

OCTOBER 2018

# Central Update

A Quarterly Publication of  
Central Mississippi Planning &  
Development District

## CMPDD Celebrates 50th Anniversary

On September 12, 2018, CMPDD hosted a 50th Anniversary celebration luncheon at the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum. Approximately 150 guests attended the luncheon and enjoyed Penn's catfish and chicken. In addition, we were honored to have former Congressman David Bowen who served as Mississippi's first Director of Federal/State Programs and played a role in the formation of the Planning and Development Districts (PDDs). Mr. Bowen shared his early experience with the PDDs and how they were formed to provide a framework for administering Federal and State programs at a regional level. In addition, Mr. Clarke Holmes, retired CEO of CMPDD now residing in Nashville, was in attendance and shared some of his challenges and successes over his 44 year career at CMPDD. According to Mike Monk, CEO, "It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate this milestone and reflect upon the people who helped CMPDD grow and prosper." At the conclusion of the event, a 50th Anniversary plaque was provided to each of the counties and municipalities in the CMPDD region to commemorate the event.



## Medicare Counseling Available at CMPDD

Insurance Counselors from Central Mississippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging are available to answer questions regarding Medicare problems or concerns. This is a free service offered to help Medicare beneficiaries make the best choice possible when it comes to Medicare benefits.

The Medicare open enrollment begins October 15, 2018

and ends December 7, 2018. Medicare beneficiaries should take advantage of the annual Open Enrollment period to make sure they have the best coverage available to meet their healthcare needs.

For more information, or to arrange for an Insurance Counselor to visit your area or speak to a group, contact CMPDD at 601-981-1516.

# Jackson MPO Approves 2019-2022 TIP and 2019-2020 UPWP Documents

In August, the Metropolitan Planning Policy Committee approved the 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) and the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Both documents have since been reviewed and approved by the MS Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

A Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a regional planning document used by Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) that provides an overview of how transportation revenues will be invested over a four (4) year period by federal, state, and local agencies responsible for building, operating, and maintaining the multimodal highway, street, and public transit system. The TIP allocates the limited transportation resources available among various capital and operating needs of the area, based on the locally developed priorities identified in the region's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Federal regulations require MPOs to develop a TIP document and for the TIP to be fiscally constrained, is realistic in terms of available funding and that the projected amount of expenditures does not exceed the projected amount of revenues.

A TIP document is also regional in scope and does not represent projects statewide. The Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which is maintained in the State by MDOT includes all transportation projects receiving federal transportation funding statewide, including those in each MPO region across the State. The 2019 – 2022 Jackson Urbanized Area TIP covers the period from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2022.

As part of the development of the 2019-2022 TIP, CMPDD held a number of public outreach activities including:

- A 45-day comment period which began June 15, 2018 and concluded July 31, 2018;
- County Summit meetings on July 24, 25, and 26, 2018;
- A Transportation Stakeholders Committee meeting was held July 31, 2018;
- A public meeting held in conjunction with a meeting of the Intermodal Technical Committee on August 1, 2018.

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes all transportation planning activities to be performed by the Jackson MPO (CMPDD) and the designated public transit provider (JATRAM) during fiscal years 2019 and 2020 (October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2020). It includes a listing of major activities and tasks anticipated to be performed including details on who will complete the work, the schedule for completing the work, the resulting products, the proposed funding, and a summary of all sources of federal and local matching funds. The largest work task included in the 2019-2020 UPWP for the Jackson MPO includes completing the 5-year update to the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The 2019-2020 UPWP contains four (4) major program areas with associated subtasks for each area including:

1. Transportation Planning Process Program Administration
2. System Planning
3. Data Collection and Analysis
4. Support Activities

## Hazard Mitigation Planning Update

Local governments are to be reminded that the next round of 5-year updates will begin in late 2019 and continue through 2022. CMPDD staff remains engaged with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and will alert our members of grant and training opportunities, as well as changes in Hazard Mitigation requirements.

CMPDD is currently working with Mississippi State University on the development of their Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires local jurisdictions to maintain an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to maintain grant eligibility for certain pre- and post-disaster grant programs available through MEMA and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition, Plans are required to be reviewed and updated every five (5) years to account for any changes that might have occurred that could increase or decrease a communities risk to a particular hazard.

Predicting where the next disaster will occur and how severe its impact will be on a community is difficult. Given the right conditions natural disasters, such as tornadoes and flash floods, can occur at any time and any place. The human and financial consequences can be significant. Mitigation planning is intended to assist communities in determining their risks of natural disasters and developing an action plan to address the known risks by lessening the impact of natural disasters.

In the past few years, revised Mitigation Plans were developed and approved for Bentonia, Brandon, Byram, Clinton, Eden, Flora, Florence, Flowood, Georgetown, Hazlehurst, Jackson, Pearl, Richland, Ridgeland, Pelahatchie, Satartia, Terry, Vicksburg, Wesson, Yazoo City, Copiah County, Madison County, Rankin County, Warren County, and Yazoo County. CMPDD has also prepared a Mitigation Plan for Jackson State University and Mississippi Valley State University. For more information concerning the mitigation planning process underway or to find out how you can be involved in the process, contact CMPDD Planning Staff at 601-981-1511 or visit the District's mitigation website page ([www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/](http://www.cmpdd.org/mitigation-planning/)).

# Central Mississippi Mayors Association Meeting

CMPDD hosted a luncheon/meeting for the Central Mississippi Mayors Association (CMMA) on Monday, June 25, 2017 at Mary Mahoney's in Biloxi, MS. The meeting was well attended and was held during the Mississippi Municipal League Conference.

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## Planning Updates

### City of Clinton

The City of Clinton adopted a new Comprehensive Plan (Clinton Next) in July. This Plan was developed over the past year by CMPDD. Throughout the development of the Plan, feedback and input from citizens and other stakeholders was solicited and considered. Outreach tools included the use of online surveys, social media, and a town-hall style meeting.

In an effort to make the Plan more accessible to the public, this Plan was developed in an electronic format called Story Map that integrates an interactive GIS map viewer and can easily be viewed from the City's website ([www.clintonms.org/comp-plan](http://www.clintonms.org/comp-plan)).

### Madison County

The District is continuing to update Madison County's Comprehensive Plan. The public facility section is expected to be completed by the end of October. The Future Land Use Map is in the process of being drafted, and emerging growth areas will be included in the Plan.

The Plan's transportation and major thoroughfares plan element will include current transportation projects plus any new proposed alignments expected to be needed out to the horizon year of 2040.

At the same time, the District is gathering information on land use and zoning issues facing unincorporated Madison County. This information will then be used to update Madison County's Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map. The District expects to complete a draft of the Plan before the end of 2018.

### City of Magee

On August 6, CMPDD Planners Gray Ouzts and David Wade spoke to the Magee Lion's Club and presented the City's 2017 Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Interactive Map. These tools are available on the City's website ([www.cityofmagee.com](http://www.cityofmagee.com)) and allow developers, investors and the public to access volumes of information about Magee. Information includes the City's long range Land Use Plan, available utilities, zoning classifications, traffic counts as well as many other data layers. The presentation was an effort to inform Community Leaders of the available resources provided by the City and CMPDD.

## City Clerks Meeting

CMPDD hosted a luncheon/meeting for the City Clerks in the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District. The Clerks shared best practices with each other and discussed issues that directly affect their jobs. We are very happy to facilitate meetings such as these because increased efficiency greatly benefits our participating governments and those they represent.



### Town of Edwards

CMPDD continues to work with the Town of Edwards to develop a Comprehensive Plan and a comprehensive revision of their Zoning Ordinance. District staff have completed the existing land use survey to determine the current development patterns and will meet with the Mayor, Board Members, and Department Heads to discuss the general vision and direction for the Plan. District staff will continue to meet with the Mayor and Board over the next few months to develop a draft of the Plan. Public input will be sought throughout the development of the Plan, and prior to adoption of the Comprehensive Plan, a public hearing will be held. Upon completion of the Comprehensive Plan, District Planners will assist the Town with revisions to their Zoning Ordinance.

### Town of Terry

CMPDD completed a draft of the update to the Town of Terry Comprehensive Plan and provided officials with copies for their review. The Plan's public facilities section examined such facilities as the Terry Town Hall and Police Station, the Terry Fire Station and Public Works Office, the Ella Bess Austin Library, both local parks, the Town's water, sewer and drainage utilities, and Terry High School. The District provided goals and objectives for the Town's public facilities, including action items to address deficiencies identified in the analysis.

The Plan's land use plan section examined the Town's existing land uses and those in Terry's planning area outside town. The District added the new land use category of rural residential, which primarily consists of rural lands with residences on lots of various sizes and not in subdivisions. This category is also used on the Future Land Use Map which will be used to update Terry's Zoning Map.

After Terry completes its review of the Plan, a public hearing will be held to receive public input.

# A Matter of Balance Coaches Training

As concerns regarding the safety and well-being of our Older Adult population increases, the need for trainings and specialized programs to address these issues are also on the rise. In an effort to address these needs, a “Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance” Program was developed at Boston University in 1995. This program was later recognized in 2006 by the American Society on Aging for their Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging. Subsequently, “A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model” was later developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging.

On September 11, 2018 Central Mis-

issippi Planning and Development District/Area Agency on Aging employee and Master Trainer, Makleisha Logan-Hite, along with Tasha Lock from the Mississippi State Department of Health/Office of Preventive Health, conducted “A Matter of Balance” Coaches training, designed to teach practical strategies to manage the risks of falling in the home. This training was held at the District office and ten (10) people were trained. During this training, coaches were trained to assist older adults with recognizing and managing fall risks in the home. They were also taught to set goals to increase



activity while teaching proper exercise techniques to increase strength, flexibility, and balance. Upon completion of the training, class participants received coaching certification to conduct classes once a week for eight (8) weeks to participants at local senior centers or other organizations who express interest.

# CMPDD is Accepting Grant Applications for \$29 million Available through the Jackson Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Transportation Improvements

On Wednesday, August 8, 2018, the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District (CMPDD) announced the availability of \$29 million in Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funds through the Jackson MPO for transportation improvements in the urbanized area which includes portions of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin Counties.

The STBG program is a federal-aid transportation program, which provides funding to local municipalities and counties for transportation improvement projects in urbanized areas. Funding is being provided through the 2015 federal transportation legislation, Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The MPO has established funding priorities and will be accepting applications for:

Eligible Project Types	Available Funding
Pavement Management Projects	\$11,000,000
Congestion Mitigation Projects	\$8,000,000
Safety Improvement Projects	\$5,000,000
Bridge Repair Projects	\$4,000,000
Small Municipalities (set-aside for municipalities with a population of 5,000 or less)	\$1,000,000
<b>Total Available Funding</b>	<b>\$29,000,000</b>

Applications had to be received by CMPDD by October 26, 2018, and must include proposed projects located on an existing or projected street functionally classified by the MPO as an urban collector, minor arterial or principal arterial. Applications will then be reviewed and graded based upon the project evaluation criteria for each eligible category. The MPO Policy Committee anticipates announcing funding

awards for the projects ranked the highest during the application evaluation process in February 2019. The MPO Policy Committee is comprised of both elected and appointed officials from the three-county urbanized area. Eligible applicants for STGB funding include: Bolton, Brandon, Byram, Canton, Clinton, Florence, Flora, Flowood, Jackson, Madison, Pearl, Pelahatchie, Raymond, Richland, Ridgeland, and Terry, as well as Hinds, Madison and Rankin Counties.

Local jurisdictions with applications selected for funding can receive up to 80% in Federal STBG funding for construction costs of a project. Local jurisdictions are required to provide at a minimum 20% in local matching funds. The only exception to the 20% matching requirement is for safety improvements. Some safety improvement projects may be eligible for 100% Federal STBG funding.

The MPO’s last call for applications took place in 2016 and resulted in twenty-five (25) projects in the metro area receiving \$20.1 million in federal transportation funding.

Congestion mitigation projects generally add capacity by widening a present roadway or constructing a new roadway. Pavement management projects include both simple overlay of an existing roadway and complete reconstruction of a roadbed in order to improve road conditions. Safety improvements primarily include new traffic signals, signal upgrades, and geometric improvements such as roundabouts or added turn lanes. Bridge repair projects include rehabilitation or replacement of an existing bridge by addressing bridge deficiencies.

For more information about the Jackson MPO please visit ([www.cmpdd.org](http://www.cmpdd.org)).

## CMPDD Assist Rankin County with Ordinance Compilation

The Rankin County Board of Supervisors requested CMPDD's assistance with reviewing, compiling, and publishing the County's Ordinances in a digital online format. Efforts began by gathering all known Ordinances and amendments adopted by the Board since 1969. Staff from CMPDD and Rankin County reviewed the Ordinances and determined which Ordinances, and in some instances, versions of Ordinances, were still valid and necessary. The Board will repeal those Ordinances or versions deemed to be unnecessary or out of date. CMPDD is now working to develop a website to house the Ordinances. This will greatly improve public access to the documents. The public will be able to review the Ordinances, search by key word, and print from the website. Additionally, an image of the original, signed Ordinance will be available by link.

## Demographic and Business Summary Updates

The District publishes on its website demographic and business summary profiles for the seven (7) counties and numerous cities within our district. We recently updated these profiles using the latest available information and projections for various data contained in the profiles. These items include projections through the year 2023 for population, housing, household income, and more. Please take time to browse through the profile for your area at ([www.cmpdd.org/data-center-2/](http://www.cmpdd.org/data-center-2/)). We believe you will find this information very informative and useful as a tool for understanding the demographic makeup of your particular area.



*Dylan Johnson and Kaylen Brantley of CMPDD put up a sign to mark the Future Home of CMPDD. The five (5) acre site is located on Centre Pointe Boulevard in Pearl.*

## Workforce Assistance for Employers

Mississippi employers have the ability to access multiple sources of assistance to help offset the cost of hiring and training qualified workers.

One source of assistance is On-the-Job (OTJ) training funds made available by the US Department of Labor under the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act or WIOA. The OJT program allows employers to hire unskilled or under-skilled individuals and train them to their specifications. At the conclusion of the training period and the further retention of the individual for an additional forty hours of employment, the employer is reimbursed an amount equal to fifty percent of the wage paid to the trainee during the training period. The length of the training period varies from 160 to 1,040 hours depending on the occupation and the tasks to be learned. The WIOA OJT program is made available through the Southcentral MS Works Local Workforce Development Area's WIN Job Centers. CMPDD is the administrative fiscal agent for the workforce area. WIOA OJT provides employers with the opportunity to offset the cost of training an individual for the exact job they need to fill and it also provides individuals with the skills they need for successful employment.

Another source of assistance to employers is the Workforce Enhancement Training (WET) Fund, which was established by the Mississippi Legislature in 2004. A percentage of the Un-

employment Insurance payments made by employers is deposited into the WET fund, which is administered by the Mississippi Community College Board. WET funds enable community colleges to partner with companies in developing a skilled, productive workforce at a greatly reduced cost. Through the use of these funds, community colleges can work with businesses and industries to design and implement a customized job-training program that meets specific personnel needs, including pre-employment, train-the-trainer, and customized and industry-based training.

The third major source of assistance to employers is the Mississippi Works Fund, established by the Mississippi Legislature in 2016. Also funded by a percentage of the Unemployment Insurance payments made by employers, the Mississippi Works Fund is administered by the Mississippi Development Authority. Employers may make application for either Job Creation Projects, or for Work Ready Projects. Job Creation Projects are those that meet the critical training needs of a specific business to train new employees in skills necessary to support the operation of the business or to support OJT for new employees. Work Ready Projects must result in a trained and work ready applicant pool. They must also comply with the state's WIOA plan and meet targeted industry sector, credential, and middle skill job requirements.

# Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program Applications Submitted

The Mississippi Small Municipalities and Limited Population Counties Grant Program (SMLPC) is designed for making grants to small municipalities and limited population counties or natural gas districts to finance projects to promote economic growth in the state. Grants are available to municipalities with a population of 10,000 or less, and counties with a population of 30,000 or less. Eligible projects financed with SMLPC must be publicly owned and address at least one of the priorities listed below.

- Priority #1: Economic development-related improvements to include water, sewer, street, and drainage improvements for the benefit of site development, industrial parks, business districts, tourism destinations, and projects that improve the competitiveness of a community.
- Priority #2: Downtown improvements to include: sidewalks, lighting, façade improvements, beautification improvements (waste receptacles, stop signs, street signs, landscaping, awnings, etc.), and other downtown improvements as approved by MDA.
- Priority #3: Non-economic development related water, sewer, street, and drainage improvements.
- Priority #4: Purchase, construction, or rehabilitation of public buildings to include: town halls, libraries, police stations, fire stations, community centers, courthouses, and other publicly owned buildings as approved by MDA.

The maximum grant amount is \$150,000. There is a 10% match requirement for a community with a population of 3,500 or less; and a 20% match requirement for communities with a population greater than 3,500. The match does not have to be cash only.

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District submitted nine (9) SMLPC applications for the following cities/counties:

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>SMLPC Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Village of Eden	New Village Hall	\$150,000	\$15,000
Town of Georgetown	Renovate Town Owned Bldg.	\$150,000	\$15,000
City of Magee	City Park Improvements	\$150,000	\$30,000
City of Mendenhall	City Hall ADA Improvements	\$150,000	\$15,000
Town of Pelahatchie	Milltown Park Improvements	\$45,000	\$5,000
Town of Puckett	Town Park Improvements	\$64,000	\$6,400
Village of Satartia	New Water Well	\$150,000	\$15,000
Town of Utica	Natural Gas Line Improvements	\$150,000	\$15,000
Town of Wesson	Town Park ADA Improvements	\$28,000	\$2,800

If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning the SMLPC grant program, please contact Mitzi Stubbs at 601-981-1511.

## CMPDD Received MDA Site Visits for 2018 CDBG Public Facilities Applications

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facility Program provides grant funds to local units of government for a variety of public improvement projects (e.g., water or sewer facilities, storm drainage, public buildings, street reconstruction, etc.) that benefit low and moderate income families and areas. Special priority is given to water and sanitary sewer projects that eliminate existing health and safety hazards.

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) recently conducted site visits for three (3) potential CDBG Public Facilities projects in the CMPDD area. A site visit does not guarantee approval; however, it is an important step toward approval of the CDBG grant. Listed below are the proposed projects that ranked high enough to be eligible for potential funding through the CDBG Public Facilities Program.

<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>CDBG Funds</u>	<u>Matching Funds</u>
Town of Benton	Sewer Improvements	\$ 450,000	\$72,102
City of Mendenhall	Sewer Improvements	\$ 449,965	N/A
Town of Wesson	Library ADA Improvements	\$ 314,489	N/A

# CMD C BULLETIN

Central Mississippi Development Company (CMDC) is a commercial lender certified by the U.S. Small Business Administration and works with local banks and other financial institutions in providing debt capital for small businesses. CMDC provides fixed rate, low-interest, long-term financing for small businesses and saves thousands of dollars in debt service on fixed assets. This type of financing removes the problem of variable rate financing on long term assets. Many economic forecasters are certain that interest rates will rise. These predictable interest rate increases will not negatively impact the cash flow of those small businesses that have fixed rate low interest loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) 504 Loan Program. The most recent fixed interest rates under this loan program were:

### SBA 504 Loan Program Interest Rates

TERM (YEARS)	INTEREST RATE
10 (September 2018)	5.25%
20 (September 2018)	5.25%
25 (September 2018)	5.29%

CMDC also serves as the Loan Review Board for CMPDD’s Minority Business Enterprise Loan Program (MBELP). The MBELP receives its funding from the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA). The interest rate on loans



made through this program to a minority owned business is currently 4.75% per annum. The term of a loan can be up to 15 years depending on the use of the loan proceeds (commercial buildings, equipment, inventory, working capital, etc.)

Ms. Wanda Cowart invites bankers, commercial loan officers, business owners, real estate developers, and general contractors, to contact Dwayne Perkins at 981-1625, or visit our website at ([www.cmpdd.org](http://www.cmpdd.org)). See the tab labeled “Small Business Assistance.”

## CMPDD’s Medicaid Waiver Program Update

CMPDD’s Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Home and Community Based Medicaid Waiver Program provides Case Management (CM) and Home Delivered Meal (HDM) services to Medicaid-eligible elderly and/or disabled recipients who desire to remain in their home setting. The Registered Nurse and Licensed Social Worker team coordinates all approved Waiver services and conducts monthly home visits to assure the services are meeting the clients’ needs. Other services available are Personal Care Attendant, In-Home Respite, Adult Day Care, and Institutional Respite.

- Representatives from the Division of Medicaid’s B2I (Bridge to Independence) Division attended the Medicaid Waiver staff meeting on Thursday, September 27, 2018. B2I services are currently known as CTS (Community Transition Services). CTS is a one-time monetary transition assistance provided to qualified beneficiaries who reside in a nursing facility and are seeking to transition to a private home setting to receive E&D Waiver services. The beneficiary’s nursing facility stay must be 90 days or more, and Medicaid must be the payor source for at least one of those days.

- CTS staff provided information and guidelines for Case Managers to use when a CTS recipient is assessed for the E&D Waiver. CTS is coordinated with the recipient’s chosen Community Navigator (CN).
- Personal Care Attendant (PCA) services available under the E&D Waiver assist clients primarily with personal care and light housekeeping. Additional guidelines provided by the Division of Medicaid (DOM) in August 2018 allows PCA staff to accompany and assist the client during transportation to medical appointments and on community outings. PCA staff is not allowed to transport clients. With prior approval from DOM on the Plan of Care, they are allowed to accompany and assist when the client uses Medicaid’s non-emergency transportation, or private vehicle transportation.

For more information on Elderly & Disabled Waiver CM services, please contact Teresa Shoto, RN, Case Management Director, at 601-855-5914 or [tburrell@cmpdd.org](mailto:tburrell@cmpdd.org)



**If the name and address of the recipient needs to be updated, please contact our office at 601-981-1511.**

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## Ombudsman/Community Training

On September 14, 2018, CMPDD/ Area Agency on Aging hosted the Annual Ombudsman Workshop. The training was well attended by staff representing local assisted living facilities, personal care homes, community advocates, and nursing home administrators. The guest speaker was Mr. Randolph Brown, Chief Investigator with the Attorney General's Office. The training provided valuable insight to the challenges and obstacles experienced by street level bureaucrats and police officers with recognizing and responding to allegations of abuse and exploitation of vulnerable adults. Mr. Brown gave an extensive overview of how the Vulnerable Persons Unit investigates and prosecutes persons who abuse, neglect, or exploit a vulnerable adult residing in a private home. Currently, the unit consists of one (1) prosecutor and five (5) investigators who coordinate with local law enforcement as well as with the Department of Human Services to guarantee that Mississippi's vulnerable persons in private homes are protected.

Workshop participants received quick tips, resources, and information on how to communicate with residents residing in nursing homes, assisted living homes, and personal care homes. Also, during the workshop, presenters explained the responsibilities and the critical role of the Ombudsman. Participants



welcomed the opportunity to learn through interactive scenarios based on the proper way to handle cases of abused victims residing in a nursing or personal care home. The workshop participants took advantage of the opportunity to network and communicate with Aging Network Providers and the District Ombudsman. Throughout the workshop, educational literature was distributed to the attendees.

Complaints of abuse or neglect of patients living in health care facilities, such as nursing homes or personal care homes, should be reported to the Medicaid Fraud Unit of the Attorney General's Office at 601 359-4220 or toll free 1-800-852-8341. For more information on the Ombudsman

Program, please contact our office at 601-981-1516.

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