

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Eye Exams for Inmate Family Members Visiting at CMCF This Weekend

JACKSON – Family members visiting inmates at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County can receive free vision screening this Saturday and Sunday.

Centurion, the health provider for the Mississippi Department of Corrections, and Envolve Inc., a healthcare solutions company, are sponsoring the mobile optometrist office.

The “SeeMore” Vision Van will be in the parking lot of the 720 Building from 8 a.m. until noon on Saturday and from 2 until 4 p.m. on Sunday.

“The Mississippi Department of Corrections appreciates Centurion for including our state in this free service,” Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall said. “Good eye health is important for all of us. Therefore, for those inmate family members who cannot afford to pay for an eye exam, this should be a great benefit.”

“We are excited to bring this positive service to the families of the males and females incarcerated in the State of Mississippi,” said April Meggs, vice president of operations for Centurion of Mississippi. “We hope to have this as an annual event to serve our patients families to alleviate a little stress on incarcerated individuals.”

Family members can receive free reading glasses and sunglasses on site. Otherwise, prescription glasses are sent to them free of charge.

Visiting family members can come to the van before or after they complete their visitation. They must show identification upon their arrival.

Each inmate can have up to 10 visitors. Family members must be approved in advance to see inmates.

MDOC typically has up to 250 weekend visitors.

The vision van has traveled over 38,000 miles across the country since May 2015. During those travels, more than 11,000 vision screenings have been conducted, 3,600 prescription eye glasses have been mailed and 3,000 reading glasses distributed.