



The Mississippi Delta Workforce Funding Collaborative (MDWFC) is a partnership of philanthropic, public sector, private sector, and community leaders to improve job growth and retention in Mississippi.

- Mission Goals
- Health Care
- Manufacturing/ Skilled Trade
- Transportation/ Distribution/ Logistics
- Mississippi Reentry Guide

Members include the Foundation for the Mid South, Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Mississippi Economic Policy Center, South Delta Planning and Development District, Tri-County Workforce Alliance, and the Mississippi Community College Board. The goal of the collaborative is to increase the skills and education of unemployed and/or underemployed residents of Mississippi. Activities by the collaborative will work to increase residents' skills, thereby allowing them to receive better paying jobs and better provide for their families.

The Mississippi Delta Workforce Funding Collaborative partnered with the Mississippi Office of Nursing Workforce to serve the employers and healthcare frontline workers of the rural Mississippi Delta. To date, the partnership has served over **974 job seekers with 226 of those receiving core services**. To date, the partnership has **employed 135 new job seekers in rural health facilities** and delivered additional training which led to a pay increase for 61 frontline workers. The partnership also created systems change by implementing the Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) model for the first time in a rural setting and bridging secondary and post-secondary healthcare trainings for Delta education providers.

The Mississippi Delta Workforce Funding Collaborative partnered with Jobs for Mississippi Graduates to provide **soft skill training to 200 individuals in the Delta** and worked with South Delta Planning and Development District to provide courses on advanced manufacturing technology at three regional community colleges. To date, the partnership has **engaged over 40 employer partners, graduated 233 individuals in a credentialed training, and attached 110 job seekers to employment**. Additionally, the collaborative partnered with the Mississippi Energy Institute, as well as other major state energy and manufacturing employers, to develop Get on the GRID. **Get on the GRID** is a statewide web portal that connects job seekers to training and employment in real time for the state of Mississippi. The project also professionalizes skilled trades to gain the interests of the next generation of energy and manufacturing employees.



Access the program at www.getonthegridms.com.

The Mississippi Delta Workforce Funding Collaborative has partnered with Hinds County Community College and KLLM Trucking to increase the number of women and underrepresented populations in the TDL industry for the Jackson, MS Metropolitan Area. The partnership is working toward **training a minimum of 300 participants** over the next two years to meet the increasing demand by employers in the area for Mississippi's expanding manufacturing and distribution base. Funding for the project was provided by the Wal-Mart Foundation and Jobs for the Future.

The Mississippi Delta Workforce Funding Collaborative has been working at the intersection of workforce development, males of color, and upskilling low skill individuals for the past year and decided to begin efforts around reentry. The collaborative has partnered with the Mississippi Reentry Council to create the first state-wide comprehensive resource guide for returning citizens.

The Mississippi Reentry Guide is the first point of social support contact for any ex-offender in the state and has been adopted by the Mississippi Department of Corrections and the Mississippi Parole Board to help returning citizens find employment through a network working collaboratively with industry partners. They will attach **50 returning citizens to work** in the next year and build the state's first reentry workforce development center.

The guide can be accessed at www.msreentryguide.com.

