
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST FOR OCY FUNDING FOR MEMBERSHIPS
DATE: 3/20/2002
CC: TELL

You'll remember that you met with Penny Barr, Beverly Peden and Kaye Sowell of the Early Childhood Association last week. There was one matter that they did not get to address with you that they requested I check into.

The Department of Human Services' Office of Children and Youth (OCY) provides memberships in the Mississippi Early Childhood Association for over 450 childcare directors of centers who participate in the child care certificate program. OCY also enables these same directors and one staff member to attend a continuing education class on early childhood development at the Association's annual meeting.

The Early Childhood Association representatives requested your support in these OCY being provided again this year. While conferring with Janice Broom Brooks as to model OCY early childhood programs to be included on the handout for last week's press conference, she touted these memberships, so she supports this initiative.

I do not know if these funds were awarded via a competitive process. If these are discretionary funds, I think we should take steps to provide them again this year, as qualified and well-trained childcare providers are critical to successful early childhood programs. This is a good fit for our early childhood priority/initiative.

If such funds are discretionary funds, do you want me to work with OCY to ensure that these funds are made available to the Early Childhood Association again this year?

Yes _____

No _____