



# MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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## For Immediate Release

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### FRIENDS OF MSH PREPARES FOR LEGISLATIVE APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

WHITFIELD—Friends of Mississippi State Hospital and Friends of Hudspeth Center will be joining together to recognize Mississippi legislators in the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Appreciation Breakfast on Tuesday, Feb. 7.

An annual tradition to which all legislators are invited, the breakfast will be held at 7:30 a.m. at Galloway United Methodist Church in Jackson. Usually hosted by Friends of Mississippi State Hospital, the breakfast will be hosted this year in conjunction with Friends of Hudspeth Center, so members of both groups can show their appreciation to legislators. The public is invited, and seats can now be reserved for \$12.

“The support the Department of Mental Health receives in the Legislature is what enables our services to be offered to patients and clients throughout the state,” Friends of MSH President Bill Bobbs said. “This is just a small measure of our appreciation for its continued support of our most vulnerable citizens.”

The past several years have also offered legislators opportunities to hear first-hand stories from individuals directly impacted by DMH, letting them know how vital their continued support is for Mississippians in need of mental health services. This year will be no different, as the keynote speakers will be citizens who have been served through Mississippi State Hospital and Hudspeth Regional Center.

A non-profit charity organization dedicated to promoting the work of the hospital and informing the public about mental illness, Friends of MSH is active throughout the year. Members help enhance the quality of life for MSH patients by offering a variety of programs and events for patients, Jaquith Nursing Home residents and individuals served in the community.

The Friends of Hudspeth Center organization promotes public interest in Hudspeth Regional Center, which services 25 counties in central Mississippi, and works to further understanding of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The group also raises funds for projects that improve the quality of life for the individuals served through the center.

For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Sheila Shows at (601) 351-8377.

*MSH, a facility of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and facilitates improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians who are in need of mental health, chemical dependency or nursing home services, by rehabilitating to the least restrictive environment, utilizing a range of psychiatric and medical services, which reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.*