
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: CATHY GRACE: EARLY CHILDHOOD UPDATE
DATE 5/24/02
CC: FILE

Dr. Kagan's systemic work in MS: I spoke to Dr. Cathy Grace this morning to inquire as to if she has received a response from Dr. Lynn Kagan as to if she is going to accept our invitation to work with us in developing universal funding for an early childhood care and education system here. Dr. Grace said that she spoke to Kagan about 2 weeks ago and that Kagan is still awaiting word on funding from the Carnegie Foundation. Even if she receives the Carnegie funding, Grace said that Kagan has estimated that her work here would run about \$300,000. Claiborne Barksdale has pledged \$20,000 and Grace thinks a Memphis foundation will put up about \$50,000, which still leaves about \$230,000. Grace has asked Kagan for numbers and a work proposal so that she can approach other foundations (such as Hardin) to contribute. Grace once again volunteered to provide any assistance necessary in this initiative.

Chevron's Certified Childcare Community Program: You'll remember that Chevron has sponsored this initiative to develop a model early childhood program for the typical Mississippi community. The steering committee is finalizing the criteria and the Godwin Group is working on the roll out, with the announcement of the pilot sites expected for sometime in July. I told Grace we'd be interested in participating in the press conference.

Request for assistance in setting up an appointment with Janice Broome Brooks: Grace said that she has been trying to set up an appointment for the past year with Janice to discuss early childhood issues, including funding/grants, the Interagency Council (which Janice co-chairs with Richard Thompson) and some general ideas for early childhood opportunities that are available. She said she has written letters and called, but she has not had any success. She said she realized that the session was hectic and that there have been further developments since then, but she requested any assistance we can offer in possibly arranging for Janice to meet with her. May I contact Janice's office and request that they work with Dr. Grace to set up such an appointment? Dr. Grace is particularly interested in reenergizing the Interagency Council and it would look good for the executive branch (i.e., Janice rather than Dr. Thompson) to take the lead in doing so.

Yes _____

No _____