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President's List

ADOPTION BILL SIGNING EVENT - Tuesday NOV 18 1997 - 12:00 PM White House - Business - East
Visitors Entrance For Official Government Use Only

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THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND FIRST LADY

REPORT DATE: November 18, 1997
REPORT TIME: 6:52 PM

Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Pauline Abernathy
Department of Education

Hon. Eleanor Dean Acheson
Assistant Attorney General for Policy, Department of Justice
Washington, DC

Ms. Marylee C. Allen
Children's Defense Fund
Washington, DC

Mr. Kenneth S. Apfel

Mr. and Mrs. Hector Badeau
Guests: Mr. Aaron Badeau, Miss. Alysia Badeau, Mr. Wayne Badeau, Mr. Adam Badeau,
Mr. Dylan Badeau, Mr. Todd Badeau, Miss. Joelle Badeau, Mr. Raj Badeau, Mr. Issac
Badeau, Miss. Florinda Badeau, Miss. Chelsea Badeau, Mr. George Badeau, Mr. Jose
Badeau, Miss. Sue Ann Badeau, Mr. Abel Badeau, Mr. David Badeau, Ms. Renee Badeau,
Mr. Daniel Badeau, Mr. David James Hoag, Mr. James David Jones
Ms. Melissa B. Baker
Policy Associate, American Public Welfare Association
Washington, DC

Ms. Betty Bobbie Bass

Ms. Sandra L. Bell
Social Worker

Ms. Mary M. Bellor
Philip L. Graham Fund C/O The Operation Post Company
Washington, DC

Ms. Christine Benero
Director, Washington Office, Association of Junior Leagues International
Washington, DC

Ms. Sharon Knight (Substitute for: Mae Best)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Phillip Bevan

Mr. Thomas L. Birch
National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
Washington, DC

Ms. Mary Bissell

Ms. Ellen Block
Hasbro Children's Foundation
New York, NY

Mr. Joseph Bock
Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Ms. Nora Kathleen O'Connell (Substitute for: Kathy Bonk)
junior Project Associate, CCMC
Washington, DC

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Mary Bourdette

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation, US Department of Health & Human Services
Washington, DC

Ms. Ann Burds

Judge William R. Byars

Camden, SC

Mrs. Brooke A. Byers-Goldman

Alexandria, VA

Mr. Calvin Cafritz

President & Chairman of the Board, Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
Washington, DC

Hon. (Rep.) David Camp

R/Michigan, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Ms. Ellen Wiggins Carey

Adoption Specialist, Children's Bureau
Washington, DC

Ms. Karla Carpenter

Ms. Caroline Cephus

Hon. (Sen.) John H. Chafee

R/Rhode Island, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Mr. Ernest Chambers

Mr. John Edward Christian

Ms. Barbara Clark

Washington, DC

Mr. James T. Clark

Ms. Cherese Coates

Ms. Sheila Coates

President, Black Women United For Action
Springfield, VA

Ms. Gail Collins

Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Mr. Hugh Collins

Conference of State Court Administrators

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Deborah Colton

Professional Assistant, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Ms. Linda Susan Cox

Holt International Children's Services
Eugene, OR

Hon. (Sen.) Larry E. Craig

R/Idaho, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Ms. Sharon Daly

Ms. Karen Davenport

Ms. Ronessa Day

Ms. Ann Delorey

Hon. (Sen.) and Mrs. Mike DeWine

R/Ohio, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Guest: Ms. Anna DeWine

Ms. Sheryl Dicker

Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children
White Plains, NY

Mr. Peter Digre

Director, Los Angeles County Department of Children's Services
Los Angeles, CA

Ms. Karen Dorsey

Ms. Barbara Driggins

Mr. Leonard Dunston

National Association of Black Social Workers

Ms. Connie Fails

Proprietress, Connie Fails, Inc.
Little Rock, AR

Ms. Laura Feig

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Ms. Shardy Fields

Ms. Eleanore Fletcher

Mr. George Fletcher

Mr. Behrends Foster

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Accepts and No Responses

Honorable James A. Garner
Office of Mayor James A. Garner
Hempstead, NY

Mr. John Gaudiosi
Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Mr. Richard Gelles
Professor, University of Rhode Island, Department of Sociology
Kingston, RI

Mr. Sean Gilleylen

Ms. Olivia Golden

Ms. Shirley Gorka

Mr. Joshua Gotbaum
Executive Associate Director, Office of Management & Budget

Mr. Eric Gould

Mr. Nicholas Graham

Mr. John Guzik
Administrative Assistant, Congressman Dave Camp's Office
Washington, DC

The Honorable Eugene Hamilton
Superior Court of DC
Washington, DC

Hon. Katherine Hanley
Fairfax County Chair
Fairfax, VA

Mr. James A. Harrell
Administration on Children, Youth and Family
Washington, DC

Ms. Kathleen M. Hayes
South Carolina Families for Kids
Columbia, SC

Mr. Thomas Henderson
National Center for State Courts
Arlington, VA

Ms. Lyndell Hogan

Hon. Edward Houck

Mr. Steven Humerickhouse
Adoption Advocate
Minneapolis, MN

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Accepts and No Responses

Hon. Christopher Jennings

Deputy Assistant to the President for Health Policy, The White House
Washington, DC

Ms. Carolyn Johnson

National Adoption Center
Philadelphia, PA

Mr. Jeffery Paul Katz

Rhode Island Adoption Group

Ms. Christine Kaucher

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Washington, DC

Ms. Jurate Kazickas

New York, NY

Mr. Robert Keith

Hon. (Rep.) Barbara B. Kennelly

D/Connecticut, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Ms. Katherine Kim

Honorable Nancy K. Kopp

Bethesda, MD

Mr. Joseph Kroll

Executive Director, North American Council on Adoptable Children
St. Paul, MN

Ms. Christal Anne Lamar

Ms. Jeanne Lambrew

Associate Director, National Economic Council

Hon. (Sen.) Mary L. Landrieu

D/Louisiana, United States Senate
Washington, DC

Rep. Sandy Levin

Mr. Daniel Lewis

Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Mr. John Longbrake

Presidential Advisory Committee
Washington, DC

Mr. Ernesto Loperena

NY Council on Adoptable Children
New York, NY

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Rita Lowry

Ms. Miranda Lynch

Presidential Management Intern, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Washington, DC

Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney

D/New York, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Mr. John Marks

Common Ground Network for Life and Choice
Washington, DC

Mr. James Martin

Ms. Kathleen McHugh

Mr. Matthew McKearn

Ms. Cheryl McMillen

Mr. Ulysses Medley

Ms. Elizabeth Meitner

Child Welfare League

Mr. Theodore Reynolds (Substitute for: Gwendolyn Menefee)

Ms. Margaret Meyer

Executive Director, Resources for Adoptive Parents
Minneapolis, MN

Mr. John Monahan

Administration for Children and Families
Washington, DC

Hon. Connie Morella

Ms. Jane Morgan

Oklahoma Department of Human Services
Oklahoma City, OK

Mrs. Anna Murdoch

President, Children's Institute International
Los Angeles, CA

Ms. Jane Nast

Mr. Bernell Neal and Ms. Della Neal

Adoptive Family
Greensboro, NC

Guests: Miss. Jamie Nicole Neal, Miss. Jessica Shauntay Neal, Miss. Sharlette Neal, Mr. Christopher Neal, Miss. Christa Neal, Miss. Kimberly Neal, Miss. Talyah Neal, Mr. Rodrigues Neal, Mr. Clinton Neal, Mr. Bernell Eric Neal, Miss. Shantel Austin (Neal), Mr. Anthony Austin (Neal)

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Ashley Neyer-Gardiner

Ms. Cynthia Woodside (Substitute for: Josephine Nieves)

Hon. (Rep.) James L. Oberstar
D/Minnesota, House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Ms. Sophia Pao
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget

Ms. Jackie Parker
Office of Senator Pryor
Washington, DC

Sister Mary Paul
Center for Family Life in Sunset Park
Brooklyn, NY

The Honorable Thomas Royal Phillips

Mr. William Pierce
President, National Council for Adoption

Ms. Karabelle Pizzigati
Director of Public Policy, Child Welfare League of America
Washington, DC

Ms. Diane Powell
Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Ms. Margaret Pratt

Ms. Barbara Pryor

Ms. Linda F. Radigan
Children & Families Program Office
Tallahassee, FL

Ms. Linda Reese-Smith
Children's Bureau Staff
Washington, DC

Ms. Brook Roberts

Sen. Jay Rockefeller

Ms. Julie L. Rogers
President, Meyer Foundation
Washington, DC

Hon. (Gov.) Roy R. Romer
Governor of Colorado (D), State of Colorado
Denver, CO

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Elizabeth Oppenheim (Substitute for: Betsey Rosenbaum)

Ms. Laurie Rubiner

Ms. Daishana Salman

Ms. Marilina Sanz

City of New York
Washington, DC

Ms. Torin Scott

Adoptive Family
Scottsdale, AZ

Guests: Ms. Maria Scott, Mr. Cody Scott, Ms. Stephanie Scott, Ms. Carolyn Scott, Mr. Justin Scott

Honorable Donna E. Shalala

Secretary of Health & Human Services, Department of Health & Human Services
Washington, DC

Rep. Clay Shaw

Mr. Jron Sheldon

Ms. Marjorie Sims

Women's Policy, Inc.
Washington, DC

Mr. Dennis Smith

MS. Karen Spar

CRS

Mr. Douglas Steiger

OMB

Ms. Sheri Elissa Steisel

Senior Committee Director, Human Services Committee
Washington, DC

Rev. Imagee Stewart

African American Women's Clergy

Ms. Beverly Stripling

Office Director, YWCA of the USA
Washington, DC

Ms. Stephanie Swirsky

Office of Policy, US Department of Labor
Washington, DC

Ms. Shirley Linda Tabb

Rev. Wilbert Talley

Board President, North American Council on Adoptable Children
St. Paul, MN

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Accepts and No Responses

Ms. Carla Taylor

Ms. Joan Taylor

Ms. Claudia Thomas

Mr. R. David Thomas

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
Dublin, OH

Guest: Ms. Jann Heffner

Mr. Gordon Walker

Ms. Sandra L. Wallace

Pasadena, CA

Mr. Jason Michael Ward

Ms. Taryn Allison Marie Ward

Dr. Valora Washington

Program Officer, W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Battle Creek, MI

Mr. Matthew Weidinger

Ms. Katrina Weinig

Department of Justice

Ms. Lori Jill Weinstein

Ms. Linda Well

Resource Unit Specialist, Post Adoption Resources of Athens County Children's Services
Athens, OH

Mr. Reginald Wells

Administration for Developmental Disabilities
Washington, DC

Ms. Maxine B. Stokes (Substitute for: Kathy Whelpley)

Vice President, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.

Mr. Robert Wilkins

Ms. Carol Williams

Associate Commissioner, Children's Bureau
Washington, DC

Mr. Jack Williams

Senior News Anchor, WBZ-TV4
Boston, MA

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BACKGROUND

On December 14, 1996 the President issued a directive to the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Labor, and Commerce and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to double, over the next five years, the number of children from the foster care system who are adopted or placed in other permanent placements. In response to the directive the Department of Human Services prepared a report, "Adoption 2002," with several proposed action steps would be implemented to achieve the goal. One of these proposed action steps was to collaborate with foundations and intergovernmental organizations to establish annual awards to recognize States, local agencies, courts, private organizations, employers and others who are making key contributions to this national effort to support adoption and to promote permanency for children in foster care. The first awards are to be announced this month to celebrate National Adoption Month.

DEVELOPING THE NOMINATIONS PROCESS/SELECTING THE NOMINEES

A planning group was established to develop recommendations for the award structure and process. The group included representatives from State and private non-profit agency adoption managers, adoption advocates, national child welfare advocate groups, adoptive parents, the foundation and business community, other governmental departments, and Children's Bureau/NCCAN staff. This group developed a nomination and selection plan/process, which included eligibility criteria for the awards. These materials were presented to the Associate Commissioner of the Children's Bureau for approval and then disseminated to more than 2300 adoption/child welfare advocates and organizations.

Over 130 nominations, in nine categories, were received by the deadline, October 13, 1997. Nominations were received from State agencies, city and county agencies, private non-profit adoption agencies, adoptive parents, adoption organizations, adoption staff, adoption advocates, adoption experts, foundations and media outlets.

Consistent with the plan, Children's Bureau staff, assisted by the staff from the Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget (ASMB) developed a review and scoring process, very similar to the one used to review and score discretionary grants. On October 23, 1997, the nominations were reviewed by panels, using the criteria contained in the guidelines, and recommendations were made for award winners.

A total of 13 recommendations, in six award categories, were forwarded to the Secretary Shalala for review and approval.

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1997 ADOPTION 2002 EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

There are a total of 13 recommended awards, in six award categories. No awardees were selected in the "Increased Adoptions," "Increased Permanency for Children with Special Needs," and "Applied Scholarship and/or Research" categories.

INCREASED ADOPTIONS

There were twelve nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

INCREASED PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There were 17 nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

SUPPORT FOR ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

There were 19 nominations reviewed. Three awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: North American Council on Adoptable
Children (NACAC)

ADDRESS: 970 Raymond Avenue, Suite 106
St. Paul, MN 55114-1149
PH: (612) 644-3036
FAX: (612) 644-9848

CONTACT: Joe Kroll, Executive Director
Reverend Wilbert Talley, Board President

NOMINATOR: Torin Scott, President, Adoption Advocacy
Foundation, Inc., (602) 542-9410

Since it's inception twenty-three years ago, NACAC has provided direct support to over 200 adoptive parent support groups. It is responsible for hosting the largest adoption training conference in North America that brings together over 1,200 parents, children and professionals. They also distribute over 20,000 adoption fact sheets per month. Possibly their greatest contribution has been their involvement in providing information to the adoption community concerning subsidies. They have provided subsidy profiles for all 50 states on the world wide web and prepared a user's guide that explains all the federal rulings related to Title IV-E Adoption Assistance and Permanency programs.

AWARDEE: Resources for Adoptive Parents (RAP)

ADDRESS: 3381 Gorham Avenue #212
Minneapolis, MN 55426-4240
PH: (612) 926-6959
FAX: (612) 926-0519*2

CONTACT: Peggy Myer, Executive Director

NOMINATOR: Self-nomination

RAP is a non-profit organization that provides post-adoptive services to help families understand and deal with the complexity of adoption. They have become a national leader in the development and provision of responsive services for special needs adoptions. Their most significant program is their respite care camp and since it's inception in 1994 they have been able to provide 27,000 respite hours for families struggling with emotional and behavioral issues.

AWARDEE: Post Adoption Resources of
Athens County Children's Services

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1046
Athens, OH 45701
PH: (614) 592-3061
FAX: (614) 593-3880

CONTACT: Linda Well, Resource Unit Supervisor

NOMINATOR: Self nomination, Cheryl Proctor, Post Adoption
Caseworker, (614) 592-3061

The Post Adoption Resources program, formalized in 1990, has one goal: zero post legal adoption disruptions in Athens County. They have served over 1500 families with comprehensive supportive services and training and have met their goal to date. One of their unique programs is an annual adoptive family retreat weekend that now provides support and education to 80 families.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

There were sixteen nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: National Adoption Center

ADDRESS: 1500 Walnut Street, Suite 701
Philadelphia, PA 19102
PH: (215) 735-9988
FAX: (215) 735-9410

CONTACT: Carolyn Johnson, Executive Director

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NOMINATOR: Alfred A. Outlaw, Board President, (215) 580-7164

"There are no unwanted children, just unfound parents." Since 1972, the National Adoption Center has been turning that conviction into reality. The Center has been able to find families for more than 7000 children...children with special needs and those who come from minority cultures. The Center has developed a strong liaison with the Maury Povich Show which now produces an hour-long special each year in November that features 20-25 waiting children and which usually results in 10,000 to 13,000 inquiries from interested families. Essence magazine has donated it's unsold advertising space to NAC to feature children who need families. They have produced public service announcements which feature President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton. Their website FACES of Adoption: America's Waiting Children now shows pictures and descriptions of over 300 children who wait for families - they now have over a million-and-a-half pages read each month.

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

There were twenty-one nominations reviewed. Two awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: Jack Williams, Senior News Anchor
WBZ-TV 4

ADDRESS: 1170 Soldiers Field Road
Boston, MA 02134
PH: (617) 787-7049

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Carolyn E. Smith, Executive Director, MA Adoption
Resource Exchange, (617) 542-3678

Jack Williams is a news anchor for WBZ-TV 4 in Boston and has just begun his sixteenth year as host of "Wednesday's Child" - a weekly news segment promoting the adoption of children in the foster care system. To demonstrate the fact that "Wednesday's Child" procures placements, Mr. Williams also airs success stories that feature children after they've been adopted. In 1985, he and the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange began the Jack Williams' Ski Race for "Wednesday's Child" that has to date generated over one-and-a-half million dollars.

AWARDEE: Sherrie Coy, Adoptive Mother

ADDRESS: 4125 Wendy Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89115
PH: (702) 643-7574
FAX: (702) 244-8392

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CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Jeanette Wiedemeier Bower, NACAC, (612) 644-3036

Ms. Sherrie Coy is an adoptive mother who has worked persistently to affect legislative changes on behalf of other adoptive parents in Nevada. Her efforts resulted in the passage of a State Bill which allows parents to receive financial assistance if they adopt and later discover the child has special needs. The bill sets aside over \$100,000 in assistance for post-adoption services for eligible families.

FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS

There were eight nominations reviewed. Three awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: Hector and Sue Badeau, Adoptive Family (of 19)

ADDRESS: 30 Pelham Road
Philadelphia, PA 19119
PH: (215) 844-6641

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Sue Ann Badeau, Adoptee, (215) 844-3553

Hector and Sue Badeau have 21 children - 19 are adopted. Sue works at the National Adoption Center and Hector stays at home and takes care of the children and the home. Several of the children have special needs. The whole family is involved in adoption - speaking at conferences, writing letters to political leaders, and volunteering at events to make people aware of waiting children.

AWARDEE: Torin Scott, Adoptive Family (of 5)

ADDRESS: 8702 E. Malcomb Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85250
PH: (602) 951-8310

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Same as above

Torin Scott is a single parent of a grown foster daughter and five adopted children with special needs. The family has been featured in newspapers and magazines promoting the needs of special children and other adoption issues. Torin is the co-founder of the Adoption Advocacy Foundation which subsidizes costs of special needs adoptions and the co-founder of Advocates

for Single Adoptive Parents, a monthly support group.

AWARDEE: Bernell and Della Neal, Adoptive Family (of 11)

ADDRESS: 1300 Willard Street
Greensboro, NC 27405
PH: (910) 272-0082

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Ruth Amerson, Program Administrator, Another
Choice for Black Children, Inc., (919) 774-3534

Bernell and Della Neal have adopted eleven children, many with severe physical, emotional, and behavioral needs. They have met with adversity and many difficult situations but have demonstrated over and over again that nothing is impossible. Their family motto is "There's always room for one more".

APPLIED SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR RESEARCH

There were two nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

PHILANTHROPY

There were five nominations reviewed. Two awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: W. K. Kellogg Foundation

ADDRESS: #1 Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
PH: (616) 966-3470

CONTACT: Valora Washington, Program Director

NOMINATOR: MaryLou Bax, President, MI Foster and Adoptive
Parents Association, (517) 321-7554

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation is a national leader in challenging reform in the child welfare system, to assure that every child has a permanent family in a timely manner. In 1990 they began an initiative known as Families For Kids and have committed 42 million dollars toward helping communities define solutions to the tragic problem of waiting children. They have awarded special grants that are dedicated to the creation of a legal system that is more responsive to the needs of children and birth families, as well as foster and adoptive families.

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AWARDEE: Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas
Foundation for Adoption

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 7164
Dublin, OH 43017
PH: (614) 764-3319
FAX: (614) 764-6707

CONTACT: Jan Heffner, Executive Director
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

NOMINATOR: Carolyn L. Johnson, Executive Director, National
Adoption Center, (215) 875-0323

Dave Thomas has become a vociferous spokesman for the adoption of children with special needs. The Foundation has two major focus areas: working with its corporate colleagues to establish adoption benefits in the workplace for those building their families through adoption and raising public awareness about the children in foster care who wait for permanent homes. At more than 5,000 Wendy's restaurants during the month of November posters and trayliners feature photos and descriptions of waiting children. Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption have pledged to continue to create families for children and to commit their resources to seeing that every child has a loving home.

JUDICIAL OR CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

There were eight nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: South Carolina Families for Kids

ADDRESS: 2711 Middleburg Drive, Suite 307
Columbia, SC 29204
PH: (803) 929-1006
FAX: (803) 256-8347

CONTACT: Kathleen M. Hayes, Program Director

NOMINATOR: Jan Heffner, Executive Director, Dave Thomas
Foundation, (614) 764-3319

South Carolina Families for Kids, which has been funded for more than 30 months by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, is a partnership between South Carolina's Department of Social Services and the United Way of South Carolina. Their goal is to reform foster care and adoption systems in South Carolina. Their central initiative, the Backlog Blitz is an effort to double the number of adoptions. As of June 1997, 403 foster children had been placed in adoptive homes compared to 206 in FY 94-95. This number is expected to increase to 500 this year.

DECREASE IN THE TIME CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE WAIT FOR PERMANENCY

There were four nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: Lucas County Children's Services

ADDRESS: 705 Adams Street
Toledo, OH 43624
PH: (419) 327-3255
FAX: (419) 327-3291

CONTACT: Dean Sparks, Executive Director

NOMINATOR: R. F. Bumpers, Board Chairman, (419) 327-3255

The Lucas County Children Services leads the State of Ohio in the successful number of adoptive placements and legalizations of children. Once the parental rights have been terminated, LCCS acts quickly to complete the adoption. Compared to the state of Ohio as a whole, Lucas County children spend an average of 200 days less time between permanent custody and placement into an adoptive home. For the past four years, they have placed and finalized over forty percent of the waiting children within six months from the point of permanent custody disposition.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

fyi re: adoption award
Elena
Jen
Nicole

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

SEP 9 1997

Dear Colleague,

The United States Department of Health and Human Services' (USDHHS) Administration for Children and Families is pleased to announce the First Annual "Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards." In recognition of National Adoption Month and as part of the Adoption 2002 initiative, the Department will honor those States, ~~organizations, businesses, individuals, and others who have demonstrated "excellence" in providing adoption and other permanency outcomes for children in foster care.~~ These awards will be made during National Adoption Month, November 1997. ✓

In December 1996, President Clinton issued an Executive Memorandum to the Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Labor, Commerce and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to increase the number of children who are adopted or permanently placed from the public foster care system. In response to President Clinton's Executive Memorandum, this Department prepared a report, "Adoption 2002*." The report outlines action steps to move children more rapidly from public foster care into adoptive homes and other permanent placements and to double the number of children adopted or permanently placed in legal guardianships by the year 2002.

One of the Department's action steps is to promote public recognition of outstanding, successful, innovative practices by establishing annual awards, to be made each November during National Adoption Month, to recognize individuals and entities who are making significant contributions to support adoption and to promote permanency for children in the child welfare system. It is our hope that the "Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards" will help us achieve this goal.

The Department invites you to nominate candidates for the awards. Self-nominations are encouraged. Nominations will be reviewed and awardees selected by a panel that includes members from Federal agencies involved in Adoption 2002, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Commerce and Labor and the Office of Personnel Management. To assist you in the nomination process, I have enclosed a description of the various awards to be made, selection and eligibility criteria, and a nomination form. All nomination forms must be received by Monday, October 13, 1997, and should be sent to: Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards, Children's Bureau, USDHHS, Room 2319, 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, ATTN: Ellen W. Carey.

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The "Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards" represent one step toward reaching the target goals of Adoption 2002. We look forward to your assistance in identifying those individuals and organizations that have already made tremendous efforts on behalf of our Nation's children in foster care.

For more information about the awards, please contact our Adoption Specialist, Ellen W. Carey, at (202) 205-8652.

Sincerely,



for Carol W. Williams, D.S.W.
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosures: As stated.

*For a copy of "Adoption 2002" visit our website at:
"<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb>"

THE ADOPTION 2002 EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Thank you for your interest in the Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards. To facilitate processing the many nominations we receive, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) requests that you submit a nomination letter and the attached form with supplemental materials about the nominee to the Children's Bureau, United States Department of Health and Human Services, by **Monday, October 13, 1997**. The selection of the 1997 Adoption 2002 Excellence Awarders will be based on the contents of the nomination submission.

Nominees selected for an award in the following categories will be invited to a ceremony in Washington, DC during National Adoption Month, November 1997. The recipients must have demonstrated clear and measurable success in one of the award categories.

AWARD CATEGORIES

1. **Increased Adoptions** - recognition of a State(s) that has significantly increased the number of children adopted from the public foster care system.
2. **Increased Permanency for Children with Special Needs** - recognition of organizations that have contributed to an increase in the numbers of adoptions, guardianship arrangements, kinship care arrangements, and other permanency options for children with special needs in foster care.
3. **Support for Adoptive Families** - recognition of organizations that provide significant support to adoptive families through recruitment, preparation, training, post-placement and post-legal adoption services that help families adopt and support the stability of those adoptions.
4. **Public Awareness** - recognition of organizations that increase the visibility of children in foster care through public awareness activities that encourage and motivate families and individuals to adopt.
5. **Individual and/or Family Contributions** - recognition of the personal contribution of an individual(s), professional(s) or family(ies) that promotes the adoption of children in foster care.

6. **Applied Scholarship and/or Research** - recognition of research or practice findings that have been or can be applied to improve the rate of adoptions of children in foster care.
7. **Philanthropy** - recognition of gifts, support, scholarships, etc., that promote adoption and permanency for children in foster care.
8. **Judicial or Child Welfare System Improvement** - recognition of court or public child welfare agency systems change that resulted in fewer children coming into care or expedited the movement of children from foster care.
9. **Decrease in the Time that Children in Foster Care Wait for Permanency** - recognition of States and local public agencies that have achieved a decrease in the average length of time children stay in foster care.

Please use the following guidelines in completing your nomination form.

WHO CAN NOMINATE?

Anyone may nominate one or more candidates. Self nominations are welcomed.

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES

Unless specifically designated in the award description, nominees may include, but are not limited to, the following: States, local public agencies, private non-profit adoption agencies and organizations, businesses, universities, advocacy organizations, foundations, courts, the media, tribal courts and governments, State legislatures, faith communities and other community organizations.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Excellence of accomplishments which merit this award include, but are not restricted to the following:

- o Measurable impact or outcomes
- o Collaboration/Partnerships
- o Use of Technology
- o Innovation/Uniqueness
- o Leadership
- o Outreach
- o Use of Volunteers
- o Return on Investment
- o Ability to Replicate
- o Community Involvement

SUBMISSION CRITERIA

Attach a nomination letter, not to exceed four double-spaced pages, that reflects the nominee's accomplishments and services in support of adoption and promoting permanency for children in foster care. The nomination must include information about the measurable impact and outcomes, as well as all other selection criteria that apply.

Supporting documentation, such as letters of support or newspaper articles, may be attached. Only letters of support submitted with the nomination form will be accepted. Audio and visual tapes cannot be viewed as part of the selection process.

The entire package, including supplemental information and letters of support, may not exceed 10 pages.

SELECTION PROCESS

Awards will be made from the categories listed above. Nominations will be reviewed and awardees selected by a panel that includes members from Federal agencies involved in Adoption 2002, the Departments of Health and Human Services, Treasury, Commerce and Labor and the Office of Personnel Management.

**ADOPTION 2002 EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Nomination Form**

Information on Nominee:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Agency/Organization : _____
Address: _____

Telephone/Fax
Numbers: _____

Award Title: _____

Information on Nominator:

Name: _____ Title: _____
Agency/Organization: _____
Address: _____

Telephone/Fax
Numbers: _____

Signature of Nominator _____
(Date)

Deadline for Nomination Submission - Monday , October 13, 1997

Mailing Address

Adoption 2002 Excellence Awards
Children Bureau, USDHHS
Room 2319
330 C. Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201
ATTN: Ellen W. Carey.

1997 ADOPTION 2002 EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

There are a total of 13 recommended awards, in six award categories.

INCREASED ADOPTIONS

There were twelve nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

INCREASED PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

There were 17 nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

SUPPORT FOR ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

There were 19 nominations reviewed. Three awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: North American Council on Adoptable
Children (NACAC)

ADDRESS: 970 Raymond Avenue, Suite 106
St. Paul, MN 55114-1149
PH: (612) 644-3036
FAX: (612) 644-9848

CONTACT: Joe Kroll, Executive Director
Reverend Wilbert Talley, Board President

NOMINATOR: Torin Scott, President, Adoption Advocacy
Foundation, Inc., (602) 542-9410

Since it's inception twenty-three years ago, NACAC has provided direct support to over 200 adoptive parent support groups. It is responsible for hosting the largest adoption training conference in North America that brings together over 1,200 parents, children and professionals. They also distribute over 20,000 adoption fact sheets per month. Possibly their greatest contribution has been their involvement in providing information to the adoption community concerning subsidies. They have provided subsidy profiles for all 50 states on the world wide web and prepared a user's guide that explains all the federal rulings related to Title IV-E Adoption Assistance and Permanency programs.

AWARDEE: Resources for Adoptive Parents (RAP)

ADDRESS: 3381 Gorham Avenue #212
Minneapolis, MN 55426-4240
PH: (612) 926-6959
FAX: (612) 926-0519*2

CONTACT: Peggy Myer, Executive Director

NOMINATOR: Self-nomination

RAP is a non-profit organization that provides post-adoptive services to help families understand and deal with the complexity of adoption. They have become a national leader in the development and provision of responsive services for special needs adoptions. Their most significant program is their respite care camp and since it's inception in 1994 they have been able to provide 27,000 respite hours for families struggling with emotional and behavioral issues.

AWARDEE: Post Adoption Resources of
Athens County Children's Services

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1046
Athens, OH 45701
PH: (614) 592-3061
FAX: (614) 593-3880

CONTACT: Linda Well, Resource Unit Supervisor

NOMINATOR: Self nomination, Cheryl Proctor, Post Adoption
Caseworker, (614) 592-3061

The Post Adoption Resources program, formalized in 1990, has one goal: zero post legal adoption disruptions in Athens County. They have served over 1500 families with comprehensive supportive services and training and have met their goal to date. One of their unique programs is an annual adoptive family retreat weekend that now provides support and education to 80 families.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

There were sixteen nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: National Adoption Center

ADDRESS: 1500 Walnut Street, Suite 701
Philadelphia, PA 19102
PH: (215) 735-9988
FAX: (215) 735-9410

CONTACT: Carolyn Johnson, Executive Director

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NOMINATOR: Alfred A. Outlaw, Board President, (215) 580-7164

"There are no unwanted children, just unfound parents." Since 1972, the National Adoption Center has been turning that conviction into reality. The Center has been able to find families for more than 7000 children...children with special needs and those who come from minority cultures. The Center has developed a strong liaison with the Maury Povich Show which now produces an hour-long special each year in November that features 20-25 waiting children and which usually results in 10,000 to 13,000 inquiries from interested families. Essence magazine has donated it's unsold advertising space to NAC to feature children who need families. They have produced public service announcements which feature President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton. Their website FACES of Adoption: America's Waiting Children now shows pictures and descriptions of over 300 children who wait for families - they now have over a million-and-a-half pages read each month.

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

There were twenty-one nominations reviewed. Two awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: Jack Williams, Senior News Anchor
WBZ-TV 4

ADDRESS: 1170 Soldiers Field Road
Boston, MA 02134
PH: (617) 787-7049

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Carolyn E. Smith, Executive Director, MA Adoption
Resource Exchange, (617) 542-3678

Jack Williams is a news anchor for WBZ-TV 4 in Boston and has just begun his sixteenth year as host of "Wednesday's Child" - a weekly news segment promoting the adoption of children in the foster care system. To demonstrate the fact that "Wednesday's Child" procures placements, Mr. Williams also airs success stories that feature children after they've been adopted. In 1985, he and the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange began the Jack Williams' Ski Race for "Wednesday's Child" that has to date generated over one-and-a-half million dollars.

AWARDEE: Sherrie Coy, Adoptive Mother

ADDRESS: 4125 Wendy Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89115
PH: (702) 643-7574
FAX: (702) 244-8392

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CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Jeanette Wiedemeier Bower, NACAC, (612) 644-3036

Ms. Sherrie Coy is an adoptive mother who has worked persistently to affect legislative changes on behalf of other adoptive parents in Nevada. Her efforts resulted in the passage of a State Bill which allows parents to receive financial assistance if they adopt and later discover the child has special needs. The bill sets aside over \$100,000 in assistance for post-adoption services for eligible families.

FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS

There were eight nominations reviewed. Three awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: Hector and Sue Badeau, Adoptive Family

ADDRESS: 30 Pelham Road
Philadelphia, PA 19119
PH: (215) 844-6641

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Sue Ann Badeau, Adoptee, (215) 844-3553

Hector and Sue Badeau have 21 children - 19 are adopted. Sue works at the National Adoption Center and Hector stays at home and takes care of the children and the home. Several of the children have special needs. The whole family is involved in adoption - speaking at conferences, writing letters to political leaders, and volunteering at events to make people aware of waiting children.

AWARDEE: Torin Scott, Adoptive Family

ADDRESS: 8702 E. Malcomb Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85250
PH: (602) 951-8310

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Same as above

Torin Scott is a single parent of a grown foster daughter and five adopted children with special needs. The family has been featured in newspapers and magazines promoting the needs of special children and other adoption issues. Torin is the co-founder of the Adoption Advocacy Foundation which subsidizes costs of special needs adoptions and the co-founder of Advocates

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for Single Adoptive Parents, a monthly support group.

AWARDEE: Bernell and Della Neal, Adoptive Family

ADDRESS: 1300 Willard Street
Greensboro, NC 27405
PH: (910) 272-0082

CONTACT: Same as above

NOMINATOR: Ruth Amerson, Program Administrator, Another
Choice for Black Children, Inc., (919) 774-3534

Bernell and Della Neal have adopted eleven children, many with severe physical, emotional, and behavioral needs. They have met with adversity and many difficult situations but have demonstrated over and over again that nothing is impossible. Their family motto is "There's always room for one more".

APPLIED SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR RESEARCH

There were two nominations reviewed. No awardee was selected.

PHILANTHROPY

There were five nominations reviewed. Two awardees were selected.

AWARDEE: W. K. Kellogg Foundation

ADDRESS: #1 Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
PH: (616) 966-3470

CONTACT: Valora Washington, Program Director

NOMINATOR: MaryLou Bax, President, MI Foster and Adoptive
Parents Association, (517) 321-7554

The W. K. Kellogg Foundation is a national leader in challenging reform in the child welfare system, to assure that every child has a permanent family in a timely manner. In 1990 they began an initiative known as Families For Kids and have committed 42 million dollars toward helping communities define solutions to the tragic problem of waiting children. They have awarded special grants that are dedicated to the creation of a legal system that is more responsive to the needs of children and birth families, as well as foster and adoptive families.

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AWARDEE: Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas
Foundation for Adoption

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 7164
Dublin, OH 43017
PH: (614) 764-3319
FAX: (614) 764-6707

CONTACT: Jan Heffner, Executive Director
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

NOMINATOR: Carolyn L. Johnson, Executive Director, National
Adoption Center, (215) 875-0323

Dave Thomas has become a vociferous spokesman for the adoption of children with special needs. The Foundation has two major focus areas: working with its corporate colleagues to establish adoption benefits in the workplace for those building their families through adoption and raising public awareness about the children in foster care who wait for permanent homes. At more than 5,000 Wendy's restaurants during the month of November posters and trayliners feature photos and descriptions of waiting children. Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption have pledged to continue to create families for children and to commit their resources to seeing that every child has a loving home.

JUDICIAL OR CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

There were eight nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: South Carolina Families for Kids

ADDRESS: 2711 Middleburg Drive, Suite 307
Columbia, SC 29204
PH: (803) 929-1006
FAX: (803) 256-8347

CONTACT: Kathleen M. Hayes, Program Director

NOMINATOR: Jan Heffner, Executive Director, Dave Thomas
Foundation, (614) 764-3319

South Carolina Families for Kids, which has been funded for more than 30 months by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, is a partnership between South Carolina's Department of Social Services and the United Way of South Carolina. Their goal is to reform foster care and adoption systems in South Carolina. Their central initiative, the Backlog Blitz is an effort to double the number of adoptions. As of June 1997, 403 foster children had been placed in adoptive homes compared to 206 in FY 94-95. This number is expected to increase to 500 this year.

DECREASE IN THE TIME CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE WAIT FOR PERMANENCY

There were four nominations reviewed. One awardee was selected.

AWARDEE: Lucas County Children's Services

ADDRESS: 705 Adame Street
Toledo, OH 43624
PH: (419) 327-3255
FAX: (419) 327-3291

CONTACT: Dean Sparks, Executive Director

NOMINATOR: R. F. Bumpers, Board Chairman, (419) 327-3255

The Lucas County Children Services leads the State of Ohio in the successful number of adoptive placements and legalizations of children. Once the parental rights have been terminated, LCCS acts quickly to complete the adoption. Compared to the state of Ohio as a whole, Lucas County children spend an average of 200 days less time between permanent custody and placement into an adoptive home. For the past four years, they have placed and finalized over forty percent of the waiting children within six months from the point of permanent custody disposition.

1997 Adoption 2002 Excellence Award Winners

North American Council on Adoptable Children

Resources for Adoptive Parents

Post Adoption Resources of Athens County Children's Services

National Adoption Center

Jack Williams, Senior News Anchor, WBZ-TV 4

Sherrie Coy

Hector and Sue Badeau (baa-DOE)

Torin Scott

Bernell and Della Neal

Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

South Carolina Families for Kids

Lucas County Children's Services

Richard Gelles
University of RI
Depart of Sociology
Kingtson, RI 02881
(401) 874-4138

Mary M. Bellor
Philip L. Graham Fund
c/o The Washington Post Company
1150 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20017
(202) 334-6640

Ellen Block
Hasbro Children's Foundation
32 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10010
(212) 645-2400

Barbara Blum
Foundation for Child Development
345 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017
(212) 697-3150

Calvin Cafritz
Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
1825 K Street NW, 14th Floor
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 296-0866

Nancy M. Daly
Nancy M. Daly Foundation
256 Copa de Ora Road
Los Angeles, CA 90077
(310) 476-3259

Carol Larson
Director of Foundation Programs
David and Lucile Packard Foundation
300 Second Street, Suite 200
Los Altos, CA 94022
(415) 948-7658

Theodore E. Lobman
Stuart Foundation
177 Steuart Street
Suite 420
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 495-1144

Michael Levine
Carnegie Corporation of New York
437 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022
(212) 207-6314

Ruth Massinga
The Casey Family Program
1300 Dexter Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109-3547
(206) 282-7300

Susan Notkin
Edna McConnell Clark Foundation
250 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10177-9100
(212) 551-9100

Julie L. Rogers
Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation
1400 16th Street, NW, Suite 360
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 483-8294

Robert Rogers
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
4900 Oak Street
Kansas City, MO 64112-2776
(816) 932-1000

Leonard Smith
Skillman Foundation
600 Renaissance Center
Suite 1700
Detroit, MI 48243
(313) 568-6360

Paul Vander Velde
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
One Michigan Avenue East
Battle Creek, MI 49017-4058
(616) 969-2235

Kathy Whelpley
Freddie Mac Foundation
8200 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 903-2214

Thomas Henderson
National Center for State Courts
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1710
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 841-0200
-Conference of State Court Administrators
Hugh M. Collins (504) 568-5747
Nancy M. Sobolevitch (215) 560-6337
-National Association of State Court Administrators
Arthur R. McGivern (515) 682-3635
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(202) 638-2952

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(202) 408-8600

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63 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, CO 80112
(303) 792-9900

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National Association of Homes and Services for Children
1701 K Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 223-3447

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Seattle, WA 98115
(206) 524-6020

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230 N. Washington Square, Suite 300
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(517) 485-8552

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1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 102
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 328-2191

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County of Los Angeles
Department of Children's Services
425 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90020
(213) 351-5602

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MS Department of Human Services
P.O. Box 352
Jackson, MS 39202
(601) 359-4500

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1349 W. Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30309-2956
(515) 242-6392

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Eileen Brooks (202) 401-5369

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Cohen Building, Room 5325
(202) 619-0634

1997 ADOPTION 2002 EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

SUPPORT FOR ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

AWARDEE #1: North American Council on Adoptable
Children (NACAC)
970 Raymond Avenue, Suite 106
St. Paul, MN 55114-1149
PH: (612) 644-3036
FAX: (612) 644-9848
CONTACT: Joe Kroll, Executive Director
Reverend Wilbert Talley, Board President

AWARDEE #2: Resources for Adoptive Parents (RAP)
3381 Gorham Avenue #212
Minneapolis, MN 55426-4240
PH: (612) 926-6959
FAX: (612) 926-0519*2
CONTACT: Peggy Myer, Executive Director

AWARDEE #3: Post Adoption Resources of
Athens County Children's Services
P.O. Box 1046
Athens, OH 45701
PH: (614) 592-3061
FAX: (614) 593-3880
CONTACT: Linda Well, Resource Unit Supervisor

PUBLIC AWARENESS

AWARDEE #4: National Adoption Center
1500 Walnut Street, Suite 701
Philadelphia, PA 19102
PH: (215) 735-9988
FAX: (215) 735-9410
CONTACT: Carolyn Johnson, Executive Director

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

AWARDEE #5: Jack Williams, Senior News Anchor
WBZ-TV 4
1170 Soldiers Field Road
Boston, MA 02134
PH: (617) 787-7049
CONTACT: Same as above

AWARDEE #6: Sherrie Coy, Adoptive Mother (of 1)
4125 Wendy Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89115
PH: (702) 643-7574
FAX: (702) 244-8392
CONTACT: Same as above

FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS

AWARDEE #7: Hector and Sue Badeau, Adoptive Family (of 19)
30 Pelham Road
Philadelphia, PA 19119
PH: (215) 844-6641

CONTACT: Same as above

AWARDEE #8: Torin Scott, Adoptive Family (of 5)
8702 E. Malcomb Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85250
PH: (602) 951-8310

CONTACT: Same as above

AWARDEE #9: Bernell & Della Neal, Adoptive Family (of 11)
1300 Willard Street
Greensboro, NC 27405
PH: (910) 272-0082

CONTACT: Same as above

PHILANTHROPY

AWARDEE #10: W. K. Kellogg Foundation
#1 Michigan Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49017
PH: (616) 966-3470

CONTACT: Valora Washington, Program Director

AWARDEE #11: Wendy's International and the Dave Thomas
Foundation for Adoption
P.O. Box 7164
Dublin, OH 43017
PH: (614) 764-3319
FAX: (614) 764-6707

CONTACT: Jann Heffner, Executive Director
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

JUDICIAL OR CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

AWARDEE #12: South Carolina Families for Kids
2711 Middleburg Drive, Suite 307
Columbia, SC 29204
PH: (803) 929-1006
FAX: (803) 256-8347

CONTACT: Kathleen M. Hayes, Program Director

DECREASE IN THE TIME CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE WAIT FOR PERMANENCY

AWARDEE #13: Lucas County Children's Services
705 Adams Street
Toledo, OH 43624
PH: (419) 327-3255
FAX: (419) 327-3291

CONTACT: Dean Sparks, Executive Director

Invitations - Adoption Bill Signing

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(202) 395-9188

Matthew McKearn, OMB
(202) 395-4686

Jack Lew, OMB
(202) 395-4742

Jeanne Lambrew, DPC
(202) 456-5377

Chris Jennings, DPC
(202) 456-5560

Ken Apfel
Administrator
Social Security Administration
Contact: Bob Knickerson
(202) 358-6016

Carol Rasco
America Reads Challenge
Department of Education
(202) 401-8888

Pauline Abernathy
Department of Education
(202) 401-3007

Lyn Hogan
Welfare to Work Partnership
(202) 955-3005 x312

Karen Spar, CRS
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Kathy Bonk
(202) 326-6767

Anna Murdoch
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Children's Institute
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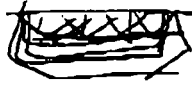
Sheri Dicker
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Justice for Children
(914) 422-4425

Sister Josephine
St. Ann's
(301) 559-5500

Joan Hefner

Dave Thomas

11/14/97



Adoption Bill -- Congressional Invitees

Senators

Daschle*
 Rockefeller*
 Kennedy*
 Dodd
 Landrieu*
 Levin
 Moynihan*
 Kerrey
 Moseley-Braun
 Johnson

Plus staff

Joan Huffer*
 Barbara Pryor, Mary Bissell *
 Stephanie Robinson, Nick Littlefield*
 Brook Byers-Goldman
 Jason Mathews
 Jackie Parker
 Doug Steiger*
 Karen Davenport

Lott*
 Roth*
 Craig*
 Chafee*
 DeWine*
 Coats
 Jeffords
 Bond
 Nickles
 Grassley

Dennis Smith*
 Brook Roberts*
 Laurie Rubiner*
 Karla Carpenter
 Stephanie Monroe
 Kimberley Barnes O'Connor
 Sean Gilleylen
 Stacy Hughes

House

Plus staff

Rangel*
 Levin*
 Kennelly*
 Oberstar
 Maloney
 Jackson-Lee

Deborah Colton* (Committee staff)
 Eric Gould*
 Nick Gwyn*

Archer*
 Shaw*
 Camp*
 Pryce
 Bliley
 Morella
 Molinari

Ron Haskins*
 Cassie Bevan*
 Matt Weidinger*
 Margaret Pratt* (Committee staff)
 Behrends Foster*

(former member, very interested in this)

***Karen Spar from the Congressional Research Service

* - These are the top priority folks

9412

7945 MacArthur Blvd., Suite # 206
Capin John MD 20818
301-229-8300
f301-229-0074

Mae Best, Director, Family and Child Services, Inc., Homes for Black Children
929 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-289-1510

~~X~~ Sharon Daly - Catholic Charities USA - 703-549-1390

~~Ariana Quinones~~

Eric Rodriguez
Nat Council of La Raza
785-1670

Adoption List
November 19, 1997

Josephine Nieves
National Association of Social Workers
202-336-8200

1. YWCA of USA ...Beverly Stripling, 202-628-3636
fax - 202-783-7123
2. Association of Junior League International Holly Sloan, N.Y. 212-683-1515; fax 212-481-7196
3. African American Women's Clergy ...Rev. Imogene Stewart 202-512-1708
fax - 202-512-1657
4. Black Women United for Action.....Sheila Coates 703-922-5757
fax - 703-437-4603
5. Child Care Action Campaign.....Barbara Rusian, NY 212-239-0138
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

'97 NOV 17 AM 8:29

November 14, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed
Elena Kagan

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

1. Family -- Adoption Legislation: You are scheduled to sign new adoption legislation on Wednesday, in an event giving a prominent role to the First Lady. The legislation is a huge step forward in promoting adoption and improving our nation's child welfare system. The final bill largely incorporates the Administration's proposals in this area. In particular, the bill (1) makes clear that children's health and safety are the paramount concerns of the public child welfare system; (2) clarifies the "reasonable efforts" standard; (3) speeds up court hearings for children in foster care and generally requires states to initiate proceedings to terminate parental rights after a child has been in foster care for 15 of the previous 22 months; (4) provides states with financial incentives to increase the number of children who are adopted; (5) reauthorizes the Family Preservation Program (staving off an expected battle next year) and increases its funding; (6) ensures health coverage for adopted children with special needs by requiring states to provide coverage through Medicaid or the new child health program; (7) expands HHS's authority to issue waivers to states for child welfare and foster care demonstration projects; and (8) breaks down barriers to adoptions across state lines by prohibiting states from denying a suitable out-of-state adoption when no in-state adoption is available.

2. Health -- FDA Reform Legislation: You are scheduled to sign FDA reform legislation on Friday. This legislation reauthorizes the very successful user fee program that has enabled the FDA to speed the approval of new drugs. The bill also codifies the REGO reforms, emphasizing agency performance and accountability, that the Vice President successfully implemented at the FDA in 1995 and 1996. In the course of considering the legislation, Congress deleted or amended the provisions (involving, for example, off-label uses of drugs and devices) to which consumer advocates most strongly objected. We worked closely with Senator Kennedy in the effort to ensure consumer protections, and he happily cast the 100th vote in the Senate's unanimous passage of this legislation.

3. Health -- Quality Commission: You are scheduled to accept the Quality Commission's Bill of Rights on Thursday. We plan to submit a memo to you early this week summarizing the Bill of Rights and recommending an appropriate response. We are also reviewing possible executive actions to improve the quality of health care in the federal government. We will discuss these proposals in the memo as well. As a lead-up to your announcement on Thursday, we have

asked the board of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) to brief the Vice President, Secretary Shalala, and Secretary Herman on its upcoming issue, which is dedicated entirely to concerns about health care quality. JAMA representatives are previewing this issue at the National Press Club on Tuesday, and an event with the Vice President on the same day should take advantage of media interest and provide a good basis for your announcement later that week.

4. Health -- Satcher Nomination: The Senate adjourned before acting on the nomination of Dr. David Satcher, notwithstanding a 12-5 committee vote in favor of confirmation. Senator Ashcroft placed a hold on the vote on the ground that Dr. Satcher supports the Administration's position on late term abortion. Some have suggested that the Senator took this action solely to position himself for a 2000 Presidential run. Dr. Satcher has never played a prominent role in the abortion debate and has disavowed any intent to use the Office of the Surgeon General to forward any "abortion rights agenda." Dr. Satcher continues to enjoy the strong support of a number of Republican Senators (Frist, Nickles, Jeffords) and of virtually every credible health care group in the nation, including the AMA. Although we are optimistic that the Senate will vote to confirm Dr. Satcher soon after returning in January, we will work hard throughout the recess to ensure that this nomination does not become a referendum on partial birth abortion.

5. Health -- HHS Study on Take-Up Rates for Health Insurance: You recently asked about an HHS study showing a decline in take-up rates for health insurance. The study reported on 10-year trends in access to and participation in employer-sponsored health insurance. It found that between 1987 and 1996, the proportion of workers with access to employer-based insurance remained constant at about 82 percent. The proportion of workers accepting that coverage, however, declined from 93 to 89 percent. The decline was most pronounced for young and low-income people; only about 75 percent of the individuals in each of these groups with access to insurance decided to purchase it. The study noted that the decline in take-up rates occurred during a period when premiums increased three times as much as wages. These findings confirm what the Administration has long recognized -- that affordability of insurance is as important as access to insurance. We hope that we will have an opportunity to build next year upon our efforts in granting Medicaid waivers and enacting the Children's Health Insurance Program to provide premium assistance for uninsured Americans.

6. Tobacco/Health -- Florida Tobacco Settlement and Children's Coverage: You asked last week whether we could agree to Florida's proposal to keep all the money it will gain from settling with the tobacco industry on condition that it use that money to expand children's health coverage. Current law gives us little room to enter into this kind of arrangement. The statute explicitly requires us to collect a specified share of any Medicaid dollars that states have recaptured. If we do not, private plaintiffs are likely to bring *qui tam* suits on behalf of U.S. taxpayers against Florida and other settling states; recovery in such suits would be split between the federal treasury (70-85 percent) and the private plaintiffs (15-30 percent). Of course, the federal government would have no right to recover (and any *qui tam* suits would fail) if the monies gained from the settlement were not Medicaid-related. But the Department of Justice believes that the damages Florida claimed -- and the amount it received in the settlement -- derive

from costs to the Medicaid program. Given these circumstances, we think it most fruitful to pursue a legislative solution to the problem of allocating tobacco funds between the federal and state governments -- preferably through a comprehensive national settlement, but if necessary (in the event no comprehensive settlement is reached) through legislation authorizing states to retain all Medicaid funds recaptured in tobacco litigation provided they use these funds for agreed-upon purposes.

7. Tobacco -- Proposed Legislation: A number of Senators introduced tobacco legislation in the last two weeks. Sen. McCain introduced a bill precisely incorporating the terms of the settlement, except for the addition of provisions to protect tobacco farmers. Sen. Hatch introduced legislation increasing the cost of the settlement from \$368 billion to \$397.5 billion, raising (but not eliminating) the cap on penalties for failing to reduce youth smoking, and amending the FDA provisions, though not in a way that the public health groups will view as much of an improvement. Sen. Kennedy introduced a bill raising the cost of the settlement to more than \$600 billion, primarily by increasing the tobacco excise tax by \$1.50 over three years; the Kennedy bill does not provide tobacco producers with any relief from litigation. Sen. Lautenberg introduced a similar bill, costing \$494 billion.

No one has introduced comprehensive legislation in the House, and last week the Speaker indicated interest in breaking the settlement into a number of separate bills and acting on each as a consensus emerges. Also last week, Rep. Bliley said that he would not move legislation until the tobacco companies release 864 documents currently at issue in Minnesota's lawsuit. (The trial court found that these documents fall within the crime/fraud exception to the attorney-client privilege, but the tobacco companies have appealed this ruling.) Gingrich's and Bliley's statements may suggest a strategy of delay, but could as well have some altogether different meaning.

We are continuing to seek a bipartisan process for enacting comprehensive tobacco legislation. Both the Speaker and Sen. Lott, however, are proceeding slowly -- in part because they have had to attend to more immediately pressing matters, in part because they have not yet settled on an overall tobacco strategy, and in part because so many Members wish to play a role in developing tobacco legislation. We and John Hilley are keeping in close touch with Congressional leadership so that we can take advantage of whatever opportunities emerge in the next few months.

8. Welfare -- Cessna Event: At an event in Wichita on Monday, you will dedicate a new state-of-the-art welfare-to-work facility at Cessna Aircraft Company, which is one of the founding members of Eli Segal's Welfare to Work Partnership. You will announce (1) that in six months 2,500 companies from all 50 states have joined the Welfare to Work Partnership -- far exceeding the goal of 1,000 set at the launch of the Partnership; (2) that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has committed to enlist every local chamber of commerce in persuading their members to join the Welfare to Work Partnership; (3) that welfare caseloads fell 236,000 in July 1997, 1.9 million in the 11 months since you signed the welfare law, and 3.8 million since you took office; and (4) that the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services are issuing new work-focused welfare regulations (see below).

9. Welfare -- New Regulations: The Administration will announce two sets of new regulations on Monday: (1) proposed regulations from HHS to states operating the TANF program (essentially, the regulations for the entire welfare law), and (2) interim final regulations from the Department of Labor to states and localities receiving grants from the \$3 billion Welfare to Work fund you won in the balanced budget agreement. The welfare to work regulation should arouse little comment. The TANF regulation, by contrast, may provoke extensive reaction from both Governors and advocates. As we told you in a prior weekly report, we worked extensively with HHS on this regulation. In the end, we were able to resolve all issues in a way that we think reinforces the importance of the law's work requirements while giving states flexibility to design welfare reform programs and a fair opportunity to correct any failures.

Under the TANF regulations, states that fail the work rates will be levied a penalty based on performance -- how close they came to meeting the rates. States will have the opportunity to correct or eliminate violations through a corrective compliance plan, and states that make substantial progress during their corrective compliance period will be eligible for a reduced or eliminated penalty. To protect states from unreasonable risk, the penalty for failing to meet the two-parent participation rate will be proportional to the size of the two-parent caseload in the state.

The regulation creates a system of disincentives to prevent states from gaming the work requirements, either by placing hard-to-employ individuals in state maintenance-of-effort programs (where the work rates do not apply) or by reclassifying the benefits received by these individuals as child-only (so that the individuals do not figure in the state's calculation of work rates). If the Secretary finds that a state has diverted recipients into a state program or reclassified benefits as child-only to evade the work requirements, she will refuse to reduce or limit the size of any penalties levied for failing to meet the work rates or time limits. The same disincentives apply when a state places individuals receiving child support payments in its state maintenance-of-effort program so as to prevent the federal government from gaining a share of these payments.

The regulation, like the law, allows states to reduce the required work participation rate by the percent the caseload has declined since 1995, so long as the lower caseloads are not due to new eligibility restrictions. HHS initially proposed that states should not get a credit for caseload reductions attributable to enforcement measures like fingerprinting, but ultimately agreed to change this position.

The regulation also addresses Sen. Murray's concerns about victims of domestic violence without threatening the integrity of the work rules. Under the regulation, a state will not be penalized for failing to meet work rates or time limits if its failure to do so is attributable to granting waivers to victims of domestic violence -- provided that the waivers are temporary and that they are accompanied by services to help the individual prepare for work and self-sufficiency. Sen. Murray may think that the regulation does not go far enough, but we think it represents the best accommodation of the full range of interests.

10. Immigration -- Central Americans/Haitians: The D.C. appropriations bill, as finally enacted, includes provisions to (1) give amnesty to certain Nicaraguans and Cubans, (2) ensure application of the old immigration law's standards to certain Guatemalans, Salvadorans, and East Europeans, and (3) reduce the number of unskilled worker visas and diversity visas. Although the bill provides no relief to Haitians, we were able to secure commitments from the Republican leadership to consider legislation on this issue early next session. These commitments allowed the Attorney General to announce that the Department of Justice would suspend the deportation of any Haitians covered by the proposed legislation for approximately six months.

11. Crime -- Crime Statistics: The Justice Department released new crime data on Saturday from the annual National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The highlights of the survey were included in this week's radio address. Crime victimization rates are today at their lowest level since the inception of the NCVS in 1973. The murder and violent crime rates fell 10 percent and property crime rates fell 8 percent in 1996. The decreases are even more significant when viewed over time: since 1993, violent and property crime rates dropped 16 percent and 17 percent respectively, and murder rates dropped a stunning 22 percent. Equally notable, these reductions were felt by all Americans -- by men and women alike, and by individuals from every racial group and income level.

12. Crime -- Juvenile Crime: The final Commerce/Justice/State appropriations bill contains significant new funding for our key juvenile crime priorities. The bill authorizes and funds a new \$250 million Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant, 45 percent (\$113 million) of which must be spent on prosecutors, probation officers, and juvenile gun and drug court programs. Our budget contained \$150 million in direct funding for the same purposes. In addition, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill provides substantial new funding (\$40 million) for afterschool programs through the 21st Century Schools Program at the Department of Education. We proposed \$63 million for afterschool programs in our budget.

13. Race/Education -- Urban Education Initiatives: DPC staff met this week with senior representatives of several national organizations interested in urban education, including the Council of Great City Schools, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Urban League, the Rainbow Coalition, the AFT and NEA, and MALDEF. Our staff provided a broad overview of education proposals under consideration for FY 1999, including (1) the College-School Partnership initiative to increase college enrollment among low income and minority students by providing mentoring and other support services and (2) the Education Opportunity Zone initiative to provide increased educational assistance to high-poverty districts that agree to adopt a standards-based reform agenda involving the end of social promotions, the removal of bad teachers, and the reconstitution of failing schools. The groups generally liked these proposals, but expressed a wide range of views about student accountability provisions. The AFT felt strongly that even the mentoring initiative should include a requirement that students meet certain academic standards, while the civil rights groups expressed opposition to any performance requirements.

14. Race/Education -- California Bilingual Education Ballot Initiative: Opponents of bilingual education in California have collected enough signatures to place an initiative on the June

1998 ballot to require that Limited English Proficient (LEP) children be taught in English (specifically, in "sheltered English immersion" classes for one year and then in ordinary English-language classes) unless a parent requests bilingual instruction. A recent Los Angeles Times poll found that over 80 percent of Californians supported such an initiative, including 84 percent of Latino voters. Most Hispanic groups have come out against the initiative, as has the California Teachers Association and Sen. Boxer. Other education groups and most public officials (Gov. Wilson, Lt. Gov. Davis, Attorney General Lungren, and Sen. Feinstein) have not yet taken positions on the initiative. The DPC has convened a working group with representation from the Department of Education and other White House offices to review the educational, legal, and political issues this initiative raises and provide you with appropriate analysis and advice. At this early stage, everyone in the group agrees that you should refrain from taking a formal position on the initiative.

15. Race -- Service Initiatives: We are working with the Corporation for National Service and the PIR on several race-related service initiatives that you might want to take a part in announcing. The actions are designed to lead up to Martin Luther King Day, which Congress officially designated in 1994 as a day of service -- "a day on, not a day off" -- in recognition of Dr. King's belief in service activities. The CNS will award \$225,000 in mini-grants to 70 communities to organize local days of service in observance of Martin Luther King Day. In addition, Harris Wofford wants to promote something called the "Kindness and Justice Curriculum," which is the brainchild of a youth service group involving Dexter King. The group is encouraging schools and students to do acts of "kindness and justice" in the two weeks leading up to Martin Luther King Day, to discuss them in class, and to post them on the Web. Finally, we are exploring ways to encourage interracial dialogue in the Corporation's service-learning programs, where children serve together and then reflect on that experience in school. These efforts can build on successful AmeriCorps service projects, like the CityYear program, that focus on diversity issues as part of the service experience.