

*Remarks to the
Mississippi Management Seminar for Non-Profits
June 27, 2001*

Thank you, Nathan, for that introduction and the invitation to be here today.

I appreciate the chance to share my thoughts about the role of non-profit organizations in Mississippi and the impact their work has on our people.

At every level of society, non-profit organizations contribute so much to the ties that bind us all together.

Look at programs like Community Stewpot, the Mississippi Food Network, or the Gateway Rescue Mission – and you can see how they make life a little better for those less fortunate.

Look at arts organizations like the Mississippi Opera, the International Ballet Competition or any one of our museums – and you can see how they bring a little beauty into our lives.

Look at organizations that deal with health issues or emergency and crisis response – and you can see how they reach out to us in times of need.

And there are organizations that contribute to the economic growth of our state – as evidenced by the strong partnership between the Mississippi Economic Council and the State of Mississippi, to put an internet-accessible computer in every public school classroom by the end of next year.

I am proud of the work that non-profit agencies perform in Mississippi, and for Mississippi. And, I know that together, we can create new opportunities for partnerships between the public and private, for-profit and non-profit sectors.

There is such great potential here in Mississippi – and I am committed to doing whatever it takes to fulfill that potential for the people of our great state.

By working together, we can ensure that the clock is not turned back, and that our progress is not disrupted.

By working together, we can build a better Mississippi for the next generation.

Thank you again for the work that you do, and I look forward to what we can accomplish together.

Thank you.