

## **THEODORA PHEA PINNOCK, M.D.**

Dr. Pinnock's background includes considerable experience with public awareness and public health programs. She amassed a rare body of knowledge and experiences, locally, nationally and internationally about the effects of health and human services designed for delivery to the poor and disadvantaged. She presented on pediatric public health issues at conferences of physicians, teachers and educational staff, school psychologists, parents, daycare staff, and church leaders. In addition, she presented to Tennessee legislature committees on numerous occasions concerning the status and impact of public policy and legislation.

Dr. Pinnock described "Test Results of *Success By 6* Participants," a United Way initiative to U.S. Congressman Jim Cooper. Through her work as a principal investigator for *Success By 6*, she assisted in improving policies in the school and community agencies of three targeted Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools affecting disadvantaged children and their families. Dr. Pinnock set up screening protocols and was instrumental in helping initiate a program to stimulate potentially gifted students. Through her academic pursuits she examined the effects of poverty on language development. The cumulative data resulted in a review article and Grand Round presentations at Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Dr. Pinnock's training has equipped her to participate in various interdisciplinary endeavors with other medical school, university, and allied school departments. In addition to clinically serving as an attending physician and academic faculty in both the general children's and rehabilitation hospitals, she served on several committees including the ad hoc faculty committee that established policies for the hospital-based and private faculty and helped formulate an independent physician association.

Theodora Pinnock, MD. was a National Merit Scholarship winner and received her B.A. from Rice University in Houston, Texas and her Doctor of Medicine from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. She completed a pediatric residency program at Washington University School of Medicine's St. Louis Children's Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. She completed a post-residency fellowship in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in Chapel Hill. From 1992-97, she served as Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the Vanderbilt University Medical School in its child development division.

As Vice President of Huffman Bedford Bounds Consulting, she has assisted in developing studies commissioned by the Tennessee Department of Health and Human Services to assess the emotional, educational and financial effects of welfare reform on children, and to improve the home visit rate to clients after they have been terminated from the roles. In addition, she has assisted in developing a foundation's goal of public awareness and suicide prevention into a national model, as well as establishing their information and data into a national information repository.

Dr. Pinnock brought her background and experience in the medical, academic and entrepreneurial areas to head up the Maternal and Child Health Section of the Tennessee Department of Health. Under her leadership, the section significantly expanded home visiting services. In addition, transitional services were added to the program for children with special

health care needs. She has done statewide training on the importance of developmental screening and practical application of standardized developmental tools. While at the state, she completed a post doc certificate in Public health Leadership from East Tennessee State University

Currently, Dr. Pinnock practices part-time as a developmental and behavioral pediatrician at Metro Center Health Care Group in Nashville. She teaches and consults with judicial staff, Department of Children Services' staff, guardian ad litem and foster care review boards across the state on issues such as normal development, child development impacted by foster care, adolescent development, behavioral problems and developmental disabilities. In addition, she teaches and consults with Head Start teachers and parents on developmental disabilities, promoting positive social emotional development and behavioral problems.