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CCF Director Mann Appointed by Obama Administration to Direct Medicaid and CHIP Deputy Directors Alker, Guyer to Co- Direct CCF

Washington, D.C. – Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius announced today that Georgetown University Center for Children and Families Director Cindy Mann has been appointed Director of the Center for Medicaid and State Operations at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (CMSO). CMSO oversees Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) at the federal level. Mann will assume her new position on June 8. CCF is an independent, nonpartisan policy center based at Georgetown University's Health Policy Institute whose mission is to expand and improve health coverage for America's children and families.

Mann was an original cofounder of CCF along with Deputy Directors Joan Alker and Jocelyn Guyer. In the four years since CCF began, it has become a nationally recognized and respected voice on issues related to health coverage for children and families at both the federal and state levels. Accomplishments include serving as a key resource to policymakers, state and national organizations, and the media during the reauthorization of CHIP and advising state-level policymakers, program administrators and advocates on coverage and enrollment policies.

Deputy Directors Alker and Guyer were promoted to serve as co-directors of CCF and assume Mann's responsibilities.

"These two highly talented health policy experts will move CCF forward without skipping a beat," said Mann. "They were there in the beginning and have been instrumental in building CCF over these past four years. Under their leadership, CCF will continue to be an important source for policy and analyses having to do with the health of America's children and families - particularly during the debate on health reform."

At CCF, Alker has worked extensively on health coverage for low-income children and families, with an emphasis on the intersection of public and private coverage including premium assistance policies, immigrant issues, and state Medicaid waiver initiatives. Prior to joining CCF, she served

as associate director of government affairs at Families USA and assistant director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. She holds a Master of Philosophy in politics from St. Antony's College, Oxford University and a Bachelor of Arts with honors in political science from Bryn Mawr College.

Guyer has focused on child and family health issues, including the reauthorization and implementation of CHIP, improving Medicaid and working to ensure the needs of children and families are appropriately addressed in health reform. She joined CCF from the Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, where she served as an associate director. In the past, she has served as a senior health policy analyst on health and welfare policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and as legislative research assistant to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. She holds a Master of Public Affairs in economics and public policy from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School and a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Brown University.

Check out Cindy's thoughts about leaving CCF and joining the Obama Administration at <u>Say</u> <u>Ahhh! A Children's Health Policy Blog</u>.

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