

Mississippi Department of Human Services is committed to developing and implementing new and innovative policies and strategies, which will improve the quality of life and economic status of all Mississippians.

The Senate unanimously confirmed Janice Broome Brooks as Executive Director during this legislative session. Since her appointment by Governor Musgrove in December, Mrs. Brooks has provided a new sense of purpose and direction for MDHS, by virtue of both her leadership qualities and tireless work ethic.

In March we announced, a child care initiative which will allocate an additional \$19.5 million dollars for quality, affordable child care services to 12,700 additional families, and the provision of financial assistance to help pay the cost of utility bills to low-income families, the elderly and disabled, and families with small children.

MDHS is focusing on five major goals: the improvement of customer service; promotion of economic independence for TANF families; improvement in the overall effectiveness of Agency programs; improvement of internal and external communications; and improvement of MDHS image through community outreach and internal team building.

We are striving to build strong families and to make more Mississippians self-reliant. And we are giving our people the opportunity for a better quality of life for themselves and their families.