
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: JMG FILE
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: JOBS FOR MISSISSIPPI'S GRADUATES
DATE: 7/5/00
CC: COLE

Dr. Cole and I met with the following this morning concerning the Jobs for Mississippi Graduates program:

Jean Hendrix, Executive Director of Jobs for Mississippi Graduates
Joy Milam, Department of Education
Jean Denson, DECD
Mike Larsen, DECD
Michael Raff, DHS

DHS issued six RFPs this past Friday soliciting proposals to be funded with TANF funds. Michael Raff and Jean Hendrix were to meet this morning to discuss the RFP because DHS is hoping to provide funds to Jobs for Mississippi Graduates through this RFP process. Raff stated that Dr. Fletcher would like to see these funds leveraged with other funding sources (i.e., other agencies) because DHS does not feel it in the best interest of the program's future to fund it only with TANF funds because TANF funds may only be existence for a few more years.

Mike Larsen indicated that, should the Governor wish to see this program continue, DECD could offer \$50,000-\$100,000 for this year's operations, but stressed that this would not be ongoing funding. He also emphasized that DECD would anticipate MDE putting up funds as well. Joy Milam reported that the department has committed some federal School-to-Career funds and that they are attempting to identify other funding sources.

Dr. Cole emphasized that should funds be identified to fund the program this year, Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, both its administrators and its board members, must work aggressively to identify continuation funding for future years from both private and public sources so that the program does not find itself in the same situation year after year.

Dr. Thompson is to contact Mike Larsen and Michael Raff to discuss these potential funding opportunities.