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Awards

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Physicians dedicated to the health of America



A program of the American Medical Association

Nomination submitted by:

All nominations should be neatly typed and received by 5 pm, Friday, March 12, 1999 at the Secretariat Office. (Registered delivery is preferred.)

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman		
Name (Please indicate Mr, Ms, Miss, Mrs, or appropriate title of salutation)		
736 Jackson Place, NW		
Complete address		
Washington	DC	20503
City	State	Zip code
	202-456-2439	
Telephone (Area code)		Facsimile (Area code)
Director of Office of National AIDS Policy		
Title/Position/Occupation		
Office address if different from above		
City	State	Zip code

Check one: ☐ US Senator ☐ US Representative ☐ Governor or Elected Statewide Official
☒ Member of Executive Branch Serving by Presidential Appointment (Federal Government)
☐ Member of Executive Branch in Career Public Service (Federal Government)
☐ Member of a State Legislature
☐ Career Public Servant at the State or Local Level

III. Brief biographical statement about nominee:

(Additional biographical information may be attached. Alternate paper may be used for nomination form.)

SANDRA L. THURMAN

Director
The White House
Office of National AIDS Policy

Sandra L. Thurman was appointed by the President on April 7, 1997 as the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy at the White House.

For more than a decade, Ms. Thurman has been a leader and advocate for people with AIDS at the local, state, and federal levels.

Most recently, Ms. Thurman served as the Director of Citizen Exchanges at the United States Information Agency. From 1993 to 1996 Ms. Thurman was the Director of Advocacy Programs at The Task Force for Child Survival and Development at the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. As Director, she focused on the global health concerns of children, including immunization and the eradication of polio.

From 1988 to 1993, Ms. Thurman, of Atlanta, Georgia, served as the Executive Director of AID Atlanta, a community-based nonprofit organization that provides health and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and offers an array of HJV prevention programs. Under her leadership, AID Atlanta, the largest and oldest AIDS service organization in the south, tripled in size, and became a multimillion dollar, direct-service agency with 90 staff members and more than 1,000 volunteers.

Ms. Thurman was a Member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and of the Georgia State AIDS Task Force, the Fulton County HIV Planning Council, and the Executive Committee of Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR). She has also served on the Board of Directors of the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition, AID Atlanta, Sisterlove, Inc., and the Atlanta AIDS Interfaith Network, among others. She is a recognized expert on AIDS issues and has provided testimony before the United States Senate, the White House Conference on HIV/AIDS, and the National Commission on AIDS.

Ms. Thurman earned a Bachelor's degree from Mercer University.

IV. I/We nominate the above for the Dr. Nathan Davis Award because: (Please indicate in 500 words or less why your nominee should receive the Dr. Nathan Davis Award.) **Note: Not more than 10 pages of supplementary material may be submitted along with this nomination.** Accompanying materials can include letters, testimonials, news clippings, pamphlets, etc. Do not submit tapes, cassettes, display materials, films, scrapbooks, or books, since they will not be considered in judging the nomination. All materials submitted become the property of the American Medical Association and will not be returned. When preparing accompanying materials keep the materials to a minimum and submit photocopies when possible.

On behalf of AIDS Action, the national voice on AIDS, representing all Americans affected by HIV/AIDS and the 3,700 community-based organizations that serve them, I nominate the Director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP), Sandra L. Thurman, for the Dr. Nathan Davis Award because of her commitment and leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Ms. Thurman not only meets but also exceeds all of the criteria of a Dr. Nathan Davis Award Nominee.

Ms. Thurman has contributed greatly to the public health through her more than ten years of work as an advocate and a leader in the HIV/AIDS field. Says Cornelius Baker, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS, of Thurman, "Her compassion and her commitment to our lives is so evident." Thurman works to make AIDS a priority in the domestic agenda, and is also working on international HIV/AIDS. Her determination has made an impression on many, including President Clinton. Clinton praised Ms. Thurman for "speaking the truth unvarnished" – an essential quality for someone working to end the AIDS pandemic in a time of public complacency.

Ms. Thurman is undoubtedly an outstanding leader in the HIV/AIDS field. As executive director of AID Atlanta, Thurman tripled the size of that organization. She has provided testimony before the United States Senate, the White House Conference on HIV/AIDS, and the National Commission on AIDS. Ms. Thurman has worked to encourage increased AIDS spending, to raise HIV/AIDS awareness and promote prevention; and to address AIDS on a global scale.

In addition, Ms. Thurman clearly demonstrates a high level of personal integrity as Director of ONAP. Each day, Thurman must confront the complex issues surrounding HIV/AIDS; including sex, drugs, and sexual orientation. Continually addressing these issues and working to bring them to the forefront of government and public concern is a daunting task. It is a testament to Thurman's character that she does not back down from this challenge. In fact, Thurman states, "I have an obligation to be very honest with people about what needs to happen to stem the spread of this epidemic, even if they don't want to hear it."

Sandra Thurman's government service as Director of ONAP unmistakably promotes the art and science of medicine. By working closely with the Clinton administration to advance progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, Thurman's position forges a strong link between government and medicine. Thurman has worked extensively to make HIV/AIDS a Clinton administration priority, and she has been enormously successful.

Currently, Ms. Thurman has developed a special project to specifically contribute to the public health of AIDS orphans. Ms. Thurman has worked with President Clinton to identify 10 million dollars to be used in emergency relief funding and programs for children orphaned by AIDS. In January of this year, Thurman led a small delegation to sub-Saharan Africa to begin implementation of this program. Thurman will continue the second phase of this project when she conducts a larger fact-finding delegation in early April, following which she will make recommendations for action to the President. For this and her many other successes, I believe Ms. Thurman should receive the Dr. Nathan Davis Award.

Daniel Zingale
Executive Director



MERCER UNIVERSITY



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COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Sandra L. Thurman, B.S. '92

Director, Office of National AIDS Policy

FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, SANDRA L. THURMAN has been a leader and advocate for people with AIDS. On April 7, 1997, she was appointed by President Clinton as director of the Office of National AIDS Policy at the White House.

Ms. Thurman previously served as director of citizen exchanges at the United States Information Agency. From 1993 to 1996 she was director of advocacy programs at The Task Force for Child Survival and Development at the Carter Center in Atlanta. As director, she focused on the global health concerns of children, including immunization and the eradication of polio.

From 1988 to 1993, Ms. Thurman served as the executive director of AID Atlanta, a community-based nonprofit organization that offers an array of HIV prevention programs and provides health and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS. Under her leadership, AID Atlanta — the largest and oldest AIDS service organization in the south — tripled in size and became a multimillion dollar, direct-service agency with 90 staff members and more than 1,000 volunteers.

Ms. Thurman was a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and of the Georgia State AIDS Task Force, the Fulton County HIV Planning Council, and the Executive Committee of Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition, AID Atlanta, Sisterlove Inc., and the Atlanta AIDS Interfaith Network, among others. She is a recognized expert on AIDS issues and has provided testimony before the United States Senate, the White House Conference on HIV/AIDS, and the National Commission on AIDS.



UNIVERSITY HONORS

Sandra L. Thurman, B.S. '92

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

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UNIVERSITY HONORS

Sandra L. Thurman, B.S. '92

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

News from the
Office of National AIDS Policy
Executive Office of the President



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 21, 1998

Contact: (202) 456-2437

Director of White House Office of National AIDS Policy Makes a Mission out of Children Orphaned by AIDS

According to USAID, by the year 2010, 40 million children will be orphaned by AIDS; more than 90% of whom live in Sub-Saharan Africa. "As HIV infection rates continue to skyrocket in most Sub-Saharan African nations, children are increasingly caught in the crossfire, placing an entire future generation in jeopardy," said Sandra Thurman, Director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy.

On December 1, 1998, World AIDS Day, President Clinton set-aside \$10 million in US emergency relief funding to help identify effective policies and programs for children orphaned by AIDS, and to begin to build support for community-based responses that strengthen families, villages, and youth themselves. Such efforts will include training and support for foster families, initiatives to keep children housed, fed, and in school, and counseling activities to help children young people deal with death and discrimination. In the words of President Clinton, our goal is "to give these children not only something to live for, but to hope for."

As a first step in this process, Office of National AIDS Policy Director Sandra Thurman will lead a small delegation with expertise in HIV, children, government, business, and public relations to sub-Saharan Africa from January 22 through February 7. Director Thurman and the delegation will visit programs as well as meet with high-ranking government officials, non-governmental organizations, and individuals and families living with HIV and AIDS in South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Uganda.

The purpose of this initial trip is to assess realities, identify strategic opportunities, and plan for a larger fact-finding mission to take place in early April. The April fact-finding mission will, as directed by the President, include a key congressional delegation. Following this assessment phase, Director Thurman will make recommendations for action to the President.

The overall goals of this initiative are to:

- raise awareness, both in the United States and in sub-Saharan Africa, of the growing global crisis of children orphaned by AIDS;
- build consensus, both in the United States and in sub-Saharan Africa, for an increased response to the growing global crisis of children orphaned by AIDS;
- define the issues involved in this complex problem, and identify “best practices” for shaping an effective response to the growing global crisis of children orphaned by AIDS; and
- clarify roles of various stakeholders and funders, and begin to mobilize resources needed to expand the “best practices” on a scale commensurate with the magnitude of the growing global crisis of children orphaned by AIDS.

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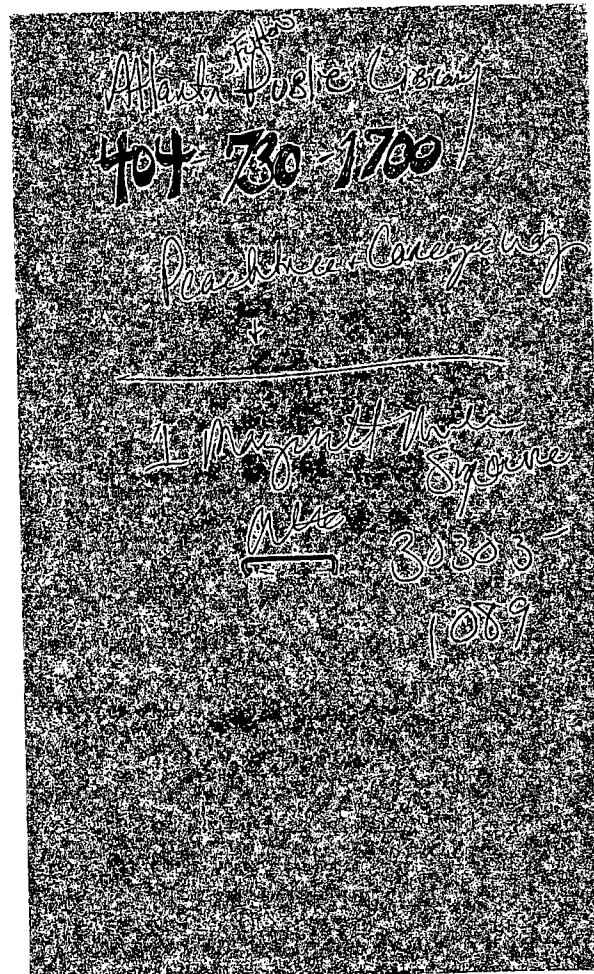


TELEPHONE: 202-334-3446

MARY PAT NOWACK

DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES-NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW (GR406), WASHINGTON D.C. 20418



*E*XECUTIVE *W*OMEN IN *G*OVERNMENT

December 12, 1997

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director, Office of National AIDS Policy
The White House
c/o Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach
708 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Ref: Executive Women in Government December 10th Meeting

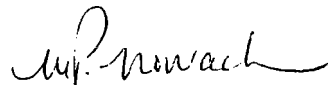
Dear Ms. Thurman:

On behalf of Executive Women in Government, I would like to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with us on such short notice for our December meeting this week. Your remarks were compelling, especially at this time when some of the press would have us believe a cure for AIDS is right around the corner. And your personal commentary on how you came to the White House was delightful.

I remind you that it is our tradition to make a gift in your name of the catalog of the National Museum of Women in the Arts to the library of your choice. If you would please let me know the name, address, and contact person of your preferred library, I will have our secretary arrange delivery.

I hope you and your family enjoy a happy holiday season.

Sincerely yours,



Mary Pat Nowack
Program Chairperson

Copy to: Sondra Seba