My experiences as a medical student and resident at UMMC fostered my interest in public psychiatry. In my early career I was on staff at the Mississippi State Hospital and at VA facilities in Jackson and Biloxi. Now as a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, I have the opportunity to help train the next generation of physicians who will serve our State.

—Sara H. Gleason, M.D., Associate Professor, Deputy Vice Chair of Clinical Affairs, Director, Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

CONTRIBUTE NOW

Please join us in supporting the UMMC Brain and Behavior Education Fund to help ensure we have the best education and research opportunities possible to meet the ever-changing and challenging health-care environment.

Please make check payable to UMMC; place in Memo section: UMMC Brain & Behavior Education Fund

Please feel free to add whether your gift is “In Honor of” or “In Memory of”

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The Crisis
Mississippi is in a mental health crisis. Our state ranks 50th in the nation in the number of physicians per capita*. When you break the numbers down by specialty, Mississippi has 1 psychiatrist per every 17,000 people and 5 child psychiatrists per 100,000 people. We also have the highest rate of depression in the U.S.**. So, the state with the highest need for mental health providers has one of the lowest availability rates for those providers.

“One of the biggest challenges in psychiatry is disseminating evidence-based treatments to the community. The psychology training program works closely with community agencies to train local providers to make these treatments available to the public. Numerous community providers have received top notch training from the psychology training program, increasing access to these treatments and improving the quality of healthcare services in Mississippi.”

– Daniel C. Williams, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Director, Division of Psychology

The Path to Change
The University of Mississippi Medical Center is the only academic hospital in the state and home to a medical school, the only psychiatry residency in the state, a graduate neuroscience program, and a psychology internship program. These training programs represent a fantastic opportunity to train mental health providers and researchers, but resources are needed to support and expand these education programs. Your donation can help to recruit the best and brightest to train at UMMC, which will increase the likelihood that these capable physicians, psychologists, and researchers will remain in the state to work after their training is complete. Your gift will also be used to support educational activities in medical student, psychiatry, psychology, and neuroscience education. This includes funding for books, educational materials, guest speakers, educational conferences, and teambuilding retreats, which are all crucial to the recruitment and education of future mental health providers for the state of Mississippi. Please let your voice be heard and help us contribute to creating A Healthier Mississippi.

“Training as a medical student and resident at UMMC has allowed me to touch the lives of patients in my home state, and it’s immensely rewarding to know I’m making a difference in the place that I’ve always called home. Now, as Program Director of our Adult Psychiatry Residency, I have the privilege of training future psychiatrists, nearly 50% of whom have remained in Mississippi to treat our citizens in the last 10 years…I believe it is our personal responsibility to make sure that Mississippians are treated by the best psychiatrists we can train.”

– Joy Houston, M.D., Associate Professor, Program Director, Adult Psychiatry Residency

* according to the American Association of Medical Colleges’ 2015 State Physician Workforce Data Book
** according to a report published by the Centers for Disease Control in 2010