

September 7, 2001

Susan Richards
Mental Health Association of Mississippi
P.O. Box 7329
Gulfport, Mississippi 39507

Dear Ms. Richards:

The Mental Health Association of Mississippi is applying for the "Mental Health Consumer Leadership Academy Planning Project." Please consider this a letter of support, on behalf of the State of Mississippi. The purpose of the Consumer Leadership Academy is to form a consensus-building program made up of consumers throughout the state. This program will help mental health consumers gain proficiency in citizenship to serve in policy and planning in the mental health system.

The Mental Health Association of Mississippi is an agency of growing importance to the mental health consumers as they have established a set of values based upon exemplary practices and consumer choices.

We are committed to providing care to Mississippi's citizens with special needs and pledge to continue to work with consumers, caregivers, family members and advocates to provide a comprehensive array of service and support options. We believe we can set unprecedented goals for the care of our citizens and we can support individual in achieving their personal objectives and enjoying a high quality of life. Such achievements will be good for our state and for our nation.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to call me if I may be of any additional assistance.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/kfg