

6th Annual Meeting & Luncheon

***“From County to State: Connecting
You to Health Care Resources”***

December 2, 2008



Ruth Kennedy
Keynote Speaker

Meeting the ever-growing need for health care coverage in a difficult economic environment is a challenge that Ms. Ruth Kennedy knows all too well cannot be met by just one organization. Through Ms. Kennedy's leadership as the Director of the Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program (LaCHIP) and the Director of Louisiana's LaCHIP/Medicaid Eligibility Division, the Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals is nationally recognized for implementing retention, outreach, simplification and organization changes to increase enrollment in public health coverage programs.

Ms. Kennedy understands the need for expanding health coverage and the importance of working with coalition partners. Because of her support and dedication, the Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals has embraced bringing multiple partners together and currently supports 11 regional coalitions that cover the entire state to assist in providing outreach and enrollment services for public health coverage programs. It is from this unique perspective that Ms. Kennedy serves as the keynote speaker for the **Sixth Annual Covering Kids & Families of Indiana Meeting and Luncheon, "From County to State: Connecting You to Health Care Resources."**

Among other accomplishments, Ms. Kennedy has been recognized by the Dallas Regional HRSA (Health Resource Service Administration) Office, and named "A Voice for Louisiana's Children" by Agenda for Children.

In recognition of her major role in increasing enrollment of children in LaCHIP, she was the recipient of the 2004 Louisiana Jimmie Davis Sunshine Award which recognizes the state public servant whose service brings the most "sunshine" into the lives of Louisiana citizens. She served as a member of the national Covering Kids and Families Eligibility Policy Group and is a frequent speaker, sharing Louisiana's lessons learned relative to improving Medicaid and SCHIP eligibility and dramatically decreasing the number of uninsured children in the state.

A graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana, she began her career as a parish eligibility caseworker and has over 28 years of experience in state government health and social services administration and management.

AGENDA

Welcome.....Katie Humphreys
Sr. Vice President, Government Relations, St. Vincent Health System
Chair, Board of Directors, Covering Kids & Families of Indiana

Invocation.....Pastor Hosea Wilson
Greater Faith Missionary Baptist Church, Gary, Indiana

Luncheon & Keynote Address

Keynote Speaker..... Ruth Kennedy
Director, Louisiana LaCHIP/Medicaid Eligibility Division

Annual Review & Vision for the FutureKatie Humphreys
& Scott Tingwald
Marketing & Communications Committee Co-Chair,
Covering Kids & Families of Indiana

Special Acknowledgements & Presentation of Awards

- Special Acknowledgements
- Community Leadership Award
- Governor Frank O'Bannon Memorial Kids First Award

Closing RemarksDavid Roos
Executive Director, Covering Kids & Families of Indiana

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana Community Leadership Award

The Covering Kids & Families of Indiana Community Leadership Award is presented to an individual who demonstrates excellence through advocacy, support and collaborative efforts in a particular Indiana community to improve access to health coverage for Hoosier families.

The local coalitions are the backbone of Covering Kids & Families. Through coordinated efforts of the local partners, families receive Hoosier Healthwise enrollment assistance and processes are piloted and perfected to become best practices replicated across the state. The strength of the local coalition lies in the time and commitment of dedicated partners.

The Community Leadership Award recognizes an exemplary partner who serves as a model for effective practices, leadership, dependability, innovativeness, teamwork, and commitment to improvement.

2008 Award Recipient

Denise Dillard is the recipient of the 2008 Community Leadership Award. She is the Vice President of Government & External Affairs with Methodist Hospitals in Gary, Indiana. Ms. Dillard has been a staunch supporter of Covering Kids & Families of Lake County for several years. Most recently, she has demonstrated her support by committing to develop and implement a plan of enrolling 10,000 Hoosiers in Lake County into Hoosier Healthwise and the Healthy Indiana Plan.

Ms. Dillard believes that collaboration is the key to bridge the gap to quality and affordable health care for all residents of Lake County. Perhaps one of the greatest accomplishments is her embrace of the Indiana Minority Health Disparities Roundtable Initiative for Northwest Indiana. The mission of this initiative is to address health disparities across Northwest Indiana and ensure families have access to health coverage for the purpose of chronic disease prevention.

Ms. Dillard is recognized for her teamwork, leadership, innovation, and dependability. Whenever her expertise is called upon, as a dedicated partner of the Covering Kids & Families of Lake County coalition, she quickly accepts the task and lends the full support of resources available to her through Methodist Hospital and her network of community partners.

Past Award Recipients

Community Leadership Award

Judy Jacobs 2007

Toni Estep 2006

Ball Memorial Foundation 2005

Kathy Barone 2004

Gov. O'Bannon Award

Senator Patricia Miller & Representative Charles Brown 2007

Alice Rae 2006

Doug Elwell 2005

Dr. Nancy Swigonski 2004

Judy O'Bannon 2003

Richard G. Lugar Healthcare Leadership Award

Dr. James Buechler 2008

Ken Stella 2006



Governor Frank O'Bannon Memorial Kids First Award

Governor O'Bannon Memorial Kids First Award was established in honor of the late Governor's efforts to promote the health and well being of Indiana's children. The award is presented to an individual who has exhibited leadership in improving statewide policies and processes, commitment to the Covering Kids & Families of Indiana's mission and, in short, has been a champion for the health of Hoosiers.

Why Art?

In addition to being advocates for children, Governor and Mrs. O'Bannon championed the arts and often spoke of the important role that the arts play in shaping the fabric of our communities and our daily lives. Governor O'Bannon supported the arts through legislation and often mentioned the local art pieces he collected during travels across the state. Thus, in honor of the late Governor's appreciation for local art, the award in his name represents work of an Indiana artist.

The 2008 O'Bannon award is a beautiful watercolor painting by Susie Rachles. Susie is an Indiana artist who lives and works in Zionsville. She also teaches teens and adults drawing and painting at the historic Stutz Business Center in downtown Indianapolis. Susie has a background in fine art and commercial design. She works primarily in oil and watercolor. Susie gets her inspiration from a wide array of subject matter ranging from landscapes and still life to figurative work. Her favorite subjects to paint are children and animals. She has won several awards in juried shows, and has had numerous one person shows. Her work is in several private collections across the U.S. To see more of her work please go to her website at: www.susierachles.com.

E. Mitchell (Mitch) Roob, Jr. 2008 Award Recipient

Covering Kids & Families of Indiana is honored to present the 2008 Governor Frank O'Bannon Memorial Kids First Award to E. Mitchell Roob, Jr., Secretary for the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA). Over the past fourteen years, Secretary Roob has distinguished himself as one of Indiana's very strongest advocates for children's health and well-being. He is a nationally recognized leader in the application of information technology to improve health services through the use of electronic medical records and telemedicine in Indiana's Medicaid & SCHIP programs.

While serving as President/CEO of Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County, he worked with what is now the IU Medical Group to expand health coverage in Marion County not only for children, but also for their parents and families through the nationally recognized Wishard Advantage program. In 1997-98, he also served on Governor O'Bannon's "Children's Health Insurance Advisory Panel" which helped define the goals and working details of Indiana's SCHIP program. During his current tenure with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, he has also initiated and supported major expansions to SCHIP and coverage for pregnant women up to 200% of the federal poverty level.

Never afraid to face difficult tasks, Secretary Roob has undertaken a complete transformation and "modernization" of Indiana's eligibility determination system through the new V-CAN system. His "listening tours" are now a justifiably famous way in which he and his staff first verified the need to change various FSSA programs. He was successful in garnering support and building consensus to fund new programs, most notably the Healthy Indiana Plan. He has also worked diligently to strengthen and expand the participation of hospitals, physicians, dentists, and mid-level practitioners in state health programs and has provided enhanced payment rates for their services.

Finally, through Secretary Roob's leadership, Covering Kids & Families of Indiana has enjoyed increasingly high levels of support from FSSA staff in all program areas, including access to monthly data on all Medicaid/SCHIP/HIP programs to allow better tracking and targeting of outreach and enrollment efforts and involvement in marketing and training efforts. E. Mitchell Roob, Jr. is truly a "Champion" for children's health and the health of all Hoosiers.

A special thanks to our sponsors who made this event possible!

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