Lynnette S. Araki, M.P.H.
Office of Planning, Evaluation and Legislation
Health Resources and Services Administration
Parklawn Bldg., Room 14-36
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

August 31, 2001

Lynnette S. Araki, M.P.H.
Office of Planning, Evaluation and Legislation
Health Resources and Services Administration
Parklawn Bldg., Room 14-36
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Araki:

The State of Mississippi is applying for participation in the Policy Academy for State and Local Policymakers ***Improving Access to Mainstream Services for Persons Who Are Homeless***. I have designated the Office of the Governor, Division of Medicaid as the lead agency to oversee the planning and development of the initiative. The Division has authority to utilize the resources as described in the grant application and to work collaboratively with the participants of this Policy Academy. This application is for participation in the policy academy that will address issues for the access to mainstream services for persons who are homeless and have chronic mental illness and/or substance abuse issues and the development and implementation of a state action plan. The Mississippi team members will participate in the one year follow-up, technical assistance and the brief evaluation process with the sponsors.

The Team Member to be contacted regarding matters of this application is Michael Boyd, Office of the Governor, Policy & Planning Director, Post Office Box 139, Jackson, Mississippi 39205. Mr. Boyd's office telephone number is (601) 359-2971, facsimile number is (601) 359-3741, e-mail address is mboyd@governor.state.ms.us .

We are committed to improving healthcare in the State of Mississippi and we pledge to work collectively and collaboratively with all levels of government. The participants selected to serve on the team for our state have a vital interest in improving access to mainstream services. We hope that you and the selection committee will look favorably on Mississippi's application.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:gd