

Curtis Washington

Curtis Washington of Philadelphia died Aug. 26, 1996, at The Graduate Hospital from AIDS-related complications.

His lover, Gary Gilinger, who cared for him during his illness, was at his side.

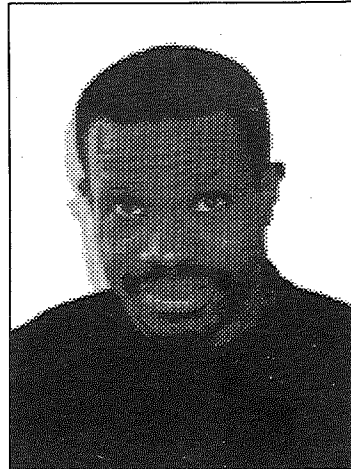
Born Nov. 22, 1952, in Elwood, N.J., Washington spent most of his adult life in the Philadelphia area.

He worked for many years at various Everything Yogurt stores until 1993, when he

opened his own business, Station Sweets, at 30th Street Station.

Despite increasing difficulties because of his illness, Washington continued to oversee the business' day-to-day operations until his last hospitalization.

A celebration of Curtis' life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be sent to MANNA, 18 S. 20th St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103. ▼



HMO From P. 3

blasted the AIDS Activities Coordinating Office for not providing enough information about the plan.

"We're very concerned about HealthChoices and its implication for our members," he said. "AACO has been very lax in getting the information out. They're supposed to be a coordinating office, but we're getting bits and pieces [about HealthChoices] from other groups, and nothing from AACO."

City health department spokesman Jeff Moran said AACO plans to become more involved in public outreach concerning HealthChoices.

Six HMOs are negotiating with the state to provide HealthChoices' physical-

"Do I trust the Ridge administration? Of course not. These are the same people who cut off 250,000 Pennsylvanians from health coverage all together. I don't trust them at all."

**— State Rep. Babbette Josephs (D-Phila.)
on the HealthChoices proposal**

health coverage.

A separate process is under way to determine which HMOs will provide mental-health coverage.

HealthChoices is expected to cost about \$5 billion in the next five years, with the cost equally divided between the state and the federal government.

But the federal Health Care Financing Administration must approve the state plan before it can be implemented.

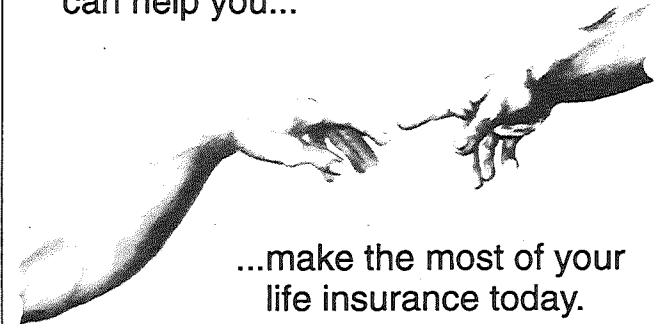
Dennis Gallagher of HCFA has sent 38 questions about the plan to state officials.

"The questions mainly center around three areas," Gallagher said this week. "We want to ensure that there's an adequate network of providers in each plan. We want an effective complaint process. And we want assurances that the state has sufficient re-

▶ HMO, P. 6

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