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Folder Title:

Brother to Brother Sister to Sister United

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 2000

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in the spirit of friendship and community to recognize Brother to Brother Sister to Sister United and that now infamous journey from Raleigh to Washington, The 5th Annual Tanqueray AIDS Ride.

This year, the journey marks a decisive moment in our battle against AIDS. In this new millennium of hope and optimism, far too many Americans yearn to believe that the worst is behind us. Yet with 40,000 new infections each and every year in this country, and an alarming 50% within the African-American community alone, our battle rages on. AIDS is not going away and AIDS is not slowing down.

Tonight, we are called to once again renew our commitment to choose determined action over complacency and the tragic consequences of silence. After eighteen years of struggle, it is a difficult calling. Yet no where on earth is there a group of individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a greater ability to rise to the occasion than the AIDS community. Your presence here, and on that 360 miles of gravel, proves that courage, commitment and determination beyond a doubt. You continue to remind us that we are all part of a solution -- one partnership, one individual, one mile at a time.

It is in that spirit that I join the President and Vice President in wishing you a wonderful evening of old friends and new memories, and in urging you to continue to build a foundation for hope, a legacy of compassion, and a partnership forged by our struggle together.

Sincerely,

Sandra Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Wallace
Cobalt

↑ 3
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Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Hey this is from

Wallace

Conhalt

give me a call if any
questions :)

h. 994-6057
w. 715-5203

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 3, 1999

Good evening - On behalf of the President and Mrs. Clinton, it is my pleasure to greet everyone gathered to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of Brother to Brother Sister to Sister United and the 4th Annual Tanqueray AIDS Ride from Raleigh to DC.

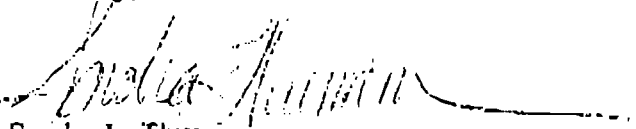
Let me say first that I am truly honored to be a member of the BBSSU team. United as partners, as brothers and sisters, and as riders - together we have made tremendous progress here in our fight to end AIDS. But we must renew our commitment to those we have lost along the way and to the future of our youth, our communities, our nation.

We ride this year to protest the growing misperception that AIDS is no longer a lethal threat, a misperception that has hit the African-American community particularly hard. We ride this year because we have an obligation to raise our voices on behalf of those who depend on us for action and to continue building new bridges across old boundaries.

This epidemic has been an extraordinarily poignant reminder of what can be accomplished through struggle, and through partnership. No where is this more evident than in the faces of 1700 riders, sunburned and sore, who gave everything they had and then some to make that long journey to the Capitol. As we ride this year, we must dedicate ourselves to building a foundation for hope, a legacy of compassion, and a partnership forged by our struggle together.

I send my best wishes for a wonderful evening and look forward to seeing you all in Raleigh!

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