

July 6, 2000

Dr. Joan Dodge, Ph. D.  
National Technical Assistance Center  
Georgetown University  
3307 M Street NW, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Dr. Dodge:

It is with pleasure that I write to support Mississippi's application for the Policy Academy offered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' - Center for Mental Health Services and Georgetown University's National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health Services.

The policy academy presents a unique opportunity for Mississippi to receive technical assistance and to learn from and share experiences with other regions regarding policy initiatives. Also, the academy will assist the development of a full health care system for children with emotional disorders and their families.

My administration includes a vision of developing and supporting processes that will support and include partnerships at the local and state levels emerging among agencies, private organizations, the business and faith communities, services providers, and families. These partnerships will help ensure access to services and supports for children and families with mental health needs across Mississippi.

I strongly support this application for a Children's Mental Health Policy Academy and hope that you will look favorably on the State of Mississippi's application.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:mtb