SENATE CONFIRMS MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD MEMBERS

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DENVER – May 7, 2009 – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing announced that the Senate confirmed members of the Medical Services Board for a four year term.

It is the responsibility of the Medical Services Board to adopt rules that govern public health insurance programs including Medicaid, Child Health Plan *Plus* and the Colorado Indigent Care Program. Board applicants are appointed by the governor and appear at a hearing before the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. The committee must vote favorably to refer the member's name to the full Senate for a vote of confirmation.

Newly appointed members:

Linda C. Andre, LCSW

Linda Chism Andre earned her Masters degree in Social Work from the University of Denver. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has been awarded a Certificate in Gerontology: Social Services for the Elderly. Serving as an original staff member of the Atlantis Community, Inc., Andre is actively involved with county, state and federal programs serving the needs of people with disabilities. Andre is semi-retired working as a professional fiduciary in the capacity of a court appointed guardian, case manager, and consultant.

Mary Young

Mary Trujillo-Young earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Colorado State University. Dr. Young has been employed by San Luis Valley Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center for 14 years, currently serving as the assistant executive director. She serves on several community boards and committees and is currently the Chair of the Board of Directors for Valley Wide Health Systems. Dr. Young understands the significance of being actively involved in making health care systems as effective and accessible as possible.

Alan Eisenberg

Alan Eisenberg graduated from the University Of Colorado School Of Pharmacy. Eisenberg was the owner of Capitol Heights Pharmacy from 1978 to 2004 and was the president of RES, INC. where he created one of the most profitable pharmacies in the State of Colorado. Eisenberg was involved in pharmaceutical sales for long-term care, assisted living, hospice and penal institutions. He is currently involved in the Colorado Foundation for Medical Care, Total Community Options, Medicare Rights Center representing Colorado, is vice-president of the Senior's Inc. board and the legislative advocate for AARP.

Reappointed members

Sally Schaefer

Mary "Sally" Schaefer has been a practicing psychiatric nurse for over 40 years and has worked in several medical settings. Schaefer has been the CEO of Hilltop in Grand Junction since 1998. She is a champion of collaboration, a program starter and a community partner. Schaefer has served on the Medical Services Board since February 2004.

Kathleen Chitty, RN

Kathleen Chitty has been a Registered Nurse for 35 years and currently works in the Intensive Care Unit at a Denver Metro hospital. She served five years in Saudi Arabia and is a leader in the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Nurse Alliance of Colorado where she focuses on health care policy. Chitty has served on the Medical Services Board since May 2007.

Existing Members

Jeffrey Cain, MD, president

Dr. Jeffrey Cain is currently the Chief of Family Medicine at The Children's Hospital and an Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Cain's 20 years of medical practice in Colorado have included private practice, teaching and caring for the underserved. He has served in leadership activities of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians and currently serves as a Colorado representative to the National Academy of Family Physicians. Cain has served on the Medical Services Board since August 2005.

Ginny Riley, vice-president

Ginny Riley has served as the Director of Human Services for Larimer County since 1998. Prior to working for county government, Riley directed community-based non-profit programs for battered women and low-income single parents. Riley is on the board of the Larimer County Food Bank, the Fort Collins City Personnel Board and holds an elected position on the Board of the

Health District of Northern Colorado. Riley has served on the Medical Services Board since May 2007.

Paul Melinkovich, MD

Dr. Paul Melinkovich is the Director of Denver Community Health Services at Denver Health and Hospitals. Melinkovich is a Board Certified Pediatrician and has served as the president of the Colorado Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and is chair of the Committee on Community Health of the National American Academy of Pediatricians. He was recently appointed by Governor Ritter to the Center for Value in Health Care Steering Committee. Melinkovich has served on the Medical Services Board since May 2007.

Wendell Phillips

Wendell Phillips is a principal, director and officer for Success Design Systems, Inc. He has served as the Regional Manager for the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and Director of Equal Opportunity Programs for the city of Colorado Springs and the Colorado Springs Utilities. Phillips spent twenty-one years implementing Equal Opportunity and Human Resource programs. Phillips has served on the Medical Services Board since October 1998.

Richard Markley

Richard Markley is semi-retired and owns a business that manufactures and distributes airfield lighting products. He has served on the Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council, the Blue Ribbon Advisory Council, the Parent Advisory Council and the Policy Advisory Council to the Division for Developmental Disabilities for many years. Markley is a past president of the Jefferson County ARC, is a member of the board of directors of the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center and has served on numerous committees for the Adult Vocational Services and Residential Services. Markley has served on the Medical Services Board since July 2005.

About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: The Department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for Colorado's low-income, elderly and people with disabilities. The mission of the department is to improve access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans. For more information about the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, visit colorado.gov/hcpf.