

section 64.1100(a)(1), a carrier must retain verification records for two years after their creation. *Subscriber Liability for Charges.* Pursuant to section 64.1100(d), any carrier that the subscriber calls to report the unauthorized change is required to inform the subscriber that he or she is not required to pay for any slamming charges incurred for the first 30 days after the unauthorized charges. *Re-rating of slamming charges.* Pursuant to rule section 64.1100(d)(3), where a slamming carrier imposes charges on a subscriber outside of the 30-day absolution period, the subscriber must pay those charges to the authorized carrier at the authorized carrier's rates, after the authorized carrier has re-rated the subscriber's bill. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 1.5 hours; total annual burden: 2,700 hours).

b. *Section 64.1150.* Pursuant to Section 64.1150 no telecommunications carrier shall submit a preferred carrier charge order unless and until the order has first been confirmed in accordance with the procedures of 64.1150 (a)–(d). Telecommunications carriers may obtain the subscriber's written authorization as required by 64.1150 or an electronic authorization, or an oral authorization through a qualified independent third party. The Commission also permits state-enacted verification procedures applicable to intrastate preferred carrier charge orders. (No. of respondents: 675; hours per response: 1.25 hours; total annual burden 844 hours).

c. *Section 64.1160. Letter of Agency.* Section 64.1160 contains the requirements for issuing a letter of agency to obtain written authorization and/or verification of a subscriber's request to change his/her preferred carrier selection. The letter of agency must be a separate document, shall not be combined on the same document with inducements of any kind. It must be legible, and contain clear and unambiguous language. If any portion of the letter of agency is transmitted into another language then all portions of the letter of agency must be translated. *Separate authorization and verification for multiple services.* Pursuant to section 64.1160(e)(4), a carrier marketing multiple services (e.g., intraLATA and interLATA) must specifically distinguish among such services in any letter of agency, and must obtain separate authorization for each service that is being changed. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 1.5 hours; total annual burden: 2700 hours). *Section 64.1170. Request for proof of verification from*

authorized carrier to unauthorized carrier. Pursuant to section 64.1170(a), upon receiving notification from the subscriber or an executing carrier that a subscriber's carrier selection was changed without authorization, the properly authorized carrier must, within 30 days, request from the allegedly unauthorized carrier proof of verification of the subscriber's authorization to change carriers. *Unauthorized carrier's response to authorized carrier's request for proof of verification.* Pursuant to section 64.1170(a), within ten days of receiving the authorized carriers request for proof of verification, the allegedly unauthorized carrier shall forward to the authorized carrier either (1) proof of verification of the subscriber's authorization to change carriers; or (2) copies of any telephone bill(s) issued from the unauthorized carrier to the subscriber, if applicable; and certain charges. *Subscriber Refunds or Credits.* Pursuant to section 64.1170(d)(1), the authorized carrier must notify the subscriber within 60 days after the subscriber has notified the authorized carrier of an unauthorized change, if the authorized carrier has failed to collect from the unauthorized carrier the charges paid by the slammed subscriber. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 5 hours; total annual burden: 9000 hours).

e. *Section 64.1180. Investigation Procedures.* Pursuant to 64.1180, the carrier shall have the opportunity to submit to the subscriber's authorized carrier a claim for the amount of charges for which the subscriber was absolved, along with proof of the subscriber's verification of the disputed carrier change. The authorized carrier shall make a decision as to whether the subscriber was actually slammed by the carrier making the claim. Within 60 days after receipt of the claim and the proof of verification, the originally authorized carrier shall issue a decision to the subscribers and the carrier making the claim. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per respondents: 4 hours; total annual burden: 7200 hours).

f. *Section 64.1190. Freeze verification.* Pursuant to section 64.1190, all local exchange carriers that impose preferred carrier freezes on their subscribers' accounts must verify such freezes, as well as accept subscriber requests to lift such freezes in writing or by three-way calls. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 2 hours; total annual burden: 3600 hours).

g. *Proposed Registration Requirement.* The FNPRM proposed to add a new section 64.1195 that requires carriers to file a registration with the Commission

in order to provide interstate telecommunications service. The Commission proposed that the registration should contain, at a minimum, the carrier's business name(s); the names and addresses of all officers and principals; verification that such officers and principals have no prior history of committing fraud; and verification of the financial viability of the carrier. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 2 hours; total annual burden: 3600 hours).

h. *Proposed Reporting Requirement.* The FNPRM sought comments on whether the Commission should require carriers to submit to the Commission a report containing the number of slamming complaints submitted to that carrier. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 2 hours; total annual burden: 3600 hours).

i. *Proposed Carrier Liability.* The FNPRM proposed to require (1) where a consumer has paid charges to a slamming carrier, the authorized carrier shall be permitted to collect from the slamming carrier double the amount of charges paid by the subscriber during the first 30 days after the unauthorized change; and (2) where a consumer has not paid charges to the slamming carrier, the authorized carrier shall be permitted to collect from the slamming carrier the amount that would have been billed to the subscriber during the first 30 days after the unauthorized change. (No. of respondents: 1800; hours per response: 2 hours; total annual burden: 3600 hours). *Obligation to respond: Mandatory.*

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

Shirley S. Suggs,

Chief, Publications Branch.

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FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

Labor-Management Cooperation Program; Application Solicitation

AGENCY: Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

ACTION: Final fiscal year 1999 program guidelines/application for labor-management committees.

SUMMARY: The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) is publishing the final Fiscal Year 1999 Program Guidelines/Application Solicitation for the Labor-Management Cooperation program to inform the public. The program is supported by Federal funds authorized by the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978, subject to annual appropriations. This Solicitation contains changes regarding the dollar range, date for filing, and use of funds awarded on a non-competitive basis. The change will provide FMCS with the necessary flexibility to target particular labor-management committee initiatives capable of widespread replication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter L. Regner, 202-606-8181.

Labor-Management Cooperation Program Application Solicitation for Labor-Management Committees FY 1999

A. Introduction

The following is the final solicitation for the Fiscal Year (FY) 1999 cycle of the Labor-Management Cooperation Program as it pertains to the support of labor-management committees. These guidelines represent the continuing efforts of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to implement the provisions of the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978 which was initially implemented in FY 81. The Act generally FMCS to provide assistance in the establishment and operation of company/plant, area, public sector, and industry-wide labor-management committee which:

(A) Have been organized jointly by employers and labor organizations representing employees in that company/plant, area, government agency, or industry; and

(B) Are established for the purpose of improving labor-management relationships, job security, and organizational effectiveness; enhancing economic development; or involving workers in decisions affecting their jobs, including improving communication with respect to subjects of mutual interest and concern.

The Program Description and other sections that follow, as well as a separately published FMCS Financial and Administrative Grants Manual, make up the basic guidelines, criteria, and program elements a potential applicant for assistance under this program must know in order to develop an application for funding consideration for either a company/plant, area-wide, industry, or public sector labor-management committee. Directions for

obtaining an application kit may be found in section H. A copy of the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978, included in the application kit, should be reviewed in conjunction with this solicitation.

B. Program Description

Objectives

The Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978 identifies the following seven general areas for which financial assistance would be appropriate:

(1) To improve communication between representatives of labor and management;

(2) To provide workers and employers with opportunities to study and explore new and innovative joint approaches to achieving organizational effectiveness;

(3) To assist workers and employers in solving problems of mutual concern not susceptible to resolution within the collective bargaining process;

(4) To study and explore ways of eliminating potential problems which reduce the competitiveness and inhibit the economic development of the company/plant, area, or industry;

(5) To enhance the involvement of workers in making decisions that affect their working lives;

(6) To expand and improve working relationships between workers and managers; and

(7) To encourage free collective bargaining by establishing continuing mechanisms for communication between employers and their employees through Federal assistance in the formation and operation of labor-management committees.

The primary objective of this program is to encourage and support the establishment and operation of joint labor-management committees to carry out specific objectives that meet the forementioned general criteria. The term "labor" refers to employees represented by a labor organization and covered by a formal collective bargaining agreement. These committees may be found at either the plant (company), area, industry, or public sector levels. A plant or company committee is generally characterized as restricted to one or more organizational or productive units operated by a single employer. An area committee is generally composed of multiple employers of diverse industries as well as multiple labor unions operating within the focusing upon city, county, contiguous multicounty, or statewide jurisdictions. An industry committee generally consists of a collection of agencies or enterprises and related labor union(s) producing a common product

or service in the private sector on a local, state, regional, or nationwide level. A public sector committee consists either of government employees and managers in one or more units of a local or state government, managers and employees of public institutions of higher education, or of employees and managers of public elementary and secondary schools. Those employees must be covered by a formal collective bargaining agreement or other enforceable labor-management agreement. In deciding whether an application is for an area or industry committee, consideration should be given to the above definitions as well as to the focus of the committee.

In FY 1999, competition will be open to company/plant, area, private industry, and public sector committees. Public Sector committees will be divided into two sub-categories for scoring purposes. One sub-category will consist of committees representing state/local units of government and public institutions of higher education. The second sub-category will consist of public elementary and secondary schools.

Special consideration will be given to committee applications involving innovative or unique efforts. All application budget requests should focus directly on supporting the committee. Applicants should avoid seeking funds for activities that are clearly available under other Federal programs (e.g., job training, mediation of contract disputes, etc.).

Required Program Elements

1. *Problem Statement*—The application, which should have numbered pages, must discuss in detail what specific problem(s) face the company/plant, area, government, or industry and its workforce that will be addressed by the committee. Applicants must document the problem(s) using as much relevant data as possible and discuss the full range of impacts these problem(s) could have or are having on the company/plant, government, area, or industry. An industrial or economic profile of the area and workforce might prove useful in explaining the problem(s). This section basically discusses *WHY* the effort is needed.

2. *Results or Benefits Expected*—By using specific goals and objectives, the application must discuss in detail *WHAT* the labor-management committee as a demonstration effort will accomplish during the life of the grant. Applications that promise to provide objectives *after* a grant is awarded will receive little or no credit in this area. While a goal of "improving

communication between employers and employees" may suffice as one over-all goal of a project, the objectives must, whenever possible, be expressed in specific and *measurable* terms.

Applicants should focus on the outcome, impacts or changes that the committee's efforts will have. Existing committees should focus on *expansion* efforts/results expected from FMCS funding. The goals, objectives, and projected impacts will become the foundation for future monitoring and evaluation efforts of the grantee, as well as the FMCS grants program.

3. *Approach*—This section of the application specifies *HOW* the goals and objectives will be accomplished. At a minimum, the following elements must be included in all grant applications:

(a) A discussion of the strategy the committee will employ to accomplish its goals and objectives;

(b) A listing, by name and title, of all existing or proposed members of the labor-management committee. The application should also offer a rationale for the selection of the committee members (e.g., members represent 70% of the area or company/plant workforce).

(c) A discussion of the number, type, and role of all committee staff persons. Include proposed position descriptions for all staff that will have to be hired as well as resumes for staff already on board;

(d) In addressing the proposed approach, applicants must also present their justification as to why Federal funds are needed to implement the proposed approach;

(e) A statement of how often the committee will meet (we require meetings at least every other month) as well as any plans to form subordinate committees for particular purposes; and

(f) For applications from existing committees (i.e., in existence at least 12 months prior to the submission deadline), a discussion of past efforts and accomplishments and how they would integrate with the proposed expanded effort.

4. *Major Milestones*—This section must include an implementation plan that indicates what major steps, operating activities, and objectives will be accomplished as well as a timetable for *WHEN* they will be finished. A milestone chart must be included that indicates what specific accomplishments (process and impact) will be completed by month over the life of the grant using September 15, 1999, as the start date. The accomplishment of these tasks and objectives, as well as problems and

delays therein, will serve as the basis for quarterly progress reports to FMSC.

5. *Evaluation*—Applicants must provide for either an external evaluation or an internal assessment of the project's success in meeting its goals and objectives. An evaluation plan must be developed which briefly discusses what basic questions or issues the assessment will examine and what baseline data the committee staff already has or will gather for the assessment. This section should be written with the application's own goals and objectives clearly in mind and the impacts or charges that the effort is expected to cause.

6. *Letters of Commitment*—Applications must include current letters of commitment for *all* proposed or existing committee participants and chairpersons. These letters should indicate that the participants support the application and will attend scheduled committee meetings. A blanket letter signed by a committee chairperson or other official on behalf of all members is not acceptable. We encourage the use of individual letters submitted on company or union letterhead represented by the individual. The letters should match the names provided under Section 3(b).

7. *Other Requirements*—Applicants are also responsible for the following:

(a) The submission of data indicating approximately how many employees will be covered or represented through the labor-management committee;

(b) From existing committees, a copy of the existing staffing levels, a copy of the by-laws, a breakout of annual operating costs and identification of all sources and levels of current financial support;

(c) A detailed budget narrative based on policies and procedures contained in the FMCS Financial and Administrative Grants Manual;

(d) An assurance that the labor-management committee will not interfere with any collective bargaining agreements; and

(e) An assurance that committee meetings will be held at least every other month and that written minutes of all committee meetings will be prepared and made available to FMCS.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria will be used in the scoring and selection of applications for award:

(1) The extent to which the application has clearly identified the problems and justified the needs that the proposed project will address.

(2) The degree to which appropriate and *measurable* goals and objectives

have been developed to address the problems/needs of the applicant.

(3) The feasibility of the approach proposed to attain the goals and objectives of the project and the perceived likelihood of accomplishing the intended project results. This section will also address the degree of innovativeness or uniqueness of the proposed effort.

(4) The appropriateness of committee membership and the degree of commitment of these individuals to the goals of the application as indicated in the letters of support.

(5) The feasibility and thoroughness of the implementation plan in specifying major milestones and target dates.

(6) The cost effectiveness and fiscal soundness of the application's budget request, as well as the application's feasibility vis-a-vis its goals and approach.

(7) The overall feasibility of the proposed project in light of all of the information presented for consideration; and

(8) The value to the government of the application in light of the overall objectives of the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978. This includes such factors as innovativeness, site location, cost, and other qualities that impact upon an applicant's value in encouraging the labor-management committee concept.

C. Eligibility

Eligible grantees include state and local units of government, labor-management committees (or a labor union, management association, or company on behalf of a committee that will be created through the grant), and certain third-party private non-profit entities on behalf of one or more committees to be created through the grant. Federal government agencies and their employees are not eligible.

Third-party private, non-profit entities which can document that a major purpose or function of their organization has been the improvement of labor relations are eligible to apply. However, all funding must be directed to the functioning of the labor-management committee, and all requirements under Part B must be followed. Applications from third-party entities must document particularly strong support and participation from all labor and management parties with whom the applicant will be working. Applications from third-parties which do not directly support the operation of a new or expanded committee will not be deemed eligible, nor will applications signed by entities such as

law firms or other third-parties failing to meet the above criteria.

Applicants who received funding under this program in the past for committee operations are generally not eligible to apply. The only exceptions apply to grantees who seek funds on behalf of an entirely different committee.

D. Allocations

The total FY 1999 appropriation for this program is \$1.5 million, of which at least \$1,000,000 will be available competitively for new applicants. Specific funding levels will not be established for each type of committee. Instead, the review process will be conducted in such a manner that at least two awards will be made in each category (company/plant, industry, public sector, and area), providing that FMCS determines that at least two outstanding applications exist in each category. After these applications are selected for award, the remaining applications will be considered according to merit without regard to category.

In addition to the competitive process identified in the preceding paragraph, FMCS will set aside a sum not to exceed thirty percent of its non-reserved appropriation to be awarded on a non-competitive basis. Neither the dollar range of awards set forth in paragraph E of this solicitation, nor the provisions relating to deadline set forth in paragraph G, shall be applicable to such funds. These funds will be used to support company/plant, area, industry, or public sector initiatives with high potential for widespread replication that have been solicited by the Director of the Service.

FMCS reserves the right to retain up to five percent of the FY99 appropriation to contract for program support purposes (such as evaluation) other than administration.

E. Dollar Range and Length of Grants and Continuation Policy

Awards to continue and expand existing labor-management committees (i.e., in existence 12 months prior to the submission deadline) will be for a period of 12 months. If all of the original funding is not obligated within 12 months, FMCS will consider grant period extensions for up to an additional six months. No continuation awards are anticipated. Initial awards to establish new labor-management committees (i.e., not yet established or in existence less than 12 months prior to the submission deadline), will be for a period of 18 months. If successful progress is made during this initial

budget period and all grant funds are not obligated within 18 months, these grants may be extended for up to six months. No continuation awards are anticipated.

The dollar range of awards is as follows:

- Up to \$35,000 in FMCS funds per annum for existing company/plant or single department public sector applicants;
- Up to \$50,000 over 18 months for new company/plant committee or single department public sector applicants;
- Up to \$75,000 in FMCS funds per annum for existing area, industry and multi-departmental public sector committee applicants;
- Up to \$100,000 per 18-month period for new area, industry, and multi-department public sector committee applicants.

Applicants are reminded that these figures represent maximum Federal funds only. If total costs to accomplish the objectives of the application exceed the maximum allowable Federal funding level and its required grantee match, applicants may supplement these funds through voluntary contributions from other sources. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with their local or regional FMCS field office to determine what kinds of training may be available at no cost before budgeting for such training in their applications. A list of our field leadership team and their phone numbers is included in the application kit.

F. Cash Match Requirements and Cost Allowability

Applicants for new labor-management committees must provide at least 10 percent of the total allowable project costs. Applicants for existing committees must provide at least 25 percent of the total allowable project costs. All matching funds may come from state or local government sources or private sector contributions, but may generally not include other Federal funds. Funds generated by grant-supported efforts are considered "project income," and may not be used for matching purposes.

It will be the policy of this program to reject all requests for indirect or overhead costs as well "in-kind" match contributions. In addition, grant funds must not be used to supplant private or local/state government funds currently spent for these purposes. Funding requests from existing committees should focus entirely on the costs associated with the expansion efforts. Also, under no circumstances may

business or labor officials participating on a labor-management committee be compensated out of grant funds for *time* spent at committee meetings or *time* spent in training sessions. Applicants generally will not be allowed to claim all or a portion of *existing* full-time staff as an expense or match contribution. For a more complete discussion of cost allowability, applicants are encouraged to consult the FY99 FMCS Financial and Administrative Grants Manual which will be included in the application kit.

G. Application Submission and Review Process

Applications should be signed by *both* a labor and management representative and be postmarked no later than May 1, 1999. No applications or supplementary materials can be accepted after the deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is correctly postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or other carrier. An original application containing numbered pages, plus *three* copies, should be addressed to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Labor-Management Grants Program, 2100 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20427. FMCS will not consider videotaped submissions or video attachments to submissions.

After the deadline has passed, all eligible applications will be reviewed and scored initially by one or more Grant Review Boards. The Board(s) will recommend selected applications for further funding consideration. The Director, Program Services, will finalize the scoring and selection process. The individual listed as contact person in Item 6 on the application form will generally be the only person with whom FMCS will communicate during the application review process.

All FY99 grant applicants will be notified of results and all grant awards will be made before September 15, 1999. Applications submitted after the May 1, deadline date or that fail to adhere to eligibility or other major requirements will be administratively rejected by the Director, Program Services.

H. Contact

Individuals wishing to apply for funding under this program should contact the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service as soon as possible to obtain an application kit.

These kits and additional information or clarification can be obtained free of charge by contacting the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Labor-Management Grants Program,

2100 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20427; or by calling 202-606-8181.

Dated: May 5, 1999.

Tom O'Brien,

Deputy Director Designee, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

[FR Doc. 99-12181 Filed 5-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6732-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Change in Bank Control Notices; Acquisitions of Shares of Banks or Bank Holding Companies

The notificants listed below have applied under the Change in Bank Control Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and § 225.41 of the Board's Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.41) to acquire a bank or bank holding company. The factors that are considered in acting on the notices are set forth in paragraph 7 of the Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)(7)).

The notices are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notices also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing to the Reserve Bank indicated for that notice or to the offices of the Board of Governors. Comments must be received not later than May 28, 1999.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
(Lois Berthaume, Vice President) 104 Marietta Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2713:

1. *Willson Management and Development Partnership, L.P.*, Athens, Tennessee; to acquire voting shares of Citizens National Bancorp, Athens, Tennessee, and thereby indirectly acquire Citizens National Bank, Athens, Tennessee.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, May 10, 1999.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 99-12185 Filed 5-13-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 99075]

Cooperative Agreement for a Laboratory Medicine Sentinel Monitoring Network; Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1999 funds for a cooperative agreement for a Laboratory Medicine Sentinel Monitoring Network. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2000" priority area of Surveillance and Data Systems. The purposes of the program are to develop data collection networks and provide information about the practice of laboratory medicine in hospitals, physician offices, and independent laboratories.

B. Eligible Applicants

Assistance will be provided only to the health departments of States or their bona fide agents, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. In consultation with States, assistance may be provided to political subdivisions of States. We are limiting eligibility to State health departments because:

1. They are uniquely qualified due to the role they play in coordinating CLIA-associated activities within the states;
2. They possess the experience with laboratory issues that can facilitate the recruitment of network members; and
3. To provide assistance to these organizations and to implement long term laboratory medicine monitoring programs.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$300,000 is available in FY 1999 to fund three awards. It is expected that the average award will be \$100,000, ranging from \$80,000 to \$120,000. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 30, 1999, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to 3 years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made

on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

D. Funding Preferences

Preference may be given to State health departments with existing laboratory networks (data collection networks comprised of clinical laboratories which periodically monitor and report on issues related to the delivery of clinical laboratory medicine and quality assurance programs associated with them). Additional preference may be given to achieve an even geographic distribution of sites or to a site that primarily includes a rural population.

E. Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities listed under 1. (Recipient Activities), and CDC will be responsible for those activities listed under 2. (CDC Activities).

1. Recipient Activities

a. Solicit laboratories to voluntarily participate in the Monitoring Networks so that representatives of each laboratory type (hospital, physician office, and independent) and complexity level (waived, PPM, moderate and high) can participate in the total network.

b. Provide leadership in the design and evaluation of questionnaires for periodic reporting of laboratory operational characteristics and problems (especially those that impact patient care, including QC and QA practices, and the methods that are used by the network participants during the period of the study).

c. Provide leadership in collecting and sharing raw data within the network.

d. Periodically send the developed questionnaires to network participants for them to gather and submit the response data back, and enter, analyze, and summarize the data for the participants in a statistically valid manner.

e. Distribute reports to network members for self-evaluation and improvement. Make information available to other laboratories in the region.

f. Prepare manuscripts for peer-review publications.

2. CDC Activities

a. Collaborate in identifying those areas of laboratory medicine that have public health concerns.