



# MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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## For Immediate Release

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### **BLAIR E. BATSON DONATES VIDEOS TO MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL**

WHITFIELD—Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children recently donated the first of several hundred video tapes to patients at Mississippi State Hospital.

While Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital is moving to an on-demand service that its patients can use to watch movies, the videos can still offer a wide range of entertainment for the patients at Mississippi State Hospital.

"I had the idea to ask about donating these because I had volunteered at Mississippi State Hospital before," said Ashley Kennedy, Child Life Specialist with the Children's Hospital. "We have hundreds of tapes and we thought we should give them to the patients there."

Kennedy brought the first several boxes over herself, dropping off dozens of movies ranging from fantasy adventures like "Star Wars" to children's comedies like "Flubber."

Mississippi State Hospital Volunteer Services Director Sheila Shows said every donation, even small ones like movies, can make a difference in the lives of patients.

"A lot of people may take something like this for granted, but these can bring a lot of fun and happiness to our patients here," Shows said.

The Clothing/Donation Center at MSH is open every weekday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Anyone wishing to arrange or drop off a donation can contact Shows at (601)351-8377.

Kennedy said her hospital would have more movies to bring over to MSH in the coming weeks.

"I know these movies will be enjoyed by our patients across the campus," Shows said.

*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.*

**PHOTO ATTACHED: Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children recently donated the first several boxes of hundreds of videotapes to Mississippi State Hospital. The videos have been used by children receiving treatment at the Children's Hospital, but now they will be available to patients on the MSH campus. Pictured are (l to r) Children's Hospital Child Life Specialist Ashley Kennedy, MSH Volunteer Services Director Sheila Shows and MSH Volunteer Program Manager Lynn Dilmore.**