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Rebuilding Community through Citizen Form

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**A Call to Responsibility:
Rebuilding Community Through Citizen Form**

REGISTRATION FORM

The Conference is by invitation only. This invitation is non-transferable. No replacements or substitutes will be accepted.

This registration form should be completed and returned, accompanied by a brief current biography, by June 23, 1995. A fax confirmation will be sent upon receipt of your registration form.

Please check one.

- ☐ Yes, I will attend the July 6 conference. Attached is my completed registration form. (800-7100 Plan)
- ☐ No, I will not be able to attend.

Please type or print.

Name _____

Title _____ Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

For White House security purposes only:

Date of Birth _____ Social Security _____

Please return this form with a current brief biography no later than June 23, 1995. The two one-page statements should be returned by June 30, 1995. Return completed forms to:

Flo McAfee, Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
Phone: (202) 456-7701
Fax: (202) 456-6218

**A Call to Responsibility:
Rebuilding Community Through Citizenship**

The White House
July 6, 1995

TENTATIVE AGENDA

8:00 am - 8:45 am	Welcome Reception
9:00 am - 11:30 pm	MORNING SESSIONS East Room
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	LUNCHEON State Dining Room
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	AFTERNOON SESSIONS

Monday, June 12

AGENDA "COMMON GROUND" CONFERENCE

1. Finalize invitation letter.
2. Update status of invite list.
- √3. Discuss announcement of new date (July 6).
4. Updates from working groups.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, June 14, at 5:00 pm in Room 100 OEOB.

Monday, June 12

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DRAFT FACT SHEET

A Call to Responsibility: Rebuilding Community Through Citizenship

The White House

July 6, 1995

If you go back to the beginning of this country, the great strength of America, as de Tocqueville pointed out when he came here a long time ago, has always been our ability to associate with people who were different from ourselves and to work together to find common ground. And in this day, everybody has a responsibility to do more of that. We simply cannot wait for a tornado, a fire, or a flood to behave like Americans ought to behave in dealing with one another.

President William Jefferson Clinton

State of the Union Address, January __, 1995

At the conference, the President will issue a challenge to the people of this country, and to the leaders of its sectors of influence, to renew their commitment to the responsibilities of citizenship and take meaningful steps to work together for the common good. This conference will not be an end in itself, but part of an ongoing effort to ensure that the President's call to action is fulfilled.

You have been selected to participate based on your experience in bringing people of diverse views together to find common ground, and our confidence that you will be playing a leadership role as we work together to encourage responsible citizenship and national harmony. We are inviting people who, at the local level, are putting these principles into practice and leaders who can help translate these models into opportunities for national action.

To maximize the benefits of the conference, and to provide an opportunity for participants to set forth their views in advance, we request that all participants submit to the White House, two brief statements: the first, addressing what it is that binds Americans together in communities and as a nation; and the second, addressing what the participant, or his or her community, has done to address a common problem and how this experience can provide guidance for other communities. We request that each statement be limited to one page in length. We will compile the statements in binders that will be provided to the President and all participants.

Please complete and return the enclosed response form, along with a one-page personal biography, immediately. Your two written statements should be received by the White House by no later than June 30. Response forms and participant statements should be delivered to Flo McAfee, Associate Director of Public Liason, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500. Any questions may be directed to Ms. McAfee at 202-456-2930.

Alexis M. Herman

Assistant to the President and Director of Public Liaison

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 12, 1995

**MEMORANDUM FOR ALEXIS HERMAN
GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
MELANNE VERVEER
FRANK HOLLEMAN
SKILA HARRIS
STEVE SILVERMAN
LINDA LADER**

**FROM: STEVE NEUWIRTH
FLO MCAFEE
JEREMY BEN-AMI**

SUBJECT: DRAFT INVITATION TO JULY 6 CONFERENCE

Attached for your review is a draft invitation from the President to participants in the July 6 conference, along with a fact sheet for participants that would be enclosed with the invitation letter.

In preparing these drafts, we have attempted to incorporate the helpful comments from Melanne Verveer and Linda Lader.

Assuming we use this type of format, we would contemplate also mailing to participants a tentative agenda and response forms.

REVISED DRAFT ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

June __, 1995

Dear _____:

I would like you to join Vice President Gore and me in a conference entitled, "A Call to Responsibility: Rebuilding Community Through Citizenship," to be held at the White House on July 6, 1995.

Perhaps the defining characteristic of our nation has been the unique ability of Americans from diverse backgrounds and with diverse views to work together for the common good of our communities, our country and our future. In recent years, however, our spirit of community and shared enterprise has often deteriorated in the face of difficult challenges that confront us. Too often, political and social discourse -- even conversations among neighbors -- have been infected by misunderstanding, intolerance or rancor. Our communities have at times been torn apart by the very issues that should draw us together.

Many Americans today are finding solutions to difficult problems in their communities because they have been able to establish common ground that is a basis for people working together. Americans need to listen to each other, even when we disagree, and take responsibility for addressing our common problems. The aftermath of the recent Oklahoma City tragedy powerfully demonstrated the strength, resolve and hope that arise when we work together to help each other.

I am convening the July 6 conference to discuss how we can reinvigorate our spirit of community and together pursue a prosperous future through civil discourse and citizen responsibility. Americans of diverse political perspectives and from various sectors of influence -- community, religion, education, business, non-profit organizations, the media, entertainment and sports -- will be joining the Vice President and me in this day-long forum.

I look forward to meeting with you on July 6.

Sincerely,

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: OB DATE: 6/23/97

Arizona	DuVal	Kevin O'Keefe	Fred DuVal Loretta Avant Doug Wilson Chris Phillips	Loni Hancock Felecia Marcus Kenn Kojima Grantland Johnson Art Agnos Richard Sawyer Jadine Nielson Viloa Canales	
Arkansas	Smith	John Emerson Craig Smith	Bruce Lindsey Mack McLarty Nancy Hernreich	Sally Cain Jane Saginaw Buddy Young John Pouland Pat Montoya Stephen Weatherford Jim Johnson James Breedlove	Skip Rutherford
California	John Emerson	John Emerson	Mickey Kantor Dave Barram John Garamendi Marsha Scott	Loni Hancock Felecia Marcus Kenn Kojima Grantland Johnson Art Agnos Richard Sawyer Jadine Nielson Viloa Canales	Bill Carrick Tony Podesta Jim Margolis
Colorado	B. J. Thornberry	John Emerson	Fredrico Pena Tim Wirth B.J. Thornberry Fred DuVal	Michael Armstrong Polly Baca Kathryn Boeren Margaret Cary Tony Hernandez Tom Redder Lynn Simmons William Yellowtail	

Connecticut	Bill Curry	Kevin O'Keefe	Bruce Morrison	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann-Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	
Delaware		John Emerson	James Farrell Evelyn Lieberman	Jayne Armstrong Rita Calvan W. Wilson Goode Susan McCann Karen Miller Pat Halpin-Murphy Lynn Yackel	
District of Columbia		Kevin O'Keefe		Jayne Armstrong Rita Calvan W. Wilson Goode Susan McCann Karen Miller Pat Halpin-Murphy Lynn Yackel	
Florida	Craig Smith	John Emerson Craig Smith	Sam Dubbin Greg Farmer Kathy Jurardo Jay Hakes	Carole Dortch Patricia Ford-Roegner Davey Gibson John Hankinson Judith Harwood Ken Hutchinson Barbara Kelly Paulette Noveille-Lewis Billy Paul Stanley Williams	Geoff Geren

Georgia	*r1A	John Emerson Craig Smith	Carol Dortch Carolina Aronvitz Loveless Johnson	Carole Dortch Patricia Ford- Roegner Davey Gibson John Hankinson Judith Harwood Ken Hutchinson Barbara kelly Paulette Noveille- Lewis Billy Paul Stanley Williams	
Hawaii		John Emerson	Joan Yim	Loni Hancock Felecia Marcus Kenn Kojima Grantland Johnson Art Agnos Richard Sawyer Jadine Nielson Viloa Canales	
Illinois		Kevin O'Keefe	John Schmidt Frank Kruesi Rahm Emanuel Earthrin Cousin Pete Halpin	Stephania Jones Michelle Jordan Bill Burke Elaine Weiss Edwin Eisendrath Lois O'Keefe Ines M. Brown Helen Dixon	David Axelrod
Iowa		Kevin O'Keefe	David O'Brien Joe O'Hern Ellen Huntoon Bonnie Campbell Loraine Voles	Donald Colcun Dennis Grams Kathleen Steele Bruce Kent John Miller Joe O'Hern Woody Overton Sandra Walker	
Kentucky		John Emerson		Carole Dortch Patricia Ford- Roegner Davey Gibson John Hankinson Judith Harwood Ken Hutchinson Barbara kelly Paulette Noveille- Lewis Billy Paul Stanley Williams	Steve Miller

Louisiana		John Emerson	George Haddow Earl Taylor	Sally Cain Jane Saginaw Buddy Young John Pouland Pat Montoya Stephen Weatherford Jim Johnson James Breedlove	
Maine		Kevin O'Keefe	Chris Lehane	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann- Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	
Maryland		John Emerson	Jay Rouse Emily Smith	Jayne Armstrong Rita Calvan W. Wilson Goode Susan McCann Karen Miller Pat Halpin-Murphy Lynn Yaekel	
Massachusetts		Kevin O'Keefe	Mark Gearen Susan Brophy Eli Segal Jonathon Kaplan Jim King	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann- Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	Bob Schrum

Michigan		Kevin O'Keefe	Kate Carr Gary Bachula Barbara Maddox	Stephania Jones Michelle Jordan Bill Burke Elaine Weiss Edwin Eisendrath Lois O'Keefe Ines M. Brown Helen Dixon	Marla Romasch Jim Margolis
Minnesota		Kevin O'Keefe	Ada Posey Mitchell Schwartz Tom Foley	Stephania Jones Michelle Jordan Bill Burke Elaine Weiss Edwin Eisendrath Lois O'Keefe Ines M. Brown Helen Dixon	
Missouri	Craig Smith	John Emerson Craig Smith	Julie Gibson Peter Goelz	Donald Colcun Dennis Grams Kathleen Steele Bruce Kent John Miller Joe O'Hern Woody Overton Sandra Walker	Steve Murphy
Montana		Kevin O'Keefe	Harold Monteau	Michael Armstrong Polly Baca Kathryn Boeren Margaret Cary Tony Hernandez Tom Redder Lynn Simmons William Yellowtail	
Nevada		John Emerson		Loni Hancock Felecia Marcus Kenn Kojima Grantland Johnson Art Agnos Richard Sawyer Jadine Nielson Viloa Canales	

New Mexico	Ray Martinuez	Kevin O'Keefe	Marci Sandoval Liz Montoya	Sally Cain Jane Saginaw Buddy Young John Poulard Pat Montoya Stephen Weatherford Jim Johnson James Breedlove	Contarino
New Hampshire		Kevin O'Keefe	Joe Grandmaison Ricia McMahon Stephanie Power Steve Meuigilo	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann- Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	Charlie Baker
New York	Kevin Thurm	Marcia Hale	Harold Ickes Kevin Thurm Jennifer O'Conner	Karen Adler Tom Bettridge Jose Cintron Lydia Colon Jeanne Fox Andrew frank Allison Greene Hulbert James Maria Mercardo Rita Meyninger Thomas Ryan Lisa Wager	
New Jersey	Rich Gannon	Kevin O'Keefe	Jennifer O'Conner Kevin Thurm Rich Gannon	Karen Adler Tom Bettridge Jose Cintron Lydia Colon Jeanne Fox Andrew frank Allison Greene Hulbert James Maria Mercardo Rita Meyninger Thomas Ryan Lisa Wager	Anita Dunn

Ohio		Kevin O'Keefe	Steve Richetti Mary Ellen Withrow	Stephania Jones Michelle Jordan Bill Burke Elaine Weiss Edwin Eisendrath Lois O'Keefe Ines M. Brown Helen Dixon	Don Schweitzer
Oregon	Paddy McGuire	Kevin O'Keefe	Chris Dorval Paddy McGuire	Chuck Clarke Bernard Kelly Clover Lockhard Carla Nuxholl Jay Peirson Bob Santos Gretchen Sorenson Patricia Stell	Mary Beth Cahill
Pennsylvania		Kevin O'Keefe	Celie Fisher David Wofford Caren Wilcox	Jayne Armstrong Rita Calvan W. Wilson Goode Susan McCann Karen Miller Pat Halpin- Murphy Lynn Yaekel	Paul Begala Mike Donilon
Rhode Island		Kevin O'Keefe Craig Smith	David Cruise Brian Coyne Nick Retsinas	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann- Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	
South Dakota		Kevin O'Keefe	Kris Swedin Linda Daschle	Michael Armstrong Polly Baca Kathryn Boeren Margaret Cary Tony Hernandez Tom Redder Lynn Simmons William Yellowtail	

Tennessee		Kevin O'Keefe	Jim Hall Larry Harrington Ned McWherter	Carole Dortch Patricia Ford-Roegner Davey Gibson John Hankinson Judith Harwood Ken Hutchinson Barbara Kelly Paulette Noveille-Lewis Billy Paul Stanley Williams	Marla Romasch
Texas	Bill White	Kevin O'Keefe	Bill White Bob Armstrong John Dalton	Sally Cain Jane Saginaw Buddy Young John Poulard Pat Montoya Stephen Weatherford Jim Johnson James Breedlove	
Vermont		Kevin O'Keefe	Madeline Kunin Dana Singhiser	Mary Lou Crane Brenda Dann-Messier Thomas Davis John DeVillars Bob Dunphey Luis Elisa Elaine Guiney Phil Johnson Raymond Jordan Sean King Pat McGowan Jane Pascal	
Washington	Jay Pierson	Kevin O'Keefe Craig Smith	John Horsley	Chuck Clarke Bernard Kelly Clover Lockhard Carla Nuxholl Jay Peirson Bob Santos Gretchen Sorenson Patricia Stell	Frank Greer

West Virginia		John Emerson		Jayne Armstrong Rita Calvan W. Wilson Goode Susan McCann Karen Miller Pat Halpin-Murphy Lynn Yaekel	
Wisconsin		Kevin O'Keefe	Ada Deer	Stephania Jones Michelle Jordan Bill Burke Elaine Weiss Edwin Eisendrath Lois O'Keefe Ines M. Brown Helen Dixon	

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 12, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR ALEXIS HERMAN ✓
GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
MELANNE VERVEER
FRANK HOLLEMAN
SKILA HARRIS
STEVE SILVERMAN
LINDA LADER

FROM: STEVE NEUWIRTH
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JEREMY BEN-AMI

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JUN 12 201

REVISED DRAFT -- CONFIDENTIAL

June __, 1995

DETERMINED TO BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE

MARKING INITIALS: N' **DATE:** 7/12/11

2.12- 8741-f

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Perhaps the defining characteristic of our nation has been the unique ability of Americans from diverse backgrounds and with diverse views to work together for the common good of our communities, our country and our future. In recent years, however, our spirit of community and shared enterprise has often deteriorated in the face of difficult challenges that confront us. Too often, political and social discourse -- even conversations among neighbors -- have been infected by misunderstanding, intolerance or rancor. Our communities have at times been torn apart by the very issues that should draw us together.

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President William Jefferson Clinton

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Alexis M. Herman

Assistant to the President and Director of Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

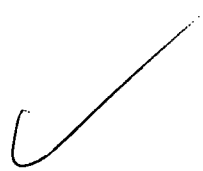
WASHINGTON

June 21, 1995

JUN 21 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bill Galston
Frank Greer
Alexis Herman
George Stephanopoulos
Melanne Verveer
Linda Lader
Steve Silverman
Jeremy Ben-Ami
Steve Neuwirth



SUBJECT: Campaign to Rebuild the American Community

Based on the meeting with you June 19 and with extensive input from others in the White House working group, we are setting forth our understanding of your objectives, together with recommendations for accomplishing those goals. One of the key conclusions from the meeting was that this should be more than a one-day event and would represent a sustained campaign that will continue through the remainder of your Presidency.

- I. **Purpose:** For you to spearhead the rebuilding of the American community by challenging, leading and encouraging Americans in all sectors of society to exercise responsibility and to work together for the common good.

This campaign will allow you to articulate your vision for the nation and exercise moral leadership in mobilizing responsible people to work together to solve our country's problems.

- II. **The Message:** "The tragedy of Oklahoma City united this nation against the forces of hatred, violence and division. And it reminded us again of what is best about the American community--caring and compassion ... concern for one another ... neighbor helping neighbor ... understanding and tolerance and love--A true resurgence of community. That's the American Spirit. That's what keeps the American dream alive for our children.

"Now is the time to put aside partisan politics and unite this country in a campaign to rebuild the American Community and restore the American Dream. The message is clear--Let us unite to condemn hatred, intolerance and violence. Let us rebuild a sense of community with understanding, tolerance and respect, caring and compassion and love for one another, neighbor helping neighbor. We can restore a sense of civility and civil order. We can become a national family again."

This does not require legislation. It requires a volunteer mobilization on a massive scale. That is the challenge and that is the campaign.

As you expressed it June 19, there are three key components of this rebuilding:

- A. **Citizens will be challenged to assume greater responsibility for themselves, their neighbors and their communities.** Success stories will be brought to the attention of the public so that their efforts might be amplified, multiplied, and replicated across the land.
- B. **Major sectors of influence in America will be challenged to exercise responsible citizenship in their respective fields.** Subsequent events will focus on specific sectors.
- C. **All Americans will be challenged to engage in more civil discourse,** where we can discuss our differences with mutual respect and understanding, without demonizing one another.

III. **Outline of the Campaign:**

- A. **On July 6 you and the Vice President will host a White House Conference to kick off a major campaign to rebuild the sense of community, civic responsibility and civil discourse across America.**
 - 1. **During this conference, you will be issuing the challenge, demonstrating leadership, and mobilizing citizens to join with you.** (Since you already know what you think and where you believe the nation needs to go, it is essential that the format not cast you in a pondering, learning mode.)
 - 2. **You begin the Conference with a major address at the White House or an off-campus site highlighting a community success story. Your remarks will:**
 - a. **Outline your vision as to the key American values that bind us together as a nation, on which common ground can be found.**
 - b. **Call individuals and influential sectors of society to responsible action (neighbors helping neighbors, solving problems, lending a hand).**
 - c. **Continue your effort to encourage a more civil civic discourse.**
 - d. **Emphasize that this is a continuation of your leadership (State of the Union, Memphis, Character Conference) and that of your Administration (Hackney, Riley, Duffey, National Service, Public Liaison) on the issue.**
 - e. **Uplift and inspire. ("There's nothing wrong with America that can't be cured by what's right with America.")**
 - f. **Give the Press and the public a road map to the sustained effort that is to come.**

3. **Responsible community activists, who already are doing the kinds of things you are advocating, will attend at your invitation so that you can call upon them to tell their compelling stories to the country and thus inspire others to get involved in similar productive efforts.** Particular emphasis will be on those who have reconciled—or at least set aside—their differences to work together for common goals.

(For example, individuals who have addressed problems of gang violence in L.A. could share their successes; case studies of schools which have successfully resolved religion-based conflicts could be featured; it would be important to include accounts of what happened in Oklahoma after the bombing. Clearly Americorps, which provides a large pool of committed citizens working together in their communities to make a difference, should be featured prominently. Community-based initiatives illustrating your call for a national campaign against teen pregnancy could be singled out.)

4. You would issue a general ongoing invitation for citizens across the nation to share with you their local success stories—and their advice. Feedback would be sought for ways to lower barriers to replication and effect systemic change. Efforts would be made to *spread the word on what is working* across the country, to overcome the problem of local successes remaining all too local and unknown.
5. Your concluding remarks would call citizens across political, professional, economic and other dividing lines to **work together—with each other and with you—for the good of the nation.**
6. A video of the conference will be produced and sent across the country with your remarks to leaders in all sectors of influence.

B. Subsequent Events will focus on responsibilities of various sectors of society. Invitation lists will be compiled carefully to ensure that each sector is properly represented and that appropriate balance is achieved.

1. The Conference on "Family and the Media" which has been called by the Vice President for July 9-10 is a natural and immediate follow-up.
2. An event focusing on Entertainment could be scheduled in August; an event in the Business sector could be held in October. (For all sectors, it may be important to include not only CEOs and known leaders, but workers and activists at all levels.)
3. The annual Religious Leaders Breakfast (September 6) would be lengthened to provide opportunities to hear from those who are exercising civic responsibility and putting their faith into action.

4. The Council of Foundations will meet in Washington September 27-29. This will be an opportunity to follow up with the community foundations sector (September 28).
5. Additional meetings would be scheduled at the White House or elsewhere to focus on other key sectors of society.
6. A later event would focus on the theme of restoring civility in our public and community life. At this point, with the predicate of Presidential leadership having been laid, it would be appropriate to discuss in greater depth how we live with our differences without demonizing our opponents, and invitations would be extended to reasonable individuals who represent more widely divergent points of view.

C. Results:

The most critical phase of the campaign will begin in six to nine months, when you need to demonstrate that the campaign has achieved results. It will be important to show specific ways people will have acted in response to your challenge.

1. Presidential visits to the various sectors will demonstrate that you are holding them accountable. Visits to community projects begun after your challenge is issued will allow you to draw attention to measurable results.
2. A clearinghouse of information on community efforts could be created, with on-line access for people around the country to share such information.
3. Written Reports from these events, together with relevant Presidential speeches and Proclamations, need to be widely disseminated. An extensive, innovative media plan is being developed.
4. Beginning on July 4, 1996, you could make an annual report to the American people on the progress being made in "Rebuilding the American Community."

IV. Immediate next steps:

If you agree with the concept and strategy laid out in this memorandum, it is essential that we proceed without delay to invite to the July 6 meeting participants representing local success stories. We are requesting your approval to take that step immediately. (The current invitation list focuses on community activists and will be provided to you shortly.)

_____yes

_____no

A decision is needed on the name of the Conference. Please check your preference below:

__ Rebuilding the American Community: The Challenge of Responsible Citizenship

__ Renewing Community in America: The Challenge of Responsible Citizenship

__ Building the American Community: The Challenge of Responsible Citizenship