

May 30, 2002

Sarah Callahan, Deputy Director
Rewarding Results National Program Office
National Health Care Purchasing Institute
1801 K Street., NW, Suite 701-L
Washington, D.C. 20006-1301

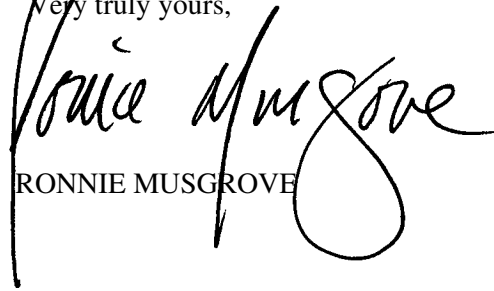
Dear Ms. Callahan,

The State of Mississippi is applying for consideration in the national initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) ***Rewarding Results: Aligning Incentives with High-Quality Health Care***. The Division of Medicaid is the lead agency to oversee the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of the initiative. The Division has authority to utilize the resources as described in the grant application and to work collaboratively with the other agencies and public and private organizations in this process. The application will address issues of patient safety and improvement of health care outcomes by educating and motivating beneficiaries and health care providers to more appropriately use the limited health care resources of the State of Mississippi. The Mississippi team members will participate in the pre-grant planning meetings; policy implementation and monitoring; and post-grant evaluation, follow-up and technical assistance.

We are committed to improving the effective utilization of the health care resources in Mississippi, as well as improving the quality of health care of our citizens. We pledge to work collectively and collaboratively with all levels of government. The collaborators who have been selected to serve on the team for our state have a vital interest in improving health care and are committed to working to achieve these results by aligning incentives with high quality health care. We hope that you and the selection committee will look favorably on Mississippi's application.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Wanda Smith, RN, Health Care Policy Advisor, directly at (601) 359-9228, e-mail address wsmith@governor.state.ms.us.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronnie Musgrove". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name. It is positioned above the printed name.

RONNIE MUSGROVE