

Of Medicaid Program

State Receives Recognition For Its Administration

Raleigh - Human Resources Secretary Phillip J. Kirk Jr., announced that North Carolina has received recognition for quality in administering its federal Medicaid program.

"We recently received official work from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services noting the success of North Carolina's efforts in reducing errors in our Medicaid program," Kirk emphasized. "During the period of April-September, 1985, only 1.4 percent of the payments for those eligible were made in error. This was below the national tolerance level of three

percent for the same period." Seventy-three counties did not have any reported errors during this time, which is a record success rate. The case rate is based on the number of eligibility errors.

North Carolina Medicaid Director Barbara D. Matula pointed out that the counties have done a superb job in reducing Medicaid errors, and in ensuring that only those citizens who are eligible actually receive the needed Medicaid services.

"Medicaid quality control is designed to ensure that public funds are spent only for people who are

eligible under federal and state laws, that claims are paid correctly, and that Medicaid is the payer of last resort," Matula stressed.

The data produced by the quality control staff within the Division of Medical Assistance gives the state the number of causes of errors so that corrective action can be taken to reduce future errors and prevent dollar losses.

She explained that Medicaid provides health care for low-income elderly, disabled, and blind citizens, or to families with dependent children.

Financed by federal, state, and county funds, Medicaid services are rendered by medical care providers across the state. These services include immunizations for children, hospital and physician care, dental services, and long-term care for the elderly and disabled.

The N.C. Department of Human Resources' Division of Medical Assistance has full responsibility for administering the state's \$760 million Medicaid program, including eligibility determination and quality control. Eligibility is determined by the state's 100 county social services departments.



Lewis McKinney
Regional manager

Lewis McKinney

Joins Anheuser-Busch

St. Louis, Lewis L. McKinney has joined Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc., as regional manager of corporate affairs, it was announced by Wayman F. Smith III, vice president of corporate affairs for the St. Louis-based corporation.

McKinney will be responsible for developing community relations programs in the southeast region of the U.S. Major cities that initially will be the focus for program activities include: Atlanta, Ga.; Birmingham and Mobile, Ala.; Pensacola, Fla.; Raleigh-Durham, Charlotte, and Greensboro-Winston-Salem, N.C.

"McKinney will be a crucial link between our headquarters office and major southeastern cities," said Smith. "We are very pleased about the opportunity to work more closely with local organizations in these cities and to develop stronger ties to the people in these communities," Smith added.

McKinney has held previous sales and marketing positions in the beverage industry. He has been a professional basketball player in the U.S. and in France. McKinney received his bachelor's degree from Saint Louis University. He studied French language and literature for two years at the University of St. Etienne.

Look For New

Telephone Directory

Distribution of the new Charlotte telephone directory will begin August 19, and will be completed September 9, according to Southern Bell's District Manager Robert Freedman. Freedman said the company printed 479,304 telephone books for the Charlotte area.

"We would like for our subscribers to take some time and flip through the newly revised Customer Guide section at the front of the directory," Freedman said. "We have changed the format and appearance of this section based on what our customers tell us they want and need. It contains most of the same information as before, but it's easier to read because we've used grouped related topics and larger type. You will also find several charts to guide you where to go for various telephone services," he added.

The new Customer Guide pages are packed with practical telephone related information localized for our area, Freedman said.

Topics include disabled customers' services, local and long distance calling, directory assistance, repair service, operator services, and how to establish or change service. Subscribers also will find a list of community service phone numbers, a page filled with consumer information, and an area code map.

Customers with questions concerning listings in the 1986 Charlotte telephone directory should call the Southern Bell business office. Business customers should call 378-6300. Residence customers should call 378-6000.

Freedman urges residents who have not received directories to wait until after September 9 to call Southern Bell. After that date, books will be delivered to any customers missed by the distribution.

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