



**Cari DeSantis** was one of the earliest MALS students, beginning study in fall of 1989, as a part-time student, while working full-time and raising two kids. At that time, Cari was a hospital executive and concentrated her studies in the area of ethics, in particular, medical ethics. Her final project was a non-fiction novella about a medical van that delivers health and medical care to the homeless and poor people in the City of Wilmington, Delaware. Cari graduated with the MALS degree in June 1994. During the many years it took Cari to complete the degree as a part-time student, her life continued along its interesting path, producing a new baby, a job promotion, a divorce, single-motherhood, a congressional campaign, and the beginnings of many medical missionary trips to Honduras. She says that the one constant in an otherwise wild-ride-of-a-life was the MALS program and the wonderful professors, students, and studies that focused her personal energy on the explorations of the mind.

Today, Cari DeSantis is Secretary of the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families, appointed to that cabinet position by Governor Ruth Ann Minner in January 2001. After eight years in the Governor's cabinet, Cari expects to "graduate" from state government to another fabulous and interesting opportunity to grow.