

MS State Data 2012



Helping Mississippi's Children Succeed

Since 2003, we've implemented core programming in Mississippi. We currently partner with **17 schools and communities** in **10 counties**, serving **6,700 children**.

OUR MISSISSIPPI PROGRAMS GET RESULTS

2011 RESULTS: Literacy Results: Children in our program read an average of **52 books** during the school year and more than **59% of participants** showed significant reading improvement. On average, literacy improvement among program participants was equivalent to an **additional 4.1 months of schooling**.

Health Results: Children participated in an average of **31 minutes of physical activity** per day and were introduced to nutritious snack options.

National Early Steps Results: **84%** of 3-year-olds in our Early Steps program scored at or above the normal range for vocabulary acquisition.

Resilient and Ready Results: We trained **469 Mississippi adults** and **5,738 children** in disaster preparedness.

2011-2012 EDUCATION AND HEALTH PARTICIPATION

School by County	Children Served	Early Steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
Amite County	736			
Amite County Elem.		✓	✓	
Bolivar County	1345			
Brooks Elem.		✓	✓	✓
I.T. Montgomery Elem.		✓	✓	✓
McEvans Elem.			✓	✓
Shelby Middle			✓	✓
Chickasaw County	589			
Houlka Elem.			✓	✓
Coahoma County	193			
Friars Point Elem.			✓	✓
Jefferson Davis County	818			
G.W. Carver Elem.			✓	✓
J.E. Johnson Elem.			✓	✓
Marion County	1433			
East Marion		✓	✓	✓
West Marion Elem.			✓	
West Marion Prim.		✓	✓	

CORE PROGRAMS IN MISSISSIPPI

The **Early Steps to School Success** program is designed to assist children, from birth to age 5, with language, social and emotional development; to equip parents with the skills and knowledge to successfully support their child's growth; and to develop strong home-school connections. Ages 0-5

The **Literacy** program provides children in elementary school with the opportunity to increase their reading achievement by supplying the tools they need to develop reading skills and the guidance and support they need to grow as readers. Ages 5-12

The **Healthy Choices** program aims to increase children's information and access to regular physical activity and healthy snacks in a school environment. Ages 5-12

The **Resilient and Ready Communities** initiative helps communities at risk of disaster meet new national standards and integrate best practices for supporting children's safety and well-being through preparedness planning and programs. Ages 0-18

32.4% of Mississippi children live in poverty; in rural areas, it's **37%**.

School by County	Children Served	Early Steps	Literacy	Healthy Choices
Quitman County	328			
Carl Brown Center		✓		
Quitman Elem.			✓	✓
Tallahatchie County	478			
R. H. Bearden Elem.			✓	✓
Wilkinson County	344			
Finch Elem.			✓	✓
Yazoo County	428			
Boys & Girls Club MS Delta			✓	✓

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www.savethechildren.org/usa-sponsor

CREATING IMMEDIATE AND LASTING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN

POLICY & ADVOCACY

We advocate for initiatives and legislation at the state and national level that promote children's wellbeing and resiliency, including the necessity of quality early education programs, funding for underserved school districts, childcare emergency preparedness, and the reversal of the childhood obesity epidemic through the Campaign for Healthy Kids, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation partnership.

Results: In 2011, policy changes championed by Save the Children stand to benefit **40 million American kids**; we improved child health and wellness policies in ten states; and since 2009, we've influenced disaster preparedness policy changes in 22 states.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY

We respond directly to disaster-affected communities, working to address unmet needs of children through Child-Friendly Spaces, supervised play areas in shelters, and long-term resiliency support to children and caregivers through our Journey of Hope program.

Results: In response to Hurricane Katrina, we served nearly **200,000 children and caregivers** in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, through Child-Friendly Spaces, donating supplies and providing emotional support through our signature Journey of Hope program. In 2011, we served more than **46,000 children, families and caregivers** through our disaster readiness, response and recovery programs nationwide.

SPONSORSHIP

Our child sponsorship program gives children living in poverty a chance at a brighter future by supporting Save the Children's programs in communities to ensure access to quality education, healthy foods and opportunities to grow in a nurturing environment.

Results: Currently, **500 children** in our Mississippi programs receive sponsorship.

EFFECTS OF POVERTY IN MISSISSIPPI

32.4% of children live in poverty¹; in rural areas, it's **37%**.²

71% of children are eligible for free or reduced-priced meals, a socioeconomic challenge recognized as a barrier to student achievement.³

49% of 4th graders scored below the basic level of reading achievement on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.⁴

36% of children ages 3 to 5 are not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten.⁵

2 of 5 rural children ages 10 to 17 are overweight or obese (38.5%).⁶

17.6% of rural children are obese, or have a body mass index exceeding the 95th percentile for the age and gender.⁷

¹ 2011. *Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates*. U.S. Census Bureau.

² 2009. *Mississippi: Demographics of Poor Children*, National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP). Columbia University. New York, N.Y.

³ 2011. National Center for Education Statistics, US Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ 2010. *Early Warning! Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters*, Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF).

⁶ 2007. *Overweight and Physical Inactivity among Rural Children Aged 10-17: A National and State Portrait*, South Carolina Rural Health Research Center.

⁷ Ibid.

