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001. fax	Mobility International U.S.A.; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (2 pages)	09/29/1995	b(6)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
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William White, Jr.
OA/Box Number: 14205

FOLDER TITLE:

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities Award 10/12

2007-0143-F

db4564

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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October 13, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL RASCO AND DIANA FORTUNA

FROM: Debbie Fine

SUBJECT: Letter to Tony Coelho

Attached is the final version of the letter from the President that went to Tony Coelho when the employment award photo op was cancelled. A letter from the President was also sent to the father of the award winner expressing his sympathy. I will forward that to you fyi when I see it.

I am still waiting for suggested dates from the President's Committee for re-scheduling the photo-op, and will let you know as soon as they have a better sense of the father's prognosis.

Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 11, 1995

The Honorable Tony Coelho
Chair
President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities
Suite 300
1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-1107

Dear Tony:

Thank you for your letters of September 12 and September 22. I am grateful for all that you are doing to promote empowerment and employment of people with disabilities, and I appreciate your letting me know of Susan Sygall's outstanding achievements.

As we celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month, I stand with you in the effort to convey to the American public the value of integrating persons with disabilities into all aspects of our daily life. This year's NDEAM pamphlet and poster do a great job of sending this simple but powerful message.

I was so sorry to learn of Susan's father's illness, and I hope that he'll have a speedy and full recovery. We are working to reschedule the 1995 President's Award presentation, and I look forward to seeing you then, if not before.

Sincerely,

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 6, 1995

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH, 1995

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

"The strongest bond . . . outside of the family relation, should be one uniting all working people, of all nations, and tongues, and kindreds." Although written more than a century ago, Abraham Lincoln's words continue to express the ability of common purpose to transcend boundaries. As our Nation prepares for a new century and faces the demands of an increasingly global marketplace, this idea is more important than ever. We are called upon to value every citizen's unique gifts and to encourage all people to participate in moving our Nation forward.

America's employees with disabilities have long been a part of this effort, distinguishing themselves in virtually every occupation and profession. Indeed, study after study has shown that workers with disabilities perform as well as, or better than, other members of the labor force on every factor measured. The typical cost of accommodating a person with a disability on the job is only \$200, and this investment is amply repaid -- wage earners with disabilities increase productivity and tax revenue, become consumers of goods and services, and reduce the burden on government welfare and entitlement programs.

Yet despite their many contributions and successes, individuals with disabilities remain underrepresented in our Nation's work force. Fully two-thirds of all Americans of working age with severe disabilities are unemployed, though research indicates that two-thirds of that number want to work. We cannot allow this situation to continue, but must unite in a concerted effort to ensure that all people with disabilities have the opportunity to be integral, productive members of our society. Together, our Nation's employers and citizens with disabilities can form an unbeatable team equipped to advance an interest vital to our country -- a sound and growing economy.

To recognize the tremendous potential of individuals with disabilities and to encourage all Americans to work toward their integration and full inclusion in the work force, the Congress, by joint resolution, approved August 11, 1945, as amended (36 U.S.C. 155), has designated October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 1995 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. I call upon government officials, educators, and the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that reaffirm our determination to fulfill both the letter and the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

#



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION



Urgent



Normal Delivery

Date: 10/5/95

To: Hebbie Fine

Fax #: 202-456-7028 Ofc. #: _____

From: Ellen Daly

The President's Committee
On Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1107

Total number of pages including this page: 4

Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages: this is the press
release on Susan Sygall, the 1995
President's Awardee. This release will
be mailed on 10/6/95.

OPA 4/93

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107
202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6205 (TDD)
202-376-6219 (Fax)



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: GARY GERSHOWITZ
(202) 376-6200

**PRESIDENT CLINTON TO PRESENT PRESIDENT'S AWARD TO SUSAN SYGALL,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL USA**

(Washington, DC, October 6, 1995) The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities has selected Susan Sygall, Executive Director of Mobility International USA (MIUSA), Eugene, OR, to receive the 1995 the President's Award. Sygall will receive the award from President Clinton at the White House on October 12.

The award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to enhance the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities. Sygall was selected from a national slate of 16 individuals nominated by leaders in the disability community.

"The President and the President's Committee are pleased to recognize Susan Sygall, for her dynamic leadership in international educational exchange programs for people with disabilities, for her mentorship of young people with disabilities, and for her active role throughout Oregon, our country and the world in advancing employment of people with disabilities," said Tony Coelho, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

As co-founder and executive director of MIUSA, Sygall brought to the organization her passion for international travel and her commitment to work for the civil rights of persons with disabilities. Sygall's pioneering work began at the grassroots, where she insisted on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in international educational and community service exchange programs that would give these individuals the opportunities to experience the personal and community-building benefits of international exchange.

Sygall's motto is: "Challenge Yourself - and Change the World." According to individuals who supported her nomination, MIUSA's success has been the result of Sygall's belief in these words and her advocacy.

-more-

SYGALL, add 1

At Sygall's direction people with disabilities are uniting worldwide and offering each other support, resources and opportunities for empowerment. The organization employs people with disabilities as staff-interns, board members and volunteers.

Through MIUSA scholarships, educational and social opportunities are made available to students with disabilities. Sygall has organized international workcamps and exchange programs for hundreds of participants from Latin America, Asia, Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States. Sygall has sought to unite children and young adults with disabilities from all over the world to discover their own abilities through participation in educational, recreational and leadership programs.

Participants in MIUSA programs have gained self-confidence and returned to their home countries and communities to work toward disability rights programs and laws related to accessibility and employment.

Working with Congressional leaders, Sygall has been instrumental in increasing the number of participants with disabilities in educational programs sponsored by the United States Information Agency. In 1993 she was a presenter at the Association for Women in Development and the Sixth Interdisciplinary Conference on Women in Costa Rica. Recently she was among several disability rights leaders who coordinated the International Symposium on Women with Disabilities at the United Nations' 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

During Sygall's freshman year at the University of Colorado, where she planned to study therapeutic recreation, she experienced a spinal cord injury. After her rehabilitation she returned to college at the California, Berkeley, only to discover that there were no sport activities available for persons with disabilities. Under Sygall's leadership, a women's wheelchair basketball team was established, and she became the national champion in wheelchair table tennis for three years. In 1975 she co-founded the Disabled Women's Coalition and the Berkeley Outreach Recreation Program.

Sygall is the co-author of seven publications, including "A Guide to China for Persons with Disabilities;" "A Manual on How to Integrate Persons with Disabilities into International Educational Exchange Programs;" "A World of Options for the '90s: A Guide to International Educational Exchange, Community Service and Travel for Persons with Disabilities;" and "Global Perspectives on Disability: A Curriculum." Sygall has presented workshops to government agencies and private organizations worldwide on developing and implementing various educational exchange programs.

SYGALL, add 2

She earned a B.S. in natural resources from the University of California Berkeley and an M.S. in therapeutic recreation from the University of Oregon. While in the graduate program, Sygall studied at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia as a Rotary International scholar. From 1986 to 1989 Sygall was a Kellogg National Leadership Fellow.

Born in New York City to survivors of the Holocaust, Sygall lives in Eugene, Oregon with her partner Tom Broeker.

The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities is an independent federal agency based in Washington, DC. The Committee's mission is to facilitate the communication, coordination and promotion of public and private efforts to enhance the employment of people with disabilities. The Committee provides information, training and technical assistance to America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, advocacy organizations, families and individuals with disabilities. It also operates the Job Accommodation Network (JAN), a toll-free information service on the American's with Disabilities Act, and employment accommodations.

1995 NOMINATION FORM

THE PRESIDENT'S
A W A R D

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of Nominee SYGALL SUSAN
Last First Middle
Address PO BOX 10767
City EUGENE State OR Zip 97440
Phone (503) 343-1284 FAX ()

NOMINATING SPONSOR

Name of Sponsor LEWIS CINDY
Last First Middle
Address 1225 1/2 WEST 4th
City EUGENE State OR Zip 97402
Phone (503) 334-4686 FAX ()

Governor's Committee Verification:

State of OREGON Date JANUARY 27, 1995

Signature of Governor's Committee Representative and Title

Eugene G. [Signature] EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Signature Title

OREGON DISABILITIES COMMISSION
PRESIDENT'S AWARD NOMINATION

Nominee: Susan Sygall

Executive Director
Mobility International USA
P.O. Box 10767
Eugene, Oregon 97440
(503) 343-1284

1. Describe the nominee's present involvement in issues and areas of importance to people with disabilities on the state and national levels. Describe past activities as well.

Susan Sygall serves as the Executive Director of Mobility International USA (MIUSA). She was honored by the Oregon Disabilities Commission as "Disabled Oregonian of the Year" in the 1994 state competition. Oregon is pleased to nominate Susan for the national competition for the President's Award this year.

Susan Sygall has been a trailblazer in the movement to create a worldwide grassroots network of people of disabilities. As a pioneer voice insisting on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in international educational and community service exchange programs, Susan has created opportunities for persons with disabilities to experience the personal and community-building benefits of international exchange long available to people without disabilities.

Susan Sygall was selected and participated in the Americans with Disabilities Act Training and Implementation Network's national training program in 1993. She successfully completed both Phase I and Phase II as well as providing the requisite follow-up training sessions on the ADA for people with disabilities and employers in her local community.

As co-founder and Executive Director of MIUSA, Susan has organized international workcamps and exchange programs for hundreds of participants with disabilities from Latin America, Asia, Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, and the U.S. MIUSA programs feature leadership training, outdoor challenge activities, educational seminars, homestays, and community service projects. Benefits of MIUSA exchanges have a ripple effect, as participants return to their communities with new ideas, skills, self-confidence, and assume responsibility for making changes in the lives of persons with disabilities. The host community also benefits, as relationships with disabled participants increase their awareness of persons with disabilities as active citizens in the world community.

Through Susan's leadership, Mobility International USA actively employs and empowers people with disabilities as employees, interns, Board members, and volunteers. The Board of Directors is composed of persons with disabilities in key leadership roles. MIUSA actively recruits people with disabilities to serve as homestay hosts to share their lifestyle experiences with visitors from around the world as well as the U.S. Susan has enlisted the support of numerous local businesses and the accessible public transportation system in exchange activities, thereby promoting the full inclusion of people with disabilities in her community.

Susan Sygall communicates a vision to people she meets around the world: a vision of a "family" of persons with disabilities. This family offers its members support, resources, and a sense of connection, empowering individuals to take action they would never dream of attempting in isolation. Susan has been irrefutably successful in influencing ordinary people with and without disabilities, to join this international movement to improve the lives of disabled citizens.

2. How will the selection of this nominee for the President's Award advance the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities?

Susan Sygall's approach is best summarized by her own motto, adopted by MIUSA, which she exemplifies in her life and her work: **Challenge Yourself - and Change the World**. As the recipient of this prestigious award, Susan would extend her personal and professional impact in the lives and quality of life of people with disabilities both here in the United States and throughout the world. Susan would be even more successful in her role as a citizen diplomat. Susan works hard to ensure that MIUSA's exchange programs create an impact that is far reaching for all involved. She would actively seek opportunities to extend the benefits of in-bound and out-bound exchange programs. She would speak out on issues that impact the empowerment and employment of people with disabilities; Susan would continue to grow and lead by example.

One of the finest tributes for the work Susan does is in the comments that people with disabilities have made as a result of their involvement in an exchange program. "This exchange has allowed me to find myself, to value this human being that I am, to find out about my capabilities and my true reasons for being" (a quote from an exchange delegate from Mexico). "At a workcamp I made friends from around the world - I learned new skills and shared my ideas with others" (a quote from an international workcamp participant who is paraplegic and uses a wheelchair). She would provide even greater leadership as the recipient of this award; Susan is a leader who will continue to inspire others to achieve.

Susan's most effective tool in all her accomplishments is herself, as a much needed role model: a woman with a disability who is skillful, competent, positive in her outlook, fierce in her beliefs, and willing to fight for her rights. Susan will provide a model of dynamic and effective leadership, urging persons with disabilities to recognize and use their abilities, while also teaching practical skills for making changes for better lives and equal rights.

3. Outline the nominee's employment background.

Susan Sygall entered college with plans for a career in therapeutic recreation, guided by the importance of recreation and sports in her own childhood and teenage experience. Her desire to share these interests with persons with disabilities took a more personal turn when Susan acquired a disability as a result of spinal cord injury during her freshman year. Returning to the University of California at Berkeley, Susan discovered that there were no sport activities available for persons with disabilities. Susan responded by founding a recreation program for persons with disabilities, forming two women's wheelchair basketball teams, and becoming the national champion in wheelchair table tennis for three years. During this time, Susan was deeply involved in the independent living movement, and in 1975 she co-founded the Disabled Women's Coalition in Berkeley, California.

Her love of travel and international experiences merged with her passion for the civil rights of persons with disabilities; in 1981 Susan co-founded Mobility International USA. She continues as Executive Director, traveling extensively as a recognized leader, spokesperson, and activist within the international exchange field.

4. Outline the nominee's educational background.

Susan has earned a Bachelor's degree in conservation of natural resources and a Master's degree in therapeutic recreation. In 1977, she studied at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia as a Rotary International scholar. Susan is a trained ADA expert with the ADA Training and Implementation Network. Susan has demonstrated her outstanding leadership with a Kellogg Foundation fellowship.

5. List other accomplishments.

Since her Rotary International fellowship in 1977, Susan has acted as a bridge between international exchange networks and disability related organizations, an outspoken and effective advocate for inclusion of persons with disabilities. Susan has served as a consultant to the Kellogg Foundation, National Association of Foreign Student Advisors, International Christian Youth Exchange, Rotary International, and the Global Fund for Women. Working with members of Congress, Susan has been instrumental in increasing the

page 4
Susan Sygall

number of participants with disabilities in educational programs sponsored by the US Information Agency. As a presenter at international meetings such as the Association for Women in Development and the Sixth Interdisciplinary Conference on Women, Susan brings visibility to issues faced by persons with disabilities and their potential for international participation. Currently, Susan is spearheading an international effort to create a strong presence of women with disabilities at the U.N. sponsored 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, China in 1995.

Susan has created multi-media resources to persuade international exchange and development networks to incorporate persons with disabilities. Among her books are a guide to international educational exchange, community service, and travel for persons with disabilities; an educational curriculum on international disability issues; and a manual on how to integrate persons with disabilities into international educational exchange programs. Videos produced and directed by Susan include Home is Where the Heart Is, with specific suggestions for recruiting homestays for international exchange participants with disabilities; and Emerging Leaders, about MIUSA's youth leadership exchanges, which won a first place award at the Rehabilitation International Film festival in 1993. She authors a regular column on international opportunities for persons with disabilities for the national magazine Transitions Abroad.

Susan is also an integral member of the disability network, having served on executive boards of such organizations as Disability International USA, Mobility International, and the National Council for Foreign Policy and Disability. Susan has conducted trainings on disability rights and leadership development in Latin America, China, New Zealand, Australia, Europe, the Caribbean, and the U.S. Susan was recently one of only two individuals from the U.S. to present workshops at an Independent Living conference in Mexico for persons with disabilities in Central America.

Susan has been uniquely dedicated to providing role models for young persons with disabilities, beginning with her work integrating children with disabilities in recreational programs and continuing today in international youth leadership programs. Susan emphasizes mentoring, educational and social opportunities, internships and scholarships, to inspire young people with disabilities to believe in their own abilities, and to build the foundation for full, productive futures. Offering encouragement and practical support, Susan has fostered the development of a network of young persons with disabilities, who will become adults in the international family of people with disabilities, and will carry on the work of improving the lives of all disabled citizens.

Susan Sygall
185 Loretta Way
Eugene, Oregon 97404
(503) 343-1284 Work
(503) 688-8465 Home

EDUCATION

University of Oregon: M.S. (1981)
University of Queensland: Graduate Study (1979)
University of California at Berkeley: B.S. (1976)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Ms. Sygall has developed and implemented various educational exchange programs with host nations throughout the world for persons with disabilities. She has led the development of several international community service and cross-cultural leadership programs. She is the co-founder of the Disabled Women's Coalition, Berkeley Outreach Recreation Program, as well as Mobility International USA.

EXPERIENCE

Mobility International USA (1981-present)

Executive Director: Ms. Sygall has all program and management responsibilities for this national, non-profit organization. She oversees the program staff and leads the funding activity. She is responsible for developing and conducting both national and international workshops on leadership and women's issues.

Ms. Sygall has developed international programs with the US Information Agency since 1983 and has worked with members of Congress to increase the number of participants with disabilities in educational programs sponsored by the US Information Agency.

Consultant (1986-present)

Ms. Sygall has become a much sought-after consultant and speaker. She has given lectures and workshops to both government-sponsored and private organizations. Consulting duties have taken her to Latin America, Europe, Asia and throughout the United States.

Ms. Sygall has presented at numerous national and international meetings, such as for the Association for Women in Development, The Sixth Interdisciplinary Conference on Women, in Costa Rica, Rotary International and the Kellogg Foundation.

Bay Area Outreach Recreation Program (1975-1978)

Executive Director: Ms. Sygall was the co-founder of this innovative recreational program for people with disabilities. This program grew under her leadership to become a nationally recognized model for integrated recreation programs for persons with disabilities.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ms. Sygall has developed programs with and has visited Bulgaria, former Soviet Union, China, Costa Rica, Mexico, Germany, England and Italy. She has also travelled to and recruited participants for exchanges from Zambia, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Greece, Israel, France, Wales, Switzerland, Guatemala, Columbia, Thailand, Holland, Ireland, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago and Spain. Ms. Sygall speaks Spanish.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

"Women with Disabilities: An International Perspective"—Women and Foundations Newsletter: Sygall, 1993

Women with Disabilities and Development-International Perspectives and Strategies:
Sygall/Lewis/Allard, 1994 (in progress)

Global Perspectives on Disability: A Curriculum: Sygall/Lewis, 1992

A World of Options: A Guide to International Educational Exchange, Community Service and Travel for Persons with Disabilities: Sygall/Lewis, 1990

A Manual on How to Integrate Persons with Disabilities into International Educational Exchange Programs: Sygall/Lewis, 1993

A Guide to China for Persons with Disabilities: Sygall/Anderton, 1990

"Women with Disabilities": Report on the Conference on Women and Development in Dominica: Sygall, 1992

National columnist for "Transitions Abroad" magazine

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Advisory Board- Global Fund For Women
Executive Board- Disability International USA
National Coalition for Foreign Policy and Disability
National Advisory Board- Virtual Reality Computer Technology Project
Past Executive Board Member- Mobility International
National Association of Female Executives

AWARDS AND HONORS

Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship, 1986-1989
Rotary Graduate Fellowship--Research in Australia, 1978-1979
Tom and Ruth Rivers Fellowship, 1982
Americans with Disabilities Act National Training Project, 1993
Salutatorian for College of Natural Resources, UC Berkeley, 1976

Dear President's Award Committee:

This is a letter in support for Susan Sygall's nomination for the President's Award. I have know Susan for about 18 years. She has been a leader and an innovator for all of these years. She is a highly creative individual who has been committed to helping to improve the quality of disabled peoples lives in the US and abroad.

Susan began her work during the beginning days of the independent living movement in Berkeley, California. She was one of the creators of an organization named BORP, Berkeley Outreach Recreation Program. This organization, which still exists today, paved the way for disabled people to participate in sports and recreational activities. Susan saw this organization as playing an integral role in helping disabled people begin to establish a strong sense of self-worth. When looking at helping people to obtain employment opportunities we know that an individual who fails to see themselves as being capable has difficulty projecting a positive image to an employer. People who participated in BORP were more likely to obtain a positive image of themselves, leading to a greater probability of employment.

After her work at BORP Susan began to have opportunities to travel abroad. Again her expertise in the area of sports and recreation were beginning reasons for her travel. She realized that through travel, exchange of ideas, interaction of people from different countries, disabled people would be able to see themselves as powerful, contributory individuals who could not only help themselves but also act as change agents in their communities here and abroad. She has been a tireless leader in helping to develop international programs for disabled people in a climate where most people involved in international exchanges felt that disabled people were not capable. She has repeatedly taken little bits of money and run programs that have been of the highest quality. People have learned not only about their capabilities but about how to produce change. Many of the individuals who have participated in the Mobility International USA programs have gone on to obtain meaningful employment and been able to pass their expertise onto others.

Susan is a strong role model, an incredibly knowledgeable women about the needs of people from around the world, and a well respected leader here and abroad. If Susan is granted the President's Award she will be an outspoken person continuing to advocate for the rights of disabled people. Her work will be emulated by others and subsequently have an even greater impact on assisting disabled people to become employed. I recommend her highly.

Sincerely,



Judith E. Heumann

January 9, 1995

President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities
c/o Mobility International USA
P.O. Box 10767
Eugene, OR 97440

Fax: 503/343-6812

Dear President's Committee:

It is my pleasure to recommend Susan Sygall for the President's Award. I have known Susan since 1986 when she became a Fellow in the Kellogg Foundation's National Fellowship Program. Our program is for people who have demonstrated excellence in leadership and who have the potential for expanding their impact on people's lives.

Susan Sygall has been an exemplary Fellow. Perhaps most importantly, by her work and by her example, she has educated and inspired all of us to empower people with disabilities. It would be difficult to measure the impact among the more than 500 Kellogg National Fellows in leadership positions across the United States, but all who have met Susan are working and thinking differently about including persons with disabilities in their programs.

W.K.KELLOGG FOUNDATION

One Michigan
Avenue East
Battle Creek, MI
49017-4058
USA
616-968-1611
TDD on site
Telex: 4953028
Facsimile: 616-968-0413

We, at the Kellogg Foundation, have been particularly impressed with the work Susan has done through some of our grants to engage young people in international exchange programs. We have heard directly from a number of these young people about their changed aspirations and reinforced personal commitments to contributing to society. The resources of the Kellogg Foundation have never been better invested than when they have supported Susan Sygall and her work.

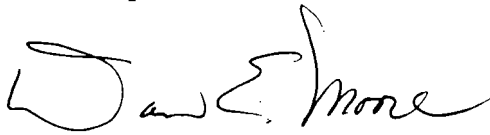
Because of her creativity and insight, the Foundation has engaged Susan as a consultant on issues related to employing persons with disabilities. When we moved into our new corporate headquarters three years ago, Susan spent time with staff members and designers to advise us on our work. We have benefitted greatly from her suggestions.

Susan and the organization she created, Mobility International USA, represent an important node in a growing international network dedicated to enhancing the opportunities for people with disabilities, particularly young people. Through my work at the Kellogg Foundation, I have referred people from countries throughout Latin America and southern Africa to Susan. Susan is a leader. Receiving the President's Award would not only be appropriate recognition, but it would also provide even greater leverage for one of the untiring workers on behalf of people with disabilities.

*To help people
help themselves
through the practical
application of knowledge
and resources to improve
their quality of life and
that of future generations*

Susan's impact goes much beyond people with disabilities. It inspires everyone to a greater commitment to their communities and to the global society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan E. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" being the most prominent.

Dan E. Moore
Vice President - Program

DEM/nke

PARTNERS

OF THE AMERICAS

William S. Reese, President

Recommendation for Susan Sygall President's Award President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities

I am delighted and honored to endorse Susan Sygall's nomination by the Oregon Disabilities Commission for the annual President's Award.

I have known Susan for nearly 10 years, a time in which I have seen her make immeasurable contributions to the international exchange community and to our country by creating innovative ways to involve people with disabilities in important international activities.

I first met Susan when she came to do a working internship in our office as part of her Kellogg National Fellowship Program. One could see early on that Susan had a sparkle and drive, creativity and vision that would take her and her causes--and I put the emphasis on the later--to totally new frontiers. As a curious and thoughtful person, unbowed by her paralyzing accident, Susan brings to her work and to all those around her, a sense of "we can do it together." In our Washington office, she worked with our program director and local chapter presidents on Partners' Appropriate Technology for the Handicapped (PATH) program. At that time it was an institutionalized program within the Partners of the Americas, the people-to-people program of the Alliance for Progress. We have been colleagues and friends ever since and I trust her judgment and advice implicitly.

I have watched Susan grow as a professional and also grow the organization that she co-founded. Mobility International USA (MIUSA) is everything but an ego trip, although it most certainly would not exist without Susan's energy, steadfastness and leadership. As CEO's, we are members of a nation-wide alliance for the international citizen exchange movement. Susan has provided a perspective and experience that we badly need. She has not just built her organization and its programs as a separate entity; rather, she has worked with many of us in collaborative forms--sharing the work, the responsibility and the glory--to create expanded critical mass and new opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in international exchanges. By collaborating with others, rather than just going it alone, she has improved all of our organizations, opened us to new people and ideas, and, in fact, had a far greater leverage for the people she is trying to serve.

Susan is a skilled and passionate advocate. I have seen her in action with Congressional leaders and federal government executives. She has a wonderful knack for inviting people to help her, asking for advice, and making you feel that you can contribute to the greater cause.

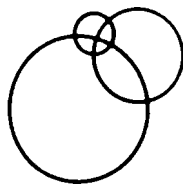
Susan is a skilled writer. Her publications and manuals are known throughout the exchange community. They are not seen as a sectoral or special interest focus, but rather enabling materials that help all involved in international programs. I have been with Susan and groups she has sponsored--Americans going abroad and Latinos, Asians and Eastern Europeans coming into the United States. I am always struck with her cultural sensitivity. I have no doubt that this comes from her own disability, knowing that no one has all the answers and that together we can help each other out.

This is an era in which we want younger people to take the initiative, enter the public arena, volunteer for civic activities, and learn that they can make a difference early in their lives. Susan has done just this. She is a role model for others. Because of all her achievements and this last quality, I firmly believe she would be a most worthy recipient of the President's Award.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. S. Reese", written over a horizontal line.

William S. Reese
President

December 22, 1994



The Synergos Institute

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Canada
Mamadou Touré
Senegal
Muhammed Yunus
Bangladesh

December 22, 1994

Mobility International USA
P.O. Box 10767
Eugene, OR 97440

Dear Mobility International:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the nomination of Susan Sygall to the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Susan has been a source of inspiration and a powerful role model for a lot of us who have been privileged to know her over the years. In her personal and professional lives, she has integrated creativity, grace and commitment to pull us along with her to fulfill a vision of a better world for all people. The President's Award would be tremendous recognition for a truly deserving individual.

Through her leadership, Mobility International USA (MIUSA) has become an internationally recognized actor in the disability and development fields. Because of her personal style, she has managed to influence individuals and organizations, large and small, in their attitudes and behavior regarding disability issues, with far greater impact than some of the powerful lobbying groups. I have known Susan as a volunteer for the Partners of the Americas organization, as a Kellogg National Fellow, and then as a Kellogg Foundation grantee within a program of international exchange. In all three instances, she has been a powerful force for changes within the programs and organizations: Within the Partners, she was one of the more active volunteers within the Partners Appropriate Technology for the Handicapped program, introducing ways in which disabled persons could be more active participants in development; as a Kellogg National Fellow, she directly touched the lives of the 40 co-fellows and the program staff. She was later asked by the Kellogg Foundation to serve as a consultant for their own internal personnel and program policy review regarding disability issues; and as a grantee within the Kellogg U.S.-Mexico Exchange program, she reached out to more than 14 institutions and changed their attitudes and practice in involving persons with disabilities in their international exchange programs.

100 East 85th Street
New York, New York 10028
Tel 212 517-4900
Fax 212 517-4815
Email synergos@igc.apc.org

Susan's work with MIUSA has resulted in the empowerment of hundreds of young people with disabilities. Involving her community of Eugene, Oregon in the work of MIUSA has had the effect of raising the awareness and involving hundreds more, young and older, with and without disabilities. She is an asset to her community as well as a true leader in the global sense.

I appreciate the opportunity to send these few words on Susan's behalf. The Brazilian author Paulo Coelho once wrote: "When you live your personal legend, the whole world conspires to help you succeed". I am honored to be counted upon as part of that "whole world" for Susan Sygall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eliana Vera", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Eliana Vera
Senior Program Officer

Corbett Joan O'Toole
Disabled Women's Network
2054 University Avenue, Suite 306
Berkeley, CA 94704

December 20, 1994

To Whom It May Concern,

I have the pleasure of working with Susan Sygall on many projects throughout the past 20 years. We began together in Berkeley where I saw her create and sustain two very different organizations: Disabled Women's Coalition and the Bay Area Outreach Recreation Program.

The Disabled Women's Coalition is a grass roots organization. It had two main goals: providing information and to individual disabled women; and educating nondisabled people about the issues facing women with disabilities.

Susan went on to found the Bay Area Outreach Recreation Program. She created a model never before tried in the area of recreation - creating classes and outings run by disabled people. Susan had people from nursing homes skiing instead of making potholders. The program she developed continues to be a national leader.

In 1981 Susan created Mobility International USA. Here, again, she broke new ground. When she began there were very few opportunities for disabled people to meet disabled people from other countries. Through her unceasing work, today disability exchanges are a regular occurrence.

Susan is an outstanding innovator and leader. For over two decades she has provided employment and advocacy opportunities for many disabled people. The scope of her work extends far beyond Oregon and has worldwide ramifications.

The recent television coverage of a Russia/USA disabled people's exchange is a direct outgrowth of her years of persistence and networking.

Susan is well respected in both national and international circles. She creates networks that allow increasing numbers of disabled people to participate in the greater nondisabled society. Her work is truly remarkable. I heartily encourage you to reward her work.

Sincerely,

Corbett Joan O'Toole

Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Building

VOCATIONAL
REHABILITATION
DIVISION

Administrative
Office

January 30, 1995

Eugene Organ, Executive Director
Oregon Disabilities Commission
1257 Ferry St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97310

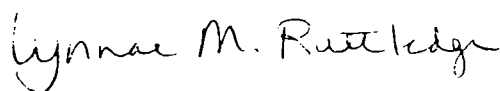
Dear Eugene:

It is a pleasure to write a letter of support for the nomination of Susan Sygall for the President's Trophy from the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. As the Assistant Administrator for Rehabilitation Services with the Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Division, I have worked closely with Ms. Sygall in several international exchanges and truly believe her to be an outstanding candidate for this prestigious award.

The nomination of Susan Sygall for this award is a tribute to the impact she is having in the lives and quality of life of people with disabilities both here in the US and throughout the world. As a state agency representative and exchange delegate, I've experienced firsthand the work that Susan does. She works hard to ensure that Mobility International USA's exchange programs create an impact that is far reaching for all involved. She actively seeks opportunities to extend the benefit of international exchanges by encouraging delegates to achieve personal growth, by enlisting the support of local businesses, and developing a network of homestay hosts in her community.

It was an honor for Susan to be chosen as "Disabled Oregonian of the Year" by the Oregon Disabilities Commission. It would be even more fitting for her to be recognized with the President's Trophy. I can think of no one who is more deserving of such recognition!

Sincerely,



Lynnae M. Rutledge



John A. Kitzhaber
Governor

500 Summer Street NE
Salem OR 97310-1018
Voice (503) 945-5880
TTD (503) 378-3933



School District 4J
Eugene Public Schools
200 North Monroe
Eugene, Oregon 97402-4295

Eugene Organ
Oregon Disabilities Council
1257 Ferry Street SE
Salem, Oregon 97310

January 27, 1995

Dear Eugene:

I am writing in support of Susan Sygall's nomination for the President's Trophy Award. I can think of no other person more worthy of this honor.

Susan has done a tremendous job in our community of demonstrating how barriers, both actual and perceptual, can be transcended. As a direct result of Susan's visibility and advocacy, many architectural barriers have been remedied. This of course allows greater participation by all members of our community.

Susan's energy in developing and leading Mobility International, USA has been incredible. Through its mission of promoting international education exchanges, travel for persons of all disabilities and ages; the advance of disability and civil rights has been forwarded considerably. She has taught us all that this is a global, not local, issue.

Many families in Eugene, Oregon have served as host families to foreign delegates who have traveled to the United States on an educational exchange. These families welcome the delegates into their homes, hosting them many times for several weeks. Needless to say, both the host family and delegate are enriched by the experience. Who else but Susan could energize local families to accept countless visitors into their homes. Susan's enthusiasm is infectious! Our staff and students have benefited from our connection with Susan and Mobility International. We have hosted many delegates in our schools to give them "real life" examples of the students with disabilities being included in regular school settings. Each time, I am sure that we have received more than we have given.

I would like to point out the wonderful role model Susan has been for students in our District, particularly those with disabilities. Susan's examples; they can see all the possibilities, not limitations, of life.

I sincerely believe that Susan Sygall is a deserving recipient of the President's Trophy Award. She and her efforts on behalf of persons with disabilities has been outstanding.

Sincerely,

Sue Subbot
Sue Subbot

Chairperson, Programs for Students with Severe Disabilities



Evolving business through human investment

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(For the hearing impaired)

January 28, 1995

Lynnae Ruttledge
Oregon Disabilities Commission
FAX # 503-378-3599

Dear Lynnae:

I am writing to endorse and recommend Susan Sygall for the President's Award through the President's Committee on People With Disabilities.

As current Board of Directors President with Mobility International: U.S.A. (MIUSA) I am presently working with Ms. Sygall on a regular basis. As a five year Board member and volunteer with MIUSA I can attest to the contribution she has made to the employment and empowerment of people with disabilities and our community at large.

Susan Sygall is absolutely the hidden glue that bonds people and empowerment efforts for our global disability community. Tireless in her schedule she literally travels the world to train, support and lead people with disabilities. Her contributions just within the MIUSA organization include the training and development of thousands of people with disabilities. They have consistently commended her for extraordinary work and the impact she has had on their lives.

As an organization MIUSA has more than tripled in size in the past two years under Susan's direction. Staff, volunteers and interns have consistently represented broad disability groups, a reflection of Susan's active commitment to employ and empower people with disabilities.

Dedicated to listening and giving voice to people, Susan gives consideration to their unique capabilities, drawing forth the best from people around her. She possesses an uncanny ability to communicate a vision and elicit a common powerful direction while empowering others to be creative and in action.

I strongly urge the selection of Susan Sygall for the President's award as her contribution to people with disabilities is stellar.

Sincerely,

Margaret Theisen

Margaret Theisen
Board President, Mobility International: U.S.A.

'Challenge Yourself and Change the World'

On the Road With Mobility International

High on a mountaintop overlooking southern Mexico's Oaxaca Valley, the ruins of Monte Alban stand as a well-preserved reminder of the diverse cultures that have shaped human history.

Once a holy city of more than 40,000 Zapotec Indians, Monte Alban today is a popular destination for travelers from around the world. They come to explore, to study, to dream, and, of course, to climb the steep, stone pyramids left behind by this ancient civilization.

Some scramble to the top in a matter of minutes. Others require a bit more time.

Such was the case on a memorable summer day during 1992 when a row of empty wheelchairs lined the base of a large pyramid in the historic city. Glancing around for the owners of the chairs, other visitors may have been surprised to see them perched on top of the structure, enjoying the view and celebrating their accomplishment.

But such feats come as no surprise to Susan Sygall, co-founder and executive director of Mobility International U.S.A., a Eugene, Oregon-based organization that sponsored the journey. The Zapotecs may have been conquered by the Mixtec Indians 1,000

years ago, but Sygall said there's no defeating these 20th century travelers.

"Able-bodied people don't often see individuals with disabilities doing things like that," said Sygall, a Group VII member of the Kellogg National Fellowship Program. "Because they're not disabled, they don't think it's possible. We're working

to change that perception by creating an environment where disabled people can do things for themselves."

Helping Individuals Grow

That's the quest of Mobility International — to promote and facilitate international exchanges and recreational travel experiences that serve people with disabilities.

"International exchange programs need people with disabilities," Sygall said. "Participants in these programs need to learn to accept and respect differences — not only in people of other cultures, but also among people with different abilities in their own countries and abroad."

Mobility International believes that people with disabilities — along with their families and friends — have a right to the same opportunities as those who are non-disabled.

"We are committed to integrating people with disabilities into existing avenues of leisure travel and international exchange," Sygall said. "Educational exchange programs, international community service projects, and travel all require that people become active learners, effective communicators and risk-takers. These experiences can empower people with disabilities to become active members and future leaders of our society."

According to Sygall, such programs also educate the general public about the "vast, untapped potential of people with disabilities." Mobility International U.S.A. offers travel information and referral services, as well as help with selecting and applying to international exchange organizations. The nonprofit group also sponsors international work camps, leadership training,



Left: Jill Crawford tests the ropes on a challenge course. Upper right: Susan Sygall.

and exchange programs with a range of countries, including Costa Rica, Mexico, Germany, England, China, and the former Soviet Union.

Building Better Neighbors

The excursion to Monte Alban was part of a three-year program organized by Mobility International and funded through the Kellogg Foundation-supported U.S./Mexico youth exchange. The exchanges seek to build new bridges of friendship, understanding, and respect between Mexico and the United States.

The Foundation is funding 14 youth exchanges and learning activities through a variety of organizations. More than 3,000 young people are expected to participate. The ripple effect of these exchanges — as felt in neighborhoods, schools, and churches — will likely touch many more lives, both young and old.

In 1991, the first year of the exchange effort, participants from Mexico traveled to Eugene for a five-week program that included language and culture training; river rafting and leadership development on an outdoor challenge course; home stays with local families; and community service work through the National Forest Service. Ten U.S. youths joined their Mexican counterparts for the leadership training and community service portions of the program.

In 1992, a new group of 10 disabled individuals from the United States traveled to Mexico for language training, community service work, and adventure. Several young people from Mexico also participated in the activities. Year three was similar to the first year, with an additional 10 young people from each country involved with activities in Oregon.

"My life has been changed because of this experience," said Fernando Rodriguez of Mexico City, who as the result of his participation organized Mobility International Mexico and serves as its president. "We came to realize there aren't many services in our country for persons with disabilities. And why is that? Because we have never made demands. We have chosen to seclude ourselves in our homes. Watching people in our host community win the city over, win the streets over, and win the people over with courage, determination, and enthusiasm made us want to do the same."

"I was so totally touched by this last exchange," said Jane Walker, a home stay provider in Pleasant Hill, Oregon. "My house just rocked with laughter while they

were here. The people are so wonderful. It makes you wonder how we've misjudged so many other countries."

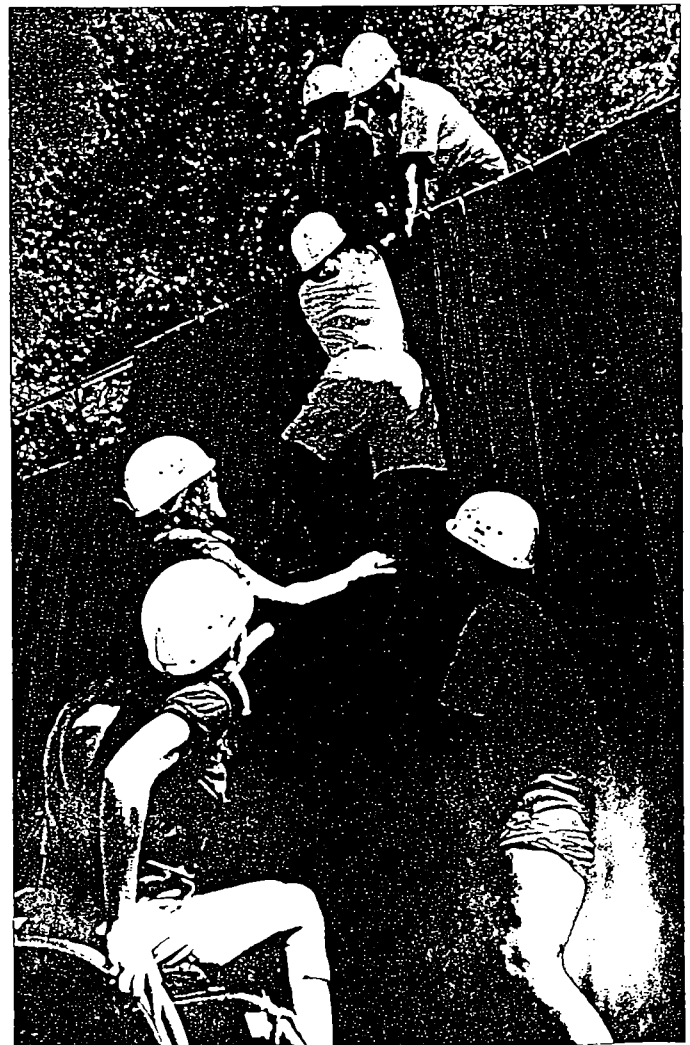
At the program's outset, participants tackle a challenge course that's designed to build group cohesion and teach problem-solving, said Denise Plechaty-Fallon, an exchange coordinator at Mobility International U.S.A.

"It's great to watch the group pull together and to see people get excited about what others are doing," she said. "People can apply these lessons when they return to their own communities and work to implement change."

In Eugene, the community service component took place in the nearby Willamette National Forest. The visitors widened trails, painted, and participated in other activities aimed at making the forest more accessible to disabled people.

"People told me that they never dreamed they'd be out camping," said Sue Baker, a recreation forester from Springfield, Oregon. "It's neat to see people out in the forest and able to enjoy it."

Baker said the Forest Service is dedicated to making their facilities more accessible. "We try to incorporate people with disabilities into our projects," she explained.



Getting everyone over the challenge course builds confidence and teamwork among Mobility International participants.

December 20, 1994

The President's Award
President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities
1333 F Street, N.W. Third Floor
Washington, DC 20004

Dear President's Committee:

I am writing in support of Susan Sygall, co-founder and Executive Director of Mobility International USA(MIUSA) who has been nominated by the Oregon Disabilities Commission for the "Presidents Award" given by PCEPD. As PCEPD is well aware I have a position about the politics of awards and that often the people who actually do the work never get acknowledged and those who win have rarely done the work. In the case of this nominee nothing could be farther from the truth.

For years Ms. Sygall has been a unsung heroine of the disability movement. She has committed her life to working with disabled youth both nationally and internationally empowering hundreds of young people to be better prepared for their own lives and to assume leadership roles within their own communities.

Doing international work is currently very "in" in the disability community. Ms Sygall has been organizing and running international exchanges and leadership development workshops for 12 years, long before it became "in" It is her earlier work that opened the doors for many of our community leaders to now travel internationally. From Wales to the Philippines from Mexico to New Zealand Ms Sygall has left her imprint on the disability community and on the agencies and association that work to employ people with disabilities.

Whether she is staying with a family in Moscow or running a challenge course in Oregon for young leaders her commitment is unwavering. By using recreation , multimedia and group experiences she has changed the life experience of thousands. She is a teacher and an educator working towards her goal to create a family of people with disabilities who can work and learn from each other, no matter what their disability or what their country or ethnicity.

Domestically I have had the opportunity to be faculty to her leadership development program in Eugene ,Oregon. This program

trains disabled youths to be leaders. Too often the disability leaderships' time is spent working out front on the issues with little time to train new leaders. Ms Sygall has remained out of the spotlight working to empower disabled youths to become the leaders and employers of tomorrow, comfortable with their disabilities and confident of their abilities. Ms Sygall has been and is a role model for young people in the United States and around the world. It is long overdue that the community acknowledge her work.

It is a great honor for me to recommend Susan Sygall for the "Presidents Award"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. A. Wright", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Pat Wright

Director of Governmental Affairs

01/31/95 12:57
2 503 343 6666
EUGENE, OREGON 97401

Maria Bertone
962 E 24th Ave
Eugene OR 97405

January 31, 1995

Eugene Organ
Oregon Disability Council
1257 Ferry St SE
Salem OR 97310

Dear Eugene,

This letter is to support the effort to bring Susan Sygall to national recognition for her efforts in helping the disabled and able-bodied community of Eugene as well as bringing global awareness for issues regarding disabilities.

My family has been a homestay site for many Mobility International visitors over the years. I have felt it beneficial for my sons, one of whom is visually impaired. My spouse, Jeff Riggs, who died last May, had muscular dystrophy, and offered a role model for others around the world that a family life for people with disabilities is something that is attainable here in the United States. Without Susan's efforts to integrate the people who come from all over the world with local families, we would never have met such a wonderful group. Someday I hope my sons can travel to other countries, thanks to Susan's efforts.

It's been an honor to be included in the opportunity to recognize Susan Sygall as the outstanding citizen that she is.

Sincerely,

Maria Bertone

Maria Bertone

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To	Eugene Organ	From	Maria
Co.	OR Disability Council	Co.	
Dept.		Phone #	485-4036
Fax #	503-378-3579	Fax #	



RECEIVED JAN 31 1995

School District 4J
Eugene Public Schools
200 North Monroe
Eugene, Oregon 97402-4295

Eugene Organ
Oregon Disabilities Council
1257 Ferry Street SE
Salem, Oregon 97310

January 27, 1995

Dear Eugene:

I am writing in support of Susan Sygall's nomination for the President's Trophy Award. I can think of no other person more worthy of this honor.

Susan has done a tremendous job in our community of demonstrating how barriers, both actual and perceptual, can be transcended. As a direct result of Susan's visibility and advocacy, many architectural barriers have been remedied. This of course allows greater participation by all members of our community.

Susan's energy in developing and leading Mobility International, USA has been incredible. Through its mission of promoting international education exchanges, travel for persons of all disabilities and ages; the advance of disability and civil rights has been forwarded considerably. She has taught us all that this is a global, not local, issue.

Many families in Eugene, Oregon have served as host families to foreign delegates who have traveled to the United States on an educational exchange. These families welcome the delegates into their homes, hosting them many times for several weeks. Needless to say, both the host family and delegate are enriched by the experience. Who else but Susan could energize local families to accept countless visitors into their homes. Susan's enthusiasm is infectious! Our staff and students have benefited from our connection with Susan and Mobility International. We have hosted many delegates in our schools to give them "real life" examples of the students with disabilities being included in regular school settings. Each time, I am sure that we have received more than we have given.

I would like to point out the wonderful role model Susan has been for students in our District, particularly those with disabilities. Susan's examples; they can see all the possibilities, not limitations, of life.

I sincerely believe that Susan Sygall is a deserving recipient of the President's Trophy Award. She and her efforts on behalf of persons with disabilities has been outstanding.

Sincerely,

Sue Subbot
Sue Subbot

Chairperson, Programs for Students with Severe Disabilities

RECEIVED FEB 6

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3701

RECEIVED FEB 6 1995

January 31, 1995

Mr. Eugene Organ
Executive Director
Oregon Disabilities Commission
1257 Ferry NE
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Mr. Organ:

It is my pleasure to support the nomination of Ms. Susan Sygall for the President's Trophy. She is truly a deserving candidate for this national award.

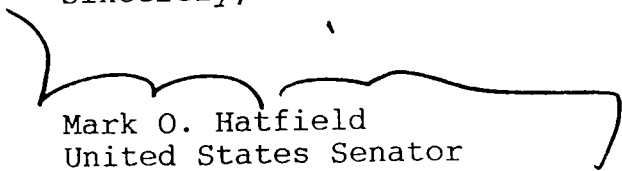
Throughout her career, Ms. Sygall has distinguished herself as a dedicated advocate for individuals with disabilities. Her efforts as Executive Director of Mobility International, USA have enabled numerous Oregonians to live independently and contribute much to their communities. Additionally, her organization provides assistance abroad to disabled individuals in Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

In recognition of her endeavors on behalf of individuals with disabilities, Ms. Sygall was named the 1994 Disabled Oregonian of the Year. She is widely acknowledged as an expert in the field of disability education and she is the author of numerous books to assist the disabled.

Ms. Sygall is an exemplary person and I believe her accomplishments are best summarized by her motto, "Challenge Yourself - and Change the World." It is my hope that she will receive every consideration for this prestigious award.

Kind regards.

Sincerely,



Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

September 22, 1995

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

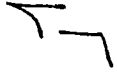
I am very pleased to inform you that Susan Sygall, Executive Director of Mobility International USA in Eugene, Oregon, has been selected to receive the 1995 President's Award. Ms. Sygall was selected from a national slate of 16 individuals nominated by leaders in the disability community.

Ms. Sygall has been a trailblazer in the creation of the worldwide grassroots network of people with disabilities that exists today. Because of Ms. Sygall, individuals with disabilities have been included in international educational and community service exchange programs. They now have opportunities to experience the personal and community-building benefits of international exchange that were not available to them before. Ms. Sygall is responsible for developing and conducting both national and international workshops on leadership and women's issues, and she is a national columnist for "Transitions Aboard" magazine.

Ms. Sygall was recommended to receive this year's award through a judging process. This year's judges were three members of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities: Ron Drach, Vice Chairman, member of the Subcommittee on Disabled Veterans, and National Director of Employment of the Disabled American Veterans; Richard Womack, Executive Board, member of the Labor Subcommittee, and Director of the Department of Civil Rights, AFL-CIO; and Marian Vessels, a past Executive Board member, member of the States Relations Subcommittee and the Executive Director of the Maryland Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. I am enclosing the nomination and supporting documents of Ms. Sygall for the President's Award.

I know you will enjoy meeting and speaking with Susan when you present the President's Award to her at the White House on October 12.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tony Coelho', written over the printed name.

Tony Coelho
Chairman

TC/edd

bc:

Carol H. Rasco

Diana Fortuna

Laura Schwartz

Anne Walley

✓Debbie Fine



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

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From: Alma Alonik

The President's Committee
on Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1107

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Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages: Iy I - The

Award itself is crystal - looks like
JC 2605 - with seal and
words as shown on copy
from last year's award.

OPA 8/95

**JC262S Starfire "Echo" Award--L**

Dimensions: 6"W x 3"D x 1-1/2"H.

Etch area: 3"W x 8-1/2"H.

Shipping weight: 4 lb. Gift boxed.

1-11	12-24	25-49	50
175.00	170.00	165.00	160.00

JC262J Jade Crystal "Echo" Award Large

Same as above except Jade Crystal.

1-11	12-24	25-49	50
150.00	145.00	140.00	135.00

JC260S Starfire "Echo" Award

Dimensions: 6"W x 3"D x 9-1/2"H.

*Etch area: 3"W x 5-1/2"H.

Shipping weight: 4 lb. Gift boxed.

1-11	12-24	25-49	50
155.00	150.00	145.00	140.00

JC260J Jade Crystal "Echo" Award

Same as above except Jade Crystal.

1-11	12-24	25-49	50
130.00	125.00	120.00	115.00

All Deep Etched

**JC1230 Starfire Timepiece Award**

Elegant highlights with accurate quartz clock. Battery included.

Dimensions: 6"W x 2-1/2"D x 5-3/4"H.

Etch area: 5-3/4"W x 2-1/4"H.

Shipping weight: 4 lb. Gift boxed.

1-11	12-24	25-49	50-99
125.00	120.00	115.00	110.00

Deep Etched.

**JC3040 Starfire Paperweight**

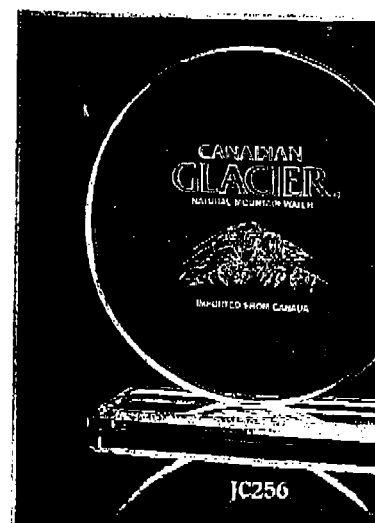
Dimensions: 4"W x 3"D x 3/4"H.

Etch area: 3"W x 2"H.

Shipping weight: 1 lb. White mailer.

1-11	12-24	25-99	100-249
55.00	48.00	42.00	38.00

Deep Etched.

**JC256 Round Gem Cut Award**

Dimensions: 6"W x 2"D x 6"W.

Etch area: 4" Diameter

Shipping weight: 3 lb. Gift boxed.

1-11	12-24	25-99	100
125.00	120.00	115.00	110.00

Deep Etched



PRESIDENT'S AWARD

1995

~~1994~~

to

SUSAN SYGALL
~~JANINE DE LAUNAY~~

for

outstanding service
to America in
improving the lives
of people with
disabilities

Bill Clinton, President

Employment

→ Vice Chairs
→ Tony Coelho

13 →

→ 11 am
on

Deputy
for President

Resource
Children
+ Students

Justin Dink

20th anniversary
IDEA

11/29 (Congressional
celebration)

dinner -
11/15

Education

Vets June Wilson
Am Vets Center, Bethesda

Comm - Donna Ireland, AZ ✓

Employee - Tony Garry, WRA
DC

Employer Betsy Dixon, NJ ✓

Laber Lela Foreman, CWA
DC

Katherine Kelly Baird - CA Govs Center ✓
Employment
Sacramento

Ron Drach, DC (OAA)
Sylvia Walker, DC (Howard)

Tony C.
Karen Myers - prob no
Susan + 3

Regional Press
get back to work

John Lancaster

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

26-Sep-1995 02:34pm

TO: (See Below)

FROM: Daniel Wexler
 Office of Public Liaison

SUBJECT: President's Award

I would like to present a possible scenario for the President's Award presentation, currently scheduled for October 12. As you recall, the President's Award is given annually by the President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities.

Participants--This years award recipient would be accompanied by their spouse. Other family members are still to be determined. Also included would be the Chair of the Committee, Tony Coelho, the six Vice Chairs and possibly their Executive Director. The total would be no more than 15, and probably more like 10 or 11.

Sequence--We would have the participants hold in the Roosevelt Room until the President is ready. Tony Coelho would introduce the participants to the President as they enter the Oval Office. The President would present the award and say some brief remarks about the important work of the committee. Photos would be taken with the award winner and spouse and then with the entire group.

Video--This is more of a question for Media Affairs. We would like to request approval to have a video camera tape the President's remarks as he presents this award. This tape would be for the President's Committee to use at their convention in May, 1996.

Call me or Debbie Fine if you have any questions or need further information.

Debbie Fine will be the staff contact.

Distribution:

TO: Stephanie Streett
TO: Anne Walley
TO: Lorraine McHugh



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

September 18, 1995

Ms. Debbie Fine
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

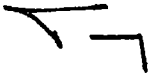
Dear Debbie:

It's my pleasure to share with you a copy of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities' 1995 National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) booklet and poster. The theme for this year is "Profit From Our Experience."

National Disability Employment Awareness Month is the kick-off month for year-round activities and programs to ensure that persons with disabilities are part of the diversified workforce of this nation. President Clinton has said, "America will not work if Americans cannot work." The observance of this month and the education that will occur during the year will do much to open the door to employment for the most underutilized of America's workforce -- people with disabilities.

I hope you will join us in celebrating October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. If you need additional copies of this information, contact Faith Kirk on 202-376-6200, Ext: 13.

Sincerely,


Tony Coelho
Chairman

TC:FK:bm

*You've been a god-send -
Thanks from me -
but also thousands
of others!*

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PROFIT FROM OUR EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL
DISABILITY
EMPLOYMENT
AWARENESS
MONTH
OCTOBER 1995

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES



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Document Title:

PROFIT FROM OUR EXPERIENCE
NATIONAL
DISABILITY
EMPLOYMENT
AWARENESS
MONTH
OCTOBER 1995
PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

PROFIT

NATIONAL
DISABILITY
EMPLOYMENT
AWARENESS
MONTH
OCTOBER 1995

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON EMPLOYMENT
OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES





President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION



Urgent



Normal Delivery

Date: 10/6/95

To: Hebbie Fine

Fax #: 456-7028 Ofc. #: 456-5572

From: Nina Nank

The President's Committee
on Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1107

Total number of pages including this page: 3

Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.

Additional comments or messages:

Confirmed
Guest list for Thursday, Oct. 12, President's
Award Ceremony. The only person whom
I've not yet been able to reach is
Catherine Baird (Coffey) - Shari Travelling.
Will advise as soon as I hear from her.
P.S. Catherine Baird
Will not be attending - muffled tongue

OPA 8/95

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Mobility International U.S.A.; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (2 pages)	09/29/1995	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Public Liaison
William White, Jr.
OA/Box Number: 14205

FOLDER TITLE:

President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities Award 10/12

2007-0143-F
db4564

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

10/08/92 14:34
SEP-29-95 FRI 15:02

202 376 8868
Mobility International

PCEPD
FAX NO. 5033436812

P. 03 002



mobility international u.s.a.

TO ELLEN DALY
FROM SUSAN SYGALL
re: INFORMATION AS REQUESTED

ELIZABETH SYGALL (PARENTS)

(b)(6)

[001]

Eugene?

MICHAEL SYGALL (PARENTS)

(b)(6)

THOMAS BROEKER (PARTNER\ SIGNIFICANT OTHER)

(b)(6)

wc SUSAN SYGALL

(b)(6)

← PRESIDENT'S AWARD WINNER

x37-

DOR

SSN#

Tony Coelho- Chairman

Ron Drach-Vice Chair

Dr. Sylvia Walker-Vice Chair

Karen Meyer-Vice Chair

June Villenz

Chair, Subcommittee on Disabled Veterans

Donna Noland

Communications Subcommittee Chair

Tony Young

Chair, Subcommittee on Employee Disability Concerns

David Fields

Personal Assistant to Mr. Young

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

- Natl Dir
of Employment
for SAUDirector
of Research
& Training
Center
HawaiiPresident
of Kennedy
Hosp & Ass.
disability
rpt of
WFTV

ED of Am Vets Centre

gator National Focus
Phoenix, AZ
closed newspaper

need sign language interpreters



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION



Urgent



Normal Delivery

Date: 12-12-95
To: Rebbie June - White House
Fax #: 456-7028 Ofc. #: 456-5572
From: Ellen Kaly

The President's Committee
on Employment of People with Disabilities
1331 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20004-1107

Total number of pages including this page: 5
Please call 202-376-6200 if all pages in this transaction are not received.
Additional comments or messages: _____

Thought you might like to see this article on
Susan Peggale UN World Conference.
Have a nice Holiday Season!

OPA 8/95

Hear Me

ROAR

By Susan Sygall and Cindy Lewis / Photos by Suzanne C. Levine

Women from disability-rights organizations, including Mobility International U.S.A., made their voices heard this fall at the NGO Forum in Beijing, China.

September was the best of times and the worst of times for women with disabilities who participated in the NGO (nongovernmental) Forum and fourth United Nations World Conference on Women, in Beijing, China. More than 350 women with mobility impairments faced overwhelming barriers to make the largest showing ever at a U.N. conference.

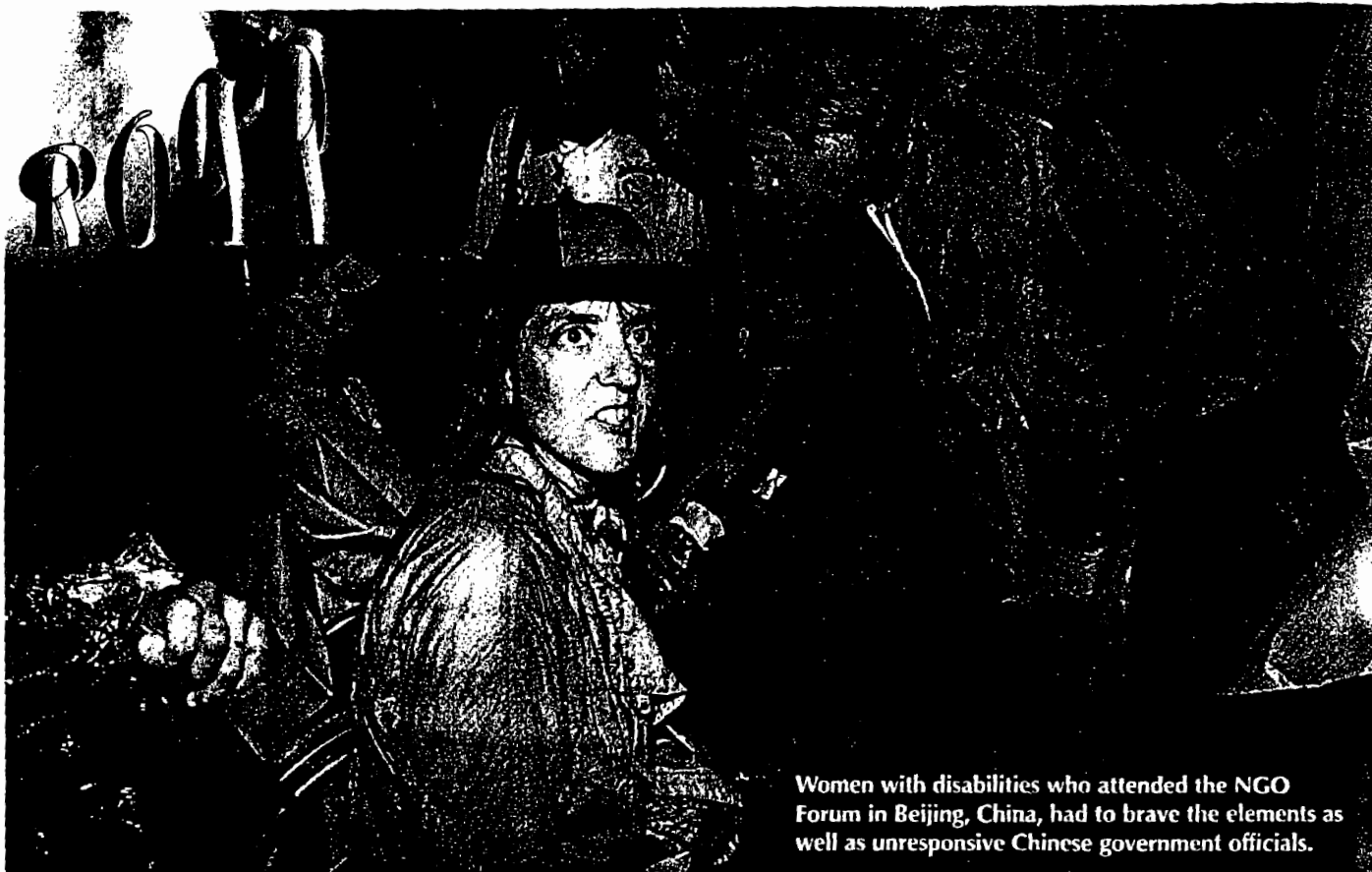
Determined that women with disabilities would be an integral part of these historic conferences, several international disability-rights organizations, including Mobility International U.S.A. (MIUSA), worked for a

year to mobilize people and advocate access. This informal network was known as the Women's International Linkage on Disability (WILD). In Beijing the group would live up to its name.

COMING TOGETHER

On August 29, 200 women with disabilities from 35 countries and their allies met at an international symposium, MIUSA (as part of the IDEAS 2000 Project of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education), sponsored the conference in collaboration with other international organizations, including Disabled People's International, the World Blind Union, the World Institute on Disability, and Inclusion International.

The Beijing meeting brought together powerful women with



Women with disabilities who attended the NGO Forum in Beijing, China, had to brave the elements as well as unresponsive Chinese government officials.

...though most of the conference remained inaccessible, women with disabilities gained visibility and respect and opened the way for others.

diverse disabilities, cultures, races, and opinions with a united purpose: to bring the needs and concerns of women with disabilities to the attention of the NGO Forum—and the world.

We formed work teams to present our perspectives about the areas of concern around which the forum was organized: healthcare, education, employment, economic development, violence against women, and promotion into policy-making and leadership positions. We also built unity and support to overcome the physical, emotional, attitudinal, and political barriers awaiting us at the forum.

LACK OF ACCESS

Like the other 30,000 grass-roots organizers who came from all over the world for the symposium, women with disabilities came to take part in the more than 5,000 workshops, cultural events, and informal meetings; to build networks of support; and exchange strategies.

However, most of us were able to take part in very few, if any, of the activities. We were angry because everything was virtually inaccessible. Materials in Braille or on cassette were not available. Meetings did not have sign-language interpreters.

Nearly every workshop was held in buildings with several flights of steps, and terrain and walkways were impassable for those with mobility impairments. Accessible transportation from hotels to the forum was extremely limited and unreliable.

We were shocked and disappointed because once again women with disabilities were being marginalized. These barriers could not stop us from accomplishing our goal: to make our voices heard. We had come too far, we had waited too long, we would not be stopped now.

DEMONSTRATIONS

The boiling point came on the third day when we arrived at a workshop on "Disabled Women and Development." The meeting room was on a floor reached only by climbing several flights of stairs. A spontaneous demonstration erupted on the steps. Women with disabilities from countries around the world voiced their protests, which grew in volume and conviction as others joined them in songs and chants for equality and access. International media, including television commentators, flocked to cover the first visible, spontaneous demonstration at the NGO Forum.

No one knew how the Chinese government would react. Officials had already expressed reservations about "allowing" demonstrations at the conference. Flushed with triumph from having taken action, our group was preparing for the long ride back to the hotel when we learned the consequences. Our ramped bus (provided by the government), the only minimally accessible transportation to the forum, would no longer be available. Our spontaneous demonstration had rocked the box.

A few of us took our outrage to the forum-organizing committee and demanded that the Chinese government restore our transportation. We believed this incident involved more



NGO Forum delegates leave the U.N. building to attend a U.S. delegation gathering.

than accessible transportation—it was about our right to peacefully protest at an international human-rights conference. After a tense night, officials assured us that our buses would arrive as scheduled and other accessibility problems would be addressed. Even though most of the conference remained inaccessible, women with disabilities gained visibility and respect and opened the way for others.

NO STOPPING US

We were labeled as a "diversity group." Government officials assigned us a large tent that served as an organizing and meeting center. Initially its location was inaccessible; following our demonstration the canopy was relocated to a more accessible site.

Since we couldn't attend NGO Forum activities, we held our own seminars and workshops and invited other groups to the Disability Tent. Prominent women such as Bella Abzug, Betty Friedan, and U.S. representative to the United Nations Madeline Albright proclaimed support of the rights of women with disabilities. One day 200 of us paraded at the forum site through crowds of people singing and signing chants in several languages.

In her plenary speech to the NGO Forum, Hillary Rodham Clinton commended the efforts of women with disabilities to participate in the conference. Constantly surrounded by journalists and photographers, we presented an image of pride, diversity, power and assertiveness.

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

The NGO Forum paralleled the Fourth World Conference on Women sponsored by the U.N. at which government delegations met to negotiate the *Platform for Action*, a blueprint for

We had come too far, we had waited too long, we could not be stopped now.

strategies for improving women's lives. MIUSA and several other international disability-rights organizations were granted special status to attend the conference and lobby government delegates to ensure the document reflects their needs.

WILD, known officially as the Disability Caucus, lobbied for a year for acknowledgement in the document of women with mobility impairments. The final platform, adopted in Beijing, mentions women with disabilities as "a minority or vulnerable group meriting particular concern and attention" and has a few references to specific needs of women and girls with disabilities.

A handful of countries included women with disabilities in their official delegations. Among them was Judith Heumann, assistant secretary of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education, and longtime activist for disability rights. With her leadership, the U.S. delegation was proactive in advocating inclusion of references to women with disabilities.

FINDING THE POSITIVE

Something positive came from the endurance of women and their powerful responses to the barriers and difficulties at the Beijing conferences. They came with their diverse backgrounds and disabilities and built stronger networks to fight for access. The Disabled Women's Caucus represented individuals with



Mobility International U.S.A. (MIUSA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting equal opportunity for people with disabilities in international educational exchange, leadership development, disability-rights training, travel, and community service. For more information, contact MIUSA at P.O. Box 10767, Eugene, OR 97440. (503) 343-1284 (voice/TDD) / 343-6812 (fax) / miusa@igc.apc.org (e-mail).

visual, hearing, mental, emotional, learning, and mobility disabilities. They learned from each other and gained strength from working together in difficult situations.

Women with disabilities captured the attention of able-bodied, grass-roots organizers from all over the world and were a vocal and visible force at the U.S. World Conference on Women. Government delegates specifically acknowledged women with disabilities in the *Platform for Action*. Leaders of the movement met with influential individuals within the U.N. system to push for policy to stipulate that conferences must be accessible to ensure that the travesties we encountered at the Beijing conferences will never happen again.

The message of women with disabilities in China was heard loud and clear: disabled women's rights are women's rights are human rights.

Susan Sygall, executive director of MIUSA, lives in Eugene, Ore.; Cindy Lewis, the organization's project consultant, recently moved to Berkeley, Calif. Suzanne C. Levine is a freelance photographer based in San Francisco. She says her work is "visualization of social issues through photography." To contact her, call (415) 387-0617.

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