

**Central Alabama Action Commission
November 27, 2007 Meeting Recap**

Attendees: Tracy Smith, Andrea Anderson-Nix, Dr. Lowell Broom, Dr. Jack Riley, Thomas Wilder and Charles Ball

Guests: Karen McCoy and Ray Morris (Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham).

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am by Mr. Ball.

Reports

Healthcare Committee: Mrs. Smith discussed the results of recent joint meetings of the ARAC Healthcare Committees. According to Mrs. Smith, the group has decided it would be wise to focus on the early health screening of elementary school children. Committee members believe enormous benefits can be realized by school children, their schools, their families and their communities if various problems can be identified and addressed earlier.

Education Committee: Dr. Riley reported that, at the second meeting of his committee, there was a consensus that improving the link between technical education, local job markets and potential employers should be the committee's initial area of focus. It is believed that this strategy would go a long way towards reducing the high drop-out rate in many of Alabama's schools, in addition to increasing the state's supply of skilled laborers.

Following Dr. Riley's report, the group discussed the strong inter-relatedness of many of the challenges being addressed in the Healthcare, Education and Work Force Development Committees.

The group agreed not to meet in December. The next meeting will be Tuesday, **January 22, 2008**. Place to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

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