



2017 Young Advocates Institute-South

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault?

The Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MSCASA) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide training and technical assistance that builds upon strong community partnerships with the goals of strengthening services for victims of sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking and promoting comprehensive prevention strategies around the state.

To that end, the MS Coalition Against Sexual Assault provides all-inclusive, responsive, and well-informed training and technical assistance to member programs, criminal justice professionals, healthcare providers, colleges and universities and local communities to ensure that survivor-centered responses are holistic, while holding offenders accountable. The **vision** of the MS Coalition Against Sexual Assault is to enhance services to victims of violence, educate the community, and provide resources, referrals, and outreach to those affected by sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

What is the Young Advocates Institute?

The Young Advocates Institute-SOUTH is a social justice summer Day Camp that seeks to empower and train 75 African American youth, ages 13-17, from across the city of Jackson through 2.5 days of prevention/intervention education, advocacy and leadership development seminars. The Institute will feature national speakers, peer-to-peer education, and team building activities.

What is the purpose of the Young Advocates Institute?

The purpose of the Young Advocates Institute-South is to give youth a voice, the opportunity to share their experiences regarding social justice issues, and to help them become an integral part of the solutions. Not only do young people from across Jackson, MS who represent our city's rich diversity, have access to learning about violence prevention, healthy behaviors and leadership, but they also build relationships with peers and carve out their niche in creating safer communities.

Who are supporters of Young Advocates Institute?

The Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault received support from the national organization Raliance to launch Young Advocates Institute-South. Composed of three top sexual violence prevention organizations, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA)-PreventConnect and the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (NAESV), Raliance serves as the central hub for effective allocation and distribution of programmatic funding in sexual violence prevention and as the go-to resource for policymakers, advocates, service providers and the media. Raliance is funded through a \$10 million multiyear commitment from the **National Football League**. The name was inspired by the entity's intent to rally engagement from stakeholders and align goals and resources behind its overarching mission of putting a stop to sexual violence once and for all.

How can I find out more information about the Young Advocates Institute?

For more information contact Tracy D. Wright at 601.351.5247 yaisouth2017@gmail.com