

THSMF FAMILY TIMES



The Department of Mental Health's website (www.mh.alabama.gov) will be "frozen" in early October to allow for redesign of the website. The website is expected to be updated and accessible in the Spring of 2019. Our newsletter will continue to be available on Taylor Hardin's Facebook page.

Rights Highlight:

This month we are focusing on the right of **individualized treatment**. Your plan of treatment should be designed just for you, based on your individual abilities, desires and needs.

It's football time in T-Town!! These are the home games for September. Please remember traffic is heavy and delays should be expected if traveling for visitation.

- 11/09: Mississippi State – Time TBA
- 11/16: The Citadel – Time TBA

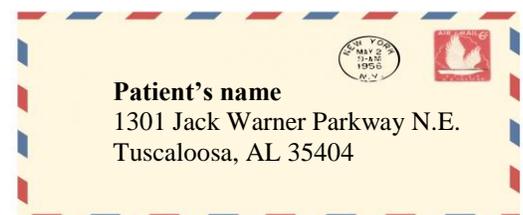


No Packages Allowed

Effective 10/18/18, **no mailed packages** may be received by patients through family or family assisted/vendor-direct shipment. You may send money (**check or money order only and addressed to Business Services**) to your loved one (relative only) and they may purchase canteen items or request to purchase items allowed on their program through THSMF staff. **Cash will not be accepted via mail.** **Please speak with the social worker if you have questions.** Packages will be returned to sender or placed in the patient's personal possessions.

Sending Mail?

Be sure to include your loved one's name and Taylor Hardin's address on the envelope. **Remember, packages will not be accepted.**



Family Education classes meet from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on the 3rd 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.



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.

Our Annual Patient and Family Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Friday, December 14th.

Please notify the social worker if you have questions. Payment is due by 11/20/2018. Due to space limitations, each patient is limited to 2 guests.

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.

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.

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, cash, 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.**



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