

**NGA Policy Academy on Chronic Disease Prevention and Control**  
**Mississippi Action Plan**  
**January 2, 2003**

**Our Vision**

We envision creating a physical, social, and economic environment that promotes and maintains optimal health and well being for all Mississippians through statewide collaboration fostering accessibility and affordability of health care and disease prevention and management.

**Status Report**

After our meeting in August we have determined that there are other significant leaders and stakeholders who need to be involved in the development of a strategic plan and action steps to address chronic disease in Mississippi. Our plan is to invite and encourage the participation of the following key stakeholders to be a part of the team:

- a. Representative of the Department of Education
- b. Representative of the Institute's of Higher Learning
- c. Pat Clemen from MS Alliance for School Health
- d. Representative from a Partnership for a Healthy MS
- e. Representative from the MS Junior and Community Colleges
- f. Representative from Association for School Nurses
- g. Representative from the Heart Disease/Stroke Task Force
- h. Representative from the MS Health Advocacy Program
- i. Representative from the State Health Employees' Insurance Plan
- j. Representative Jay Eades
- k. Senator Deborah Dawkins
- l. Senator Gloria Williamson
- m. Representative John Mayo
- n. Economic Council*
- o. Cooperative Extension*

We revised our action plan during a meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Changes are italicized. Under the second goal, strategy section, the words "and consider tobacco usage tax increase" were deleted. Under the second goal, action step number "2" was deleted.

We will add other action step(s) related to this goal at our next meeting. We have met with representatives from the Institutions of Higher Learning and are gathering reports and information from other groups in an effort to collaborate. We plan to meet with a representative from the Department of Education at our next meeting.

We have also added the new State Health Officer, Brain Amy, MD, MHA, MPA, the Deputy State Health Officer, Kaye Bender, RN, PhD, and Therese Hanna, State Insurance Administrator, to our state team. Renee Elmore is no longer with the Division of Medicaid and Alicia Crowder, MPH, Bureau Director of Medicaid Services is attending in her place.

**Goal:**

Improve the health and well being of children so that they can be effective learners

**Strategy:**

Implement the **CDC 8 Component Model of School Health** throughout the state.

**Action Steps:**

- 1) Medicaid evaluation of the RN's based EPSDT revenue.
- 2) Medicaid coordinate resources with existing school based nurses to further the enrollment of children in SCHIP and Medicaid.
- 3) The Bower Foundation funding for start up funding for additional RN based EPSDT clinics statewide
- 4) Work cooperatively with the Department of Education to apply for the CDC Program Announcement 03004, "Improving the Health, Education, and Well-Being of Young People Through Coordinated School Health Programs."
- 5) Work with state superintendents and principals to facilitate the roll out of this throughout the state
- 6) Work with the State Superintendent of Education to make the Statewide Physical Activity Coordinator position permanent.

**Goal:**

Reduce incidence of tobacco use

**Strategy:**

Provide education about the long-term effects of smoking

Action Steps:

- 1) The Bower Foundation provides funding for the Communities for a Clean Bill of Health Coalition.