

# THISMF FAMILY TIMES



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 8/01: Respect for Parents Day
- 8/02: Ice Cream Sandwich Day
- 8/05: American Family Day
- 8/11: Play in the Sand Day
- 8/13: International Left-Hander's Day
- 8/15: National Relaxation Day
- 8/20: National Radio Day
- 8/25: Kiss and Make Up Day
- 8/28: Dream Day

- Your comments are important to us.
- Next time you visit, please take a few moments to fill out a “Family/Friend Questionnaire.” The questionnaires are on yellow paper and are kept in a wood holder in our lobby. If you need assistance locating one, let us know and we will help you out. The questionnaire has twelve questions and will only take a few minutes to complete. Your feedback helps us to improve on what we do and how we do it.

### **Rights Highlight:**

This month we are focusing on the rights related to religion, confidentiality of records, and labor.

**Religion:** Patients have the right to worship in the religious faith of their choice and cannot be forced to attend a religious service against their will. Patients have the right to express spiritual, cultural, psychosocial, and personal values, beliefs, and practices that do not harm others or interfere with their planned course of treatment. A chaplain with expertise in mental health issues makes weekly visits to the facility and is available when required by special need.

**Confidentiality of Records:** Records of treatment and care should be kept confidential and cannot be released without the patient’s consent, guardian consent, or by court order. Patients have the right to review treatment records in the presence of the Treatment Team if the Psychiatrist determines the review would not be harmful to your treatment.

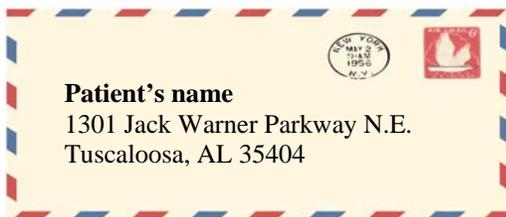
**Labor:** Our patients should not be forced to perform work for which they are not adequately compensated. However, patients are required to clean their rooms or living area without being paid.

Family Education classes meet from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in February, March, May, June, August, September, and November. The Advocacy Meeting is held in January, April, July, and October at the same time. Visitation begins at 11:30AM for those attending the meetings.

Our Family Education Class is all about providing education and support to you – our families. We want you to feel comfortable to come to class, to ask questions or to just sit quietly and listen. We use different tools (handouts, videos, discussion) during the classes to provide the best learning environment. We want to help you learn more about mental health and THSMF.

## Sending Mail?

Remember effective 8/1/18, no personal items (hygiene, clothing, phone cards, etc.) may be sent to patients. You may send money to your loved one (relative only) and they may purchase canteen items or request to purchase items allowed on their program through THSMF staff.



If you have any questions or concerns about your loved one's care & treatment, safety, or a medical condition that may require immediate assessment or care, please let staff know immediately.



Have a question or comment about the newsletter? Contact Lori Ellard, LICSW by phone at 205-462-4650 or by email at [Lori.Ellard@hardin.mh.alabama.gov](mailto:Lori.Ellard@hardin.mh.alabama.gov)



## Visitation Reminders:

- All visitors must be pre-approved;
- One drink item and one food item only and both items must be purchased from the THSMF vending machines;
- Bring pictured identification if over the age of 16.
- No cell phones, umbrellas, coats, bags, tobacco products, weapons, lighters, allowed.
- You will be asked to clear the metal detector prior to entering the visitation area
- Once entering the visitation area, you will not be allowed to exit and re-enter.
- Special visits must be requested at least seven days in advance of the desired visit date.

Passing unacceptable items to a patient at Taylor Hardin is “promoting contraband”, and can be illegal, just as it would be in jail. Unacceptable items include tobacco, tobacco products, lighters, medications, street drugs, money (including coins), pens and other sharp items, alcohol, cell phones, and anything else labeled as contraband.

Any visitor who assists or attempts to assist in escape plans, schemes for creating disorder, or passes or attempts to pass any unacceptable item will not be allowed further visits and will be subject to criminal action.