



Office of Parent Services  
and Student Support

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# STUDENT RESOURCE GUIDE

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Meridian Community College is dedicated to helping students succeed in their academic venture by supporting their mental, physical, and emotional well-being. In order to help students navigate difficult situations which might arise, MCC offers support services. Occasionally, in addition to the services available on campus, students are referred to local community agencies that may be able to provide further assistance. This list is not exhaustive, but we hope to offer students information as well as a starting point to find help when needed.

## Support Services at MCC

### Accessibility Services

For nearly 15 years, Meridian Community College has been providing Accessibility Services, which shows our dedication and support for students with documented disabilities. Our college and staff are dedicated to assisting each student to achieve their educational goals by making the college's facilities and programs accessible for all people.

Consistent with the mandates of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Meridian Community College is committed to providing individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from its educational programs and services. Support Services has been designated to coordinate the College's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under these laws.

#### Services Provided:

- Enlarged Print Material
- Extended Time
- Individual Testing
- Readers
- Study Skills

#### Contact Information:

E Jeanette Howell, CTE Support Services Coordinator  
[ehowell@meridiancc.edu](mailto:ehowell@meridiancc.edu) | 601.484.8777

### Support Services for Students

The office of Support Services helps provide equal access to recruitment, enrollment and placement activities, the full range of educational programs available, as well as comprehensive career guidance and counseling services to individuals belonging to these groups. It is our effort that no one shall be discriminated against on the basis of his/her status as a member of a special population.

Our office strives to encourage independence, to assist students in realizing their academic potential and to

facilitate the elimination of physical, programmatic and attitudinal barriers.

Services for single parents and displaced homemakers include counseling, advocacy support, community referrals and networking with agencies. Some students may qualify to participate in a book loan service.

Students are considered part of a special population if:

- They are economically disadvantaged
- They are educationally disadvantaged
- They are a displaced homemaker
- They are a single parent
- They are preparing for non-traditional training and employment

Self-identification is voluntary. However, the Support Services Office can be of service to students only to the extent that their individual needs are made known. Students and prospective students are encouraged to make early contact with the Support Services Office.

#### Services Provided:

- Open Food Pantry
- Grants for School (Limited)
- Book loan program
- Counseling Referral

#### Contact Information:

Lashundra Grady, Support Services Coordinator  
[lgrady3@meridiancc.edu](mailto:lgrady3@meridiancc.edu) | 601.484.8836

## Medical and Mental Health

Meridian Community College has contracts for student mental health counseling services with Weems Community Mental Health Center and with Psychology Associates. Full-time MCC students are eligible for up to six visits at Weems and up to four visits at Psychology Associates during a calendar year. For appointments, students simply call ahead to either agency, and then bring their student identification card and MCC course schedule to the appointment. Weems provides after-hours emergency telephone consultations, and all sessions are confidential.

### Psychology Associates

**(Up to 4 visits) Contracted through MCC.**

Psychology Associates offer professional and caring counseling services for families, seniors, couples, children, and individuals from all walks of life. Whether you or a member of your family needs help to deal with issues such as depression, anger management, domestic violence, post-traumatic stress disorder, ADHD or ADD, they can help.

Their counselors work diligently to provide a warm, inviting atmosphere and an attentive ear. They offer services for children, families, individuals, and couples.

#### Services Include:

- Psycho Therapy
- Family & Marriage Therapy
- ADHD Evaluation & Testing
- Medication Management
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy

#### Contact Information:

5004 Highway 39 N | Meridian, MS 39301  
**601.693.8307** | [psychologyassociatesllc.com](http://psychologyassociatesllc.com)

### Weems Community Mental Health Center (Up to 6 visits) *Contracted through MCC.*

Established in 1970, Weems Community Mental Health Center has offices in each of the nine counties that make up Region Ten of the Mississippi Community Mental Health System.

#### Counties served by Weems include:

Clarke, Jasper, Kemper, Lauderdale, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Smith. Weems is a non-profit organization that is a non-political subdivision of the State of Mississippi.

#### Services Provided:

- Parent Education Services
- Mobile Crisis Response Team
- Adult Services
- Children and Youth Services
- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Treatment
- Employee Assistance Program
- Prevention Service
- Supported Employee Program
- Community Services
- Crisis Stability Unit

#### Contact Information:

1415 College Drive | Meridian, MS 39307  
**Local: 601.483.4821** | **Toll-Free: 800.803.0245**

### Alliance Health Center

Alliance Health Center is a 154-bed acute care psychiatric and substance abuse hospital that offers treatment programs for adolescents, adults and senior adults. They also house the Crossings, a 60-bed residential treatment facility for adolescents. They are dedicated to serving individuals with acute mental and behavioral health disorders and substance abuse issues.

#### Services Provided:

- In-Patient Services
  - Adolescent Psychiatric
  - Adult Psychiatric
  - Senior Adult Unit
  - Medical Detox
  - Dual Diagnosis
- Outpatient Substance Abuse Services
  - New Leaf Recovery is Alliance Health Center's selection of outpatient services for adults who struggle with substance abuse. These programs are designed for patients age 18 and older who may benefit from substance abuse treatment, but do not require the 24-hour intensive care of an inpatient program.
  - Outpatient substance abuse services are offered at three levels of care to accommodate the treatment needs and schedule availability of each patient.
- Residential Treatment Center
  - The Crossings at Alliance Health Center is a fully operational residential treatment center that provides treatment for adolescent boys age 12 to 17 who have a conduct disorder or have committed a sexual offense. It offers gender-specific programs in which patients attend a minimum of three group therapy sessions a week and individual therapy once a week. This includes substance abuse groups, process groups, physical and sexual abuse groups and recreational activities.
  - They have two units for their conduct disorder program and one for their sexually aggressive program. Therapists are located in each of the Crossing's three units, and nursing staff are onsite 24 hours a day. While in our care, these patients attend classes for seven hours a day at the Crossroads, their fully accredited school. GED preparation and special education courses are also offered.
- Educational Services for Adolescents
  - The Crossroads School at Alliance Health Center offers adolescent patients educational services from certified teachers and other qualified staff members. They assess each patient's educational needs and provide learning opportunities, when clinically appropriate, to enable each student to stay on track with schoolwork and remediate specific academic deficiencies. The department staff maintains close communication with the patient's home school and strives to continue the course work through their stay at Alliance.

#### Contact Information:

**Local: 601.483.6211** | **Toll-Free: 877.853.3094**  
5000 Highway 39 North | Meridian, MS 39301

## The Free Clinic of Meridian

The Free Clinic of Meridian provides free medical care for more than 1,000 of their neighbors who have no health insurance, are ineligible for Medicare or Medicaid, and earn less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

### Services Provided:

- Primary care for uninsured adults
- Mental health counseling
- Limited laboratory and radiology testing
- Prescription medications (no controlled drugs)
- Health education counseling

### Contact Information:

Poplar Springs Drive | Meridian, MS 39305  
**601.286.5551** | [freeclinicofmeridian@gmail.com](mailto:freeclinicofmeridian@gmail.com)  
**f FreeClinicOfMeridian**

## Central Mississippi Family Medical Clinic

Central Mississippi Family Health Clinic is a federal government qualified health center. Some free or low-cost medical care may be offered. Students can contact the clinic to see what may be offered and payments that may be accepted. A sister type center is the East Mississippi Medical Clinic.

### Services Offered:

- Medical Care

### Contact Information:

905-C South Frontage Road | Meridian, MS 39301  
**601.486.4210**  
**601.485.7777** (East Mississippi Medical Clinic)

## Lauderdale County Health Department

The Lauderdale County Health Department provides health protection, health promotion, and health planning. Some services require an appointment, but walk-ins are accepted on a limited basis.

### Services Provided:

- Disease Surveillance
  - Disease tracking and outbreak management
  - Laboratory testing for West Nile virus, flu, syphilis, TB, HIV, and other diseases
  - Prevention programs for flu, mosquito-borne diseases, HIV, and other STDs, and communicable diseases
  - Statewide coordination of immunizations and vaccinations
- Disease and Injury Prevention
  - Tobacco control and cessation programs

- Nutritional training and information
- Chronic disease prevention and management (arthritis, diabetes, asthma, heart disease, high blood pressure, cancer, and other diseases)
- Safe biking and walking in communities
- Car seat safety and installation
- Fire safety
- Standards of Care
  - Child care facility licensing and regulation
  - Licensing and regulation of nursing homes, assisted living, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities
  - Trauma care regulation
  - Licensure of audiologists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, dietitians, and other professions
- Immunizations
  - Required and recommended childhood immunizations
  - Meningococcal and HPV vaccinations for adolescents
  - Seasonal flu vaccinations for all ages
  - Recommended vaccinations for international travel
- Comprehensive Reproductive Health
  - Educational information and counseling
  - Physical exams and contraceptive supplies
  - STD/HIV testing
  - Pregnancy care





- Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
  - New and improved monthly supplemental food packages
  - Nutrition education classes
  - Breastfeeding support
  - Health care referrals

 **Contact Information:**

5224 Valley Street | Meridian, MS 39304  
**601.693.2451** | [msdh.ms.gov](http://msdh.ms.gov)

**Meridian WIC Center**

3701 Eighth Street | Meridian, MS 39307  
**601.693.5507**

## Greater Meridian Health Clinic

The Greater Meridian Health Clinic provides an assortment of primary medical care and professional services that fall within the scope of their service. The clinic wants to make sure that your medical needs are met at an affordable price.

**Services Provided:**

- Adult Medicine
  - Diabetic Education
  - Immunizations
  - Social Services
  - Obstetrics & Gynecology
  - Family Planning
  - Annual Exams
- Pediatrics
  - Immunizations
  - EPSDT Screening
  - Well Care Visits
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
  - Prenatal Care

- Dental
  - Preventive
  - Restorative
  - Screenings
  - Annual Exams
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
  - Nutritional Assessment
  - Medical/Dental Referrals
  - WIC Food Package Distribution Center
- Pharmacy
  - Prescriptions filled on site if the prescription is written by a provider employed by Greater Meridian Health Clinic, Inc

 **Contact Information:**

2701 Davis St. | Meridian, MS 39301 | **601.693.0118**

## Community Service Organizations

### The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

**Services Provided:**

- Social Service Office Assistance
- Food Pantry
- Disaster Services
- Red Kettle Campaign
- Holiday Assistance

 **Contact Information:**

The Salvation Army Meridian, MS  
1115 25th Avenue | Meridian, MS 39301  
**601.483.6156**

## Multi-County Community Service Agency

Multi-County Community Service Agency strives to serve as the legal entity whereby the community may organize itself and mobilize its resources to combat poverty and the related problems of the poor; including employment, education, housing, nutrition, emergency services, income management and economic development as a charitable organization.

### Services Provided:

- Low income home energy assistance program (LHEAP)
- Community Service Block grant (CSBG)
- Weatherization (DOE)
- Meals on Wheels (MOW)
- Foster Grandparent Program (FGP)
- Community supplemental food program (CSFP)
- Frances W. Davidson Center for homelessness (FDCH)
- Emergency food and shelter (EF&S)
- Volunteer Income tax assistance (VITA)
- Federal Emergency Managements Agency (FEMA)
- The Riley Foundation
  - FWD Center for Homelessness
  - Summer Work Program

### Contact Information:

#### Administrative Office Hours

**Monday - Friday:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Phone: **601.483.4838** or **800.898.0659**

Fax (administration): **601.486-4917**

Fax (services): **601.482.9861**

[info@multicountycsa.org](mailto:info@multicountycsa.org) | [multicountycsa.org](http://multicountycsa.org)

## Care Lodge

Care Lodge provides services to residents of nine counties in east Mississippi and is the only certified domestic violence shelter in MS Highway Patrol District VI.

### Services Provided:

- 24-Hour Crisis Line
- Victim Support Services
- Safety Planning
- Emergency Domestic Violence Shelter
- Domestic Abuse Protection Order Assistance
- Counseling
- Case Management
- Court Advocacy
- Information and Referrals
- Violence Intervention Program
- Transitional Housing Program for Victims
- Training and Speakers Bureau

- Teen Dating Violence Education
- Resources

### Contact Information:

1627 23rd Avenue | Post Office Box 5331

Meridian, Mississippi 39301

**601.693.HOPE (4673) | 601.482.8719**

**601.483.8436 | 601.483.8404**

## Wesley House Community Center, Inc.

Wesley House Community Center, Inc. is a non-profit organization that began in 1904 when Mrs. Elizabeth Cochran, Mrs. J.R. Whittaker and some ladies of the Central Methodist Church in Meridian, Mississippi felt a calling to "...minister to the least of these..." These Methodist women sought to bring families in a cotton-mill community on the Eastern boundary of Meridian, into the sphere of Christianity. Today, Wesley House is a National Missions Institute and is in a covenant relationship with the United Methodist Women. It is also a recognized mission of the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church. Wesley House is an agency of The United Way of East Mississippi. Wesley House is also a member of the National Children's Alliance, Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi, and the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault. We provide a hand-up approach of assistance to our clients through four separate and distinct mission areas.

### Services Provided:

- Bill Pay Assistance toward prescriptions, utilities, and housing
- Pre-school
- Adult Education
- Child Advocacy Center
  - Forensic Interviews
  - Family and victim advocacy
  - Trauma counseling
  - Multidisciplinary Team Facilitation
  - Prevention and Education Programming
- 24/7 Sexual Assault Crisis Hotline: **601.482.2828**

### Contact Information:

520 8th Ave | Meridian, MS 39301

**601.485.4736 | [info@wesleyhousemeridian.org](mailto:info@wesleyhousemeridian.org)**

## Center for Pregnancy Choices

The CPC offers free, confidential services and support for women, couples, and loved ones who are facing an unexpected pregnancy. Each guest at the Center is treated with respect and empathy as they consider their goals, dreams and next steps. With the support of kind and caring staff, the people we serve can expect truth,



love and connection to opportunities that will help them achieve their goals and choose a parenting decision that aligns with their deepest values.

#### Services Provided:

- Pregnancy Tests
- Pregnancy Counseling
- Material Assistance
- Post Abortion Support
- Abstinence Training
- Adoption Referrals
- Community Assistance Referrals
- Parental Training
- Fatherhood Program
- Earn While You Learn

#### Contact Information:

2401 9th Street | Meridian, MS 39301  
**601.527.8829** | Text: **601.527.8829**

## Free or Low-cost Food

### LOVE's Kitchen

Lauderdale Outreach and Volunteer Effort, Inc., known as LOVE's Kitchen, is a nonprofit, charitable organization created for feeding the hungry in Meridian and Lauderdale County, MS. Meals are served at no cost to those who are hungry, and no one is turned away as long as there is still food to serve.

#### Services Provided:

- Hot Meals
- Food Pantry

#### Contact Information:

801 18th Ave S | Meridian, MS 39301 | **601.693.1409**

### Lauderdale Baptist Association Crisis Center

Lauderdale Baptist Association Crisis Center offers food, often in partnership with local churches. There is also a free soup kitchen on site at their Marion office.

#### Services Provided:

- Food Pantry
- Hot Meals

#### Contact Information:

5521 Clinton Street | Marion, MS 39342 | **601.482.4230**

### Maranatha Fellowship Church

Maranatha Fellowship Church has a food pantry for people in need.

#### Services Provided:

- Food Pantry

#### Contact Information:

720 A. John Stennis | Meridian, MS 39307 | **601.480.2370**

### Zion Hill CME Church

Zion Hill CME Church offers a free food pantry and household supplies for the community and those in need. The church even has an on-call service to address needs day or night.

#### Services Provided:

- Food Pantry
- Household Supplies
- On-call service

#### Contact Information: **601.479.3173**

## Housing Assistance

### Meridian Housing Authority

The Meridian Housing Authority was incorporated in 1939 and provides decent, safe and affordable housing opportunities to more than 3,000 residents in the City of Meridian, Mississippi. This agency currently administers 1215 public housing units, 215 Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) and manages 89 mixed income, privately managed apartments. The main office is located near downtown Meridian in the South Meridian community adjacent to the Mt. View Village Housing community.

#### Services Provided:

- Public Housing Program
- Assistant Housing Program

#### Contact Information:

2425 E Street | Meridian, MS 39302  
**601.693.4285** | [meridianhousing.net](http://meridianhousing.net)



Meridian Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion or age in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Compliance with Section 504 is coordinated by Mrs. Deanna Smith, Dean of Student Affairs, Ivy Hall, 910 Highway 19 North, Meridian, MS 39307. 601.484.8895, Fax: 601.484.8635, email: [dsmith40@meridiancc.edu](mailto:dsmith40@meridiancc.edu). Compliance with Title IX is coordinated by Mr. Derek Mosley, Social Science Instructor, Smith Hall, 910 Highway 19 North, Meridian, MS 39307. 601.553.3453, Fax: 601-484-8635, email: [dmosley@meridiancc.edu](mailto:dmosley@meridiancc.edu).