

<u>The ARC of Mississippi</u> The Arc of Mississippi was founded in 1961 and is an affiliate of The Arc of the United States, the world's largest grassroots advocacy organization for citizens of all ages with cognitive, intellectual, and developmental disabilities, and their families. **Phone number: 1-800-717-1180.**

Children's Defense Fund Southern Regional Office (CDF-SRO) CDF-SRO raises awareness about the condition of children, connects children and families to programs and services that help meet their needs, and works with partners statewide to coordinate broad support and form policy solutions for legislative action on behalf of Mississippi children. Three priorities of CDF-SRO that are particularly relevant to our Families as Allies Partnership with them are: 1) Protect every child from abuse and neglect and connect them to caring permanent families; 2) Provide high quality early childhood care and development programs for all children; and 3) Stop the criminalization of children at increasingly younger ages and invest in prevention and early intervention. Phone number: 601-321 1966.

<u>Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities</u> The Mississippi Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities (MSCCD) is a coalition of organizations and individuals who have joined to advocate for and promote the full and equal participation of all Mississippians with disabilities in all aspects of life.

Phone number: 601.969.0601.

<u>Disability Rights Mississippi (DRMS)</u> The mission of Disability Rights Mississippi is to promote, protect and advocate for the legal and human rights of all people with disabilities, and to assist them with full inclusion in home, community, education and employment. DRMS is the designated Protection and Advocacy entity for Mississippi and also can provide legal assistance with Exceptional Education issues. **Phone number: 800-772-4057.**

<u>Families as Allies</u> is the only statewide organization run by and for families of children with mental health challenges. It offers and array of parent to parent support and provides a way for parents to work together to make sure the systems that serve their children are as responsive as possible.

Phone number: 601-355-0915

<u>LIFE (Living Independence for Everyone) of Mississippi</u> LIFE provides five core services of independent living to people with disabilities: Information and referral, peer support, advocacy, skills training and community transition. **Phone number: 1-800-748-9398.**

Mississippi Center for Justice The Center partners with national, regional and community organizations and volunteers to develop and implement campaigns that are creating better futures for low-wealth Mississippians and communities of color in the areas of educational opportunity, financial security, access to healthcare, affordable housing and community development.

Phone number: (601) 352-2269



National Alliance on Mental Illness Mississippi (NAMI MS) NAMI MS was founded in 1989 by family members of individuals with serious mental illness. It is a non-profit, grassroots organization dedicated to providing support, education and advocacy in Mississippi for individuals with mental illness and their family members. Please visit the NAMI MS website to learn about the wide range of educational opportunities that are available. NAMI MS also provides services to adults living with mental illness and their families. Phone number: 1-800-357-0388.

<u>Nollie Jenkins Family Center</u> The Mission of Nollie Jenkins Family Center is to advance the fundamental goal of empowering the citizens of the community by developing grassroots leaders and organizers through the building of strong community organizations as the essential means by which they are enabled to hold the political, educational, and environmental systems accountable to the needs and interests of the African-American community. Nollie Jenkins Family Center offers assistance with school and special education issues in the Delta. **Phone number: 1-662-834-0089.**

<u>Parent Training and Information Center (PTI)</u> Information, resources, support and training that allows you to help your child meet his or her educational goals. PTI serves families of children with a wide range of disabilities, including autism and physical disabilities. **Phone number: 1-800-721-7255.**

<u>Southern Echo</u> Southern Echo is a leadership development, education and training organization working to develop effective accountable grassroots leadership in the African-American communities in rural Mississippi and the surrounding region through comprehensive training and technical assistance programs. **Phone number: 1-601-982-6400**