

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC) Bryant Center School of Nursing and Health Professions

**MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY-
COMMUNITY INCENTIVES DIVISION**

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Hurricane Katrina

- Landfall: August 29, 2005
- Ground Zero: Waveland, Mississippi, with 30-foot storm surge
- One of the costliest and deadliest natural disasters to hit the United States; damage estimates along Mississippi's Gulf Coast exceeded \$125 billion dollars
- FEMA: 65,380 homes in south Mississippi damaged or destroyed
- An estimated forty-six (46) million cubic yards of debris in south Mississippi
- All 82 counties in the state were affected by the storm
- Public Law 109-148 and Public Law 109-234 allocated \$5.48 billion in CDBG-DR funding to the State of Mississippi
- This unprecedented storm necessitated unprecedented flexibility and innovation when creating disaster recovery programs
- Crucial to the planning process:
 - assessing the needs of the impacted communities based on their distinctive characteristics
 - designing programs that would address each community's unique needs, drive economic recovery, and provide resilience against future disasters

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Hurricane Katrina and MGCCC

- Prior to Hurricane Katrina, MGCCC offered courses for healthcare training programs at multiple campuses across four counties in south MS but recognized that the need to attend classes in multiple locations could be a barrier to students, particularly non-traditional students who must attend classes outside work hours or when childcare or transportation can be arranged
- Katrina exacerbated the difficulty for nursing and allied health students to travel to multiple campuses for training
 - The storm decimated two bridges on coastal Highway 90: one that connected Hancock County with western Harrison County, and the other that connected Jackson County with eastern Harrison County
 - Interstate I-10, a few miles inland, was the sole highway connecting the three coastal MS counties, which led to significant traffic congestion and delays and severely restricted timely student access to the MGCCC campuses
- MGCCC leadership redoubled efforts to establish a central campus on the Gulf Coast for healthcare training

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Katrina CDBG-DR Award: \$ 12,075,000.00
Matching Funds: \$ 2,022,061.50
CDBG-DR Funds Awarded: January 2015
Construction Completed: January 2018
Total Jobs Created: 23
LMI Jobs Created: 12



BRYANT CENTER SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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Bryant Center School of Nursing and Health Professions

- Consolidates nursing and related healthcare courses of study from three campuses and six centers in four counties into a single, state-of-the-art, centrally located campus at the Tradition Development on Highway 67 in Harrison County
- This new facility has allowed MGCCC to increase the number of classes offered and increase the number of graduates each year to meet the healthcare needs of the coastal communities
- Multiple class formats are available to meet the needs and schedules of a diverse student body, including traditional in-person, hybrid, weekend, evening, and online classes
- Wide array of learning opportunities, from non-credit courses that allow students to enhance their current skills to multi-year programs that lead to new career paths
- Partnerships with local health care professionals and hospitals help students acquire clinical experience through interactions with actual patients in real-life settings
- Area health care providers also assist with the placement of graduates into permanent employment opportunities

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Training Programs

- Training programs include:
 - **Nursing:** Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN), Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN), LPN-to-RN, Practical Nursing (PN Exit), LPN Apprenticeship Program, and Transitional Pathways such as LPN-to-RN, Paramedic-to-RN, Respiratory Therapist-to-RN, and Medical Assistant-to-LPN that allow students to leverage prior experience and advance their careers
 - **Workforce Healthcare Programs:** Certified Nursing Assistant, CPR-Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider, CPR- BLS Instructor, Dialysis Technician, ECG/EKG Technician, Heartsaver First Aid, CPR & AED, Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy Technician
- New Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting Training Center coming soon to an existing building adjacent to the Bryant Center; Phase I projected to be completed by the end of 2025, with the program fully operational and ready to enroll students shortly after

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HOSPITAL SPACE

The 4,812 square foot six-bed unit is a multifunctional, interprofessional teaching and learning laboratory with a flexible design that can accommodate a variety of settings, such as emergency, obstetric/pediatric, critical care, medical and surgical, and community/home health.

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CLASSROOM SPACE



The facility includes multiple Smartboards and hybrid-flexible (HyFlex) classrooms that support dynamic, inclusive instruction across multiple campuses and remote student learning and technology-equipped study rooms that can be reserved by small groups of students

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HEALTHCARE SIMULATION CENTER

Innovative learning content in a realistic environment

Four enclosed control rooms with shared direct observation to at least one simulation clinical room and four debriefing rooms where instructors and students can review recordings and critique student performances



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SIMULATION TECHNOLOGIES AND CLINICAL EQUIPMENT



3D Anatomy and Physiology Anatomage Tables- virtual dissection tables that provide immersive anatomy education, enhancing spatial understanding and clinical relevance

Twenty (20) mid-to high-fidelity mannequins that replicate complex patient scenarios, allowing students to practice critical thinking and clinical decision making in a safe environment

Wearable simulators for standardized patients

Telehealth-telemedicine equipment and cart

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Student Support Services

- **Food Pantry Assistance:** Nurse Navigators connect students experiencing food insecurity with the college's food pantry, ensuring basic needs are met so students can focus on their studies
- **Clothes Closet:** Students in need of professional attire for clinicals or interviews are provided access to donated uniforms and clothing, helping them meet dress code requirements and feel confident in professional settings
- **Nurse Navigators:** A team of BSN-prepared Nurse Navigators offers over 1,000 one-on-one support sessions annually, addressing academic, emotional, and financial challenges. Services include test reviews, study strategies, skills lab support, and referrals to community resources
- **Work-Study and Scholarships:** MGCCC offers financial relief through scholarships and a clinical work-study program, allowing students to earn while gaining hands-on experience
 - Between 2021 and 2024, MGCCC awarded over \$150,000 in scholarships to PN and ADN students.

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More than Just a Pretty Building

- Since opening its doors in January 2018, the Bryant Center has produced more than 2,390 graduates – 1,555 from nursing and 862 from related health professions
- 59% of these graduates are from low-to-moderate-income (LMI) backgrounds, reflecting the Bryant Center's commitment to equitable access and upward mobility through education
- MGCCC's nursing enrollment capacity has doubled
- Enabled the launch of innovative programs like the hybrid ADN pathways and the state's first and only LPN Apprenticeship
- Achieved **100% job placement rates** for nursing graduates within six months of program completion
- Supports regional healthcare systems by supplying highly skilled, practice-ready nurses and other health professionals (i.e., EMT, Radiology, Respiratory, etc.)

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Recognitions

- MGCCC was designated a National League for Nursing (NLN) Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for 2025
- ADN program is consistently ranked by industry experts among the top programs in the country due to the ADN students' high pass rates for the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX)
- Healthcare Simulation Center received a five-year accreditation (2024-2029) in Teaching/Education from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH)
- Featured in the HUD August 2023 publication "Economic Revitalization Guide for CDBG-DR Grantees" as an innovative program that addresses the nursing shortage in Mississippi while offering multiple training opportunities and class times to accommodate students entering the healthcare workforce and current healthcare workers who wish to further their educations and skillsets

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Thank you!

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