



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by and between **City of Vicksburg** and the **Mississippi Public Health Institute (MSPHI)** and to collaborate for the 2025 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program grant under the Office on Violence Against Women (O-OVW-2025-172287); and the partners listed below have agreed to enter into a collaborative agreement in which the Mississippi Public Health Institute will be the lead agency and named applicant, and the other agency will be a partner in this application; and the partners herein desire to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding setting forth the services to be provided by the collaborative.

A. Purpose.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets forth the agreement among the undersigned agencies to form a Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) in Warren County, Mississippi. The purpose of the DVHRT is to enhance the safety of domestic violence victims at high risk of lethality through a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach.

B. Roles and Responsibilities.

- a. Mississippi Public Health Institute - Oversee training and resources provided to the domestic violence high risk team (DVHRT); coordinate DVHRT meetings; provide additional training to DVHRT members and others in the community on topics related to domestic violence and support the project with data collection and evaluation efforts.
- b. City Vicksburg Police Department - Serve as Co-Coordinator of the DVHRT; provide resources, risk assessment, advocacy, and case management for high-risk victims.
- c. Actively participate in DVHRT training provided by MSPHI.
- d. All partners agree to participate in regular case review meetings, share non-confidential information under applicable legal guidelines, and promote survivor-centered, trauma-informed approaches.

C. Timeframe.

The roles and responsibilities described above are contingent on the Mississippi Public Health Institute receiving funds requested for the project described in the OVW grant application. Responsibilities under this Memorandum of Understanding would coincide with the grant period, anticipated to be from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2028.

D. Commitment to Partnership

1. The collaboration service area includes Warren County and its county seat, Vicksburg.
2. The partners agree to collaborate and provide coordinated case review, victim safety planning, shelter access, and timely legal and law enforcement response to victims of domestic violence who are at high risk of lethality.
3. We, the undersigned, have read and agree to this MOU. Further, we have reviewed the proposed project and approve it.

E. Confidentiality.

To ensure the safety and privacy of clients, all parties to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agree to maintain strict and ongoing confidentiality.

This Memorandum of Understanding is the complete agreement between **City of Vicksburg** and **MSPHI** and may be amended only by written agreement signed by each of the parties involved.

Authorized Official:

Signature

~~Willis Thompson, Mayor Vicksburg, MS~~
Vickie Y. Bailey, Mayor Pro-Tem

Authorized Official:

Signature

Roy Hart, CEO, MSPHI