



MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL CELEBRATES SANTA DAY

WHITFIELD—Mississippi State Hospital got a visit on Wednesday, Dec. 22 from Santa Claus, who stopped by the Whitfield campus and the Jackson Community Services location to offer gifts for all.

Each MSH patient, Jaquith Nursing Home resident and individual served in the community received a gift bag with personal items like clothes, fruits and candies. A longstanding tradition at the hospital, “Santa Day” sees volunteers, elected officials and employees dressed as the holiday gift-giver visit each and every patient and resident building on the campus to personally deliver holiday gifts.

Before the Santas made their rounds, a group of Community Services clients showed their appreciation by offering everyone there a round of Christmas carols and traditional songs, and MSH Director James Chastain gave his thanks for the service of all those volunteers who donated to or visited MSH patients during the holiday season.

MSH, a facility of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and facilitates improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians who are in need of mental health, chemical dependency or nursing home services, by rehabilitating to the least restrictive environment, utilizing a range of psychiatric and medical services, which reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.

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PHOTO ATTACHED:

Photo 1: Dozens of Santa gathered at Mississippi State Hospital on Wednesday, Dec. 22 for the annual Santa Day, when MSH employees, volunteers and other community leaders deliver gifts to every patient served by the hospital.

Photo 2: MSH Director James G. Chastain displays a handmade Christmas ornament given to all the volunteers who participated in Santa Day. The ornament was made by a patient worker who assists in The Gift Shop on the MSH campus.

Photo 3: Senator Hillman Frazier, D-Hinds County, is a longtime participant in Santa Day and has delivered gifts to MSH patients and residents for years.