

Executive Director, Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 701H, Washington, DC 20201; (202) 690-5560. Information about PACHA and the draft townhall meeting agenda will be posted on the Council's Web site at <http://www.pacha.gov>. Directions to the National Press Club can be obtained through the Web site at <http://www.press.org> or by calling (202) 662-7500.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PACHA was established by Executive Order 12963, dated June 14, 1995, as amended by Executive Order 13009, dated June 14, 1996. The Council was established to provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary regarding programs and policies intended to (a) promote effective prevention of HIV disease, (b) advance research on HIV and AIDS, and (c) promote quality services to persons living with HIV disease and AIDS. PACHA was established to serve solely as an advisory body to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The Council is composed of not more than 35 members. Council membership is determined by the Secretary from individuals who are considered authorities with particular expertise in, or knowledge of, matters concerning HIV/AIDS.

The International Subcommittee is hosting this townhall meeting for the purpose of eliciting public comment on the implementation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Individuals, agencies, and organizations with practical experience implementing health programs in the developing countries are asked to consider the following questions in preparing their oral or written comments: (1) What lessons can you provide/share regarding planning, implementation, and outcome measurement strategies that have worked best and what did not work and why?; (2) What are the vital aspects of effective partnerships and with whom?; and (3) How have you been able to effectively involve people living with HIV/AIDS in your work?

Public attendance at the townhall meeting is limited to space available and pre-registration is required. Any individual who wishes to participate should call the telephone number listed in the contact information to register. For purposes of planning and coordination, individuals are asked to designate an affiliation from the following categories: (1) Non-Governmental/Community-Based

Organization (NGO/CBO); (2) Academic and/or Research Institution; (3) Faith-Based Organization; (4) Private Sector Sponsored Organization; or (5) Other. Individuals must provide a photo ID for entry into the meeting. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should notify the designated contact person.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide comments at the townhall meeting. Pre-registration is required for public comment. Public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Any members of the public who wish to have printed material distributed to the International Subcommittee members should submit materials to the Acting Executive Director, PACHA, electronically at info@phnlp.com, prior to close of business December 15, 2003. Printed text cannot exceed five (5) pages.

Dated: November 26, 2003.

Josephine Bias Robinson,

Executive Director (Acting), Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

Federal Financial Participation in State Assistance Expenditures; Federal Matching Shares for Medicaid, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and Aid to Needy Aged, Blind, or Disabled Persons for October 1, 2004 Through September 30, 2005

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DHHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Medical Assistance Percentages and Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentages for Fiscal Year 2005 have been calculated pursuant to the Social Security Act (the Act). These percentages will be effective from October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005. This notice announces the calculated "Federal Medical Assistance Percentages" and "Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentages" that we will use in determining the amount of Federal matching for State medical assistance (Medicaid) and State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) expenditures, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Contingency Funds, the federal share of Child Support Enforcement collections,

Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and Development Fund, Foster Care Title IV-E Maintenance payments, and Adoption Assistance payments. The table gives figures for each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Programs under title XIX of the Act exist in each jurisdiction; programs under titles I, X, and XIV operate only in Guam and the Virgin Islands; while a program under title XVI (Aid to the Aged, Blind, or Disabled) operates only in Puerto Rico. Programs under title XXI began operating in fiscal year 1998. The percentages in this notice apply to State expenditures for most medical services and medical insurance services, and assistance payments for certain social services. The statute provides separately for Federal matching of administrative costs.

Sections 1905(b) and 1101(a)(8)(B) of the Act require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to publish the Federal Medical Assistance Percentages each year. The Secretary is to figure the percentages, by formulas in sections 1905(b) and 1101(a)(8)(B), from the Department of Commerce's statistics of average income per person in each State and in the Nation as a whole. The percentages are within the upper and lower limits given in section 1905(b) of the Act. The percentages to be applied to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands are specified in statute, and thus are not based on the statutory formula that determines the percentages for the 50 states.

The "Federal Medical Assistance Percentages" are for Medicaid. Section 1905(b) of the Act specifies the formula for calculating Federal Medical Assistance Percentages as follows:

"Federal medical assistance percentage" for any State shall be 100 per centum less the State percentage; and the State percentage shall be that percentage which bears the same ratio to 45 per centum as the square of the per capita income of such State bears to the square of the per capita income of the continental United States (including Alaska) and Hawaii; except that (1) the Federal medical assistance percentage shall in no case be less than 50 per centum or more than 83 per centum, (2) the Federal medical assistance percentage for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa shall be 50 per centum.

A provision in the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of