

### Section E. Availability of Comments and Requests To Participate as Panelists

The FTC Act and other laws the Commission administers permit the collection of public comments and requests to participate as panelists, to consider and use in this proceeding as appropriate. All timely and responsive public comments and requests to participate, whether filed in paper or electronic form, will be considered by the Commission, and will be available to the public on the FTC website, to the extent practicable, at <http://www.ftc.gov>. As a matter of discretion, the FTC makes every effort to remove home contact information for individuals from the public comments and requests to participate it receives before placing those comments on the FTC website. More information, including routine uses permitted by the Privacy Act, may be found in the FTC's privacy policy, at <http://www.ftc.gov/ftc/privacy.htm>.

By direction of the Commission.

**Donald S. Clark,**

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-20839 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; Medicare Program; Meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel on Medicare Trustee Reports

**AGENCY:** Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a public meeting of the Technical Advisory Panel on Medicare Trustee Reports (Panel). Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(1) and (a)(2)). The Panel will discuss the long-term rate of change in health spending and may make recommendations to the Medicare Trustees on how the Trustees might more accurately estimate health spending in the long run. The Panel's discussion is expected to be very technical in nature and will focus on the actuarial and economic methods by which Trustees might more accurately measure health spending. Although panelists are not limited in the topics they may discuss, the Panel is not expected to discuss or recommend changes in current or future Medicare

provider payment rates or coverage policy.

**DATES:** September 24, 2004, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. e.d.t.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at HHS headquarters at 200 Independence Ave., SW., 20201, Room 425A.

*Comments:* The meeting will allocate time on the agenda to hear public comments. In lieu of oral comments, formal written comments may be submitted for the record to Andrew Cosgrove, OASPE, 200 Independence Ave., SW., 20201, Room 443F.8. Those submitting written comments should identify themselves and any relevant organizational affiliations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Andrew Cosgrove (202) 205-8681, [andrew.cosgrove@hhs.gov](mailto:andrew.cosgrove@hhs.gov). Note: Although the meeting is open to the public, procedures governing security procedures and the entrance to Federal buildings may change without notice. Those wishing to attend the meeting should call or e-mail Mr. Cosgrove by September 17, 2004, so that their name may be put on a list of expected attendees and forwarded to the security officers at HHS Headquarters.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 22, 2004, we published a notice announcing the establishment and requesting nominations for individuals to serve on the Panel. The panel members are: Mark Pauly, Edwin Husted, Alice Rosenblatt, Michael Chernen, David Meltzer, John Bertko, and William Scanlon.

*Topics of the Meeting:* The Panel is specifically charged with discussing and possibly making recommendations to the Medicare Trustees on how the Trustees might more accurately estimate the long term rate of health spending in the United States. The discussion is expected to focus on highly technical aspects of estimation involving economics and actuarial science. Panelists are not restricted, however, in the topics that they choose to discuss.

*Procedure and Agenda:* This meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may observe the deliberations and discussions, but the Panel will not hear public comments during this time. The Commission will also allow an open public session for any attendee to address issues specific to the topic.

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 217a; section 222 of the Public Health Services Act, as amended. The panel is governed by provisions of Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees.

Dated: September 8, 2004.

**Michael J. O'Grady,**

Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Administration for Children and Families

#### Submission for OMB review; Comment Request

*Title:* Survey of Early Head Start Programs.

*OMB No.:* New collection.

*Description:* The Head Start Reauthorization Act of 1994 established a special initiative creating funding for services for families with infants and toddlers. In response, the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) developed the Early Head Start program. Early Head Start programs are designed to produce outcomes in four domains: (1) Child development, (2) family development, (3) staff development, and (4) community development. As a requirement of the Reauthorization Act, ACYF funded a rigorous randomized trial to study the effectiveness of Early Head Start programs, sampling from 17 programs funded in the initial years. That research found positive effects of the program overall in a variety of areas, as well as effects for different program types and levels of implementation, and among study participants with different characteristics.

The aim of the current research is to obtain a national picture of Early Head Start. This initiative will begin a process of describing how the Early Head Start initiative has grown over time, how programs are currently implementing services, and who is being served. The study will be conducted between September 2004 and May 2005.

The data will consist of a survey of all Early Head Start programs in October 2004 and site visits to a selected sample of 25 programs in early 2005. All data collection instruments have been designed to minimize the burden on respondents by minimizing the time required to respond. Participation in the study is voluntary.

The results of the research will be used by the Head Start Bureau and ACF to gain a better understanding of changes in program processes and services over time, to identify areas of