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PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

MARSHA SCOTT

Disability - Rick Hoyt, Jr.
Boston U - Super Speed
2d - marathoner w/ his
dad - Boston
works at Boston College -
Dr. Philip De mott Jr -
Dean of School
- invite his family -
"Team Hoyt"
running in Boston Marathon
for 20th time -
"miracle" show
- saw on Channel 33 -
Sunday, April 2



Dear Madhu -

I hope all is well. I understand that you will be conducting a White House Conference on Disability around the time of the Tenth anniversary of the ADA. Please let me know how either me or my

Office of Commissioner Paul Steven Miller

Staff can help you. I have already been talking with Lisa Brown about Phys.

Best -

A handwritten signature, likely of Paul Steven Miller, is written below the text "Best -". The signature is stylized and cursive.



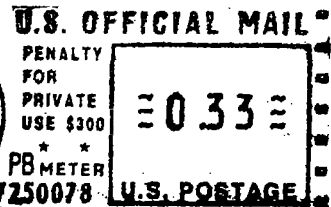
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use \$300



*Marsha Scott
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SUMMARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) furthers the goal of full participation of people with disabilities by giving civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities that are like those provided to individuals on the basis of race, sex, national origin, and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in employment, public accommodations, transportation, State and local government services, and telecommunications. President Bush signed the ADA into law on July 26, 1990.

The ADA's protection applies primarily, but not exclusively, to "disabled" individuals. An individual is "disabled" if he or she meets at least any one of the following tests:

He or she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of his/her major life activities;

He or she has a record of such an impairment

He or she is regarded as having such an impairment.

Other individuals who are protected in certain circumstances include 1) those, such as parents, who have an association with an individual known to have a disability, and 2) those who are coerced or subjected to retaliation for assisting people with disabilities in asserting their rights under the ADA

	WHO	WHAT	WHERE COMPLAINT FILED & REMEDY
TITLE I EMPLOYMENT	Employers with 15 or more employees must comply.	-Can ask about one's ability to perform a job, but cannot inquire if someone has a disability or subject a person to tests that tend to screen out people with disabilities. -Need to provide "reasonable accommodation" to individuals with disabilities. This includes steps such as job restructuring and modification of equipment -Do not need to provide accommodations that impose an "undue hardship" on business operations	Complaints may be filed with the EEOC ADA provides the remedies available under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. They include back pay and court orders to stop discrimination.

		Employers may not discriminate against a qualified applicant or employee because of the known disability of an individual with whom the applicant or employee is known to have a relationship or association Religious organizations may give preference in employment to their own members and may require applicants and employees to conform to their religious tenets	
TITLE II , PART A STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	State or local governments may not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities.	All government facilities, services, and communications must be accessible consistent with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.	Individuals may file complaints with Federal agencies to be designated by the U.S. Attorney General or bring private lawsuits.

TITLE II, Part B TRANSPORTATION	Public Bus Systems	New buses ordered on or after August 26, 1990 must be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Transit authorities must provide comparable paratransit or other special transportation services to individuals with disabilities who cannot use fixed route bus services, unless an undue burden would result. New bus stations must be accessible.	Individuals may file complaints with the U.S. Department of Transportation or bring private lawsuits. ADA provides the remedies available under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
	Public Rail Systems	Alterations to existing stations must be accessible. New rail vehicles ordered on or after August 26, 1990, must be accessible	

TITLE II, Part B TRANSPORTATION (continued)		Existing "key stations" in rapid rail, commuter rail, and light rail systems must be made accessible, unless an extension of up to 20 years is granted (30 years, in some cases, for rapid and light rail) Existing intercity rail stations (Amtrak) must be accessible by July 26, 2010	
	Privately Operated Bus and Van Companies	New over-the-road buses ordered on or after July 26, 1996 (July 26, 1997, for small companies), must be accessible. After completion of a study, the President may extend the deadline by one year, if appropriate Other new	Individuals may file complaints with the U.S. Attorney General or bring private lawsuits under the public accommodations procedures.

TITLE III PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS	Public accommodations such as restaurants, hotels, theaters, doctors' offices, pharmacies, retail stores, museums, libraries, parks, private schools, and day care centers, may not discriminate on the basis of disability. Private clubs and religious organizations are exempt.	Reasonable changes in policies, practices, and procedures must be made to avoid discrimination. Auxiliary aids and services must be provided to individuals with vision or hearing impairments or other individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would result. Physical barriers in existing facilities must be removed if removal is readily achievable All new construction in public accommodations, as well as in "commercial facilities" such as office buildings,	Individuals may bring private lawsuits to obtain court orders to stop discrimination, but money damages cannot be awarded. Individuals can also file complaints with the U.S. Attorney General who may file lawsuits to stop discrimination and obtain money damages and penalties
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		Alterations must be accessible. Entities such as hotels that also offer transportation generally must provide equivalent transportation service to individuals with disabilities. New fixed-route vehicles ordered on or after August 26, 1990, and capable of carrying more than 16 passengers, must be accessible. Public accommodations may not discriminate against an individual or entity because of the known disability of an individual with whom the individual or entity is known to have a relationship or association.	
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TITLE IV TELE-COMMUNICATIONS	Companies offering telephone service to the general public	Must offer telephone relay services to individuals who use telecommunication s devices for the deaf (TDD's) or similar devices. Requires Close Captioning of Federally funded PSAs.	Individuals may file complaints with the Federal Communications Commission.
Title V Miscellaneous		Includes a provision prohibiting either (a) coercing or threatening or (b) retaliating against the disabled or those attempting to aid people with disabilities in asserting their rights under the ADA	

TASK FORCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1999

JANUARY	January 4 President Clinton and Vice President Gore unveil the Administration's long-term health care initiative: a \$1,000 tax credit for caregivers and individuals with long-term care needs January 12 Vice President Gore convenes the Lifelong Learning Summit, 21st Century Skills for 21st Century Jobs, in Washington, D.C., January 13 President Clinton and Vice President Gore, speaking at a disability event in the East Room of the White House, endorse all remaining Re-Charting the Course recommendations including full funding of the Work Incentives Improvement Act, a \$1,000 tax credit to cover work-related costs, \$35 million to expand information and communication technologies, and \$50 million for Work Incentives Grants. January 19 President Clinton delivers the State of the Union Address, urging Congress to pass and fully fund the Work Incentives Improvement Act to remove barriers to work for people with disabilities, and announces that the White House will hold a conference on mental health issues. January 28 The Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, (S. 331) is introduced in the Senate by Senators James Jeffords (R-VT), Edward Kennedy (D-MA), William Roth (R-DE), and D. Patrick Moynihan (D-NY).
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FEBRUARY

February 1

The Department of Labor begins series of regional meetings on implementation of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

February 12

Vice President Gore, joined by Secretary of Labor and Task Force Chair Alexis M. Herman and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Andrew Cuomo, host an event in Albany, New York with disability leaders.

February 17

The Department of Transportation issues a notice of proposed rulemaking, **Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel: Compensation for Damage to Wheelchairs and Other Assistive Devices**, amending the Air Carrier Access Act by lifting the existing cap on the amount of compensation airlines must pay to passengers for loss or damage to wheelchairs and other assistive devices.

MARCH

March 1

The EEOC releases policy guidance, **Reasonable Accommodation and Undue Hardship Under the Americans with Disabilities Act**,

March 1

The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities announces the 1999 Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities, a new resource to help businesses recruit employees with disabilities. The program is cosponsored with the Department of Defense.

March 3

The United States Supreme Court rules, in *Cedar Rapids Community School District v. Garret F.*, that school districts must pay for professional nurses to accompany some students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and that school districts must fund such related services to help guarantee that students like Garret are integrated into the public schools. Judith E. Heumann, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, issues a statement: "[W]e believe students like Garret should receive the services necessary to ensure access to an appropriate education. That's what the law guarantees, and now the courts have made that clear."

March 18

The Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, (H.R. 1180) is introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

March 22

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, in response to a Presidential directive issued at the July 29, 1998, Task Force event, announces a small business initiative expanding public education about Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

APRIL

April 28

William Kennard, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, is appointed to the Task Force.

The Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and the Small Business Administration release the first 15,000 copies of the pamphlet **ADA Guide for Small Businesses**

MAY

May 2

The Department of Labor Women's Bureau participates in **Global Strategies to Increase Employment of Women with Disabilities**, a joint initiative of the Social Security Administration and the Department of Education.

May 2

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research project directors meet in Washington, D.C., and announce six new employment-focused rehabilitation research and training centers.

May 24

The United States Supreme Court upholds the Administration's position by unanimously ruling in *Cleveland v. Policy Management Systems Corporation* that individuals who apply for and receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits are not precluded from pursuing a claim of employment discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

May 27

The Justice Department announces an agreement with Avis Rent-a-Car, the nation's second largest rental car company, to improve access to airport shuttle systems for people with disabilities at all of its airport locations in the United States.

May 28

The Task Force cosponsors the VSA **Art Careers 2000** and **Art and Soul** events, an international celebration of arts, disability, culture, and careers.

JUNE

June 3

The Presidential Task Force holds a Town Hall Meeting in Los Angeles, California, focusing on expanding employment opportunities for young people with disabilities and expanding entrepreneurial and self-employment opportunities for adults with disabilities.

June 4

President Clinton signs Executive Order 13124 amending civil service rules relating to Federal employees with psychiatric disabilities.

June 4

President Clinton and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities present The President's Award - America's highest honor for achievement in furthering the employment and empowerment of people with disabilities - to Laura Hershey, Joyce Bender, and James Click, Jr. at a White House ceremony.

June 7

Tipper Gore chairs the **White House Conference on Mental Health**

June 22

The United States Supreme Court rules on four important Americans with Disabilities Act cases that profoundly affect people with disabilities: *Olmstead v. L.C.*; *Sutton v. United Air Lines, Inc.*; *Albertsons, Inc. v. Kirkingburg*; and *Murphy v. United Parcel Service, Inc.*

Secretary of Labor and Task Force Chair Alexis M. Herman, joined by Social Security Administration Commissioner Kenneth Apfel, deliver keynote addresses to a joint meeting of the Youth Leadership Conference, the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Programs, and the National Council on Independent Living in Washington, D.C.

JULY	July 1 The Social Security Administration officially increases the Substantial Gainful Activity (SGA) monthly amount from \$500 to \$700 for people receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. July 22 The Social Security Administration and the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research, with Task Force support, hold their annual meeting Youth with Disabilities and Employment. July 26 The Ninth Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
AUGUST	August The Social Security Administration establishes a new executive Office of Employment Support Programs to improve service to people with disabilities who want to work . August The Social Security Administration holds a training seminar, Entrepreneurs with Disabilities: Challenges and Solutions, on ways they can assist beneficiaries who want to enter or re-enter the workforce through self-employment or small business start-ups. August 4-7 The Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease Control and Prevention sponsors a conference in Houston, Texas, Promoting the Health and Wellness of Women With Disabilities.

SEPTEMBER

September The Task Force, Small Business Administration, and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, enter into a MOU to increase entrepreneurial opportunities for people with disabilities by developing local networks of Federal, State, and local agencies and private sector entities involved in promoting and financing small businesses and those serving people with disabilities.

September 2

The Department of Labor releases a new report, **Futurework: Trends and Challenges for Work in the 21st Century**, citing people with disabilities throughout.

September 8

President Clinton holds a health care event at the White House, and urges Congress to work with him to pass critical health care initiatives, including the Work Incentives Improvement Act, a strong Patients' Bill of Rights, and Medicare reforms that strengthen and modernize the program.

September 16

The Department of Justice announces an agreement with the MGM Grand Hotel, Casino, and Theme Park in Las Vegas - the world's largest hotel and casino complex - to make their facility fully accessible.

September 16-17

The Department of Health and Human Services Center for Mental Health Services cosponsors a meeting in Washington, D.C., **Employment and Vocational Rehabilitation for Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illnesses**.

September 22

The Task Force sponsors **Overcoming Barriers to Employment of People with Disabilities -Implications for Fed. Policies& Programs**

OCTOBER	October 16 President Clinton, in his weekly radio address to the nation, announces the release of the Office of Personnel Management's Accessing Opportunity: The Plan for Employment of People with Disabilities in the Federal Government and directs all Federal agencies to implement the plan immediately. October 20 Vice President Gore hosts a gathering of disability leaders at the White House commemorating National Disability Employment Awareness Month and announces a Memorandum of Understanding between the Social Security Administration and Small Business Administration October 21-23 The Task Force cosponsors the National Leadership Summit on Self Determination, Consumer-Direction, and Control. October 25 The Task Force holds a Town Hall Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, focusing on civil rights.
NOVEMBER	November 5 The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission receives the verdict in a disability discrimination case against the Chuck E. Cheese pizza chain.. November 8 The Federal Communications Commission establishes a new Enforcement Bureau, Consumer Information Bureau, and Disabilities Rights Office.

DECEMBER

December 1

The Social Security Administration hosts the first in a series of regional public awareness forums, entitled **Federal Policy - State Opportunities: Building an Inclusive Workforce**.

December 7

The Social Security Administration, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, the Task Force, and the National Endowment for the Arts hold a policy education meeting entitled **Supplemental Security Income Issues for People with Disabilities who have Careers in the Arts**.

December 8

The Presidential Task Force holds a Town Hall Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, focusing on individuals with significant disabilities.

December 17

President Clinton signs Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 which gives states options for continuing Medicaid coverage for people with disabilities who have jobs, even when their income exceeds the limits for Medicaid coverage. Also provides a "Ticket to Work Program," which enables SSI or SSDI beneficiaries to obtain vocational rehabilitation, employment services, and other support services from their choice of participating public or private providers who will then be paid on an outcome basis

The Members of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities

Alexis M. Herman, Chair,
Secretary of Labor

Tony Coelho, Vice Chair,
Chairman of the President's Committee on
Employment of People with Disabilities.

Richard W. Riley,
Secretary of Education

Togo D. West, Jr.,
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Donna E. Shalala,
Secretary of Health and Human Services

Lawrence H. Summers,
Secretary of the Treasury.

William M. Daley,
Secretary of Commerce

Rodney E. Slater,
Secretary of Transportation

Janice R. Lachance,
Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

Aida Alvarez,
Administrator of the Small Business Administration

Ida L. Castro,
Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Kenneth S. Apfel,
Commissioner of the Social Security Administration

William E. Kennard,
Chair of the Federal Communications Commission

Marca Bristo,
Chair of the National Council on Disability.

Janet Reno
Attorney General of the Department of Justice

Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the Department of Interior

Dan Glickman
Secretary of the Department of Agriculture

Andrew Cuomo
Secretary of the Department of Housing & Urban Development

TASK FORCE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 1998

March 13, 1998	President Clinton signs Executive Order 13078 Creating the Task Force
July 19, 1998	Initial Task Force Recommendations submitted to the President and Adopted
December 14, 1998	Consistent with the Mandate in Executive Order 13078, <i>Re-charting the Course</i>-The First Report of the Task Force was officially presented to Vice President Gore who officially endorsed the following two Task Force recommendations : 1. Directed OPM develop a model plan to increase the representation of adults with disabilities in the Federal workforce 2. Directed the SBA to launch a new outreach campaign to help Americans with disabilities to start their own businesses

Zogby survey

- Chris Jennings -

consultant for Citizens for Disabilities

HUD-CCD - asks for Dean document

ICC = Building Code & Fair Housing guideline - brief & exceed fair housing act. Natl Ass. Homebuilders want disclaimer comment in appendix - this nullifies the authority of the act -

- Press release had those comments in it -

- ICC is hammering HUD on this -

① - HUD meeting -

Repts ~~CCD~~ = Jackie Lawry

② Meeting w/ DPC + OMB

Eric Gold - Andrea Kane

Nichelle Yonowitz (new counsel) -

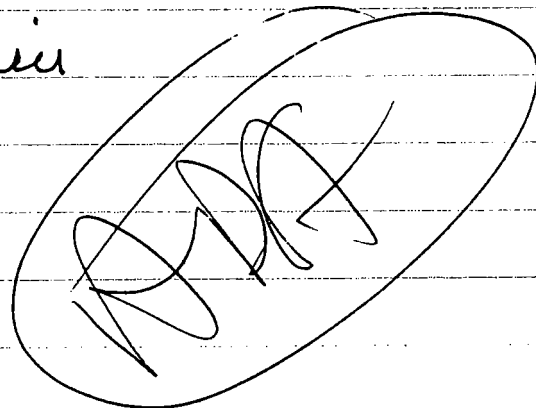
~~Meeting for~~ - Barbara Choe. Michael Deitch, Jay Lankford + BSB
+ HHS - Sheila Foran + Tom Penty with

③ Transportation Mtg. → Nancy McFadden

④ Treasury " call Todd Stun

⑤ Ag. " - COS -

⑥ Interior - call Suini



Ramp-Up

(*)

- Goody - nothing on torch -
no coordination
- Wendy - Cab Affairs to coordinate } Jonathan
 - call to COS on Wed.
 - follow-up call on Mon.

- July 7th - Madison, WI

- biking w/ olympic athletes
- Univ. of Wisc Hoofers program
- sports facilities =

(1)

Malcolm Baldrige winner -

→ Challenge to J to award committee

Purpose

- quest for business
- govt goal
- time line
- Gore directed OPM to do model plan -

Problems

(1) Schedule dates - on July 7th

(2) Developing Challenge

- WBCorsh -

To: Marsha Scott

From: Jonathan Young

CC: Christine Stanek

Date: May 24, 2000

RE: Possible Wisconsin Visit for VPOTUS, July 7

Wisconsin and the ADA: A Great Place, to Live, Work, and Play

The Wisconsin "Spirit of ADA" event is one of the best organized events in the country, centered on the theme, "Wisconsin and the ADA: A Great Place, to Live, Work, and Play." The theme is ideal because it highlights the participation of people with disabilities in *all* aspects of life. *We Magazine* recently identified the University of Wisconsin at Madison (the site for much of the day's activities) as the best university for people with disabilities in the country. It's recreational facility is billed as the Most Accessible Recreational Facility in the world. And Wisconsin is a leader in hiring people with disabilities (as a state, one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country for decades). This venue is also ideal because there are many hands-on demonstrations.

Overview of the Event

The "Spirit of ADA" Flame (which will be the sustained flame from the lighting on June 11, and subsequently light torches for individual events) arrives in Madison from St. Louis on July 5. There will be activities that day with Concerts on the Square, featuring the Madison Chamber Orchestra, and local organizers hope to have mention of the ADA-related activities on the public radio broadcast. On Thursday the torch relay crew is taking the day off, so there are no formal activities, but there may be small events centered around individual sponsors.

The celebration's official beginning is at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center (<http://mononaterrace.visitmadison.com>), from 10:00 to 11:00 AM. "Located on the shores of Lake Monona in downtown Madison, Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center is an incomparable meeting facility combining a Frank Lloyd Wright design, beautiful lake views, and state-of-the-art technology." The event will be open to the public, and organizers plan to encourage employers to give employees leave to attend. The group currently has reserved half of the exhibition hall, which could seat about 1,200 people. The program is yet to be determined, but it will feature a number of short speeches by community and political leaders.

Around 11:00 AM, the torch will depart the convention center to begin a 10-mile trek throughout the city of Madison. Only a small number of people will actually accompany the torch path. It's purpose is to attract attention throughout the city. Meanwhile, activities will take place

throughout the day. The torch will rejoin the local events at the picnic (see below).

There are two main venues following the opening ceremony. The first will take place at the Kohl Center on the UW campus (<http://www.wisc.edu/ath/kohl/>), from about 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. The second venue will be a picnic in Vilas Park (<http://www.vilaszo.org/>), home of the Vilas Zoo, from about 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

The Kohl Center is "the home of the University of Wisconsin-Madison men's and women's basketball, hockey and WIAA state tournaments. This state-of-the art, multipurpose facility is also used for concerts, family shows and university commencement ceremonies."

"The Henry Vilas Zoo is ready to make your visit fun and educational. We are free, so come visit us as often as you'd like, whenever you'd like! Visitors can picnic under our Zoo Tent or at picnic tables throughout the zoo grounds. The zoo concession stands serve hot dogs, bratwursts, barbecues, ice cream, beverages, and many other treats. Sorry, grilling is not allowed. Strollers, wagons and wheel chairs are for rent at concessions, and there are no stairs, just rolling pathways that make the zoo wheelchair accessible and trouble-free!"

There will be at least three main activities taking place simultaneously in the Kohl Center.

1. Sports/Recreational Activities. Event organizers are inviting local disability sports and recreational groups to provide displays and demonstrations. This will include demos of adaptive fitness equipment (for example, Nautilus machines that one can use while sitting in a wheelchair), fishing groups, camping, horseback riding, rowing, etc. (Senator Kohl, after whom the arena is named, will make comments).
2. Social Security Forum. The Wisconsin Social Security Administration is hosting a forum on employment of people with disabilities, including the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act. It is expected to be restricted to about 80 people, for a two-hour discussion between 12:30 to 2:30 PM. Adjacent to the Forum, organizers plan a Job Fair, inviting area businesses to set up booths to provide information about employment opportunities.
3. Adaptive Technology Display. The UW Division of Information Technology, which supplies all of the technology resources for the university, will provide a demonstration of their High-Tech classrooms and adaptive computer equipment, focusing on blind persons and web accessibility. Beyond its support of assistive technology, UW's integration of disability into its curriculum is impressive. There are over 100 courses that incorporate disability content, an excellent demonstration of integrated teaching. In one engineering course for first and second-year students, students assigned with a design project developed accessible designs that have been implemented in the community.

Free food will be provided at the picnic in Vilas Park, with food served by blind vendors. The torch will join the picnic during the afternoon.

The City of Madison and Economic Development

The Task Force is doing background research on major industries in the Madison area. A lot of helpful information can be found at the city web site (<http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/>). A number of companies are based in Wisconsin and Madison: American Family Insurance, Epic Life Insurance, Rayovac, Oscar Mayer, Credit Union National, small bio-technology companies, and Medical Equipment companies. A substantial portion of the economy centers on Tourism (recreational activities, refuges, bald eagle sanctuary, fisheries, Wisconsin Dells, Music Fest in Milwaukee, an international cross-country ski race, snow-mobiling, etc.).

Oscar Mayer deserves special mention. According to the event planner, Marcia Carlson, Oscar Mayer was a proponent of hiring people with disabilities even before the ADA, and has maintained progressive practices. The accessibility features of the Kohl Center, for example, were substantially financed by Oscar Mayer.

The Madison Chambers of Commerce have taken a significant interest in the Madison ADA event, with 70-plus local chambers all hosting their own activities throughout the month.

Possibilities for VPOTUS Participation

There are at least three excellent possibilities for VPOTUS.

1. Deliver Remarks at Opening Ceremony. This will be the largest assembly of people, and the best opportunity to reach a large number of people directly. The organizers have developed an award to be given to a Wisconsin person with a disability who has made significant contributions, and they have requested that an Administration official present the award. VPOTUS could accompany the torch out of the Monona Center and perhaps walk/run with it to the first destination (only a few blocks away where there will be water sports demonstrations).
2. Visit Kohl Center Demonstrations/Exhibitions. The simultaneous recreational, employment, and educational demos would be an excellent way to emphasize the theme of full participation for people with disabilities. More specifically, it could be an opportunity to focus on the transition from education to employment: the original focus of the White House Conference. Since Senator Kohl is scheduled to make remarks at the Center, VPOTUS would have an opportunity to make remarks, in addition to interacting with the various demos/exhibits.
3. Visit Area Businesses. Given the involvement of the local and state Chambers of Commerce, VPOTUS could use the event as an opportunity to visit area businesses. Oscar Mayer is an obvious possibility (what could be more American?!). There is also a small-business opportunity in a Madison restaurant, which has been progressive in hiring people with significant psychiatric disabilities (even for a couple hours per day, if that's what they can best contribute). Visiting such sites could be combined with a more formal meeting with area business leaders to discuss the issues of employing people with disabilities.

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VCU - CHARTER BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

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Potential

Company

Aetna
American Express Company
AT&T
Bell Atlantic
Booz Allen & Hamilton
Daimler-Chrysler
Catepillar
Charles Schwab
CIGNA Group Insurance
Compaq Computer Corporation
Crestar
Fannie Mae
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Microsoft
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Mr. Lowndes Smith
Ms. Carly Fiorina
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Mr. Ralph Larsen
Mr. J. W. Marriott, Jr.
Mr. Harold McGraw, III
Mr. David H. Komansky
Mr. Steve Ballmer
Mr. Michael Critelli
Mr. Arthur C. Martinez
Mr. J. Harold Chandler
Mr. James P. Kelly
Dr. Gerdt Klaus (North America)

Potential

Company

Aetna
American Express Company
AT&T
Bell Atlantic
Booz Allen & Hamilton
Daimler-Chrysler
Catepillar
Charles Schwab
CIGNA Group Insurance
Compaq Computer Corporation
Crestar
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Mr. David H. Komansky
Mr. Steve Ballmer
Mr. Michael Critelli
Mr. Arthur C. Martinez
Mr. J. Harold Chandler
Mr. James P. Kelly
Dr. Gerdt Klaus (North America)

-either Res Committee

ADA Relay

Confirmed Speakers and Events

Last Updated: April 25, 2000

It would be appropriate for the Secretary of Labor (because she is the Task Force Chair), Attorney General, or Chair of the EEOC to be at any of the cities or events because they will all in some way involve civil rights.

The following document points out tie-in possibilities with other Task Force members as well.

[* = one of the 11 Cities of special importance for VW because of dealerships]

HOUSTON

contact: Douglas Drey 713/284-1973

Friday, June 9

Theme: ADA rights and civil rights

Saturday, June 10

Photo Op. Day (at NASA, etc.)

Training for the Torch Team

KICKOFF

Sunday, June 11--Houston, TX*

(concern is that the media may not cover the Sunday event, so they are pushing to hold it on Friday, contingent upon approval and funding)

Kickoff event (tentatively) at Enron Field where there are several performers including George Strait (negotiations continue with the local sponsoring radio station).

Relay enters grounds of Houston Multi Service Center where recognition ceremony and an indoor American Association of Adaptive Sports program exhibition takes place.

Athletes will then transfer the Torch to the main site.

Main Site: Houston Multi Service Center and grounds (there is a track for the Torch to circle and 8 acres of space to set up)

Barbecue, Music, Atmosphere, and the Torch Run itself.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Requesting Commissioner of the EEOC because of civil rights theme and Transportation Secretary Slater.

Confirmed Speakers:

Mayor

Task Force Brochures: at least 1000

Tuesday, June 13,--Austin, TX*

Ron Lucey--contact from Austin Mayor's Committee -- 512/377-0577

As for Technology, Austin is "Silicon Hill Country")

Partnerships with Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies

Theme: want to emphasize civil rights and bipartisan support of ADA.

Main Site: State Capitol Speaker's Rally.

No firm time is set yet for speakers, but kickoff may be 9:00 or 9:30 a.m. Objective is to connect with the civil rights struggle of the 1960's, inviting many of the African-American leaders in the community.

Dolores Gonzales (512-499-3256)—ADA coordinator—is heading up speakers subcommittee. She was the rep that came to Washington to receive visionary award last year from the Department of Transportation from Secretary Rodney Slater.

Austin Mayor Kirk Watson will be away on the 13th at a national conference of mayors, so the Mayor Pro-Tem [Jackie Goodman] will read the city's ADA proclamation.

The Torch should be moving by lunchtime. The Torch Route is 6.2 miles: begins downtown, passes through UT, ends at complex. Pace is expected to average 3 mph.

Capital Metro will run a shuttle to help people get to the Capital.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Morton Downey, Assistant Secretary of Transportation, called to inform them that he will be in Austin to speak at the Ceremony because Austin was recognized last year by Rodney Slater for innovative transportation programs.

Confirmed Speakers:

Mostly prominent speakers with disabilities, but some politicians and state legislators have been invited.

Morton Downey, Assistant Secretary of Transportation

ADA Coordinator Dolores Gonzales will speak.

Invited: Congressman Lloyd Doggett

Justin Dart

Mayor Pro-Tem [Jackie Goodman]

Expected crowd: 500-1000

Task Force Brochures: 1000 for beginning and end of rally

June 17—San Francisco, CA*

contact: Deborah Kaplan 510/251-4347

World Institute on Disability

Jan Garrett - Exec. Director of Center for Independent Living **510/841-4776**

Chair of Program Committee

Theme: Birth of Independent Living Movement

Event Information: Day begins with ceremony with Mayor Brown of S.F. and a media tour of new baseball stadium (with disability advisory committee that helped in design) showing they exceed ADA compliance; torch appears at SF Giants pregame in new ballpark; Mayor hands off torch and is boated across the bay by disabled sailors; Mayor Brown of Oakland receives torch and conveys to Jack London Square, where 100 organizations are coordinating a family festival lasting into the afternoon.

Main Site for Speakers:

Confirmed Speakers:

Judy Heumann—Undersecretary of Education

Bill Lan Lee—Asst. Atty. General for Civil Rights

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Attorney General Janet Reno requested.

Because of independent living movement there are tie-ins with HHS Sec'y Shalala; HUD Sec'y

Cuomo.

Expected crowd: 1000-3000

Task Force Brochures: Minimum 5,000

June 19—Los Angeles, CA*

contact: Jim Obers 949-854-8700

jim2ob@aol.com

Chet Cooper 949-854-8700

Theme: Disability in the Media/Historical Portrayal or California lifestyle and transportation.

Event Information:

Events fluid.

Torch Course will go through Watts, to an Ability House, and LAX airport.

L.A. planning fund-raising concert at House of Blues in advance of torch visit;

requesting celebrity involvement in Relay (possibly Relay through Hollywood's Walk of Fame)

Working with Celebrity Connections (a group that pairs celebrities with nonprofits) to find speakers.

Trying to get Convention Center as a venue—still waiting to confirm.

May Use *ThinkQuest*—Children addressing the Digital Divide and creating websites

Program Partners: HUD & Dpt. of Education

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

FCC Chairman Kennard because of media tie in.

Request also: Secretary Cuomo—HUD (Watts public housing)

Secretary Slater—Transportation; they're asking for Secretary Slater to head at the news

conference to talk about the rights of disabled travelers in recent federal legislation. (@ LAX—10 million fliers with disabilities)

Secretary Herman—Labor (Employment)

Main Site for Speakers:

Culmination of Relay at LA Convention Center @ 5:00-5:30 p.m.

Confirmed Speakers:

Governor Grey Davis or his wife will attend.

Mayor Richard Riordan is also expected.

Task Force Brochures: 15,000

Wednesday, June 21—Phoenix, AZ

contact: Donna Redford—602/296-0520

Denise Thompson

FOCUS/THEME: Governor's Committee on Developmental Disabilities has been working on Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Event Information:

1. Breakfast Meeting

7:30-9:00a.m.—Recognition Ceremony and Torch Kickoff

Patriots Park, downtown, 6 blocks from ballpark.

(NB: Phoenix in June is HOT)

2. Evening*: *Pregame Ceremony at BankOne Ballpark—Arizona Diamondbacks Baseball Game*

6:45 p.m. (no more than 15 minutes) (30,000 to 50,000 Attendance + TV Coverage)

Also there is a "Community Corner" at the game for a non-profit group to set up a display/information point, which the committee has secured for that day. They will pass out information/brochures and ask people to sign the pledge. A local cable channel will shoot and edit scenes from the morning for brief video to be shown during the baseball game that night. A local sponsor is providing 10,000 fiber optic pen lights for fans to waive and participate in the activity.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Because of Entrepreneurship emphasis—Possible Tie-In with SBA Administrator Alvarez; HUD Secretary Cuomo (because of efforts to push for acceptance of Architectural Compliance locally); N.B.: Transportation Tax initiative just passed 3/14 via grassroots effort (defeated 3 times prior)—possible reason to invite Transportation Secretary Slater.

Main Site for Speakers:

morning: Patriots Park

evening: BankOne Ballpark pregame ceremony

Confirmed Speakers:

morning: legislators have been invited

evening: Phoenix Mayor Skip Remsa—verbal confirmation

Expected crowd: 40,000

Task Force Brochures: at least 20,000 (baseball game)

Saturday, June 24—Salt Lake City, UT

Contacts: Barbara Toomer 801/685-8214

Steve Mikita 801/538-1151 [hm. 801/486-1237]

Theme: recognition ceremony will promote the winter Paralympic Games 2002

****no events planned as of yet****

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Task Force Brochures:

Main Site for Speakers:

Confirmed Speakers:

Tuesday, June 27—Denver, CO*

Contacts: Dawn Russell/Ron Noiles —Atlantis/Adapt 303/733-9324

Organizers

Theme: Transportation/Celebration of Civil Rights/birthplace of ADAPT

Event Information:

Kickoff: 10:00 a.m at the court building downtown.

Mayor Wellington Webb (Chairman of the National Conference of Mayors) will speak—

Torch leaves at 10:30 Two "satellites"—one going east, one going west.

Recognition ceremony tentatively planned during a lunch gathering.

meets back at Civic Center Park at 4:00 for an hour and a half rally with several speakers

Rally Ends at 6:30

Night of June 26 is a Colo. Rockies Game—they will run the torch around the bases and make an announcement at the game.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Requested both Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater and HHS Secretary Donna Shalala

Main Site for Speakers: Civic Center Park Rally

(Coors Field—Colorado Rockies Baseball Game—pending approval)

Confirmed Speakers:

Mayor Wellington Webb

Congresswoman Diana DeGette (confirmed)

Senator Wayne Allard and Senator Ben Nighthorse-Campbell are invited

Task Force Brochures: 5,000-10,000

Friday, June 30—Topeka, KS

contacts: Vicki Nelson, Susan Briggs 785/233-4572

Theme: "Hands Together For Diversity"

Event Information:

Speakers in the morning at the Statehouse around 9:30 am

Lunch at Felker Park

Working on involving the Local Arena Football Team (Topeka Knights) for fundraising, having a mascot present at the ceremony & some athletes.

Possible Dinner after the torch run (depending on fundraising).

They are now concentrating on the fundraising end.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Becka Vaughn, local DRACH (Disability Rights Action Coalition for Housing) coordinator has already made a request to HUD offices (Sec'y Cuomo) re. Accessibility in Housing [Pending]

The Secretary of Agriculture is also been invited because of the importance of agriculture in Kansas.

There is a connection to the Secretary of Education because of the historically significant Brown decision (but there is also the recent State Board decision not to teach Evolution. . .)

Main Site for Speakers: Statehouse Grounds in the morning.

Confirmed Speakers:

Transportation (Bob Dole is invited because of a connection with Accessible Bussing in Topeka)

Mayor Joan Wagnon

Some City Council representatives.

Governor has been invited.

Task Force Brochures: maybe 10,000

Tuesday, July 4—St. Louis, MO

Contact: Colleen Starkloff 314-567-1558

Theme: no particular theme

Event Information:

St. Louis Fair (4th of July – huge event)

Prospects are good that there will be a pregame ceremony at 1 PM for the Cardinals vs. Reds game at Busch Stadium.

Immediately afterwards, the torch leads a "march to the arch" promotion and appears on the main stage at approximately 2:30 p.m. with the public announcement. Then, after the four tops concert that night, the fair has indicated that they will allow the torch to "light" the fireworks.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Requesting Rodney Slater–Transportation Secretary

St. Louis has celebrated ADA each of last 5 years. Rodney Slater asked if he could attend in the past, then was sick the year he planned to come and couldn't attend.

The Transportation Connection is strong because St. Louis was very active in the late 70's with accessible busses, and was one of the first cities in the country to offer them.

Main Site for Speakers:

Busch Stadium

Confirmed Speakers:

Judy Heumann has been invited; she has spoken there before.

Expected crowd: 50,000

Task Force Brochures: 5,000-10,000

Friday, July 7–Madison, WI

Marcia Carlson

608-263-3021

Theme: Recreation (potentially) both participation and spectatorship

Event Information:

10:00 AM Opening Ceremony.

Speakers to Include: Governor Tommy Thompson has been invited. Senators Cole and Feingold have committed, and Representative Baldwin. Also the Mayor of the County Executive and the Chancellor of UW. 10 minutes to the host sponsor–American Assoc. of Persons with Disabilities.

The Torch Route (proposed) begins at the Capital, moves to the new Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center and then through town using Bike Paths (Madison has an extremely comprehensive Bike Path system, best in the US along with Davis, CA)

Disabled Sports USA & Kawasaki, Inc. work together on a school administrated program–their Accessible Waterskiing Workshop runs June 6-8: the Torch route will pass by.

Madison has the World's Most Accessible Sports Facility (toured by advisors for the Sydney Olympic Games).

The U of W has the World's Largest Outdoor Program (HOOFERS) (self-funded within the student union) with a significant accessibility component.(eg. :free-ski day for people with disabilities, etc.) And they will participate too.

ArtFair on the Square (Capital Square) is that weekend (possible connection with Renovation of the civic center; fully accessible children's museum; other projects recently funded by a local philanthropist).

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

They are asking for Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt because there is a US Geological Survey Office in Madison. USGS and the Department of the Interior, have always been very strong and leading edge on hiring people with disabilities. (There is also a Bald Eagle Sanctuary.)

Some railroad trails are currently being converted to accessible bicycle pathways, which might dovetail with the Department of Transportation (Rails to Trails). Also the Howard Timmons Lakeshore Path around the lakes near UW campus is accessibly designed.

Labor Secretary Alexis Herman would be an appropriate speaker because *Wisconsin has had the lowest unemployment rate in the country* for some time, and Wisconsin has also led the way in employing people with disabilities.

HUD Secretary Cuomo may be appropriate because some programs in Madison have been helping people with disabilities (esp. Developmental) purchase their own homes and condos. MOVING OUT program. Also there is a program, using some HUD money, that helps get loans for physically disabled individuals. – Jerry Vogt (contact within HUD for Moving Out) ALSO-potentially Dept. of Agriculture (Wisconsin is highly Agricultural, although the timing might not be ideal-- Secretary Dan Glickman may be a controversial choice right now due to the highly political Milk Price Issue. Cranberries are also a problem. . .) Probably not HHS Secretary Shalala [even though she used to be chancellor of UW]--there could be protests because of the recent politicization of the Organ Donation Program.
Task Force Brochures: 10,000 easily--up to 100,000 possible . . .

Sunday, July 9-Chicago, IL

Theme: "every day with the ADA" theme promotes everyday places improved by the ADA
event information: torch goes to the Cubs/White Sox rivalry game at Wrigley Field, where a person in a wheelchair will sing the national anthem. This will be carried live by WGN TV and radio. Torch then will be carried around Lincoln Park where a ceremony, rally and possible concert close the day.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members: no particular secretary has been requested, though any is heartily welcomed.

Main Site for Speakers: Wrigley Field

confirmed speakers: none yet

expected crowd: 50,000

Tuesday, July 11-Memphis, TN

Contact: Judy Neal

judy@mmcil.org

Theme: "Pro-Se--doing it for ourselves"

10:00a.m. Opening Ceremony @ Pyramid Plaza (by the river)

event information: nothing finalized yet

Closing Ceremony 6:00p.m.at Overton Park Shell

Band and a Barbecue

Confirmed speakers:

Invited:

the Mayor of Memphis, Mayor of the County

Governor Sundquist

VP Al Gore

Honorees: 2 local DoJ people

Gary Vanasek--local DOJ contact

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members: They would like to have Janet Reno come out to emphasize that Disability Rights are of significant importance.

Expected crowd: 100 People expected at ceremony, 250 People Expected at barbecue.

Task Force Brochures: ?

Thursday, July 13-Jackson, MS

Theme: The ADA providing New Opportunities in the Old South

Contact: Shirley Tipton—Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities 601/969-0601

Event Information:

Planning is still in developmental stages.

There will be an opening ceremony and/or a closing ceremony on the steps of the State Capitol.

The Lt. Governor, Sec'y of State and Mayor of Jackson—have committed to carrying the torch.

The governor has been invited and they are waiting to hear from him.

There will be some music, hopefully some gospel groups.

Jackson is not big. And it will be the middle of summer, and it will be Hot.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Possibly Agriculture because of the importance of agriculture Mississippi history.

Main Site for Speakers: State Capitol Steps

Confirmed Speakers: none yet

Task Force Brochures: at least 500 to 1000 copies—they'll take as many as they can get.

Saturday, July 15—Montgomery, AL

Theme: Civil Rights

Emphasize the statewide nature of the civil rights struggle, and to emphasize *inclusion*.

Contact: Barbara Futral Crozier (Governors Office On Disability —GOOD) 334/353-4663

Event Information:

Torch Relay starts in the morning in Selma on the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

It will caravan into Montgomery, where several streets will be shut down downtown for the relay, including Washington Street, which is the site of Maya Lin's civil rights memorial.

Then up two blocks of Dexter Avenue which will be shut down for a "Spirit of ADA" street celebration during the afternoon after the Ceremony in front of the capitol--like a street fair or jubilee—featuring food, music and crafts.

The torchbearing itself will be more of a handing the torch up the street than a "running", so as to include as many bearers as possible. (There were so many requests for children under 10 and siblings that there will be a mini-torch relay for children on the large semi-circular driveway in front of the capitol.)

Official Ceremony will be mid-day—between 12 and 1:30 at the capitol.

After the ceremony, the festival will include a tent staging area for various activities, including "Renewing the Pledge" (one renewal for individual citizens and one for elected officials), the AAPD Membership Drive, a Vote 2000 registration drive targeted towards People With Disabilities, and another tent for Accessible Congregations.

They will also host the Sportability Exhibition and Challenges, featuring athletes with disabilities. And VSA Arts is holding their annual exhibit at the Learning Arts Center, as well as a separate exhibition tent in the fair.

From 3 to 5 pm will be a Reception including Spirit of ADA Employment Recognition and a Spirit of ADA Accessible Business Award for those who have "willingly and caringly" made accessibility a priority.

Also occurring: a STAR Technology Exhibition.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Civil Rights theme would be a tie-in for the Attorney General.

Labor Secretary Alexis Herman is from Mobile.

The Surgeon General is from Tuskegee.

Susan Daniels was requested as well.

Main Site for Speakers:

State Capitol

Confirmed Speakers: none yet.

Task Force Brochures: 2000 to 3000, easily.

Monday, July 17–Tallahassee, FL

Contact: Julie Shaw 850/487-3423

Mark Ravenscraft 850/488-5363 [now out with broken leg](Asst.: Sharon Horton)

Event Information:

(Also Occurring: July 14th–Youth Leadership Forum–on-line internet hookup, large web event–coordinated by Abletrust–Director - Sharron Griffith 850/224-4493 Planner -Kristen Knapp)

Sunday, July 16th Candlelight Vigil to Welcome the Torch Arrival on the Night Before.

The Centers for Independent Living Showcase in the Doubletree [pending] will highlight the 14 independent living centers and 4 “stand-alone” centers. (300-500 attending).

That evening: ADA Celebration–Unveiling a “Wall of Fame” honoring Floridians.

Final Civic Center gathering with music including Van Gogh (musical duo) at close of Relay

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Florida has a more strident accessibility code than other states–more strict than the ADA itself.

Also proud of the work in recreation (Possibly Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt)

HUD Secretary Cuomo because of emphasis on the Visitability Initiative and the Fannie Mae Initiative for Mortgages for First-Time Buyers with Disabilities?

Kenneth Apfel–Commissioner of the Social Security Administration because of the importance of the Ticket to Work and Medicaid Buy-In?

Janet Reno–she is from Florida, but this depends on resolution of the Elian matter

Lopez-with FTA, has been all over Florida recently (office has a presence)

Main Site for Speakers: Tallahassee Civic Center

Ceremonies:

1. Community College
2. FSU (Florida State University)
3. State Capital–Center for Government Dignitaries
4. FAMU (Florida Agriculture & Mechanics University)
5. Final Civic Center Celebration

Confirmed Speakers:

Gov. Bush will beam in some remarks from Brazil, close captioned.

Requests: Lt. Governor Frank Brogan.

Expected crowd: not known

Task Force Brochures: ideally 1000 per center (13,000), plus 2,000-5,000k for torch relay = 15,000--18,000

Wednesday, July 19–Warm Springs, GA

Contact: Joe Lyttle 706/655-5715

Theme: no particular theme

Event Information:

The Torch Run will begin in the City of Manchester, GA on July 19 at Horizons Medical Corporation. It will proceed to the Eternal Flame located in the city of Manchester. The city will have a ceremony and discussion will take place as to what the city has done to improve accessibility during the past ten years and what plans are in place to continue the process. The run will continue to the Manchester High School and on to the Warm Springs-Manchester Presbyterian Church for a lunch break.

The next stop will be at the Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery where a ceremony is planned, and then on to the city of Warm Springs at the Welcome Center, then the Georgia Baptist Hospital and Nursing Home. A ceremony will be held at both places. The torch will then travel to Franklin D. Roosevelt's Little White House for another ceremony.

They expect to have approximately 100-200 people at each stop and the ceremonies will all be brief: 5 – 10 minutes. The torch will arrive at the Roosevelt Institute for the final ceremony at the quadrangle located behind Georgia Hall on campus. The quadrangle is surrounded by several beautiful historical buildings that were constructed by the Warm Springs Foundation that FDR founded. Georgia Hall was the dining hall where FDR would come back each Thanksgiving and have dinner with patients and guests. An invitation has been extended to Senator Max Cleland to be the keynote speaker for this ceremony.

A basketball challenge will be held during the day in conjunction with the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs.

Neighboring cities are being asked to participate in the torch run. They hope to form a speaker's bureau for those participating.

A two to three hour symposium and panel discussion for improvements in the ADA. will be held during the day. Contact has been made with the ADA office for the state of Georgia for input.

This will be held concurrent with the run and will end prior to the final celebration.

They expect approximately 1,000 at the closing ceremony.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Secretary of H. H. S. because of connection to rehabilitation and FDR.

Main Site for Speakers: Roosevelt Institute on the campus

Confirmed Speakers: none yet.

Senator Max Cleland has been invited

Expected crowd: 1000 at closing ceremony.

Task Force Brochures: 1000-1500

Thursday & Friday, July 20 & 21—Atlanta, GA*

Theme: Civil Rights (Martin Luther King, Jr. Center is there in Atlanta)

Contact: Mark Johnson 404/350-7490

Event Information:

Day 1—Thursday, July 20

On the 20th, the Torch Kickoff (Opening) is at the Shepherd Center at 10am, then will proceed past a church, Piedmont Park (newly made accessible), the Carter Center, train to the King Center and go through downtown, winding up at the State Capitol at 4:00 pm.

Day 2—Friday, July 21

Starts at Turner Stadium (Braves stadium)—which was originally the '96 Para-lympics Stadium. Route goes past Arts-For-All Gallery, runs down to Georgia Tech University (Past Techwood

Homes which is well known to HUD), and finally to Centennial Olympic Park. Because Centennial Park is less than a mile from Ga Tech--and to allow those who want to participate a chance to do so--walkers will travel en masse from Ga-Tech to Centennial Park.

Closing Celebration/Festival in Centennial Olympic Park will include speakers & performances.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Requesting Secretary of HUD or Secretary of Education as well as the Attorney General.

Day 1: Small hook possible with Opening Ceremony for HHS Secretary Shalala at the Shepherd Center for Rehabilitation

Day 2: Larger hooks are possible for: ideally, given the theme, Attorney General Janet Reno.

Possible HUD hook -- A City of Atlanta ordinance for accessible housing has been passed at the state level (The proposed local route will pass Concrete Change on the second torch day)

[www.concretechange.homepage.mindspring.com]

Possible Education Hook with GA Tech for Education Secretary Riley

Task Force Brochures: 1500-2500

Saturday, July 22--Columbia, SC

Theme: Celebrating the ADA

Contact: Maris Parmerter 803/731-1607

Event Information:

Relay will start at 9am and go until 3.

Kickoff at the Airport (Newly Accessible) [pending approval]

Then to Barrier Free Home on Vocational Rehabilitation Campus. Then Relay downtown.

In the afternoon there will be an ADA Celebration Picnic/Rally in Finley Park downtown will have booths, vendors, as part of the relay day.

More info to follow in an email as plans finalize.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Difficult because South Carolina has been slower on implementing the ADA.

They request Labor Secretary Alexis Herman.

(There is a Mayor's Committee for the Employment of People with Disabilities in Charleston--a tributary of the PCEPD)

Already in contact with Sandy Richards in the Treasury Department. [no answers yet]

Main Site for Speakers: Roosevelt Institute on the campus

Confirmed Speakers: none yet.

Task Force Brochures: 1500-2500

Tuesday, July 25--Arlington, VA & Washington, DC*

Theme: Political Empowerment/Civic Involvement

Arlington--

9:30a.m. Welcoming Ceremony--Relay from Endependence Center -- local resource center near the Clarendon Metro--

10:30 Torch should leave, go past Arlington National Cemetery, across Memorial Bridge and ends at FDR Memorial by noon. Torch will be carried across the bridge and to the FDR Memorial by a throng of children with and without disabilities. NOD may hold an event at the FDR memorial.

11:30 a.m. NCD Luncheon. Torch will be taken there from the FDR Memorial.

7:00 p.m. Torch will be presented to Senator Tom Harkin (Iowa) at the opening NCIL reception.

10:00 or 11:00 p.m. Candlelight vigil in the courtyard at the Renaissance Hotel

Main Site for Speakers:

Confirmed Speakers:

Task Force Brochures: 650 on mailing list

Wednesday, July 26--Washington, DC*

midmorning: NCIL Rally

evening: NCIL, AAPD & DREDF Black Tie Gala

Main Site for Speakers:

Confirmed Speakers:

Friday, July 28--Philadelphia, PE*

Theme: Accessible Transportation for All

Contact: Linda Richman

Gill Ott-215/634-2000 x235

2 Committees are meeting

Internal-planning food, etc.

Broader Committee focusing on Torch Reception

THEME: 10 points of what is positive about the ADA (one for each year).

Event information: Mapped out route will pass torch from point to point-around Liberty Bell, to end at the Penn Treaty Park for a picnic-this is the location for speakers.

Republican Convention Goers are invited (the convention center; Senator Arlen Specter (sponsor for MiCASSA) is invited.

Torch relay is joined by and leads "rolling justice" marchers with travel to the city from across Pennsylvania.

Picnic/rally in Penn Treaty Park closes the day.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Arlen Specter-sponsor of MICASSA-has been invited, which could tie in with HHS Secretary Donna Shalala.

[NB-lawsuits have been filed in Philadelphia this year vs. Transportation and Housing. . .it could be awkward for Transportation or HUD (ADAPT would probably stage a protest)]

Ginny Thornburg has offered her husband, Ex-Attorney General Dick Thornburgh (who was Attorney General when the ADA was signed)

Task Force Brochures: 600

Main Site for Speakers: Penn Treaty Park

Confirmed Speakers:

Monday, July 31--Auburn Hills/Detroit, MI*

Contact: Marva Ways 313/277-0390

Theme: Highlight Advances made in Private Transportation/Strength of Disability Marketplace to Affect Change

Event Information:

situation is unique because it is in 2 places: Auburn Hills is the site of VW headquarters.

Then the torch will end up in Detroit.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Commerce Secretary William F. Daley (because of disability marketplace tie-in)

HHS Secretary Donna Shalala (re. "MiCASSA" Attendant Care Service Bill-HHS)

Labor Secretary Herman is requested.

Main Site for Speakers:

Opening Ceremony in Detroit hopefully to be at the State Fairgrounds, just outside the city.
(Pending approval)

Closing recognition ceremony planned in Hart Plaza downtown.

Confirmed Speakers:

Invited: State Senator Leland Burton (from Lansing) who has worked intensely on transportation-verbal confirmation

State Senator Toy-no response yet

Thursday, August 3-Boston, MA*

Contact: Bill Henning 508/775-8300

No Organized Events yet planned.

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Main Site for Speakers:

Confirmed Speakers:

Sen. Ted Kennedy has been invited.

Sunday, August 6 &

Monday, August 7-NYC, NY*a

Contact: Susan Burstein 718/658-8956

Sunday, August 6-NYC, NY*

Theme: International

NYC is different from the other cities

Event Information:

Sponsored by the NYC Consortium of Independent Living (consortium of 6 independent living centers across the city)

There will be mini-relays in each of the 5 boroughs

Each will have it's own small reception-playing to a borough-wide audience.

Torch comes from the North into the Bronx, into an ILC and to an ETA hospital.

Then Harlem and a mini-relay down 125th. Then to Brooklyn and to stay overnight in Staten Island.

Monday, August 7-NYC, NY*

Ferry over in the morning to Manhattan. Cross Brooklyn Bridge to Brooklyn, then to Queens and Flushing Meadows Park where the World's Fair was, and where is now the Playground for All Children-a city park-the first Accessible playground in the U.S. (Started in). From there to the UN.

Ceremony at the UN for policy makers; rally/concert at nearby public park for local residents

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

no one in particular has been requested

Main Site for Speakers: still undetermined.

Confirmed Speakers:

Richard Holbrook—UN Ambassador, requested.

Task Force Brochures:

300 more brochures. Several hundred available at different centers.. .

Approx. 5000 total.



Jonathan M. Young
03/30/2000 11:38:19 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Marsha Scott/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Follow-up on Conference

I've had some conversations with Becky and Liz Savage about the Warm Springs idea. Apparently, AG Reno and DOJ have some major announcements planned for their Warm Springs event, and they're afraid that if the conference is on that day that it will completely overshadow their announcements. So what about using that as a separate one of the "ramp-ups" you talked about, and using another day for the conference? Let me know if there's anything I can to help on the day-selection side of things. (I'm providing a brief list of the sites below for quick reference.)

I'm working this week on putting together list of names/organizations (I cancelled my week off, so I'm in the office). One question on that count. Do you want me to be identifying only heads of organizations (Presidents, Executive Directors) or is it okay to use experts on employment issues that may not be the actual heads of organizations? For some groups, the top position is a part-time honorific title, and the individuals may not be best able to speak to the issues. Perhaps we could talk that over a bit in our next meeting.

TORCH RELAY ROUTE

June 11th.....Houston (kick off event)
June 13th.....Austin, TX
June 17th.....San Francisco Bay Area, CA
June 19th.....Los Angeles, CA
June 21st.....Phoenix, AZ
June 24th.....Salt Lake City, UT
June 27th.....Denver, CO
June 30th.....Topeka, KS
July 4th.....St. Louis, MO
July 7th.....Madison, WI
July 9th.....Chicago, IL —
July 11th.....Memphis, TN —
July 13th.....Jackson, MS —
July 15th.....Montgomery, AL
July 17th.....Tallahassee, FL
July 19th.....Warm Springs, GA
July 20-21st....Atlanta, GA
July 22nd.....Columbia, SC
July 25th.....Arlington, VA
* July 26th.....Washington, DC

July 29th.....Philadelphia, PA
July 31st.....Auburn Hills/Detroit MI
August 3rd.....Boston, MA
August 6-7th..New York

On July 26, 2000, people throughout the country will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law by President Bush on the South Lawn on July 26, 1990. A variety of activities are being planned by public as well as private groups for the weeks leading up to (and following) the July 26 anniversary. The purpose of this memo is to provide a background on the ADA, status of planned activities, and OPL's possible roles.

I. Overview of Americans with Disabilities Act

In the disability community, the ADA is analogous to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 -- it is the basic foundation of nondiscrimination against people with disabilities. From a historical perspective, the immediate history of the ADA's passage was a period from 1986 (when the National Council on Disability first recommended passage of an "equal opportunity" law to prohibit discrimination) to 1990. The development of the disability rights movement, however, predates the ADA. Across the country, various advocacy groups organized and secured varying levels of rights. Very little in the ADA was actually unique in the sense of being "new" -- most of the provisions were adopted from various state and local (and some federal) statutes. The principal contribution of the ADA was that it established a uniform context of nondiscrimination that was applicable throughout the nation. I view the ADA's passage as a major culminating point for the disability rights movement, because it enabled different disability groups to set aside differences for a common goal. Although differences remain over funding, the ADA continues to be a major rallying point throughout the disability community.

The ADA consists of four main titles:

- Title I prohibits discrimination in **Employment**
- Title II prohibits discrimination by **State and Local Governments**, and provides detailed provisions about **Public Transportation**.
- Title III prohibits discrimination by **Places of Public Accommodation**, such as restaurants, places of entertainment, medical facilities, etc.
- Title IV provides for accessibility to **Telecommunications**, focusing largely on setting up a national relay service, which enables individuals using a teletype (TTY) device to communicate through an operator to an individual using a standard phone (and vice versa -- the operator types and speaks the messages back and forth)

II. Impact of the ADA

People have varying opinions about how successful the ADA has been in reaching its four main goals: "equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency." People generally agree that considerable gains have been made in regard to

structural accessibility, including access to transportation services. And there is widespread evidence that attitudes about and toward people with disabilities have improved. The relay service has also been a great success. The biggest difficulty is employment. People had high hopes that the ADA would help to bring down the staggering unemployment rate of people with disabilities (which was one of the justifications for the bill's passage). We cannot be precise about numbers (since there's no easy definition of disability), but it is clear unemployment remains a huge problem. The Work Incentives Improvement Act is one major step toward making the ADA's goal a reality. Other administration initiatives (including the creation of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities) aim to break down the various barriers that provide disincentives to employment.

III. Litigation Regarding the ADA

Rulings on the ADA in the lower courts, and especially the Supreme Court, have been hot topics throughout the disability community. Upholding a strong ADA is a huge rallying cry. So far, there have been three major decisions. The first one (Bragdon v. Abbott) was a positive decision, ruling that HIV/AIDs was a covered disability. The second one was also positive, (Olmstead), which decided that unjustified isolation in institutions was prohibited discrimination under the ADA, providing support for home- and community-based services. The third decision, however, has the potential for extensive adverse consequences. The Court basically limited the scope of disability by deciding that disabilities mitigated by devices or medication did not count as disabilities to be covered by the ADA. This creates a strange catch-22: an individual can be discriminated against in employment for having physical or mental impairments, but not "disabled enough" to receive protection under the ADA.

Two additional cases were scheduled to be heard this spring, which would have potentially ruled on the constitutionality of Title II of the ADA. But the two cases were settled. Nonetheless, similar cases on the constitutionality of Title II are expected to be heard in the next session. All of this is putting the disability considerably on edge. I'm pleased that the cases were not decided this term, because many people expect a negative decision (given the direction of the Court), and it would have been awkward to have these decisions made just weeks before the 10th Anniversary.

III. "Spirit of ADA" Pledge & Torch Relay

For about a year, a number of advocates have been organizing a nationwide, coordinated celebration of the ADA Anniversary. There are two main components to this: 1) a pledge; 2) a torch relay.

A. The Spirit of ADA Renew the Pledge Campaign marks the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and a call for individuals, communities, and leaders to renew their commitment to an America that works for everyone. There is a pledge form for people to fill out

that is being circulated throughout the country. Gore has already signed the pledge.

B. The Spirit of ADA Torch Relay's mission is to connect, inform, educate and involve people across the United States in celebrating the contributions of children and adults with disabilities to American society. This is not a typical Olympic-style torch relay (physically carried and passed on everywhere). The relay is a mechanism to traverse and unite the country with venues at each stop. Each city's local organizers are responsible for organizing its own activities. The goals of the Spirit of ADA Torch Relay are to:

- Reinforce support for the goals of the ADA and IDEA by renewing America's commitment to equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities;
- Bring attention to the achievements and contributions of children and adults with disabilities;
- Increase relationships, partnerships, and coalitions between people with disabilities, their family members and friends, and the broader communities where they live;
- Highlight the importance of continuing on the path to building accessible, inclusive and integrated communities where children and adults with disabilities have the same opportunities and choices that are often taken for granted by people in the broader society.

Torch Relay Schedule:

June 11th.....Houston (kick off event)
June 13th.....Austin, TX
June 17th.....San Francisco Bay Area, CA
June 19th.....Los Angeles, CA
June 21st.....Phoenix, AZ
June 24th.....Salt Lake City, UT
June 27th.....Denver, CO
June 30th.....Topeka, KS
July 4th.....St. Louis, MO
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July 25th.....Arlington, VA
July 26th.....Washington, DC
July 29th.....Philadelphia, PA
July 31st.....Auburn Hills/Detroit MI
August 3rd.....Boston, MA
August 6-7th..New York

IV. Possible Framework for the Conference

The consensus focus is employment issues. In the focus group calls people generally agreed that making CEOs a substantial component of the audience has the most potential for long-term impact. That helps address some of the community concern about the timing: by targeting employers there is the potential outcome of improvements in hiring.

So far, the idea is to hold the conference a week or two before the ADA anniversary as ramp-up to the Anniversary celebration.

At the last meeting, the suggestion was doing a partial day conference:

- start at the White House, perhaps for breakfast
- move to an off-site center such as Gallaudet University or the Chamber of commerce, for two sessions: 1) a televised plenary session; 2) a sort of expanded information fair with technology defenses
- Conclude with a reception at the VP residence.

V. Other Activities for the 10th anniversary

- Becky has talked about plugging various members of the Task Force (mostly Cabinet Secretaries) into the Spirit of the ADA Relay events
- Janet Reno and DOJ are planning a major announcement in Warm Springs on Wednesday, July 19.
- USAID is talking about doing an international event, possibly with a reception in ITR, with Albright and creating an award for international disability programs.
- I'd like to do a major South Lawn event on the morning of July 26. Thousands of people will be in town for activities taking place throughout the day, so it would be great to do a large White House event.

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE: ***Working on Behalf of Americans with Disabilities***

"If we want to keep our economy growing with continued low inflation and low unemployment, we must draw on the untapped potential of our people.... Americans with disabilities who want to work shouldn't have to wait one more day."

-- President Bill Clinton
October 16, 1999

HISTORIC ECONOMIC GROWTH:

Moving From Record Deficits to Record Surplus. In 1992, the deficit was \$290 billion, a record dollar high. In 2000, we have a projected budget surplus of \$167 billion -- the largest dollar surplus on record (even after adjusting for inflation) and the largest as a share of our economy since 1951. This is the first time we have had three surpluses in a row in more than a half century.

Saving Social Security. President Clinton and Vice President Gore have coupled fiscal discipline with a commitment to preserve and protect Social Security. President Clinton fought for and signed bipartisan legislation to eliminate the confusing and out-dated retirement earnings test in order to encourage work and earnings for older Americans. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, the life of the Social Security trust fund has been extended to 2034. President Clinton has proposed extending the program's solvency to at least 2054 by paying down the national debt and dedicating the interest savings to Social Security. The President has also pushed for measures to strengthen Social Security's benefits to reduce poverty among elderly women.

Nearly 22 Million New Jobs. 21.6 million new jobs have been created since 1993, the most jobs ever created under a single Administration -- and more new jobs than Presidents Reagan and Bush created during their three terms. 91 percent (19.7 million) of the new jobs have been created in the private sector, the highest percentage in 50 years.

The Unemployment Rate Was 3.9 Percent in April --the Lowest in More Than Three Decades. The unemployment rate fell to 3.9 percent in April. The last time the unemployment rate was this low was in January 1970 -- more than thirty years ago. The unemployment rate has remained below 5 percent for 34 months in a row.

Lowest Inflation Since 1965. Inflation remains virtually non-existent, with the underlying core rate of inflation at 1.9 percent in 1999 -- the lowest rate since 1965. In the last four years the GDP price index has risen under two percent each year -- the lowest rate of increase since the early 1960s.

Fastest and Longest Real Wage Growth in Over Three Decades. In the last 12 months, average hourly earnings have increased 3.8 percent -- faster than the rate of inflation. The United States has had five consecutive years of real wage growth -- the longest consecutive increase since the 1960s. Since 1993, real wages are up 6.8 percent, after *declining* 4.3 percent during the Reagan and Bush years.

Highest Homeownership Rate in History. In 1999, the homeownership rate was 66.8 percent -- the

highest ever recorded.

Lowest Poverty Rate in Two Decades. The poverty rate has fallen from 15.1 percent in 1993 to 12.7 percent in 1998. That's the lowest poverty rate since 1979 and the largest five-year drop in poverty in nearly 30 years (1965-1970).

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY:

I. 2000 Legislative Priorities and FY2001 Budget Initiatives

Disability Office in the Department of Labor. President Clinton and Vice President Gore support establishing an Office of Disability Policy, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODPET) within the Department of Labor (DOL), and improving access for adults with disabilities to employment services offered through the one-stop system. The President's FY 2001 budget includes \$20.56 million for ODPET, which was recommended by the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. Under the leadership of an Assistant Secretary, ODPET's mission would be to dramatically increase the employment rate of people with disabilities by implementing a sustained, coordinated, and aggressive strategy to eliminate barriers and create meaningful employment opportunities for people with disabilities. This office would initially subsume the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD) in an effort to reduce duplication and enhance coordination of Federal employment programs for people with disabilities. The office would work within DOL to ensure that all programs address the need to increase participation of people with disabilities in DOL training programs, with a targeted emphasis on those serving youth during FY 2001.

National Disability Business Development Board. Creation of ODPET would also establish the National Disability Business Development Board, a federally chartered corporation. The Board will be made up of America's business leaders, organized labor, rehabilitation and service providers, and disability-related organizations currently advising the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. The board would: work to improve the access of individuals with disabilities to financial institutions and commercial and business enterprises; provide incentives to, and collaborate with, the public and private sectors to ensure the necessary levels of resources/investments in employment initiatives for individuals with disabilities; and leverage funds for public awareness about disability and employment.

Tax Credit for Work-Related Expenses. In his FY 2001 budget, President Clinton renews his proposal for a \$1,000 tax credit for work-related expenses for people with disabilities. This tax credit was proposed last year but not supported by Congress. The credit would help workers with significant disabilities cover the formal and informal costs that are associated with employment, such as specialized transportation and technology. Like the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act, it would help ensure that people with disabilities have the tools they need to return to work by recognizing the extra costs associated with working.

Extending Medicare Access for People with Disabilities Who Work. The President and Vice President's FY 2001 budget builds on achievements enacted in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act to ensure that individuals with disabilities have full opportunity to participate in and

contribute to our growing economy. The Administration has proposed removing an arbitrary four-and-a-half-year limit on Medicare coverage for people with disabilities who return to work, giving individuals with disabilities lifetime access to Medicare.

Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants. The Administration's FY 2001 budget includes \$2.4 billion, an increase of \$60.8 million, or 2.6 percent, to assist State VR agencies to improve the employment outcomes of individuals with disabilities. A wide range of services is provided each year to about 1.2 million individuals with disabilities, and these funds will assist States to address the needs of this population.

II. Record of Accomplishments

Enacted the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act. The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (TWWIIA) is an historic bill produced through the bipartisan efforts of President Clinton and Vice President Gore; Senators Jeffords, Kennedy, Roth, and Moynihan; leaders in the House of Representatives; and the disability community. On December 17, 1999, the President signed this historic bill into law at a ceremony held at the FDR Memorial. This legislation, which the President advocated since 1998, will help provide better health care options for people with disabilities who work.

TWWIIA will improve employment opportunities by: creating new options and incentives for states to offer a Medicaid buy-in for workers with disabilities; extending Medicare coverage for an additional 4 ½ years for people on disability insurance who return to work; creating a \$250 million Medicaid buy-in demonstration to help people whose disabilities have not yet progressed so far that they cannot work; and enhancing employment-related services for people with disabilities through the new "Ticket to Work" Program. TWWIIA also creates a Work Incentive Grant program to provide benefits planning and assistance, facilitate access to information about work incentives, and better integrate services to people with disabilities working or returning to work.

Increasing the Substantial Gainful Activity Amount. In July 1999, the Social Security Administration increased the monthly earnings guidelines from \$500 to \$700 per month, enabling beneficiaries with disabilities to earn more without affecting their benefits. These guidelines are used to determine whether the work activities of a person with impairments, other than blindness, demonstrate that he or she is able to perform substantial gainful activity (SGA).

Directing Federal Agencies to Implement Plan for Hiring People with Disabilities. Since the beginning of the Clinton-Gore Administration, the American economy has added nearly 21 million new jobs, and unemployment is at the lowest level in three decades. Yet nearly 75 percent of individuals with significant disabilities are unemployed. Last year, Vice President Gore asked the Office of Personnel Management to develop a model plan to bring more adults with disabilities into the Federal workforce. On October 16, 1999, President Clinton released that action plan and directed the Federal government to implement it immediately. The plan, *Accessing Opportunity: The Plan for Employment of People with Disabilities in the Federal Government*, along with a companion Employment Guide, provides detailed resources for federal employees as they recruit, hire, train and promote people with disabilities. Under this plan, the Federal government -- the nation's largest employer with almost 1.8

million workers -- will do more to: recruit people with disabilities for positions at all levels of government; provide opportunities for students with disabilities; ensure career opportunities for people with disabilities; collect and maintain data to monitor success of people with disabilities in the federal workforce; and provide reasonable accommodations for applicants and employees with disabilities.

Sponsoring “Disability Mentoring Day: Career Development for the 21st Century.” On October 27, 1999, the White House sponsored the first-ever mentoring day for people with disabilities. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and Departments of Labor, Justice, Education, Transportation, and Defense also participated in the mentoring program, which was modeled after other “shadow” days. It also coincided with a reception hosted by OPM to celebrate the release of the *Plan and Employment Guide*. This year, the mentoring day will take place on Wednesday, October 25th. The White House encourages people from all across the country to participate in their local communities.

Expanding Hiring Opportunities for People with Psychiatric Disabilities. In January 1999, Tipper Gore announced that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) would explore measures to eliminate the stricter standards that are currently applied to job applicants with psychiatric disabilities. On June 4, 1999, President Clinton signed an executive order ensuring that individuals with psychiatric disabilities are given the same hiring opportunities as persons with significant physical disabilities or mental retardation. On March 17, 2000, OPM issued proposed regulations to create a new Government-wide excepted appointing authority for persons with psychiatric disabilities. This authority will broaden the category of people who may non-competitively acquire competitive civil service status after two years of successful service, providing individuals with psychiatric disabilities the same hiring opportunities already offered to individuals with mental retardation and significant physical disabilities.

Mental Health Parity for Federal Employees. Leading by example, in June 1999 President Clinton called for parity for mental health and substance abuse coverage in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) by 2001. The FEHBP is the largest employer-sponsored health insurance program in the country -- covering about 9 million people, including Federal employees, retirees, and their families -- and often serves as a model for other employers and the insurance industry. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) will work with participating health plans to introduce managed behavioral health care components that incorporate proven techniques such as case management, authorized treatment plans, provider networks using effective screening and referral procedures, pre-certification, and disease management. OPM has eliminated lifetime and annual maximums in the Program, and negotiated with plans to move away from contractual day and visit limitations, high deductibles, co-payments, and coinsurance for mental health coverage.

Signed the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. On August 7, 1998, President Clinton signed the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which included the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998, helping to improve worker training and placement options for people with disabilities. WIA establishes better links between the vocational rehabilitation (VR) system and the general workforce development system. Job seekers with disabilities now have improved options for service through the mainstream worker training and placement system, and through the disability-specific VR system. WIA also strengthens the Rehabilitation Act by giving increased options to individuals with disabilities in developing VR plans.

Increasing Employment of Adults with Disabilities. President Clinton signed an Executive Order in March 1998 establishing the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. The

Task Force is charged with creating a coordinated and aggressive national policy to move individuals with disabilities into gainful employment at a rate approaching that of the general adult population. The Task Force, chaired by the Secretary of Labor, continues its efforts to promote employment opportunities, and many of its recommendations have already been accepted and implemented by the President. The Task Force is analyzing the barriers to employment faced by people with disabilities and will report its findings with policy recommendations to the President on a periodic basis until its final report is presented on July 26, 2002.

Working on Innovative Strategies to Improve Employment of Adults with Disabilities. The Clinton-Gore Administration continues to develop innovative strategies to employ Americans with disabilities. The Social Security Administration (SSA), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Labor (DOL), and the Department of Education (DoED) are all participating in inter-agency demonstration projects to expand job opportunities for persons with disabilities. For instance, DoED has awarded six systems-change grants to establish models of improved cooperation and coordination between State Vocational Rehabilitation programs, public employment/employment training programs, and other related programs. The grants will help reduce barriers to employment and increase the capacity of States' overall employment system to serve individuals with disabilities. The focus of these systems change projects is increasing the employment rate of individuals with disabilities who are currently receiving support through public programs.

In addition, SSA is working under cooperative agreements with 12 states to develop innovative projects to assist adults with disabilities to reenter the workforce. This activity, the State Partnership Initiative, is designed to help states develop innovative and integrated statewide programs of services and supports for their residents with disabilities that will increase job opportunities and decrease dependence on benefits, including Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income. Moreover, the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (PCEPD) has worked to coordinate a commitment by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Human Resource Managers, and dozens of other private sector companies to support several initiatives advancing the employment of people with disabilities among employers. Initiatives include the formation of local and state employer-led groups advocating for the employment of people with disabilities, the launching of a nationwide campaign to advance the employment of persons with cognitive disabilities, and supporting PCEPD's career exploration and employment programs for youth with disabilities.

Creating New Tools to Help Families Move from Welfare to Work. Since enactment of the 1996 welfare reform law, millions of families have moved from welfare to work. Recognizing the special needs of some people with disabilities and other populations in moving from welfare to work, the 1997 Balanced Budget Act included \$3 billion to move long-term welfare recipients and low-income non-custodial fathers into jobs. To fully implement this initiative, the President's FY 2001 budget allows grantees an additional two years to spend Welfare-to-Work funds. It also proposes \$255 million for Fathers Work/Families Win grants to promote responsible fatherhood and support working families. The Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit provides tax incentives to encourage businesses to hire long-term welfare recipients. President Clinton has secured 110,000 new housing vouchers in the last two years to help welfare recipients and hard-pressed working families move closer to job opportunities, and this year he is proposing \$690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

I. 2000 Legislative Priorities and FY2001 Budget Initiatives

State Grant Program. The Administration's FY 2001 budget includes \$5.28 billion, a \$290 million or 5.8 percent increase, for Special Education Grants to States. With passage of this increase, funding for the State Grant Program will have risen 127 percent since 1994. In FY 2001, the Grants to States program would provide an average of \$827 per child, an increase of 4 percent over the FY 2000 level. If approved, States will receive 13 percent of their average per pupil expenditures, or 11 percent of the excess costs, from the federal government for educating children with disabilities.

State Improvement Grants. The Administration's FY 2001 budget includes \$45.2 million for the State Improvement Grants, a \$10 million increase (or 28.4 percent) over FY 2000. This will provide funding for 28 existing awards to States as well as new awards to an estimated 15 States and territories. The State Improvement program would expand efforts to reform and improve State systems for providing educational, early intervention, and transitional services to improve results for children with disabilities.

Parent Training. The Administration's FY 2001 budget for the Parent Training and Information Centers program is \$26 million, a \$7.5 million increase, or 40.3 percent, above last year's level. The increase would be used to expand the size of the awards to existing State Parent Training and Information Centers, establish four new centers for a total of 103 across the country, and provide additional technical assistance to centers. Three of the new centers would be community centers operated by local parent organizations and focus on meeting the needs of underserved parents and families of children with disabilities.

Reading and Behavior. The President's FY 2001 budget includes a request for a \$10 million Primary Education Intervention initiative. This initiative will support projects that demonstrate effective interventions coupled with early identification to improve results for children with disabilities. The initiative would target children with significant problems in learning to read, and those exhibiting behaviors that have been found to lead to significant discipline problems or emotional disturbance as they get older. Research shows that early intervention is particularly effective for improving educational results for children, and these funds will allow more students to benefit from timely identification and service delivery.

State Technical Assistance Awards. Helping States comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is critically important, and the President's FY 2001 budget includes an \$8 million request for State Technical Assistance Awards that will help address this need. These technical assistance awards will be instrumental in improving State monitoring and complaint resolution systems, and to correct deficiencies found through State and Federal monitoring of the implementation of IDEA.

II. Record of Accomplishments

Supporting Quality Education for Children with Disabilities. In 1997, the President enacted a stronger Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), reaffirming our national commitment to provide a world class education for all our children by ensuring that our nation's schools are safe and conducive to learning, while scrupulously protecting the rights of students with disabilities. Funding for

the basic IDEA grant program has increased by 100 percent under the Clinton-Gore Administration.

Fighting Unwise Amendments to IDEA. In the 105th Congress, the Majority in the House of Representatives attempted to amend the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to make it easier to expel children with disabilities who were judged by school officials to be potentially violent in school. These broad, subjective judgements could have resulted in inappropriate expulsion of large numbers of students with disabilities. The Clinton-Gore Administration, working with parents, successfully opposed these amendments.

Enforcing IDEA. The Clinton Administration has defended the rights of children with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in numerous Federal Court cases: *Cedar Rapids Community School District v. Garrett F.*; *Marie O. v. Edgar*; *Sacramento City Unified School District v. Holland*; *Hartmann v. Loudon County Board of Education*.

IMPROVING ACCESS AND QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE:

I. 2000 Legislative Priorities and FY2001 Budget Initiatives

Addressing the Nation's Multi-Faceted Needs for Long Term Services and Supports. The President's FY 2001 budget includes a \$28 billion, 10-year investment to tackle the complex problem of long-term care, which affects millions of elderly persons, people with disabilities, children with special needs, and/or the families who care for them. Its centerpiece is a \$3,000 tax credit for people with long-term care needs or their caregivers -- triple the amount proposed last year. It also seeks to address the way in which Medicaid policy and practice has inadvertently discriminated against people with long-term care needs who want to live in the community by making it much easier to provide coverage in nursing homes than in the community. This proposal would enable states to provide services to nursing-home qualified beneficiaries at 300 percent of the Supplemental Security Income limit (about \$15,000), without requiring a complicated and frequently time-consuming Federal waiver. This proposal contributes toward the goal of giving people who need long-term services and supports the choice of remaining in their homes and communities. It costs \$140 million over 5 years, \$370 million over 10 years.

Expanding Coverage to Uninsured Americans. In his FY 2001 budget, President Clinton has proposed a 10-year, \$110 billion initiative that would dramatically improve the affordability of and access to health insurance. The proposal would expand coverage to at least 5 million uninsured Americans and expand access to millions more. If enacted, these policies would be the largest expansion of coverage since Medicare was created in 1965.

Advocating a Strong Patients' Bill of Rights. The President and Vice President have called for passage of the bipartisan Patients' Bill of Rights Act, to ensure that all Americans have essential protections, including: guaranteed access to needed health care specialists; access to emergency room services when and where needs arise; continuity of care protections to assure coverage if a patient's health care provider is dropped; access to a timely internal and independent external appeals process with a medical necessity standard; assurance that doctors and patients can openly discuss treatment options; and an enforcement mechanism that ensures recourse for patients who have been harmed as a

result of health plan actions.

II. Record of Accomplishments

Extending Enforceable Patient Protections for Millions of Americans. Leading by example, the President directed all federal agencies to ensure that their employees and beneficiaries have the benefits and rights guaranteed under the proposed Patients' Bill of Rights. Eighty-five million Americans covered by federal health plans have the security of knowing they will have fair access to health care thanks to the President's work.

Providing Access to Health Care Services for Uninsured Workers. In 1999, the President proposed and won \$25 million in funding for a program to coordinate systems of care, increase the number of services delivered, and establish an accountability system to assure adequate patient care for uninsured and low-income individuals. This year, the President has proposed funding this initiative at \$125 million, representing a substantial down payment on the President's plan to invest \$1 billion over 5 years.

Supporting Families. President Clinton fought for and enacted the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for a child or adult with a disability, seriously ill family members, newborn or adoptive children, or their own serious health problems -- without fear of losing their jobs. Since its enactment, FMLA has benefited millions of Americans, and the President has expanded leave options for Federal employees. President Clinton has called for extending this benefit to 12 million more working families and has proposed expanding FMLA to allow workers to take up to 24 unpaid hours off each year for school and early childhood education activities, routine family medical care, and caring for an elderly relative.

Increasing Access to Health Care and Supporting Employment for Americans with Disabilities. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created an optional program whereby States could allow people with disabilities who earn up to 250 percent of poverty to purchase Medicaid coverage. Oregon is the first state to take advantage of this policy, and they have created a program that will let individuals go to work and get or keep Medicaid. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala has asked every governor to seriously consider this program.

Passing Meaningful Health Insurance Reform. President Clinton signed the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, which limits exclusions for pre-existing conditions, makes coverage portable, and helps individuals who lose jobs maintain coverage.

Protecting the Medicaid Guarantee for People with Disabilities. The Clinton-Gore Administration refuses to go backward on health care coverage for Americans with disabilities, rejecting proposals to end the Medicaid guarantee to meaningful health benefits for people with disabilities. The President vetoed the Republicans' proposal in the 104th Congress to block grant the Medicaid program, preserving Medicaid coverage for six million persons with disabilities. Medicaid is often the only form of health care available to people with disabilities and allows many children and adults to receive services at home rather than in institutions. Thanks to President Clinton, the 1997 Balanced Budget Act preserved the Federal guarantee of Medicaid coverage for populations who depend on it.

IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY:

I. 2000 Legislative Priorities and FY2001 Budget Initiatives

Assistive Technology Initiatives. The Administration's FY 2001 budget includes \$100 million (a \$13.5 million increase) for disability and technology research at the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR). NIDRR will launch a comprehensive technology initiative which includes: \$5 million for an Educational Technology Initiative to provide technical assistance and training to elementary and secondary schools; \$3.4 million for a multi-pronged Employment initiative to carry out research, training, and technical assistance to enhance the ability of individuals with disabilities to access and use information and communication technology; and \$5.1 million for a Community Independence initiative on how information and assistive technology can be used to enhance community integration and participation by individuals with disabilities. The Administration's request also includes \$15 million to support grants that establish or maintain alternative loan financing programs. Most people with disabilities do not have the private financial resources to purchase the assistive technology they need. If approved, this increase would significantly enhance opportunities for individuals with disabilities to take advantage of assistive technology.

Centers for Independent Living. The Administration's FY 2001 includes \$58 million for Centers for Independent Living (CILs) -- a 20.8 percent increase over last year's funding level. This increase would make it possible to accomplish an increase in the stability of existing CILs and open new CILs in unserved and underserved areas. The request could provide sufficient funding to establish a \$200,000 federal funding floor. In addition, a \$10 million increase for CILs could expand the network of centers by funding up to 56 new centers in 23 States.

II. Record of Accomplishments

Ensuring that the Telecommunications Revolution Benefits All. In July 1999, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted rules on Section 225 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which requires that telecommunications equipment and services be accessible to individuals with disabilities, if readily achievable. This provision is known as the ADA for the Information Age. These regulations, which have been supported by the telecommunications industry, will ensure people with disabilities have access to a broad range of products and services -- such as telephones, cell phones, pagers, call waiting, and operator services -- where they previously experienced barriers. Telecommunications carriers may not install network features, functions, or capabilities that do not comply with the regulations. The regulations also ensure that information, documentation, and customer service is conducted in accessible ways.

Signed the Assistive Technology Act. Technology is a crucial component in enabling people with disabilities to obtain and keep meaningful employment. With the support of the Clinton-Gore Administration, Congress passed the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, which reauthorizes the "Tech Act" that created State Assistive Technology Centers to provide assistive devices to low-income individuals with disabilities.

Ensuring the Federal Government Provides Accessible Technology and Information. The

Clinton-Gore Administration recommended, and Congress enacted, changes to the Rehabilitation Act strengthening the obligations of federal agencies to provide accessible information technology to their employees and customers. This enabled the federal government to use its considerable purchasing power to influence private industry toward developing universally designed technology that is accessible to almost everyone. On April 18, 2000, Attorney General Janet Reno announced the release of the Department of Justice's (DOJ) first report under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, *Information Technology and People with Disabilities: The Current State of Federal Accessibility*. Under DOJ's direction, federal agencies examined the procurement policies and procedures, along with common types of information technology. DOJ found that while some information technology used by federal agencies is accessible, simple steps can increase the extent to which federal information technology is usable by people with disabilities.

Increased Resources for Accessible Transportation. In 1998, President Clinton signed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), which provides significantly increased resources to make our Nation's surface transportation systems accessible. TEA-21 included increased funding for the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities grant program.

Increasing Public Transportation Accessibility. The Department of Transportation and the Access Board have issued final regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions for over-the-road bus (OTRB) accessibility that provides a definition of what constitutes discriminatory action. The regulation requires large, fixed-route operators to achieve 50 percent of full fleet accessibility by October 2006 and 100 percent by October 2012. The Department has strengthened the regulations by including provisions making OTRB operators individually and collectively accountable for providing accessible service.

Access to Jobs Initiative. The President's Access to Jobs initiative helps communities design innovative transportation solutions, such as van services, to help former welfare recipients and other low-income workers get to work. Funding for this initiative has increased to \$75 million in FY 2000 and will be \$100 million in FY 2001 as a result of guaranteed funding in TEA-21. This innovative program emphasizes providing people with disabilities the transportation access required to achieve education, work, and family goals.

Increasing Housing Options. The Clinton-Gore Administration took a number of significant actions in 1998 that advanced housing policy for people with disabilities. First, HUD issued a statement supporting the view that institutional living does not constitute real housing for people with disabilities. On April 28, 1998, Fannie Mae announced the publication of "A Home of Your Own Guide," the first manual specifically created to provide step-by-step home buying guidance for people with disabilities. In February, HUD Secretary Cuomo issued a directive encouraging communities to use community development block grant funds for home modifications for people with disabilities. Also, in HUD's recent Notices of Funding Availability, the agency included bonus points for developers when they seek to build structures that include "visitability" by people with disabilities.

Increasing Section 8 Funding in HUD Appropriations. President Clinton supported the inclusion of \$40 million in Section 8 funding for people with disabilities, in part to offset the displacement likely to occur as a result of "elderly-only" designation of public housing formerly occupied by people with disabilities.

PROMOTING EQUALITY FOR ALL OF OUR CITIZENS:

I. 2000 Legislative Priorities and FY 2001 Budget Initiatives

Increased Funding for Civil Rights Enforcement. The Clinton-Gore Administration's FY 2001 budget includes a request for an additional \$16 million for the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Civil Rights Division -- a 19 percent increase over last year's budget of \$82.2 million. With a proposed increase of \$2.4 million for the Civil Rights Division, DOJ hopes to further implement the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by funding new initiatives, including an initiative to remove barriers that prevent people with disabilities from obtaining basic community services, such as riding public transportation or attending a town meeting. Additional funding will also help begin a new initiative to train law enforcement officers on how to appropriately interact with persons with mental disabilities.

Protecting All of Our Citizens. The President and Vice President have repeatedly called for passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which would strengthen and expand the existing federal hate crimes law to cover cases of hate crimes based on disability, gender, or sexual orientation.

II. Record of Accomplishments

Assuring Access to Community Living for the People with Disabilities. On June 22, 1999, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed in *Olmstead v. L.C.* that, under the Americans With Disabilities Act, unjustifiable institutionalization of a person with a disability who, with proper support, can live in the community is discrimination. In accordance with that Court ruling, on January 14, 2000, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued guidance to state Medicaid directors on how to make state programs responsive to the desires of people with disabilities to live in appropriate community-based settings. The Administration's goal is to integrate people with disabilities into the social mainstream with equal opportunities and the opportunity to make choices in their lives. The Clinton-Gore Administration's flexibility in granting state waivers has spurred an increase in home and community-based services. Since he took office, the President has approved over 300 such waivers. As a result, the number of people with developmental disabilities served in home and community waiver programs has increased significantly.

Vigorously Enforcing Disability Rights. President Clinton has led the fight for vigorous enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Fair Housing Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and other critical civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities in housing, schools, workplaces, and public areas across the nation. Under the Clinton-Gore Administration, the number of positions allocated for ADA enforcement at the Department of Justice (DOJ) has increased by 105 percent. The Administration's FY 2001 budget proposal includes funding for another 29 new positions for ADA enforcement -- a 35 percent increase over FY 2000 funding. DOJ has entered into hundreds of settlement agreements involving access to civic life (city halls and municipal services), 911 emergency services, hotels, stores, restaurants, theaters, and other public accommodations. The Department's litigation activity has established important legal precedents including ADA coverage (such as zoning and prisons), architect liability, line of sight over standing spectators, effective communication, and unnecessary inquiries by professional licensing entities.

Implementation of the ADA's "most integrated setting" requirement has been an important element of DOJ's Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act investigations and agreements (involving MRDD institutions, psychiatric hospitals, and public nursing homes).

Working to Stop Discrimination Against People With AIDS. President Clinton supports the Supreme Court's decision in *Bragdon v. Abbott*, which reinforces the protections offered by the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) for Americans living with HIV and AIDS. The President directed the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) to vigorously prosecute those who discriminate against people with AIDS, leading to actions against health care providers and facilities that violate the ADA.

Working for Fair Housing. In response to the increase in reported cases of serious fair housing violations, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) committed to doubling the number of its civil rights enforcement actions by the year 2000. In addition, the President proposed and won a major expansion of HUD's Fair Housing programs. The FY 1999 budget expanded HUD's Fair Housing programs to \$40 million -- a \$10 million increase over FY 1998 funding. That 33 percent increase included \$7.5 million for a new audit-based enforcement initiative proposed by the Administration.

Adding a New Statue to the FDR Memorial. On May 2, 1997, President Clinton dedicated the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial to honor the thirty-second President of the United States. On July 2, 1998, Vice President Gore announced that the FDR Memorial will soon include an additional outdoor room at the main entrance, which will depict FDR in the small wheelchair he invented. In collaboration with the disability community, the Clinton-Gore Administration has selected a specific design that will show how FDR became one of our greatest presidents while he had a disability and used a wheelchair. And last year, the Clinton-Gore Administration helped secure \$3 million to fund the memorial addition, which may be complete as early as this year.

Appointed the Most Diverse Administration in History. President Clinton has appointed a highly talented and the most diverse Administration in history, including the appointment of record numbers of people with disabilities in the White House and throughout the Clinton-Gore Administration. The Federal government now employs more than 100,000 employees with some type of disability. President Clinton's Administration appointees include: Judith Heumann, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitation Services; Paul Miller, Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; and Fredric Schroeder, Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Commission. People with disabilities serve in the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, Labor, State, and Transportation. President Clinton has also appointed people with disabilities to positions in such independent agencies as the National Council on Disability and the Social Security Administration, as U.S. District Court Judges, and to various Presidential Committees, Commissions, and Task Forces. In the White House, Jonathan Young is the first person with a disability ever appointed to serve as Associate Director for Disability Outreach in the Office of Public Liaison.

DRAFT language for memo from Cabinet Affairs:

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

SUBJECT: "Spirit of ADA" Pledge & Torch Relay

On July 26, 2000, people throughout the country will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law by President Bush on the South Lawn on July 26, 1990. A variety of activities are being planned by public as well as private groups for the weeks leading up to (and following) the July 26 anniversary. The purpose of this memo is to provide a background on the ADA, status of planned activities, and suggest possible roles for each Cabinet official.

For about a year, a number of advocates have been organizing a nationwide, coordinated celebration of the ADA Anniversary. There are two main components to this: 1) a pledge; 2) a torch relay. Both provide opportunities for Cabinet participation.

I. The Spirit of ADA Renew the Pledge Campaign marks the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and a call for individuals, communities, and leaders to renew their commitment to an America that works for everyone. There is a pledge form for people to fill out that is being circulated throughout the country. Vice President Gore has already signed the pledge. ***Pledge commitments from the President's Cabinet would send a powerful message about the Administration's commitment to disability rights.***

II. The Spirit of ADA Torch Relay's mission is to connect, inform, educate and involve people across the United States in celebrating the contributions of children and adults with disabilities to American society. The relay is a mechanism to traverse and unite the country with venues at each stop. Each city's local organizers are responsible for organizing its own activities. The goal of the Spirit of ADA Torch Relay is to reinforce support for the goals of the ADA by renewing America's commitment to equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities. The Relay will increase national awareness of the contributions that people with disabilities are making in order to promote new relationships, partnerships, and coalitions between people with disabilities and the broader community. ***Members of the President's Cabinet can demonstrate support for disability rights by speaking at destinations of the Torch Relay.*** The relay schedule, with themes and suggested participating agencies, is attached.

SPIRIT OF THE ADA TORCH RELAY SCHEDULE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>THEME</u>	<u>AGENCY/OFFICIAL (CONFIRMED)</u>
June 11	Houston (kick off event)	Civil Rights	EEOC, DOT
June 13	Austin, TX	Transportation	Asst. Sec. DOT (confirmed)
June 17	San Francisco	Civil Rights	Asst. Sec.OSERS (confirmed) Asst.Att.General (confirmed)
June 19	Los Angeles, CA	Disability Media	FCC, HUD, DOT
June 21	Phoenix, AZ	Entrepreneurial	SBA, HUD, DOT
June 24	Salt Lake City, UT	Paralympic Games	DOI, OPM
June 27	Denver, CO	Transportation, Civil Rights	DOT, HHS
June 30	Topeka, KS	Diversity	HUD, DOEd, DOA, OPM
July 4	St. Louis, MO	Transportation	DOT
July 7	Madison, WI	Recreation/Parks	DOI, DOT, DOL
July 9	Chicago, IL	Civil Rights	Commerce, EEOC
July 11	Memphis, TN	Civil Rights	DOJ, FCC
July 13	Jackson, MS	Agriculture	DOA
July 15	Montgomery, AL	Civil Rights	DOJ, DOL, EEOC
July 17	Tallahassee, FL	Recr/Visitability, TW WIA	DOI, HUD, SSA
July 19	Warm Springs, GA	FDR	HHS, VA
July 20-21	Atlanta, GA	Civil Rights	DOEd, HUD
July 22	Columbia, SC	Employment	DOL, Treasury
July 25	Arlington, VA	TBD	
July 26	Washington, DC	TBD	
July 29	Philadelphia, PA	TBD	HHS, SSA
July 31	Auburn Hills/Detroit MI	Commerce	DOL, Commerce, SSA
August 3	Boston, MA	TBD	Commerce, Treasury, SSA
August 6-7	New York	International	DOL, EEOC, SBA,

April 25, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR MARY BETH CAHILL

FROM: Jonathan Young

RE: Activities Surrounding ADA 10th Anniversary

On July 26, 2000, people throughout the country will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law by President Bush on the South Lawn on July 26, 1990. A variety of activities are being planned by public as well as private groups for the weeks leading up to (and following) the July 26 anniversary. The purpose of this memo is to provide a background on the ADA, status of planned activities, and OPL's possible roles.

I. OVERVIEW OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In the disability community, the ADA is analogous to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 -- it is the basic foundation of nondiscrimination against people with disabilities. From a historical perspective, the immediate history of the ADA's passage was a period from 1986 (when the National Council on Disability first recommended passage of an "equal opportunity" law to prohibit discrimination) to 1990. The development of the disability rights movement, however, predates the ADA. Across the country, various advocacy groups organized and secured varying levels of rights. Very little in the ADA was actually unique in the sense of being "new" -- most of the provisions were adopted from various state and local (and some federal) statutes. The principal contribution of the ADA was that it established a uniform context of nondiscrimination that was applicable throughout the nation. I view the ADA's passage as a major culminating point for the disability rights movement, because it enabled different disability groups to set aside differences for a common goal. Although differences remain over funding, the ADA continues to be a major rallying point throughout the disability community.

The ADA consists of four main titles:

- Title I prohibits discrimination in **Employment**
- Title II prohibits discrimination by **State and Local Governments**, and provides detailed provisions about **Public Transportation**.

- Title III prohibits discrimination by **Places of Public Accommodation**, such as restaurants, places of entertainment, medical facilities, etc.
- Title IV provides for accessibility to **Telecommunications**, focusing largely on setting up a national relay service, which enables individuals using a teletype (TTY) device to communicate through an operator to an individual using a standard phone (and vice versa -- the operator types and speaks the messages back and forth)

II. IMPACT OF THE ADA

People have varying opinions about how successful the ADA has been in reaching its four main goals: "equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency." People generally agree that considerable gains have been made in regard to structural accessibility, including access to transportation services. And there is widespread evidence that attitudes about and toward people with disabilities have improved. The telecommunications relay service has also been a great success. The biggest difficulty is employment. People had high hopes that the ADA would help to bring down the staggering unemployment rate of people with disabilities (which was one of the justifications for the bill's passage). We cannot be precise about numbers (since there's no easy definition of disability), but it is clear unemployment remains a huge problem. The Work Incentives Improvement Act is one major step toward making the ADA's goal a reality. Other administration initiatives (including the creation of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities) aim to break down the various barriers that provide disincentives to employment.

III. LITIGATION REGARDING THE ADA

Rulings on the ADA in the lower courts, and especially the Supreme Court, have been hot topics throughout the disability community. Upholding a strong ADA is a huge rallying cry. So far, there have been three major decisions. The first one (Abbott) was a positive decision, ruling that HIV/AIDs was a covered disability. The second one was also positive, (Olmstead), which decided that unjustified isolation in institutions was prohibited discrimination under the ADA, providing support for home- and community-based services. The third decision (Sutton), however, has the potential for extensive adverse consequences. The Court basically limited the scope of disability by deciding that disabilities mitigated by devices or medication did not count as disabilities to be covered by the ADA. This creates a strange catch-22: an individual can be discriminated against in employment for having physical or mental impairments, but not "disabled enough" to receive protection under the ADA.

Two additional cases were scheduled to be heard this spring, which could have ruled on the constitutionality of Title II of the ADA. But the two cases were settled. Nonetheless, similar cases on the constitutionality of Title II are expected to be heard in the next session. All of this is putting the disability community considerably on edge. It is probably good the cases were not decided this term, because many people expect a negative decision (given the direction of the Court), and it would have been awkward to have these decisions made just weeks before the 10th

Anniversary.

III. "SPIRIT OF ADA" PLEDGE & TORCH RELAY

For about a year, a number of advocates have been organizing a nationwide, coordinated celebration of the ADA Anniversary. There are two main components to this: 1) a pledge; 2) a torch relay.

A. The Spirit of ADA Renew the Pledge Campaign marks the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and a call for individuals, communities, and leaders to renew their commitment to an America that works for everyone. There is a pledge form for people to fill out that is being circulated throughout the country. Gore has already signed the pledge. It would be good to have President Clinton sign the pledge.

B. The Spirit of ADA Torch Relay's mission is to connect, inform, educate and involve people across the United States in celebrating the contributions of children and adults with disabilities to American society. This is not a typical Olympic-style torch relay (physically carried and passed on everywhere). The relay is a mechanism to traverse and unite the country with venues at each stop. Each city's local organizers are responsible for organizing its own activities. The goals of the Spirit of ADA Torch Relay are to:

- Reinforce support for the goals of the ADA and IDEA by renewing America's commitment to equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities;
- Bring attention to the achievements and contributions of children and adults with disabilities;
- Increase relationships, partnerships, and coalitions between people with disabilities, their family members and friends, and the broader communities where they live;
- Highlight the importance of continuing on the path to building accessible, inclusive and integrated communities where children and adults with disabilities have the same opportunities and choices that are often taken for granted by people in the broader society.

Torch Relay Schedule:

June 11th.....Houston (kick off event)
June 13th.....Austin, TX
June 17th.....San Francisco Bay Area, CA
June 19th.....Los Angeles, CA
June 21st.....Phoenix, AZ
June 24th.....Salt Lake City, UT

June 27th.....Denver, CO
June 30th.....Topeka, KS
July 4th.....St. Louis, MO
July 7th.....Madison, WI
July 9th.....Chicago, IL
July 11th.....Memphis, TN
July 13th.....Jackson, MS
July 15th.....Montgomery, AL
July 17th.....Tallahassee, FL
July 19th.....Warm Springs, GA
July 20-21st....Atlanta, GA
July 22nd.....Columbia, SC
July 25th.....Arlington, VA
July 26th.....Washington, DC
July 29th.....Philadelphia, PA
July 31st.....Auburn Hills/Detroit MI
August 3rd.....Boston, MA
August 6-7th..New York

IV. BACKGROUND ON IDEA OF DISABILITY CONFERENCE

The proposal for a disability conference originated with the Second Report of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. It was one of the new set of recommendations. From the beginning, this conference has been coordinated with OVP, and the idea was to have Vice President Gore chair the conference, similar to the Mental Health Conference.

Below Please find summaries of current ideas about the conference and next steps for action.

V. POSSIBLE FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONFERENCE

The consensus focus is employment issues. In the focus group calls people generally agreed that making CEOs a substantial component of the audience has the most potential for long-term impact. That helps address some of the community concern about the timing: by targeting employers there is the potential outcome of improvements in hiring.

The idea is to hold the conference a week or two before the ADA anniversary as ramp-up to the Anniversary celebration. Because of the President's travel schedule (held for foreign travel from July 18-24), the two best possibilities are July 12-13 and July 17.

The conference would likely consist of a partial day:

- Breakfast at the White House for conference kick-off
- Conference sessions at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This is convenient because of location and would send a strong signal of interest by the private sector. The Task Force

has already spoken with the Chamber and have tentative commitment to holding the conference there provided there is a suitable date.

- Reception at the VP residence.

Discussions of conference content are in an early stage, but includes the following.

- One main televised plenary session, featuring panels similar to the Mental Health conference opening plenary.
- An "information and technology fair," which would include demonstrations of assistive technology. This could build on the President's Digital Divide initiative and replace typical breakout sessions. One idea is to have Cabinet Secretaries and other Administration officials participate during this session to be stationed in different areas to address specific topics.

VI. OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR THE 10TH ANNIVERSEY

Marsha has talked about the conference being part of a ramp-up to the actual anniversary on July 26. There are a number of activities that could fit.

- Torch Relay: selected Cabinet Secretaries could travel to the events connected with stops of the relay.
- DOJ Announcement. Janet Reno and DOJ are planning a major announcement in Warm Springs, GA on Wednesday, July 19.
- International Disability Award. USAID is exploring the possibility of an international event, announcing an award in the names of Senators Harkin and Dole (presented to them this year, followed by subsequent annual presentations to individuals and/or organizations active in promoting disability issues internationally). The State Department has expressed interest in this event, and possibly hosting it in the Indian Treaty Room with Secretary Albright.
- Proclamation. I've received a request to proclaim July as "Spirit of ADA Month." Last summer I tried to have a proclamation issued for July as Disability History Month, to parallel other commemorative months, but Correspondence said they trying to cut back, not add new ones. Moreover, we have the October Disability Employment Awareness Month, which we are now broadening. But I wondered: could we do a one-time proclamation for this year's 10th Anniversary?

VII. JULY 26, 2000 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The "Spirit of the ADA" Torch will arrive in the Washington area on July 25. Hundreds (probably about 2,000) people will be in town to celebrate the ADA anniversary. There is considerable interest in having a major South Lawn event on the morning of July 26, reminiscent of the original ADA signing. We could pitch the event more broadly than 1990, however, by

making the message about the President's civil rights agenda and Initiative for One America. We could invite representatives of the broader civil rights community, and perhaps even have the Torch brought onto the White House South Lawn by a collection of civil rights advocates. The best time would probably be in the morning, circa 10:00 AM, because of the summer heat.

VIII. ACTION STEPS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

- OPL Role in Conference Planning. Until Marsha Scott's involvement, the planning of the conference moved forward by OVP and the Task Force without considerable interaction of WHO. I am interested in your guidance about what OPL's role should be in such an event (including, for example, selecting dates and submitting scheduling requests for the Four Principals).
- POTUS and Cabinet Support of the Pledge. It would be a powerful statement to have President Clinton and the President's Cabinet sign the pledge. (A copy is attached.) How should the President's participation be pursued? Could Cabinet Affairs distribute a memo to the Cabinet Agencies encouraging Secretaries' support?
- Cabinet Participation in Torch Relay Sites. The Task Force has already begun speaking with individual departments (the Task Force Members are predominantly Cabinet Secretaries). Could Cabinet Affairs circulate a memo with the purpose of the relay and request their consideration in attending one of the events? Would it be appropriate to raise this in one of the Cabinet Chiefs of Staff meetings?
- State Department Event. Should we support hosting an international event here at the White House (ITR)?
- Proclamation. Should we submit a request to issue a commemorative proclamation for the month of July?
- July 26 Event. The ADA's 10th Anniversary is already on the calendar. At what point should we consider sending a formal scheduling request?



**PRESIDENTIAL
TASK FORCE ON
EMPLOYMENT
OF ADULTS
WITH
DISABILITIES**

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Thurgood Marshall, Jr
Assistant to the President and Cabinet Secretary

FROM: Marsha Scott, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy
Director for Presidential Personnel

SUBJECT: "Spirit of ADA" Pledge & Torch Relay

On July 26, 2000, people throughout the country will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. As it's second term comes to an end, the Clinton-Gore Administration can rightfully lay claim to a legacy of steadfast commitment to advancing the rights of people with disabilities as full participants in all aspects of society.

The purpose of this memo is to provide a background on the Administration's ADA celebrations and activities being organized throughout the disability community. For over a year, a number of advocates have been organizing a nationwide, coordinated celebration of the ADA Anniversary. There are two main components to this: 1) a pledge; 2) a torch relay.

The Spirit of ADA Renew the Pledge Campaign marks the ADA's 10th anniversary and the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and a call for individuals, communities, and leaders to renew their commitment to an America that works for everyone. There is a pledge form for people to fill out that is being circulated throughout the country. Vice President Gore has already signed the pledge. It is our goal to send a unified message from the Clinton-Gore Administration that the ADA will continue to be protected and enforced. To that end, we are requesting that each Cabinet official sign the pledge.

The Spirit of ADA Torch Relay's mission is to connect, inform, educate and involve people across the United States in celebrating the contributions of children and adults with disabilities to American society. The goal of the Spirit of ADA Torch Relay is to reinforce support for the goals of the ADA by renewing America's commitment to equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities. An additional goal of the Administration is to have one Cabinet member participate at key events across the country.

It is our intention to highlight our success in advancing the rights of people with disabilities and to deliver a unified message of continued commitment. This will be achieved through the active participation of each designated Cabinet member in the activities planned by the Administration.

Put Ability to Work!

TORCH RELAY SCHEDULE

DATE	SITE	THEME	CABINET/ADMIN OFFICIAL
June 11 th	Houston (kick off event)	Civil Rights	EEOC, DOT
June 13 th	Austin, TX	Transportation	Asst. Sec. DOT conf.
June 17 th	San Francisco, CA	Civil Rights	Asst. Sec. OSERS conf.
June 19 th	Los Angeles, CA	Disability Media	FCC, HUD, DOT
June 21 st	Phoenix, AZ	Entrepreneurial	SBA, HUD, DOT
June 24 th	Salt Lake City, UT	Paralympic Games	SBA, HUD, DOT
June 27 th	Denver, CO	Transportation, Civil Rights	DOT, HHS
June 30 th	Topeka, KS	Diversity	HUD, Ed., USDA, OPM
July 4 th	St. Louis, MO	Transportation	DOT
July 7 th	Madison, WI	Recreation/Parks	DOI, DOT, DOL
July 9 th	Chicago, IL	Civil Rights	Commerce, EEOC
July 11 th	Memphis, TN	Civil Rights	DOJ, FCC
July 13 th	Jackson, MS	Agriculture	USDA
July 15 th	Montgomery, AL	Civil Rights	DOJ, DOL, EEOC
July 17 th	Tallahassee, FL	Recreation/Visibility, TWWIA	DOI, HUD, SSA
July 19 th	Warm Springs, GA	FDR	HHS, VA
July 20-21 st	Atlanta, GA	Civil Rights	Ed., HUD
July 22 nd	Columbia, SC	Employment	DOL, Treasury
July 25 th	Arlington, VA	TBD	
July 26 th	Washington, DC	TBD	
July 29 th	Philadelphia, PA	TBD	HHS, SSA
July 31 st	Auburn Hills/Detroit, MI	Commerce	DOL, Commerce, SSA
August 3 rd	Boston, MA	TBD	Commerce, Treasury, SSA
August 6-7 th	New York, NY	International	DOL, EEOC, SBA

ADA/ torch relay meeting recap

March 30th, 2000

next meeting: April 18th, 2p.m.

Organizations present: AAPD, DREDF, NCIL, ForeAll!, Independence Center of Northern VA, VSA Arts, NCD, Sen. Harkin's office, ARC,

Torch relay agenda update

July 25th, 2000:

9:45 AM - press conference at the Endependence Center of Northern Virginia and tour of the center. Sen. Rob, Rep. Davis and Rep. Moran have been invited to speak. Following the press conference, the torch will be carried from the center across Memorial Bridge to the F. D. R. Memorial. I suggested and we agreed upon placing a call to all local schools to gather as many kids with and without disabilities as possible to carry the torch along this route. What happens after a memorial is still to be determined, but this could be a good opportunity for a media event.

11:30 AM - NCD lunch for approximately 500 people. It was suggested that the torch be taken from the FDR memorial to the lunch.

7 PM - the porch will be carried by Sen. Harkin at the NCIL plenary session and reception.

Evening - candlelight vigil at the Renaissance hotel in the courtyard.

July 26th, 2000:

9:30 AM - possible White House event with approximately 3000 people with disabilities invited.

11 AM - NCIL rally/march on freedom Plaza. Until the White House event is confirmed, NCIL is not inviting any speakers or entertainers.

Afternoon - NCIL members on the hill.

Evening - AAPD, DREDF, NCIL Gala. Still looking for sponsors, have already signed on General Motors.

There is time to do an event either during or after the NCD luncheon on the 25th or after the rally on the 26th. The Leadership Conference for Civil Rights is interested in participating and this could be a good opportunity for the task force or another national disability organization to host a civil rights panel with disability and civil rights leaders such as Jesse Jackson and Gloria Steinem.

Other events:

Sen. Harkin's office: sometime that week, planning a congressional staff seminar on the hill on the background in history of the ADA. Will be a breakfast or lunch with keynote speaker, possibly Dick Thornburgh. Contact: Lloyd Horwich at 224 – 3254.

Other ideas:

Harkin to write a dear colleague letter to entice congressional members to sign the pledge. It was suggested that these packets are delivered to congressional offices during Easter recess.

It was suggested that Congress issue a joint resolution and that CRS produce a briefing piece on the ADA for the hill.

The White House could designate the July 26th week as "spirit of ADA week".

Public relations update:

I asked members to gather the following information for the next meeting: ADA personal success stories, statistics on how the ADA has changed America, ADA milestones so that we can develop press kits. Arnold communications is working on committing national news journalists to do stories on the ADA. The torch event in Washington will be broadcast by satellite around country.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tony Coelho

FROM: Becky Ogle

RE: Update

DATE: March 12, 2000

Office of Disability Policy, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODPET): The Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs is supporting our efforts on getting ODPET through the appropriations process. Meeting have been held with Senators Spector and Harkin staff, as well as Steny Hoyer's staff appropriation people. Secretary Herman testified in the Senate appropriations process and is scheduled to do the House Appropriations on March 22nd. We have been busy drafting responses to proposed questions from House members. As expected the Republicans are very questioning of the need, with Democrats being very supportive. Will keep you posted on any new developments.

(I had a meeting with John L. and his top five folks two weeks ago. I hope/think I assuaged their fears about the new office. I would like to have an off-the-record conversation with you about the staff issues at PCEPD at some point.)

ADA 10th Anniversary Celebrations

Preliminary meetings have been held with the political appointees with disabilities concerning the ADA 10th anniversary. The outcome of these meetings was to proceed with a White House conference on employment with a focus on technology. Lisa and I had met prior to this meeting with several people at the White House who are familiar with implementing White House conferences, and they provided constructive suggestions. One such suggestion was to do focus groups with stakeholders to enlist their support and ideas. Three focus groups are planned for this week, and after these have been completed we will be at the point of determining what direction we should go in.

Lisa mentioned to me last week that Marsha Scott may step in and help. This would be great because she is an expert in leading one of these efforts to a successful conclusion, as was best exemplified in the Mental Health Summit. Marsha has the knowledge base that is needed on the multitude of technical aspects required for this type of endeavor. We will be lucky to get her to do this if she agrees.

What do you think of having the Vice President host an ADA celebration after the conference at the residence? We could put up a tent on the lawn as was done with the mental health summit. We would get it paid for out of the funds that come from the conference. The party would be a part of the day's events.

These are very preliminary thoughts that are more likely than not going to change. Need your input.

The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) is holding their annual conference the week of the 10th anniversary (July 24-29) in Washington. Last year they extended an invitation to the VP, but he was not able to attend. His non-attendance was a big deal, because he spoke at the NAACP and LaRosa conference last July and many people felt stiffed and/or snubbed. The NCIL Board is extending another invitation for the VP to address their gathering at this year's conference. Senator Harkin is scheduled to speak one evening, and if we could get the VP there with him or on his own would send a loud, clear message to the community. I believe that the VP is scheduled to address the

NAACP and LaRosa folks again this year, so it really is imperative that he does something at the NCIL conference or invites them all over to the tent for the party. You decide and let me know what you want to do.

There are many opportunities coming up in June and July for the VP and campaign to participate across the country with the disability community. The ADA Torch Relay begins sometime in June. The torch is going through major cities with gatherings and celebrations along the way. There are approximately 10 to 15 major torch relay events scheduled at this time. At each event there are activities to have people renew their support for the ADA by signing a pledge (like you and Gore did) and register to vote. The business community and the local and national political leaders are joining in on many of these events.

The torch will be in Washington on the 26th for the big parties, and then it goes to Philly and ends in New York. The major sponsors of these events are NCIL and the American Association of Persons with Disabilities (AAPD). They're using the \$500,000 that Volkswagen donated to spearhead this effort. When I get a better listing of the events I will send it down to you and Janet to decide how it is you want to use it. There are many ways that we can plug the VP into these by using surrogates, stickers and campaign materials. Let me know what you think.

The Convention. I understand that things are beginning to take shape for the convention our in L.A. The Task Force held an event at the convention center last June and the bathrooms and signage were horrible. The only truly accessible restroom was located in the nursing station. Has this been fixed?

The disability community in L.A. is a real piece of work. Whenever you want to reach out to them or plug them in just let me know. They can be real sticklers on compliance issues. They nearly drove me crazy during the '96 campaign when democratic events were held and they weren't invited. I am certain they are gearing up for the convention to be in their neck of the woods.

Policy Issues for the VP: Texas Governor George Bush signed an Executive Order (that will be faxed on Monday) back in September 1999 dealing with home and community based placements for people with disabilities. The Executive Order was in response to the Olmstead decision, but also in response to his record on disability. He was buying the Texas community when he signed this piece of paper. The EO lays out a plan of action that will ultimately move people with disabilities out of nursing homes and institutions and into their communities with the supports they need. The plan is to be developed and submitted to the Governor by January 2001. Bush will use this, since this is all he has to say he's done for the disability community. But, this is more than the disability community because it affects parents of children, abled-bodies people with elderly parents who don't want to stick their parents in nursing homes and others. The campaign needs a stronger position on long-term care. Would it be possible when polling of issues is taking place to include a question on long-term care? We are in the process of developing a set of talking points on this and we'll send it as soon as it is completed. Prior discussions with Elaine K. on this issue have not gone far. Just an FYI.

Last but not least, a committee of people with disabilities for Gore 2000 is forming and going very well. When the general election gets going we will be prepared to unveil the list. We are continuing to identify key leaders in each state and enlist their support for all state activities. I have been forwarding all names to Janet so that we can compile a central database.

Sorry for the length.

CALENDAR OF DISABILITY-RELATED EVENTS

National and Regional Conferences

DATE: January 6-8, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Urban League of Nebraska, Inc., The American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (AIRRTC), and the Georgia Institute of Technology: Center for Rehabilitation Technology.

EVENT: Second Annual Training Conference on Organizational Development & Grantsmanship, Hosted by the National Family for the Advancement of Minorities with Disabilities.

LOCATION: Miami, Florida

DESCRIPTION: Learn to develop and maintain successful community organizations to serve individuals with disabilities; learn the art of collaboration, capacity building, grant writing and assisted technology; increase participation of ethnic, rural and low-income individuals/communities into the disabilities services network.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (404) 894-7637

DATE: January 11-15, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Special Education Department, University of Florida

EVENT: Post secondary Learning Disability Training Institute South

LOCATION: Sheraton Safari Hotel Orlando, Florida

DESCRIPTION: The Conference will assist concerned professionals to meet the unique needs of college students with learning disabilities and other hidden disabilities. The various Strands and Sessions will be presented by experts in the field and provide in-depth information and adequate time for questions and follow-up activities to meet your particular needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.doce.ufl.edu/conferences>

DATE: January 23-25, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission

EVENT: Medical Rehabilitation and Adult Day Services International Conference

DESCRIPTION: "Essentials for Success in CARF Accreditation: Practical Applications"

LOCATION: Tucson Marriott University Park Hotel

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://www.carf.org/Events/InternationalADSMedicalRehabConference.htm>

DATE: January 26-29, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers

EVENT: PACER Center, "Keeping the Vision Alive in the New Millennium"

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: Third Annual National Alliance Conference. Participants will hear disability and special education experts and policy makers, attend information-packed sessions, attend a Capitol Hill Reception, and network with other families and parent centers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: call (888) 248-0822 or <http://www.taalliance.org>

DATE: January 27-29, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Peak Parent Center

EVENT: 2000 Colorado Conference on Inclusive Education

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Denver Marriott Tech Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Peak Parent Center (719) 531-9400,
<http://www.peakparent.org>

DATE: January 30 - February 2, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Federation of the Blind

EVENT: NFB Washington Seminar

LOCATION: Holiday Inn Capital, Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: National conference on laws, legislation, and leadership

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (410) 659-9314; <http://www.nfb.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: February 2, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Kansas City, MO

DESCRIPTION: The forums will provide information and an opportunity for discussion on the following topics: SSA customer service and work incentive initiatives; State health care systems and models; employment initiatives of the Departments of Education, Labor and Health and Human Services; and an update on the work of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities. The forums will also provide a discussion on the Administration's plan for implementation of the Work Incentives Improvement Act legislation, as well as information on new models of State and local systems working together to serve common customers with disabilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: February 3-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Virtual Center for Literacy and Disability Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

EVENT: The Ninth Symposium on Literacy and Disabilities

LOCATION: Cary, North Carolina (Near Raleigh-Durham airport)

DESCRIPTION: The Symposium will focus on all disabilities including learning disabilities, adult onset and other acquired disabilities, and, as always, developmental and severe disabilities. The format of the Symposium includes a mix of concurrent sessions and plenary sessions on both days.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean Cox, Symposium Coordinator, (919) 966-9040, jcox@css.unc.edu, <http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/lit2k/>

DATE: February 9-12, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: VSA arts (formerly Very Special Arts)

EVENT: VSA arts' Annual Conference, "Strength of Shared Vision"

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency, Bethesda, MD

DESCRIPTION: An opportunity to share the VSA arts mission ("Promoting the creative power in people with disabilities") with a broad congressional and educational audience, to share resources, and to introduce members of our affiliate network to partner organizations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Richard Russey, (800) 933-8721, <http://richardr@vsarts.org>,

DATE: February 16-19, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: LDA, the Learning Disabilities Association of America

EVENT: Bet on a Better Future: LDA 2000 and Beyond

LOCATION: Reno NV

DESCRIPTION: The annual LDA conference is a major source of information for educators, other professionals, parents, and adults about the latest developments in the field of learning disabilities. More than 175 individual sessions or poster presentations will be offered.

Presenters include professionals in the field, advocates for persons with learning disabilities, parents of children with learning disabilities and adults with learning disabilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Learning Disabilities Association of America, (412) 341-1515, ldanatl@usaor.net, <http://www.ldanatl.org>

DATE: February 20-22, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission

EVENT: Behavioral Health International Conference

DESCRIPTION: "Diversity: Recognizing the Individual"

LOCATION: Tucson Marriott University Hotel

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.carf.org/NewsReleases/2000BehHealthConf.htm>

DATE: February 22-23, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: President's Committee on Mental Retardation

EVENT: Reaching Up Foundation: "Conference on Poverty and Early Onset Disability"

DESCRIPTION: Exploring the interrelationships of poverty with disability as they relate to prevention/early intervention, education, employment and the criminal justice system.

LOCATION: City University of New York

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jane Browning, 202-260-1500 or <http://jabrowning@acf.dhhs.gov>

DATE: February 24-26, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders

EVENT: Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION: An annual conference for persons who are interested in/work with children with behavior/emotional disorders or autism.

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.mslbd.org>, KMcb41457@aol.com, or (913) 492-8755; FAX: 913/492-2546

DATE: February 27 - March 1, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: International Association of Jewish Vocational Services

EVENT: Annual Conference and Board of Directors Meeting

LOCATION: St. Pete Beach, Florida

DESCRIPTION: Annual conference with plenary and breakout sessions focusing on a variety of topics including disability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Genie Cohen, Executive Director, coheng@jevs.org

DATE: February 29 - March 4, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Social Security Admin & Dept of Ed; Rehabilitation International &

World Institute on Disability

EVENT: First Conference of Native American Women with Disabilities

DESCRIPTION: "Stepping Stones to Health, Wellness & Employment"

LOCATION: AVI Resort, Laughlin, Nevada

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kathy Martinez, WID: kathy@wid.org

DATE: February 29 - March 4, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: World Institute on Disability

EVENT: "Stepping Stones to Increasing Employment for Native American Women"

LOCATION: Laughlin, Nevada

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kathy Martinez-World Institute on Disability
Kathy@wid.org

DATE: March 1-3, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: New England Foundation for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, and The 6th New England State Art Agencies

EVENT: Arts & Accessibility in New England

LOCATION: Royal Sonesta Hotel Cambridge, MA.

CONTACT: Renee Wells (802) 388-7133, Registration 617-951-0010

DATE: March 3-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: American Foundation for the Blind

EVENT: American Foundation for the Blind's "Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Institute (JLTLI)"

LOCATION: Dallas, TX

DESCRIPTION: Achieving An Accessible World: Partnerships, Roadblocks, And Opportunities

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gabriella Smith-Coventry at 212-502-7654 or gsmith@afb.net

DATE: March 3-4, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD)

EVENT: Meeting the Challenges of the New Millennium, sponsored by CLD and the Virginia Chapter.

LOCATION: Richmond, Virginia at the Crowne Plaza Hotel; phone:804-788-0900

DESCRIPTION: Conference featuring experts in over 30 sessions for teachers, administrators, psychologists, and other support personnel who are concerned with teaching and research related to the education and life span development of individuals with learning disabilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Judy B. Engelhard at jengelha@runet.edu or the national organization at <http://www.cldinternational.org>

DATE: March 5-7, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Brain Injury Association (BIA)

EVENT: BIA's 2000 Public Policy Conference - Capacity, Collaboration and Clout: Building TBI Services in the 21st Century

LOCATION: Arlington, VA

DESCRIPTION: Experience an unparalleled opportunity to learn from experts how to advance the key brain injury issues in the new century, including The TBI Act, patients' rights and managed care.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (703) 236-6000, www.biausa.org

DATE: March 6-7, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: University of Hawaii

EVENT: 16th Annual Pacific Rim Conference

DESCRIPTION: "Creating Futures, Kaleidoscopes of Opportunity for People with Disabilities"

LOCATION: Honolulu, HI.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dotty Kelly: (808) 945-1432, dotty@hawaii.edu

DATE: March 7-9, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Deaf and Hard of Hearing In Government (DHHIG)

EVENT: 2000 National Training Conference (NTC) On Employment of Federal Employees Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

LOCATION: Natcher Conference Center on the campus of National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland

DESCRIPTION: The NTC is an annual premium conference with keynote speakers and workshops to promote professional growth and diversity in the Federal sector through an array of technology, training, networking, and communication opportunities. This conference will also focus on a caucus and panel featuring communication access and professional development. About 1,000 people are expected to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.dhhig.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: March 9, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Raleigh, NC

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: March 9-10, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The National Press Club, the Social Security Administration, and the National Academy of Social Insurance

EVENT: National Dialogue on SSI Disability

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: Who should attend? Researchers, Policy analysts, Program administrators, Clinicians, Community groups, Families, and Consumers

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.nasi.org>.

DATE: March 9-12, 2000

EVENT: Multicultural Deaf Conference: Implications for 2000 and Beyond

DESCRIPTION: Catch the vision! What will diversity look like in the 21st century for those within the deaf community? If we see it, we can achieve it! During this two day conference, today's most relevant topics and issues will be incorporated into workshops and presentations designed to challenge our thinking and affect change. Conference topics include: deaf education, deaf professionals, employment/rehabilitation, and our diverse community. Join us as we create a portrait of our future!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Audrey Wineglass, (202) 651-6060 (V/TTY), (202) 651-6041 (FAX), conference.cce@gallaudet.edu

DATE: March 15, 2000

Sponsoring Organization: National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange

EVENT: World of Options Conference and Expo

LOCATION: JFK Library, Boston, MA

DESCRIPTION: A Conference for disability and international exchange professionals with the goal of increasing participation of people with disabilities in international exchange opportunities. Topics discussed will include funding, legal responsibilities, homestays, recruiting, accessibility and more.

The Expo following the conference will be free and open to the public. Youth with disabilities, students, parents, educators encouraged to attend to learn about possible international exchange opportunities. Workshops on funding and success stories from people with disabilities will be available.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rhonda Neuhaus at (541) 343-1284 (V/TTY), clearinghouse@miusa.org, www.miusa.org.

DATE: March 25-28, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Multiple Sclerosis Society

EVENT: Annual National Issues & Empowerment Forum

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Washington, DC

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Sara Collins (202) 408-1500

DATE: March 25-28, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Association of People with AIDS

EVENT: AIDSWatch 2000

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: AIDSWatch is the largest annual constituent-based federal HIV/AIDS education and advocacy initiative in the United States. Training, networking, and direct advocacy to Congress.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean-Michel Brevelle p:202/898-0414 ext. 103 e-mail: jmbrevelle@napwa.org website: www.napwa.org/aidswatc.htm

DATE: March 26-28, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission

EVENT: Employment and Community Services International Conference

DESCRIPTION: "Possibility, Visions and Purpose: Setting Standards of Excellence for the New Millennium"

LOCATION: Tucson Marriott University Park Hotel

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://www.carf.org/Events/InternationalEmployCommunityConference.htm>

DATE: March 28 - April 1, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Association of School Psychologists

EVENT: 32nd Annual Convention

LOCATION: Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA

DESCRIPTION: An annual convention for school psychologists which offers a broad array of professional and personal learning experiences. Among those invited to participate: Judy Heumann, Barbara Huff.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (301)657-0270, or visit our website at <http://www.naspweb.org>.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: March 30, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Phoenix, AZ

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: March 30-31, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, American Epilepsy Society, Epilepsy Foundation, Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy, National Association of Epilepsy Centers

EVENT: Conference on Curing Epilepsy: Focus on the Future

LOCATION: Natcher Conference Center, NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD

DESCRIPTION: Scientific conference for scientists, clinicians and informed laypersons on current knowledge and future opportunities in epilepsy research.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Terry Balderson, KRA Corp., 1010 Wayne Ave., Ste 800, Silver Spring, MD, 20910, Tel. 877-804-2377 or go to <http://www.aesnet.org/nihepilepsycure>

DATE: April 1-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Council for Exceptional Children

EVENT: World Congress

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Vancouver

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 1-888-232-7733

DATE: April 2-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Inter-National Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation (I-NABIR), and Association of Rehabilitation Programs in Computer Technology (ARPCT)

EVENT: Annual Spring Meeting

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: This meeting is for organizations involved in training and placement programs for persons with disabilities. Most are interested in the Projects with Industry approach. Topics this year will include implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Bill and the use of the internet and computer technology in training and placement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Charles Harles, Executive Director, fax 202-546-2854 email inabir@harles.com

DATE: April 5-8, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Council for Exceptional Children

EVENT: Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: British Columbia

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 1-888-232-7733

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: April 6, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: New York City, NY

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: April 9-11, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: The Arc and the American Association on Mental Retardation

EVENT: The Arc/AAMR Governmental Affairs Seminar

LOCATION: Grand Hyatt, Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: The Seminar includes briefings by Hill experts and The Arc staff on key legislative issues that affect people with mental retardation and related disabilities and their families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: The Arc, 202-785-3388; www.thearc.org or AAMR, 202-387-1968; www.aamr.org.

DATE: April 12-14, 2000

EVENT: Bridging the Gap II: Integrating Research and Practice in the Fields of Learning Disabilities and Deafness

DESCRIPTION: Here's an opportunity to enhance your knowledge and become familiar with the tools needed to help you meet the needs of students from preschool to post-secondary education and adult programs. Featuring Dr. Mel Levine, renowned author, director of the Clinical Center for the Study of Development and Learning at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine, and founder of All Kinds of Minds, a non-profit institute for the study of differences in learning. Key topics for this two and a half-day program will include early identification methods, strategic interventions, and accurate evaluation procedures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Georgette Lopes, (202) 651-6060 (V/TTY), (202) 651-6041 (FAX), conference.cce@gallaudet.edu

DATE: April 13-14, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:

EVENT: The National Issues & Best Practice Forum on Self Employment for Individuals with Disabilities

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Missoula, MT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: cgriffin@selway.umt.edu

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: April 14-16, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, Annual New York Metro Expo

DESCRIPTION: Abilities Expo is the one show of independent and assisted living products and services. 2000 is Abilities Expo's 16th year. All consumers with disabilities of all ages, family members, advocates, education, rehabilitation and healthcare professionals are invited. In addition to over 200 exhibitors of products and services, educational workshops are presented each day. Educational workshops cover many topics including: employment, independent living, sexuality, transportation, travel, educational opportunities, inclusion, substance abuse, aging, technology, religion. Computer Resource Center offers workshops on access to technology, internet, educational software.

LOCATION: New Jersey Convention Center, Edison, New Jersey

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com>; (800) 385-3085; FAX: (203) 882-1800

DATE: April 14-19, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Industries for the Blind

EVENT: National Sales Training Conference

DESCRIPTION: Representatives from NIB-associated agencies serving people who are blind and government customers gather to discuss sales, marketing, employment and issues important to the future of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day program.

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA

FOR MORE INFORMATION: bsherr@nib.org

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: April 16-19, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: NISH

EVENT: Annual Training Conference

LOCATION: Crystal Gateway Marriott, Crystal City, VA

DESCRIPTION: NISH will hold its annual training conference filled with concurrent training tracks for rehabilitation professionals and government procurement staff working with the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.nish.org or contact Deborah Atkinson, 703-207-7594

DATE: April 18, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, National Industries for the Blind and NISH (serving people with a range of severe disabilities)

EVENT: Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program Summit

LOCATION: Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA

DESCRIPTION: The first national meeting designed to bring together representatives from three key stakeholder communities that support employment opportunities generated by the award of Federal contracts to nonprofit organizations employing people with severe disabilities. In a series of plenary and break-out sessions, policy and program leaders from the Federal acquisition community, Federal programs serving adults with disabilities and representatives of over 600 State and local nonprofit organizations employing people who are blind or have other severe disabilities will discuss the challenges and opportunities which need to be addressed as the JWOD Program plans for its future. The Summit will occur during the Annual Sales Conference of National Industries for the Blind and the Annual Training Conference of NISH. Expected attendance is 1,600. There is no registration fee for the Summit events on April 18th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Bob Hartt at (703) 603-7742, rhartt@jwod.gov or visit www.nib.org or www.nish.org

DATE: April 26-28, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: University of MO Region VII CRP-RCEP

EVENT: Annual Rehabilitation Issues Forum

LOCATION: Downtown Marriott, Kansas City, MO

DESCRIPTION: A conference on current trends and best practices in rehabilitation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Sue Gunn gunnsn@missouri.edu

DATE: April 26-29, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Western Social Sciences Association, Section on Chronic Disease & Disability

EVENT: Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION: The Section encourages research on policies, problems, cultural representations, and experiences which involve people with disabilities. The submission deadline was last November 26, 1999. The WSSA is a good place for informal discussion of the presentations and graduate students and junior faculty are particularly welcome because of their fresh perspective. Mentors of junior (or senior) faculty and graduate students are encouraged to come with them to offer papers. In addition, self-advocates, community advocates, providers, and government agency personnel (if not faculty members) are especially welcome.

LOCATION: Town and Country Resort and Convention Center, 500

Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA, 92108-3091

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 100002@TIGGER.STCLOUDSTATE.EDU

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: May 2000 (Day TBD)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Philadelphia, PA

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: May 3, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange

EVENT: World of Options Conference and Expo:

LOCATION: Preservation Park, Oakland, CA

DESCRIPTION: See description of March 15

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rhonda Neuhaus at (541), 343-1284 (V/TTY), clearinghouse@miusa.org, www.miusa.org.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: May 3-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Department of Education

EVENT: Office of Special Education Programs' (OSEP) Annual Leadership Conference

DESCRIPTION: The Conference is designed to bring together State Directors of Special Education from the States and Territories, members of their State Advisory Panel, other State Education agency personnel, representatives of private schools, representatives of the Department of Defense Schools, representatives from the disability community, staff from the Federal and Regional Resource Centers and other technical assistance, dissemination and development projects support by OSEP, as well as OSEP staff and other Department personnel. Focus on enhancing educational results for all students, including those with disabilities and covering current topics of

interest.

LOCATION: Hotel Washington

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact, JoLeta Reynolds, 205-5507, or Areta Edwards at 202-205-3040, Michele Rovins, at the Federal Regional Resource Center at 202-884-8210.

DATE: May 4-5, 2000

EVENT: "Disability and Health: A Wellness Agenda"

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Michigan Association of Centers for Independent Living

LOCATION: Dearborn, Michigan

DESCRIPTION: This conference will examine four major issues affecting health and wellness for people with disabilities: current and emerging practices, political and systems issues, theory and research, and building a wellness network.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Doug Schwentor (Phone: 616-396-5326, Email: douds@egl.net).

DATE: May 5-7, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH)

EVENT: SHHH Pennsylvania Regional Conference

LOCATION: Holiday Inn (Harrisburg/Hershey), Grantville, PA

DESCRIPTION: Sixteen workshops featuring nationally recognized experts in all areas of hearing loss, plus exhibits, receptions, awards, etc. Attendees will include hard of hearing consumers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, and Maryland, and Ohio. All sessions fully communication accessible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: phone 717-273-5596 email <ctroutmn@lmf.net>
website <http://trfn.clpgh.org/shhh/shhh30c.html>

DATE: May 5-7, 2000

CONFERENCE: International Parent to Parent Conference 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Nevada University Affiliated Programs, University of Nevada Reno

PLACE: Reno, Nevada

DESCRIPTION: With over 90 sessions and presenters from 41 states and 6 countries, this conference will bring together from around the world families, individuals with special needs, child and family advocates, social workers, psychologists, educators, health care professionals, physicians, government leaders, policy makers, researchers, clergy members, corporate leaders, and volunteers. It will feature key note speakers, presentations, round tables, and skill building workshops about how best to support families and develop best practices for people with disabilities as we transition into the 21st Century.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Cheryl Dinnell, (775) 784-4921, cdinnell@scs.unr.edu,
<http://www.unr.edu/repc/npn/>

DATE: May 9-11, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Region VII Great Plains DBTAC (The ADA Project)

EVENT: ADA Symposium 2000: Celebrate the Decade!

LOCATION: Kansas City Marriott Downtown, Kansas City, Missouri

DESCRIPTION: Symposium 2000 will bring together federal, state and local perspectives on the ADA to provide a comprehensive picture of the ADA now--in the future--and in your community. Symposium 2000 will feature speakers from the US Access Board, Dept. of Justice, EEOC, Dept. of Education, Dept. of Transportation and the Dept. of the Interior. Learning tracks will be provided for ADA coordinators, human resource managers, facility managers, building inspectors, architects and attorneys.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 800-949-4232 (IA,KS,MO,NE), 573-882-3600, hamburgl@missouri.edu, <http://www.adaproject.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: May 12-14, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, Annual Southern California Expo

DESCRIPTION: See description of April 14-16

LOCATION: Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com> or (800) 385-3085; FAX: (203) 882-1800

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: May 17, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Austin, TX

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: May 22-26, 2000

EVENT: International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services 25th Annual IAPSRS Conference

LOCATION: Crystal City, Virginia

DESCRIPTION: Practitioners, consumers, family members and policy makers gather to discuss and learn about recovery from serious mental illnesses. Rehabilitation, recovery, employment, housing, substance abuse and all the other issues facing a person with a serious mental illness will be covered. The 5 day conference is expected to draw 2,000 attendees from all over the country for 40 in depth Institutes and more than 200 workshops.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (410) 730-7190 or conferences@iapsrs.org.

DATE: May 22-24, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR), Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Choctaw Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, Region IV RCEP in Atlanta, Georgia, and the American Indian Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (AIRRTC)

EVENT: CANAR Mid-year Conference

LOCATION: Philadelphia, Mississippi

DESCRIPTION: Call Choctaw VR Services at (601) 650-7354 or (601) 650-7333 TTY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (520) 523-4971, (520) 523-1695 TDD, or e-mail Julie.Clay@nau.edu to be added to the mailing list for conference registration materials

DATE: May 30 - June 3, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The American Association on Mental Retardation

EVENT: AAMR Annual Convention

DESCRIPTION: "At The Crossroads: Ethics, Genetics, Leadership and Self-Determination"

LOCATION: Washington Hilton & Towers-Washington, D.C.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 1-800-424-3688, pahirt@aamr.org, <http://www.aamr.org>.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: June 2000 (Day TBD)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Seattle, WA

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

DATE: June 1-3, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Association on Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) Office of Civil Rights National Association of College and University Attorneys

EVENT: A Team Approach: Strategies for Identifying and Accommodating Students with Psychological Disabilities Workshop

LOCATION: The Williamsburg Hospitality House, Williamsburg, VA

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.NASPA.ORG

DATE: June 3-4, 2000

EVENT: CDT's "Superfest XX International Media Festival on Disabilities" Film

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Corporation on Disabilities and Telecommunication(CDT) Screening

LOCATION: Berkeley, California

DESCRIPTION: Superfest is an annual media festival of works by and/or about people with disabilities. The films/videos are judged by panels of community members, including individuals with disabilities. Entry deadline is 1/31/2000. In June, the screening of winning selections will take place, followed by a "Meet the Filmmakers Reception" and awards ceremony. Event is open to the public, and will be held at a wheelchair accessible venue in Berkeley, t.b.a. Nominal screening ticket fee; reception and awards ceremony are free.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 510-665-1532; cdtinfo@aol.com

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: June 7-10, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Mental Health Association

EVENT: 2000 Clifford W. Beers National Mental Health Conference

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION:

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Looney at 703-838-7504, dlooney@nmha.org,
<http://www.nmha.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: June 8-10, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Ghazette International Networking Institute coordinator of International Polio Network and International Ventilator Users Network, March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.

EVENT: Eighth International Post-Polio and Independent Living Conference

LOCATION: St. Louis, Missouri

DESCRIPTION: This conference will offer several tracks of information suitable for consumer and health professionals, including independent living and advocacy issues, personal development, latest medical findings and management approaches, cardiopulmonary issues, and special seminars for physical and occupational therapists.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 314-534-0475

DATE: June 14-18, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

EVENT: Annual Convention

LOCATION: Town and Country Resort Hotel, San Diego, CA

DESCRIPTION: "Turning Promise Into Practice"; annual convention for 3,000 consumers, family members, and treatment professionals

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Connie@nami.org

DATE: June 14-18, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Adaptive Environments Center

EVENT: Design for the 21st Century: An International Conference on Universal Design

LOCATION: Providence, Rhode Island

DESCRIPTION: The conference will showcase state of the art universal design practice in environments, products and information technology. Interactive sessions will be led by international design experts who will consider universal design in education and the larger context of social justice, sustainable development, urban planning and successful business practice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Valerie Fletcher, (617) 695-1225, ext. 26, (617) 482-8099 (fax), vfletcher@adaptenv.org, <http://www.adaptenv.org/21century/index.htm>

DATE: June 20-23, 2000

EVENT: "In the New Millennium": The 2nd National Conference for Student Life Professionals working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students Featuring the First National Institute for Athletic Directors and Coaches

LOCATION:

DESCRIPTION: Dynamic and innovative presentations that will educate, empower, and

enrich the knowledge and skills of dorm counselors and supervisors, educators, coaches and athletic directors, as well as other student service personnel in residential and day programs. In addition to workshops, panel presentations, and keynote presentations by the nation's foremost leaders in the field, this year's program will feature interactive sports clinics and workshops specifically designed for athletic directors and coaches. And, back by popular demand and expanded -- an in-depth workshop on Ethical and Legal Risk Management.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Krista Leitch Walker, (202) 651-6060 (V/TTY), (202) 651-6041 (FAX), conference.cce@gallaudet.edu

DATE: June 21-24, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems (NAPAS)

EVENT: 23rd Annual P&A/CAP Conference

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Washington, DC

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 202-408-9514, <http://www.protectandadvocacy.com>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: June 23-28, 2000

EVENT: National Leadership Conference for Youth with Disabilities

LOCATION : Hyatt Regency Hotel, Bethesda, MD

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities

DESCRIPTION: A Leadership Training Conference for young people with disabilities 18-24. Transportation and food is paid for, but young people are competitively selected.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Dale S. Brown 202-376-6200 (V) 202-376-6205 (TTY) FAX (202) 376-6868 E-mail brown-dale@pcepd.gov

DATE: June 27-30, 2000

EVENT: The 4th International Conference on Deaf History: Researching, Preserving, and Teaching Deaf People's History

DESCRIPTION: If you are a researcher, historian, archivist, teacher, or someone with an interest in Deaf history and cultures from around the world, you will want to attend the 4th International Conference on Deaf History. This three day program features a variety of educational opportunities, including a pre-conference mini-course, workshops, panel discussions, and lectures from prominent and leading professionals in the field. See the world in new ways, and come prepared to explore the rich history of Deaf people!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Audrey Wineglass, (202) 651-6060 (V/TTY), (202) 651-6041 (FAX), conference.cce@gallaudet.edu

DATE: June 28 - July 2, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Society for Disability Studies (SDS)

EVENT: 13th Annual Meeting, "Activism in the Academy"

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Sheraton City Center in Chicago, IL

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

DATE: June 28 - July 2, 2000

EVENT: RESNA 2000: Technology for the New Millennium

LOCATION: Omni Rosen Hotel, Orlando, FL

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: RESNA

DESCRIPTION: RESNA 2000 brings together people who use, develop, manufacture, and deliver technologies. RESNA 2000 provides an educational forum for a diversity of Presentations, including a research symposium ("Ergonomics: Emerging Technology to Increase Participation in Education, Employment, and Independent Living"), instructional courses in Assistive Technology, exhibits, a student scientific paper competition, scientific and interactive poster sessions, concurrent systems labs, and more. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for attendance at all scientific and educational programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 703/524-6686 (V); 703/524-6639 (TTY); 703/524-6630 (FAX); <http://www.resna2000.org>

DATE: July 2-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Autism Society of America (ASA)

EVENT: The 2000 ASA National Conference on Autism

LOCATION: Atlanta, Georgia

DESCRIPTION: Largest National Conference on Autism in the U.S. featuring prominent speakers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Tiffany M. Hayes, 800-328-8476; 301-657-0869 (fax), pub2asa@smart.net, <http://www.autism-society.org>

DATE: July 2-8, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Federation of the Blind

EVENT: NFB national convention

LOCATION: Marriott Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

DESCRIPTION: National meeting of the organized blind movement

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (410) 659-9314; <http://www.nfb.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: July 3-8, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Association of the Deaf

EVENT: 45th Biennial National Conference

LOCATION: Norfolk, Virginia

DESCRIPTION: The NAD Conference schedule includes ten Symposium Forums, NAD/ASLTA Workshops, Council of Representatives meetings, Exhibits, Keynote Addresses, Receptions, College Bowl and Miss Deaf America Pageant Finals, an exciting and fun evening at an interactive nautical museum where there will be entertainment and food, and much more!.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (301) 587-1788 voice, (301) 587-178 TTY, (301) 587-1791 FAX, <http://www.nad.org/Conf2000home.html>

DATE: July 8-11, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

EVENT: "Sounds of Freedom": AG Bell's 2000 Convention

LOCATION: Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia, PA

DESCRIPTION: Topics to be addressed include: hearing loss, hearing technologies, advocacy, special education, auditory approaches

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.agbell.org or call 202-337-5220 (v/tty), agbellinfo@aol.com

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: July 8-23, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Mobility International USA (MIUSA)

EVENT: Mobility International USA's Global Options for Women with Disabilities in Leadership and Employment

LOCATION: Eugene, Oregon

DESCRIPTION: Women with disabilities aged 18 - 25 from all over the US will join young women with disabilities from other world regions in an international, cross-disability exchange of issues, ideas and strategies, to explore opportunities for international careers and develop cross-cultural networks of support among women with disabilities around the world.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Melissa Mueller, (541)343-1284 (v/TTY), exchange@miusa.org (e-mail), www.miusa.org (website)

DATE: July 12, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Chicago Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

EVENT: AccessChicago 2000

DESCRIPTION: The Midwest's largest annual exposition of products and services designed for people with disabilities and their families. An all-day event filled with family-oriented entertainment and capped off with a big fireworks show. Also, a session at which Mayor Richard M. Daley will head a lineup of regional and national leaders in assessing progress in the decade since the ADA.

LOCATION: Navy Pier, Chicago

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Lawrence J. Gorski, MOPD Director, 312-744-7050 (voice), 312-744-4964 (TTY), <http://www.cityofchicago.org>

DATE: July 12-16, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: American Society for Deaf Children

EVENT: 17th Biennial Convention, "Yours, Mine, Ours: Creating Community Connections"

LOCATION: Gallaudet University, Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: Get connected, and stay connected! Experience one of the most fun-filled and informative events designed specifically for families with deaf children. The ASDC Biennial Convention provides parents and professionals the opportunity to share experiences, obtain new information through workshops, keynote presentations, and panel discussions. Featuring family activities and educational and recreational programs for young children and teens, this conference will give parents the opportunity to take home a wealth of information, make new friends and alliances, and spend quality time with their families!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Krista Leitch Walker, (202) 651-6060 (V/TTY), (202) 651-6041 (fax), Conference.cce@gallaudet.edu e-mail, www.deafchildren.org web site.

DATE: July 15-19, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

EVENT: AER Biennial International Conference, "AERodynamics: Soaring to New Heights"

LOCATION: Denver, Colorado

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 703-823-9690; aer@aerbvi.org, <http://www.aerbvi.org>

DATE: July 16-18, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Council for Exceptional Children

EVENT: Children and Youth Action Network Workshop/Legislative Summit

DESCRIPTION: The workshop is catered to special education teachers, administrators, parents, and individuals interested in political advocacy.

LOCATION: Wyndham Washington DC Hotel

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jacki Bootel, jackib@ces.sped.org or 703-264-9437

DATE: July 18-21, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Association for Persons in Supported Employment (APSE)

EVENT: Eleventh Annual APSE Conference

LOCATION: Riviera Hotel and Casinos Las Vegas, NV

DESCRIPTION: Viva Supported Employment: Your Best Bet for the New Millennium. Largest national conference on supported employment for providers, customers, family members, Employers, and self-advocates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: APSE (804) 278-9187, <http://www.apse.org>

DATE: July 19-23, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The National Fragile X Foundation

EVENT: 7th International Fragile X Conference

DESCRIPTION: Brings together researchers, educators, medical personnel, therapists and parents from all around the world to discuss and learn about the latest research, educational strategies, therapeutic advances, medical treatments and networking.

LOCATION: Century Plaza Hotel and Tower- Los Angeles, CA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 1-800-688-8765

DATE: July 20-23, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Able Trust

EVENT: Florida Youth Leadership Forum

LOCATION: Tallahassee, Florida

DESCRIPTION: The Youth Leadership Forum involves students with varying types of disabilities from throughout Florida. During the forum these "delegates" will explore personal leadership and career plans; participate in social, artistic, athletic and recreational activities; hear guest speakers on topics such as disability rights law, assistive technology, career opportunities and resources at all levels; and take a guided tour of the Florida Capitol with interaction with

members of the press and government dignitaries. Speakers and volunteers with disabilities are needed to participate in various activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kristen Knapp, 888-838-2253 or 850-224-4493 V/TDD, kristen@abletrust.org, <http://www.abletrust.org>.

DATE: July 25-30, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Council on Independent Living (NCIL)

EVENT: Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION:

LOCATION: Washington, DC

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Natalie Shear 202-833-4456, 1-800-833-1354

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: July 27 - July 29, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The National Down Syndrome Society

EVENT: National Conference on Down Syndrome -- "Visions for the 21st Century"

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: Conference for parents, people with Down syndrome, siblings, and professionals. Presentations, workshops and forums on education, research and advocacy featuring national experts, parents and self advocates, as well as a festival of the arts and social activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact the National Down Syndrome Society at (800) 221-4602 or visit <http://www.ndss.org> on the Internet.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: July 29-31, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: TASH, British Columbia Coalition of People with Disabilities, Administration on Developmental Disability, Canadian Association for Community Living, The Arc of the United States, American Association on Mental Retardation, National Program Office on Self-Determination -- A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Program, Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered

EVENT: "Funding, Freedom and Citizenship: The First International Conference on Self-Determination & Individualized Funding"

DESCRIPTION: Across nations and user groups, these twin concepts - self-determination and individualised funding - are known by a variety of names. But below the differences in language is a growing, international recognition of their importance as fundamental goals: Firstly, that people who need personal support should nevertheless be in control of their own lives, and have the same opportunities and rights as other citizens. Secondly, that the single most powerful means to achieve self-determination is through individualised funding (IF)* which allows each person to take control of the money to buy (or employ) their own supports, instead of having standardised services delivered to them. (UK Direct Payments are a strong example of IF, but there are other ways in which control of funds can be passed to the person who requires support.) This major international conference aims to bring together people from many countries and groups (including elders and psychiatric system survivors, as well as disabled people) to explore the practical meaning of these goals, the variety of ways to put them into practice, and the political strategies required to make them a commonplace reality.

LOCATION: Seattle, Washington

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call Denise Marshall at TASH at 410-828-8274 or by email at dmarsh@tash.org

DATE: July 29-August 1, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Brain Injury Association (BIA)

EVENT: BIA's 19th Annual National Symposium-"At the Crossroads: The Future of Brain Injury 2000 and Beyond"

LOCATION: Palmer House Hilton, Chicago, IL

DESCRIPTION: Become aware of the cutting-edge research, trends and treatments in brain injury directly from the experts impacting the field, in four tracks: Acute Care, Rehabilitation, Reintegration to Community and Pediatrics.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (703) 236-6000, www.biausa.org

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: August 2000 (Day TBD)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Columbus, OH

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: August 2000 (Day TBD)

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Social Security Administration

EVENT: "Forums on Federal Policy and State Opportunity: Model Strategies to Build an Inclusive Workforce"

LOCATION: Denver, CO

DESCRIPTION: See description of February 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Pat Betch (410) 965-2592, pat.betch@ssa.gov, or Georgia Thrower, (410) 965-3987, georgia.thrower@ssa.gov.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: August 1-6, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities

EVENT: 11th IASSID World Congress - Theme: "New Millennium - Research to Practice"

LOCATION: Convention Center, Seattle, Washington

DESCRIPTION: Quadrennial conference with a focus on research, practice, and policy/advocacy issues related to people with intellectual disabilities and related conditions. Presentation proposals due 31 January 2000; Discounted registration by 15 March 2000; regular registration up to date of conference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/IASSID> or contact Neil Ross, Program Chair at >> njross@compuserve.com (Neil Ross)

DATE: August 1-4, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The National Association of Qualified Mental Retardation Professionals

EVENT: 5th Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION: This is an annual gathering of people working in the developmental disability field which provides opportunities for networking, learning and discussion. Session topics include both managerial and clinical issues.

LOCATION: Le Meridien in New Orleans, LA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Trinity Services (815) 485-6197, <http://www.qmrp.org>, trinitych1@aol.com

DATE: August 2-6, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: United States Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USSAAC) and International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC)

EVENT: ISAAC 2000 Biennial Conference "AAC in the New Millennium"

LOCATION: Washington, DC

DESCRIPTION: ISAAC 2000 will feature seminars, paper presentations and poster sessions emphasizing AAC in the new millennium. In addition, ISAAC 2000 will have an exhibit hall full of AAC devices and products. Delegates include AAC users, families, providers, researchers, manufacturers from around the world --- anyone interested in the latest developments in AAC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.isaacconference.org>, or contact Beth Mineo Mollica at mineo@asel.udel.edu

DATE: August 4-6, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Down Syndrome Congress

EVENT: 28th Annual Conference

DESCRIPTION: Conference for Parents & Professionals on all aspects of Down syndrome. Also a conference for people with Down syndrome and a conference for brothers & sisters of people with Down syndrome.

LOCATION: Hilton Washington & Towers, Washington, DC (DuPont Circle)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: National Down Syndrome Congress (800) 232-6372 or web site at <http://www.NDSCcenter.org>

DATE: August 11-13, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Epilepsy Foundation

EVENT: 32nd Annual Meeting

LOCATION: Omni Hotel at CNN Center, Atlanta, GA

DESCRIPTION: Conference of interest to people with epilepsy, their families, care givers and service providers on psychosocial issues and current advances in epilepsy treatment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 800-332-1000 / <http://www.epilepsyfoundation.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: August 11-13, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, Annual Chicago Metro Expo

DESCRIPTION: See description of April 14-16

LOCATION: Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, Illinois

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com> or (800) 385-3085; FAX: (203) 882-1800

DATE: September 12, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Granite State Independent Living

EVENT: Access Expo of Northern New England 2000

LOCATION: The Center of New Hampshire, Holiday Inn, Manchester, NH

DESCRIPTION: A complete showcase of adaptive products, from common everyday items to the extraordinary, for people of all ages with disabilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 1-800-826-3700 V/TTY.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: September 22-24, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, Annual Washington, D.C. Metro Expo

DESCRIPTION: See description of April 14-16

LOCATION: Capital Expo Center, Chantilly, Virginia

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com> or (800) 385-3085; FAX: (203) 882-1800

DATE: October 6-8, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: International Portage Association

EVENT: The 8th International Protage Conference

LOCATION: Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama

DESCRIPTION: Exploring universal elements of early intervention: science, policy, and practice

MORE INFORMATION: David Shearer, 1720 Seventh Avenue South Suite 331, Birmingham, AL 35294, 205-934-5461, eshearer@uab.edu

DATE: October 9-11, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Rehabilitation Services Administration

EVENT: "9th Annual conference for Native Americans in Rehabilitation"

LOCATION: Washington State (city not confirmed)

CONTACT: Carleen Anderson (206) 220-7847

DATE: October 12-14, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: The Arc of the United States

EVENT: The Arc of the United States Annual Convention

LOCATION: Birmingham, Alabama

DESCRIPTION: The Convention includes business meetings as well as workshops on current issues that affect people with mental retardation and related disabilities and their families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: The Arc, 301-565-3842; Info@thearc.org;
<http://www.thearc.org>.

DATE: October 13-15, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)

EVENT: NORD Annual Conference

LOCATION: St. Louis, MO

DESCRIPTION: People with rare disorders, their families, friends, and health care professionals, gather together to learn about services and benefits for people with disabilities, medical research advancements, and coping strategies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 800-999-6673; jcampbell@rarediseases.org;
www.rarediseases.org.

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: October 17-18, 2000

SPONSOR ORGANIZATION: National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

EVENT: Disability Studies: The Role of Science

LOCATION: National Press Club, Washington, DC.

DESCRIPTION: To promote disability studies as a legitimate field of study and highlight the new and existing programs in disability studies world-wide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Sean Sweeney, (202) 205-5449, Sean_Sweeney@ed.gov

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: October 20-22, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, First New England Expo

DESCRIPTION: See description of April 14-16

LOCATION: Bayside Exposition Center, Boston, Massachusetts

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com> or (800) 385-3085; FAX:
(203) 882-1800

DATE: October 25, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: ACCESS 2000

EVENT: 7th Annual Job Fair and Conference

LOCATION: Seattle, WA.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Della Shaffer, (206) 417-6287 (v/TTY), abletowork@aol.com,
www.accessnw.org

DATE: November 1-5, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS: Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA), New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

EVENT: "Expanding Horizons in the Land of Enchantment", annual international conference of the Association of Late-Deafened Adults.

LOCATION: Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Description of purpose/attendees: This annual international conference provides informative workshops and speakers, socialization, and peer support for people who are late-deafened in a setting that is welcoming and communicatively accessible to everyone, regardless of their communication choices and needs. ALDAcon 2000 is also of interest to their friends and relatives, and professionals who provide services for them.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Judith Viera, jviera@wynd.com, <http://www.alda.org>

[NEW ADDITION]

DATE: December 1-3, 2000

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION: Abilities Expo

EVENT: Abilities Expo, Annual Northern California Expo

DESCRIPTION: See description of April 14-16

LOCATION: San Mateo County Expo Center, San Mateo, California

FOR MORE INFORMATION: <http://www.abilitiesexpo.com> or (800) 385-3085; FAX: (203) 882-1800.

1999 Recommendations to the President from the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities

The Task Force wishes to recognize the outstanding work by the Clinton-Gore Administration in acting on the recommendations made to the President in last year's report — *Re-charting the Course: First Report of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities*. Prompt action and strong support by the Administration on these recommendations has resulted in significant achievements that are leading to increased employment opportunities for people with disabilities. See Chapter Two for a complete review of the status of last years' recommendations.

The Task Force also wishes to acknowledge the efforts of Task Force Committee members, particularly those who chaired the various committees established in the spring of 1999 to guide and focus the work of the Task Force. The Task Force has received a report from each committee on their activities in 1999, which largely have focused on putting in place plans for more specific activity in 2000 and beyond. The Task Force will be reviewing and using these reports as the basis for future activities as appropriate. Highlights of these reports are included in Chapter Four.

The Task Force respectfully submits the following recommendations to the President of the United States of America for immediate consideration:

The Task Force recommends that:

- 1** *The President direct the Department of Labor to develop a proposal for consideration in the FY 2001 budget process for an Office of Disability Policy, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (ODPET) to be headed by an Assistant Secretary of Labor. ODPET functions could include:*
- *Ensuring ongoing efforts to integrate people with disabilities into the Department of Labor's mainstream employment and training programs.*
 - *Establishing the National Disability Business Development Board to be comprised of the membership of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and to serve as the advisory body to ODPET.*
 - *Maintaining the principle functions of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.*
 - *Assisting the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities in implementing a coordinated and aggressive national employment strategy for people with disabilities.*

The Office of Disability Policy, Evaluation and Technical Assistance could provide a long-term, permanent force to continue the work needed to ensure that persons with disabilities are integrated into mainstream employment and training programs within the Labor Department. The Presidential Task Force would continue to be responsible in the short-term for developing, refining and monitoring the implementation of an aggressive, national employment strategy for persons with disabilities.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 2 The President direct the Departments of Justice and Labor, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to collaborate in exploring methods for strengthening enforcement of employment-related nondiscrimination provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. All efforts shall provide a clear and unequivocal message that expanded employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities are a high priority of the Administration. The efforts of the Department of Labor and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission should include providing increased technical assistance to employers, strengthening compliance evaluations, and enhancing data collection as appropriate.**

Effective enforcement of employment-related nondiscrimination requirements is crucial to increasing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The agencies responsible for enforcement must continue to explore new and more effective approaches for increasing compliance with laws requiring equal opportunities for job applicants and employees with disabilities. The enforcement agencies should develop and disseminate technical assistance guides to assist employers in understanding and implementing nondiscrimination requirements. These agencies should also develop educational tools to inform individuals with disabilities of the full range of protections under the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act. The enforcement agencies also should explore

methods to strengthen their investigation processes. For example, the Department of Labor, through the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, should utilize compliance evaluation procedures that allow the agency to focus on systemic barriers to the employment of individuals with disabilities. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, in coordination with the Departments of Justice and Labor, should explore enhancing data collection efforts with respect to the employment and the availability of persons with disabilities in the workforce, possibly through new regulations. Consistent with their complementary responsibilities for enforcement, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program should explore joint enforcement strategies.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 3 The President direct the Departments of Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services, the Social Security Administration, the Office of Personnel Management, and other appropriate Federal agencies to construct and coordinate, under the leadership of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, a Youth-to-Work Initiative.**

Barriers to employment for youth with disabilities include: low educational attainment; low educational and employment expectations; and confusing governmental programs with conflicting eligibility criteria and goals. As a result, many youth with disabilities transition from youth welfare to adult welfare without access to the education and training opportunities needed to make a transition to work and achieve independence. This Youth-to-Work Initiative would test alternative approaches to helping youth with disabilities gain access needed to education and training opportunities and overcome barriers to employment.

Each year, about 40,000 eighteen-year-olds are subject to a continuing disability review for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, but only 25,000 are determined eligible for such assistance. On average, the young adults deter-

mined to still be eligible will remain on SSI for 27 years, while those found ineligible are likely to live in poverty. Many youth with disabilities spend a significant portion of their lives living in poverty, dependent upon public assistance programs, and relegated to the margins of society. In addition, compared to students without disabilities, students with disabilities drop out of school much more frequently and enroll in post-secondary education less frequently.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 4 The President direct the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a proposal to allow the Maternal and Child Health Programs for Children with Special Needs to provide Healthy and Ready to Work services to youth with disabilities who are under the age of 16.

The Maternal and Child Health Programs for Children with Special Needs (Title V of the Social Security Act) provides Healthy and Ready to Work services to youth with disabilities that are essential to preparing them for continued education and training, but are restricted to serving only youth 16 years and older. As a result, many youth with disabilities are ready to drop out of the education stream just at a time when they become eligible to receive services that would enable them to benefit from continued education. There is a clear need to provide these services to youth with disabilities at an earlier age.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 5 The President direct the Department of Housing and Urban Development to explore steps needed to establish an earned income disregard for tenants with disabilities living in other-than-Public Housing Authority housing who return to work, and to exempt any disability-related expenses incurred when a tenant goes to work from the "countable" income used to determine rents.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has promulgated rules under recently enacted legislation aimed at providing additional incentives for low-income individuals

in public housing to go to work, or work additional hours. Current rules, however, do not provide sufficient incentives for employment of people with disabilities who are assisted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development subsidies, but do not live in Public Housing Authority housing. The Department should explore ways to extend similar incentives to all HUD-subsidized tenants with disabilities.

The Task Force recommends that:

- The President continue to work with Congress to secure adequate funding, proposed in the Administration's FY 2000 budget, for their program to accelerate the development and adoption of information and communication technologies that can be used by the 54 million Americans with disabilities.

The President should continue to push for this initiative that would: (1) help make the Federal Government a "model user" of accessible electronic and information technology through the implementation of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act; (2) support new and expanded State loan programs making assistive technology more affordable for adults with disabilities; and (3) invest in research, development, and technology transfer in areas such as "text to speech," speech recognition, and eye-tracking for people who cannot use a keyboard.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 7 The President continue to work with Congress to pass the tax credit proposed in the Administration's FY 2000 budget, in order to assist adults with disabilities with expenses related to work.

Working-age adults with disabilities are often discouraged from working because of the high cost of personal attendant services and other services or technologies required for employment. Similarly, the cost to employers of hiring an individual requiring personal attendant services can sometimes be prohibitive. Tax credits provide a flexible way to assist people with disabilities in defraying these expenses.

The Task Force recommends that:

8 The President continue to work with Congress to pass a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights.

It is critically important to people with disabilities that we enact a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights. This legislation must include the following: guaranteed access to needed health care specialists; access to emergency room services when and where the need arises; continuity of care protections so that patients will not have an abrupt transition in care if their providers are dropped; access to a fair, unbiased, and timely internal and independent external appeals process to address health plan grievances and to help govern decisions about medically necessary treatments; an enforcement mechanism that ensures recourse for patients who have been harmed as a result of a health plan's actions.

The Task Force recommends that:

9 The President convene a White House Conference on Employment of Adults with Disabilities that will include representatives from the Administration, Congress, elected officials from State and local governments, small and large businesses, the disability community and other stakeholders.

A White House Conference would provide heightened visibility to the issue of employing persons with disabilities and help build partnerships between public and private sectors. It would also provide the opportunity to showcase "best practices" and innovative strategies for employment of people with disabilities, and highlight actions taken by Task Force member agencies, departments, and other Federal agencies. Finally, it could commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the 25th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the 35th anniversary of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The Task Force recommends that:

10 The President direct the Task Force members' departments and agencies to collaborate on the development and implementation of a multimedia, interagency public awareness campaign to eliminate the negative and erroneous stereotypes about employment of people with disabilities. This campaign would focus on the benefits of employing people with disabilities.

There is an immediate need for leadership to address negative attitudes and prejudices against people with disabilities. An aggressive public awareness campaign, conducted in partnership with the disability community, businesses, and other influential entities would help to eliminate erroneous and prejudicial thinking about disability that results in limiting employment opportunities.

The Task Force recommends that:

11 The President direct the Social Security Administration and the Department of Labor to create an "Access America for People with Disabilities" Web site that targets individuals with disabilities.

In February, Vice President Gore announced "Access America for Seniors," a Web site providing a wide range of services to older Americans — an example of his vision of "one-stop" Web access to government services. A new Web site, "Access America for People with Disabilities," would likewise provide information and services offered by virtually every major Federal Government agency by linking to an abundance of helpful Federal agency sites, information, programs, and services.

*Lisa will call Nancy McFadden
Lisa calls
Nancy McFadden at Transit*

The Task Force recommends that:

- 12** The President direct the Department of Transportation to work with the Departments of Labor, Education, and Health and Human Services, the Social Security Administration, and other relevant Task Force members to develop a comprehensive plan of action to address the lack of transportation services and systems for persons with disabilities.

The lack of available public transportation is a major employment barrier for persons with disabilities. This fact is cited by many individuals with disabilities at recent Town Hall meetings held by the Task Force and at other events as the major impediment to finding and keeping jobs. The Department of Transportation has been vigorous in addressing public and private accessibility issues for people with disabilities. This directive would be to concentrate Federal efforts on developing an interagency action plan that addresses the lack of available transportation.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 13** The President direct all Federal agencies with customer service call centers and other appropriate services to explore ways to encourage hiring people with disabilities.

Cutting-edge telecommunications technology has recently made it possible for customer service centers to send voice and data to home-based customer service representatives who work just as if they were in a call center. Many agencies in the Federal Government operate significant customer service call center activities. This cutting-edge technology needs to be widely available in the Federal Government, and used to increase the employment rate of individuals with disabilities as much as possible.

Research has shown that the percentage of individuals with significant disabilities who are employed is the lowest of disadvantaged groups in the nation. It is critical that we seek out as many strategies as possible to change this picture.

The Task Force recommends that:

- 14** The President direct the Social Security Administration to explore options for raising the Earned Income Exclusion in the Supplemental Security Income program, for both adults and students, in order to encourage work efforts.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a means-tested program, but beneficiaries are able to have limited earnings without impact on their benefit amounts. Allowing such earnings not only increases overall income security, but also provides an incentive to work. The earned income exclusions for both adults and students, however, have not been raised since the early 1970's, even though the SSI Federal Benefit Rate is indexed annually for inflation. The Earned Income Exclusion remains at \$65 per month for adults and up to \$400 per month for students for a limited time period. As a result, SSI beneficiaries with non-SSI income do not receive full indexing of their benefits, and work effort is less rewarded than it was previously.

SSA-10118

Eric Gould will take the list and find out how to approach agencies

Willard knows Federal agencies involved in this

do they contract process of contracts set
O.P.M. -

**Initiatives of the EEOC to Implement the Recommendation
of the President's Task Force on Adults with Disabilities that the
Departments of Justice and Labor and the EEOC Collaborate to Strengthen
Enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act**

1. **EEOC, DOJ, and DOL** have initiated a coordinated enforcement project aimed at combating unnecessary qualification standards in state and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and professional certification requirements that bar individuals with disabilities from employment in violation of the ADA.

This project focuses on two areas: Requirements that apply across the board to all state employees; and teacher certification requirements. EEOC and DOJ are in the process of reviewing these types of state hiring requirements to identify those that violate the ADA.

Once EEOC and DOJ identify disqualifying qualification standards, they will educate state and local governing bodies about their current laws and ordinances that must be brought into line with the requirements of the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act. When voluntary compliance is not achieved, the EEOC, DOJ, and DOL will develop a coordinated enforcement approach to challenge such laws.

2. **EEOC, DOJ, and DOL** also have surveyed and catalogued their existing training materials and resources for agency investigators on disability discrimination laws for the purpose of making these training materials and resources more accessible to other enforcement agencies, such as OFCCP.
3. **EEOC and OFCCP** will engage in various coordinated enforcement-related activities, designed to foster cooperation between the agencies in their enforcement of the ADA and section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act, respectively. EEOC and OFCCP are discussing the sharing of information that each agency collects in the enforcement of the ADA and section 503. For the past several years, the agencies have worked cooperatively in the sharing of information concerning enforcement of Title VII and Executive Order 11246, which prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, religion, and sex. In this regard, OFCCP has sought information from EEOC's Case Data System and EEOC has sought information that OFCCP has developed during compliance reviews of federal contractors. Both agencies currently are discussing expanding these activities to include disability-related information, and a meeting is being scheduled between the agencies that will include information technology specialists from each agency, who will be able to discuss the feasibility of providing each agency with greater access to the information of the other agency.

ADA 10th - White House Conference

Distribution List

Ashby, Roseann
Basha, Rhonda
Brenman, Marc
Brown, Lisa
Claypool, Henry
Correia, Eddie
Daniels, Susan
Davis, Deirdre
Eates, Antoinette
Heumann, Judy
Kielty, Alexandra
Klein, Cherie
Lancaster, John
McKinnon, William
Miller, Paul
Pannebaker, George
Richards, Curtis
Rizzo, Juliette
Roffee, Larry
Savage, Liz
Simpson, Jennifer
Strahan, Marie
Swenson, Sue
Williams, Bob
Young, Jonathan

2000 Conference Schedule

Tuesday, July 25

11 am-7 pm Registration
1-3 pm Board Meeting
3:30-5:30 pm Legislative Update Workshop
7-9:30 pm Opening Session: Not Just Responding to Change...But Leading It

Wednesday, July 26

8-9 am Registration
8-9 am Breakfast Carts in Hotel
9-9:30 am Organizing for March
9:30 am Depart for Rally
11 am-12:30 pm Rally on the Hill
1-5 pm Hill Visits
7-12 midnite ~~ADA Gala~~

Thursday, July 27

9:30 am-12:30 pm/
2-4:30 pm Registration
10:30-11:45 am Concurrent Workshops
12-1:30 pm Lunch on your Own
1:30-2:30 pm General Session: Making Olmstead Work in Your State
2:45-4 pm Concurrent Workshops
4:30-5:45 pm Concurrent Workshops
7:30-10 pm Multi-Cultural Reception

Friday, July 28

9-10:15 am General Session: Unequal Protection Under the Law
10-11:45 am Concurrent Workshops
12-2:30 pm Awards Luncheon
3-5 pm Federal Agency Updates
7-10 pm Evening on Your Own

Saturday, July 29

~~8-9 am~~ NCIL Cup of Coffee
9-10:15 am Concurrent Workshops
10:30-11:45 am Concurrent Workshops
12-1:30 pm Lunch on Your Own
2-6 pm NCIL Annual Meeting
8-1 am DJ Social Event

Sunday, July 30

11-12 noon Closing Session
12:30-2 pm Incoming Board Meeting

ORPP/NCIL

THIS SUGGESTS NO ADDITIONAL COST...

*SHOW REGISTRATION TIMES ON Fri & Sat

ADA Relay Sponsorship Calls
March 15, 2000
Revised 3/17/2000

It would be appropriate for the Secretary of Labor (because she is the Task Force Chair), Attorney General, or Chair of the EEOC to be at any of the cities or events because they will all in some way involve civil rights.

The following document points out tie-in possibilities with other Task Force members as well.

[* = one of the 11 Cities VW wants to pay particular attention to]

KICKOFF

Sunday, June 11--Houston, TX*

Doug Drey--Mayor's Committee on People With Disabilities

Event Information:

Will include a gathering at the Multi Service Center (where the February mini-relay ended).

Wants his events to coordinate with AAASP (American Association of Adaptive Sports Programs), now wants to shift date to June 9 to coincide with the AAASP competition. Wants to announce torch takeoff on Friday 6/9, then have a more intense kickoff on Saturday 6/10. Also wants to incorporate George Strait concert on Sunday.

Aiming for 1pm on Friday.

Saturday--noon or 1 start--then a barbecue. . .

AAASP is getting youth from Atlanta, along with local VIPs (mayor, etc.), together to compete in various sports events (basketball, indoor soccer & track and field) -- trying to get schools to incorporate these programs.

Wants to get Commissioner of the EEOC in to town (esp. For the Saturday event--which is to be more disability related--whereas the Friday event is to be more able-body Awareness focused.

Also trying to get Trans. Sec'y Slater there because the bus system will be 100% disability Compliant by December (the rest of the system at 90%).

Wants at least 1000 Know Your Rights packets.

Tuesday, June 13,--Austin, TX*

Ron Lucey--contact from Austin Mayor's Committee

Austin was recognized last year by Rodney Slater for innovative transportation programs.

As for Technology, Austin is "Silicon Hill Country")

Trying to keep things bipartisan (but not so easy)

Partnerships with Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies

Event Information:

State Capitol is booked for the 13th. Speaker's Rally. Objective is to connect with the civil rights struggle of the 1960's, so they're including the African-American leaders in the community. Dolores Gonzales (512-499-3256)—ADA coordinator, is heading up speaker list. She was the rep that came to Washington to receive visionary award last year from the Department of Transportation from Secretary Rodney Slater.

Unfortunately, Mayor Kirk Watson will be out at a national conference of mayors . . .
So the Mayor Pro-Tem [] will read the city's ADA proclamation

Route is 6.2 miles, begins downtown, passes through UT, ends at complex where [] are located.
Wants to start torch moving by lunchtime.
No firm time yet for speakers, but kickoff may be 9:30 or even by 9:00am
Pace expected to avg. 3mph.
Capital Metro will run a shuttle to help folks get to the Capital.

Need @ 1000 "Know Your Rights" flyers for beginning and end of rally

No firm commitments yet—big committee meeting on Monday.
Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:
Secretary of Transportation Slater's connection with Dolores Gonzales.

June 17—San Francisco, CA*

Theme: Birth of Independent Living Movement

Event Information: Day begins with ceremony with Mayor Brown of S.F. and a media tour of new baseball stadium (with disability advisory committee that helped in design) showing they exceed ADA compliance; torch appears at pregame; Mayor hands off torch and is boated across the bay by disabled sailors; Mayor Brown of Oakland receives torch and conveys to Jack London Square, where 100 organizations are coordinating a family festival lasting into the afternoon.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:
(HHS Sec'y Shalala?; HUD Sec'y Cuomo?)
Minimum 5,000 "Know Your Rights" Brochures

June 19—Los Angeles, CA*

Theme: Disability in the Media/Historical Portrayal

Event Information:

L.A. planning fund-raising concert at House of Blues in advance of torch visit;
requesting celebrity involvement in Relay (possibly Relay through Hollywood's Walk of Fame)

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:
Task Force Representative: FCC Chairman Kennard

Wednesday, June 21—Phoenix, AZ

Donna Redford
Denise Thompson

Event Information: Plans:

Speaking Opportunities for Secretary:

1. Breakfast Meeting

(NB: Phoenix in June is HOT)

2. Evening*: *Pregame Ceremony at BankOne Ballpark–AZ Diamondbacks Baseball Game*

(no more than 15 minutes) (40,000 to 50,000 Attendance + TV Coverage?)

“Community Corner” at the game where a non-profit can come in and do their thing.

FOCUS/THEME: Governor’s Committee on Developmental Disabilities has been working on Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Know Your Rights Brochures—maybe 40,000?

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Because of Entrepreneurship emphasis—Possible Tie-In w/ SBA Administrator Alvarez; EEOC; HUD (re. pushing for acceptance of Architectural Compliance on Local Levels);

N.B.: Transportation Tax initiative just passed 3/14 via grassroots effort (defeated 3 times prior)—possible connection to Transportation Secretary Slater.

Saturday, June 24—Salt Lake City, UT

No coordinated Events Plan Yet

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Tuesday, June 27—Denver, CO*

Torch Relay and Associated Events

Theme: Transportation? Celebration of Civil Rights

Event Information:

Night of June 26 is a Colo. Rockies Game—they will run the torch around the bases and make an announcement.

10:00 a.m at the court building

Mayor Wellington Webb (Chairman of the National Conference of Mayors) will speak—

Torch leaves at 10:30 Two “satellites”—one going east, one going west

meets back at Civic Center Park at 4:00

hour and a half rally with several speakers

Congresswoman Diana DeGette (confirmed)

Senator Wayne Allard and Senator Ben Nighthorse-Campbell are invited

Rally Ends at 6:30

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

(Task Force Representative: Transportation Sec’y Rodney Slater)

Relay Caravan plans off-day visit to Pike’s Peak for crew sightseeing and photo opportunity with torch at the summit

Friday, June 30—Topeka, KS

contacts: Vicki Nelson, Susan Briggs

Theme: Agriculture?

Also Home of Brown v. Board of Education Decision

Transportation (Bob Dole is to be invited because of his connection with Accessible Bussing in Topeka)

Becka Vaughn, local DRACH (Disability Rights Action Coalition for Housing) coordinator has already made a request to HUD offices (Sec'y Cuomo) re. Accessibility in Housing

Event Information:

Working on the Local Hockey Team—Scarecrows.

Setting up a Dinner after the torch run

Speakers in the morning at the Statehouse

10 am - ish. . .

Governors Office and Mayors Office already involved

Know Your Rights packets: maybe 10,000

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Possible tie-in with Secretary of Agriculture because of importance of industry in Kansas.

Already made a request to HUD offices (Secretary Cuomo) re. Accessibility in Housing

Connection to Secretary of Education because of Brown decision (but don't forget about recent State Board decision not to teach Evolution. . .)

Tuesday, July 4—St. Louis, MO

Event Information:

St. Louis Fair (4th of July – huge event)

Possible Cardinals Baseball Game

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Friday, July 7—Madison, WI

Theme: Recreation (potentially) both participation and spectatorship—

Event Information:

Disabled Sports USA & Kawasaki, Inc. work together of a school administrated program—their Accessible Waterskiing Workshop runs June 6-8, the torch route will pass by.

Madison has the World's Most Accessible Sports Facility (toured by advisors for the Sydney Olympic Games).

The U of W has the World's Largest Outing Program (HOOFERS) (self-funded within the student union) with a significant accessibility component.(eg. :free-ski day for pwd's, etc.) And they will participate.

ArtFair on the Square (Capital Square) is that weekend (possible connection with Renovation of the civic center; fully accessible children's museum, other projects recently funded by a local philanthropist).

The Torch Route (proposed) begins at the Capital, moves to new Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center and then through town using Bike Paths (Madison has an extremely comprehensive Bike

Path system, best in US along with Davis, CA)

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt

(A US Geological Survey Office is in Madison. There is also a Bald Eagle Sanctuary USGS and Interior, have always been very strong and leading edge on hiring pwd's)

Probably NOT Donna Shallala [even though she used to be chancellor of UW] because of the recent politicization of the Organ Donation Program—she's currently pretty unpopular there.

ALSO-potentially Dept. of Agriculture (Wisconsin is highly Agricultural, but timing might not be great)

Their Torch Relay Committee will meet on the 27th and have more info after that.

Know Your Rights Brochures?—10,000 easily—up to 100,000 possible . . .

Sunday, July 9—Chicago, IL

per Karen Tamley 312/226-5900

Theme: ADA and the Everyday

Wanting to bring to attention to the diversity of the city and its many different communities.

Event Information:

(2 committees:

Steering Committee-next. Mtg. Is Monday—if we can call Karen on Tues. or Wed. to find out more.

Celebration Committee)

Opening Ceremony—maybe in Londale (African American Neighborhood in the “near west side” with an accessible playground)

Ballgame—Cubs vs. White Sox: In discussion with Wrigley field for Cubs/Sox game (12:30 starting time)

May use new wheelchair accessible taxis to shuttle torch.

Closing Event in Lincoln Park

Taste of Chicago is that weekend in Grant Park (they plan to steer well clear. . .)

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

HUD Secretary Cuomo (Karen is a housing person who has been to DC & met the Sec'y)

Transportation? -- (N.B. Recently filed suit against Transit Authority for lax accessibility compliance. . .possibility for protest)

Tuesday, July 11—Memphis, TN

“Not a very positive civil rights area.”

Gary Vanasek—local DOJ contact

Theme: “Pro-Se—doing it for ourselves”

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members: They would like to have Janet Reno come out to emphasize that Disability Rights are of significant importance.

No events yet scheduled—not getting a receptive response from anyone in State or Local Govt.

Thursday, July 13—Jackson, MS

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Saturday, July 15—Montgomery, AL

Event Information:

Two blocks of Dexter Avenue will be shut down for a street celebration featuring food, music and crafts

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Civil Rights

Monday, July 17—Tallahassee, FL

Event Information:

April 14th—Youth Leadership Forum—on-line internet hookup, large web event

On July 16th, the night before, Independent Living Showcase in the Doubletree to highlight the 14 independent living centers and 4 “stand-alone” centers.

300-500 attending

ADA Celebration in the Evening—Unveiling a “Wall of Fame” honoring Floridians

Civic Center gathering with Bands including Van Gogh (musical duo) at close of Relay

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Florida has a more strident accessibility code than the rest of the nations—more so than the ADA itself.

Also proud of the work in recreation (Possibly Interior Sec’y Bruce Babbitt)

—HUD Secretary Cuomo because of their emphasis on the Visitability Initiative and the Fannie Mae Initiative for Mortgages for First-Time Buyers with Disabilities

Kenneth Apfel—Commissioner of the Social Security Administration because of the importance of the Ticket to Work and Medicaid Buy-In

KYR Brochures: ideally 1000 per center (13,000), plus 5,000k for torch relay = 18,000k

Wednesday, July 19—Warm Springs, GA

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Thursday & Friday, July 20 & 21—Atlanta, GA*

Event Information:

Midday Celebration in Centennial Olympic Park with speakers and performances

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Saturday, July 22--Columbia, SC

Event Information:

Picnic/rally in public park as part of the relay day.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Tuesday, July 25--Arlington, VA & Washington, DC*

Theme: Political Empowerment/Civic Involvement

Arlington--

9:30a.m. Welcoming Ceremony--Relay from local resource center--End Dependence Center near the Clarendon Metro--

10:30 Torch should leave, go past Arlington National Cemetery and ending at FDR Memorial by noon.

No speaker ready yet. May ask Justin (but 9:30 is early for him).

"Know Your Rights" Brochures -- 650 on mailing list

Michael's input re. Brochures: Important to release in Alternative Formats: Large Print; Braille, Audio Tape & Computer Disk

Wednesday, July 26--Washington, DC*

Friday, July 28--Philadelphia, PE*

Theme: Accessible Transportation for All

2 Committees are meeting

Internal--planning food, etc.

Broader Committee focusing on Torch Reception

THEME: 10 points of what is positive about the ADA (one for each year)

Mapped out route will pass torch from point to point--around Liberty Bell, to end at the Penn Treaty Park for a picnic--this is the location for speakers.

Republican Convention Goers are invited (the convention center; Senator Arlen Specter (sponsor for Mi Casa) is invited; the

Event Information:

Emphasis on Cross-Disability event, incl. Mayor's office,

5-7 organizations are joining up with Liberty Resources (core group) to plan and produce the event

"Rolling Justice" marchers coming to the Republican Convention from across PA;

Torch Relay will be joined by, and leads.

Relay to Liberty Bell;

picnic/rally in public park (Possible)

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Arlen Specter--sponsor of Mi Casa--has been invited, which could tie in with HHS Sec'y Donna Shalala.

[NB--lawsuits have been filed in Philly this year vs. Transportation and Housing. . .it could be

awkward for Transpo. Sec'y and Sec'y of HUD (ADAPT would probably stage a protest)]
Ginny Thornburg has offered her husband, Ex-Attorney General Dick Thornburgh (AG during
ADA signing)
Need Minimum 600 "Know Your Rights" (KYR) packets.

Monday, July 31–Auburn Hills/Detroit, MI*

Theme: Highlight Advances made in Private Transportation?/Strength of Disability Marketplace
to Affect Change

Committee meeting on Tuesday

Event Information:

situation is unique because it is in 2 places
Auburn Hills is the site of VW HQ–
Then will end up in Detroit.

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Commerce Secretary William F. Daley?
"Mi Casa" Attendant Care Service Bill–HHS Sec'y Donna Shalala
Labor Sec'y Herman

Thursday, August 3–Boston, MA*

No Organized Events yet planned.

Event Information:

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

Monday, August 7–NYC, NY*

Event Information:

Ceremony at the UN for policy makers; rally/concert at nearby public park for local residents

Speaking Opportunities for Task Force Members:

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Del Moon

adarelay@atl.mediaone.net

Relay Operations–also marketing

Coordinating the 24 cities

Each city to have a local Scene

(Montgomery, obviously

Denver has various transportation issues

Bay Area is the birthplace of the independent living movement)

Deeply involved with providing technical asst., making sure that each city's events are truly
being developed as a community event–making sure that logistics are being handled

I2K born of the idea that there should be serious activity re: 10th Anniversary of the ADA
(est, over 500 events nationwide)

Torch Relay was one idea to integrate all these celebrations with a major awareness-building

project.

AAPD designated as best agent for putting together/coordinating the Torch Relay

Still in Development in Salt Lake (June 24)[almost in stand-by] and in Boston (Aug. 3)

[Paul Timmons, Jr.]

404-248-9857

email: presslord@aol.com

Lead Contact to finding out what each city is doing (esp. W/ regard to website. . .)

*SPEAKER's BUREAU—to raise awareness of the torch coming into town

6 wks. Prior to torch arrival (in 11 cities [decided by VW--VW sponsors and funds the whole event]), get speakers to come in and speak to civic organizations (eg. Chambers of Commerce, Atlanta's 100 Black Men, etc.)

1. Identify who is available to speak.
2. Identify what groups want speakers.
3. Bring them together.

Object: to Identify a theme or tie-in, for example:

Houston/

Austin/

LA—Disability in the Media/Historical Portrayal (FCC Chairman Kennard)

San Francisco—Birth of the Independent Living Movement (HHS Sec'y Shalala?; HUD Sec'y Cuomo?)

Denver—Public Transportation (Transpo. Sec'y Slater)

Atlanta—Civil Rights

DC—Political Empowerment/Civic Involvement]

Philly—Rural Transportation?;

Detroit—Highlight Advances made in Private Transportation?/Strength of Disability Marketplace to Affect Change (Commerce?)

Boston—undecided;

NYC—International flavor (UN?, State);

To: Lisa Brown, Counsel to the Vice President

From: Rhonda L. Basha

Re: SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE CALL SUGGESTIONS RE: ADA CONFERENCE

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the suggestions and issues raised during the focus group conference calls which took place on March 14, 2000, regarding the ADA conference being planned for July. Consistent with the recommendations made at the meeting held in your office on March 1, 2000, the focus group agreed that there should be a conference, and that the target group should be businesses. It was suggested that the conference highlight best practices of employers, particularly those in the I.T. industry that have utilized innovative strategies for employing persons with disabilities. Employers identified as potential best practice presenters included Marriott, Hilton, and Microsoft, as well as those currently working with the President's Committee on Employment of Persons with Disabilities. The conferees also indicated that entrepreneurs with disabilities should also be featured.

The focus group participants also generally agreed that the conference should last about five hours and that the format should include breakout sessions headed by Task Force members, and a plenary session followed by a reception at the White House. Suggested sites for the conference included Galludet University and the Chamber of Commerce, with the later being contingent on their buying in generally.¹ The conferees further agreed that the conference should include a display of assistive technology.

In addition to targeting employers, it was also felt that the conference should be utilized as an opportunity for a public relations "myth busting" campaign to reach the general public and the media. Ted Koppel, Oprah Winfrey², and Larry King, were suggested as possible venues for obtaining media buy-in.

It was further proposed that consideration be given to focusing on the ADA as a civil rights, versus an entitlement statute, with employment viewed as the means for bridging the gap between the two. Other suggestions along the same lines included repackaging the civil rights message with a more "main stream" diversity spin.

Several of the participants emphasized the need to take a pragmatic approach given the current climate of growing anti-ADA sentiment. To this end, it was suggested that the conference highlight progress/accomplishments in substantive areas covered under the ADA, while at the same time emphasizing that much remains to be done, and that the inclusion of individuals with disabilities as meaningful members of the workforce is not only not difficult; it is good business. One possible product suggested was an "ADA 10th Anniversary-10 Lessons Learned" publication.

The need to have something measurable come out of the conference was a repeated theme. It was suggested that rather than simply preaching to the choir that businesses, including small

¹Tom Donaghue was suggested as a contact at the Chamber.

²Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman has an ongoing relationship with Oprah Winfrey.

businesses, currently "sitting on the fence" be asked for a hiring commitment prior to the conference, consistent with the model used in the Welfare to Work initiative. Other recommendations in this vein included outreach to business foundations, to small business lobbyists and association, to the Chamber, and to the Business Roundtable.

While no one clear idea on a banner message was evidenced, integration, inclusion, and independence emerged as recurring themes. I would suggest that we add "innovation" to this list which encompasses not only advancements in technology, but creative employment strategies. Perhaps, the conference could be entitled something along the lines of *The 10th Anniversary of the ADA-A Celebration of Integration, Inclusion, Independence, and Innovation.*

We are looking forward to hearing from you on next steps. I can be reached by phone at 202-693-6112.