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SOCIAL WORK SPOTLIGHT

The **World Day of Social Justice**, first observed in 2009, is held annually on **February 20** to support global efforts in:

- **POVERTY ERADICATION,**
- **EQUAL RIGHTS,**
- **THE PROMOTION OF FULL EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK,**
- **GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EQUALITY,**
- **AND ACCESS TO SOCIAL WELL-BEING AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ALL.**

IT'S A DAY SET ASIDE TO PROMOTE EQUALITY, OPPORTUNITY AND FREEDOM FOR EVERY HUMAN BEING—SOMETHING MANY TAKE FOR GRANTED.

IMAGINE IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS OTHERS. IF YOU DIDN'T FEEL SAFE. IF YOU WERE JUDGED UNFAIRLY. IF YOU WERE ABUSED AND NEGLECTED. IF THERE WERE NO WAY OUT. IF YOU HAD NO HOPE.

NOW IMAGINE IF YOU WERE A CHILD.

FOR MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD, THIS IS A DAILY REALITY.

IT'S UNJUST. IT'S UNFAIR. AND IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY

THE CONCEPT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE CALLS FOR A WORLD WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED AND FREEDOMS ARE ENSURED—REGARDLESS OF GENDER, AGE, RACE, ETHNICITY, RELIGION, CULTURE OR DISABILITY. IT'S THE IDEA THAT FAIR AND JUST RELATIONS BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY ARE PROPER, DESIRABLE AND BENEFICIAL.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CONTRIBUTES TO THE "COMMON GOOD" AND IS NECESSARY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PEACE WITHIN AND BETWEEN NATIONS. IT SERVES, ACCORDING TO BAN KI-MOON, EIGHTH SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AS "A FOUNDATION FOR NATIONAL STABILITY AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY."

(TAKEN FROM COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL-[HTTPS://WWW.COMPASSION.COM/WORLD-DAYS/WORLD-DAY-OF-SOCIAL-JUSTICE.HTM](https://www.compassion.com/world-days/world-day-of-social-justice.htm))

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



Healing Hearts Child Advocacy Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance.

Healing Hearts Child Advocacy Center's mission is to respond to child abuse with a supportive team approach that reduces trauma through advocacy, treatment, education and prevention.

What is a CAC?

A Children's Advocacy Center is a child-focused, facility-based program in which representatives from many disciplines work together to protect abused children. We are one of 11 Child Advocacy Centers in the state of Mississippi. We are a member of the state chapter of Child Advocacy Centers of Mississippi and have been accredited by the National Children's Alliance since 2015.

What We Do:

- We provide forensic interviews to DeSoto and Tate County victims of child abuse. A forensic interview is a fact-finding interview to ensure a child only tells their traumatic experience of abuse one time.
- We provide advocacy services to victims of child abuse and their non-offending caregivers, and follow their case until it is either closed or prosecuted.
- These services include: preparing families for court, safety education, community awareness, counseling on site and referrals for counseling and medical exams.

Contact Information

- **SARAH SAMPLES**: REQUEST FORM CAN BE FOUND ON THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.DESOTOCOUNTYSCHOOLS.ORG/MENTALHEALTH](https://www.desotocountyschools.org/mentalhealth)



- **ANNA JOHNSON**: REQUEST FORM CAN BE FOUND BY USING THE FOLLOWING LINK: [HTTPS://WWW.DESOTOCOUNTYSCHOOLS.ORG/BEHAVIORSERVICES](https://www.desotocountyschools.org/behaviorservices)

