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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13535
Folder ID Number: 13535-001

Folder Title:
NIH Children's Inn Dedication 6/21/90 [OA 5375]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 21, 1990

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
DURING RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY FOR
NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

10:14 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: What a beautiful day. Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And I love the music, too. I love to sing. We heard you when we were just getting ready to come out here. Thank you very much. I guess I needn't tell this group, infiltrated by so many doctors and friends from NIH, of my high regard for our Secretary of HHS, Dr. Sullivan. I'm just delighted he's with me, and very proud to be introduced by him. I really want to single out those who have worked so hard recognizing that I might, by omission, risk offending. But I've had this -- Barn, I've had this warm welcome here. And then we've been reading up on the hard work that's gone into it.

Certainly, I want to single out Debbie Dingell for her commitment; Dr. Pizzo, Dr. Raub, Dr. Vagelos, Alan Kay, Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell, and -- again, excuse me, I'll stop there -- but everybody else as well. It's good to see so many friends and believers from the Hill over here -- from Capitol Hill, those who are giving this project a lot of heartfelt support -- Congressman Dingell, and Downey, and Walgren, and Morella and Lowery. Welcome to all.

And a special greeting to the kids, the parents and the friends who have come down from NIH this morning.

I have been so impressed by what I've learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. Barbara and I have talked about it and she's told me of this wonderful concept. It's an extraordinarily sensitive idea, to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am very moved to be here today to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams come true; and if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might, dreams do come true.

Yours is also an inspiring message of bravery, sacrifice and hope that can bring together individuals, political parties, professionals, volunteers, private businesses, and then, the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary home for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As brilliant points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you've given this rare and loving gift. And you've shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child.

Carmala, and Debbie, and Chris, and all of the congressional spouses -- your vision, and compassion, and caring touch us all very deeply. Dr. Pizzo, your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy that you've helped to create will last for generations. And Dr. Vagelos, you and Merck & Company have embodied, in a most exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility, utilizing the unique talents and gifts that your company has to give. And then to NIH. Your generous gift of

MORE

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 JUN 18 P3:25

DATE: 6/18/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CHILDREN'S INN AT NIH

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VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 21, 1990

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As brilliant points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you've given this rare and loving gift. And you've shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child.

Carmala, and Debbie, and Chris, and all of the congressional spouses -- your vision, and compassion, and caring touch us all very deeply. Dr. Pizzo, your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy that you've helped to create will last for generations. And Dr. Vagelos, you and Merck & Company have embodied, in a most exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility, utilizing the unique talents and gifts that your company has to give. And then to NIH. Your generous gift of

MORE

land and medical expertise has, and will, change the lives of many of the children and so many, many others. Your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this dream an astonishing reality.

The lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear.

Many people will be doing exactly that to comfort the 36 families who will live at this Inn. People like resident manager Kate Higgins and her staff. People like the volunteer fundraisers and more than 4,000 donors who have raised over \$7 million for construction and who will continue to raise \$500,000 a year for operating expenses.

People like those at the Clinical Center and the entire campus of NIH, who have been involved in caring for decades; in planning for years; and in construction since last August. I think it's wonderful that over 3,000 of you came to tour this place earlier this week -- and Debbie said that -- knowing her, I'm sure there were a few arms twisted -- but nevertheless, she said that most of you have volunteered to help. And I would encourage the others to listen to her message.

We can't forget those who simply care: like the eighth-graders at Baker Intermediate School in Damascus, Maryland, who made a squadron of 35 toy airplanes for the Inn.

But above all, it will be the families themselves who will be providing the love. As your Children's Inn slogan says: "There is a closeness that can only come from the family."

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sisters and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica that she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanne has osteogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease. But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents, Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanne's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

And she says: "We decided that our gift to Breanne would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanne say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life.

~~There is nothing that hurts more than a child, afraid of the darkness, whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what this splendid cause, your splendid cause, so eloquently recognizes.~~

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words a couple of weeks ago at Wellesley. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates there, you may remember, "You will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will regret, however, time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."
(Applause.)

We share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

Those of you who are parents of these special gravely-ill children share something. You learn to carve out your daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love.

Dr. Vagelos and Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of exceptional goodness. And we are very, very grateful to them. And I also want to thank the nurses, the nurses who hold these kids in their arms and take care of them. And all the other fine people here at NIH who help and care.

And to the families of these kids -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with these kids, these intensely ill children, have learned the true meaning of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy."

You've had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And that is the greatest strength of all.

Thank you, and God bless this wonderful work right here at this very special Inn. And now, off to cut the ribbon. (Applause.)

END

10:24 A.M. EDT

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 JUN 18 P3:25

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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CHILDREN'S INN AT NIH

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REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON ^W
FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE ^{BH}
SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S INN RIBBON CUTTING AT NIH

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, June 21, at 10:30 a.m., you will address about 350 children, families, and doctors at the Children's Inn at NIH. Debbie Dingell will introduce Secretary Sullivan who will introduce you. Dr. Philip Pizzo and Dr. William Raub of NIH, Dr. Roy Vagelos of Merck and Co., and Congressional spouses Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, and Kathy Russell will all attend the ceremony. Also about ten Members of Congress are expected to attend.

II. DISCUSSION

The attached remarks (8 minutes, speechcards) laud the founders and contributors of this remarkable and innovative family-centered residence for patients of NIH's Children's Hospital. The text also discusses the importance of family especially in difficult times.

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 15, 1990 4:20 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Debbie Dingell and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Dr. Raub, Dr. Roy Vagelo [VAH-gel-ose], Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. [Members of Congress]. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. God bless you all.

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

But yours is also an inspiring message of how bravery, sacrifice and hope can bring together individuals; political parties; professionals; volunteers; private businesses and the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary home for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As brilliant points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You

have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala, Debbie, and Chris all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied, in an exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility -- utilizing the unique talents and gifts your company has to give. And N.I.H. -- whose generous gift of land and medical expertise has and will change the lives of many children. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

The lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna has ostogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease.

But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child afraid of the darkness whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

I'm sure that as we fathers here look back on last Sunday, we feel gratitude for the love that surrounded us. As President, I realize that Fathers' Day, like Mothers' Day, is a time for the nation to pause and reflect on the fact that the family is the cornerstone of all that really matters in the world. That family centers us on what would otherwise be a solo navigation through life.

But, as a parent, my thoughts about family are more simple. They are sweet memories of quiet times of mutual understanding -- of holding someone in shared sadness. Or of the simple pleasures of grandchildren bouncing on our bed before breakfast.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

Barbara and I know. We have been there. //

Those of us who are -- or have been -- parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. We learn to carve out our daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. And the greatest of these is love. For it endures, and ultimately, it triumphs.

Dr. Vagelos, Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of extraordinary goodness. They know that there are times when the family bond is of greater worth than even the finest medical treatment. For greater love has no one, than to enrich the life of another.

Families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. //

You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

God bless each of you, and God bless the fine people whose wisdom and passion and caring have made this day possible.

* * * * *

**"WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, LET ME SOW HOPE; WHERE
THERE IS DARKNESS -- LIGHT; AND WHERE THERE IS
SADNESS -- JOY. // YOU HAVE HAD THE EXTRAORDINARY
OPPORTUNITY TO BRING JOY AND STRENGTH TO EACH OTHER.
AND THIS IS THE GREATEST STRENGTH OF ALL. THANK YOU,
AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.**

AND NOW LET US GO CUT THE RIBBON.

* * * * *

**NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION / BETHESDA, MARYLAND
THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1990 / 10:20 A.M.**

THANK YOU, DR. SULLIVAN. AND THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE WORKED SO HARD AND WELCOMED ME SO WARMLY -- DEBBIE DINGELL AND DR. PHILIP PIZZO [PEE-ZO] -- ALSO DR. WILLIAM RAUB [ROB], DR. ROY VAGELOS [VA-GEL-US], ALAN KAY, CARMALA [CAR-MUH-LUH] WALGREN, CHRIS DOWNEY, KATHY RUSSELL -- AND EVERYONE ELSE. IT'S GOOD TO SEE SO MANY FRIENDS FROM THE HILL: CONGRESSMEN DINGELL, DOWNEY, WALGREN, MORELLA AND LOWERY.

- 2 -

AND A SPECIAL GREETING TO YOU CHILDREN, PARENTS AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE COME DOWN FROM NIH THIS MORNING.

I HAVE BEEN SO IMPRESSED AS I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT THE UNIQUE CONCEPT OF CHILDREN'S INN. IT IS AN EXTRAORDINARILY SENSITIVE IDEA -- TO PROVIDE THIS PLACE OF REFUGE AND RENEWAL SO THAT SICK CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN LIVE TOGETHER DURING TREATMENT.

I AM MOVED TO BE HERE TODAY -- TO SEE HOW JOYOUSLY YOUR VISION OF CARING HAS BEEN REALIZED. THIS IS A STORY OF HOW DREAMS CAN COME TRUE -- IF YOU BELIEVE WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WORK WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT. //

BUT YOURS IS ALSO AN INSPIRING MESSAGE OF HOW BRAVERY, SACRIFICE AND HOPE CAN BRING TOGETHER INDIVIDUALS; POLITICAL PARTIES; PROFESSIONALS; VOLUNTEERS; PRIVATE BUSINESSES AND THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF.

THE CHILDREN'S INN, THIS EXTRAORDINARY HOME FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST, IS A REMARKABLE LESSON IN UNITY OF PURPOSE AND CARING.

AS BRILLIANT POINTS OF LIGHT IN THE HARD, DARK WORLD OF BATTLING ILLNESS, YOU HAVE GIVEN A RARE AND LOVING GIFT. YOU HAVE SHOWN YOUR BELIEF IN THE SHINING ROLE WHICH FAMILY SUPPORT PLAYS IN THE TREATMENT OF A SICK CHILD. //

- 5 -

CARMALA, DEBBIE, AND CHRIS ALL OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SPOUSES -- YOUR VISION AND COMPASSION TOUCH ALL OF US DEEPLY. DR. PIZZO -- YOUR PROFESSIONAL COMMITMENT TO THIS DREAM HAS LASTED A DECADE; THE REMARKABLE LEGACY YOU HAVE HELPED TO CREATE WILL LAST FOR GENERATIONS. DR. VAGELOS -- YOU AND MERCK & COMPANY HAVE EMBODIED, IN AN EXEMPLARY WAY, THE IDEAL OF CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY -- UTILIZING THE UNIQUE TALENTS AND GIFTS YOUR COMPANY HAS TO GIVE.

- 6 -

AND N.I.H. -- YOUR GENEROUS GIFT OF LAND AND MEDICAL EXPERTISE HAS AND WILL CHANGE THE LIVES OF MANY CHILDREN. AND SO MANY, MANY OTHERS -- YOUR LEADERSHIP AND GIFTS, BOTH SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL, HAVE MADE THIS ASTONISHING DREAM A REALITY.

THE LESSON OF THE INN WILL SHOW US ALL THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF LIFE IS A VERY SIMPLE ONE: TAKING TIME TO HOLD A HAND, SHARE A LAUGH, WIPE AWAY A TEAR. //

- 7 -

MANY PEOPLE WILL BE DOING EXACTLY THAT TO COMFORT THE 36 FAMILIES WHO WILL LIVE AT THIS INN. PEOPLE LIKE RESIDENT MANAGER KATE HIGGINS AND HER STAFF. PEOPLE LIKE THE VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISERS AND MORE THAN 4,000 DONORS WHO HAVE RAISED OVER \$7 MILLION FOR CONSTRUCTION AND WHO WILL CONTINUE TO RAISE ONE-HALF MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR FOR OPERATING EXPENSES.

- 8 -

PEOPLE LIKE THOSE AT THE CLINICAL CENTER AND THE ENTIRE CAMPUS OF NIH, WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN CARING FOR DECADES; IN PLANNING FOR YEARS; AND IN CONSTRUCTION SINCE LAST AUGUST. I THINK IT'S WONDERFUL THAT OVER 3,000 OF YOU CAME TO TOUR THIS PLACE EARLIER THIS WEEK -- AND DEBBIE SAID THAT MOST OF YOU HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP.

AND WE CAN'T FORGET THOSE WHO SIMPLY CARE: LIKE THE EIGHTH-GRADERS AT BAKER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL IN DAMASCUS, MARYLAND, WHO MADE A SQUADRON OF 35 TOY AIRPLANES FOR THE INN.

BUT, ABOVE ALL, IT WILL BE THE FAMILIES THEMSELVES WHO WILL BE PROVIDING THE LOVE. AS YOUR CHILDREN'S INN SLOGAN SAYS: "THERE IS A CLOSENESS THAT CAN ONLY COME FROM FAMILY."

LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY BOND IN BRINGING NEW HOPE TO A SICK CHILD. TODAY, 10-YEAR-OLD BREANNE [BREE-ANN] SCHWANTES [SHWAN-US] CAN SWIM UP TO 54 LAPS A DAY; PLAYS HARD WITH HER SISTER AND COUSINS; AND IS SO CONCERNED ABOUT THE PENGUINS IN ANTARCTICA SHE EVEN WROTE A LETTER TO ME ABOUT THEM.

BUT SHE COULD HAVE SPENT THESE LAST TEN YEARS IN A WORLD BOUNDED BY HER HOSPITAL ROOM WALLS, LIKE OTHERS WITH HER ILLNESS.

FOR BREANNA [BREE-ANN] HAS OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA [OS-TEE-OH-GEN-UH-SIS IM-PER-FEC-TA] -- BRITTLE BONE DISEASE. BUT WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT IS THAT SHE ALSO HAS HER LOVING PARENTS TERRY AND THERESA, AND SISTER ELIZABETH.

WHEN BREANNA'S [BREE-ANN'S] CONDITION WAS DIAGNOSED, THERESA GAVE UP HER PHD WORK, SAYING NOTHING ELSE MATTERED EXCEPT DEVOTING HERSELF TO THE HEALTH OF HER DAUGHTER AND THE HEALTH OF HER FAMILY.

SHE SAYS: "WE DECIDED THAT OUR GIFT TO BREANNA [BREE-ANN] WOULD BE THAT SHE HAVE A LIFE THAT WAS FULL AND JOYOUS. AND THAT ALL OF OUR LIVES WOULD BE TRULY LIVED." AND NOW, WHETHER AT HOME IN WISCONSIN OR IN THE SCHWANTES' [SHWAN-US-ES] SECOND HOME HERE AT NIH, THOSE WHO KNOW BREANNA SAY IT IS HER FAMILY'S DEPTH OF SUPPORT THAT HAS GIVEN THIS CHILD HER LIFE. ///

THERE IS NOTHING THAT HURTS MORE THAN A CHILD, AFRAID OF THE DARKNESS, WHOSE CRIES GO UNHEARD.

A LONELY CHILD WHOSE TINY SPIRIT IS WRAPPED UP IN A
BRAVE FIGHT TOO BIG FOR ITS YEARS. AND THAT IS WHAT
YOUR SPLENDID CAUSE SO ELOQUENTLY RECOGNIZES. //

AS I THOUGHT ABOUT WHY I WAS SO DEEPLY TOUCHED BY
THE SENSITIVITY OF YOUR CONCEPT, I REMEMBERED BARBARA'S
WORDS TO WELLESLEY COLLEGE. TO ME, THEY SUM UP THE
SPIRIT OF THIS PLACE -- THAT THE FAMILY IS THE KEY TO
EVERYTHING.

SHE TOLD THE GRADUATES AND THE WORLD, "YOU WILL
NEVER REGRET NOT HAVING PASSED ONE MORE TEST, NOT
WINNING ONE MORE VERDICT OR NOT CLOSING ONE MORE DEAL.
YOU WILL, HOWEVER, REGRET TIME NOT SPENT WITH A
HUSBAND, A FRIEND, A CHILD OR A PARENT."

BARBARA AND I SHARE THE BELIEF THAT THE FAMILY IS
THE BRIGHT CENTER OF LOVE AND LIFE ITSELF. QUITE
SIMPLY: FAMILY COMES FIRST.

THOSE OF YOU WHOSE LIVES WILL BE ENRICHED AT THE CHILDREN'S INN HAVE NEVER TAKEN THE MIRACLE OF YOUR FAMILIES FOR GRANTED. YOU HAVE CREATED A UNIQUE AND BEAUTIFUL BOND, NURTURING NOT ONLY YOUR SICK CHILD, BUT ALSO YOURSELVES. //

THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE PARENTS OF THESE SPECIAL, GRAVELY ILL CHILDREN SHARE SOMETHING. YOU LEARN TO CARVE OUT YOUR DAILY LIVES WITH THE TOOLS OF COURAGE, FAITH AND LOVE. ///

DR. VAGELOS, DR. PIZZO AND THE FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN'S INN ARE PEOPLE OF EXCEPTIONAL GOODNESS. WE ARE VERY, VERY GRATEFUL TO THEM. I ALSO WANT TO THANK THE NURSES WHO HOLD THESE KIDS IN THEIR ARMS AND TAKE CARE OF THEM. AND ALL THE OTHER FINE PEOPLE HERE AT NIH WHO HELP AND WHO CARE.

AND TO THE FAMILIES OF CHILDREN'S INN -- YOU LIVE WITH A SPECIAL GRACE. YOU WHO SPEND PRECIOUS TIME WITH YOUR INTENSELY ILL CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED THE TRUE MESSAGE OF THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS:

"WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, LET ME SOW HOPE; WHERE
THERE IS DARKNESS -- LIGHT; AND WHERE THERE IS
SADNESS -- JOY. // YOU HAVE HAD THE EXTRAORDINARY
OPPORTUNITY TO BRING JOY AND STRENGTH TO EACH OTHER.
AND THIS IS THE GREATEST STRENGTH OF ALL. THANK YOU,
AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

* * * * *

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 15, 1990 4:20 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Debbie Dingell and Dr. Philip Pizzo [PEE-zo] -- also Dr. William Raub [ROB], Dr. Roy Vagelos [VAH-gel-ose], Alan Kay, Carmala [CAR-muh-luh] Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. It's good to see so many friends from Congress: [MEMBERS OF CONGRESS -- NOT CONFIRMED AS OF 6/19; WILL BE ADDED -- ABOUT 10 ARE EXPECTED]. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning.

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

But yours is also an inspiring message of how bravery, sacrifice and hope can bring together individuals; political parties; professionals; volunteers; private businesses and the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary home for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As brilliant points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala, Debbie, and Chris all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelos -- you and Merck & Company have embodied, in an exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility -- utilizing the unique talents and gifts your company has to give. And N.I.H. -- your generous gift of land and medical expertise has and will change the lives of many children. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

The lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Many people will be doing exactly that to comfort the 36 families who will live at this Inn. People like resident manager Kate Higgins and her staff. People like the volunteer fundraisers and more than 4,000 donors who have raised over \$7 million for construction and who will continue to raise one-half million dollars a year for operating expenses.

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People like those at the Clinical Center and the entire campus of NIH, who have been involved in caring for decades; in planning for years; and in construction since last August. I think it's wonderful that over 3,000 of you came to tour this place earlier this week -- and Debbie said that most of you have volunteered to help.

And we can't forget those who simply care: like the eighth-graders at Baker Intermediate School in Damascus, Maryland, who made a squadron of 35 toy airplanes for the Inn.

But, above all, it will be the families themselves who will be providing the love. As your Children's Inn slogan says: "There is a closeness that can only come from family."

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes [bree-ANN SHWAN-us] can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna [bree-ANN] has osteogenesis imperfecta [OS-tee-oh-GEN-uh-sis im-per-FEC-ta] -- brittle bone disease. But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's [bree-ANN's] condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except

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← promise added

← promise added

devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna [bree-ANN] would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' [SHWAN-us-es] second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child, afraid of the darkness, whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

Those of you who are parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. You learn to carve out your daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. ///

Dr. Vagelos, Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of ^{exceptional} extraordinary goodness. We are very, very grateful to them. I also want to thank the nurses who hold these kids in their arms and take care of them. And all the other fine people here at NIH who help and who care.

GB's
language
address

And to the families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. // You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: BETH HINCHLIFFE *BH*
SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S INN RIBBON CUTTING AT NIH

I. SUMMARY

On Thursday, June 21, at 10:30 a.m., you will address about 350 children, families, and doctors at the Children's Inn at NIH. Debbie Dingell will introduce Secretary Sullivan who will introduce you. Dr. Philip Pizzo and Dr. William Raub of NIH, Dr. Roy Vagelos of Merck and Co., and Congressional spouses Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, and Kathy Russell will all attend the ceremony. Also about ten Members of Congress are expected to attend.

II. DISCUSSION

The attached remarks (8 minutes, speechcards) laud the founders and contributors of this remarkable and innovative family-centered residence for patients of NIH's Children's Hospital. The text also discusses the importance of family especially in difficult times.

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 15, 1990 4:20 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Debbie Dingell and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Dr. Raub, Dr. Roy Vagelo [VAH-gel-ose], Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. [Members of Congress]. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. God bless you all.

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have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala, Debbie, and Chris all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied, in an exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility -- utilizing the unique talents and gifts your company has to give. And N.I.H. -- whose generous gift of land and medical expertise has and will change the lives of many children. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

The lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna has ostogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease.

But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child afraid of the darkness whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

I'm sure that as we fathers here look back on last Sunday, we feel gratitude for the love that surrounded us. As President, I realize that Fathers' Day, like Mothers' Day, is a time for the nation to pause and reflect on the fact that the family is the cornerstone of all that really matters in the world. That family centers us on what would otherwise be a solo navigation through life.

But, as a parent, my thoughts about family are more simple. They are sweet memories of quiet times of mutual understanding -- of holding someone in shared sadness. Or of the simple pleasures of grandchildren bouncing on our bed before breakfast.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

Barbara and I know. We have been there. //

Those of us who are -- or have been -- parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. We learn to carve out our daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. And the greatest of these is love. For it endures, and ultimately, it triumphs.

Dr. Vagelos, Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of extraordinary goodness. They know that there are times when the family bond is of greater worth than even the finest medical treatment. For greater love has no one, than to enrich the life of another.

Families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. //

You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

God bless each of you, and God bless the fine people whose wisdom and passion and caring have made this day possible.

* * * * *

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Friday, June 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*Very nice
JA*

02 : 20 18 JUN 90

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Debbie. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Louis Sullivan and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Chaplain Ken Batin, Dr. Roy Vagelo, Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. God bless you all.

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

But yours is also an inspiring message of how bravery, sacrifice and hope can bring together individuals; political parties; professionals; volunteers; private businesses and the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary "home away from home" for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As splendid points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala and Debbie, and all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied in an exemplary way the ideal of corporate responsibility. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

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When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

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RESPONSE:

See comment

60 : 01v 81 NOV 06

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Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)

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* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 14, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: NIH Children's Inn
Dedication

We have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint and approve of the draft in its present form.

cc: James W. Cicconi

20:54 91 JUN 15

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

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DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Friday, June 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIPPE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

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Carmala and Debbie, and all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied in an exemplary way the ideal of corporate responsibility. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

And the lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

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* * * * *

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 JUN 14 P5:09

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

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* * * * *

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

90 JUN 15 P4:24

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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RESPONSE:

OK S.R.

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

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Thursday, June 21, 1990

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DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

		ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

No comment

90 JUN 15 13:02

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

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* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

90 JUN 15 All: 29

Date: 6/15 2-

TO: *Chris Winston*

FROM: **JAMES P. PINKERTON**
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Policy Planning

Re: *Children's Inn + Great Outdoors
drafts*

The C.I. draft is very eloquent -- even moving. "Barbara + I know. We have been here." is the perfect pitch for alluding to Robin.

As for the G.O. draft, it's fine, but it makes no mention of trees. N.B. the Tree Trust passed the House ag. committee this week.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

6/14/90

TO:

Chico Winston

FROM:

CLARK KENT ERVIN
Office of National Service
x6266

CKE

- Action
- Your Comment
- Let's Talk
- FYI

Attached are one thought on
the NIH speech.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Friday, June 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

00 : 30 P 3 JUN 15 90

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Debbie. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Louis Sullivan and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Chaplain Ken Batin, Dr. Roy Vagelo, Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. God bless you all.

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

But yours is also an inspiring message of how bravery, sacrifice and hope can bring together individuals; political parties; professionals; volunteers; private businesses and the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary "home away from home" for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As splendid points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Dr.

Mr. Fine
Secretary
of
Health and
Human
Services

Compassionate

Symbol
of

brilliant

2) Using the distinctive competence of corporations to solve critical problems

Carmala and Debbie, and all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied in an exemplary way the ideal of ~~corporate responsibility~~. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

And the lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna has ostogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease. But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents, Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our

Very good!

lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child afraid of the darkness whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College last week. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

I'm sure that as we fathers here look back on last Sunday, we feel gratitude for the love that surrounded us. As President, I realize that Fathers' Day, like Mothers' Day, is a time for the nation to pause and reflect that the family is the cornerstone of all that really matters in the world. That family centers us on what would otherwise be a solo navigation through life.

But, as a parent, my thoughts about family are more simple. They are sweet memories of quiet times of mutual understanding

his or her

addressed

want it larger
?

on the fact

-- of holding someone in shared sadness. Or of the simple pleasures of grandchildren bouncing on our bed before breakfast.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

Barbara and I know. We have been there. //

Those of us who are -- or have been -- parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. We learn to carve out our daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. And the greatest of these is love. For it endures, ~~it hopes,~~ and, ultimately, it triumphs. *(weakens the phrase)*

Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of rare goodness. They know that there are times when the family bond is of greater worth than even the finest medical treatment.

For greater love has no one, than to enrich the life of another.

special
Families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. //

You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

God bless each of you, and God bless the fine people whose wisdom and passion and caring have made this day possible.

* * * * *

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/14/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Friday, June 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

NO COMMENT. THANKS.
 HOLLY WILLIAMSON 6-15-90

90 JUN 15 2:33 PM

James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 13, 1990 5:39 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

We don't think that is who is introducing the President.

(Thank you, Debbie.) And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Louis Sullivan and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Chaplain Ken Batin, Dr. Roy Vagelo, Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. God bless you all.

Also Dr. Novella, the Surgeon General, is attending.

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

But yours is also an inspiring message of how bravery, sacrifice and hope can bring together individuals; political parties; professionals; volunteers; private businesses and the government itself. The Children's Inn, this extraordinary "home away from home" for those who need it most, is a remarkable lesson in unity of purpose and caring.

As splendid points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala and Debbie, and all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied in an exemplary way the ideal of corporate responsibility. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

And the lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna has ostogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease. But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our

lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child afraid of the darkness whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College last week. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

I'm sure that as we fathers here look back on last Sunday, we feel gratitude for the love that surrounded us. As President, I realize that Fathers' Day, like Mothers' Day, is a time for the nation to pause and reflect that the family is the cornerstone of all that really matters in the world. That family centers us on what would otherwise be a solo navigation through life.

But, as a parent, my thoughts about family are more simple. They are sweet memories of quiet times of mutual understanding

✓
 even though it is a quote - shouldn't we arrange it to say husband or wife?

-- of holding someone in shared sadness. Or of the simple pleasures of grandchildren bouncing on our bed before breakfast.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

Barbara and I know. We have been there. //

Those of us who are -- or have been -- parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. We learn to carve out our daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. And the greatest of these is love. For it endures, it hopes, and, ultimately, it triumphs.

Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of rare goodness. They know that there are times when the family bond is of greater worth than even the finest medical treatment.

For greater love has no one, than to enrich the life of another.

Families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace. You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. //

You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

God bless each of you, and God bless the fine people whose wisdom and passion and caring have made this day possible.

* * * * *

Document No. 144957SS

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 6/14/90

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 6/15/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PETERSMEYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Friday, June 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

No Comment
6/15/90

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

gift of
love - a thank
more for

(HINCHLIFFE/BLESSEY)
June 15, 1990 4:20 p.m.
A:/NIH

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NIH CHILDREN'S INN DEDICATION
Thursday, June 21, 1990

Thank you, Dr. Sullivan. And thanks to all of you who have worked so hard and welcomed me so warmly -- Debbie Dingell and Dr. Philip Pizzo -- also Dr. Raub, Dr. Roy Vagelo [VAH-gel-ose], Carmala Walgren, Chris Downey, Kathy Russell -- and everyone else. [Members of Congress]. And a special greeting to you children, parents and friends who have come down from NIH this morning. ~~God bless you all.~~

I have been so impressed as I have learned about the unique concept of Children's Inn. It is an extraordinarily sensitive idea -- to provide this place of refuge and renewal so that sick children and their families can live together during treatment.

I am moved to be here today -- to see how joyously your vision of caring has been realized. This is a story of how dreams can come true -- if you believe with all your heart and work with all your might. //

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As brilliant points of light in the hard, dark world of battling illness, you have given a rare and loving gift. You

have shown your belief in the shining role which family support plays in the treatment of a sick child. //

Carmala, Debbie, and Chris all of the Congressional spouses -- your vision and compassion touch all of us deeply. Dr. Pizzo -- your professional commitment to this dream has lasted a decade; the remarkable legacy you have helped to create will last for generations. Dr. Vagelo -- you and Merck & Company have embodied, in an exemplary way, the ideal of corporate responsibility -- utilizing the unique talents and gifts your company has to give. And N.I.H. -- whose generous gift of land and medical expertise has and will change the lives of many children. And so many, many others -- your leadership and gifts, both spiritual and physical, have made this astonishing dream a reality.

The lesson of the Inn will show us all that the most important part of life is a very simple one: taking time to hold a hand, share a laugh, wipe away a tear. //

Let me give you an example of the importance of the family bond in bringing new hope to a sick child. Today, 10-year-old Breanne Schwantes can swim up to 54 laps a day; plays hard with her sister and cousins; and is so concerned about the penguins in Antarctica she even wrote a letter to me about them.

But she could have spent these last ten years in a world bounded by her hospital room walls, like others with her illness. For Breanna has ostogenesis imperfecta -- brittle bone disease.

But what is more important is that she also has her loving parents Terry and Theresa, and sister Elizabeth.

When Breanna's condition was diagnosed, Theresa gave up her PhD work, saying nothing else mattered except devoting herself to the health of her daughter and the health of her family.

She says: "We decided that our gift to Breanna would be that she have a life that was full and joyous. And that all of our lives would be truly lived." And now, whether at home in Wisconsin or in the Schwantes' second home here at NIH, those who know Breanna say it is her family's depth of support that has given this child her life. ///

There is nothing that hurts more than a child, afraid of the darkness, whose cries go unheard. A lonely child whose tiny spirit is wrapped up in a brave fight too big for its years. And that is what your splendid cause so eloquently recognizes. //

As I thought about why I was so deeply touched by the sensitivity of your concept, I remembered Barbara's words to Wellesley College. To me, they sum up the spirit of this place -- that the family is the key to everything.

She told the graduates and the world, "you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict or not closing one more deal. You will, however, regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Barbara and I share the belief that the family is the bright center of love and life itself. Quite simply: family comes first.

I'm sure that as we fathers here look back on last Sunday, we feel gratitude for the love that surrounded us. As President, I realize that Fathers' Day, like Mothers' Day, is a time for the nation to pause and reflect on the fact that the family is the cornerstone of all that really matters in the world. That family centers us on what would otherwise be a solo navigation through life.

But, as a parent, my thoughts about family are more simple. They are sweet memories of quiet times of mutual understanding -- of holding someone in shared sadness. Or of the simple pleasures of grandchildren bouncing on our bed before breakfast.

Those of you whose lives will be enriched at the Children's Inn have never taken the miracle of your families for granted. You have created a unique and beautiful bond, nurturing not only your sick child, but also yourselves.//

~~Barbara and I know. We have been there. //~~

Those of ^{you} ~~us~~ who are -- ~~or have been~~ -- parents of these special, gravely ill children share something. ^{You} ~~We~~ learn to carve out ^{your} daily lives with the tools of courage, faith and love. ~~And the greatest of these is love. For it endures, and ultimately, it triumphs.~~

Dr. Vagelos, Dr. Pizzo and the Friends of the Children's Inn are people of extraordinary goodness. ^{We are very very grateful to them for them} ~~They know that there are~~ times when the family bond is of greater worth than even the finest medical treatment. For greater love has no one, than to enrich the life of another.

I also want to thank the nurses who hold these kids in their arms and take care of them. And all the other fine people here at NIH who help and who care

and for the Families of Children's Inn -- you live with a special grace.
 You who spend precious time with your intensely ill children have
 learned the true message of the prayer of St. Francis:

"Where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is
 darkness -- light; and where there is sadness -- joy. //

You have had the extraordinary opportunity to bring joy and
 strength to each other. And this is the greatest strength of all.

Thank you - all
~~God bless each of you, and God bless the fine people whose
 wisdom and passion and caring have made this day possible.~~

* * * * *