AUDITOR C

OME-RESA HEALTH BENEFITS CONSORTIUM JEFFERSON COUNTY

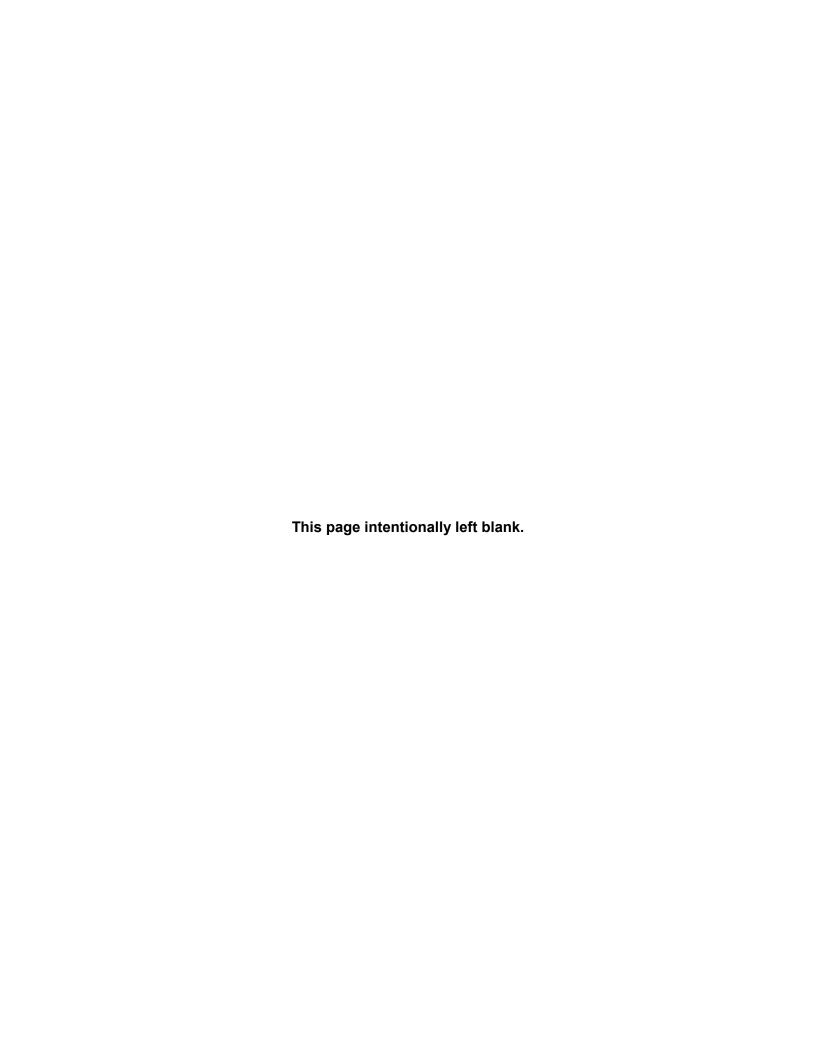
REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2000 -1999



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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium Jefferson County 2023 Sunset Boulevard Steubenville, Ohio 43952

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium, Jefferson County, Ohio, (the Consortium) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2000 and June 30, 1999. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Consortium's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Consortium prepares its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium as of June 30, 2000 and June 30, 1999, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated October 20, 2000 on our consideration of the Consortium's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium Jefferson County Report of Independent Accountants Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management and the Board of Trustees and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Jim Petro Auditor of State

October 20, 2000

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUNDS AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000

	Proprietary Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	
	Internal Service	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Disbursements: Insurance Purchased Services	\$1,416,273	\$523,381 27,184,306	\$523,381 28,600,579
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	1,416,273	27,707,687	29,123,960
Operating (Loss)	(1,416,273)	(27,707,687)	(29,123,960)
Non-Operating Cash Receipts: Other non-operating receipts	1,210,353	28,289,607	29,499,960
Total non-operating revenues	1,210,353	28,289,607	29,499,960
Net Excess of Revenues Over/(Under) Expenses	(205,920)	581,920	376,000
Fund cash balances, July 1	581,474	11,481,133	12,062,607
Fund cash balances, June 30	\$375,554	\$12,063,053	\$12,438,607

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY FUNDS AND SIMILAR TRUST FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	Proprietary Fund Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	
	Internal Service	Agency	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Operating Cash Disbursements: Insurance Purchased Services	\$1,076,540	\$2,862,510 24,211,745	\$2,862,510 25,288,285
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	1,076,540	27,074,255	28,150,795
Operating (Loss)	(1,076,540)	(27,074,255)	(28,150,795)
Other non-operating receipts	1,071,400	27,428,198	28,499,598
Net receipts over/(under) disbursements	(5,140)	353,943	348,803
Fund cash balances, July 1	586,614	11,127,190	11,713,804
Fund cash balances, June 30	\$581,474	\$11,481,133	\$12,062,607

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2000 AND 1999

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Ohio Mid-Eastern Region Education Service Agency (OME-RESA) Health Benefits Consortium, (the "Consortium") is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Consortium is a council of government as defined by Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Consortium operates under a board of directors (5 members) elected by the participating districts. The Consortium provides a cooperative program to the employees and eligible dependents of the participating districts.

The Consortium's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Consortium is financially accountable.

The Jefferson County Educational Service Center is not a part of the Consortium. This is a separate reporting entity with separate financial statements.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow th basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or ermitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

Certificates of deposit and U.S. Treasury Notes are valued at cost. The Consortium also has an interest bearing checking account.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts ro disbursements, respectively.

D. Fund Accounting

The Consortium uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Consortium classifies its funds into the following types:

1. Internal Service Funds

Internal service funds account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the governmental unit, or to other governmental units, on a cost-reimbursement basis. The Consortium had the following significant internal service fund:

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Health Benefits Service Fund - This fund accounts for the amounts paid by member school districts for to cover the costs of administering self insurance benefits.

2. Fiduciary Funds (Agency Fund)

These funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements and funds for which the Consortium is acting in an agency capacity. The Consortium had the following significant fiduciary fund:

The Self Insurance Benefits Fund - This fund is used to account for the premiums paid for employees of each member school district.

E. Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is not a requirement of the Consortium.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Consortium maintains a cash and investment pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at June 30 was as follows:

	2000	1999
Demand deposits Certificates of deposit	\$ 376,607 7,242,000	\$ 1,335,607 5,907,000
Total deposits	7,618,607	7,242,607
Treasury Notes	4,820,000	4,820,000
Total deposits ans investments	\$ <u>12,483,607</u>	\$ <u>12,062,607</u>

Deposits: Deposits are either (1) insured by Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, or (2) collateralized by securities pledged by the financial institution to the Consortium.

Investments: U.S. Treasury Notes are held in book-entry form by the Federal Reserve, in the name of the Consortium's financial institution. The financial institution maintains records identifying the Consortium as owner of these securities.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2000 AND 1999 (Continued)

3. RISK MANAGEMENT

Stop Loss Insurance

The Consortium contracts with American Stop Loss to provide specific and aggregate stop loss insurance with a lifetime maximum per individual of \$1,000,000.

Life Insurance

The Consortium contracts with Lexington Insurance Company to provide employee life, accidental death and dismemberment and dependent life insurance.

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium Jefferson County 2023 Sunset Boulevard Steubenville, Ohio 43952

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium, Jefferson County, Ohio, (the Consortium) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2000 and June 30, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated October 20, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Consortium's financial statements are free of material misstatements, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Consortium's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

OME-RESA Health Benefits Consortium
Jefferson County
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on Internal Control
Required by Government Auditing Standards
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This report is intended for the information and use of the audit committee, management and the Board of Trustees and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Jim Petro Auditor of State

October 20, 2000



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OME-RESA HEALTH BENEFITS CONSORTIUM JEFFERSON COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED DECEMBER 14, 2000