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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CLEVELAND
EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.**

2217 East Ninth Street #302
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Telephone (216) 781-8375

Handwritten: ~~for~~ Carol Rasco
w/ material (send her
originals -
& don't need
copies)

cc: Patti

July 27, 1993

Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Clinton,

The materials you now hold represent a sample of the work the League of Women Voters of Cleveland Educational Fund has been doing to educate Cleveland's community and business leadership on the reform of the welfare system. We have targeted our programs, entitled "Making Connections: Meeting the Challenge of Welfare Reform," toward those who have not previously been involved in the welfare reform discussion, in the belief that the best policies are made by informed, educated leaders, and supported by informed, educated citizens.]

I am sending these materials in the hope that you will agree that these public education programs merit your support and attention.

We would be honored to have you speak to a few hundred of Cleveland's community and business leaders some time during the autumn of this year. We know you share our belief that welfare reform is a crucial issue. We also know you appreciate the importance of community leadership in making and supporting policy.

We had originally invited both Secretary Shalala and Secretary Reich to take part in our programs, but they were unavailable at the time, and your schedule was full. Now we have decided to extend the series schedule into the fall. We hope that, given this new time frame, we may be fortunate enough to have you, or a key member of the administration address our audience.

Thank you for taking the time to consider what we in the urban heartland are doing to raise the level of awareness on issues that affect us all.

Sincerely,

Lee Edwards

Lee Edwards

Encl.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1993

Ms. Claire M. Fagin
Interim President
University of Pennsylvania
100 College Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 10104

Dear Claire:

Thank you very much for writing and for sharing your concerns about the restricted role of advanced practice nurses under the Medicare program. I apologize for the inordinate delay in responding, but we have been deluged with mail, particularly about health care, and I am unable to respond as promptly as I would like to important letters such as yours.

I feel very strongly that advanced practice nurses are underutilized in today's system; they are cost-effective clinicians who, as you mention, are critical to bringing needed services to our most underserved areas.

Under reform, we plan to adopt scope-of-practice laws that widen the reimbursable services that non-physician providers can perform. We are still working through how and whether that policy will impact the Medicare program. I will share your concerns with the policy groups finalizing the plan.

I should mention that reform will do a number of things to reverse current incentives in the Medicare program to help change the environment you speak of in your letter:

Rather than encouraging growth in fee-for-service by adding to the number of providers who bill in the fee-for-service system, we are encouraging the growth of managed care plans under Medicare. As you know, managed care plans, by emphasizing primary care and preventive services, have achieved tremendous efficiencies. Managed care plans will have the flexibility to determine the best means of delivering the services -- whether through nurse practitioners, physician assistants and other health care professionals.

Reforms we're pursuing include:

- improving payment methodology so more HMOs will participate;

Claire M. Fagin
August 11, 1993
Page Two

- annual open enrollment that Medicare conducts, not the plans themselves, ensuring beneficiaries a choice of plans;
- leveling the playing field with Medigap policies.

In addition, we have as our long-term goal further integration of Medicare, with states opting to fold in the Medicare population to the alliances as soon as they are ready. It is for precisely the reasons you list that many governors feel systemic change and real cost control will not be fully achievable until we have one system for all citizens.

I will keep you abreast of this issue as it progresses. Unfortunately, we are not able to make all the changes in the Medicare program we might like up front, but we are committed to long-term change in the whole health care system, and that includes Medicare.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

5. 6/24 from Claire Fagin, Interim President, University of Pennsylvania: "I hope it is untrue that the Medicare reimbursement and state practice act recommendations regarding advanced practice nursing have been omitted from the draft legislation." cc: Melanne, Ira.

see ☒ not see ☐

7/28 (1) cc to me
(2) Ask Ira to
direct this to
someone to draft R
ASAP

8/2 Christine H. drafting

cc. Melanne Ira

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Office of the President

100 College Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6380
215-898-7221

PAM JUL 11 1993

June 24, 1993

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
100 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Lately many of us have received independent confirmation that the recommendation made by the Health Reform Task Force's working groups on nursing have not been fully incorporated into the draft bill now circulating for comment within the Executive Branch.

We know that you are well aware of the difficulty many Americans face obtaining timely and appropriate primary care. Poor children are particularly inadequately served by the present system. Many suffer life long disabilities such as hearing loss resulting from untreated otitis media that compromise their education attainment and life chances.

Advanced practice nurses (such as nurse practitioners and nurse midwives) can substantially redress the shortage of primary care services if they are permitted to practice. The Task Force work groups forwarded strong recommendations arguing for immediate federal legislation to remove present barriers to practice and provisions to ensure that advanced practice nurses were available to the public in the reformed health care system. Medicare, the federal government's premier health care program, systematically excludes most advanced practice nurses from caring for the elderly through reimbursement policies that prohibit nursing reimbursement under very limited circumstances.

Medicare is in effect a de facto practice act, i.e., it restricts nursing practice much more severely than any state does through practice acts. If the premier federal health care program does not recognize nurses as primary care providers, why should the private sector do otherwise in a reformed health care system? In addition, Ira Magaziner has publicly acknowledged the need for federal intervention through incentives or preemption of state laws to remove legal barriers currently restricting advanced practice nursing and consequently harming consumers. But why should states be willing to adopt a model practice act

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
June 24, 1993
Page 2

promoted by the federal government if the federal government itself restricts nursing practice even more than the states through its existing Medicare payment policies?

Nursing can play a critical role in improving access to cost effective care in general and, particularly, for groups who have long been ignored by American physicians if they don't have their hands tied behind their backs. We have confidence that you have the interests of the public at heart in your vision of health care. It is in the interest of the public to have the option to choose nurses and for nurses to be able to practice to the full limits of their education and competence.

I hope it is untrue that the Medicare reimbursement and state practice act recommendations regarding advanced practice nursing have been omitted from the draft legislation. Many of us have confidence in you and believe you will explore the issues raised before you have a final proposal or draft. It would be a shame if the proposal promulgates business as usual or repeats past failures in financing primary care education.

Sincerely,



Claire M. Fagin
Interim President

THE WHITE HOUSE

September 1, 1993

Scott Fleischer, M.D.
Friends Hospital
Roosevelt Boulevard & Adams Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19124

Dear Dr. Fleischer:

Thank you for your letter suggesting that treatment of mental illness and substance abuse be included in the President's health care reform plan.

As you may know, Tipper Gore chaired a working group on mental health for the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform and has been a strong advocate for equitable treatment of mental health benefits. During this process, she received valuable input from many concerned physicians like you. Based on the recommendations of the working group, the universal benefits package of the President's proposal will include mental health services.

Again, thank you for writing. I appreciate your willingness to assist the President in this effort to ensure that every American enjoys the security of quality, affordable health care.

Sincerely,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: Rep. Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky

• bcc: Marge Tarmey

THE WHITE HOUSE

September 29, 1993

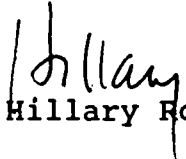
Linda Fuselier, SNJM
Child Services Coordinator
The Center for AIDS Services
5720 Shattuck Avenue
Oakland, California 94609

Dear Sister Linda:

Thank you for your letter during your trip to Washington and for your very kind comments. I deeply appreciate your prayers and dedication of purpose to HIV children and their families.

I have forwarded your letter to the Office of Policy Development for their consideration. I hope that you will continue to express your views on behalf of pediatric AIDS and that we can count on your support of the President's health care reform initiative.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton



THE CENTER FOR
AIDS SERVICES →

Linda Fuselier, SNJM
CHILD SERVICES
COORDINATOR

5720 Shattuck Avenue
Oakland, California 94609
510/655-3435



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Founded in 1989
as a Spiritual
Resource
Center for
Caretakers of PWA
We now serve

men women +
Children as
well as family -
friends + caretakers
Who are affected
by HIV/AIDS -

Mother Theresa's order
founded it. Now we are non profit agency

CONFERENCE
CENTER
AND
GUEST HOUSE
Sept. 21, 1993

Hillary Clinton
The White House
Wash. D.C.

Dear Hillary,

Thank you for seeing Joan & "Messy". I, too, am here in D.C. to attend the Pediatric Aids Convention. I am working both at a non profit agency and Children's Hospital in Oakland. At the hospital I am a play therapist and support to families & esp. Children with HIV who come in for their infusions of medications. At the Center I coordinate Children's Services and promote family unity, fun and stress reduction through family outings to amusement parks, beaches, plays, museums, & other cultural activities.

I write to say that Health Care Costs would be lowered if social services like I provide are increased. Studies by a New York doctor show that "play" increases the immune system's strength etc. in the cases of HIV Children. My "Grant" from NIH with the social services has not been renewed as of Sept. 1 1993. Please consider "wholistic" health

The joy you brought to Mary was a privilege to experience.

CONFERENCE
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AND
GUEST HOUSE

Care as "preventative" measure for reducing costs to the consumer.

I realize your commitment to children. Another issue in the forefront is the future statistics of orphaned children - both infected + affected by this HIV disease. Alternatives to foster care / adoption / orphanages will be needed. - Places of respite, care and persistence to the "family" disease of AIDS. New forms of hospice with a family perspective to being present at the time of loss etc will be needed in relation to the children.

Lastly and my greatest concern regards the spiritual life of our children. "Listening to HIV/AIDS Kids" + their experiences of God & Life during their life threatening disease or the disease takes the lives of their siblings, parents + relatives requires someone to be there to help them grieve.

I trust that you will give my concerns and insights consideration during your administration. I am praying for you + your family as you serve our country + society.

Gratefully,
Sister Linda