

THSMF FAMILY TIMES



May Events



- 5/01: Mother Goose Day / May Day
- 5/03: Space Day
- 5/05: Cinco de Mayo
- 5/07: National Teacher Day
- 5/08: National School Nurse Day
- 5/12: International Nurses Day
- 5/12: Mother's Day
- 5/14: National Dance Like a Chicken Day
- 5/15: National Chocolate Chip Day
- 5/18: Visit Your Relatives Day
- 5/18: Armed Forces Day
- 5/27: Memorial Day
- 5/31: World No Tobacco Day

THSMF will celebrate **National Nurse's Week** May 6th – May 12th. Please take a moment to thank one of our nurse's for the outstanding care they provide.



Rights Highli...

This month we are focusing on the rights **protection from harm** and **personal funds/possessions**.

Protection from harm: Your loved one should not be neglected or physically, mentally, or verbally abused by the staff of THSMF.

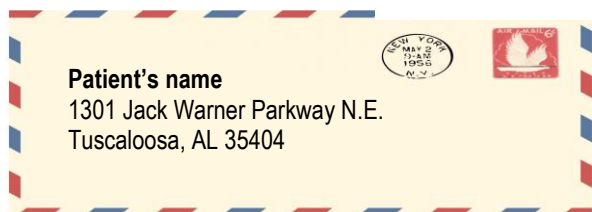
Personal funds/possessions: Family members are permitted to deposit money into their loved one's personal fund account for canteen items such as soft drinks, snacks, etc. and to withdraw funds as other special needs arise. Due to security reasons, patients will not be permitted to carry money while at this facility. Patients are only be allowed to purchase items that are allowed for their specific program. ACE patients are not allowed to have personal clothing or hygiene items on the program. THSMF will provide those items. Patients will be issued clothing by the facility, to be worn while on the ACE Program. You are allowed to wear your own clothes if you wish after transfer from ACE, however, security and therapeutic concerns may limit some types of clothing and footwear. We do request that only washable and properly fitting clothing be sent. Also, because of limited space for storage, only in-season clothes should be sent. We ask that expensive clothes not be sent as we cannot be responsible for their security, and damaged, lost or stolen clothing will not be replaced. **Effective 5/9/19, only DREAM patients are allowed to submit purchase requests through staff to purchase hygiene items from outside the facility. The facility will provide approved hygiene items for patients on ACE, BEST, and CARE Programs, as well as any patients on DREAM who need them.** If you have questions, please contact the Treatment Team. Additionally, specific information concerning funds or possessions may be addressed with your assigned Social Worker. Our rules are made in the interest of security and will be changed as needed to promote safety and security for our facility.

Family Education classes meet from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on the 3rd Friday in February, March, May, June, August, September, and November. Our next class is May 18th. The Advocacy Committee currently meets on the third Friday in January, April, July, and October. All family members are encouraged to attend. *Visitation begins at 11:30 a.m. for those attending the Family Education Class or Advocacy meeting.*

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?

If mailing a letter to your family member at THSMF, please make sure to include your **family member's name** in the address. **No packages are allowed.**



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.



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 15
- 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.
- Children under the age of 1 are not allowed to visit. Children between the ages of 1 and 13 are not allowed to visit during regular visitation hours. You may contact the assigned social worker to discuss specific rules (who can visit, when you can visit, etc.) about special visits. Requests for special visits must be submitted to the social worker **at least 7 days in advance** of when you would like to visit.

We have had recent events that resulted in visitation being cancelled on the weekends. Please feel free to call Police Services at 205-462-4555 to inquire about visitation before driving to the facility.

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.



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