

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHY

Name: Susan R. Cooper, MSN, RN

Title:Commissioner

Organization: Tennessee Department of Health

Address:425 5th Ave. N., 3rd Floor Cordell Hull Bldg

City: Nashville State:TN Zip Code:37243

Phone: (615) 741-3111

Email: susan.cooper@tn.gov

Susan R. Cooper MSN ,RN made Tennessee history on January 20, 2007 whe she became the first nurse to serve as Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Health. She is a master's prepared registered nurse. Her priorities are to protect, promote and improve the health of all Tennesseans. Cooper first came to the state as a special health policy advisor to Governor Phil Bredesen. She was charged with the development of the Health Care Safety Net and later devloped and assumed leadership of Project Diabetes and Get Fit Tennessee, programs created to address the threats of Type II diabetes facing the youth of Tennessee. She is also involved in the Golden Sneakers Program, a program to address physical activity and nutrition standards in the state's licensed day care programs. She serves as the Chair of the Prevention Committee for the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and is on the Executive Committee. Cooper was the former Assistant Dean for Practice at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.