Mississippi Family Caregiver Coalition

Start-Up Process and History
- The Mississippi Family Caregiver Coalition (MFCC) was created in 2015 as a grassroots organization made up of caregivers, state and private agencies, as well as advocacy groups aimed at identifying and empowering caregivers by educating them about accessing community resources, support networks, and their rights. Caregivers for adults and children make up over 501,000 individuals in Mississippi (AARP Public Policy Institute, 2015).
- Public and private agencies represented:
  - Child Welfare
  - Developmental Disabilities
  - Mental Health
  - Aging
  - Adult Protective Services
  - AARP
  - Alzheimers Association
- Initial Respite Summit held in February 2016 with technical assistance from ARCH.

Structure
- The Coalition is made up of three co-chairs, a steering committee, and a Respite Committee.

Staff
- Currently there are no paid staff.
- All are volunteers.

Funding
- The Mississippi Family Caregiver Coalition assists the Mississippi Access to Care Center, in the Department of Human Services, which is the recipient of the three-year $250,000 grant from the Administration on Community Living, to create a Lifespan Respite Network in Mississippi.
- The Respite Committee of the Coalition is completely grassroots and currently receives no funding from state or other resources.

Membership
- Membership is available to all interested parties and may include:
  - Healthcare Providers (hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, physician practices, home health agencies, dialysis facilities, hospice organizations, palliative care organizations, etc.)
  - Provider Associations
  - Consumer Advocacy Organizations
  - Government Organizations
  - Quality Improvement Organizations
  - Educational Organizations
  - Professionals
  - Consumers
  - Funding Organizations
  - Academics
  - Caregivers
  - Private non-profit organizations
  - Community-based organizations
- No membership fees are currently involved.

Meetings and Communication
- Meetings are held on a quarterly basis either in person or through media.
- Member groups and individuals are kept abreast of the work of the Coalition through email and dissemination of information from agency leaders.
• Committees meet throughout year.
• Annual One-Day Workshop.

**Major Activities**
• Helped enact legislation to establish state Caregiver Resolution
• Presentations, exhibits and other outreach activities as schedules permit
• Legislative Advocacy
• Information and Referral
• Initiated Respite Companion Training through REST (2017)

**Documents Available**
• By-Laws
• Articles of Incorporation
• MFCC Fact Sheet
• Caregiver Blueprint (2014)

**State Contact Information**
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