

SUMMARY: As the Federal agency coordinating the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (SACHDNC) the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is requesting applications to fill three (3) vacancies for non-voting organizations with representatives to (SACHDNC).

BACKGROUND: The SACHDNC provides the Secretary with recommendations, advice, and technical information regarding the application of technologies, policies, guidelines, and standards for: (a) effectively reducing morbidity and mortality in newborns and children having, or at risk for, heritable disorders; and (b) enhancing the ability of the state and local health agencies to provide for newborn and child screening, counseling, and health care services for newborns and children having, or at risk for, heritable disorders.

DETAILS: HRSA is requesting applications for three (3) non-voting organizational to have representation to the SACHDNC: two (2) will be designated as *at large* representatives of a public health constituency, medical professional society or national advocacy organization and one (1) should represent a public health professional organization. Each of the three (3) selections will be based on the organizational mission and relevancy to the SACHDNC's purpose (e.g., primary care, pediatrics, newborn screening, genetics and other relevant specialty expertise). Eligible organizations should reflect broad constituencies affected or impacted by the work of the SACHDNC, as noted in the SACHDNC Charter.

The two (2) *at large* organizations will be invited to contribute to the SACHDNC for terms of two years, with an opportunity to re-apply to serve an additional 2 year term after the initial term has expired. The public health professional organization will be invited to contribute to the SACHDNC for terms of four years, with an opportunity to re-apply to serve an additional 4 year term after the initial term has expired. Selected organizations will have their representatives begin serving their term in January 2013.

ELIGIBILITY: Eligible applicants include the following organizations: (a) medical, technical, public health, or scientific organizations with special expertise in the field of heritable disorders, or (b) organizations that provide screening, counseling, testing, or specialty services for newborns and children at risk for heritable disorders. Selection of organizations will also consider perspectives and expertise not currently represented that serve to increase the knowledge base of the SACHDNC.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: Applications must contain the following:

- Letter of nomination summarizing:
 - The organization's name and mission statement.
 - The perspective and expertise provided by the nominated organization, and why this perspective and expertise would benefit the SACHDNC.
 - A description of how the SACHDNC's work affects and/or impacts the nominated organization and its constituency.
- Contact information: point of contact name, address, telephone number, e-mail and website of the nominated organization.

- Portfolio of the organization's past or current projects, programs and products that are of importance to the SACHDNC's work.
- Statement from the nominated organization's that details their commitment to provide expert input into the decision-making process of the SACHDNC.
- Organization's detailed information concerning any possible conflicts of interest relative to both the organization and the proposed individual identified to represent the organization (e.g., current or anticipated employment, consultancies, research grants, or contracts).
- Statement affirming the organization's commitment to financially support a representative to attend all SACHDNC meetings.
- Statement affirming the organization's commitment to ensure active contribution to and dissemination of SACHDNC activities and recommendations to its representative constituencies.
- Statement affirming that the organization: (a) wishes to serve as a representative to the SACHDNC, and (b) has no conflict of interest that would preclude informing the SACHDNC in a fair and balanced manner.
- Organization's description clearly identifying how the organizational perspective and expertise would serve to increase the knowledge base of the SACHDNC.
- SACHDNC's professional impact on the organization and its stakeholders.

Please submit written nominations no later than August 1, 2012.

ADDRESS: Submit applications to Sara Copeland, M.D., Designated Federal Official (DFO), SACHDNC; and Chief, Genetic Services Branch, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Room 18A-19, Parklawn Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857. Applications may also be sent to Screening@hrsa.hhs.gov.

MORE INFORMATION: See the SACHDNC website at <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/mchbadvisory/heritabledisorders/> or contact Debi Sarkar, M.P.H., Genetic Services Branch, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, HRSA, at dsarkar@hrsa.gov or (301) 443-1080.