News From

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Washington D.C. --- West Virginia's Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, of Beckley, has been named the 1979 West Virginia State Chairman for the March of Dimes.

Rahall recently accepted the post in a letter to Charles Massey, President of the March of Dimes National Foundation.

Rahall observed, "Prevention of birth defects has long been the special mission of the March of Dimes. In every community of this coutry the March of Dimes has initiated educational and medical service programs to protect the unborn and new born. It has increased the availability of prenatal care, started and supported programs to improve maternal nutrition, created a nationwide group of genetic centers and established and assisted newborn insentive care units. It has built a productive parternership with the community, the professions and government at all levels—and proved how much can be accomplished by such a cooperative effort, and I am very proud to be a part of this effort."

Congressman Rahall also pointed out that President Carter has proclaimed January, 1979, as March of Dimes Birth Defects Month. "This Presidential Proclaimation has a particular significance during 1979," Rahall stated, "since this is the International Year of the Child."

Aside from his duties as State Chairman, Congressman Rahall will participate in the WHIS-TV Telerama for the March of Dimes in Bluefield on the weekend of Feb 3,4.

"In the last nine years, this telerama has raised an incredible total of \$468,297, for the March of Dimes, and I look forward to another record-setting year," Congressman Rahall said.