

Mrs. Evelyn Williams appointed to Missouri Mental Health Commission

Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft recently named and the state Senate confirmed the appointment of Evelyn Dickerson Williams to the Missouri Mental Health Commission. As a commissioner, Williams will serve a four-year term ending, June 28, 1993. The seven-member board is responsible for setting policy and implementing programs for the Mental Health Department in Missouri. The department oversees the operations of Mental Retardation/Development Disabilities, Alcohol and Drug Abuse and Psychiatric Services.

Williams, the daughter of Mrs. Frances Dickerson, and the late Sam Dickerson grew up in Marianna, where she attended elementary and high school. She is a 1965 graduate of Anna Strong High School. Since 1984, Williams has served as principal of Henry C. Kumpf Elementary School in Kansas City, Mo. Prior to 1984, she served the Kansas City School District in various capacities, including teaching fifth and sixth grade students, Chapter I math specialist and instructional assistant to the principal at Henry C. Kumpf School.

Williams earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, a master's degree in elementary education and an educational specialist degree in administration from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. Williams succeeds Jack Stapleton of Kennett, Mo., on the commission.

In addition to responsibilities on the Mental Health Commission and the Kansas City School District, she is actively involved in

several community organizations including active membership at St. James-Paseo United Methodist



EVERLYN WILLIAMS

Church; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.—Beta Omega Chapter; the Greater Kansas City Chapter of Links, Inc.; Superintendent's Partnership Advisory Council; Minority Health Issues, ASCD and Elementary Principal's Association.

A strong advocate for the mentally ill, Williams said she is pleased to be named to the commission and considers her appointment as the first and only black to be a challenging experience.

"Our job is to make sure the best services we can provide are available to the mentally ill, the developmentally disabled, and the chemically dependent persons of our state," said Williams.

Everlyn and her husband, Roger, have one son, Roger Williams III.