

April 9, 2001

Mr. J.C. Burns
Executive Director
Mississippi Development Authority
P.O. Box 849
Jackson, MS 39205
VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Mr. Burns:

The Office of the Governor is preparing an application for funding from the Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for a State Incentive Grant (SIG). A requirement of the SIG program, and one of the goals of the project, is to implement a comprehensive statewide substance abuse prevention strategy by working with state agencies. In our application, we are proposing to implement the Mississippi Alliance for Prevention (MAP). MAP will allow us to maximize the use of existing federal and state substance abuse prevention resources. If funded, the three-year project will allow the state to identify successful strategies and gaps in current programs that reach Mississippi residents. Average funding will be \$3,000,000 per year, 85% of which will be sent directly to existing community groups. Currently, 27 states have received SIG funds, and their experiences have shown increases in funding coordination and improved capacity for prevention in their states.

The Mississippi Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, will be the Administrator of SIG funds and has asked DREAM, Inc., to assist in preparing the application for these Cooperative Agreement funds. We believe that Mississippians will benefit greatly from a coordinated effort to collect data, optimize resources, and evaluate progress as we strive to reach our goals for substance abuse prevention.

Enclosed you will find a sample letter for editing or use in any way that might be helpful to you. **Please fax (601-933-1138) your letter of support to DREAM, Inc., 310 Airport Road, Jackson, MS 39208 by April 10, 2001.**

Best wishes and thanks for your service to the people of Mississippi.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE