



## Brian Harrington

While teaching high school English, a job I wanted since I was in the third grade, a desire to serve my students and families on a different and deeper level led me to the field of counseling. After my first semester, I knew I made the right decision. During that semester, my professor and advisor, Dr. Jan Lemon, encouraged us to join the Mississippi Counseling Association, and I am glad I did.

I am truly honored and humbled by the opportunity to serve as treasurer of MCA, which has encouraged professional development, influenced the counseling profession both in our state and nation, and promoted understanding of the importance of mental health. I am grateful for the personal and professional growth gained through being a part of MCA as the organization is filled with members who are credentialed, professional counselors working to promote positive development and adjustment among the children and adults whom they serve. I have had the privilege of serving my beloved MCA in various roles including: Emerging Leaders 2019, Government Relations Committee, and Secretary for Capital Area Region.

In May 2019 I received my Master of Education in School Counseling from Mississippi College and was inducted into Chi Sigma Iota. Since that time, I have served as a Community Mental Health Therapist for Children and Youth Services for Hinds Behavioral Health Services, Elementary School Counselor, and now High School Counselor. During my time as a school counselor, I have served on Instructional Leadership Teams as well as Recording Secretary for my alma mater, Tougaloo College National Alumni Association— all while serving MCA. All of these leadership activities have prepared me to serve and support MCA leadership and its members. If elected, I pledge to use my passion and perception to competently and charismatically serve and support MCA leadership and its members.