



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2006

CONTACT:

Dena' Brummer

404-656-7645

Goals for Health Information Technology and Transparency Outlined at first meeting

ATLANTA – Today, the first meeting of the Governor's Health Information Technology and Transparency (HITT) Advisory Board was held. The Governor created the board by Executive Order on October 17, 2006 and the Georgia Department of Community Health Commissioner, Dr. Rhonda Medows, appointed the 12 member board on November 9, 2006.

"This is an exciting day for Georgia," Dr. Medows told the Advisory Board members. "You are charged with developing and implementing a statewide health information exchange."

Dr. Medows also told the members that they are **charged with creating a pilot program** that will be presented to the Georgia General Assembly during the upcoming 2007 session. In addition, the board **will help develop and implement a Web-based health transparency site that will give consumers information on cost of care and health quality.**

Board members heard from guest speakers in the HITT industry from Florida, North Carolina, and Tennessee, as well as the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and the Centers for Health Transformation.

The next meeting of the HITT Advisory Board is tentatively scheduled for December 13, 2006.

###

About the Department of Community Health

The Georgia Department of Community Health champions:

ACCESS to affordable, quality health care in our communities

RESPONSIBLE health planning and use of health care resources

HEALTHY behaviors and improved health outcomes