NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE CORPS BILL INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

H.R. 1968, "National Health Service Corps Reinvestment Act of 2001" was introduced by Rep. Maloney on 5/23/2001 and was referred to the House Commerce and Ways & Means Committee.

The bill proposes to do the following (summary prepared by Gina Luke at the American Dental Education Association)

- Reauthorizes the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) for 5 years;
- Increases funding by 50% for FY 02 to $194,170,500, and such sums as necessary for each subsequent fiscal year.
- Amends the tax code by making both loan repayment and scholarship programs tax exempt. The loan repayment program includes a provision allowing the individual to request to have part of the federal, state, or local income tax liability reimbursed, but these monies come out of the NHSC's appropriated funds. There are no tax liability reimbursement provisions for scholarships. Scholarships and loan payments have been considered taxable income. H.R. 1968 will eliminate the tax requirement on both programs. The recently passed tax bill included a provision making NHSC scholarships exempt from taxes but it did not include taxation on loan repayment awards.
- Creates a demonstration program that allows scholarship and loan repayment recipients to fulfill their commitment on a part-time basis. This option would only be available if such service is agreed to by 1) the placement site or sites, as well as the scholarship and loan repayment recipients, and 2) so long as the total obligation is fulfilled.
- The bill eliminates the community cost-sharing provision (Section 334 of the Public Health Service Act). Currently, the Corps waives this requirement in about 95% of all cases - this will simplify the process.
- The bill alters the HPSA designation to include all federally-qualified health centers and federally-certified rural health clinics that meet all of the following: 1) serve Medicare and Medicaid patients; 2) establish a sliding fee scale for low-income patients, and 3) serve all patients regardless of their ability to pay. Clinics that meet these requirements will be automatically eligible for placement of NHSC personnel.

NURSING SHORTAGE BILLS INTRODUCED

Rep. Lois Capps (D-Calif.) April 4 introduced the Nurse Reinvestment Act (H.R. 1436), which would provide $116 million annually for the next 2 years to alleviate the growing nursing shortage and also would expand Medicare and Medicaid payments for some nursing education programs. Sens. John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Jim Jeffords (R-Vt.) introduced companion legislation (S. 706) on April 5. Both bills would provide funds for state and local awareness campaigns that promote the advantages and rewards of a nursing career. The bills would earmark funds for developing "education pipelines" that direct students toward careers in nursing and nurse education. The bills also create a National Nursing Service Corps Scholarship program (NNSC), framed after the National Health Service Corps, that would pay a student's tuition bill and provide a monthly stipend if the student committed to at least 2 years of service in an area/facility with a nursing shortage. Both bills also propose a four-year (2002 - 2006) expansion of Medicare nursing training education payments to qualified non-hospital providers, as well as a temporary increase in the federal matching rate for Medicaid Nurse Aid and Competency Evaluation Programs.

Sens. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark.) and Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) April 5 introduced the Nursing Employment and Education Development (NEED) Act (S. 721) to expand the nursing loan repayment program to include a scholarship component and expand the types of eligible facilities that recipients may serve in to include nursing homes, home health agencies, and public health departments. It contains provisions similar to the other bills for improving the recruitment of nurses, strengthening the workforce, and developing the nurse faculty.

Information: Christiane Mitchell at cmitchell@aamc.org, or Erica Froyd at efroyd@aamc.org, or call the AAMC Office of Governmental Relations, at (202) 828-0525.

The complete story is at http://www.aamc.org/advocacy/washhigh/01apr13/_5.htm.
MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For many of us - whether because of the academic calendar, vacation schedules, a less hectic pace -- the summer months provide an opportunity to critically reflect on our work. As I write this column, I am looking out my cabin window at the base of the Cascade Mountains, where CCPH's 5th annual summer service-learning institute is underway. Although the 30 participants are here to deepen their knowledge about service-learning and develop action plans to implement back home, the institute also builds several hours for reflection and relaxation into each day's agenda. For most participants, these blocks of free uninterrupted time are a treasured luxury. Kolb's experiential learning theory explains that the process of learning through experience is one of action and reflection, but often we are so focused on the actions of the day-to-day that we don't take the time to process our experiences and truly learn from them. We also rarely take the time to celebrate our successes.

So, my request of all of you is the following (and I pledge to do the same):

Stop and take a moment to reflect on your work since the start of the new year: what critical incident would you point to that exemplifies why you pursued your chosen career path? What accomplishment are you most proud of? What is the most significant lesson you learned and how will you apply this lesson in the future?

During your next meeting with your staff colleagues and partners, ask them to consider these questions as well. Have a party - a picnic, a barbecue, a group outing - to celebrate your successes as individuals and as a collective force for change.

I guarantee your load will feel lighter and you will discover a new energy and purpose for your work. I'll expect to hear from you if I'm mistaken!

Sarena

NEWS FROM CCPH

We’d like to welcome our new Graduate Research Assistant, Tanis Mihalynuk and our new Administrative Coordinator, Kristina Riemer.

Tanis graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Foods and Nutrition in 1991 at the University of Alberta, Canada, and completed a clinical dietetic internship at University of Alberta Hospitals. She started her career as a registered dietitian, working in wellness and health promotions, in Greenville, North Carolina. Her employment included working as wellness dietitian, chef and consultant to the Saudi Royal family. During this time, she took a course in public health aspects in nutrition and physical activity in Huddinge, Sweden. Tanis’s interests in international nutrition have also led her to Guyana, South America and Africa, where she continued to receive reciprocal socio-cultural learning experiences.

Currently, Tanis is working on her PhD in medical nutrition at the University of Washington. Last year, as part of a team of students, faculty and the Salvation Army’s Adult Rehabilitation Center (ARC) participants, Tanis developed sustainable health education materials for men recovering from addictions. Tanis has several interests, including nutrition, continuing education, art, music, friends and family, and her three-pound dog, ‘Soleil.’

Tanis is based in our Seattle office and can be reached at (206) 616-9568 or email her at tanisvye@u.washington.edu

Kristina worked on a number of programs at UCSF Center for the Health Professions for two years before joining CCPH. She has mostly worked for non-profit organizations, including Sierra Club and The Yosemite Fund. Kristina is a native San Franciscan currently living in Marin County with her husband, and enjoys hiking, gardening and cooking.

Kristina is based in our San Francisco office and can be contacted at (415) 476-7081 or email her at ccph@itsa.ucsf.edu

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, the Association of Schools of Public Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Corporation for National Service collaborated to conduct the retreat/workshop on April 18 - 20, 2001 in San Diego, CA entitled, "Creating Sustainable Environments for Public Health Practice." Participants in this event gathered to advance approaches to promote and sustain academic public health practice in schools of public health. The retreat served three audiences: ASPH practice coordinators; ASPH public health faculty; and the community/agency partners of schools of public health.

The meeting addressed the following topics: current and best public health practices in schools of public health; public health practice research; support for practice through the institutionalization of funding mechanisms and promotion of favorable faculty reward systems; and, faculty and community/agency partnerships for effective service-learning.

A number of CCPH members were featured as presenters on service-learning: Toti Villanueva and Linda Lloyd, both of MCP Hahnemann School of Public Health in Philadelphia; Lorraine Matthews, Philadelphia Department of Public Health; Mike Prelip, UCLA School of Public Health; and Maggie Potter, University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health.

If you are from a school of public health, an undergraduate public health program or a master's in public health program, and are interested or involved in service-learning, please send your name and contact information to Rose Coroneos, CCPH executive assistant, at rosecor@u.washington.edu. In addition to adding you to our mailing list for future announcements on service-learning in public health education, a number of resource materials were created for the meeting that we would be happy to share with you.

Copyright 2001. Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
MODELS THAT WORK!

Last year, the University of Washington Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health (CEEH) sponsored the town meeting, Voices for Healthy Environments, Healthy Communities. That event resulted in the creation of a EH Voices listserv and acted as a catalyst for a number of projects that are going strong in 2001. Below is a brief overview of some of the tangible outcomes of that meeting.

1) Shoalwater Bay Project: In collaboration with the Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, CEEH has requested funds from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to develop a Shellfish Monitoring Management Plan. This document will be created by the environmental analysis staff at Shoalwater with input from shellfish experts and will allow the community to systematically assess shellfish quality in their Bay. This information will provide the foundation for future work addressing the Shoalwater Tribe's recent high pregnancy loss rate.

2) Youth Network for Healthy Communities: In order to involve youth from around Washington State in the town meeting, CEEH worked with high school teachers in Yelm and Wenatchee to set up a videoconference project entitled Youth Network for Healthy Communities (YNHC). So far eighteen middle and high school teachers have worked with students on environmental health issues in their communities. The students present their findings to experts here at the University of Washington via the statewide K20 videoconference network. The inaugural session was held the first day of the town meeting, and NIEHS director Ken Olden and his staff attended, giving students detailed feedback on their projects. Students have researched such diverse topics as Superfund sites, the health effects of wildfires, the environmental impact of diesel power generators, and E Coli. The project has been a great success and will be offered again next year.

3) Healthy Futures Project (HFP): The Institute for Children’s Environmental Health (ICEH) is spearheading an effort to get young people from around Puget Sound involved in environmental health issues. The project is being developed collaboratively in the Pacific Northwest with the intention of replicating and expanding it nationally in a couple years. The overarching mission is to help youth make the connection between health and the environment by creatively introducing scientifically based information into already established youth programs and to galvanize an active youth citizenry willing to serve as change agents for a healthy future. CEEH staff is actively partnering with ICEH to make this vision a reality.

4) Healthy Schools Roundtable: CEEH staff participated in the planning of the Healthy Schools Roundtable, organized by the Institute of Children's Environmental Health and EPA (region X). The Roundtable was convened to begin to address how to better protect children's environmental health in schools. Participants included state agencies, parents and parent-teacher organizations, educator and school administrator organizations, indoor air experts and activists, and state representatives. CEEH's staff is participating on a work-group to create a summary document for general distribution.

5) Forum for Race, Class and Ethnicity in Health Disparities: CEEH staff is actively involved in this coalition committed to addressing health inequality issues. The coalition is planning a conference for January 2002, and members have begun presenting workshops on health disparity around Washington State.

For more information any of the projects listed above, please contact Chetana Acharya at (206)616.7566, or email at cacharya@u.washington.edu or contact Jon Sharpe at (206) 616.2643, or email at jsharpe@u.washington.edu.

Some resources you might want to look into include:

- **Leadership Development and Service-Learning** by Joan Hoang and Abby Benedetto (see especially, pp. 1-2, 12 for discussions of programs that incorporate S-L and Leadership programs).
- **National Clearinghouse for Leadership Programs**, UMCP, 1191 Stamp student Union, College Park, MD 20742-4631, (301) 314-7174.

Jenn Meeropol
Campus Compact

More answers will be posted in a future issue of PM!
Reports To: Director, Prevention Sciences
Organization Unit: Prevention Sciences

Job Openings!!

(1) Research Scientist
Posted: 5/15/00
Organization Unit: Open until filled.
Reports To: Director, Prevention Sciences

Qualifications:
- Equivalent degree in public health, behavioral science, health education, health psychology, health communication, sociology, anthropology, epidemiology or related field. Minimum seven years progressively responsible professional research experience in related areas.
- Demonstrated understanding of cancer control research planning and evaluation desirable (particularly intervention studies).
- Record of commitment to culturally competent research in underserved communities required, with particular research experience among African Americans, Asian and/or Latino populations desired.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with the scientific, medical and allied health communities.
- Record of peer reviewed funding and publications.

Responsibilities:
- Develop, obtain funding for and carry out independent research that is moderate to broad in scope including acquiring funds and executing research.
- Publish as lead author in peer-reviewed journals.
- Participate in collaborative research with current Prevention Sciences study teams and foster development of new collaborations.
- Play a key role in development of a competing continuation application for a program project grant now in its second cycle. Serve on NCCC committees or working groups; develop/maintain a scientific network through appropriate contacts; serve as peer-reviewer and/or on working committee(s) of professional scientific organizations.

Employment Status: Regular, F/T, Exempt

Other Events!

July 18-20, 2001-The National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) is sponsoring Reducing Health Disparities in Hispanic Communities: 2001 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. This conference presents opportunities to meet top Hispanic nursing leaders in practice, education, research, and government; gain an understanding of the needs and interests of the communities and colleagues that they represent; and forge valuable relationships.

For more information contact: Cary Jon Lederman, NAHN c/o NEX, 2129 Northwood Dr, 1st Fl, Salisbury, MD 21801 or call (410) 749-3200, or fax at (410) 749-8769, or e-mail at cary@dmv.com.

July 30-August 1, 2001-A course entitled, “Fundamentals of Program Planning and Evaluation” is being sponsored by California STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, Berkeley, CA. This is a three-day course for prevention and education staff who have direct responsibility for planning and evaluating HIV or STD prevention programs in community settings.

For details, contact: Andrea Parriott, 1947 Center St, Ste 201, Berkeley, CA 94704, or call (510) 883-6600, or fax at (510) 849-5057.

August 9 –11, 2001- “Health and Illness: Communicating Across Cultural Differences” by The Network, a collaboration to improve medical education and Health care, University of California, San Francisco. This two and a half-day workshop is designed to help clinicians and clinical educators develop and refine their ability to provide culturally sensitive health care. Through a series of didactic and experiential exercises, participants will learn how to elicit the patient’s perception of illness, to work effectively with interpreters and to practice new communication techniques in the health care setting.

For workshop information, contact Indria Sylvester at The Network at indrias@itsa.ucsf.edu.

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2001-The 22nd Forum for Behavioral Science in Family Medicine will be held in downtown Chicago. This year’s theme is "a community of connections.”

For details, visit http://www.family.mcw.edu/ForumOnBS.htm or call Debby Rena at (414) 456-4388.

Other Events!

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
Center for the Health Professions
3333 California St. Suite 410
San Francisco, CA 94118
Phone: (415) 476-7081
Fax: (415) 476-4113
Email: ccp@itsa.ucsf.edu

We are on the web!
http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph/guide.html#PartMatters

UPCOMING EVENTS!

CCPH Sponsored Events


June 15-18, 2002-6th annual advanced service-learning institute at the Sleeping Lady, Leavenworth WA. Applications due in April 2002.

To learn more, visit our website at futurehealth.ucsf.edu/ccph.html or contact Program Director Piper Krael at (415) 502-7933 or piperk@itsa.ucsf.edu

Other Events!

July 18-20, 2001-The National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) is sponsoring Reducing Health Disparities in Hispanic Communities: 2001 Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX. This conference presents opportunities to meet top Hispanic nursing leaders in practice, education, research, and government; gain an understanding of the needs and interests of the communities and colleagues that they represent; and forge valuable relationships.

For more information contact: Cary Jon Lederman, NAHN c/o NEX, 2129 Northwood Dr, 1st Fl, Salisbury, MD 21801 or call (410) 749-3200, or fax at (410) 749-8769, or e-mail at cary@dmv.com.

July 30-August 1, 2001-A course entitled, “Fundamentals of Program Planning and Evaluation” is being sponsored by California STD/HIV Prevention Training Center, Berkeley, CA. This is a three-day course for prevention and education staff who have direct responsibility for planning and evaluating HIV or STD prevention programs in community settings.

For details, contact: Andrea Parriott, 1947 Center St, Ste 201, Berkeley, CA 94704, or call (510) 883-6600, or fax at (510) 849-5057.

August 9 –11, 2001- “Health and Illness: Communicating Across Cultural Differences” by The Network, a collaboration to improve medical education and Health care, University of California, San Francisco. This two and a half-day workshop is designed to help clinicians and clinical educators develop and refine their ability to provide culturally sensitive health care. Through a series of didactic and experiential exercises, participants will learn how to elicit the patient’s perception of illness, to work effectively with interpreters and to practice new communication techniques in the health care setting.

For workshop information, contact Indria Sylvester at The Network at indrias@itsa.ucsf.edu.

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2001-The 22nd Forum for Behavioral Science in Family Medicine will be held in downtown Chicago. This year’s theme is "a community of connections.”

For details, visit http://www.family.mcw.edu/ForumOnBS.htm or call Debby Rena at (414) 456-4388.
GRANT ALERTS!

Dropout Prevention Demonstration Program. **Deadline: July 23, 2001.**
To strengthen and expand dropout prevention demonstration projects that combine, in a coherent fashion, strategies that have been demonstrated to be effective in (1) assisting students at risk of dropping out to remain in and graduate from high school, and (2) raising standards and expectations for these students.
**Eligible Applicants:** State educational agencies (SEAs) and local educational agencies (LEAs). **Agency/Department:** Department of Education. **For detailed information go to http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2001_register&docid=01-12761-filed**

AHRQ AND Partners Sponsor Child and Adolescent Health Program Scholarship.
**Applications for the scholar-in-residence in child and adolescent health program are due July 30, 2001.** This ongoing program is sponsored by AHRQ and its partners (The Ambulatory Pediatric Association; the American Academy of Nursing; the American Academy of Pediatrics; the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs; and the Society for Adolescent Medicine). This scholarship program will give a senior child and adolescent health services researcher an opportunity to work at AHRQ to enhance/develop areas of investigation to integrate children's and adolescents' health services research with critical issues of outcomes, quality, cost/financing/organization of care, access, and capacity building. **For more information, visit the website at http://www.ahcpr.gov/child/scholar.html**

NCI Fellowship in the ethics of Public Health and Prevention.
**Applications are due September 1, 2001**
The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP) have a new postdoctoral fellowship track in the ethics of public health and prevention. This program will provide an opportunity for ethicists, philosophers, physicians and scientists to study ethical issues in cancer prevention research and their application in public health and clinical medical practice. The program provides funding for a MPH, NCI summer curriculum in cancer prevention, mentored research at the NCI, the NIH clinical center's department of bioethics, the DHHS office of research integrity and, at local universities, including but not limited to: Johns Hopkins, and Georgetown's Kennedy institute of ethics, additional coursework in bioethics, ethics, and philosophy or in biology, epidemiology, biostatistics, clinical trials, or health policy as needed, and brief field assignments at leading institutions.
**General categories of research topics could include:** moral reasoning and ethical theory, concepts and methods of moral decision-making, institutional review boards (IRBs) and informed consent, confidentiality and privacy, equipoise and the conduct of prevention trials, concepts of cause and prevention, uncertainty and scientific inference, scientific evidence and the ethics of intervention, professional ethics, scientific misconduct, autonomy and the public good, genetic markers and the ethics of public health and prevention. This program will provide an environment of ethical inquiry. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP) have a new postdoctoral fellowship track in the ethics of public health and prevention. This program will provide an environment of ethical inquiry. The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program (CPFP) have a new postdoctoral fellowship track in the ethics of public health and prevention. This program will provide an environment of ethical inquiry.

The efficacy of combination antiretroviral medication therapies (ART) for the treatment of HIV-disease is now well documented. Combination therapies can inhibit viral replication and reduce viral load to a point where viral particles are undetectable in the blood of infected individuals. Significant and sustained suppression of HIV replication is associated with improved clinical outcomes. This Program Announcement (PA) identifies gaps in the understanding of ART adherence, and encourages studies to address the role of adherence through all phases of treatment and illness, the need to broaden the scope of interventions to enhance treatment adherence, and the importance of tailoring methodological and intervention advances to the special needs and context of affected populations. Emphasis is on the development of innovative approaches to adherence and behavior change, especially models of interventions to improve adherence. Approaches based on basic behavioral principles such as cognition, emotion, decision-making, motivation, social interaction, and cultural context are particularly encouraged. A well-articulated and empirically based conceptual framework is essential in applications solicited under this announcement.
**Contact Person:** Diana Trunnell, Grants Management Branch, National Institute of Mental Health, 6001 Executive Blvd, Rm 6115, MSC 9605 Bethesda, MD 20892 -9605 or call (301) 443-2805 or (301) 443-6885 - FAX or email at Diana_Trunell@nih.gov

Application Technical Info Person: Christopher Gordon, Division of Mental Disorders, Behavioral Research, and AIDS, National Institute of Mental Health, 6001 Executive Blvd, Rm 6199, MSC 9619, Bethesda, MD 20892 -9619 or call at (301) 443-1613 or (301) 443-9719 - FAX or email at cgordon1@mail.nih.gov

Applicants must have a doctorate degree and must be either a citizen of the U.S. or resident alien eligible for citizenship within 4 years. Fellows are accepted for up to 5 years of training beginning in July.

For more information or to receive an application catalog, contact: **Douglas Weed, Director, or Barbara Redding, Program Coordinator,** at 6120 Executive Boulevard (EPS), Suite T-41, Bethesda, MD 20892 -7105, 301-496-8640 or visit their Web site http://dpb.nci.nih.gov/pob or http://resresources.ncbi.nih.gov/links.cfm.

HIV Treatment Adherence Research.
**Application Deadline: September 1, 2001 & January 2, 2002.**
CALL FOR PAPERS!

Family Strengths Conference
Closing date for submission of abstracts is 16 July 2001.
The call for papers for the 2nd Australian Conference on
Building Family Strengths to be held in Newcastle,
Australia from 2 to 5 December, 2001, is now available. If
you wish to submit an abstract, please visit the conference
website where you can submit your abstract on-line at
Contact person: Jane Yeaman AMM, Family Strengths Conference
Manager, Tulips Meetings Management, PO Box 116, Salamander Bay
NSW 2317, Australia or call (02) 4984 2554 or fax at (02) 4984 2755.

PUBLICATIONS

Informing Science Conference papers available free online
The abstracts and full papers for the 84 talks (about 600 pages) can be
downloaded online at http://schedule.elicohen.net.
For information on the Informing Science 2002 Conference, send an
e-mail to Eli_Cohen@acm.org.

A research publication by the National Campaign to
Prevent Teen - What's Behind the Good News:
The Decline in Teen Pregnancy Rates During the
1990s, shows that the answer is not as clear-cut as
might be expected. The paper notes that two
dynamics are driving the rates down: a smaller
proportion of teens having sex at all, and a declining
pregnancy rate among sexually active teens. This second factor
reflects better contraceptive use and also, perhaps, less sexual activity
among those with some sexual experience. Through detailed analysis
of the National Survey of Family Growth, the paper offers
explanations on the possible contribution of each of these factors to
the good news of declining teen pregnancy.
For more information, visit http://www.teenpregnancy.org/inew.htm.

Making Social Science Matter presents an
exciting new approach to the social and
behavioral sciences. Instead of trying to
emulate the natural sciences and create a kind of
general theory, Bent Flyvbjerg argues that the
strength of the social sciences lies in their rich,
reflexive analysis of values and power--so
essential to the social and economic
development of society. Moving beyond the
purely analytic or technical, Flyvbjerg
compares the theoretical study of human activity with real-world situations and
demonstrates how the social sciences can
become relevant again in the modern world. Powerfully argued,
with clear methodological guidelines and practical examples, this book
opens up a new future for the social sciences, freed from an
inappropriate and misleading comparison with the natural sciences. Its
empowering message will make it required reading for students and
academics across the social and behavioral sciences.
There’s more information about the book at www.us.cambridge.org
and www.uk.cambridge.org.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) of the
Department of Health and Human Services and the Kanter Family
Foundation presents a free publication, Now You Have a Diagnosis:
What's Next? This is a new educational tool created especially for
patients. This publication presents valuable information on how to
choose the right course of treatment after a condition has been
diagnosed. It explains how and where to find reliable health care
information and how to use that information to evaluate the benefits
and risks of available treatments.
You can view this publication online http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/
diaginfo.htm To order copies, contact the AHRQ Clearinghouse by
calling (800) 358-9295 or writing to AHRQ Publication Clearing-
house, P.O. Box 8547, Silver Spring, MD 20907.

"Access to Health Coverage: Are Low-Income
Women Falling Through the Cracks?" is the
second in a series of Capitol Hill briefings on
women's health policy issues. Materials from the
briefing are available on the Kaiser Family
Foundation website at http://www.kff.org/women,
including a new report, "Falling Through the
Cracks: Health Insurance Coverage of Low-Income
Women," prepared by researchers at the Center for Health Policy
Research at UCLA. Two new fact sheets are also available, "Health
Insurance Coverage of Low-Income Women" and "State Estimates of
Health Insurance Coverage of Women, Ages 18-64, 1997-1999." A
webcast of the briefing can be viewed through kaisernetwork.org, a
free webcasting and news summary service of the Kaiser Family

The Department of Health and Human Services has published a new
report, Community-Level Indicators for Understanding Health and
Human Services Issues -- A Compendium of Selected Indicator
Systems and Resource Organizations. This compendium is a
resource for people in local, state and federal government agencies,
private sector organizations and others who are interested in learning
more about the growing use of community-level social indicators. It is
designed as a user-friendly tool that showcases an interesting and
diverse selection of indicator systems and resources organizations. It is
intended to facilitate information sharing among those who are doing
local indicator work and to provide background information for those
who are new to this rapidly evolving area of interest. By focusing
attention specifically on community-based indicator systems, this
publication may also increase awareness of current data resources and
inform discussions of strategies for improving the availability, quality
and applicability of local indicator data. You may obtain a copy of the
report at http://aspe.hhs.gov/progsys/Community