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DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL

INCOMING PROFILE

Date: 5/3/94

To: Carol H. Rasco

From: Scheduling

Subject: Robin H. Miller - Domestic Violence

ACTION

Assigned To:

Mike Schmidt

Date:

5/3

Action

Required:

COB -
5/6

Due

info sent to Rasco 5-4

Signature Level:

Copies Sent To:

Comments:

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

11-May-1994 04:57pm

TO: Rosalyn A. Miller

FROM: Michael T. Schmidt
 Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: Phone call to Dr. Robin Miller on Domestic Violence

This is just to let you know that I called Dr. Robin Miller on behalf of the First Lady to respond to her letter about the problem of domestic violence in economically-depressed timber communities in the Pacific NW. I let her know that the First Lady (and the WH) shares her concern about the issue. I also told her that, while there was no money specifically targeted at domestic violence prevention in the legislation that funds economic assistance to timber communities in the NW, the state-level federal-agency teams (state CERTs) have identified the issue as an important one, and are already moving toward working informally with HHS when looking at economic assistance plans for affected timber communities. She seemed very thankful for the call, and asked me whether the First Lady would be able to attend the event mentioned in her letter. As instructed, I told her that the First Lady's scheduling office would be contacting her about the event.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do on this issue.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

04-May-1994 02:49pm

Mike Schmidt

TO: Carol H. Rasco

FROM: Michael T. Schmidt
Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: Red-Dot letter on domestic violence in NW

Carol, I have a partial answer for you on the red-dot package that you sent over this morning re: the letter from Robin Miller, M.D., on domestic violence in timber communities in the Pacific Northwest. She was wondering whether any of the money that was provided as a part of the Timber Plan's economic assistance to the affected timber communities could be used to provide preventive services (re: domestic violence) for timber families.

The short answer is no, nothing in the legislation explicitly covers funding for those kinds of social needs. However, the Washington-based group that is overseeing the economic assistance effort (the Multi-Agency Command, or MAC), of which I serve as a member, has encouraged the state-level Community Economic Revitalization Teams (CERTs) to reach out to HHS, rural health agencies, and others on this issue. FYI -- the state CERTs are where all of the action takes place at the grass-roots level, and they are made up of the Federal agencies responsible for providing economic assistance funding for timber communities (USDA, Commerce, Interior, Labor, SBA, etc.). These state CERTs have been very successful so far. In my conversation with one of the state CERT coordinators, I found out that two things are informally going on in this area:

- 1) the state CERTs are already reaching out to include HHS informally in their funding discussions. The Washington CERT has already included HHS at the table, and Oregon and California are moving in that direction.
- 2) The Regional CERT (which coordinates the work of the three state CERTs) has sent a formal request up to the MAC in April to formally include HHS in the entire process. The MAC has not yet responded (I will follow up on that next week).

Unfortunately, none of the actions described in (1) or (2) will mean any more money for HHS to use for funding domestic violence prevention programs in these areas. However, if included in the CERT process, even informally, they will be a part of the overall discussion of how to help distressed communities, they will be

able to be included in any local economic assistance plan that is funded, and they will be able to (if they choose) direct or target some of their existing resources towards this problem in a coordinated way with other agencies. Of course, if we are serious about wanting to push the issue of domestic violence counseling, we need to work both with HHS and through the MAC to make it clear that this is a WH priority in this area. I will be happy to assist you in this type of effort in any way you need.

I am leaving for the Indian Listening Conference in about 25 minutes, so I will be out of the office until Monday. I hope this information will suffice until I get back. If not, have Cookie or Beverly call me at the Hampton Inn in Albuquerque and I will see what else I can dig up.

MAY 3 - 1994

- 4/11/94 letter from Robin H. Miller, M.D. of Medford, OR, cousin of Hardye Simons Moel (and forwarded by Hardye), writing about domestic violence, which has reached epidemic proportions in her area. As an urgent care physician, she sees one to two battered women each day. She suspects frustration from unemployment and the general stress of life in the '90s are a major contributors. It's time to break this cycle of abuse.

Medford is home of Applegate Partnership of which WH has been very supportive. She is wondering if some of the money provided to help displaced timber workers could be used to provide Preventive services for the timber families.

She invites you, President and Chelsea to a benefit August 20 to raise money for Crisis Intervention. Your presence would help focus attention of this horrible problem.

The last time she wrote to WH was when she was 8, asking President Kennedy if he would let women go into space. His staff wrote back that it was unlikely, but that there were a lot of important jobs for women to do. We have come a long way, but we have an even longer way to go.

- See
☒ Direct to Carol Rose re. Timber Plan for response/followup
☒ Respond w/copy to Scheduling
☐ Not personal; direct to FL Correspondence for response

Medford P.C.
Clinic
Physicians and Surgeons

(503) 734-3434
Toll Free 1-800-888-2778
555 Black Oak Drive
Medford, Oregon 97504-4328

April 11, 1994

Hillary Rodham Clinton
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Hillary:

Please forgive me for using my cousin Hardye to get this letter to you but I have some very important information to relay to you.

I am a Doctor in Medford, a small city in Southern Oregon. My name is Robin Miller. Southern Oregon is a beautiful place, but we have a very bad problem that has reached epidemic proportions - Domestic Violence. I see one to two battered women each day that I work. I see at least four to five women each day with a history of being battered. We have one organization which helps victims of domestic violence called the Dunn House. Dunn House does a wonderful job, but we need more help. As timber workers loose their jobs, I feel the problem will continue to escalate.

I am writing to you because I think that you and the President can help in several ways. This area is the home of the Applegate Partnership of which the White House has been very supportive. I was wondering if some of the money which has been provided to help displaced timber workers could be used to provide preventive services for the timber families.

I also want to invite you and your family to a benefit on August 20, 1994 which has been organized to raise money for Crisis Intervention. It is a dinner/wine auction which will be held at a local winery. It will be a beautiful event held in a wonderful place.

I know that you get invited to a million events, but it would be wonderful if you, the President, and Chelsea could join us. It would help to focus the country's attention on this horrible problem. It also is important for people to realize how pervasive domestic violence is - that it is not an "inner city" problem.

As a Physician, I have focused on the ultimate cure of most diseases - prevention. Domestic Violence is a social disease that needs to be prevented as well. It is time to be proactive rather than reactive.

I beg you to consider my invitation. I feel so strongly about this. It is time to stop the cycle of violence.

I am not in the habit of writing to the White House. The last time I wrote I was about 8 years old. I asked President Kennedy if he would ever let women go into space. His staff wrote back and said it was not likely, but there were a lot of important jobs for women to do. Well, we have come a long way, but we have an even longer way to go!

Thank you for reading my letter. Please Help!!

Sincerely,



Robin H. Miller, M.D.
2583 Oak View Circle
Medford, OR 97504
(503) 779-0078

Work:
Medford CLinic, P.C.
555 Black Oak Drive
Medford, OR 97504
(800) 888-2778
(503) 734-3434

RHM/dmt

URGENT CARE



Robin H. Miller, M.D.
Urgent Care

Robin Miller, M.D., was born in Chicago, Illinois on September 3, 1953. She received her B.S. degree (Phi Beta Kappa) with high honors in 1974 from the University of Michigan and her M.S. in 1986 from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She graduated in 1979 from the University of Illinois School of Medicine and completed her internship at the George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. In 1983, after a two-year internal medicine residency at Oregon Health Sciences University, she was a clinical instructor in medicine at the University of Oregon. Between 1983 and 1986 Dr. Miller was a Kaiser Fellow in Internal Medicine at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and a Mellon Fellow at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She is widely published in the area of preventive cardiology.

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Violence stalks our community, silently

Domestic abuse takes its toll; Dunn House offers women a safe haven

By ROBIN MILLER

Three years ago, I moved to Medford with my husband and children from New York. We came to this area to find a peaceful, healthy and safe place to live. I found a position at the Medford Clinic as an urgent-care physician where I have enjoyed a full and busy practice.

I take care of many wonderful people with a wide variety of medical and social problems. In my practice I have been horrified to uncover a silent and very real epidemic in our community — domestic violence. I care for one or two battered women each day that I work.

I have worked in emergency rooms and urgent care departments in Chicago, New York, Baltimore and Portland, Oregon. Never have I seen the problem to this extreme. I am not sure why I am seeing so many victims of domestic violence. I suspect frustration from unemployment and the general

stress of life in the '90s is a major contributor.

However, I cannot sit back and let this continue to happen. I have seen women with fractures of major facial bones, ribs and limbs. I have tended to victims of spousal rape and acquaintance rape. I have even cared for several pregnant women who have been severely beaten. It is time for this to stop.

In each case I have referred patients to the Dunn House and Rape Crisis. They have received wonderful support and care. Many of the women I have treated have managed to leave their abusive situations and start healthier, more productive lives. So many of these women feel helpless and trapped. The counseling they received from Dunn House and Rape Crisis has allowed them to reclaim

their self-esteem and free themselves (and their children) from destructive situations.

We are all aware of the amazing amount of violence in our society. It is time to break the cycle of abuse.

We can all help in our own way. So many times when outsiders knew of abusive situations they assume that somehow the victims have brought this upon themselves. Emotional support from friends and family of these victims is extremely important. If you know someone who is being abused urge them to seek help from Dunn House or Rape Crisis. They will provide safety for the victims and help them to take action to improve their living situations.

Robin Miller is an urgent-care physician in Medford.

GUEST OPINION

Write a letter

We want to hear what our readers think about the issues of the day. Writers should include their signature, full name and address, and a phone number for verification. Typed or printed letters are preferred. All letters are subject to editing and writers are limited to one submission every 30 days. Letters rejected for cause are returned, if possible.

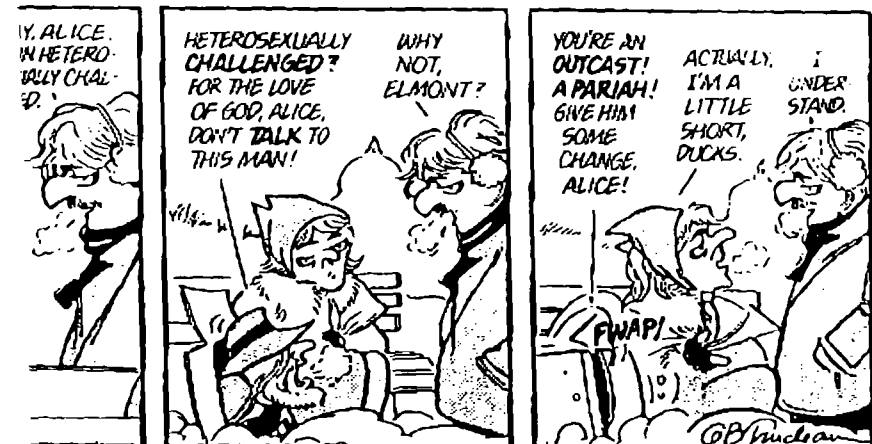
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Thanks... — up to 150 words on topics of general interest, for Saturdays.

Election letters — up to 150 words on ballot measures or candidates.

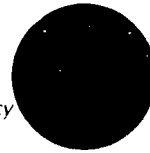
Letters containing poetry, consumer-related complaints or compliments, or extensive quotes from — or references to — other sources cannot be published. Letters normally appear within four to seven days after they've been verified.

Address: Mail Tribune, P.O. Box 1108, Medford, OR. 97501. Fax: 776-4376.



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy



To: Schmidt

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: COB 5/6 if it'd prove a possibility

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: Action / info to Rasco
5-4-94

MAY 3 - 1994

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robin H. Miller', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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(503) 779-0078

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Violence stalks our community, silently

Domestic abuse takes its toll; Dunn House offers women a safe haven

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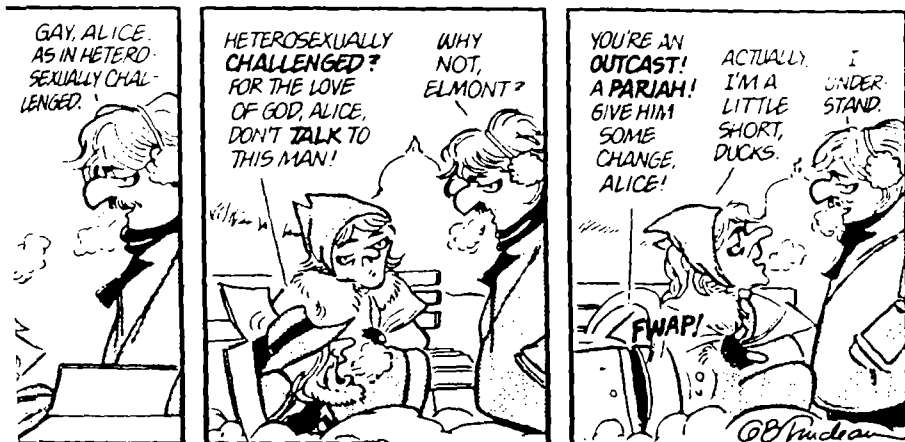
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