



PRETTY SMILE, PLEASE—An analyst with the Wechovia Center, Ms. Verona Gore wears seasonal attire that would make any Santa a fading image. (Photo by Wilbert Sanders)

### Ms. Whitmeyer Joins Planned Parenthood Group

Kathryn F. Whitmeyer has joined Planned Parenthood of Greater Raleigh as clinical services coordinator, Pam Kohl, PPGR executive director, announced Dec. 5.

As clinical services coordinator, Ms. Whitmeyer will coordinate and supervise clinic programs at PPGR, as well as providing service to patients at the affiliate contraceptive clinic.

"I am pleased to join Planned Parenthood of Greater Raleigh, an organization with a tradition of providing quality health care to the women of Wake County," Ms. Whitmeyer said. "It is a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and hard-working staff."

Ms. Whitmeyer is a 1986 graduate of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program. She formerly served as physician assistant in the Adult Health Division of the Wake County Department of Health. She is a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants and the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants.

## Physician Launches Angolan Aid Task Force

The sight of young Angolans without arms and legs nearly moved Adevale Troutman to tears. Then, after learning that the six victims visiting the United States were among some 50,000 amputees in Angola, the Newark medical doctor said he vowed to make his sentiments and solidarity known.

Troutman, medical director of emergency care at the United Hospital Medical Center of Newark, is in the process of organizing what he called an assessment team of black physicians and health personnel to launch a program aimed at assisting Angolan victims of the U.S.-supported war there.

"I was very saddened, almost brought to tears, by the appearance of such young, beautiful children with limbs amputated, legs blown off. The next thing that hit me was an overwhelming sense of love for these children. I felt an immediate sense of familyhood. And the third thing was

how can we help make the lives of these children better," said Troutman, also the medical director for the city of Newark which has adopted Launda, Angola's capital, as its sister city.

The Angolan delegation, brought to the United States by the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ, is currently receiving treatment at the Newark Medical Center. Of the six victims, five are children. Four of them lost their legs when they stepped on land mines reportedly planted by UNITA rebels.

The fifth, an 11-year-old girl, is paralyzed from the waist down after reportedly being shot by UNITA soldiers. Surgeons at the medical center in Newark removed the bullet lodged in her spine from the shooting last February.

The sixth victim is a 49-year-old woman whose foot was blown off during a bombing of Angola by South African planes. She is also scheduled

to receive an artificial foot.

Troutman, a family practitioner, said he has received the go-ahead from the Angolan government to bring a health delegation to Angola early next year. He said he is in the process of "examining a framework for beginning the program," looking for people with both expertise and commitment.

"We want people who have both their heart and head in the right place," said Troutman, who serves as

co-director of the health task force of the National Conference of Black Mayors.

Troutman said the first phase would involve a preliminary team composed of specialists in public health, orthopedics, pediatrics and prosthetic devices. Their role would be to assess the health needs and to determine a "systematic treatment approach." Treatment teams would follow, he said.

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