
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: BOYD, SIMMONS, TELL
SUBJECT: GOVERNOR'S SUMMIT ON SENIORS
DATE: 07/17/00
CC: FILE

Upon your approval, we will set up a 30-45 minute meeting with the following agencies to discuss these topic areas and agency efforts to address senior issues (Summit I: Organizational):

- Governor's agencies (Medicaid, Human Services, Banking, Economic Development, Public Safety);
- State Officials (Insurance, Attorney General);
- Independent agencies/boards (Mental Health, Health, PERS-Retirement, Public Utilities Staff-PSC, Home Corporation, community colleges, Education, IHL, Personnel Board, Nursing Home Administrators Board, Veterans Affairs and Home Purchase Boards, Councils on Aging, Commission on Volunteer Service).

Upon close of this meeting, Governor's staff, preferably the policy liaison charged with health and senior issues, will work with each group to build a two-day summit inclusive of federal, state, and local agencies, legislative leadership, caregivers and advocates. The Summit could be held among the highest concentration of senior population—Mississippi Gulf Coast. Please find a proposed agenda attached for Summit I meeting.

We have drafted the following regarding the Governor's Summit on Seniors 2000. This summit will cover all major issues confronting Mississippi's aging population today and in the near future. Sessions during the summit will center on:

1. **Health care and coverage** (e.g., prescription medications; access to quality, affordable care; health choice; Medicare; Medicaid; home and community-based services; assisted-living centers; nursing homes; health, disability and long-term care insurance; mental health; physical fitness; and patient protections);
2. **Working seniors** (e.g., workforce training, employment opportunities, and mentoring programs);
3. **Transportation** (e.g., rural transportation, financial assistance);
4. **Housing and utilities** (e.g., affordable housing, LIHEAP);
5. **Financial preparedness** (e.g., financial planning, consumer education, taxation (estate and retirement income));
6. **Veterans affairs** (i.e., VA benefits and home purchase assistance);
7. **Crime prevention** (i.e., neighborhood watch); and,
8. **Disease-specific sessions and support information** (e.g., Alzheimer's).

Proposed Agenda
Governor's Summit on Seniors
Monday, July 24, 2000 at 9:30-10:15 AM
Sillers' Large Conference Room

- I. Introduction of agencies and purpose
 - A. Mission: The Governor's Summit on Seniors will provide a forum to address the unique needs of Mississippi's senior population. In addition, the summit will also provide an opportunity for agencies to showcase successful programs and obtain information on how to better address the needs of our aging population.
 - B. Design: Ideally, this event will provide a two-day forum inclusive of state, local, and federal officials, as well as advocates, providers, and others desiring to participate.
- II. Problem Identification
 - A. What are the problems facing seniors (1,2,3,4, ... obtain information from agencies during the meeting)
- III. Solution Identification
 - A. What programs do we, as a state (not just and agency) have to respond to these problems?
 - B. Do they work, and how well?
- IV. Timeline, agency involvement and financing
 - A. October 10-11, 2000 (Tentative)
 - B. All of the agencies here today, that are willing to participate, should