



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS



PRESS RELEASE

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Christopher B. Epps Compassionate and Palliative Care Unit Unveiled at Parchman

Jackson - Today, Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) opened the first ever compassionate care unit at a Mississippi prison.

The center, named the Christopher B. Epps Compassionate and Palliative Care Unit, is located at Parchman in a wing of the prison hospital and features six palliative care beds to inmates who require end-of-life care. The Christopher B. Epps Compassionate and Palliative Care Unit will be staffed with 24-hour skilled nursing care, and an interdisciplinary team of nurses, chaplains, and inmate volunteers.

Also celebrated was the generosity of the assistance with training which was provided by the Central Plains Geriatric Education Center from the University of Kansas Medical Center, the Louisiana-Mississippi Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and Louisiana State Penitentiary-Angola.

Commissioner Epps said, "It is the goal of MDOC for all inmates to receive timely, quality, consistent health care as defined by MDOC in conjunction with our contracted healthcare vendor, Wexford Health Sources, Inc. in keeping with American Correctional Association and National Commission on Correctional Health Care guidelines." Epps continued, "I am proud that Mississippi is respecting end-of-life care for even the least among us and am greatly honored to have the legacy here at Parchman where I began my correctional career."

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