

Signed in Washington, DC, this 26th day of January 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

[FR Doc. 99-3384 Filed 2-10-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

Medical Child Support Working Group

AGENCY: Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), notice is given of the first meeting of the Medical Child Support Working Group (MCSWG). The Medical Child Support Working Group was jointly established by the Secretaries of the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under section 401(a) of the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998. The purpose of the MCSWG is to identify the impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support by State child support enforcement agencies, and to submit to the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS a report containing recommendations for appropriate measures to address those impediments.

DATES: The first meeting of the MCSWG will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1999, from 3:00 p.m. to approximately 6:00 p.m.; on Thursday, March 4, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m.; and on Friday, March 5, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 12:00 noon.

ADDRESSES: The events of the first day of the Meeting (March 3, 1999), will be held in the Snow Room, Room 5051, fifth floor, at the Wilbur Cohen Building, 300 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C.; and the events of March 4 and 5, 1999, will be held in Room 800, eighth floor of the Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C. All interested parties are invited to attend this three day public meeting. Seating may be limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Persons needing special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other special accommodation, should contact the Executive Director of the Medical Child Support Working Group, Office of Child Support Enforcement at the address listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Samara Weinstein, Executive Director, Medical Child Support Working Group, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Fourth Floor East, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447 (telephone (202) 401-6953; fax (202) 401-5559; e-mail:

sweinstein@acf.dhhs.gov). These are not toll-free numbers. The date, location and time for subsequent MCSWG meetings will be announced in advance in the **Federal Register**.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2) (FACA), notice is given of the first meeting of the Medical Child Support Working Group (MCSWG). The Medical Child Support Working Group was jointly established by the Secretaries of the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under section 401(a) of the Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-200).

The purpose of the MCSWG is to identify the impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support by State child support enforcement agencies, and to submit to the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS a report containing recommendations for appropriate measures to address those impediments. This report will include: (1) recommendations based on assessments of the form and content of the National Medical Support Notice, as issued under interim regulations; (2) appropriate measures that establish the priority of withholding of child support obligations, medical support obligations, arrearages in such obligations, and in the case of a medical support obligation, the employee's portion of any health care coverage premium, by such State agencies in light of the restrictions on garnishment provided under title III of the Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1671-1677); (3) appropriate procedures for coordinating the provision, enforcement, and transition of health care coverage under the State programs for child support, Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program; (4) appropriate measures to improve the availability of alternate types of medical support that are aside from health care coverage offered through the noncustodial parent's health plan, and unrelated to the noncustodial parent's employer, including measures that establish a noncustodial parent's responsibility to share the cost of premiums, co-payments, deductibles, or payments for services not covered under

a child's existing health coverage; (5) recommendations on whether reasonable cost should remain a consideration under section 452(f) of the Social Security Act; and (6) appropriate measures for eliminating any other impediments to the effective enforcement of medical support orders that the MCSWG deems necessary.

The membership of the MCSWG was jointly appointed by the Secretaries of DOL and DHHS, and includes representatives of: (1) DOL; (2) DHHS; (3) State Child Support Enforcement Directors; (4) State Medicaid Directors; (5) employers, including owners of small businesses and their trade and industry representatives and certified human resource and payroll professionals; (6) plan administrators and plan sponsors of group health plans (as defined in section 607(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1167(1)); (7) children potentially eligible for medical support, such as child advocacy organizations; (8) State medical child support organizations; and (9) organizations representing State child support programs.

Agenda: The agenda for this first meeting includes opening ceremonies and orientation of the members (March 3), program briefings, discussions (March 4), and business related to the operation of the MCSWG (March 5).

Public Participation: Members of the public wishing to present oral statements to the MCSWG should forward their requests to Samara Weinstein, MCSWG Executive Director, as soon as possible and at least four days before the meeting. Such request should be made by telephone, fax machine, or mail, as shown above. Time permitting, the Chairs of the MCSWG will attempt to accommodate all such requests by reserving time for presentations. The order of persons making such presentations will be assigned in the order in which the requests are received. Members of the public are encouraged to limit oral statements to five minutes, but extended written statements may be submitted for the record. Members of the public also may submit written statements for distribution to the MCSWG membership and inclusion in the public record without presenting oral statements. Such written statements should be sent to the MCSWG Executive Director, as shown above, by mail or fax at least five business days before the meeting.

Minutes of all public meetings and other documents made available to the MCSWG will be available for public inspection and copying at both the DOL and DHHS. At DOL, these documents

will be available at the Public Documents Room, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-5638, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Any written comments on the minutes should be directed to Ms. Samara Weinstein, Executive Director of the Working Group, as shown above.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 5th day of February 1999.

Leslie Kramerich,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-3388 Filed 2-10-99; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

National Endowment for the Arts; Leadership Initiatives Panel

Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463), as amended, notice is hereby given that two meetings of the Leadership Initiatives Panel to the National Council on the Arts will be held via teleconference on February 17 and February 18, 1999. The Music section of the panel will meet from 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. on February 17 and the AccessAbility/Partnership section will meet from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on February 18, at the Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., 20506.

This meeting is for the purpose of Panel review, discussion, evaluation, and recommendations on financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including information given in confidence to the agency. In accordance with the determination of the Chairman of May 14, 1998, these sessions will be closed to the public pursuant to subsection (c)(4), (6) and (9)(B) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

Further information with reference to this meeting can be obtained from Ms. Kathy Plowitz-Worden, Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C. 20506, or call (202) 682-5691.

Dated: February 8, 1999.

Kathy Plowitz-Worden,

Panel Coordinator, National Endowment for the Arts.

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NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR REINVENTING GOVERNMENT

BOOST FOR KIDS: Better Opportunities and Outcomes Starting Today Performance Partnerships With State and Local Government for Results for Children

Authority Citation: Non-statutory, President's Budget for FY 2000.

Background

All of our children deserve to grow up healthy, secure and able to realize their full potential. Vice President Al Gore has created a strong federal team to work with innovative local and State partners to get better results for children. This team will work to minimize administrative barriers and maximize how resources are used to get the best results for children.

The "Boost For Kids" Initiative will recognize the leadership of innovative States and localities that are improving the lives of their communities' children. Boost For Kids will work with them to reinvent how programs are administered to give people at the local level greater flexibility to improve the lives of all of their children. The initiative builds on meetings that Vice President Gore has had with families and communities across the country and at the "Family Re-Union," an annual discussion of public policy from the perspective of families that he moderates in Nashville, Tennessee.

Announcement

We are seeking to form up to 10 performance partnerships with State and local governments that are working together to enhance positive outcomes for children, youth, and families. These partnerships will permit leading local and State partners to work together with Federal representatives to:

- Manage for results for children;
- Streamline administration;
- Address barriers at the federal, State and local levels—in ways allowable under current law—to better provide needed services and supports for children;
- Maximize the use of resources for services for children; and
- Share lessons with other communities.

What Are the Benefits to States and Communities?

This initiative will not provide additional Federal funds; it will support efforts by all levels of government to cut red tape, integrate services and use current funding more effectively. It will:

- Facilitate consolidated planning and reporting and provide greater

flexibility in administering grant funds with related goals as allowed under current law;

- Recommend changes to pool administrative savings from discretionary grant programs to create local "Boost For Kids Investment Funds"—to turn dollars saved in administration to improving outcomes for children to the extent allowed under current law;
- Help communities use data to achieve better outcomes for children;
- Provide increased access to federal data and geographic information and assistance of federal data experts in devising strategies for collecting and analyzing data on outcomes such as child insurance coverage, immunization, housing, food security, traumatic injury rate, youth crime rate, and school readiness;
- Share lessons learned electronically and through a "How To" Manual on ways to use flexibility to improve outcomes for children; and
- Give national recognition to State and local partners for their results and work to improve the health, safety, living conditions, and well-being of children.

Who Can Apply To Be a Partner?

Expressions of interest can be submitted by any of the following: the head of a local collaborative that includes appropriate local government representation, the head of the local government, or a key local government agency head. For smaller jurisdictions, local governments can submit combined applications. Evidence of partnership with State government must be clear.

How Does My Community Express Interest in Boost For Kids?

Potential partners should submit a brief Expression of Interest. To minimize any burden, try to keep submissions under ten pages in length. Use existing plans and documents wherever possible.

Selection Criteria:

The Federal Steering Committee will select partners based on:

- Existence of community goals or report card for children and a commitment by the partners to use data to measure progress and manage resources to improve child well-being;
- Readiness and commitment of partners to cut red tape, integrate or better coordinate services, use current funding more effectively and achieve better results for children. Partners must include the community/local level and local and State government;