

Governor Tate Reeves endorses state-wide relief fund with The Community Foundation for Mississippi

Press Release

The Community Foundation for Mississippi (CFM), working with Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service (Volunteer Mississippi), established the

Mississippi Community Disaster Relief and Recovery Fund as an initiative to create a state-wide pooled fund to respond to disasters in Mississippi, including COVID-19. “Charitable do-

nations will help our most vulnerable populations, including but not limited to those who have lost their source of income, children, the homeless, first responders, senior citizens and vet-

Mississippi drivers to get more than \$60 million back from auto insurers

Press Release

Mississippi drivers will receive credits totaling \$60,815,207 from auto insurers after a number of companies have filed requests with the Mississippi Insurance Department (MID).

“I am happy to approve these premium reductions so that Mississippians receive

discounted rates,” said Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney. “Many people are not driving as much right now because of shelter-in-place, emergency declarations, and working from home. It only makes sense to discount what people are paying for automobile insurance and to provide them

some financial relief.”

Currently, the following insurers have notified MID of their credit programs. See the spreadsheet below with additional information. For additional updates regarding auto premium discounts, please refer to our Coronavirus webpage at <https://bit.ly/2VRR9bc>

COMPANY/GROUP OF COMPANIES	LINE OF BUSINESS	COVID-19 RELATED RETURN PREMIUM	# MONTHS RETURN PREMIUM	PROJECTED RETURN PREMIUMS
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company	Private Passenger Auto	25%	2	\$17,378,635
Mississippi Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Company	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$5,800,000
Progressive Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	20%	2	\$8,200,000
GEICO Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	6	\$10,900,000
Allstate Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$3,801,862
Safeco/Liberty Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$3,569,236
USAA Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	20%	2	\$3,860,232
Nationwide Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	\$50/per policy	**	\$1,981,550
Shelter Mutual Insurance Company	Private Passenger Auto	30%	2	\$3,290,604
MetLife Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$993,000
Travelers Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$641,152
The Hartford Group of Companies*	Private Passenger Auto	15%	2	\$369,779
Amica Mutual Insurance Company	Private Passenger Auto	20%	2	\$29,157
TOTAL ESTIMATED RETURN PREMIUMS:				\$60,815,207

Secretary DeVos allocates over \$13 billion emergency coronavirus relief to continued education for K-12 students

Senator Hyde-Smith says Mississippi will share over \$169.9 million

Press Releases

U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.), a member of the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, reported on Thursday, April 23, that Mississippi schools will share more than \$169.8 million from the CARES Act Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund. The funding is provided with flexibility for the state and local school districts to support K-12 education during the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, including distance learning and planning for the next school year.

The U.S. Department of Education indicates that 90% of these funds will be allocated by the state educational agency (SEA) directly to local educational agencies

based on their share of title I funding. The remaining 10% will be available at the SEAs discretionary, including for state-wide activities.

Flexible CARES Act funds empower state and local education leaders to think creatively to address student, educator needs during national emergency

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced on Thursday, April 23, that

more than \$13.2 billion in emergency relief funds are now available to state and local education agencies to support continued learning for K-12 students whose educations have been disrupted by the coronavirus. This funding is allocated by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was signed by President Donald J. Trump less than a month ago. Education leaders will have the flexibility to use funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief Fund (ESSER Fund) for immediate needs, such as tools and resources for distance education, ensuring student health and safety, and developing and implementing plans for the next school year.

“This national emergency continues to shine a light on the need for all schools to be more agile,” said Secretary DeVos. “Now is the time to truly rethink education and to get creative about how we meet each student’s unique needs. The funding made available today has very few bureaucratic strings attached and empowers local education leaders to do just that. I encourage them to focus on investing in the technology, distance learning resources,

training and long-term planning that will help education continue for both teachers and students, no matter where learning takes place.”

Local leaders are empowered with the flexibility to determine how to use their ESSER funds, as long as they are used in ways that comply with applicable federal education laws. The ESSER Fund has important safeguards in place to ensure that this funding goes to help students continue learning. State education agencies (SEAs) must allocate 90% of their ESSER funds to local education agencies (LEAs), including public charter schools, in proportion to the amount of FY 2019 funds the LEA received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Up to 10% of the SEA’s award may be retained for the state agency to use to address needs related to responding to coronavirus. After one year, SEAs must return any funds that have not been awarded, and the Secretary will reallocate those funds to the states. To see state allocations for the ESSER Fund, click here.

The Department implemented a streamlined process for states to apply for and receive this critical

erans,” said Jane Alexander, President of the Community Foundation. “Funding will be disbursed to cover immediate needs including but not limited to food, medical supplies, basic hygiene needs, temporary housing, and short term economic security.”

These monies will be pooled and deployed to do the most good. An advisory committee appointed by Volunteer Mississippi is responsible for the plan regarding deployment for resources during disasters or public health crises, like COVID-19. The Community Foundation for Mississippi will steward the contributions, and help execute the plan with identified partners who will implement it.

Coalition Partners include Volunteer Mississippi, the Mississippi Hub Network, the Mississippi Alliance of Nonprofits and Philanthropy, members of the Community Foundations Network, United Ways in Mississippi, and Extra Table. These partners bring knowledge and expertise and can help identify the organizations on the

funding by cutting red tape and removing unnecessary delays. SEAs have until July 1, 2020, to apply for ESSER funds by submitting a simple signed Certification and Agreement form to ESSERF@ed.gov. The Department intends to process each submitted form within three business days of receipt. For more information, click here.

The funding allocations announced today are part of the nearly \$31 billion Congress allocated to the Department to distribute to students, K-12 schools, and higher education institutions. The Department, at the Secretary’s urging, has continued to make funds available as quickly as possible.

These action follows the Department’s earlier announcement of a turkey waiver process allowing states to cancel federally mandated standardized testing in response to widespread school closures in the wake of the declaration of a national emergency. The Department also developed a streamlined process for providing states with funding flexibilities so that they can repurpose existing K-12 education funds for technology infrastructure and teacher training on remote learning and to move resources to areas of highest need. The Department also moved quickly to provide guidance on ensuring students with disabilities have access to distance learning opportunities and to provide an extension for states that need additional time to develop career and technical education plans under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V).

front lines that are effectively providing help to those who need it most. These organizations also have rigorous accountability measures in place, so donations will be stewarded appropriately and accounted for correctly.

Today at a press conference, Governor Tate Reeves announced that he has officially designated the Mississippi Community Disaster Relief and Recovery Fund at the Community Foundation for Mississippi as the official state-wide disaster fund. He said, “In Mississippi, there has been historic flooding, historic tornadoes, historic pandemic, and a historic surge in unemployment. There is a greater need for help in Mississippi than in any time in modern memory. If you have any ability to support your fellow Mississippians, there is great need, and by giving to this fund, Mississippians will know that monies will be pushed to the hardest-hit areas quickly and efficiently.”

“The goal of these pooled contributions is to demonstrate the flexible and nimble nature of charitable dollars, as opposed to state or federal funding,” said Alexander. “The Coalition Partners and the Advisory Committee will identify those organizations doing frontline “boots on the ground” work—that is, those who are feeding, sheltering and meeting basic needs during a disaster, and those providing public health response during pandemics or other disasters.”

“All charitable dona-

tions will be allocated equitably and geographically, with emphasis on where it is most needed and where organizations are serving the most vulnerable,” said Monica Ritchie, Executive Director of Volunteer Mississippi. “Coalition Partners know the nonprofits and organizations who are doing the “boots on the ground” work and will submit a list of candidate organizations that qualify for funding. Our goal is to meet funding gaps in Mississippi and to get help in the hands of the people who need it the most.”

“The Community Foundation serves as a convener in the philanthropic space in Mississippi, bringing together public and private donors with nonprofits and other charitable causes to facilitate positive transformational change in cities and towns across Mississippi,” said Jon Turner, chair of the CFM Board of Trustees. “We are proud to be part of the relief effort that is so desperately needed at this time.”

How to Help

For more information about the Community Foundation for Mississippi or how to donate to the Mississippi Community Disaster Relief and Recovery fund, go to www.formississippi.org and click the donate button or text DONATE to (601) 258-6502.

For more information about Volunteer Mississippi and ways to get involved and make a difference, go to www.volunteermississippi.org.

2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
South Holmes Water Association
PWS# 0260014
April 2020

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from wells drawing from the Cockfield Aquifer.

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identified potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request. The wells for the South Holmes Water Association have received lower susceptibility rankings to contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Lonnie Sanders at 662.582.7382. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:00 PM at 6489 HWY 17 South, Pickets, MS 39146.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2019. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2019, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the surface of land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants from the presence of animals or from human activity, microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from septic systems, agricultural operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- Action Level** - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.**

PWS #: 0260014		TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
10. Barium	N	2019	0019	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits.
14. Copper	N	2015/17*	0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
16. Fluoride	N	2019	.117	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
17. Lead	N	2019/17*	2	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
20. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	2019	29	28 - 29	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection By-Products								
81. HAA5	N	2018*	7	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water
Chlorine	N	2019	.4	2 - 5	mg/l	0	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sodium	N	2019	79000	74000 - 79000	PPB	NONE	NONE	Road Salt, Water Treatment Chemicals, Water Softeners and Sewage Effluents.

* Most recent sample. No sample required for 2019.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific constituents on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing. Please contact 601.376.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

The South Holmes Water Association works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

STATE ALLOCATION TABLE

	Minimum LEA Distribution ¹	Maximum SEA Reservation	Maximum for SEA Administration ²
TOTAL	13,229,265,000	11,906,338,500	66,146,325
MISSISSIPPI	169,883,002	152,894,702	849,415

¹ The totals in the Minimum LEA Distribution, Maximum SEA Reservation, and Maximum for SEA Administration columns have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

² With the funds not subgranted to LEAs, the SEA may reserve up to an amount equal to 1/5 of 1 percent of the total allocation for administrative costs.