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Council on Adoptable Children

In LA

- Fifteenth Annual Awards Ceremony on November 17th
- New York Hilton and Towers
- HRC is this year's annual recipient
- 400 people including corporate representatives, civic leaders, business owners, and COAC children and families.
- Don't know who is introing. Guest speakers include Megan McLaughlin, ED Protestant Welfare Agency and Sandy Whiteside, Founder and 2nd Pres. COAC. Video shown after guest speakers.
- The New York Council on Adoptable Children recruits parents for "special needs" children. Founded in 1970. COAC believes that adoption is a viable resource for homeless children. COAC works to make sure that every child, no matter what age or race, and regardless of mental, emotional or physical condition, needs and deserves a permanent, loving family.

②

New Israel Fund

In NY

- New Israel Fund
- Theme: 20th Anniversary Guardian of Democracy Awards Dinner
- December 1st
- Corcoran Gallery
- To mark their 20th anniversary NIF are celebrating the unique partnership they have created between Israelis and Americans and are honoring the next generation of activists, philanthropists and spokespersons for social change.
- HRC served as Honorary Chair of NIF's Women's Voices Dinner in 1995. She is HC of this event.
- Daniel Schorr is MoC
- The awards will be presented during desert. DS introduces video in the beginning.
- 400 audience including NIF layleaders.

NO

Mt. Sinai Adolescent Hospital

- Thirtieth anniversary of Adolescent Center
- December 3rd in the afternoon
- Sponsoring all-day symposium, "Adolescence is Not Just a Phase of Life: Adolescents are Our Future.
- 600 people including, Dr. Joan Morgenthau and friends, Michael Resnick, nation's leading expert in adolescent teen resiliency, Michael Carerra, Dir., National Adolescent Preg. Prevention Training Center, Mt. Sinai hospital board members, mt. Sinai dignitaries, reps. From community groups from throughout NYC and basketball, entertainment stars and kids.
- Video shown after lunch in Stern auditorium introed by Dr. Diaz.
- The Center serves the comprehensive health and mental health needs of an ethnically, racially and culturally diverse population of adolescents ages 10-21 from throughout New York. It is a

nationally known center and has the largest and most comprehensive adolescent center in the country, handling more than 40,000 visits annually. Their mission is to enhance disease prevention and health promotion in the adolescent population by providing primary medical, mental health and reproductive health care education and training, research into effective intervention and effective service delivery, the dissemination of knowledge and the enhancement of health care policy.

(u SF

- 7 -



Coming Up Taller

- fundraiser at the opening night of *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk* at the Golden Gate Theater in San Francisco on November 10th. The proceeds from almost half the tickets will be donated to Coming Up Taller.

There will be 2300 people in audience, many of whom will be kids from the community. The event committee is made up of Walter Shorenstein, Marsha Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Hays, Betty Times, Danny Glove, Asake Bomani, Rita Moreno, and Jon B. Platt. Your video will be shown before the performance and introduced by Harriet Fulbright.

AV said no need - thought going to AR

- 10 -



National Association of Public Interest Law

- Asked to be recipient of award not honoring Martha Bennett, Jennifer Gordon and Dean Kristin Booth Glenn.
- November 6th in the evening at Marriott Wardman in DC.
- 600 people including private and public interest lawyers, NAPIL fellows, and law students.
- David Stern in introing video towards the beginning of the evening.
- NAPIL is a national coalition of 145 student organizations on law school campuses. It is the largest organization in the country devoted to training the next generation of public interest lawyers. NAPIL sponsors a number of programs including, a Summer Justice Program, VISTA Summer Legal Corps, a Fellowship for Equal Justice, and the National Service Legal Corps. Past recipients of this award include Marian and Peter Edelman, Jamie Gorelick and Abner Mikva.

In ST Louis - 6 -

(6)

St. Louis - Riga Partnership

- Celebration reception
- December 10th in the afternoon
- Eric P. Newman Center on the campus of Wash. U School of Medicine.
- 200 people who have been involved in the success of this partnership.
- Dr. Peter Slavin, Pres. Of Barnes-Jewish Hospital is introing and video will be shown at the beginning of program.

She said no

- 11 -

(7)

The Creative Coalition

- 4th annual Creative Coalition Spotlight Awards
- November 30th at the Pierre Hotel in NYC in the evening.
- Spotlight Awards bring national recognition to outstanding creative individuals who are dedicated to improving the quality of life in this country through social and political advocacy.
- Speakers/program/intro of video
- 350 members of TCC and Corporate sponsors and entertainment and fashion industry.

Arts Literacy for a Changing America

- Teleconference highlighting the importance of arts education with Secretary Riley and Bill Riley from Newseum.
- December 1st in the evening, but will be shown at other times of day on PBS and cable
- 60 people of arts educators, association people, local educators.
- They will host panels with Superintendent, principal, state arts council, business person and state legislator
- Either Secretary Riley or Bill Press will intro about mid-way through the one hour conference.
- The purpose of this teleconference is to discuss findings in the recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assessment of the arts knowledge and abilities of American students. The purpose of the NAEP arts assessment was to determine what students knew and

were able to do in responding with understanding and judgement to works of visual art, music, dance, and theater. They were also assessed for their ability to perform and create works of their own as well as to communicate ideas and feelings. The teleconference is co-sponsored by the Arts Education partnership, a coalition of more than 100 national business, education, arts, and community organizations. The video will be shown before a live audience and telecast to hundreds of downlink sites around the country. It will also be played on school board cable channels and possibly on PBS stations both at the time and replayed on tape.

9

USAID

- USAID's vitamin A effort (VITA) video montage of 7-10 minutes. The video will be used during the anticipated White House event where you will officially launch the VITA partnerships (date TBD). The event will help mobilize and solidify the U.S. public and private partnerships to eliminate vitamin A deficiency. Participants will include CEOs from private sector food and pharmaceutical companies and representatives from UNICEF, WHO, other donors, and civic organizations. USAID will circulate the video on WorldNet Television, possibly distribution of the message throughout the world, particularly the developing world. Other video participants include: Harriet Babbitt, Deputy Administrator, USAID; Dr. Duff Gillespie, Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID; and Carol Bellamy, Director, UNICEF.

12

Spina Bifida

- PSA for a targeted audience of 60 million American women of childbearing age. PSA will be placed immediately to target employed audience during 6-9 am news/news magazine programming, and again the evening prime time programming period.

HRC VIDEO REQUEST FORM

DATE TO BE RECORDED _____

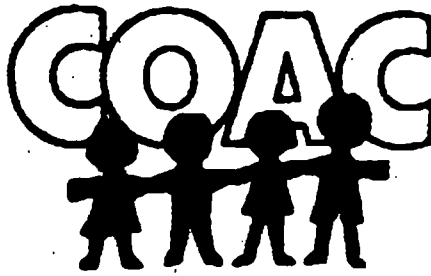
YES ☐ NO ☐ APPROVED BY: HRC PS MW MV /CONFIRMED _____

ORGANIZATION	NY Council on Adoptable Children
DATE OF EVENT	November 17, 1998
LOCATION	The New York Hilton, New York, New York
EVENT	Annual Banquet
WHITE HOUSE STAFF CONTACT	
CONTACTS	Julia Aguilera 212/338-6860
BILL TO	
SEND TO	666 Broadway Suite 820 NY, NY 10018
SEND VIA	REGULAR MAIL _____ FED EX ☒ ACCT # _____ SATURDAY DELIVERY _____ AIRBORNE EX _____ ACCT # _____ PICK UP _____ CONTACT _____ PHONE # _____
FORMAT	VHS ☒ BETA _____ BETA CAM _____ BETA CAM SP _____ 3/4" _____ OTHER _____
NOTES	

Evan-

This group would like to be considered for a video for their event at which they will be giving HRC an award. I let them know that they wouldn't be hearing back until ~~a~~^a couple of weeks before their 11-17 event.

-Tody



FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

*Joely -
 Please call her -
 Tell her we have the
 for. Not sure going to send
 someone. I accept award.
 Video falls well. I want
 be at appropriate time.
 Meads seen with gold
 with. I believe find
 your video.*

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 3

FAX PHONE: (202) 456-5199

TO: Ms. Alice Pushkar, Director of First Lady's Correspondence - The White House

FROM: Patricia Haynes for Ms. Julie Aguilera

DATE: June 1, 1998

SENDER: Patricia Haynes

MESSAGE: Per your request during the telephone call I made this afternoon on behalf of Ms. Julie Aguilera, COAC's Board President, please find attached copies of the letter from Ms. Melanne Verveer, Chief of Staff to the First Lady, and Ms. Aguilera's reply to that letter. As we discussed, due to a scheduling conflict at the Hilton Hotel, the date mentioned in this correspondence for COAC's Awards Ceremony has been change to TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1998. Hard copy with a covering letter confirming this information will sent by US Postal Service. Thank you for your assistance.

PLEASE CONFIRM THE RECEIPT OF THIS TRANSMITTAL

TO: _____

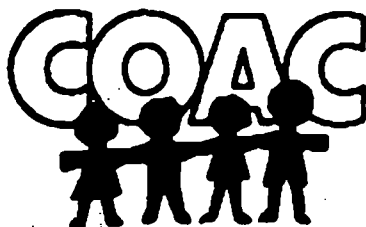
*8/27
 Pat. H. will call back
 re: see*

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

NEW YORK COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN
 666 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10012

TELEPHONE (212) 475-0222
 FAX (212) 475-1972

NOTICE: This message is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or distribution of the communication to other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by calling the number above and returning the original message to us at the above address via the US Postal Service. Thank you.



May 6, 1998

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff
to the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Verveer:

We are delighted that Mrs. Clinton has accepted the N.Y. Council On Adoptable Children's invitation to receive our Annual Award at our Ceremony the evening of November 18, 1998 at the New York Hilton in New York City.

We regret, as it now stands, that Mrs. Clinton may not be able to accept our award in person. In the past, however, it has been our policy to acknowledge the fact that some of our honorees cannot be present to receive their awards. There are alternatives, such as the video message suggested by you, and we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with Mrs. Clinton's staff someone to accept the award on her behalf.

The White House policy restricting the use of the First Lady's name is amenable to us, and, at this time, we anticipate that only the invitation will have her name.

Again, COAC is very pleased and honored that Mrs. Clinton has agreed to accept our award. We look forward to working with her staff in the future.

Sincerely,

Julie Aguilera
President

JA:ph

cc: Maria Echaveste

NEW YORK COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN
666 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10012

TELEPHONE (212) 475-0222
FAX (212) 475-1972

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The Honorable Nancy Mottola-Schecher
Julian Phillips
J. Julian Rivera, M.S.W.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Emesto Lopezana

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 29, 1998

Ms. Julie Aguilera
President
New York Council On Adoptable Children
666 Broadway
New York, New York 10012

Dear Ms. Aguilera:

Thank you for your kind letter inviting Mrs. Clinton to receive the Annual Award of the Council On Adoptable Children at the event on November 18, 1998.

I regret that Mrs. Clinton's official commitments will prevent her from accepting your award in person. Please know that the First Lady will certainly understand should the Council On Adoptable Children decide to name another nominee. If you would still like to make the award to her, Mrs. Clinton would be honored to receive it. We will be happy to send a video message from the First Lady for the event. A member of my staff will contact you shortly to confirm your decision to honor Mrs. Clinton with the award.

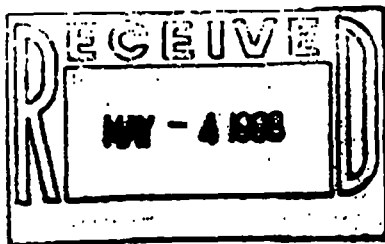
Because White House policy restricts the use of the First Lady's name, it is necessary that we review any printed materials, including press releases, in which you plan to mention the First Lady. My office can assure prompt review, but please allow two weeks prior to press time. All materials for review should be sent by mail or facsimile to Alice Pushkar, Director of First Lady's Correspondence. You may contact Ms. Pushkar at the White House by phone at (202) 456-2941 or facsimile at (202) 456-5199.

The First Lady very much appreciates the consideration which prompted your gracious offer. Please accept our best wishes for continued success.

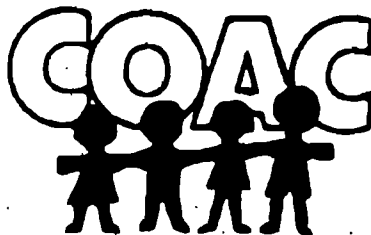
Sincerely yours,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff
to the First Lady



October 13, 1998



FACSIMILE

TO: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Fax No. 202 456 5340

FROM: Julie Aguilera

RE: November 17, 1998 Awards Ceremony
Letter & Invitation Attached

TOTAL number of Pages Including this Header: 5

Attached please find my letter of October 13, 1998 and copy of invitation.

Hard Copy Follows.

I look forward to hearing your speech on 19 October at the Foreign Policy Association.

Thank you.

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666 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10012

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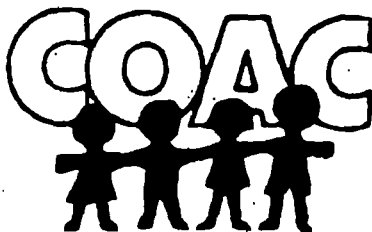
Mildred Mesch Allen, Ph.D.
Paul E. Carr, Jr.
Hon. Robert Lippmann, J.S.C.

Julian Phillips
J. Julian Rivera, M.S.W.
Edwin Wiley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ernesto Loperena

October 13, 1998



Eran-
Are they on
the schedule to
get a video?
-Jody

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Re: November 17th, 1998 - Annual Awards Ceremony

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I am pleased to enclose copies of our invitation showing you as our honored guest. As the president of the Council On Adoptable Children and on behalf of the Board of Directors and the COAC families, I wish to convey our gratitude and appreciation on your accepting this award this year from us.

Needless to say, the children in the inner cities of our nation are experiencing a tremendous sense of loss and grief caused by illness, death, ill treatment and abandonment. New York City is premier with these maladies.

Organizations such as ours are needed so desperately, and in pursuing our mission to find permanent homes for these abused and neglected children, there are no words to express their dire needs. Your acceptance of our Award will allow us to do our work more effectively. It is a recognition which goes beyond words.

As we fastidiously prepare for our coming event, I felt it very appropriate to write you a letter of gratitude during these trying days for all of us.

Your acceptance of this award honors children and affirms a personal conviction which you have shown and demonstrated in pursuing the rights of children for over 20 years. Without a caring Administration and the generosity of individuals like yourself, New York's and all our Nation's children for that matter would have no hope. There is hope because you and Mr. Clinton have cared. Your philosophies and policies have been written to benefit America's children and the world. It is a legacy which is impacting as of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

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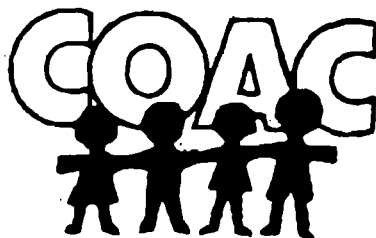
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Julian Phillips
J. Julian Rivera, M.S.W.
Edwin Wiley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ernesto Lopezena

Page Two



I would also like to convey another note of appreciation. That is, as an Agency, we have been able to truly and genuinely participate in the process of policy making to benefit children under this Administration. Thank you.

I wish also to thank your warm and friendly professional staff which has been so courteous and cooperative in answering our questions and helping us put this event together. We are waiting the completion of the video. Let me tell you, there will be a major audience to welcome this message. The excitement is beginning to take over our Agency, and we are most grateful to Simon & Schuster who will donate 300 copies of your new book to honor the occasion that evening. Yes, your work will be proudly and loudly applauded. You will be missed! But celebrated! However, we do understand your commitments and the major work which you must pursue.

Again, on behalf of all the children in the USA and the world, thank you for being their champion. May God's blessings be with you and yours always.

Sincerely,

Julie Aguilera
Julie Aguilera
President

Enclosure

COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN
666 Broadway, 8th Floor
New York, New York 10012
Telephone: 212-475-0222
Fax: 212-475-1972



25th Anniversary Year
November 1997 - November 1998

The Heart of COAC

The New York Council On Adoptable Children (COAC) is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt organization whose mission is to recruit parents for "special needs" children. Founded in 1970, COAC believes that adoption is a viable resource for homeless children. COAC acts on the firm belief that every child, no matter what age or race, and regardless of mental, emotional or physical condition truly needs and deserves a permanent, loving family.

Board of Directors

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Julian Phillips

J. Julian Rivera, M.S.W.

Edwin Wiley

Executive Director

Ernesto Loperena

The Council On Adoptable Children

cordially invites you to its

Fifteenth Annual Awards Ceremony

honoring

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Tuesday, November 17, 1998

Reception: 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

Dinner: 7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

The New York Hilton & Towers

Second Floor

1335 Avenue of the Americas

New York City

Black Tie

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 2, 1998

TO: Ms. N. Meyer
The White House
Washington, D.C.

FROM: Julie Aguilera, President
Council On Adoptable Children

Re: New York Council On Adoptable Children (COAC)
November 17th, 1998 Awards Ceremony
Honoring First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

The following is our response to the questions received from Abby Friday, October 30th:

1. Number of guests expected to attend:

Presently, the anticipated amount is approximately 400.

2. Date, time and venue:

Tuesday, November 17th, 1998
6:00 to 9:00 pm
New York Hilton & Towers
1335 Avenue of the Americas
(Between E. 53rd & E. 54th Streets)
2nd Floor - Sutton Ballroom Complex
New York, New York

The Evening consists of: Reception, Dinner, Speakers Program

3. Audience Profile:

- * mature audience
- * combination of corporate representatives, civic leaders, business owners, CBO heads, COAC children and families
- * visitors and guests will be attending from the New York Metropolitan area, across the United States and Canada
- * average age 40
- * racially and ethnically diverse, including Hispanic-American, Caucasian, American, African-American and Native American

Page Two

4. Program Layout:

A) 6:00 - 7:15 Welcoming Reception

Agenda: Networking - no speeches

B) 7:25 - 7:35 Adopted Children's Procession

National Anthem

Benediction

C) 7:35 - 8:15 Dinner

D) 8:15 - 8:45 Speakers Program

- Recognition of Co-Chairs/Presentation of Board Members

- Guest Speakers*

- Introduction of the Guest of Honor: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton by Julie Aguilera, President of COAC

- VIDEO

- Nicole Rabner, Associate Director - Domestic Policy will be given Award.

*Two Speakers (not to exceed 5 minutes)

Megan McLaughlin, Executive Director Protestant Welfare Agencies (Former Award Recipient) and Sandy Whiteside (Founder & Second President of COAC)

5. COAC's relationship with the First Lady:

COAC has had no direct contact with the First Lady; however, during this Administration the following has transpired:

* In 1994 Maria Echaveste, Assistant White House Chief of Staff, telephoned Ms. Aguilera requesting recommendations for a United States expert on Adoption. This expert would represent the US at the Hague at a conference dealing with such issues.

Ms. Aguilera suggested COAC's Executive Director, Ernesto Loperena, should be considered for the following reasons: (1) he is an expert in the field; and (2) at the time COAC received funding from the Federal Government (under the Ryan White legislation) for its "AIDS Orphan Adoption Program". This innovative program was the first in the U.S. to

Page Three

provide a holistic approach to permanency planning. The program empowers parents suffering from AIDS with the ability to prepare for the long-term care of their children throughout their illness and after death.

Mr. Loperena was accepted.

* Ernesto Loperena is part of the White House Initiative for Child Welfare Reform and was an invited guest at the signing of the November 19, 1997 Adoption Legislation.

* COAC is on the White House mailing list with reference to:

- a) Hispanic issues,
- b) Adoption and Child welfare matters.

* Ms. Aguilera and Mr. Loperena maintain contact with the Administration and other Government representatives with regards to children and social welfare issues.

6. Former honorees:

Please refer to the attached Exhibit A.

7. What COAC would like Mrs. Clinton to say:

Please refer to the *Suggested Remarks* attached as Exhibit B.

EXHIBIT A

COAC AWARD RECIPIENTS**1984**

Anthony Drexel Duke
Clara "Mother" Hale
Dr. Helen Rodriguez-Trias

1985

Dr. Evelina Antonetty
Arthur Mitchell
Dr. Kenneth Clark

1986

Dr. Antonia Pantoja
Dr. James Dumpson
The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation

1987

Carol Bellamy
Kaity Tong
Hon. Frank Torres

1988

Marian Wright Edelman
Hon. Olga Mendez
The Avon Products Foundation

1989

Fred Noriega
First Lady Matilda Cuomo
Dr. David Fanshel
Hon. Al Vann

1990

Anna Carbonell
Joyce & Peter Forsythe
Carol Jenkins

1991

WNJU Channel 47
Angela Cabrera
Darwin N. Davis
John L. Tishman

1992

Brooklyn Union
Johnny Colon
Dr. Patricia Morisey
The Tri-State McDonald's Owner Operators

EXHIBIT A Page Two

1993

Leland C. Brendsel
Charlayne Hunter-Gault
Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. of N.Y.
Philip Morris Companies, Inc.

1994

Coors Brewing Co.
Hon. Fernando Ferrer
Carol Levine
Megan McLaughlin

1995

Lionel Hampton
Iris Margarita "Maga" Nevares de Rosello
Libby Pataki
WABC Channel 7
Univision 41

1996

Hon. Michael Gage
Liliana Marin
Tina Ramirez
Con Edison

1997

Thelma Stackhouse
Trudy Festinger
Doreen Spence
Belen Robles
Banco Popular
Pfizer

EXHIBIT B

SUGGESTED REMARKS

It is not easy for COAC to suggest to the First Lady what to say that night. There are some things which COAC is identified for. They are:

1. COAC has always been on the cutting edge of adoption reform, for example, single parent adoption, including male single parent adoption. We were among the first in this area and our AIDS Adoption Program. The COAC Mission is challenging and straight forward every child truly needs and deserves a permanent loving family. As specific situations arise in our society which require innovative action, COAC has demonstrated leadership in finding solutions to address specific needs. Our Aids Orphan Adoption Program is a good example. We are strong advocates of adoption reform and have a track record of working with federal, state and city governments.
2. We consider the needs of the child and find families for children, not children for families. This is very important. Failed placements if any are the lowest at COAC.
3. No child is unadoptable. We have historically proven this. No matter what obstacle, we will find a **permanent** home for a child. History has challenged us in this area. We police the process for the frustrated adoptive parent. We don't allow the system to defeat our prospective adoptive parents, as we face these obstacles with them.
4. COAC's parents are special. They possess the highest family values and ethics. Ninety percent of our families are Hispanic and African-American. They have demonstrated unique qualities, despite obstacles in their personal lives and in the process of adoption. When called upon, they have and will stand up for children.
5. COAC's staff is one of its kind. They are driven by the needs of the children and families they serve. They address not only the demands of the Child Welfare System in the city, but are willing and do attend other issues affecting the families they come across with. No one at COAC has ever been denied assistance whether the requests originated from within the City, outside of New York State and the US.

In addition to Mrs. Clinton's history and passionate commitment to children, COAC's position on adoption reform supports the First Lady's and the Administration's efforts on all issues of child welfare from adoption, education, health, etc.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 19, 1997

PRESIDENT CLINTON SIGNS
THE ADOPTION AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT OF 1997

November 19, 1997

Today, President Clinton signs into law the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, to help thousands of children waiting in foster care move more quickly into safe and permanent homes. This overwhelmingly bipartisan legislation was based in large part on the recommendations of the Administration's Adoption 2002 report. The report takes its name from one of the President's central goals which is, at a minimum, to double the number of adoptions to 54,000 by the year 2002.

The Act makes sweeping changes in federal law on adoption and foster care enacted in 1980. The new law makes clear that the health and safety of children must be the paramount concerns of state child welfare services. It sets swifter time frames for making permanent placement decisions and terminating parental rights for children. For the first time, states will have financial incentives to increase adoptions. Children with special needs and ongoing medical needs are ensured health care coverage. Federal funds will continue for programs that work to keep families together when it is appropriate and safe to do so.

Ensuring that Children are Safe

Clarifies Reasonable Efforts: As the President proposed, the new law ensures that children's health and safety are the primary concerns of the public child welfare system. It clarifies that there are instances when states are not required to make reasonable efforts to keep children with their parents, such as when a parent has been convicted of murdering another child or a child has been abandoned, tortured, or chronically abused.

Doubling the Number of Children
Adopted or Permanently Placed by 2002

Creates Financial Incentives: The new law contains the President's plan to offer a financial bonus to states that increase the number of children who are adopted from the public foster care system. These incentives will help to double the number of children adopted. For every additional child adopted, a state will receive \$4,000, with an additional \$2,000 paid for each child with special needs. The Act authorizes \$20 million for each of 5 years (FY 1999 to FY 2003) for the bonuses, though eventually the bonuses will be offset by savings in foster care expenses.

Establishes Tighter Time Limits: Children who cannot safely return to their own families often wait far too long in foster care -- typically over 3 years, and many times even longer. Under the new law, permanency hearings will now be held no later than 12 months after a child enters foster care, 6 months earlier than under previous law, and states must initiate termination of parental rights proceedings, except in specified circumstances, for any child who has been in foster care

for 15 of the previous 22 months.

Breaking Down Barriers, Promoting Safe and Stable Families, and Achieving Accountability

Eliminating Obstacles: The new law prohibits delaying or denying adoptions across state or county lines, thereby breaking geographic barriers to adoption.

Providing Supportive Services: The new law ensures that children with special needs keep health insurance coverage when they are adopted, either through Medicaid or through the new children's health program. In addition, the new law reauthorizes the Family Preservation and Family Support Services Program, renamed Promoting Safe and Stable Families, which provides services to strengthen families before crises occur and to ensure safe, stable homes for children who return to their families.

Emphasizing Results for Children: The new law authorizes HHS, in consultation with states, to develop new measures to track and rate state performance efforts in providing child welfare services to ensure successful results for children.

Recognizing Success: Prior to the bill signing today, HHS recognized 13 awardees for significant achievement in helping both adopted children and those waiting for adoption. Among the awardees are families, foundations, members of the media, and states that have improved the management of child welfare programs.

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION RECORD ON ADOPTION

November 19, 1997

"I am pleased that the Senate and the House of Representatives have passed historic, bipartisan legislation to promote adoption and improve our nation's child welfare system, giving our nation's most vulnerable children what every child deserves -- a safe and permanent home."
-- Statement by President Clinton, November 13, 1997

The Clinton Administration has previously taken several important steps to encourage and increase adoptions and to support the families who choose to open their hearts and their homes to these children. Since taking office in 1993, the President has championed programs that find and assist adoptive families, and has committed his Administration to breaking down barriers, including high adoption costs and complex regulations. These steps include:

MAKING ADOPTION AFFORDABLE FOR FAMILIES. Last year, President Clinton signed into law the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, which provides a \$5,000 tax credit to families adopting children, and a \$6,000 tax credit for families adopting children with special needs. This provision has alleviated a significant barrier to adoption, helping middle class families for whom adoption may have been prohibitively expensive and making it easier for families to adopt children with special needs. Since President Clinton took office, the number of children with special needs who have been adopted with federal adoption assistance has risen by 60 percent. This year, in signing the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, President Clinton ensured more support for families who adopt children with the \$500 Per-Child Tax Credit.

GIVING STATES FLEXIBILITY AND SUPPORT. To test innovative strategies to improve child welfare systems, the Clinton Administration has granted child welfare waivers to California, Delaware, Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio and Oregon, giving the states more flexibility in tailoring services to meet the needs of children and families. Up to two more states will receive approval for waivers under previous authority. Under the new Adoption and Safe Families Act, HHS will grant up to 10 waivers per year to states. In addition, this Administration has provided states with enhanced technical support and helped improve court operations. In September, HHS awarded 40 demonstration grants totalling \$7.9 million, to states, local agencies, courts, private organizations, and others committed to promoting adoption for innovative programs to increase adoptions and reduce the number of children in foster care. To prevent children from entering foster care in the first place, in 1993, the Clinton Administration secured federal funding for the Family Preservation and Family Support Program to help states, local governments and service providers develop effective programs to serve children and families at risk.

BREAKING DOWN RACIAL AND ETHNIC BARRIERS TO ADOPTION. The Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, also ensures that the adoption process is free from discrimination and delays on the basis of race, culture and ethnicity by strengthening the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act which the President signed in 1994.

PROVIDING SUPPORTS FOR CHILD PROTECTION AND ADOPTION. In 1993, President Clinton signed into law the Family and Medical Leave Act which enables parents to take time off to adopt a child without losing their jobs or health insurance. In addition, the welfare reform bill that the President signed into law maintains the guarantee of child protection and adoption, and does not reduce funds for child welfare, child abuse, foster care and adoption services.

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS. Through speeches, writings, events and public service announcements, the President and First Lady have promoted the importance and benefits of adoption.

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
30-SECOND PSA ON ADOPTION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
NOVEMBER 8, 1995**

Those of us lucky enough to have warm and loving families know just how important they are in helping us become healthy adults. But thousands of children in this country don't have a permanent home and that's what they need to reach their fullest potential. Many kids waiting to be adopted have special needs. They're older...or they want to stay with brothers or sisters...or they have a disability.

I'm asking you to make room in your heart and home for these very special children. For more information -- please call the National Adoption Center at 1-800-TO-ADOPT.

###

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 19, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND FIRST LADY
AT ADOPTION BILL SIGNING

The East Room

1:53 P.M. EST

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you and welcome to the East Room. Please be seated. We are delighted to have all of you join us today for this very important event and one that many of you in this room have worked for and looked for for many years.

There are some people that I would like to acknowledge and introduce before we get started. You will hear from the four members of Congress who are here on the stage, Representative Kennelly, Representative Camp, Senator Chafee and Senator Rockefeller. Also attending are Senator Craig, Senator DeWine, Senator Landrieu, Representative Levin, Representative Oberstar, Representative Maloney, and Representative Morella. And I'd like to ask all the members of Congress to please stand. (Applause.)

This was truly a bipartisan piece of legislation. It could not have been passed without the strong support of the members whom you see, including the sponsors who are here on the stage. It was also a work that was very much in the heart of Secretary Donna Shalala and her team from HHS -- Richard Tarplin, Mary Bourdette, and Carol Williams. And I'd like to ask the Secretary and her team to stand please. (Applause.)

There were also a number of members of the White House staff who worked very hard with members of Congress and with members of the HHS contingent, and I'd like to acknowledge just a few of them -- John Hilley, Bruce Reed, Elena Kagan, and in particular Jen Klein and Nicole Rabner. I want to thank all of them. (Applause.)

I'm also pleased that we have Governor Romer of Colorado. We have children, families, advocates, and leaders of the child welfare constituency here in our audience.

Nearly a year ago, the President and I met with children waiting in the foster care system for caring families to call their own. There the President pledged to reform the child welfare system to work better for the children it serves, to put their health and safety first, and to move children more quickly into safe and permanent homes. Today we as a nation make good on that pledge.

And for the thousands of American children who wait for a stable, loving home that will always be there, it is not a moment too soon. Right now there are nearly half a million children in foster care. For most, foster care is a safe haven on the road to a permanent home or back home. Too many, however, make countless detours along the way, shuffling from family to family without much hope that they will ever find permanent parents to love and take care of them. These children who will enter this holiday season unsure about whether the family they celebrate this year will be there with them next year deserve better.

We know it makes a difference for children to have permanent loving homes. It's not only research that tells us this; we know it by our intuition, by our own experience and we have all seen it firsthand. It was here in this room two years ago that a young woman named Deanna -- a child waiting to be adopted in foster care stood up and read a poem about what she wanted in life, and it wasn't real complicated. It is what all of us want. I'm happy that because of that event here in the East Room, she was able to meet a family who did adopt her. And I saw her last year at an event in Kansas City and almost didn't recognize her -- from a shy, withdrawn 13-year-old, she had blossomed into a cheerful, outgoing, confident teenager with a brilliant smile.

This landmark legislation that the President is about to sign will see to it there are more stories like Deanna's. This legislation stands as proof of what we can accomplish when we come together. As we see today, the national government does have an important role to play in reforming our foster care system, and giving guidance to courts and states in offering incentives to speed up and increase the numbers of adoptions, and in making sure that the health and safety of our children is always the first priority.

But we know even more, all Americans have a role and a responsibility. Businesses can make it easier for their employees to adopt a child. And I want to single out Dave Thomas of Wendy's, who has led the way in showing all of us how that can be done. (Applause.)

Religious leaders can help spread the word about the joys of adoptions. Parents thinking about adoption can expand their search to reach out to kids in foster care. And if we reform the system so that it works the way that it should, more Americans will look to American children to adopt and not feel compelled to go overseas to adopt children. (Applause.)

With us today are some extraordinary Americans who have answered this call. This morning, the Department of Health and Human Services observed National Adoption Month by honoring outstanding achievements with the 1997 Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards. Secretary Shalala developed these awards at the request of the President. The winners are dedicated individuals and organizations, both large and small, who have worked to move children out of the foster care system and into permanent, loving homes. Some of them have been at the forefront of this issue for years; some have promoted and supported adoption in their communities; and some are parents who have opened their homes and hearts to our nation's most vulnerable children.

I'd like to ask all the honorees who were honored this morning to please stand. (Applause.) We want to thank you for the work you have done, for the example you have set. And we hope that through these awards, in conjunction with this legislation, there will be many, many more in your ranks in the years to come.

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Sue Ann. Thank you, Aaron (phonetic). And I want to thank the Badeau family for showing up. I think it's fair to say it was a greater effort for them than for anyone else here. (Laughter.) I appreciate the rest of your presence. It was easier for me than anybody; I just had to come downstairs. (Laughter.) But I'm grateful that they're here.

Secretary Shalala, I thank you and your staff for your remarkable work on this. And I thank the members of the White House staff, all the

members of Congress who are present here. And especially I thank Senators Rockefeller and Chafee and Congressmen Camp and Kennelly for their work and for what they said here.

Congratulations to the Adoption 2002 Excellence Award winners. I thank all the advocates who are here. And I say a special word of thanks, along with all the others who have said it, to the First Lady, who has been passionately committed to this issue for at least 25 years now that I know. Thank you, Governor Romer, for coming. And thank you, Dave Thomas, for what you've done.

Again let me say to all the members of Congress who are here, Republicans and Democrats alike, I am very grateful for what you've done. This, after all, is what we got in public life for, isn't it?

Before I make my brief remarks, if you'll forgive me and understand, I have to make one public statement today about the situation in Iraq.

As I have said before, I prefer to resolve this situation peacefully, with our friends and allies, and I am working hard to do just that. But I want to be clear again about the necessary objective of any diplomacy now underway. Iraq must comply with the unanimous will of the international community and let the weapons inspectors resume their work to prevent Iraq from developing an arsenal of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The inspectors must be able to do so without interference. That's our top line; that's our bottom line. I want to achieve it diplomatically. But we're taking every step to make sure we are prepared to pursue whatever options are necessary.

I do not want these children we are trying to put in stable homes to grow up into a world where they are threatened by terrorists with biological and chemical weapons. It is not right. (Applause.)

It's hard to believe now, but it was just a little less than a year ago when I directed our administration to develop a plan to double the number of children we move from foster care to adoptive homes by the year 2002. We know that foster parents provide safe and caring families for children. But the children should not be trapped in them forever, especially when there are open arms waiting to welcome them into permanent homes.

The Adoption and Safe Families Act, which I am about to sign, is consistent with the work of the 2002 report and our goals. It fundamentally alters our nation's approach to foster care and adoption. And fundamentally, it will improve the well-being of hundreds of thousands of our most vulnerable children. The new legislation makes it clear that children's health and safety are the paramount concerns of our public child welfare system. It makes it clear that good foster care provides important safe havens for our children, but it is by definition a temporary, not a permanent, setting.

The new law will help us to speed children out of foster care into permanent families by setting meaningful time limits for child welfare decisions, by clarifying which family situations call for reasonable reunification efforts and which simply do not. It will provide states with financial incentives to increase the number of children adopted each year. It will ensure that adopted children with special needs never lose their health coverage -- a big issue. Thank you, Congress, for doing that. It will reauthorize federal funding for timely services to alleviate crisis before they become serious, that aid the reunification of families that help to meet post-adoption needs.

With these measures we help families stay together where reunification is possible and help find safe homes for children much

more quickly when it is not. We've come together in an extraordinary example of bipartisan cooperation to meet the urgent needs of children at risk. We put our differences aside, and put our children first.

This landmark legislation builds on other action taken in the last few years by Congress: the Adoption Tax Credit I signed into law August to make adopting children more affordable for families, especially those who adopt children with special needs; the Multiethnic Placement Act, enacted two years ago, ensuring that adoption is free from discrimination and delay, based on race, culture, or ethnicity; and the very first law I signed as President, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, which enables parents to take time off to adopt a child without losing their jobs or their health insurance.

We have put in place here the building blocks of giving all of our children what should be their fundamental right -- a chance at a decent, safe home; an honorable, orderly, positive upbringing; a chance to live out their dreams and fulfill their God-given capacities.

Now, as we approach Thanksgiving, when families all across our country come together to give thanks for their blessings, I would like to encourage more families to consider opening their homes and their hearts to children who need loving homes. You may not want to go as far as the Badaus have -- (laughter) -- but they are a shining example of how we grow -- (applause) -- they are a shining example of how we grow when we give, how we can be blessed in return many times over. We thank them and all -- all of the adoptive parents in the country.

For those who are now or have been foster or adoptive parents, I'd like to say thank you on behalf of a grateful nation, and again say at Thanksgiving, let us thank God for our blessings and resolve to give more of our children the blessings they deserve.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

2:19 P.M. EST

-Does their award
have a name?

-were these people @
signing ceremony?

FACSIMILE

FAX NO. 202 456 2581



DATE: November 2, 1998

TO: Ms. N. Meyer
The White House
Washington, D.C.

FROM: Julie Aguilera, President
Council On Adoptable Children

RE: November 17, 1998 Awards Ceremony
Honoring First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Requested Information

TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING THIS HEADER: 9

MESSAGE:

Attached please find the information requested by your office consisting of:

Memorandum, 3 Pages, answering specific questions.
Exhibit A, 2 Pages, Former Honorees
Exhibit B, Suggested Remarks
COAC Fact Sheet, 2 Pages, for additional background information.

I shall be pleased to answer any additional questions you may have, and I can be reached at (212) 338 6860.

Please be advised that, although we have arranged for acceptance by Mrs. Clinton via video, we have, nonetheless, made arrangements with a public relations agency to be on call should her schedule change and she be available to attend.

Thank you for the kind assistance and attention shown to my staff and me in the arrangements of this award presentation.

NEW YORK COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN
666 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10012

TELEPHONE (212) 475-0222
FAX (212) 475-1972

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one yr since
POTUS signed
adoption act -
its mission similar
to yours is to move
kids quickly into
homes etc.

We know that in
the P's signing this
law we needed
partnerships w/ org.
like this

338-6860

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COUNCIL ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN...

Goals

The Council on Adoptable Children (COAC), founded in 1972, is an adoption services agency which offers programs to parents interested in adopting abused and neglected children in the N.Y.C. foster care system. COAC's mission is to insure that as many adoptable children as possible are placed, as expeditiously as possible, with families that will love and care for them.

History

COAC evolved from a group of adoptive parents who met informally in 1970 to discuss the severe delays they had encountered with the bureaucratic foster care system, to propose methods to get the system to act faster, and to provide mutual support. Today, hundreds of children who are in the process of becoming legally free to be adopted, languish for years unnecessarily in the limbo of the glacially-slow foster care system. COAC is devoted to recruiting parents and helping them shorten the length of waiting time for these adoptable children.

Programs

COAC offers four programs to New Yorkers interested in adoption:

1) African-American and Hispanic Parent Recruitment, Education and Assistance Programs

Through these programs, COAC recruits and works with minority parents interested in adopting children in foster care. We assist these parents through all phases of the adoption process. These programs are the centerpiece of COAC's programmatic services:

- *the African-American Child Adoption Program*
- *the Hispanic Child Adoption Program, and*

Under these programs, COAC recruits and then provides a two-part orientation for prospective parents. Personal interviews are then conducted by COAC staff to evaluate the suitability of the family for adoption, and prepare them for the rigors of the lengthy adoption process. A child is identified, a preliminary home study is conducted and then COAC makes contact with the agency that has the child. At this point COAC serves as an advocate for the parents with the agencies -- it keeps in touch with the parents, and with the foster care agency, clearing logjams and keeping the process moving until a child is placed with them.

2) Family Education and Support Services

COAC provides parent training and support groups for families who have adopted special needs children. These children pose a major challenge to any parent and moreso to the adoptive parent. Life's ordinary tasks assume amplified proportions when a parent deals with a child's mental, physical or emotional handicap. COAC provides the support needed to enable the family to adjust.

3) Adoption Education and Referral Program

For people interested in adoption, COAC serves as a clearinghouse for information on the process. If the inquirers are not interested in adopting a special needs child, COAC refers them to the appropriate agency to meet their needs.

4) AIDS Orphans Adoption Program

In 1993, COAC undertook a new initiative, the first independent service offering assistance to AIDS-affected parents so they can plan for the future of their children and avoid their placement into the foster care system. The program features a specialized social and legal services team who work with parents terminally ill with AIDS to help them create a permanency plan for their children, including the recruitment of adoptive parents for those orphans whose kin are unable to raise them. Since its inception, over 350 AIDS affected children have secured permanency.

The Population COAC Serves

COAC serves primarily African-American and Hispanic New Yorkers who seek to adopt children in the city's foster care system. We mainly serve families from the five boroughs and the surrounding region, but we also help families from other states and countries who seek to adopt New York children.

There are currently over 38,000 children in foster care in New York City. The vast majority (over 95%) are African-American and Hispanic. About 15,000 of the 38,000 children have the goal of adoption; approximately 8,000 of these are legally free to be adopted. COAC's target population is the hardest to place sub-group of special needs children - minority, older, handicapped, sibling groups. These are the innocent victims of the problems of their parents and our society, placed in foster care due to neglect, abuse, poverty, substance abuse, and homelessness.

The vast increase in the number of children in foster care in New York City can be traced to the two poverty-related issues of homelessness and drug abuse. Since the advent of the crack epidemic in the mid-eighties, we have seen thousands of "boarder babies" entering the foster care system. The vast majority of the children under 5 who are in foster care, were exposed to crack in utero and were born with developmental disabilities.

60% of these children will be returned to the biological parents after an average of 4 years in a foster home. The remaining 40% will be eventually freed for adoption, and most of these children will be adopted by their foster parents. But the older, developmentally disabled, or minority "special needs" children will languish in foster care for years before they are legally freed to be adopted, costing society upwards of \$15,000 for every year they remain unadopted.

The Need for COAC

Even after these children become legally adoptable, the current bureaucratic foster care system does not have an incentive to move them quickly out of foster care and into adoptive homes -- they are paid on a "per diem" basis for every child in foster care. The system does not actively pursue adoptive families and work with them until a child is placed; it is glacially slow; there are dozens of delays. Meanwhile, infants grow into school-age children, toddlers grow into pre-teens -- in short, children who are grieving the loss of their biological parents are made to wait years for a permanent, loving family. The lasting emotional damage this process causes is not only heartbreaking and cruel, it is an injustice to these children and to society.

To deal with this injustice, COAC is devoted to expediting the adoption process for these children and reducing their waiting time in foster care. Unlike the homeless, whose plight is visible to the public eye, the situation of these children is hidden from public view. We therefore try to bring visibility to the problems of these children by participating in advocacy and publicity campaigns.

COAC's Role and Its Effectiveness

COAC is the oldest independent program in New York City that recruits minority parents for special needs children and then guides them through the maze of the adoption process. As such, we are intimately familiar with the barriers to adoption that exist for all special needs children.

The success of COAC is most clearly demonstrated in the dramatically higher rate of successful adoptions among COAC-counseled families (90% vs industry-wide 70%). COAC's staff is composed of African-American and Hispanic professionals and the agency has strong grass-roots linkage; that enable it to successfully recruit large numbers of adoptive parents from the African American and Hispanic community. Since its inception, COAC has helped place over 2,000 special needs children a remarkably high number for a small agency and for this field. Finally, we take great pride in the fact that COAC's interventions have proven to shorten the adoption process by six months to two years.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH CENTER OF THE MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER
*will celebrate 30 years as an innovative, nationally renowned center
for adolescent health services*

Adolescence Is Not Just a Phase of Life:
Adolescents are the Future of Our Country

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1998.

Adolescent Health Center Clients: ages 10-22, come from East and Central Harlem, the South Bronx, and from all of the New York City metropolitan area.

Our mission is to enhance disease prevention and health promotion in the adolescent population through

- The provision of primary medical, mental health and reproductive health care
- The education and training of patients and health care professionals
- Research into effective intervention and effective service delivery
- The dissemination of knowledge and the enhancement of health care policy
- Ensuring that adolescents develop a sense of "ownership" of their health needs to enable them to become good consumers of medical service

Services span the spectrum from prevention to treatment, and include pregnancy prevention, health education, counseling and support services, sexual victimization, depression and suicidality, nutritional counseling and eating disorders, smoking cessation and substance abuse prevention, and specialty services such as colposcopy, rheumatology and orthopedics.

- Nationally known: largest and most comprehensive adolescent health center in the United States.
- Over 40,000 visits annually.

As part of an academic medical center based AHC is a training site for adolescent medicine and all related disciplines, conducts research on adolescent health, and is able benefit from the tertiary and specialty services of the Mount Sinai Medical Center.

To ensure access many services are provided onsite in schools and the community reaching adolescents where they congregate. Lack of access to health services is a major national contributor to adolescent health risks. Therefore **AHC services are confidential and free** to uninsured young people in a freestanding, facility.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Federal award-winning teen substance abuse prevention program.
- American Medical Association award-winning peer and teen theater based HIV / AIDS prevention.
- AHC's success in raising over \$3 million a year in grant support enables us to lead the field in ground-breaking, free prevention and treatment programs for the highest risk young teens.
- As a teenager and immigrant from the Dominican Republic, AHC Director Dr. Angela Diaz was an AHC client when she first arrived in New York City. She was chosen as a White House Fellow in 1994.
- Culturally diverse staff of over 100 with expertise in all aspects of adolescent health.

AHC's innovative programs lead the field in addressing emergent adolescent health issues, and include:

- Federal Award Winning Substance Abuse Prevention Program
- Street outreach to high risk youth.
- Violence prevention and treatment, rape and sexual abuse services.
- Pregnancy prevention.
- Peer education and mentoring programs.
- Cardiovascular risk reduction through exercise, nutritional counseling and emotional counseling and support.

OUR THIRTY YEAR CELEBRATION: DECEMBER 3, 1998

A one day celebratory event with nationally known adolescent health experts, and symposium on Best Practices in Adolescent Risk Reduction, addressing the challenges posed by current adolescent health risks and the resiliencies of adolescents and the opportunities they offer us for health promotion. Including a symposium with a panel of adolescent discussants, and:

- Dr. Michael Carrera: Nationally recognized expert on Health Education and Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention: on holistic approaches to prevention
- Dr. Michael Resnick, Nationally recognized researcher and expert on adolescent resiliency and risks
- Cocktail reception
- An Adolescent Health Center Open House to highlight staff and programs, a video presentation, poster competition exhibition and photographic exhibition highlighting our thirty years of service

REMARKS BY: DONNA E. SHALALA, SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES
PLACE: The **Society of Adolescent Medicine**, Arlington, VA
DATE: March 21, 1996

The Future of America

I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to be here today.

Whether you're repairing broken bones and broken lives, conducting research into the mysteries of **adolescent** health, or training the next generation of health professionals, you are putting the interests of young people exactly where they belong -- first.

And I am honored to join you today to talk about the future of our country.

Because, right now the future of our country is a 10-year-old in Chicago who struggles with the physical, emotional, and psychological toll of AIDS -- her tender, young body infected by the disease at birth.

For this little girl, reaching Sweet 16 would be a dream come true, yet she envisions sunshine, not clouds, as she writes:

"I believe in angels, don't you see

They are all around us

Watching after you and

Taking care of me ...

I believe in angels

Don't you see

They are God's helpers

Taking the pain away from you and me.

You are those angels here on earth.

But, being angels today means that while fitting a plaster cast on a young girl's broken leg, you may also have to tell her where to go for help if she's feeling lonely and depressed.

It means that while giving a 10th grade boy a physical, you may have to talk to him about sexual responsibility.

And it means, while questioning a 9th grade girl about her diet, you may also have to look for signs of drug use or violence -- and know what to do when you see them.

You know that adolescents are not just big children or small adults -- they have unique problems that

demand unique solutions.

And you know that to tackle those challenges, we must compliment the medical model -- which focuses on treating illnesses -- with the health model -- which focuses on prevention.

And we don't have a minute to waste.

Every day in this country, 15 children die in gun-related accidents, suicides, and homicides.

More than 1,000 young people give birth out-of-wedlock.

More than 3,000 young people start smoking.

And more than 2 million 12- to 17-year-olds have at least five alcoholic drinks.

A recent report to the President showed that at least one American teenager is becoming infected with HIV every hour of every day.

And then there's the resurgence of marijuana smoking among 12- to 17-year-olds -- with rising usage rates every year since 1991.

Make no mistake, if we don't act fast, we could lose an entire generation of young people.

That was the key message of the major report, "Great Transitions: Preparing Adolescents for a New Century," released by the Carnegie Corporation of New York last fall.

The report finds that at least one-half of our teenagers are at risk for dangerous behaviors that could seriously diminish their lives.

We're talking about millions and millions of young people.

These aren't somebody else's children, and this isn't somebody else's problem.

This is our problem -- an American problem that touches the lives of each and every family -- regardless of race, religion, region, and economic background.

But don't take my word that something must be done. Let's hear it first-hand, from young people themselves:

A 16 year-old girl says: "I'd like to be a model. Smoking burns off a lot of calories."

A college sophomore says: "I'm not even a heavy drinker, except every time I drink, I get drunk."

A high school freshman says, "I like violence. I like seeing violence. I just really like watching violence" -- especially video games.

And then there's a 16-year-old boy dealing drugs in New York City. He says, "My father would always say 'Stay in school. Don't drop out. Don't drink or do drugs.' But he never did anything about it himself, so what's the use?"

What's the use?

In the mouths of our teens, those may be the three saddest words in the English language.

They speak of emptiness in what should be a time of exploration.

They speak of resignation in what should be a time of wonder.

They speak of a hopelessness that makes people numb to all they are and can be.

Why do young Americans who are for many years on the right track end up veering off course and diminishing their lives?

Lots of reasons.

Part of it is poverty and the lack of opportunity -- primary indicators of a child's future health and future life chances in this country. As Marian Wright Edelman likes to say, "opportunity is the best contraceptive."

Part of it is the dangerous messages some parts of our culture send to the young, messages like:

"Smoking is glamorous."

"Marijuana is cool."

"Everybody's having sex."

"A gun gets you respect."

Part of it is that we who are health leaders have to do a better job educating and inspiring each new generation to live healthy lives. We can never give up.

But critically important is something else:

I have a teenage advisory group -- 17 young people from all walks of life who meet with me about once a month.

Whether we're talking about preventing drug use or depression, smoking or sex, they consistently say the same thing: They say that parents are by far the most influential people in their lives.

They say parents and families can do the most to save them.

And -- despite the aura of independence that teenagers project so well -- they say that most young people need and want the everyday love, attention, involvement, and, yes, discipline of their parents.

We all know that my teenage advisors are right -- the family is the core institution in this country -- and yet somehow we have evolved into a **society** in which a gauntlet of factors keep mothers and fathers from raising their children the way they would like.

Parents are working longer hours with less job security. They have less time to spend with their children.

They're finding it harder to pay today's grocery bills while saving for tomorrow's college bills.

There are more families in which both parents are working.

There are more single-parent families. There are more parents who walk away from the children they created.

There are fewer families that feel connected to strong, supportive communities. And there is more competition for their children's attention.

So there you have it: It has become harder and harder for parents to raise their children -- at the precise moment when children need their parents -- and other caring adults -- more than ever. No wonder so many parents are terrified.

One mother in suburban Virginia put it best when she said, "I went from wanting my son to win the Nobel Prize to wanting him to survive."

As a **society**, we have to lock arms to help that mother and all parents, and that means -- first and foremost -- creating a health care system that meets the needs of all Americans -- all young people.

This President -- this Administration -- has demonstrated a powerful commitment to doing just that.

That's why we're working to ensure that managed care becomes an opportunity -- not an obstacle -- to develop high quality, low cost care in the 21st century.

That's why we're addressing the complex pressures squeezing our cherished academic health centers.

That's why we're fighting to enact the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill so that we can wave goodbye to the days when insurance companies could drop you because you changed jobs, or had a pre-existing condition.

And that's why the President has used his veto pen to say: We will not replace Medicaid's historic guarantee of health care for our most vulnerable children -- with an ill-conceived, underfunded block grant.

I'm not saying our health care programs don't need change. They do.

But, we need to reform -- not ruin Medicaid.

And that's exactly what the President's plan does.

It maintains our historic federal-state partnership. It gives states unprecedented flexibility to meet the needs of their citizens. And, it still preserves a real federal guarantee of coverage and benefits for all vulnerable Americans -- especially children.

We have serious concerns about a provision in the Governors' Medicaid proposal that repeals phased-in coverage for 13- to 18-year-olds whose families live below the poverty line.

It's counterproductive and ultimately costly to ignore the health needs of teenagers.

All young people need our attention -- and they must continue to receive it.

But our commitment to parents must go beyond meeting their children's health care needs.

I'd like to talk to you about a new public health strategy -- a new youth development strategy -- a comprehensive, collaborative approach that I call, "Safe Passages."

Safe Passages means working in partnership with all the different adults and institutions in young people's lives -- to help them steer their precious young people through the sometimes rocky waters of adolescence.

This is not the old top-down, heavy-handed, overly programmatic approach to solving problems.

Instead, we need to define our role more clearly -- to serve as the glue that holds together our various partners and fills gaps that would become gaping holes without state-federal- community partnerships.

So what does Safe Passages mean specifically?

It means increasing our capacity to support major research on all aspects of **adolescent** health and development -- from HIV infection to violence and from teen pregnancy prevention to understanding the evolving needs of vulnerable populations.

It means increasing the children's mental health budget twelvefold in three years -- because we believe that mental health is just as important as physical health.

It means moving away from the old "model program" approach to federal grants -- where we tell communities what they need.

Instead, we're using federal, state and private resources to catalyze community coalitions to develop comprehensive plans for youth development -- plans that understand that teenage drug use, violence, sexual activity, and other problems are related to one another, and to overarching social problems like poverty.

And it means sponsoring major new national health campaigns in areas like AIDS prevention, drug prevention and the nutrition food labels -- to empower teenagers and their parents with critical information needed to choose healthy lives.

Let me say something about how we reach teenagers and parents with life-saving messages.

I come from a Washington world in which people honestly believe that the only way to communicate with the American public is through brochures and posters.

Let's not be naive: The brochure approach to public health communications is a relic from a bygone era. Most teenagers don't spend five minutes per year reading brochures.

What they do is absorb popular culture by the ton.

They rent videos. They play interactive video games. They log onto the Internet. They watch TV -- no, they interact with TV -- channel surfing through cable stations at the speed of sound; shouting back at the television; tuning into talk shows in which the audience is as important as the guests; and continuously incorporating popular culture into their own speech and their own thinking.

I do believe that groups like the Ad Council and the Partnership for a Drug Free America do get it: Their public service announcements always seem to keep up with where kids are, but for the most part we need to bring public health communications into the 21st century -- and into our teenagers' heads and hearts.

And the first step is to candidly admit that we health experts can't do this alone and certainly shouldn't try.

That's why, as a part of Safe Passages, we're teaming up with leaders throughout the media and entertainment industries -- from daytime talk show hosts to TV scriptwriters to the editors of all the popular magazines.

As health leaders, we need to challenge and cajole and ultimately help the media industries to use their enormous access into American homes to promote real dialogue between parents and teenagers, and to get rid of the mixed messages that cause so much confusion to families around the kitchen table.

Perhaps the administration effort that most clearly reflects our Safe Passages strategy is the children's tobacco initiative, which is ultimately about giving power back to parents.

As we were developing our proposal, some people said we can't afford to incur the wrath of a Goliath-like power like the tobacco industry.

We said, we can't afford not to.

There are more than 400,000 tobacco-related deaths per year in this country -- and the vast majority of those people began smoking regularly in their teens -- or younger.

You will hear a lot more about smoking and adolescence tomorrow morning from FDA Commissioner David Kessler.

We believe the tobacco culture has essentially functioned as a "third parent" for American children -- enticing them with attractive images, playing upon their desire to be glamorous, alluring them with T-shirts and trinkets, and giving them easy ways to obtain cigarettes from vending machines, the mail, and even free give-aways.

There's not a parent in this country who wants their children to endure the suffocating death grip of emphysema or lung cancer.

That's why we have proposed both to limit the access and the appeal of tobacco products to children under age 18 with what are -- I believe -- some of the boldest public health proposals this country has ever seen.

And that's why last week we teamed up with the U.S. Soccer Federation to kick off the Smoke Free Kids and Soccer Campaign.

Featuring the U.S. Women's National team, this campaign will include television ads that will travel with the team as they make their way across America, sending a clear message to millions of young people: like oil and water, tobacco and fitness don't mix.

Some might say, "Can't parents take care of their children?"

The answer is, of course they can.

That's precisely the point of our proposal -- to make sure that parents -- not the tobacco culture -- are in control when it comes to educating children about an addiction that could take years off their lives.

That's why we are standing with parents and saying, "Yes, we will help you protect your child.

"Yes, we will put your interests before the special interests" -- and not just with tobacco.

We are a safer country because of the Brady Handgun Law and the assault weapons ban.

We are a healthier country because we didn't let the extreme right abolish family planning services under Title X.

And we will be a wiser country when parents are able to take advantage of the V-chip and voluntary ratings -- to control the level of violence that their children are exposed to on TV.

Time and time again, this Administration has taken on the tough issues and the powerful special interests because that's what's good for parents and their children.

That's the right role for the federal government, the national government, the people's government -- in partnership with states, counties, cities, communities, schools, and parents.

The fact is, government alone can't solve the galaxy of health problems our children face.

The real passports to safe passage must come from people who share the everyday worlds of our children and teenagers -- primarily parents -- but also other caring adults: grandparents, older siblings, doctors, teachers, coaches, counselors, clergy, employers, media figures, community leaders, and, of course, young people themselves.

And we all must testify. We all must preach a pro-youth message from our own personal bully pulpits: A message that inspires our communities to create the presence of opportunity for young people -- strong schools, meaningful jobs, safe streets, and real opportunities to serve. And a message that shows young people how much we value them and want to hear their views.

No audience is too small. No pulpit is too close to the ground. And no voice can ever be too soft to save a life.

As healers and educators and leaders, you have a special role to play.

You see the human face of public health tragedies like AIDS, violence and substance abuse.

You know the complexities of teenage life. You know the importance of prevention. You know the value of comprehensive, community-based solutions. And you know that the imperative of reaching kids early -- gaining their trust -- giving them our ears -- getting our arms around them -- and never letting go.

Because, the truth is, our success will depend not on what we say today -- but on what all of us do tomorrow.

We need your leadership as part of a national crusade on behalf of our youth -- one that goes community

by community, block by block, home by home -- making sure that children and teens become hooked on hope and too strong for wrong.

I am reminded of that wonderful scene in the movie Apollo 13, where the air filtering system has broken down and the mission is in trouble.

On the ground, the NASA staff gathers up everything that is collectible on the spacecraft and dumps it into a room with their top engineers. The director looks them in the eye and tells them they have one hour to find a way to build a new air filter that works.

And then, in case there was any confusion, he adds, "Failure is not an option."

Failure is not an option -- not when we work together, and not when the lives of our children are at stake.

Thank you.

###

June 22, 1998

Evam
Called
9/24

MEMORANDUM FOR EVAN RYAN

FROM: LAEL BRAINARD

SUBJECT: FLOTUS Scheduling Proposal from the Adolescent Health Center in New York City

Please find attached a letter inviting the First Lady to be the keynote speaker at the thirtieth anniversary of the Adolescent Health Center of the Mount Sinai Medical Center on December 3, 1998. I sent a much earlier copy of the letter to Patty Solis-Doyle, who deferred a decision on it.

The Center is a pioneer in addressing the medical and mental health needs of adolescents from diverse racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds using a comprehensive, preventive approach. It is known nationally for its innovative leadership in areas such as teen pregnancy, street outreach to high risk youth, peer education, and new methods of outreach such as teen theater.

The Center's director, Dr. Angela Diaz, originally came into contact with the Center as a teenager, when she emigrated to the United States from the Dominican Republic at the age of 15. She subsequently overcame language and socioeconomic barriers to become one of this country's leading experts on adolescent health. She served as a White House Fellow in 1994-5.

As you can tell, I am a great admirer both of the Center, which I have had the fortune to visit on several occasions, and its director. I highly recommend you include this event of the First Lady's schedule, if at all possible. I think it will be time well spent. Thank you.

Paul Kakano
212 423-2927
337 0316



The Mount Sinai Medical Center

One Gustave L. Levy Place
New York, NY 10029-6574The Mount Sinai Hospital
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

**The Adolescent Health Center
320 East 94th Street
New York, New York 10128**

June 19, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20035

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I have had the pleasure of meeting you several times. Brooke Shearer introduced us when I served as a White House Fellow in the class of 1994 - 1995. My White House Fellowship assignment was in the Department of Interior, working under Secretary Bruce Babbitt. The fellowship year was one of the most memorable years of my life. I met you again, when you visited the Children's Aid Society in New York City, where I serve as Vice President and Medical Director. I've always been struck by the depth and breadth of the knowledge you bring to issues of health and child welfare. As First Lady, you have provided great leadership and inspiration to health professionals and health consumers alike.

Thursday, December 3, 1998 the Adolescent Health Center of the Mount Sinai Medical Center will be celebrating its Thirty Year Anniversary. The Adolescent Health Center serves the comprehensive health and mental health needs of an ethnically, racially and culturally diverse population of adolescents ages 10-21. We serve young people from throughout the greater New York City metropolitan area. We are nationally known and are the largest and most comprehensive adolescent center in the United States providing more than 40,000 visits annually. Our mission is to enhance disease prevention and health promotion in the adolescent population by providing primary medical, mental health and reproductive health care education and training, research into effective intervention and effective service delivery, the dissemination of knowledge and the enhancement of health care policy.

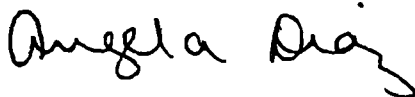
We know of your longstanding commitment to the health needs of children and adolescents and of your extensive knowledge about the issues that face the country in raising the next generation of healthy adults. We would be extremely honored if you will agree to be our keynote speaker. I know that you would find a warm and receptive



audience of six hundred experts in the field of health adolescent medicine, community members, parents and teens and others who have demonstrated a commitment to serving the needs of young people. Your presence would mean a great deal to us and to the families, children and communities that we serve and to the entire community of health providers and policy makers. I look forward to hearing from you.

I have attached a two page executive summary describing the Adolescent Health Center's mission and services and some highlights about us and our plans for the symposium. I would be very happy to furnish you and your staff with any additional information that you may need about us and the event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Diaz".

Angela Diaz, M.D.
Vice Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Chief, Division of Adolescent Medicine
Director, Adolescent Health Center

cc: Dr. Gary Rosenberg

ADOLESCENT HEALTH CENTER OF THE MOUNT SINAI MEDICAL CENTER
will celebrate 30 years as an innovative, nationally renowned center
for adolescent health services

Adolescence Is Not Just a Phase of Life:
Adolescents are Our Future

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1998.

Adolescent Health Center Clients: ages 10-22, come from East and Central Harlem, the South Bronx, and from all of the New York City metropolitan area.

Our mission is to enhance disease prevention and health promotion in the adolescent population through

- The provision of primary medical, mental health and reproductive health care
- The education and training of patients and health care professionals
- Research into effective intervention and effective service delivery
- The dissemination of knowledge and the enhancement of health care policy
- Ensuring that adolescents develop a sense of "ownership" of their health needs to enable them to become good consumers of medical service

Services span the spectrum from prevention to treatment, and include pregnancy prevention, health education, counseling and support services, sexual victimization, depression and suicidality, nutritional counseling and eating disorders, smoking cessation and substance abuse prevention, and specialty services such as colposcopy, rheumatology and orthopedics.

- Nationally known: largest and most comprehensive adolescent health center in the United States.
- Over 40,000 visits annually.

As part of an academic medical center AHC is a training site for adolescent medicine and all related disciplines, conducts research on adolescent health, and is able to benefit from the tertiary and specialty services of the Mount Sinai Medical Center.

To ensure access many services are provided onsite at the Adolescent Health Center, in schools and the community, reaching adolescents where they congregate. Lack of access to health services is a major national contributor to adolescent health risks. Therefore **AHC services are confidential and free** to uninsured young people in a freestanding facility.

ADOLESCENT HEALTH CENTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Federal CSAPP award-winning teen substance abuse prevention program.
- No Time to Lose Award for Outstanding Community Service, New York State Department of Social Service.
- American Medical Association award-winning peer and teen theater based HIV / AIDS prevention.
- AHC's success in raising over \$3 million a year in grant support enables us to lead the field in ground-breaking, free prevention and treatment programs for the highest risk young teens.
- Culturally diverse staff of over 100 with expertise in all aspects of adolescent health.
- As a teenager and immigrant from the Dominican Republic, AHC Director Dr. Angela Diaz was an AHC client when she first arrived in New York City. She was chosen as a White House Fellow in 1994.

AHC's innovative programs lead the field in addressing emergent adolescent health issues, and include:

- Street outreach to high risk youth.
- S.T.A.R. Theatre: Teen theater, written and performed by adolescents, as a vehicle for prevention, education and outreach.
- Violence prevention and treatment, rape and sexual abuse services.
- Pregnancy prevention.
- Peer education and mentoring programs.
- Cardiovascular risk reduction through exercise, nutritional counseling and emotional counseling and support.

OUR THIRTY YEAR CELEBRATION: DECEMBER 3, 1998

A one day celebratory event, "Adolescence is Not Just a Phase of Life: Adolescents are Our Future," with nationally known adolescent health experts addressing the challenges posed by current adolescent health risks and the resiliencies of adolescents and the opportunities they offer us for health promotion.

- Luncheon at the campus of the Mount Sinai Medical Center with Opening address, STAR Theatre performance
- Symposium with a panel of discussants with moderator
- Cocktail reception and Keynote speaker.
- An Adolescent Health Center Open House to highlight staff and programs, a video presentation, poster competition exhibition and photographic exhibition highlighting our thirty years of service

to: Noa Meyer
from
Paul Caccamo
Mt. Sinai Adolescent Health Center

t: (202) 337-0316
f: (202) 337-7522

Tuesday, November 3, 1998

This is
Page 1
of
6 pages

Noa, please find enclosed the materials you requested. I will check my voice mail regularly to see if you need any follow-up materials or information. Thank you.

Proposed Words by The First Lady;

Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center Symposium Spotlighting Youth

(Greetings)

Today is a special day not just for New York City, but for the entire country, as we celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the nation's largest health center dedicated exclusively to adolescents, the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center.

I want to start by recognizing the vision of Doctor Joan Morgenthau. Thirty years ago, Dr. Morgenthau understood that if we were truly going to provide adolescents with health care services that were both accessible and effective, we needed to develop a center that specialized in working with this age group. It was this vision which today has grown into the Adolescent Health Center on 94th St. In every way, this center has made Dr. Morgenthau's vision a reality from the adolescent friendly facilities to the staff of more than 100 adolescent health care workers.

One sentence

I also want to take a moment to thank the staff at the Adolescent Health Center. Everyday, the halls of the center are filled with doctors, nurses, social workers, health educators, other providers, and administrative and support staff--you are the ones who truly give from your hearts and make the center a welcome place for patients who make more than 40,000 visits each year.

Today is also a day to recognize the strength and perseverance of our young people. Many of the adolescents at the center are not just patients, but peer educators and role models for other youth across the nation. I want to recognize these adolescents for their contributions and their leadership, and I want to encourage them to continue to set examples through their words and actions.

Lastly, let me say thank you Mount Sinai Medical Center and its many friends, funders and supporters for setting an example to the nation that the best way to care for adolescents is through adolescent specialized care. The accomplishments of the Adolescent Health Center in these thirty years is a wonderful testimony to this fact for health care providers all over the country.

(All of you, today and everyday, demonstrate that adolescence is not just a phase of life, adolescents are our future.

Happy 30th Anniversary Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center.

Schedule Proposal

Accept

Regret

Pending

TO:

FROM:

Leslie Thornton
Chief of Staff

REQUEST:

Preparation of a video from the First Lady to address a national teleconference highlighting the importance of arts education titled "Arts Literacy for a Changing America." The teleconference is co-sponsored by the Arts Education Partnership, a coalition of more than 100 national business, education, arts, and community organizations.

PURPOSE:

The program, "Arts Literacy for a Changing American," will involve outstanding community, business and school leaders in analyzing why the knowledge and skills developed in learning the arts constitute an important form of "literacy" students need to meet the challenges of American society. The teleconference is follow-up from the November 10th release of NAEP, a nationwide assessment in 1997 of the arts knowledge and abilities of American students.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the NAEP arts assessment was to determine what students knew and were able to do in responding with understanding and judgement to works of visual art, music, dance and theater. They were also assessed for their ability to perform and create works of their own as well as to communicate ideas and feelings.

DATE AND TIME:

Secretary Riley will host the program on Tuesday, December 1 at 7:30PM (ET)

LOCATION:

To be determined.

PARTICIPANTS:

Invited: National Endowment for the Arts Chairman William Ivey, Bill Press, the host of CNN's *Crossfire* as moderator, and panelists and audience participants will be drawn from the arts, education and business communities.

OUTLINE OF EVENTS:

Tuesday, December 1
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (ET)

work place skills - & creative
problem solving
positive

For few for
valuable to get info
Date

Real under

Challenges
Kids did badly
very few scored in top levels

Kids took arts classes better
resp - annual
perf - reading
creativity - improv
on everyting
thought - make

Page 2

MEDIA COVERAGE: Open

RECOMMENDED BY: Richard Riley, Secretary of Education

CONTACT: Leslie Thornton, Chief of Staff
U.S. Department of Education
Telephone: 401-3000; Fax: 401-0596
or
Terri Ferinde Dunham, OIA
U.S. Department of Education
Telephone: 205-0708; Fax: 205-0676



WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

PHONE: 202/456-2000

FAX: 202/456-2008

TO: Noa Meyer

FAX: _____

PHONE: _____

FROM: SARAH

DATE: _____

Number of Pages (Including Cover): 4

MESSAGE: This got sent to Evan Ryan but I hear you're the video person. I hear there's a lot on the plate for Thursday's session but this is a major deal that's for Dec 1 so I don't know that there will be another opportunity.

WHITE HOUSE MILLENNIUM COUNCIL
708 JACKSON PLACE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20503

The information contained in this facsimile is PRIVATE and intended for the recipient ONLY. Please call if there are any problems with our transmission.

October 27, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO:

FROM: Leslie Thornton
Chief of Staff

SUBJECT: Request to prepare a video from the First Lady to address a national teleconference highlighting the importance of arts education titled "Arts Literacy for a Changing America."

Attached is a scheduling request for the First Lady to tape a short video to be broadcast during address a national teleconference highlighting the importance of arts education titled "Arts Literacy for a Changing America." The event will be held on December 1, 1998.

The purpose of this teleconference is to discuss findings in the recent NAEP assessment of *National Assessment of Educational Progress* the arts knowledge and abilities of American students. Panelists will discuss why the knowledge and skills developed in learning the arts constitute an important form of "literacy" students need to meet the challenges of American society.

I appreciate your review of this request and thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-6143.

Attachment



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

BUREAU FOR LEGISLATIVE
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

TO: *Abby Dressel*

FAX #:

PHONE #:

456-2581

FROM: *Karen Anderson*

SENDERS VOICE TELEPHONE NUMBER:

(202) 712-~~4300~~ *4427*

SENDERS FACSIMILE TELEPHONE NUMBER:

(202) 216-3237

SUBJECT: *Mrs. Clinton's taping scheduled
for Thurs. Nov. 5*

MESSAGE:

*Please call me at 712-4427 with any
questions.*

NUMBER OF PAGES IN MESSAGE (INCLUDING THIS COVER):

8



U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: Abby Dressel and Katy Button
Office of The First Lady
The White House

FROM: Karen Anderson *kea*
Legislative and Public Affairs
USAID

SUBJECT: Video Clip for USAID's Vitamin A Effort

Issue: The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is developing a short 7-10 minute video of USAID's vitamin A effort (VITA) and would like to include brief comments by the First Lady on the importance of this global initiative. We understand the filming will take place on Thursday, November 5, 1998, once the script is reviewed and approved.

Background: The video will be used during the anticipated White House event where the First Lady will officially launch the VITA partnerships. We are still waiting for a date from your office for this event which will help mobilize and solidify the U.S. public and private partnerships to eliminate vitamin A deficiency. Participants will include CEOs from private sector food and pharmaceutical companies and representatives from UNICEF, WHO, other donors, civic organizations and PVOs. USAID will also circulate the video on WorldNet Television, possibly with an interactive program in order to provide a wider distribution of the message throughout the world, particularly throughout the developing world.

We would propose that the First Lady emphasize that vitamin A deficiency is a public health problem that can be addressed and that by joining forces in the public and private sector we can save the lives of millions of children. Attached are suggested talking points and a copy of the full script.

Attachments

- 1) First Lady's Proposed Segment
- 2) Full Draft Script, "The Global Vitamin A Effort"

Attachment 1

Suggested Talking Points:

- AS WE'E JUST SEEN, WE **CAN** ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY.
- IN THE PAST WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER TO ELIMINATE SMALLPOX. WE ARE NOW ON THE VERGE OF ELIMINATING POLIO.
- WE'VE DEMONSTRATED THAT **IT CAN BE DONE**. WE **MUST** COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO BUILD EFFECTIVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE ALLIANCES TO ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY.
- **THIS IS OUR CHALLENGE.**
- I URGE YOU TO JOIN US SO THAT IN THE COMING MILLENNIUM WE CAN LOOK BACK ON VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY AS A PROBLEM OF THE PAST.

Attachment 2

DRAFT**THE GLOBAL VITAMIN A EFFORT**

IN THE EYES OF A CHILD...LIFE IS SIMPLE, A TIME OF WONDER, NEW EXPERIENCE, DISCOVERIES ABOUT THE WORLD AND THEMSELVES. BUT SADLY MANY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE SHUT OUT OF THAT WORLD, FALLING PREY TO MALNUTRITION.

NOT AS STRONG OR AS HEALTHY AS THEY SHOULD BE. THESE CHILDREN HAVE FEWER OPPORTUNITIES TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IN LIFE.

A HEARTLESS AND INDISCRIMINATE PREDATOR AFFECTS MORE THAN 250 MILLION CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS. THIS IS NOT AN UNKNOWN OR INCURABLE DISEASE. IT IS THE LACK OF A SIMPLE NUTRIENT-- VITAMIN A

UNTIL RECENTLY, VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY WAS SEEN MERELY AS A CAUSE OF BLINDNESS. BUT BLINDNESS IS OFTEN AN INDICATOR OF FAR MORE SEVERE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT- FUNDED RESEARCH SHOWS A CHILD'S ABILITY TO SURVIVE COMMON DISEASES LIKE MEASLES OR DIARRHEA IS IMPAIRED LONG BEFORE BLINDNESS OCCURS.

ELIMINATING VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY IS A CHALLENGE - BUT IT IS IN NO WAY INSURMOUNTABLE.

QUOTE: HARRIET BABBITT, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, USAID

" U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IS WORKING WITH UNICEF, THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, AND OTHERS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM OF VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY AND TO HELP COUNTRIES TAKE ACTION.

WE KNOW WE CAN COMBAT THIS MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM -- WE'VE DONE IT IN THE UNITED STATES PROMOTING GOOD NUTRITION AND FORTIFYING FOODS WITH THE HELP OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

USAID IS COMMITTED TO ELIMINATING VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY WORLDWIDE BUT, WE NEED MANY PARTNERS TO GET THE JOB DONE -- MOTHERS, FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES, PRIVATE INDUSTRIES AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES. BY WORKING TOGETHER AND POOLING OUR RESOURCES WE CAN REACH THOSE TRULY IN NEED AND SAVE THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF CHILDREN.

----ZAMBIA FOOTAGE

AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, USAID FUNDED RESEARCH ON VITAMIN A AND CHILD SURVIVAL.

QUOTE: DR. KEITH WEST, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

"CHILDREN, YOUNG CHILDREN ARE AT HIGH RISK FROM DYING FROM INFECTIONS SUCH AS DIARRHEA, ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS, MEASLES, INFECTIONS THAT CREATE, THAT CAUSE HIGH FEVER AND VITAMIN A IS CRITICAL FOR HELPING CHILDREN RESIST THOSE INFECTIONS."

QUOTE: DR. DUFF GILLESPIE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR USAID

"THE THING ABOUT VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY IS THAT IT TOUCHES VERY WIDE SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION AND FORTUNATELY, IT IS AMENABLE TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROGRAMS OF INTERVENTIONS. BUT NO ONE ORGANIZATION CAN DO THIS ALONE. WHAT WE SEE IS AN ALLIANCE, AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN COMMUNITIES AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL, PRIVATE SECTOR THAT IS INVOLVED WITH FORTIFICATION OF PROCESS FOODS, NGO'S IN TERMS OF DEVELOPING COMMUNITY BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMS, AND SUPPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS AND VITAMIN A CAPSULES."

12 MILLION CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 DIE EACH YEAR IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MALNUTRITION IS AN UNDERLYING CAUSE OF 56% OF ALL THOSE DEATHS.

WITH VITAMIN A PROGRAMS, CHILDREN'S RISK OF DEATH FROM MEASLES CAN BE REDUCED BY 50 PERCENT. DEATH FROM DIARRHEA CAN BE REDUCED BY 40 PERCENT, AND OVERALL CHILD MORTALITY CAN BE REDUCED BY AS MUCH AS 30 PERCENT.

[CHYRON STATS] MEASLES DEATHS REDUCED BY 50 PERCENT
DIARRHEA DEATHS REDUCED BY 40 PERCENT
CHILD MORTALITY REDUCED BY 30 PERCENT

FOR LESS THAN A PENNY A WEEK PER CHILD, AS MANY AS A MILLION
CHILDREN CAN BE GIVEN A HIGH DOSE VITAMIN A CAPSULE TWICE A YEAR
TO IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH, AND INCREASE THEIR CHANCES OF SURVIVAL.

FORTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS, SUCH AS SUGAR, MARGARINE, STAPLE FOODS
AND MILK IS ANOTHER INEXPENSIVE WAY TO COMBAT VITAMIN A
DEFICIENCY
BEFORE IT BREAKS THE CHAIN OF LIFE.

[FOODS TO MOVE]

VITAMIN A IS FOUND IN BREAST MILK, FISH, MEATS AND EGGS, DAIRY
PRODUCTS, GREEN LEAFY VEGETABLES, MANGOES, PAPAYAS, AND CARROTS.

EATING NUTRITIOUS FOOD INCREASES VITAMIN A INTAKE AND AVERTS
ILLNESS AND DEATH.

WHERE THESE FOODS ARE NOT PLENTIFUL, PROGRAMS ARE IN PLACE TO
TEACH PEOPLE TO GROW VITAMIN A-RICH FOODS.

IN RECENT YEARS, BANGLADESH HAS ESTABLISHED A SUCCESSFUL HOME
GARDENING PROGRAM THAT NOT ONLY HELPS PRODUCE VITAMIN A RICH
FOODS, BUT ALSO GENERATES INCOME.

IN NEPAL, THE NATIONAL VITAMIN A PROGRAM, SUPPORTED BY USAID, IS A
UNIQUE GRASSROOTS EFFORT. COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS DISTRIBUTE
HIGH DOSE VITAMIN A CAPSULES TO CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE,
AND TO NEW MOTHERS.

THE PROGRAM WORKS THROUGH A LOCAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION NETWORK AND FEMALE COMMUNITY HEALTH VOLUNTEERS
WHO EDUCATE THEIR COMMUNITIES ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF VITAMIN A.

QUOTE: CAROL BELLAMY, DIRECTOR, UNICEF

"...IT IS NOT OFTEN THAT WE FIND SUCH AN EASY ANSWER TO SUCH A
DIFFICULT PROBLEM. AND WE SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE

OPPORTUNITY. FOR THAT REASON WE ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT WORKING WITH OUR PARTNERS IN THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT TO ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY."

SIXTY PERCENT OF ALL VITAMIN A DEATHS OCCUR IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES. [INDIA, INDONESIA, BANGLADESH, ZAMBIA, UGANDA, SOUTH AFRICA, PERU, NICARAGUA] THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE COUNTRIES TARGETED IN THE GLOBAL EFFORT TO ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY.

[ROLE COUNTRY LIST]

THE 1990 WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN SET THE GOAL TO END VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY BY THE YEAR 2000.

(PICTURES OF HEALTHY CHILDREN)

QUOTE: HILLARY CLINTON, U.S. FIRST LADY

AS WE'VE JUST SEEN, WE CAN ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY.

IN THE PAST WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER TO ELIMINATE SMALLPOX. WE ARE NOW ON THE VERGE OF ELIMINATING POLIO.

WE'VE DEMONSTRATED THAT **IT CAN BE DONE**. WE **MUST** COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO BUILD EFFECTIVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE ALLIANCES TO ELIMINATE VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY.

THIS IS OUR CHALLENGE.

I URGE YOU TO JOIN US SO THAT IN THE COMING MILLENNIUM WE CAN LOOK BACK ON VITAMIN A DEFICIENCY AS A PROBLEM OF THE PAST.

The Global Vitamin A Effort: A Declaration for a Global Alliance

- WHAT:** A meeting of fifty stakeholders at the White House with Mrs. Clinton as chair. The meeting will provide an opportunity to highlight our newly formed partnership with the private sector and allow for the symbolic signing of a "declaration of intent" to collaborate on efforts to save the lives of millions of children. In addition to USAID remarks, presentations will be made by several of the corporate representatives, as well as leaders in the field of Vitamin A research and the medical community.
- WHO:** Participants will include CEOs from private sector food and pharmaceutical companies such as Land O'Lakes, Procter & Gamble, and Roche Vitamins. Other attendees will include representatives from civic organizations, PVOs, universities, UNICEF, WHO, other donor nations, and members of Congress (a suggested participant list is attached).
- WHEN:** To be determined.
- WHERE:** We would hope to use one of the White House meeting rooms for the event.
- WHY:** USAID has formed a first-ever, public-private partnership to address Vitamin A deficiency worldwide. This event will launch these partnerships and offer a high level of visibility to demonstrate our mutual commitment to the global Vitamin A effort.

Attachment 2

The White House Launch of the Global Vitamin A Effort**Scene Setting**

USAID has mounted a major effort to reduce vitamin A deficiency in children under 5 years old in developing countries. This is a priority within the Agency's child survival program. We anticipate up to a 30 percent reduction in child mortality in targeted countries by the year 2002.

The ability to reach these goals will require more resources and greater avenues for child survival interventions than those available from USAID alone. For this reason, there are important partners in this effort -- other donors, multilaterals and now the private sector and civic organizations.

White House Event

The purpose of the event is to officially launch the U.S.'s commitment to this major vitamin A effort in a highly visible and engaging manner. The involvement of the First Lady will help mobilize and solidify the support and commitment to this collaborative effort.

The event will provide a forum for:

The First Lady to demonstrate U.S. leadership in vitamin A and child survival efforts worldwide.

Congressional members supporting child survival to demonstrate their commitment to the cause.

UNICEF and CIDA to attest to their on-going commitment and collaboration with USAID

The private sector and other leaders to proclaim their commitment to the bridging of a impressive and innovative public - private partnership to save the lives of millions of children.

Anticipated Outcomes

Provide public statements and commitments to achieve a reduction in vitamin A deficiency.

Officially launch the VITA Alliance and establish a common goal.

Provide photo opportunities for each of the partners that can be used as advocacy tools for policy makers and government officials.

TO: NUA MEYER

456 2581

Thanks!
Paul



Morning Events

Come and See the Center

Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center Open House & Breakfast
9AM-10:45AM

Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, 312 E. 94th St

(Transportation will be available to Mount Sinai immediately following the Open House)

Listen to the Nation's Leading Expert in Adolescent Resiliency

"Protecting Young People From Harm"

Michael Resnick, Ph.D.

Director, National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Research Center,
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

11:15AM-12:30 PM

Stern Auditorium, The Annenberg Building, Madison Ave. at 100th St.

Afternoon Events

**Meet the Faces of Adolescent Health: Peer Educators,
Patients, Providers, and Special Celebrity Guests!**

Adolescent Health Symposium: "Making Healthy Choices"

Michael Carrera, Ph.D.

Executive Director, National Adolescent Sexuality Training Center,
Children's Aid Society, New York City

**Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center Peer Educators and Patients
Celebrity Guest Stars**

2:45PM-4:15PM

Stern Auditorium, The Annenberg Building, Madison Ave. at 100th St.

Celebrate Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center ¡Con Gusto!

Reception

Live Salsa/Meringue band and Refreshments

4:15PM-6:30PM

West Lobby, The Annenberg Building, Madison Ave. at 100th St.

For more information call (212) 423-2927



Please join us for a luncheon to honor
the founder of the Adolescent Health Center

Joan Morgenthau, M.D.

Keynote Speaker: **Nora Ephron,**
Writer, Director and Producer
"Sleepless in Seattle" and "You've Got Mail"

12:45PM-2:15PM

The East Building Dining Room,
98th St. and Madison Avenue

RSVP

☐ I can attend the AHC Anniversary Luncheon

☐ I cannot attend the AHC Anniversary Luncheon

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Due to limited seating at the luncheon, please reply promptly.
For more information call (212) 423-2927



Grace Shafir
Dare to Dream Foundation
3790 Kings Way, Boca Raton, FL 33434
tel 561-883-9918 fax 883-3280 beeper 888-941-9847
email GShafir@aol.com web www.daretodream.org



Evan Ryan
White House

November 20, 1998

Dear Evan,

I don't have your extension, so it's easier to fax you.

This is re my request for an interview with the First Lady for Actions Have Consequences, the video that is endorsed by the Dept of Ed., National School Boards, National Secondary School Principals, National Middle Schools, and NEA. Our message is the choices children make determine the rest of their lives. It will be distributed to all middle and high schools. We expect all students over the age of 12 will see it. We are also partnering with Girls Inc., Urban League, Boys and Girls' Clubs, YWCA, etc. who will use it for their after-school programs.

We had discussed her schedule permitting a few minutes after the Women's Agenda on December 2. I have to be in DC that afternoon, but I'm sure my schedule is more flexible than hers. I had also requested that if it is to be done at the White House that we be allowed to use our crew in your studio as we did for Secretary Riley.

I really was calling to update you on my meeting this Tuesday with SC-ETV. It looks like they will be televising the Town Meetings. We'll be finalizing plans in the next few weeks. FYI: Town Meetings are to be held in each community with community leaders, educators, heads of after-school programs, PTA, clergy, etc. to decide how to pool their resources and work together to engage all kids and keep them connected. According to both Secretary Riley and the NSSP, an involved child doesn't commit violence.

We also received permission from the NCAA and from U-Tn to make PSAs with their three star athletes which will encourage kids to do their best and to warn an adult of violence brewing.

Hope you have a good week-end.

Best,


Grace Shafir