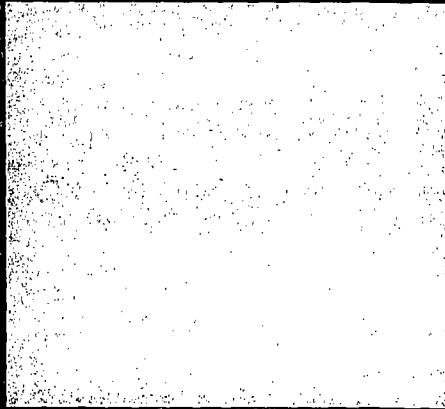

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ANNUAL
REPORT
1996



THE
FOUNDATION
FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

June 13, 1996

file children
conf.

YOUTH TALK: A CITY LISTENS TO CHILDREN

DATE: June 14, 1996
TIME: 9:30 am - 11:55 am
LOCATION: Kansas City Convention Center
Kansas City, Missouri
FROM: Brenda Costello

I. PURPOSE

To bring together children from Kansas City with adults from every sector of the Kansas City community for a conversation on how Kansas City responds to the needs of its children.

II. BACKGROUND

Co-sponsored by the Mayor's Office and United Way, this conference will bring together children from Kansas City with adults from government, business, media, education, health care, religion, civic leaders, etc. for a conversation on how Kansas City responds to the needs of its children and will highlight programs that are working and identify challenges to be met. Following the Conference you will address a Luncheon of Community Leaders.

The nine youth participants, who were identified through the Mayor's office and United Way, are between the ages of 13-18. They will discuss what it's like to be a child growing up in Kansas City, what programs work for them, and what more needs to be done. These children have been active in community programs. The nine adult participants will be in the first row of the audience with hand-held mics, ready to discuss, from their own perspectives, how Kansas City responds to the needs of children. The moderator, Carl Boyd, will welcome the audience and introduce you and Mayor Cleaver, as well as the other participants.

See attached background on Mayor Cleaver's initiatives and other Kansas City area programs for children and youth.

Format

You will be seated with Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II and the nine youth participants. Nine adult participants will be seated in the first row and the audience at large. The youth will talk about their experiences and programs in Kansas City. Adults and experts seated in the front row will open the discussion with the audience. Approximately 350 parents and their children, child advocates, service providers, community leaders, and local government workers will be in the audience. Prior to the conference, you will meet briefly with participants.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Meet and Greet

HRC

Mayor Cleaver

Al Sassone, President of Heart of America United Way

Carl Boyd, Producer and Host, "Both" Television talk show

-Approximately 9 Youths (see attached list)

-Approximately 9 Adults (see attached list)

Conference

HRC

Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II, Mayor of Kansas

Al Sassone, President of Heart of America United Way

Carl Boyd, Producer and Host, "Both" Television talk show

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- **Meet and Greet with Conference Youth Participants**
- **Meet and Greet with Conference Adult Respondents**
- **HRC proceeds with Mayor Cleaver to Conference site**
- **Kansas City Children's Choir will perform**
- **Al Sassone delivers welcoming remarks and intros Mayor Cleaver and HRC into room**
- **HRC and Mayor Cleaver proceed to seats on stage**
- **Mr. Sassone intros Carl Boyd, moderator**
- **Mr. Boyd explains conference format and intros Mayor Cleaver**
- **Mayor Cleaver proceeds to podium, delivers brief remarks and intros HRC**
- **HRC proceeds to podium and delivers remarks**
- **HRC returns to seat on stage (HRC puts on hard wire lav at this time)**
- **Mr. Boyd intros each youth and turns the program over to HRC and Mayor Cleaver**
- **Open discussion with approximately 9 youths ages 13-18**
- **Mr. Boyd opens discussion with 9 adult participants**
- **Mr. Boyd closes discussion and intros Mayor Cleaver**
- **Mayor Cleaver delivers closing remarks from his seat and intros HRC**
- **HRC delivers closing remarks from her seat**
- **HRC departs**

V. PRESS

Open press.

VI. REMARKS

Provided by June Shih.

DESCRIPTION OF YOUTH PANEL
(in seating chart order from your left to right)

Monica Roberts is 17 years old. She is graduating from Paseo Academy this year and will attend Stephens College next fall. Monica decided at an early age that she wanted to write poetry and become a journalist. She has already had some poems published, and she has been selected to be a writer for the Kansas City Star's "Teen Star" section. She believes that there are not enough teachers who care about their students.

Suggested question for HRC: You said that you think teachers have to take more of an interest in their students. Have you had any teachers who have really inspired you or have you looked for mentors in other places?

Suggested question for EC: I know that you are a writer for the "Teen Star" section of the Kansas City Star. What kinds of things do you write about?

Shanna Hiebert is a 13 year old 8th grader at Center Middle School. She comes from a single parent home and her mother is involved in a mixed-race relationship. Shanna has been involved in peer mediation and tutoring programs. She thinks that young people need more places to gather where they feel safe, and she enjoys going to a church-organized Saturday night activity (that she worries may close) and "Rock and Bowl," sponsored by a local bowling alley. Her biggest concerns are violence and racism. Shanna thinks that everyone has a role to play in ensuring that children have a safe and healthy environment in which to grow up.

Suggested question for HRC: You are involved in peer mediation. What kinds of things do you find other students want to talk to you about? How do you think a peer can be most helpful?

Suggested question for EC: You mentioned that you like going to planned activities on weekends. What kinds of things can we do in Kansas City that kids will enjoy and that they will feel safe doing?

Chris Elders is 16 years old. He is on the debate team at school, plays football and was elected Junior Class Treasurer. He is a Youth Advisor on the Board of the Kansas City Consensus, an organization dedicated to making Kansas City a good place for kids. He is also a member of the Promise Project, which trains young people and places them on boards of not-for-profit organizations. This week, he attended a conference on "Raising Children in America" where youths and adults talked about how to create the best environment to raise kids. He firmly believes that the entire community has to be involved in solving its own problems and that we need to look not only to adults as resources, but also to children.

Suggested question for HRC: You and I share a belief that the entire community needs to be part of raising its children and solving its own problems. Can you talk more about why you think that is true?

Suggested question for EC: I know that you have been part of the Promise Project. Can you talk about the kind of organizations you have been involved in?

Jackie Melgoza is 14 years old. She "pretty much" likes school and participates on the volleyball team at the Guadalupe Center, a community center in her predominately Hispanic neighborhood known as the Westside. She feels that one of the biggest problems for kids today is drugs, and she is constantly pressured to take drugs. Jackie participated in the "mapping" project sponsored by Youthnet (a consortium of youth-serving organizations that have coordinated their activities). "Mapping" is an effort to identify businesses, community centers and other organizations in the Kansas City area that are doing good things for kids. Jackie is also part of the Hermanitas, a group of girls that do community service. This week, the Hermanitas spent time with a group of immigrant children because, according to Jackie, those children "don't usually have much fun." Jackie's parents immigrated from Mexico and much of her extended family lives in her neighborhood. She feels that her parents were able to adapt well to life in the United States because of the support of their family and community.

Suggested question for HRC: You said that you are constantly pressured to take drugs. What can communities, parents and teachers do better to help kids make decisions to stay away from drugs?

Suggested question for EC: I know that much of your extended family lives in your neighborhood. Tell us why that has been important for you, your parents and siblings.

Brett Goodwin is 12 years old and recently finished 6th grade at Prairie Elementary School. He takes acting lessons at the Theatre for Young America, which he "loves" to do. He also plays the clarinet, swims on a team, and likes art, singing and basketball. He worked with a group of students at his school to create an ecosystem called the Prairie Project so that students can learn about and respect nature. The students designed gardens, a pond, a compost hut and a reading tree (a tree that kids can read under). After Brett and several other students made a presentation at Wild Oats, a local natural foods store, Wild Oats agreed to fund the compost hut. The Prairie Project is open to the community and receives many visitors.

Suggested question for HRC: I understand that you and other students at your school have built something called the Prairie Project. Tell us about it.

Follow up: Do you think kids today are worried about protecting the environment?

Suggested question for EC: How did you go about getting Wild Oats to fund part of the project?

Karlla Philpot is a 17 year old junior at Park Hill Senior High School. Karlla served as a member of the Mayor's Task Force on Race Relations in the law enforcement cluster and helped organize the Mayor's Youth Summit on Race Relations. She is involved in peer mediation and the Black Awareness Club at her high school. She recently participated in the Western Region Teen Institute (a leadership camp for drug and alcohol abuse prevention) and has served as a D.A.R.E. mentor (counseling kids on drugs, choosing friends, etc.) and a member of S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violence Everywhere). Karlla has published one poem and two others will be published this year.

Suggested question for HRC: I know that you became so interested in race relations through your work on the Mayor's Task Force that you worked with him to start the Youth Summit on Race Relations. What do you think has come or can come from these meetings?

Suggested question for EC: What has your involvement in the Task Force and Youth Summit allowed you to bring back to your own high school?

Eric Gephart is a 16 year old freshman in high school. He enjoys sports and "hanging out with his friends" and works part-time at Price Shopper, a grocery store. Eric is involved in Family Congress, an organization that brings families of all racial, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds together every two months. At each meeting, the families break up into small groups for discussion (young kids play in one group, teens discuss problems like drugs and sex in another, adults talk about issues like marriage in another) and then come together to share what they've learned. According to Eric, it is a wonderful way for people to discover their similarities and differences and to work toward change in the community. Eric is also part of a group that meets once a month to talk about prejudice. They have addressed race, gender and sexual orientation.

Suggested question for HRC: You noted that Family Congress is a good opportunity for the families who participate to learn about each other and discover their similarities and differences. What kinds of things have you learned or shared with families with backgrounds that are different from yours?

Suggested question for EC: You also meet with a group to talk about prejudice and diversity. What kind of things do you discuss?

Tanisha McGee has lived in 25 foster homes since the age of seven. She is the mother of a three month old baby. When she became pregnant, she was forced to leave her foster home and was placed by the Division of Family Services at Pathways Transitional Living Program. She is now living independently in one of Pathway's supervised apartments with her daughter. She is seen by adults who know her as a responsible parent and high achiever and last year won an Outstanding Youth Award presented by KCPT. Tanisha attends Paseo Arts Magnet High School and is working toward her goal of a career in singing or acting. Tanisha believes that violence is one of the biggest problems in our

country today. Several years ago, she was shot in the back by two men when she refused to give them her phone number. Because of the violence in her community, she is scared for her child.

Suggested question for HRC: You said that you lived in 25 different foster homes. The Clinton Administration has been working hard to place more foster children in permanent homes. What were the barriers that you faced growing up to finding a permanent family to adopt?

Suggested question for EC: You talk powerfully about violence in our streets. What do you think we can do better to prevent violence?

Josh Reed is an 18 year old who will attend University of Missouri at Columbia next year. He describes himself as a "try anything person" -- he was involved in choir, debate and sports in school. In his sophomore year of high school he found himself looking for ways to give back to his community and became involved in an anti-violence campaign and a State task force involving all sectors of the community (business, schools, etc.) in fighting alcohol and drug abuse. He has also been active in Vision 2000, an organization designed to provide a youth perspective on various community task forces. Josh is frustrated when he feels apathy in the community. He believes that children need to be loved, mentored and respected, and they simply need something to say yes to. He also believes that one of the biggest problems today is the lack of communication between boys and girls and men and women.

Suggested question for HRC: I know that you think that a big problem in our society is a lack of communication between men and women. What consequences do you think that has?

Suggested question for EC: Tell us about the work you've done with Vision 2000. What types of community task forces have you worked on?

ADULT RESPONDENTS SEATED IN AUDIENCE

Dwayne Crompton (Child Care)

Dwayne Crompton is a widely respected expert and activist on child care and related issues. He is the Executive Director of KSMC Child Development Corporation, a child development agency that administers Head Start and the Child and Adult Food Care Program, and operates two comprehensive child development centers which provide training and technical assistance to help meet the early care and educational needs of children.

Jan Kreamer (Foundation Leader)

Jan Kreamer is President of Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, a charitable organization which helps businesses and individuals get involved in supporting the community through philanthropy. Jan describes the mission of the Foundation, which has served the greater Kansas City area for 18 years, as "working to build community." GKCCF has developed several initiatives for children, including mentoring, neighborhood mobilization and outreach and counseling for at-risk youth.

Sister Berta Sailer (Education)

Sister Berta helped to found St. Vincent's Family Service Center, a child development center targeted to working poor families that provides day care, pre-school and after-school care, as well as a summer program. With clients that primarily include homeless, foster children, and children of teenage mothers, the Center seeks to help support families by providing access to social services. Sister Berta, a former teacher and a legend in the child advocacy community, recently brought two busloads of children to Washington, D.C. for Stand for Children.

Bill Nelson (Business)

Bill Nelson is the President, Chairman, and CEO of Boatman's Bank. Mr. Nelson is also actively involved in the community, serving as the chair of the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City and the co-chair of the Partnership for Children, an initiative by the Heart of American United Way and the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.

Cynthia Smith (Media)

Cynthia Smith is Vice President of Corporate Communications for KCPT, Kansas City's Public Television station. Ms. Smith is an award winning news reporter and anchor, and has hosted her own radio show, Family Matters.

Judge Christine Sill-Rogers (Law)

Judge Sill-Rogers has been a family court judge since 1993 and has presided over many cases involving domestic violence. Because of the cases she tried as a judge, Judge Sill-Rogers has worked to change the state laws so that judges are required to appoint guardians for children in violent families. She also works as a community leader, serving as the legal director of the kids-run Kansas City Youth Court, which helps keep non-violent youth out of the formal court system.

Reverend Henderson Bell (Religion)

Reverend Bell, the Pastor of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, has educated and led his congregation to make children the focus of their outreach ministry. The Church has generated enough funds to run the Children's Freedom School, a summer school based on the principles of the Children's Defense Fund.

Dr. Elliot L. Bass (Health Care Provider)

Dr. Bass is a private family practitioner in Kansas City. As a former associate medical director for Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas City, Dr. Bass helped to develop several HMOs and PPOs. He is also an advisor to the Mayor's Task Force on Race Relations in Kansas City.

Pauline Rios (Parent)

Ms. Rios is the mother of four young children and the owner of a consulting business, BRAVA Enterprises. She has been an active member of numerous community organizations, including MANA, a Latina organization, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and Harmony in a World of Difference. Ms. Rios also currently serves on the board several organizations such as the YWCA and LULAC de Kansas City and has been nicknamed "Ms. Energizer" for her efforts to provide motivation and self-esteem to young people.

Hillary Clinton to meet KC youth

Bartle Hall forum to generate ideas for ways to help children

By DONNA McGUIRE

Staff Writer

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will meet with Kansas City children Friday to discuss their challenges, hopes and dreams during a community forum at Bartle Hall.

Hundreds of child advocates, clergy, teachers, teen-agers, parents and members of area non-profit agencies have been invited to the forum, which is titled "Youth Talk: A City Listens to Children."

Organizers are seeking practical advice about



Clinton

what Kansas City can do to help children. Mayor Emanuel Cleaver, who invited the first lady, and the Heart of America United Way are co-sponsoring the 2 1/2-hour event.

"All aspects of the public and private sector need to respond to the challenges our young people face," Cleaver said Tuesday. "The first step is to hear what our young people have to say."

Clinton participated in a similar event three weeks ago in Denver. She and Colorado Gov. Roy Romer spent about 90 minutes talking to children ranging in age from 7 to 17 about their

concerns, worries and motivations. Afterward, child-welfare advocates spoke.

"It wasn't a discussion about what the government can do," said Jim Carpenter, Romer's press secretary. "It was a discussion about what's on kids' minds and what the community can do."

Al Sassone, president of the Heart of America United Way, thinks having the president's wife in town will focus extra attention on children's needs.

"Teen-agers sometimes have trouble getting and keeping the undivided attention of adults," Sassone said. "This time, with the first lady involved and the media watching, I don't think these kids will have any problem at all."

June 12, 1996

First lady visiting with KC children today

—First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton is scheduled to be in Kansas City today to attend a community forum on children.

"The focus is not political; it's about awareness and commitment of the community to children's issues," said Al Sassone,

president of the Heart of America United Way, which is co-sponsoring the event.

About 300 child advocates, clergy, teachers, teen-agers, parents and members of area non-profit agencies have been invited to the forum at Bartle Hall.

The forum, titled "Youth Talk: A City Listens to Children," is not open to the public.

Clinton is expected to arrive about 9 a.m. at the Downtown Airport. The forum is expected to begin about 10 a.m. and last about 2½ hours.

Saturday June 15, 1996

First lady gets ideas to give kids a chance

**Youths speak out at
forum on violence, jobs,
drugs and education.**

By DONALD BRADLEY

Staff Writer

Kansas City teen-ager Tanisha McGee didn't sweeten up her life story just because first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton sat two chairs away.

Clinton came to town Thursday to talk with teens at Bartle Hall.

She wanted to learn how adults could make things better for them.

McGee, 17, has lived in 25 foster homes since being taken away at age 7 from her drug-addicted mother. She also was shot while growing up in a violent neighborhood.

Her main suggestion: That parents take a more active role in their children's lives.

"I know that the guys who (shot) me never had parents who paid

See HILLARY, C-4, Col. 1



One youth's quip made Hillary Rodham Clinton laugh in a forum Friday at Bartle Hall. The event was sponsored by the Heart of America United Way and was attended by the first lady, Mayor Emanuel Cleaver and other child advocates, educators and clergy.

RICH BUDGETT/The Star

Hillary Clinton listens to suggestions for better world

Continued from C-1

any attention to them," McGee said.

McGee also said the law should have forced her mother into drug rehabilitation.

Shanna Hiebert, 13, a conflict mediator at Center Middle School, echoed the sentiment: "Parents have to say, 'As long as you're in my house....'"

For more than two hours, Clinton, Mayor Emanuel Cleaver and nine area youngsters discussed drugs, violence, education, jobs, health care and other issues at a forum called "Youth Talk: A City Listens to Children."

The first lady has focused on children's issues during her husband's presidency and wrote the book, *It Takes a Village*. She im-

TheStar
KANSAS CITY

■ For information about Hillary Clinton on the Internet, visit *The Star's* site at <http://www.kansascity.com> and click Local News.

kansascity.com

plored the teens and an audience of 400 child advocates, teachers and clergy to work together to meet the needs of Kansas City's youngest citizens.

"Children need us — they are not rugged individualists," Clinton said. "Even good parents need all the help we can give them."

Some of the youngsters' ideas:

adults setting better examples; more specialty classes in schools to hold the interest of at-risk students; smaller classes; more part-time jobs; more summer activities; more adults willing to work with children; and respect — not just lip service.

Brett Goodwin, 12, the youngest on the panel, told Clinton that his chief concern was pollution.

"We need to clean up the air and clean up Brush Creek," Brett said.

After the audience laughed, Cleaver quipped: "Next."

The event was sponsored by Cleaver's office and the Heart of America United Way.

Lucy Diamond-Gash, a former candidate for the Kansas City Council, suggested in a call to the *Star* that the first lady's visit was staged to offset Bob Dole's ap-

pearance in the area earlier in the week.

United Way spokesman Ron Howard said he learned of the forum June 5 and the city knew a week or so before that.

"The last thing we want is for this to be perceived as a campaign stop," Howard said. "We have a lot of both Democrat and Republican contributors."

The White House paid for the trip and the city wrote off the cost of using Bartle Hall. Cleaver, a Democrat and Clinton ally, invited the first lady to the event.

She arrived at Bartle Hall about 9 a.m. A few minutes later, Chris Elders, 16, was telling her about the lost American Dream.

"When they're little, kids think they're going to grow up, go to college and get a job being astro-

navants, doctors and veterinarians," he said. "But a half-decade later, they have no hope.... They think they have no future."

McGee, who now lives in transitional independent living with her 3-month-old baby, said much of the despair is caused by barriers that divide demographic groups.

"One reason that problems facing kids aren't getting solved is that not everyone sees it as a problem," she said.

The first lady agreed that racism and classism were harmful — especially in how children view the world.

"You don't have to like everybody — I don't like everybody," she said. "And believe it or not — not everybody likes me, but we all should respect everyone's feelings and opinions."

Clinton lauded the city for efforts such as Squash It, the violence movement, Hot Summer Nights and Night Hoops. She talked about the Partnership for Children's new "No. 1 Question" project. That initiative encourages all employers, groups, churches and governments to consider are good for the child.

"If we did that, I think we would find ourselves making some different decisions," Clinton said.

When the forum was over, first lady approached each of Kansas City youngsters.

"She wished me good luck, told me I had a lot of potential," said Shanna, the Center Middle School student.

"She is a very famous person. I was like, 'Wow.'"

May 21, 1996

CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE: 'COLORADO LISTENS TO KIDS'

DATE: May 22, 1996
TIME: 9:15 am - 12:15 pm
LOCATION: Auraria Campus
Denver, Colorado
FROM: Brenda Costello

I. PURPOSE

To hear from children and parents, and to honor children's advocates for their work in Colorado and hear about their work on behalf of children.

II. BACKGROUND

Your first stop on arrival to the Golda Meir House on Auraria Campus is a photo with Shantelle Reib. You refer to Shantelle and her cousin Nora in *It Takes a Village* (excerpt attached). Shantelle will be attending with her mother Darcy Fletcher, and Susan Smith, mother of Nora. Next you will participate in a meet and greet with program participants and a brief photo with Auraria Foundation Board members and children from the Child Care Center.

Program

The conference begins with a performance by the Colorado Children's Choir (background attached). Following a welcome from Dean Wolf, Bertha Lynn will announce all conference participants. The Conference is broken up into three parts: remarks, open discussion with children and adult panelists, and audience participation (question and answer). Bertha Lynn will act as moderator for the whole program. Governor Romer will be prepared to answer questions regarding specific Colorado programs.

Panelists will be seated in a semi-circle, and will include approximately twelve youths ages 8-16, and eight adult experts from a variety of fields -- health care, business, parents, clergy, and education. The audience participation will be with parents and children's advocates. Approximately 350 service providers, children's advocates, religious leaders, including 150 parents, will be in the audience.

Following your brief closing remarks, Martin Vadas, accompanied by 8 children, will present you with a gift. (Martin Vadas is the gift's artist.)

The Children's Conference is being held on Auraria Campus, a commuter campus comprised of three separate institutions: University of Colorado at Denver, Community College of Denver, and Metropolitan State College of Denver. The Auraria Higher Education Center manages the facilities and non-academic functions. Total enrollment at all three colleges is over 32,000. The Conference itself will be held in St. Cajetan's Center, a converted Catholic church now used for entertainment as well as conferences and other forums. Since most students on campus work, Auraria runs a large Child Care Center for nearly 250 children.

Governor Romer and Children

Governor Romer is scheduled to appear on the "Today" show on Wednesday morning to talk about accepting an award from Working Mother magazine. For the past three years, the magazine has evaluated child care in all 50 states, looking for new programs, innovations and progress. Working Mother named the ten Best States for child care, and Colorado has made this list for the third year in a row. Ratings are based on specific criteria for quality, safety, availability and commitment. Additionally, Colorado received a score of "5" for its commitment to child care -- the only state to receive this rating.

Colorado programs for children

Below are just some of Colorado's programs for children and families.

School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs): Designed as a community approach for improving the health and academic readiness of Colorado children, this program receives some private and federal funding, but no state resources. SBHCs work with other prevention efforts, such as Family Resource Centers, drug-free schools and other community and school-based programs and provide comprehensive services at low cost. Services include: preventative exams and immunizations, health education for students and parents, basic reproductive health care and mental health services. Solid results have been reported nationally for students who use the centers.

Colorado Child Health Plan: The goal of the CCHP is to improve the health status of uninsured Colorado Children living in low-income families by making primary care affordable and accessible. The Colorado Forum joined efforts this year to support expansion of the Colorado Child Health Plan. The CCHP allows low-income working families that do not qualify for Medicaid to purchase insurance at \$25 a year for children under the age of 12. Under pressure from the Colorado Forum and other groups, the General Assembly's Joint Budget Committee reversed its initial opposition to the plan and voted to expand the CCHP, which receives funding from State as well as some federal money.

School-to-Career Partnership (School to Work) The vision for this program is an integrated, standards based educational system, tied to economic development, that ensures all of its young people are prepared to excel in the competitive global market place. In 1995, Colorado was awarded a five-year, \$24 million grant from the US Departments of Labor and Education. Funds are being sub-granted by the state of

Colorado to local community partnerships of business, industry, and education offering innovative solutions. Approximately 33 percent of Colorado school districts are participating in local School-to-Career Partnerships.

First Impressions: This early childhood initiative, established early in Gov. Romer's administration, was designed to focus attention on a child's first five years and stimulate activity at all levels, and create a solid infrastructure of support and assistance for parents and children. Programs include: One-stop family centers in at risk neighborhoods, the "Read to Me, Colorado" campaign to encourage parents to read to their children, and the Youth Crime Prevention and Intervention Fund that provides support to community based programs.

Bright Beginnings: (Representatives from Governor Romer's office suggested that you do not mention this program) A privately funded program, this public awareness/ public action campaign is designed with the goal of making Colorado the best state in the nation for a child to be born and grow up. The premise is that government alone cannot solve all problems families face --the community as a whole must take responsibility for helping parents raise healthy children. Gov. Romer consulted with business leaders, church organizations, the largest child advocacy group, and key legislators to develop an agenda and plan of action.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Meet and Greet with Program Participants

Governor Roy Romer	*Quinian Pozner
Bertha Lynn	*Kevin Wagner
Reverend Robert Woolfolk	*Melissa Roberts
Noel Ginsburg	*Joe Carranco
Rebecca Orona	*Kiyasha Newson
Antonio Garule	*Adam Jake Catheart
Dave DeForest Stalls	*Lia Sperandeo
Adele Phelan	*William Webster
*Tiffany Wilson	*Leo Hernandez
*Melanie Bolub	*Mac Robb
*Yen Vo	
(*Children)	

Photo with Auraria Foundation Board members and children

- Don Kortz, President and CEO of Rose Foundation
- Dean Wolf, Exec. Vice Pres. for Administration, Auraria Higher Education Center
- Mary Ferrell, Executive Director Auraria Foundation
- Marvin Buckels, Treasurer and member Auraria Foundation
- Norman Provisor, Chair, Metropolitan State College, Political Science Department
- Myrtle-Rose Greene, board member & real estate developer
- Barbara Emery, Jewish community leader & board member Auraria Foundation
- 25 children from Auraria Child Care Center

Note: Joe Ventura, 5, will present you with a gift.

Conference

-see above listed program participants

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Dean Wolf, Executive Vice President of Administration, welcomes guests and intros the Colorado Children's Chorale Choir.
- The Colorado Children's Chorale will perform.
- Bertha Lynn, Moderator, announces the program participants and Gov. Romer onto stage.
- Ms. Lynn announces HRC onto the stage.
- HRC proceeds to seat on stage next to Governor Romer.
- Ms. Lynn intros Reverend Wolfolk.
- Reverend Wolfolk gives invocation.
- Ms. Lynn intros Governor Romer.
- Governor Romer delivers remarks and intros HRC.
- HRC proceeds to podium and delivers remarks.
- Ms. Lynn intros each youth and turn the program over to Governor Romer.
- Governor Romer opens discussion with youths
- Ms. Lynn intros each adult expert
- Governor Romer opens discussion with experts.
- Q & A with Audience closely moderated by Bertha Lynn.
- Ms. Lynn asks HRC to close program.
- HRC delivers brief closing remarks.
- Martin Vadas, accompanied by 8 children, presents HRC with a gift.
- HRC will exist stage right to do a ropeline from right to left.
- HRC departs.

V. PRESS

Open press.

VI. REMARKS

Provided by June Shih.

Colorado program attracts first lady



John McDonough/The METROPOLITAN

HILLARY-OUS: Clinton speaks to a crowd on campus in her "address to the children" at St. Cajetan's Center May 22.

Romer, Clinton discuss children's "well-being" with panel on campus

Kristy Frei
The METROPOLITAN

Nearly 300 people gathered at St. Cajetan's Center May 22 to see first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Gov. Roy Romer speak to a panel of children about issues that stifle youth in today's society. Clinton called it an "address to the children."

During the two-hour round-table discussion, Clinton said she visited the Auraria Campus to understand where children's problems lie and what adults can do for those who are troubled.

"We need to recommit ourselves to (children's) well-being," Clinton said,

leading into a discussion with the panel.

Thirteen children, ranging from ages 7 to 17, and seven adults sat on the panel.

The questions opened with Romer asking 13-year-old Quinlan Pozner what it is like to be a teen in today's society. Pozner, who describes herself as an average teen, said that peer pressure is a huge issue in schools today and that "you just have to form your own opinion."

At one point during the discussion, Romer raised the question, "Isn't the family better off with two parents?"

Rebecca Orona, an adult panel member who said she is a single mother, defended single parents.

"They do a very good job," she said. "I know there's an issue with the fathers, but we all make our own choices."

Clinton disagreed, saying, "More fathers need to take responsibility for their children and need to get involved with kids who aren't their own."

Clinton also brought up issues from her book, "It Takes A Village." She said people don't care enough about other people's children and that most people have begun to alienate themselves from one another.

"We don't see each other's children as our responsibility," Clinton said, adding that Americans need to take care of one another. "We don't listen enough to the

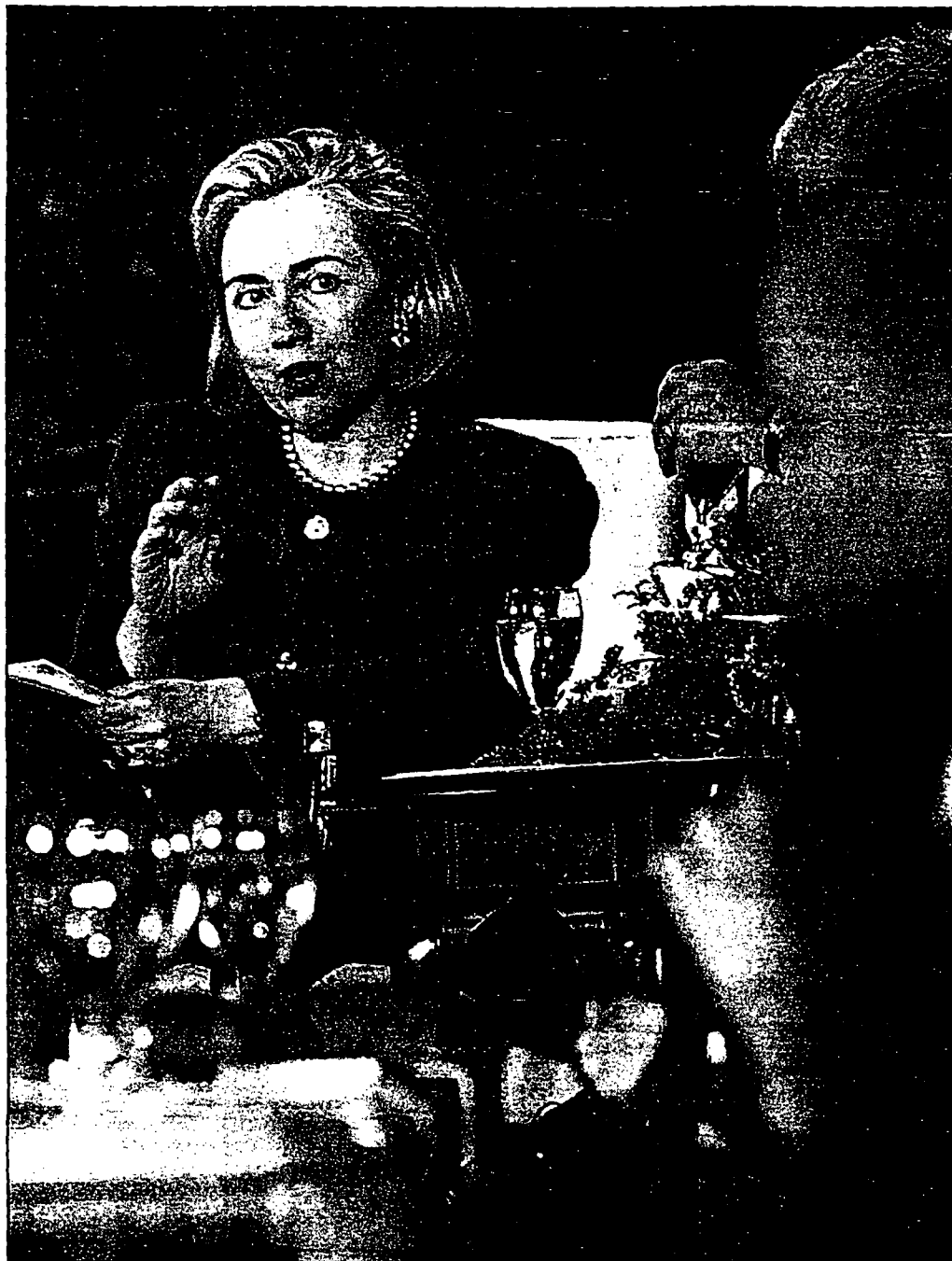
people who are (in need) — the children."

Clinton also thanked Romer for leading such a pro-child state. According to Clinton, Colorado ranked within the top 10 states for child care.

"Isn't the family better off with two parents?"

-Gov. Roy Romer

Listen to the children



John McDonough/The METROPOLITAN

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton discusses the challenges children face today with Gov. Roy Romer and a panel of parents and children in St. Cajetan's on May 22. The meeting was by invitation only. See story page 3.

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