



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Department of Community Health Appoints director of Health Improvement Programs

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) has named Vanessa Braithwaite as Director of Health Improvement Programs effective February 1. Health Improvement Programs include the Office of Women’s Health, Office of Minority Health and the Commission on Men’s Health.

Ms. Braithwaite returns to the Department of Community Health after serving as an Associate Research Administrator for the Emory University Department of Medicine. She was a program consultant for the DCH Office of Minority Health from April 2003 until September 2004 and has also worked for the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Prior to her tenure in Georgia, Ms. Braithwaite worked for the Houston, Texas Department of Health and Human Services.

“We are pleased to welcome Vanessa Braithwaite back to the Department,” says DCH Commissioner Rhonda Medows. “Vanessa brings experience, expertise and a fundamental knowledge of health care to the Department, and I am confident she will continue to work diligently to reduce health disparities through our health improvement programs.”

The Health Improvement Programs are dedicated to wellness, prevention and healthy improvement of various populations, both geographic and homogenous. The Office of Minority Health works to eliminate the disparity in health status between minority and non-minority populations. The Office of Women’s Health serves as a clearinghouse for women’s health information. The Georgia Commission on Men’s Health recommends ways to promote the benefits of regular checkups, preventive screening tests and healthy lifestyle practices for men.

Ms. Braithwaite obtained her B.S. in Sociology from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

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