

MEMO

TO: Janice Broome Brooks, MDHS
Rica Lewis-Payton, Division of Medicaid
Dr. Ed Thompson, Department of Health
Dr. Richard Thompson, Department of Education

FROM: Kelly Riley, Policy Liaison

DATE: June 4, 2001

SUBJECT: Opportunity for Employees: State Early Childhood Policy Leadership Forum Initiative

Zero to Three and the National Governors' Association (NGA) are launching a State Early Childhood Policy Leadership Forum. The Forum will support a preeminent network of policy and program leaders working to strengthen cross-system early childhood (birth to 5) policies and programs. The goal of the initiative is to encourage mutual learning among the selected Fellows that will help build their leadership skills and state capacity to create cross-system early childhood policies and programs. Zero to Three and NGA are seeking applicants who:

- Are currently leading or guiding state-level comprehensive early childhood policy initiatives as state-government employees, as part of public-private partnerships, or as part of the legislative branch; and,
- Have experience working across systems (e.g., child care, health, education, early intervention)

The Forum will bring the selected Fellows together twice over a period of a year and a half for a two-day retreat. Fellows will also receive a stipend to support their own professional development or technical assistance needs.

I have enclosed an overview of the initiative, as well as application materials. Applications/nominations are due June 15, 2001. Applicants must submit a letter of support from their Governor. I will be out of the office most of next week. Should an employee of your agency be interested in this opportunity, please have them fax (359-3741) a draft letter of support and a resume of their relevant work/experience to my attention by 8:00 a.m. Monday, June 11, so that the Governor's letter of support is returned to them in time to meet the June 15, 2001, deadline.

Please feel free to contact me at 359-2528 if you have any questions regarding this matter.