Congressman Bennie G. Thompson Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District

Congressman Ronnie Shows Mississippi 4th Congressional District

Grant Announcement FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2001

Contact: Lanier Avant at 202-225-5876 Burns Strider at 202-225-5865 Congressmen Thompson and Shows Announce \$402,000.00 Grant to Serve At-Risk Children / Families in Mississippi

[Washington] - Congressmen Bennie G. Thompson (MS-02) and Ronnie Shows (MS-04) today announced that a \$402,000 grant has been awarded to the Mississippi Division of Public Safety from the U.S. Department of Justice. This grant will be used to provide services for at-risk children and their families in Mississippi. These services will include delinquency prevention efforts, identification of risk factors in communities that contribute to delinquency, and identify protective factors for children.

"One of the greatest challenges facing Mississippians is caring for our children." Stated Congressman Thompson. "Study after study has revealed that the most important years are those of early development. What we have to do is build communities that encourage children to exercise their potential and overcome obstacles. Parents should have every resource available to them as they raise their children in the best possible environment."

The goal of this program is to reduce the delinquency and youth violence by supporting communities in providing their children, families, neighborhood and institutions with the knowledge, skills and opportunities necessary to foster a healthy and nurturing environment which supports the growth and development of productive and responsible citizens.

"Creating partnerships between local and federal agencies for the betterment of our Mississippi families and communities is what it's all about," added Congressman Shows. "I applaud the hard work of the Mississippi Division of Public Safety and join with Congressman Thompson in my support of our communities and families in Mississippi."

Contact at the Mississippi Division of Public Safety is Anthony Gobar at 601-987-4990.

-- ### --