

December 2020

Mahatma Gandhi is accredited with saying “Be the change you want to be in the world”. Somebody more obscure because nobody can remember who it is said “A difference has to be different to make a difference.” We have been making a difference this year in the lives of people all across this state of Mississippi and we have been becoming the change that we want to see.

I got word recently that over 12,000 of you completed our survey, our internal survey, and that's $\frac{3}{4}$ of us and that's going to allow us to continue to see some of this change in the year ahead. In fact, in the months ahead, you're going to be seeing a new brand for our agency, we're going to be putting together a new website, and we're going to continue to be making a difference in the lives of people all across the state of Mississippi.

One of the most hopeful ways we did that back earlier this month, was to help the Planning and Development Districts distribute 400 Chromebooks to over 160 nursing facilities in North Mississippi.

I heard another statement recently that “MDHS” has become a four-letter word. Well, I want MDHS to become another four-letter word, and that H-O-P-E. We are making a change in this agency, you are a part of that change, and that change is leading to hope.

And I thank you for the hard work that you've done this whole year. Let's continue to make a change in the lives of Mississippians. Have a great new year and let's move forward, together.