



working together
to improve the lives
of the people and communities
of Mississippi



A force multiplier

Mississippi's high need and scarce resources provide fertile ground for creativity.

The Mississippi Alliance of Nonprofits and Philanthropy fosters exciting solutions to address challenges by fostering collaboration among and between our nonprofit and philanthropic communities.

Mississippi is home to more than 14,000 individual nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations with combined assets of over \$22 Billion dollars. There is only ONE Alliance.

In a poor state every charitable dollar spent must be maximized to produce positive outcomes. The Alliance makes this happen.

- The Alliance convenes Affinity Groups to tackle some of the most substantial challenges facing Mississippians: education, health, workforce/jobs, and arts & culture.
- The Alliance provides regular opportunities for organizations to learn, share and build relationships in order to improve outcomes for their respective constituents:
 - Quarterly Regional Forums
 - Weekly Webinars
 - Quarterly Membership Meetings
 - Quarterly Executive Director Roundtables
 - Monthly Capacity Building Trainings

The Alliance - Drawing Philanthropic Investment

The Alliance serves as a resource to regional and national funders interested in building a short- or long-term investment presence in the state. 54.5% of the total annual philanthropic dollars spent in Mississippi are from out-of-state funders.

(Source: 2019 Philanthropic Giving in Mississippi Report)

The Alliance and its partner, Volunteer Mississippi, established the statewide Volunteer and Non-profit Hub Network to:

position Mississippi nonprofits to
rapidly respond to local and regional
community needs



serve as a critical intermediary
between local nonprofits and the
public sector



provide a statewide infrastructure
consisting of 8 regions to work with
nonprofits and volunteers



effectively mobilize volunteers to
work with and support nonprofits





training, collaboration, capacity building

Mississippi nonprofits deserve the best possible resources in the form of training, collaboration, and capacity building

The Alliance provides tools for Mississippi nonprofits to develop skills they need to produce successful outcomes. The Alliance researched national best practices and standards for both nonprofits and philanthropy and adapted them for Mississippi, resulting in the publication of the MS Alliance Principles and Standards for Nonprofit and Philanthropy Excellence[®]. This body of work informs Alliance programming and serves as the framework for the Excellence In Action (EIA) curriculum. More than 400 organizations have participated in EIA.

- Offers 15 learning opportunities, providing 20 hours of content, to Alliance members monthly.
- Engages an average of 15 trainers and consultants each month to assist Alliance members.

“Our museum completed The EIA Certification Program in 2016. Because we improved our organizational capacity through EIA, we submitted an improved grant application with solid data that earned us a grant award of over one million dollars to expand the museum. We fully credit EIA with preparing us for this opportunity.”

- An EIA graduate

The Alliance leverages philanthropic resources

Economic and social impact

For every dollar invested through grantmaking and philanthropic activity, there is a direct economic and social impact reflected by a \$8.28 return on investment. There is considerable investment and positive impact on the state's economy.

(Source: The Economic and Social Impact of Mississippi Philanthropic Grants, 2020, a study commissioned by the Alliance)

CONVENING FOR ACTION

The Alliance's **Education Affinity Group**, in partnership with Barksdale Reading Institute and the Mississippi Department of Education, is playing a major convener and facilitator role in the distribution of CARES Act resources focused on closing the state's digital divide.

The **Community Foundation Network** (an affinity group of The Alliance) will play a leadership role in the effective distribution of \$8 million in CARES Act funding for Mississippi nonprofits.



The Alliance – Enabling a Unified Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic crisis

Since the COVID-19 crisis hit Mississippi, The Alliance team mobilized to provide:

25

Consultations
& Webinars
specific to
COVID-19
response

1,000+

Participant Engagements



84

Free consultations to
organizations
requesting support

38

Hours of Learning
Opportunities (training,
webinars, and
consultation), as of June 1

- Facilitated policy work including the Education Affinity Group, Mississippi Department of Education and state legislators to address the digital divide
- Proposed allocating resources from CARES Act for Mississippi nonprofits providing services and aid to Mississippians
- Through volunteer hubs, facilitated safe placement of volunteers in front-line nonprofit responder organizations
- Collected and shared resources on The Alliance website focused on enhancing or improving nonprofits' response during COVID-19
- In partnership with Volunteer Mississippi, conducted three statewide surveys - two Community Impact Surveys and a Philanthropic Response Survey - to identify nonprofit resource needs in local communities

Our strategic partners

Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Mississippi Chapter

Candid (formerly GuideStar and
The Foundation Center)

Independent Sector

Millsaps College

Mississippi Department of Health

Mississippi State University
Social Science Research Center

National Council of Nonprofits

Network for Good

Regional Volunteer and
Nonprofit Hub Network

Society of Nonprofits

United Philanthropy Forum

University of Mississippi

University of Southern Mississippi

Volunteer Mississippi

William Winter Institute
for Racial Reconciliation

**The Alliance is thankful for the foundations,
corporations and individuals who have invested
in our important work.**

Barksdale Reading Institute

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi

Community Foundation for Mississippi

Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi

CREATE Foundation

Entergy

Foundation for the Mid South

Gulf Coast Community Foundation

Maddox Foundation

Phil Hardin Foundation

Regions Bank

The Chisholm Foundation

Walker Foundation

Wells Fargo

W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Woodward Hines Education Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation deserves special recognition for planning support and a multi-year matching grant for general operations. Without the Foundation's willingness to fund the planning process that led to its creation, The Alliance would not exist. The Alliance is forever grateful.

The Alliance - Leading the Nation

Mississippi leads the way nationally through the Alliance's efforts as the only statewide entity in the country that strategically brings nonprofits and philanthropy together to learn, share, and solve problems collaboratively.



175 E Capitol Street, Suite 501
Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 968-0061
alliancems.org