

HRSA/MCHB 2007 FEDERAL/STATE PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Building Blocks for Promising Practice Models

October 14 - 17, 2007

Introduction and Welcome

CASSIE LAUVER.: --Division of State and Community Health in the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

I see a lot of, I was going to say old faces, but I don't think I'd mean that, veterans out there as well as new people in the field. And this is a session that we have been working with over the last several years, a new leaders' orientation meeting for new people in the field and state leadership positions. And we like to have it to do a couple of things. One is to give a brief overview and history of Maternal and Child Health for those of you who may be new in Maternal and Child Health. And the second is an overview and introduction to some of our staff in the different divisions and offices in the bureau so you can kind of connect names with faces and understand a little bit more about the divisions and offices.

We--you have an agenda for this morning, and so we're taking poetic license here and immediately diverging from the agenda. Dr. Peter van Dyck who is the associate administrator of the bureau has another commitment, and he's going to be coming just a little later. And so, we're going to begin the morning with some of our division and office leadership so they can give you some insight about their programs. And before I do that, though, it's always interesting to me to see how

recent some of you may have joined the Maternal and Child Health family. So, it's a little hard to see with the lights, but is there anyone in the group--who've been in the group less than a year, worked in your positions in Maternal and Child Health less than a year? Hold up your hands. So quite a few of you are new. How about within the last three years, people who are new? Okay. So another group out there.

Well, welcome. We're very pleased to have you here and working with the leadership of Maternal and Child Health in the states because that's--I--for those of you who are new may not know that I came to this position after 20 years of a MCH director at the state level, so I know a bit about where the rubber meets the road and appreciate that work.

And at this point, I want to turn this morning's session over to Dr. Ann Drum. And Ann is going to facilitate this morning's session. And Dr. Drum is the division director for Research, Training and Education and has the oversight over a number--and you'll hear more about this, what goes on in that division. But many of our investments that I know, either you already work with or if you haven't, will become more familiar with them and seek them out when you get back to the states. So let me turn it over to Ann right now.