

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024 | VOLUME 01

[www.msclimateandhealthequity.com](http://www.msclimateandhealthequity.com)



## Our Mission

To strengthen and empower Mississippi's health professionals' voice by communicating climate health impacts, advocating for equitable climate solutions to the public, health professionals, and policymakers.



## September is Environmental Awareness Month!

Let's come together to protect our planet during Environmental Awareness Month. It's time to make sustainable choices, and take action to preserve our environment for future generations. Join us in making a difference today!

# MISSISSIPPI MENTAL HEALTH FAITH-BASED SUMMIT



Dr. Melinda Todd and Dr. Gerri Cannon-Smith attended this enlightening summit dedicated to equipping faith-based communities with the knowledge and tools necessary to support mental health within their congregations and beyond. Hosted by Mississippi Public Health Institute, CROP, and Mississippi Department of Mental Health.

## MAGNOLIA MEDICAL FOUNDATION MAMA MINGLE

Members came together to celebrate motherhood and shine a spotlight on the health impacts that mothers face at the Mama Mingle event hosted at Jackson State University.





# ETA THETA OMEGA CHAPTER OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC RENAISSANCE SCHOLARS

Members, Kenneth V. Smith & Gerri A. Cannon-Smith, had a great time highlighting climate health impacts, brainstorming interventions, and repotting some beautiful plants! Under their Enhancing Our Environment initiative, they have been involved in recycling, composting, and beautification projects. To the sponsors Adrienne Moore, LaTonzia Evans, Janice Jelks, and the Chapter's President, Velta Smith and Officers — thank you for making this possible.



## INTERSECTION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Dr. Gerri Cannon-Smith joined The National Alliance on Mental Illness to spread awareness on the intersection of mental health and climate change at the Mississippi State Conference in Raymond, MS.

## 74TH CHOCTAW INDIAN FAIR



The fair takes place on our centuries-old homeland in beautiful Choctaw, Mississippi. Fairgoers experienced the magnificent journey of our people through historical and cultural displays, social dancing, tribal arts & crafts, and more!

Jessica Lewis, Environmental Scientist Supervisor spread awareness at the Environmental Booth.

### DENISE POWELL, MD

**Pediatrics | Bay St. Louis, Mississippi | National Medical Association (NMA)**

Pediatrician Denise Powell from focuses on improving healthcare access in rural areas, promoting health literacy, and addressing environmental disparities. She presented on "Pediatrics and the Environment" at the Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association meeting and is passionate about organizing workshops for students to enhance health literacy.



## WORLD SICKLE CELL DAY: INTERSECTIONS WITH CLIMATE CHANGE

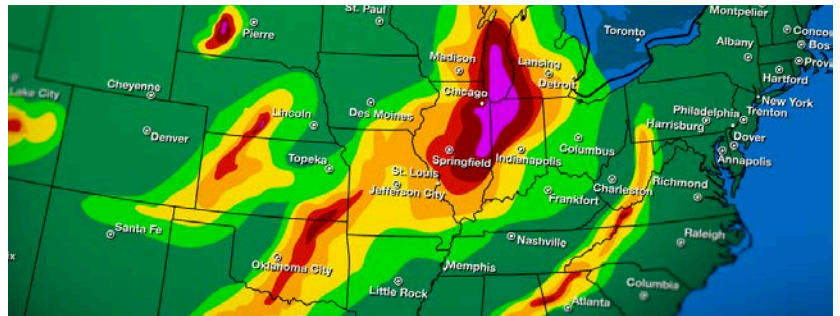


Dr. Gerri-Cannon Smith

There are several pathways linking climate change to human health, and they include air pollution, decreased air quality, increased allergens, environmental degradation, expanding vector-borne illness transmission, decreases in food and water quality and security, more frequent and increased climate-related disasters and extremes of weather.

**[Read More.](#)**

## EXPLORING NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRODUCTS



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration partner, Ashlyn Jackson

At our inaugural Climate Conversation, health professionals and advocates from across Mississippi held an enriching discussion on National Weather Service Products and Services that can help us address the growing challenges posed by climate change on public health.

**[Read More.](#)**

## JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL AUGUST CLIMATE CONVERSATION

### Time:

Aug 27, 2024 06:00 PM Central Time

### Featured Speakers:

Ms. Donna Bieliach, MSU Horticulturist (Rankin County)  
Dr. Catherine Robinson, One Voice Program Manager

**Meeting ID:** 890 3236 4864

**Passcode:** 369712

[bit.ly/3X1Bm63](https://bit.ly/3X1Bm63)







## GET INVOLVED

EDUCATION | ADVOCACY | RESEARCH | COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT | COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

Your support is vital to our work at MSPHCHE. There are many ways you can contribute towards our activities, and every little bit that you commit goes a long way in helping us fulfill our mission.

**Become a partner or share your knowledge.**

## STAY TUNED

**20 September**

World Cleanup Day

**16 September**

International Day for the  
Preservation of the  
Ozone Layer



**Questions? Contact [mshpcche@gmail.com](mailto:mshpcche@gmail.com)**