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**Community Foundation for Mississippi and Better Together Commission Hire Contractors to Support Ongoing Work**

*Four Contractors to Support Commission's Efforts to Identify Solutions to Improve Student Outcomes in Jackson Public Schools*

**(June 7, 2018) JACKSON, Miss.** – The Community Foundation for Mississippi (CFM) and Better Together Commission (BTC) are pleased to announce the engagement of four independent contractors to support the commission's ongoing efforts to identify solutions to improve student outcomes in the Jackson Public School District (JPS).

Paheadra Robinson has been selected to serve as project lead. Robinson previously served as the chair of the engagement action table for the commission. While she will step down as a committee chair for the commission, she will maintain her role as a commissioner. In her new role as project lead, Robinson will work with commissioners, contractors and partners to monitor the progress of the project and help coordinate commission activities. Before joining the commission as a contractor, Robinson served as the partnership specialist for the United States Census Bureau, and as the director of consumer protection for the Mississippi Center for Justice. She earned a law degree from the University of Mississippi in 1994.

Aisha Carson and Rosaline McCoy have been selected to serve as community engagement support staff. Carson and McCoy will facilitate knowledge and understanding of BTC and its work, coordinate community engagement sessions, and build stronger, more meaningful relationships with community members, organizations and leaders.

Carson previously served as the advocacy coordinator for educational opportunities and criminal justice reform for the ACLU of Mississippi. She earned her masters of public administration from Belhaven University. McCoy, a graduate of both Mississippi State University and Mississippi College, brings her experience in communications and time serving multiple community organizations, such as the Jackson Council PTA Board of Directors and Jackson NAACP as the education chairperson and city youth council advisor. She previously served as the program coordinator for Alignment Jackson at the United Way of the Capital Area.

Monique Bouyer Mosley also will serve as grants administrator. In this role, Mosley will perform administrative functions for the community foundation and the commission working with staff and contractors, external partners, constituencies, donors and volunteers. Mosley has previous experience as the general manager and director of project development for Professional Staffing Group, LLC, oversight account analyst for Horne, LLC, and as an independent consultant for Alerion. She received her master's in accountancy from Millsaps College.

“We are thrilled to add these four contractors to our team,” says Jane Alexander, president and CEO of the Community Foundation for Mississippi. “We believe that these individuals will be an asset to the commission and will help the commission achieve its goal to ensure all students in JPS receive a high-quality education.” The contractors will support the work of the commission for a 12-month contract period. Contractors were selected from a pool of applicants for the positions, advertised earlier this year. “Many qualified people were interested in supporting the work of the commission,” Alexander says. “We are excited to be embarking on the engagement work this summer, and to continue this important work into next year.”

For more information on the Community Foundation for Mississippi, contact Jane Alexander at 601.974.6044. For more information on the Better Together Commission, send an email to [info@bettertogether.formississippi.org](mailto:info@bettertogether.formississippi.org).

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#### **About the Better Together Commission**

The Better Together Commission is a 15-member body of volunteers charged with engaging the community and conducting a study of the educational ecosystem to ensure children’s success in the Jackson Public School District (JPS). Throughout this year, the Commission will be working with the community to create a plan that ensures the academic success of all JPS students.

#### **About the Community Foundation for Mississippi**

The Community Foundation for Mississippi helps charitable donors establish permanent giving funds that reflect their interests, while also making a long-term, positive impact on the community. The Foundation also serves the nonprofit community by managing and growing their endowments, and offering best practice management advice.