



HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

Innovating Quality Patient Care.™

From the desk of Gilbert F. Darrington, CEO

May 3, 2019

Dear Student, Parent, or Guardian and communities we serve...

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you that **Health Services, Inc.** has partnered with the **Montgomery Public School System** to open unique school-based health centers providing services at some of the public schools in Montgomery. The goal of the HSI School Based Health Centers is to help improve the health and well-being of students and families. Healthy students are more successful in school.

Advantages of School Based Health Centers (SBHCs)

- Students have direct access to health care providers while they are at school.
- SBHCs serve all students whether or not they have insurance.
- Students do not have to miss as much class time to receive basic health care.
- Transportation problems in seeking health care are reduced.
- Risky behaviors are identified and addressed.
- Students learn how to be effective consumers of health care in a non-intimidating environment.
- Referrals are made to appropriate community providers for services not provided at the SBHCs.

What can I do to register?

- Please fill out the attached forms and return them to your school office or to the HSI School Based Health Center. The enclosed forms include: Consent Forms and a Health History Questionnaire.
- In addition to the forms, we also need a copy of the student's birth certificate, health insurance card, proof of address and social security card.
- If your child attends a school where a HSI School Based Health Center is located, the forms may either be delivered to the school office or the HSI School Based Health Center located at the



River Region Health Center

1845 Cherry Street
Montgomery, AL 36107

(0) 334-420-5001 ext. 114 | (7) 334-264-4353



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school. The forms may also be faxed to the child's school: Bellingrath Middle School Fax: (334) 269-6173, Highland Gardens Elementary Fax: (334) 241-5329, Davis Elementary Fax: (334) 241-5392, Chisholm Elementary Fax: (334) 269-3645.

What happens after I register?

- By completing the enclosed forms, the student may be seen at the HSI School Based Health Center during the school day for health concerns or may be called down for a brief visit to obtain basic health information.
- If your child is in elementary school we ask that a parent/guardian be available by phone if you are unable to attend the appointment with your child.
- The HSI School Based Health Center (SBHC) will bill your insurance company for services received in our centers.
- If your child registers and attends a school where a HSI SBHC is located, your child can receive services at the Health Center.

How is private health information shared?

- Your child's provider will send you a visit summary following the appointment. Only individuals that you have listed to receive your child's information will receive the information.



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History of Health Services, Inc.

Health Services, Inc. history is integral to the history of medicine in Central Alabama. Incorporated in 1968, Health Services Inc. (Health Services or HSI) provides primary care medical homes to the residents of five south central Alabama counties including Montgomery, Autauga, Chilton, Elmore and Lowndes. As a section 330-funded FQHC, Health Services is a medical home providing access to high quality, affordable primary care, behavioral health, vision care, preventive, wellness and dental services to people of all ages regardless of their financial or insurance status thereby enhancing the quality of life for all area residents. In particular, HSI's clinic sites serve the uninsured and underinsured, providing a comprehensive, coordinated set of services. Health Services, the first FQHC in Alabama, is the also the first FQHC in Alabama to earn dual accreditation with The Joint Commission as a Primary Care Medical Home and Ambulatory Health Care organization, demonstrating that it meets national standards for health care quality and safety.

- The Lister Hill Health Center
- 1973, in honor of the late Senator Lister Hill
- 1980's, a new facility was opened in Ramer
- In 1994, Montgomery Primary Health Center
- In July 1995, New facility on Mobile Highway
- In 2012, River Region Health Center
- In July 2017, Gateway Family Health Center

HSI's service area is located in south central Alabama. The service area consists of 53 contiguous zip codes, crossing five different counties (Autauga, Chilton, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery Counties). The entire area spans approximately 4,153 square miles with an average population density of 99 persons per square mile. The five counties which comprise the service area are both rural and urban. Population density by county ranges from a high of 286 persons per square mile in Montgomery County to lows of 15.3 and 16.8 in Lowndes County. The city of Montgomery is the largest population center in the service area.

HSI's service area has a population of 429,810 people based on 2013 census data.¹ The population is slightly more female than male, with 51.8% of the population reporting as female. The service area is racially diverse with a majority Caucasian (56.6%), followed by African American (39.3%), and Asian (1.4%).² This racial mix differs from Alabama as a whole with only 26% African Americans. The racial diversity varies significantly by county within the service area. Montgomery County, which is primarily urban, has a majority of

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African Americans (55%) compared to only 40% Caucasians. The other, more rural counties, in aggregate have a higher majority Caucasian (75%) compared to only 21.1% African Americans. The service area is also younger when compared to Alabama. The service area has a higher child population (persons under the age of 18) of 24% compared to 23% for the state. Compared to Alabama, the service area also has a lower percentage of seniors (12.7% versus 14.2%).³

As Healthcare organizations learn how to adjust to the new changes in reimbursement, we must be vigilant in our efforts to manage our resources. Quality and efficiency are leading the way to cost reduction in the new pay for performance environment. Now more than ever, we must focus our efforts on planning and preparing for the future.



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