIHEAP

5110 Highway 11 North, Ellisville, MS, 39437

601-426-1200

Glory House Global Outreach

Food Pantry, Christmas Store, and Disaster Relief, School Supplies, Uniform Assistance

Address: 217 Houston Road, Laurel, MS 39443

Email: thegloryhouselaurel@gmail.com Web: <https://thegloryhouse.org>

Phone: (601) 262-5555

Ruth's Education and Relief Services Charity (RERS)

Ruth's Education and Relief Services (RERS) Inc. is focused on Education Improvement and Disaster Relief Support for Laurel and Jones County residents.

555 Magnolia Road Laurel, MS 39443

(601) 778-1333

Laurel Junior Auxillary, Family Matters and Secret Meals

Family Matters provides school-appropriate clothing to children in need in the Laurel and Jones County schools. Secret Meals is a program where Laurel Junior Auxillary provides non-perishable snacks to children who have been identified as being "food insecure" on the weekends. Contact a school counselor about these programs.

Contact: jalauresetsecretmeals@gmail.com

jalauresetfamilymatters@gmail.com

Laurel Family Health Center

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program

Mothers and Infant Nutrition

1010 W 1st St Laurel, MS 39440

601.422.0243

Good Samaritan Center

540 Ellisville Blvd.

<https://goodsamaritancenter.org/home-v1/good-sam-laurel/>

Free lunch at the Soup Kitchen Monday through Friday from 11 am until 1 pm.

Case Managers currently assist people during the SNAP application process—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 am to 12 pm. 8 am to 10 am is reserved for those aged 50+.

Women, Infants and Children's Nutrition Program (WIC)

WIC is a special supplemental food program for pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants, and children under five years of age. WIC helps you and your baby get healthy foods and healthy advice in the first years of life.

1222 Hillcrest Dr ,Laurel, MS, 39440

Phone : 601-428-417

Domestic Abuse Family Shelter

Domestic Abuse Family Shelter strives to provide accessible, culturally relevant, domestic violence, and trauma-informed services for primarily women and children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and elder abuse. Victims also include populations of men, LGBTQ, teens, undocumented immigrants, persons with Limited English Proficiency, elderly, and persons with disabilities. Temporary emergency shelter (includes the provision of temporary housing, food, transportation, case management, individual and group counseling, referrals, personal hygiene items, clothing, special needs assistance, etc. for up to 90 days)

Office Address: 420 North 6th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

Contact: Becky Stewart

email: office@domesticabusefs.org

Telephone number: 601-428-1707 | Crisis Line: 1-800-649-1092

DWELL, LLC

Dwell, LLC is a transitional housing program designed to support women returning to the community after incarceration or treatment. The purpose of the program is to offer residential services for women who are in recovery, recently exiting correctional facilities, escaping situations of domestic abuse or pursuing divorce.

lisa-cochran.dwell@gmail.com

<https://www.liveindwell.org/>

Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

This program provides eligible households up to \$30/month (or \$75/month for households living on Tribal lands) toward their internet bills, as well as a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet. Families can check their eligibility, sign up, and find fully covered plans at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov) (mobile-accessible and available in Spanish) 877-384-2575.

Habitat for Humanity of the Pinebelt

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization dedicated to building homes for those in the community who need it most. Pine Belt Habitat's greatest mission is to provide families with sustainable housing, while ensuring they reach homeownership status.

5191 HWY 42, Hattiesburg, MS, United States, Mississippi

Phone: (601) 582-4663

website: [pinebelthabitat.org](https://www.pinebelthabitat.org)

**FREE OR LOW COST
HEALTH, LEGAL, AND
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES**

Free ,Low Cost & Accessible Healthcare Services for Mothers & Children

Good Shepherd Clinic

Free Medical Services, Pharmaceutical Services, Dental Services, Ophthalmology Services, Gastroenterology Services, Gynecology Services

Physical Address: 207 South 11th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

Contact Person: David Wolgamott, Office Manager

Telephone number: 601-426-2001

Agency Email: lgoodshepherd@gmail.com

Family Health Center, Inc

OB/GYN, Family health, Pediatric medicine, Internal Medicine, Pharmacy, Behavioral health, Diabetes Support, Social Services, HIV/AIDS services, Sliding scale services

Laurel - Main Clinic: 117 South 11th Ave., Laurel, MS 39440

<https://laurelfamilyhealthcenter.com/>

601.425.3033

OB/GYN Clinic: 103 South 12th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

601.399.1970

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program is a federally mandated service which provides preventive and comprehensive health services for children from birth up to age 21 who are eligible for Medicaid. It provides critical services to improve the health of infants, children and adolescents. It provides a way for children to get medical exams, checkups, follow-up treatment, and special care they need to make sure they enjoy the benefits of good health.

Immunizations, Vision screening Dental screening

<https://medicaid.ms.gov/programs/early-and-periodic-screening-diagnosis-and-treatment-epsdt/>

Address : 1100 Hillcrest Dr ,Laurel ,MS ,39440

Phone : 601-425-3175

Jones County Health Department

Physical exam, including a medical history, Pap smear, clinical breast exam, height, weight and blood pressure. Testing for pregnancy, HIV and sexually-transmitted diseases. Birth control supplies, Early Hearing Developmental assessments and support

Open: Monday – Friday

5168 Old Highway 11 , Ellisville, MS 39440 HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Family Planning Services: Please call before you visit.

Phone: 601-426-3258

South Central Prenatal and O-GYN Care Options

South Central OB-GYN

1002 Jefferson Street, Suite 250, Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-649-5421

Ellisville OB-GYN

1203 Avenue B, Ellisville, MS 39437 | 601-477-2226

South Central Primary Care Services

1008 N. 15th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-426-5125

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Services provided include: Comprehensive Female Care for Women of All Ages, Gynecological Surgery – da Vinci Robotics, Laser or Laparoscopic, Hormone Replacement Therapy, Pregnancy and Childbirth Care, Ultrasonography, PMS, Infertility including Intrauterine Insemination (IUI),

Urinary Incontinence, Menopause, Osteoporosis and other health conditions.

Medicaid, Medicare and Most Commercial Insurance Plans are accepted.

OB-GYN Medical Providers include Rachel Cudworth, DO, Robert A. DeSantis, MD, B. Michael Weber, MD, Keith Winstead, DO, Stephanie Crosby, WHNP, FNP, Ashley Floyd, WHNP, CLC, and Stacey Nix, FNP.

South Central Pediatric Care Options

South Central Pediatrics

1002 Jefferson Street, Suite 200, Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-649-3520

Ellisville Pediatric Clinic

1203 Avenue B, Ellisville, MS 39437 | 601-477-3550

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Services provided include: Newborn Care, Hospital Care, Acute Care for Infants, Children and Adolescents, Well-Baby and Health Maintenance Examinations, Immunizations, Chronic Care for Asthma and Diabetes, Care for Attention Deficit Disorder, Educational Information for Age Related Concerns, After Hours Triage Service Staffed with Experienced Nurses and other health conditions.

Medicaid, CHIPS and Most Commercial Insurance Plans are accepted.

Pediatric Medical Providers include Achyutha Pujari, MD, Grant Saxton, MD, Amanda Shoubaki, DO, Patricia Tibbs, MD, Ann Richardson, FNP, Carley Robinson, PNP, and Jessie Watson, PNP.

South Central Family Health Care Options

Ellisville Medical Clinic

1203 B Avenue, Ellisville, MS 39437 | 601-477-8553

South Central Family Medicine & Urgent Care

1430 Jefferson Street, Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-425-2273

South Central Primary Care Services

1008 N. 15th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-426-5125

Services provided include: Acute Care Conditions including, sore throats, ear aches, flu, eye infections, sprains and strains, etc. Chronic care conditions including diabetes, COPD, GERD, hypertension, thyroid disease, depression, arthritis, and other conditions which require follow up and care.

Ellisville Medical Clinic and Urgent Care Clinic offer walk-in services.

Medicare, Medicaid and Most Commercial Insurance Plans are accepted.

Health Insurance Assistance

Family Health Center, Inc

Provide Medicaid support

601.425.3033

<https://laurelfamilyhealthcenter.com/social-services/>

Mississippi Division of Medicaid/CHIPS

Health insurance for low income families

1100 Hillcrest Drive, Laurel, MS 39440-4731 | 601-425-3175

Health Help Mississippi

1-877-314-3843

Monday–Friday from 9am–5pm

<https://www.healthhelpms.org/>

Provides Free health insurance advice and coverage options

Family Planning, Pregnancy Options, & Sex Education

Jones County Health Department

Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services including: Family planning counseling and education on all contraceptive methods, including abstinence and natural family planning. Testing for pregnancy, HIV and sexually-transmitted diseases. Birth control supplies Care coordination for certain high-risk clients.

Open: Monday – Friday

5168 Old Highway 11 , Ellisville, MS 39440

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Family Planning Services: Please call before you visit.

Phone: 601-426-3258

Choices Clinic

Services offered: Pregnancy Testing, STI Testing and Treatment, Ultrasound, Pregnancy Options, and support.

601.428.4357

<https://choiceslaurel.com/#services>

Teen Health Mississippi

Provides trainings across the state for adults and teens, and encourages youth leadership in sex education.

<https://teenhealthms.org/>

Family Counseling, Mental Health Therapy, Drug Treatment

Domestic Abuse Family Shelter

Non-residential community counseling- includes counseling to victims/survivors not residing in a shelter in Laurel/Hattiesburg on a daily basis during the week by a licensed counselor.

Office Address: 420 North 6th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

Contact: Becky Stewart

email: office@domesticabusefs.org

Telephone number: 601-428-1707 | Crisis Line: 1-800-649-1092

Family Health Center

Sliding Scale mental health and counseling services

Pinebelt Mental Health / Ellisville

5192 Hwy 11 North, Ellisville, MS 39437

601.649.7921

Crossroads Counseling Center

1515 Parker Drive, Laurel, Mississippi

855.939.6634

<https://www.crossroadscounselingms.com/laurel-counselors>

Pinebelt Mental Health Services:

Jones Mental Health Center

5192 Hwy 11 North, Ellisville, MS 39437

601-649-7921 | 601-649-7939

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

As of July 16, 2022, you can **call, text, or chat 988** to be connected to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL). It will be confidential, free, and available 24/7/365. 988 offers 24/7 access to trained crisis counselors who can help people experiencing mental health-related distress.

El Pueblo's Immigrant Mental Health Services

In partnership with Southern Christian Services, El Pueblo provides free trauma counseling to victims of domestic violence and other violent crimes.

The Mujeres Unidas' programs focus on parenting and mental health issues; providing support to immigrant women in the community.

Contact to schedule an appointment in Forest, MS between 10-5pm, M-F.

info@elpueblo-ms.org

203 E 1st St., Forest, MS

Clearview Recovery Center & Chemical Dependency Services

No. 3 Clearview Circle Moselle, MS 39459

601-544-1499 | 601-544-8464

info@pbmhr.org | <https://www.pbmhr.org/>

The Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention

401 West Oak St. United Way Building, third floor Laurel, MS 39440

PHONE: (601) 342-8027 24/7 Help & Support Line: (601) 264-7777

Español: (833) 981-1414

Providing services to women, children, men, and gender-nonconforming individuals of all ages that are primary and secondary victims. We provide our services to everyone, no matter their gender, race, sexual orientation, and marital status.

Provides:

- 24-hour First Responders for victims of sexual assault and rape at local hospitals.
- Counseling for survivors of sexual assault and co-victims
- Support groups for survivors of sexual assault, and homicide

Dying to Live Ministries

A faith based organization committed to assisting individuals struggling with addiction, homelessness, and recidivism to recover their life and become productive contributors in society. Has a 6 month residential treatment center for women and another 6 month residential treatment center for men. Also offer transitional residential treatment for graduates of both programs.

1301 North 2nd Avenue, Laurel, MS, United States, Mississippi

(601) 543-4744

Dyingtoliveministry@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/dying2liveministries>

South Central Regional Medical Center Alcohol & Drug Detox

Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and Most Commercial Insurances

1220 Jefferson Street Laurel, MS 39440

info@scrmc.com | 601-426-4381

South Central Recovery Center is a hospital-based alcohol and drug dependency facility. Located on the third floor of South Central Regional Medical Center, the inpatient unit treats alcohol and drug dependent individuals. The facility offers a therapeutic setting in which the patients enjoy private rooms, comfortable therapy rooms, dining and community rooms.

South Central Behavioral Health

Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and Most Commercial Insurances

2002-D HWY 15 North Laurel, MS 39440 | 601-426-9614

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

info@scrmc.com

South Central Behavioral Health is an outpatient service that provides individual and family counseling through qualified healthcare providers. Mental healthcare for people ages 5 and up are served through the psychiatric clinic that offers a caring staff of professionals, comfortable environment and private sessions. Personalized professional services for a wide range of common behavioral health conditions affecting adults, seniors, children and adolescents, such as: ADHD, Alzheimer's disease, Anxiety Disorders, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Schizophrenia, Substance Abuse Disorders.

Free (Pro Bono) Legal Services

MS Center for Legal Services

Provides quality legal services to eligible persons in central and southern Mississippi. We provide free civil legal assistance with the most pressing legal needs of low income Mississippi populations with Special Vulnerabilities: Disabled/Handicapped Issues, Domestic Violence

Support for the Family: Bankruptcy, Divorces, Custody and Visitation, Education Matters, Protective Orders, Adoption, Termination of Parental Rights Defense, Guardianships

Maintaining Economic Stability: Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security income, Unemployment Compensation, TANF/SNAP

Post Office Box 1728, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403-1728

Call: 1 (800) 498-1804

Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project

Legal Services: Divorces, Custody and Visitation, Birth Certificate Correction, Adoption, Termination of Parental Rights Defense, Guardianships, Foreclosure Prevention.

PO Box 1503, Jackson, MS 39215

Phone: 601.960.9577, email: mvlp@mvlp.org

website: <https://www.mvlp.net/>

El Pueblo Immigrant Legal Services

Legal Services: Family-based petitions, Legal Permanent Residency Card renewals and replacements, Adjustment of Status, Consular Processing, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Employment authorization, Freedom of Information Act requests, Naturalization/Citizenship, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, T visas, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), U Visa
Contact to schedule an appointment in Forest, MS between 10-5pm, M-F.
info@elpueblo-ms.org | 203 E 1st St., Forest, MS

Transportation

Medicaid Transportation

1-866-331-6004

<https://www.mtm-inc.net/mississippi/>

Rides to non-emergency

medical appointments for

people who are enrolled in Medicaid. 3 day notice is required.

DJ Transit

On Demand rides to Work, School, Shopping, Business or Medical Appointments. Schedule ride at least 24 hours before pick up.

(601) 682-0701

djtransitinc@gmail.com

1010 Rogers Street, Laurel, MS 39440

Transit Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

<https://www.djtransitinc.com/>

**ORGANIZATIONS
THAT SUPPORT
CHILDREN
& FAMILIES**

Child Abuse or Neglect

Mississippi Department of Child Projective Service- Jones County

Mailing Address: 5110 US Highway 11 North Ellisville, MS 39437

Phone: (601) 426-2266 | (601) 426-1252

REPORT ABUSE: <https://reportabuse.mdcps.ms.gov/>

PREVENTION: <https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/programs/child-abuse-prevention>

MDCPS administers several programs dedicated to child abuse prevention and protection in Mississippi: Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programs offer activities to the general public about preventing child abuse and neglect. In addition, these local programs also provide services to at-risk families. Child Protective Services is the resource through which a report of child abuse is investigated, criminal charges may be filed, and the child may be removed from the home for the child's safety

Cherished Hearts, Inc

A nonprofit that responds to child abuse by utilizing a multidisciplinary approach to reduce trauma through advocacy, education, prevention, and referrals. Cherished Hearts focuses on providing a safe, non-threatening environment for child abuse victims, provides a comprehensive array of resources and services for victims of child abuse and their families, and advocates for education to prevent child abuse.

cherishedheartsinc@gmail.com

727 West 5th Street, Laurel, MS 39440

Laurel Junior Auxilliary Child Abuse Awareness Puppet Show

To heighten awareness of child abuse and neglect, Junior Auxiliary members perform puppet shows for first grade students in the Laurel and Jones County schools. The puppet shows present scenarios to help children identify safe behaviors versus unsafe behaviors when interacting with familiar adults as well as strangers. The shows also assist children in identifying individuals who can help them if they have been in a situation where they felt uncomfortable or threatened.

Contact: jalaurelchildabuseawareness@gmail.com

Parenting Support & Resource Centers

South Central Medical Center Breastfeeding Hot Line: 601-426-4234

The South Central Breastfeeding Hot Line was developed to provide our pregnant and postpartum mothers the opportunity to ask questions concerning breastfeeding. This services is available to our community 24/7 and gives a direct line to a Certified Lactation Consultant or Nursery RN that has been specially trained to answer breastfeeding questions.

Jones College Resource & Referral Center

Support finding local child care, educational materials check-out, and books (601) 477-4119 | 601-477-4137
Technology Services Center 900 South Court Street Ellisville, MS
Email: eca@jcc.edu, brooke.knight@jcc.edu

Choices Clinic of Laurel

Free parenting classes for moms and dads in Laurel, Mississippi. Becoming a parent can seem overwhelming. Get answers to your questions about pregnancy and parenting.

<https://choiceslaurel.com/parenting-classes-laurel-mississippi/>

115 South Magnolia St., Laurel, MS

Phone: (601) 428-4357

Friends of Children Head Start Pregnant Females Program

A local program for expencting mothers who are eligible for Early Head Start services. Includes support, parenting education, and baby items.

Contact: Email : ehs_jones@fcmi-ms.us or 601-426-1013

Laurel Jones County Library, Baby & Me Program, and Family StoryTime

Baby + Me – each Tuesday @ 9:00 am in Laurel & each Thursday @ 9:00 am in Ellisville A program exploring books, songs, and fun activities designed for babies and toddlers.

StoryTime – each Tuesday @ 10:00 am in Laurel & each Thursday @ 10:00 am in Ellisville This program features fun stories followed by a related craft designed to encourage a love of reading and help develop reading and social skills in young children.

MSU Extension- Jones County

515 N. 5th Avenue, Laurel , Mississippi 39440

Telephone: 601-428-5201

<http://extension.msstate.edu/family/children-and-parenting>

The MSU Extension Service offers publications, workshops, articles, and helpful tips for parents, grandparents, guardians, and childcare providers.

Embrace Grace Support Groups -For Single and Pregnant Women

Embrace Grace, Inc. is a support group for single moms.

Highland Church 2513 N. 7th Avenue, Laurel, Mississippi 39440

Sunday at 4:30 PM

Foster and Adoption Resources

Mississippi Safe Haven law of 2023: If a parent surrenders their child to a Mississippi state or local law enforcement agency, fire station or mobile ambulance staffed with full-time firefighters, emergency medical technicians or paramedics when the child is forty-five (45) days old or younger and the parent did not express an intent to return for the child, the parent foregoes all parental responsibilities with respect to the infant and gives consent for the state to take custody of the infant. The parent or a person designated by the parent who surrenders the baby shall not be required to provide any information pertaining to his or her identity.

Mississippi Department of Child Projective Service- Jones County

Mailing Address: 5110 US Highway 11 North Ellisville, MS 39437

Phone: (601) 426-2266 | (601) 426-1252

BECOME A FOSTER FAMILY: <https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/programs/foster-care>

ADOPTION INFORMATION: <https://www.mdcps.ms.gov/programs/adoption>

The Mississippi Baptist Children's Home

Address: 118 Lowe Road, Laurel, MS 39443

Email: info@msbch.org

Phone: 601-426-2397 Office: 601-426-3928

<https://www.msbch.org/>

The Mississippi Baptist Children's Home is a benevolent home ministry that extends its services to children that are in need of basic life necessities: love, shelter, food, and guidance. Services: One-week Emergency Care for cases with extenuating circumstances, Physical Custody is a long-term temporary placement option which allows for future family reunification, or Full Legal Custody is the permanent placement option that allows another family to permanently adopt the child(ren).

Junior Auxilliary of Laurel, Bloom Bags

Bags for families fostering a new child or an unexpected placement with 2 weeks of diapers, supplies, and other necessities.

Contact: jaoflaurelms@gmail.com

Children's Intervention & Special Needs Services

Child Find at the Laurel and Jones County School Districts

This is on-going effort to locate, identify, and evaluate children from birth through age 21 who are physically, communicatively, mentally, and/or emotionally disabled. It is the goal to provide a free, appropriate education to all disabled children.

Laurel: Chasity Coleman

Laurel School District, Office of Exceptional Ed: 601-649-6391

Jones County District: Special Education Dept: 601-428-1564

First Steps Early Intervention

570 E. Woodrow Wilson Dr. Jackson, MS 39215
800-451-3903

www.msdh.state.ms.us/msdhsite/_static/41,0,74.html

First Steps offers medical services, mental health counseling, occupational therapy, parent training, cognitive services, physical therapy, speech-language, and social work services.

Children's Specialty Clinic of Laurel

Clinic specializing in children's mental, developmental, and behavioral disorders.
2110 a Sandy Lane, Laurel, MS,
(601) 778-7979

<https://www.facebook.com/childrensspecialtyclinic>

Insight Therapy Center

2118 Sandy Ln, Laurel, MS 39443
(601) 342-2923

Provides occupational, speech and dyslexia therapy services for the pediatric population with Medicaid and private insurance.

Magnolia Pediatric Extended Care

Nurse-led care for pediatric patients for up to 12 hours a day. Along with the skilled nursing care, transportation and nursing assistants we also provide Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy. Accepts Medicaid and also private insurance.

404 N 12th Ave. Laurel, MS

<https://www.magnoliapec.com/>
601-682-1250

Pinebelt Mental Health Services: Laurel Children's Center

1721 W. 10th Street Laurel, MS 39440
601-425-9321 601-425-3231

Accepts Medicaid

<https://www.pbmhr.org/>

EXTRAORDINARY KIDS Support Group

A Support Group for Families and Children with Special Needs

Meets at 6 p.m. on the 1st Tuesday of each month at South Central Place,
2260 MS-15, Laurel, MS 39440

For more information, call Janet Staples at (601) 399-0512.

Very Special Arts

The Very Special Arts event exists to provide students with developmental disabilities a morning of fun and FREE hands-on craft projects, musical activities and interactive games. This festive arts experience is hosted by the Laurel Rogers Museum of Art and is supported by Junior Auxiliary of Laurel, the Laurel Arts League, the Charles Owens Memorial Education Fund, and the City of Laurel.

Contact: 601-649-6374 or email info@LRMA.org.

Ramp Up PineBelt

A program of Habitat for Humanity of the Pinebelt, Ramp Up Pinebelt offers accessibility to elderly and disabled community members across the Pine Belt area by building ramps to single family residences.

Contact: 601-582-4663

South Central Rehabilitation Services

Accepts Medicare, Medicaid and Most Commercial Insurances

Laurel

1002 Jefferson Street

Monday - Friday 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

info@scrmc.com 601-399-0534

Ellisville

1203 Avenue B E

Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

info@scrmc.com 601-477-3504

South Central Regional Medical Center's Rehabilitation Services offers a variety of services, including Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy and Autism Therapy. We have four convenient locations in Laurel, Taylorsville and Ellisville. The therapist have specialized certifications including autism therapy, manual therapy, sports medicine, vestibular rehab and lymphedema management.

South Central Regional Medical Center Therapy Services include:

Aquatic Therapy, Outpatient Orthopedics, Speech and Swallowing Therapy, Pediatrics – Developmental Delays, Work Injury Rehabilitation, Parkinson Wellness Recovery Therapy, Hand Therapy, Stroke Rehabilitation, Work & Sports Injuries and others.

**EDUCATION
AND
CARE**

Local Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Laurel Christian Lower School (K3-6th)

Audubon Drive Bible Church Campus

2601 Audubon Drive

Laurel MS 39440

Lower School: (601) 649-3999

Preschool: (601) 649-8989

<https://www.laurelchristian.org/>

Laurel Magnet School of the Arts (4-year-old kindergarten-5th)

1125 North 5th Avenue

Laurel, MS 39440

601-428-7782

<https://www.laurelschools.org/laurel-magnet-school-of-the-arts/index>

Laurel Upper Elementary School (4th & 5th grades)

D.U. Maddox Campus

600 South 16th Avenue

Laurel, MS 39440

601-426-6436

<https://www.laurelschools.org/laurel-upper-elementary-school/about-laurel-upper>

Nora Davis Elementary School (2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades)

305 Martin Luther King Ave, Laurel, MS 39440

Phone: (601) 428-7782

<https://www.laurelschools.org/nora-davis-elementary-school/index>

Oak Park Elementary School (4-year-old kindergarten-3rd grades)

1205 Queensburg Avenue

Laurel, MS 39440

601-428-5046

<https://www.laurelschools.org/oak-park-elementary-school/index>

St. Johns Day School (PreK2-6th Grades)

520 North 5th Avenue

Laurel, MS 39440

Office #: (601) 428-4350

office@sjds laurel.com

<http://www.sjds laurel.com/>

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Laurel Christian Upper School (7TH-12TH)

Westminster Presbyterian Church Campus
1200 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH
LAUREL, MS 39440
(601) 649-4190
<https://www.laurelchristian.org/>

Laurel Education Center (alternative setting for grades 6th - 12th)

Stainton Building
795 S. 19th Avenue
Laurel, MS 39440
Phone: 601-649-5195
<https://www.laurelschools.org/laurel-education-center/index>

Laurel Middle School (6th - 8th grades)

1600 Grandview Drive
Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-5312
<https://www.laurelschools.org/laurel-middle-school/about-lms>

Laurel High School (9th-12th)

R.H. Watkins Campus
1100 West 12th Street
Laurel, MS 39440
601-649-4145
<https://www.laurelschools.org/laurel-high-school/about-lhs>

Child Care & After School Programs

Programs that Accept the Mississippi Child Care Payment Program

The Child Care Payment Program (CCPP) is a federally funded program administered the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS). The program is designed to provide qualifying parents and guardians with child care tuition assistance. Learn more and apply here: <https://www.mdhs.ms.gov/eccd/parent-information/>

Highland Baptist Learning Center

Email : shannon@highlandchurch.net

Phone : 601-425-4225

Address : 2513 N 7TH AVE, Laurel

Great Expectations Children and Learning Center

Email : amandacharay068@gmail.com

Phone : 601-342-5961

Address : 1816 SHORT 3RD AVE, Laurel

Angie's Child Development Center

Email : angelamcarmichael@gmail.com

Phone : 601-422-8718

Address : 1603 SUSIE B RUFFIN AVE

Fishers of Men Bible and Music Center

beth@fishersofmencenters.org

601-518-5000

400 W 5th Street, Laurel

Lil' Darlings Aftercare and Summer Camp

Email : Shannoncjordan@comcast.net

Phone : 601-422-8221

Address : 1503 W 9TH ST, Laurel

Child Care and Aftercare programs that do not accept the Child Care Payment Program

South Central Children's Academy

Email : lhodge@scrmc.com

Phone : 601-425-7563

Address : 232 S 12TH AVE, Laurel

The Children's Depot, LLC

Email : thechildrensdepotlaurel@gmail.com

Phone : 601-342-5240

Address : 224 LOWER MYRICK RD, Laurel

Happy Trails Aftercare and Summer Camp

Email : HAPPYTRAILSLLC4@GMAIL.COM

Phone : 601-651-6045

Address : 219 N 17TH AVE, Laurel

Build a Child

Email: alainarowzee15@yahoo.com

Phone: 601-577-6622

Address : 703 N 11TH AVE

Ms. D's Learning Center

Email : mrsdslearningcenter@gmail.com

Phone : 601-470-3384

Address : 143 CENTRAL AVE

Kid's Kingdom Learning Center

Director Email : kidskingdom@comcast.net

Phone : 601-649-1299

Address : 19 BATES RD, Laurel

Little Miracles 2

Email : kandic_87@yahoo.com

Phone : 601-433-5950

Address : 17 GLADE BAPTIST CHURCH RD

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

Queen Olive Headstart Center

Director Email : queen_olive@fcmi-ms.us

Phone : 601-425-5849

Address : 518 MADISON ST, Laurel

Jones County Early Head Start

Email : ehs_jones@fcmi-ms.us

Phone : 601-426-1013

Address : 149 BROWN CIR, Laurel

King Star Headstart and Early Headstart

Director Email : kingstar@fcmi-ms.us

Phone : 601-649-6503

Address : 1025 W 6TH ST, Laurel

Enrichment and Out of School Learning

Salvation Army

Youth Character Building Programs: Ages 6-18 for males and females.

Physical Address:

205 North 13th Avenue, Laurel, MS 39440

Contact Person: Major Raymond N. Pruitt

Email: Raymond.pruitt@uss.salvationarmy.org

601-428-4232

Pine Belt Youth Coalition

A support program for at-risk youth enrolled at the Pine Belt Education Center and the Laurel Education Center involving volunteers from the community Motivational Speakers and workshops for at-risk youth Incentive programs to encourage teens to continue academic achievement, to improve behavior, and to stay in school.

Physical Address: 26 Calhoun Cemetery Rd, Laurel, MS 39443

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6401, Laurel, MS 39441

Telephone number: 601-428-8800 or 601-319-7793

Agency Email: ghenderson.pa@gmail.com or

pinebeltyouthcoalition@gmail.com

Jones County Extension Office 4-H

MSU Extension Service 4-H Youth Development Program provides local learning opportunities for the state's young people ages 8–18.

(601) 428-5201

515 N 5th Ave, Laurel, MS, United States, Mississippi

email: webteam@ext.msstate.edu, ida.knight@msstate.edu

<http://extension.msstate.edu/msu-extension-jones-county>

<https://www.facebook.com/jonescountyextension4H/?fref=ts>

Girl Scouts

Hattiesburg Service Center

110 South 37th Avenue, Suite 10

Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Office: 601.326.4475

<https://www.gsgms.org>

Pine Burr Area Boy Scouts

1318 HARDY STREET SUITE A, HATTIESBURG, MS 39401, 601-582-2326

<http://www.pineburrscouts.org/home>

Laurel Library

Each week the Laurel Library hosts craft classes, lego building clubs, and other fun events for children and youth in the evenings and after school. Learn more about and register for these events at this website

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/laurel-jones-co-library-33388544143>

Lauren Rogers Museum Educational Programming

The Lauren Rogers Museum of Art's offers summer art camps and afterschool art classes throughout the year. They also offer elementary classroom art kits, and homeschool art programs on the 4th Thursday during the school year. learn more:

565 N 5th Avenue, Laurel, MS

Contact; Hillary Steinwinder , 601.649.6374

<https://www.lrma.org/>

Glory House Global Outreach

Children's Summer Camps and Vacation Bible School, and Enrichment Activities

Address: 217 Houston Road, Laurel, MS 39443

Email: thegloryhouselaurel@gmail.com Web: <https://thegloryhouse.org>

Phone: (601) 262-5555

The YWCO of Laurel

428 W Oak St, Laurel, MS 39440

(601) 428-5694

<https://www.ywcolaurel.com/>

The YWCO is a gathering place of our community. We also offer several classes and programs such as: oga, Student Art, Karate, Square Dancing, DMA, 5th grade Cotillion Call for meeting times and schedules.

Laurel Little Theatre

Has opportunities for evening theatre productions for youth and young adults, as well as children's summer theatre programs.

408 North 5th Avenue

(601) 428-0140

Future Leaders of Jones County

Future Leaders of Jones County Program is a leadership development program open to all high school juniors or those students who are testing on an 11th-grade curriculum who meet the requirements detailed on the application. There is no tuition for FLJC program. The program begins in December with a team-building retreat followed by four full-day sessions and concludes in May with a graduation ceremony.

<https://jonescounty.com/foundation/fljc/>

Books & Literacy

Laurel-Jones County Library

530 Commerce Street
Laurel, MS 39440
Phone: 601-428-4313
<https://laurel.lib.ms.us/>

Ellisville Public Library

201 Poplar Street
Ellisville, MS 39437
Phone: 601-427-9271
<https://laurel.lib.ms.us/>

Laurel-Jones County Library Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading programs are held at both library locations each week throughout the month of June. These programs are designed to maintain children's skills and interest in reading during school breaks. These special events feature performers, storytellers, art, games, laughter, and lots of page-turning fun for all ages.

Nurture Our Future*

Offers Laurel and Jones county children from birth to age 5 the opportunity to sign up for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. They will get a new book (free of charge to families) in the mail every month until their 5th birthday.
www.nurtureourfuture.org
biz@nurtureourfuture.org

Junior Auxilliary 1st Grade Literacy Project

All first graders in Laurel and Jones County School District will receive a kit that includes a book, interactive activities that relate to the story, necessary supplies, and parent resources.
Contact: jalaurelliteracyproject@gmail.com

Little Free Libraries

Find a Little Free Library in Laurel: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/map/>
A Little Free Library is a "take a book, return a book" free book exchange. They come in many shapes and sizes, but the most common version is a small wood-en box of books. Anyone may take a book or bring a book to share.

**PARKS
AND
RECREATION**

Public Parks

Laurel City Parks and Recreation

Offices: 936 Hillcrest Dr, Laurel

(601) 428-6452

Email: jamiejohnson@laurelms.com

Susan Vincent Sportsplex: 4978 Hwy 84 W. Athletic park. Includes public indoor swimming pool, public tennis courts, baseball and soccer fields, and paved and natural walking trails.

Euclid Park: 1000 block Euclid Ave. -Natural setting. Includes park benches.

Gardiner Park: 701 N 4th Ave.- Includes running track, playground, and multipurpose field

Cottonmill Park: 400-408 N 5th Ave.- Playground and picnic tables

Pinehurst Park: Nth 5th Ave -Urban setting with pavillion and park benches

Boston Park: 2321 Queensburg Ave. -Natural Setting with basketball court, baseball field, 2 pavillions, picnic tables, splash pad

Oak Park: 114 Tyler St.- Outdoor swimming pool (open summer and for lessons), 1 softball field, 1/4 mile lighted walking track at stadium, 1 football field, field house

Mason Memorial Park: 1501 N 7th Ave.- Walking paths, two playgrounds, pavillion, & amphitheater.

Dixie Boys Fields: 1315 West Dr. 3 youth baseball fields, 2 softball fields, restroom, 5 batting cages,

Daphne Park and Cameron Center: 600, 700 & 800 block 10th Ave.- Includes playground, 5 tennis courts, indoor gym and basketball court, outdoor basketball court, walking track, and skateboard park.

Sandy Gavin Park: 518 Madison Street- "Tot Lot", picnic tables, grills and regulation size basketball court

Victoraria Park/Ellis Center: 500 & 600 Block Munson St.- Includes swimming pool, picnic tables, open play area

Leontyne Price Musical Park: 530 Central Avenue- Includes park benches, outdoor musical instruments and murals

Trustmark Art Park: 530 Central Avenue - Fenced-in open play area, picnic table, chairs

Free Family Events

Martin Luther King Community Development Corporation Celebration-

Throughout the month of January

Website: <https://www.mlkpb.org/events-gallery>

Fraternal Order of Police Mardi Gras Parade- A Saturday in February

Where: Downtown Laurel

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/fraternalorderofpoliceLaurel/>

Nurture Our Future's Touch A Truck- First Saturday in April

Where: Downtown Laurel parking lot behind the Library

Website: www.nutureourfuture.org

Lauren Rogers Museum of Art ChalkFest- Good Friday

Where: 5th Avenue in front of the Museum

Website: <https://www.lrma.org/event/chalkfest/>

Day in the Park- First Saturday in May

Where: Mason Park 7th Avenue and 18th Street.

Website: www.laurelartsleague.org

Downtown Thursday Family Movie Night- Thursday evenings in June & July

Where: Backlot at Magnolia Street in downtown Laurel

Website: <https://www.downtownthursday.com/>

Lauren Rogers Museum of Art Heritage Arts Fest- 1st Saturday in October

Where: Lawn in front of the Museum

Website: <https://www.lrma.org/event/heritage-arts-festival-3/>

Loblolly Festival- 1st Saturday in October

Where: Downtown Laurel

<http://laurelmainstreet.com/loblolly-festival/>

United Way of the Pinebelt Prancer Path- All December

Where: Backlot at Magnolia Street in downtown Laurel

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/uwpbr/>

Sertoma Club of Laurel Christmas Parade- First Friday in December

Where: Downtown Laurel

Website: <http://www.sertomaoflaurel.org/christmas-parade>

Other Recreation Opportunities

The Social Club

Hosts ability Inclusive events at a local outreach center while also serving as an educational and networking hub for both caregivers and professionals for differently abled children.

2110 a Sandy Lane, Laurel, MS,

PHONE: (601) 342-5247

Jonescountysocialclub@yahoo.com

<https://www.thesocialclublaurel.com/>

Country Lanes Bowling

Bowling, Arcade, and food

10 Shady Grove Moss Rd, Laurel, MS

601-342-5239

Champs Club

Rolling skating rink, arcade, and inflatable jumps

(601) 778-7933

Dougburnette@gmail.com

Trey's Playhouse and Arcade

Arcade games, Pool, video games, and summer camps.

130 Leontyne Price Blvd, Laurel, MS

(601) 778-7954

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Treys-Playhouse-and-Arcade-100076762933930/>

**WORKFORCE
AND
COLLEGE
READINESS**

College and Career Readiness Support

Laurel High School Career & Technical Center (9th-12th grades)

601-649-4144

1100 West 12th Street

Laurel, MS 39440

Career and technical counselors (CTE) work to impact students directly with career and personal development training. Indirect involvement includes considerable efforts by counselors to provide enhanced experiential opportunities to fine-tune workplace skills through collaborations and partnerships with local area businesses and business leaders.

Jones County Economic Development Authority Career Coaches

Chataura Sanders

Phone: (601) 498-0707

chatauras@edajones.com

Collyn Leggett

Phone: (601) 498-0819

collynl@edajones.com

Kayln Patterson

601-325-8192

kaylnp@edajones.com

Laurel WIN Job Center

Job Placement, Priority Services for Veterans, WIOA, TAA

Computer Applications Training

Resources for Individuals: Computers with Internet access, Phone, Fax, Copier, Resume Preparation, Career Planning & Assessment, Resource Center, ADA compliant Workstation with JAWS software

2139 Hwy 15 N, Suite D

Laurel, MS 39440

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

Phone: 601-399-4000

<https://mdes.ms.gov/win-job-centers/laurel-win-job-center/>

This resource guide was made possible by many different individuals and organizations.

Designed, formatted, and written by Biz Harris of Nurture Our Future.
Compiled by the members of the Mayor's Council for Children.



THE LAUREL MAYOR'S COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN IS GRATEFUL TO THESE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT





SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

MEDICAL STAFF DIRECTORY

ANESTHESIOLOGY

Kyle Bellamy, MD 601.426.4462
Pilar Kirkland, MD 601.426.4462
J. Keith Fisher, MD 601.426.4462

CARDIOLOGY

Bassam Mechleb, MD 601.425.5544
Wassim E. Mouannes, MD 601.425.5544
W. David Sullivan, MD 601.649.2863
Norrapol Watt, MD 601.649.2863

DERMATOLOGY

Amy Adams, DO 601.425.4860

DIABETES SERVICES

W. Mark Horne, MD 601.425.2273

ENT, HEAD & NECK

Jamie Sisk, MD 601.649.9706
Carl W. Stevens, MD 601.649.9706

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Thomas Bailey, MD 601.426.4000
Danielle Blakeney, MD 601.426.4000
James Bronson, DO 601.426.4000
Teresa Camp-Rogers, MD 601.426.4000
Edmund Chinchar, MD 601.426.4000
Marvin Dunbar, MD 601.426.4000
Michael Gast, MD 601.426.4000
Jonathan Redding, MD 601.426.4000
Jeremy Rogers, DO 601.426.4000
Jeremy Unger, DO 601.426.4000

FAMILY MEDICINE

Jack C. Evans, MD 601.425.2273
J. Kenneth Grafton, MD 601.425.2273
Bharat R. Patel, MD 601.649.3821
Terry C. Pitts, DO 601.425.2273

GASTROENTEROLOGY

Carolyn H. Cegielski, DO 601.649.2863
Jesse H. Ezzell Jr., MD 601.649.2863

GENERAL SURGERY

R. Kevin Ivey, MD 601.649.7802
Seth Ladd, DO 601.649.7802
Chad Saul, MD 601.649.7802

HEMATOLOGY/MEDICAL ONCOLOGY

Sandeep Singh, MD 601.518.7054
Lisa Bond, MD 601.518.7054

HOSPITALIST

David Harrison, MD 601.426.4000
Hamit Kumar, MD 601.426.4000
Michael McCain, MD 601.426.4000
Oscar Okyere, MD 601.426.4000
Joel Shores, MD 601.426.4000
Deepu Thoppil, MD 601.426.4000

INTERNAL MEDICINE

James M. Beasley, MD 601.649.2863
Mark W. Norton, MD 601.649.2863
Alison Redding, MD 601.649.2863
Graham Rogers, MD 601.649.2863
Monika Thoppil, MD 601.649.2863
Burgese Turel, MD 601.425.3033

NEUROLOGY

Gulshan Oberoi, MD 601.649.2863
Aremmia D. Tanious, MD 601.426.2140

OBESITY MEDICINE

Kelly Tullos, MD 601.426.5125

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Rashad N. Ali, MD 601.425.3033
Rachel Cudworth, DO 601.649.5421
Robert DeSantis, MD 601.477.2226
B. Michael Weber, MD 601.649.5421
Keith Winstead, DO 601.649.5421

OPHTHALMOLOGY

Judith L. Bradley, MD 601.426.9454
John B. Lyon, MD 601.649.2450
Sarah Queck, MD 601.426.9454

ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Darren Alexander, DMD 601.425.2356
Clay B. Thames, DDS 601.425.2356

ORTHOPEDICS/

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

Thomas Baylis, MD 601.649.5990
Charles Black IV, DO 601.649.5990
Jeff Burns, MD 601.649.5990
William A. Morrison, MD 601.649.5990

Pain Medicine

Rayhan Tariq, MD 601.425.7500

PATHOLOGY

Brian Wilkinson, MD 601.426.4000

PEDIATRICS

Bernard G. DeAsis, MD 601.425.3033
Adaku Nwosu, MD 601.425.3033
Achyutha S. Pujari, MD 601.477.3550
Grant Saxton, MD 601.649.3520
Amanda Shoubaki, DO 601.649.3520
Patricia A. Tibbs, MD 601.477.3550

PLASTIC SURGERY

Hossein Nasajpour, MD 601.425.7522

PODIATRY

Ethan Milton, DPM 601.426.4010

PSYCHIATRY

Amandeep Singh, MD 601.426.9614

PULMONARY MEDICINE

Alla Yugay, MD 601.649.2863

RADIOLOGY

Jimmy Daruwalla, MD 601.426.4050
Steven Quin, MD 601.426.4050
D. Frederick Vial, MD 601.426.4050

RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Cameron Pimperl, MD 601.425.2999

SLEEP MEDICINE

Joyce D. Wade, MD 601-326-2599

UROLOGY/UROLOGICAL SERVICES

Jens Graversen, MD 601.428.0438

WOUND CARE/HYPERBARIC MEDICINE

601.426.4739

scrmc.com