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3/30/2000 Meeting with CORE Center

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**COOK COUNTY
BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES**

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AMBULATORY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60612

JOHN H. STROGER, JR., PRESIDENT
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RUTH M. ROTHSTEIN, CHIEF
BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES

April 27, 2000

make folder

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
National AIDS Policy Director
736 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20515



Dear Ms. Thurman,

Thank you for meeting with Robert Weinstein, M.D., Kathye Gorosh and myself recently to discuss ways in which to help the CORE Center reach its funding goal for FY 2001. Your input and candor was very much appreciated. I have enclosed the video that we referred to that tells the story of how the CORE Center came to be.

As you are aware, this initiative is critical to the CORE Center and the community it serves. The CORE Center's patient base can be viewed as a microcosm of urban centers throughout the nation. Heavily minority in its demographic make-up, the Center's patient base is at disproportionate risk for HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. The region is in desperate need of model programs to address with the complexities of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.

COMET will, for the first time, provide a national model for the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and education services to providers and patients. COMET will do so through the use of computer networks, especially in minority neighborhoods where the epidemic is expanding most rapidly.

Ms. Thurman, I truly appreciated your obvious understanding of the importance of innovative programs such as the proposal we are presenting. Your enthusiasm was very invigorating! We look forward to working with you in support of COMET in FY 2001. Additionally, we welcome the opportunity to show you around The CORE Center and to further acquaint you with all of the exciting programs we have at the Center.

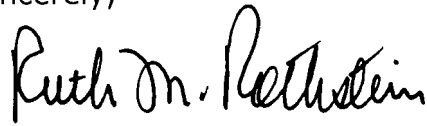


Your support for this initiative has been very encouraging. I appreciate your continued efforts and the good work of your very capable staff persons. I look forward to working with you in FY 2001 to secure \$8.7 million in federal funding for this nationally significant HIV/AIDS education and training initiative.

While the Center did receive \$1.25 million in FY 2000, the additional funding is critical to make this important initiative a reality. I hope that we can work with you during the coming year to ensure that we reach this important goal.

Again, thank you for all of your support and effort. Your actions reflect a commitment that is very important to us and the patients that we serve. I am grateful for the continued opportunity to work with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ruth M. Rothstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Ruth M. Rothstein
Chief
Cook County Bureau of Health Services