

Memorandum

To: Governor's Healthcare Commission Members
From: Wanda Niblett Smith, Health Care Policy Advisor
Date: 5/10/2002
Re: Medicaid/Healthcare Reform

Thank you for your participation on the Governor's Healthcare Commission. Each one of you will bring valuable information that could impact the future of healthcare in Mississippi.

The first meeting of the whole panel will be held on May 30, 2002 at the Woolfolk Building, Room 145, in Jackson at 1:00. This meeting will last at least two hours. Technical support will be provided by the Decision Support Lab/Mississippi State University lead by Dr. Art Cosby. Due to the urgency to gather as much information as possible by the beginning of the fiscal year, or July 1, 2002, we may meet more often in the next few weeks. I am working on a schedule of dates so that you will have as much notice as possible.

Between the meetings of the whole panel, please gather information about your area of expertise from your peers, patients, consumers, or any other source that will help to accomplish our goal. This can be accomplished through conference calls, meetings in your communities or Jackson, personal calls, or however you determine best meets your needs and capabilities. We recognize that many of you are in private practice and will not have as much time as others to devote to this effort. We are here to support you. If you need to use conference rooms in the Jackson area, we can provide you space that can accommodate up to 120 participants. We may be able to get conference calls set up for you if you choose to utilize this method to collect information. If you choose to have a meeting, please let me know and I will check with Rica Lewis-Payton so she can send a member of her staff to answer questions about your subject. She has agreed to try to accommodate requests, if staff is available.

I will send further information next week. If you have questions, please contact me by email at wnsmith@governor.state.ms.us.

Thank you.