FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rust College Awarded $1.4 Million Upward Bound Grant To Support Underserved Students

HOLLY SPRINGS, MS - Rust College has been selected to receive funding under the federally funded Upward Bound Program in the amount of $1.4 million over a five-year period. The program will begin in September and will serve schools in the Marshall County area.

Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their pre-college performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

“Rust College is pleased to have been awarded this grant,” said Vice President of Enrollment Management and Program Director, Dr Jason K. Johnson. “This is the first step in rebuilding the TRiO program here at Rust College. It will allow us to partner with and serve local high school students in their college aspirations.”
“We are excited to have received this grant and look forward to working with our partners in the Marshall County Schools,” said Chief of Staff, Mrs. Tiffani Perry. “We are extremely grateful for this grant, as it will provide numerous opportunities for Marshall County students to imagine and achieve their goals of attending college and ultimately entering the workforce in their field of choice.”

**About Rust College**
Rust College is the oldest most prestigious historically black college in Mississippi founded in 1866 by the Freedmen’s Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Offering degree programs in business, education, humanities, science and mathematics, and social science, Rust College equips and inspires students for excellence and service in their communities and throughout the world. Located in Holly Springs, MS, just 35 miles southeast of Memphis, Tennessee, Rust College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate and baccalaureate degrees.

For more information about Rust College, call (662) 252-8000, ext. 4915 or visit [www.rustcollege.edu](http://www.rustcollege.edu).

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