

Name
Address

Dear _____.

North Carolina is one of four states to be awarded a grant from the Commonwealth Fund for the purpose of developing and implementing a program to enhance child development services for Medicaid children in the 0-3 age group.

Our proposal for enhancing child development services is two-tiered. 1) To develop a comprehensive community model to be used as a template for replication; and, 2) To develop a state advisory group that will facilitate any necessary policy and reimbursement changes to sustain the program over the long term.

Guilford ACCESS Partnership (GAP), one of the ACCESS II projects, has served as the first testing site. It was chosen as the initial development and testing site because of its strong community-based infrastructure, and because a key member of GAP, Guilford Child Health, has extensive experience in integrating child development services into its practices. Dr. Marian Earls, GCH's Medical Director specializes as a developmental pediatrician and has experience in many of the community programs such as Headstart. In the future, using GAP as a "best practice" model, we hope to replicate the program to other interested ACCESS II and III sites.

We want to convene the state advisory group and would like to extend an official invitation to you or your designee. The initiative has been operational for approximately one year in Guilford county so we have information we can share from lessons learned.

The initial meeting will include a more detailed overview of the program as well as a discussion of the role of the advisory group. The meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2001 from 9:30 -11:30 am at the Fischer Building on the Governor Moorhead Campus.

Please let us know your availability by *responding to Chris Youngblood at 715-0154* by November 30, 2001. Thank you for your time in considering this invitation and please feel free to call me at 857-4016 or our project coordinator, Sherry Hay, at 715-1511 if you have questions about the initiative.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Simms, Assistant Director
Managed Care/Regulatory Affairs

