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CAEAR - Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief [3]

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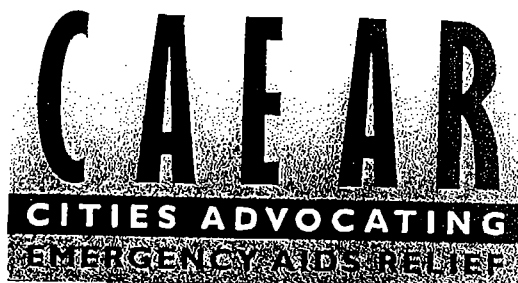
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**The CAEAR
Coalition**

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Washington, DC
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CAEARinDC@aol.com

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Page one of three

December 9, 1999

To : Jacob Lew, OMB 202-395-3888
Sandra Thurman, Office of National AIDS Policy 202-456-2438
Kevin Thurm, HHS 202-690-7755
John Callahan, HHS 202-690-5405
Eric Goosby, M.D., HHS 202-690-7560
Claude Earl Fox, M.D., HRSA 301-443-7834
Joseph O'Neill, M.D., HRSA 301-443-9645

From: Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition

CAEAR

**CITIES ADVOCATING
EMERGENCY AIDS RELIEF**

**The CAEAR
Coalition**

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December 9, 1999

The Honorable Donna Shalala
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 615F
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to express our organization's dismay and outrage over the Administration's proposed .53% across-the-board reductions to Ryan White CARE Act programs for FY 2000. These critical grant programs serving low-income, uninsured and under insured individuals should be the first to be protected from cuts and not disproportionately shoulder the burden of discretionary HHS program reductions. A .53% reduction from Ryan White CARE Act grants would reduce FY 2000 funding by almost \$8.5 million, putting at risk thousands of vulnerable individuals living with HIV disease.

The Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition is a national grassroots organization advocating on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS who depend on Title I and Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act for health care and support services. We include members of Title I planning councils, people living with HIV/AIDS, community-based AIDS service organizations, providers of HIV/AIDS health care, CARE Act grantees, and consortia. We represent all segments of society that have been impacted by HIV/AIDS. A .53% cut reduction in funding for Title I and Title III would impair our members' ability to serve our clients.

As you know, infection rates remain distressingly high, adding new cases constantly to providers of Ryan White CARE services. The cost of care per patient is rising steadily. In addition, we learned just recently that the Public Health Service treatment guidelines will soon require our providers to offer laboratory tests to measure resistance as a part of the standard of HIV care. CARE Act provider must be able to offer this test but the cost is likely to reach \$500 per patient per year. Absorbing this new unanticipated expense in FY 2000 on top of a .53% reduction in grants will place a great burden on local agencies.

By September 30, 2000, Congress must reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act. The CAEAR Coalition is greatly concerned about the message Congress may hear as to the

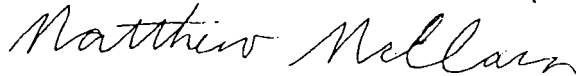
The Sheridan Group
Government Relations
Representative

The Honorable Donna Shalala
December 9, 1999
Page two

Administration's commitment to this important program from a decision to cut programmatic funding in FY 2000.

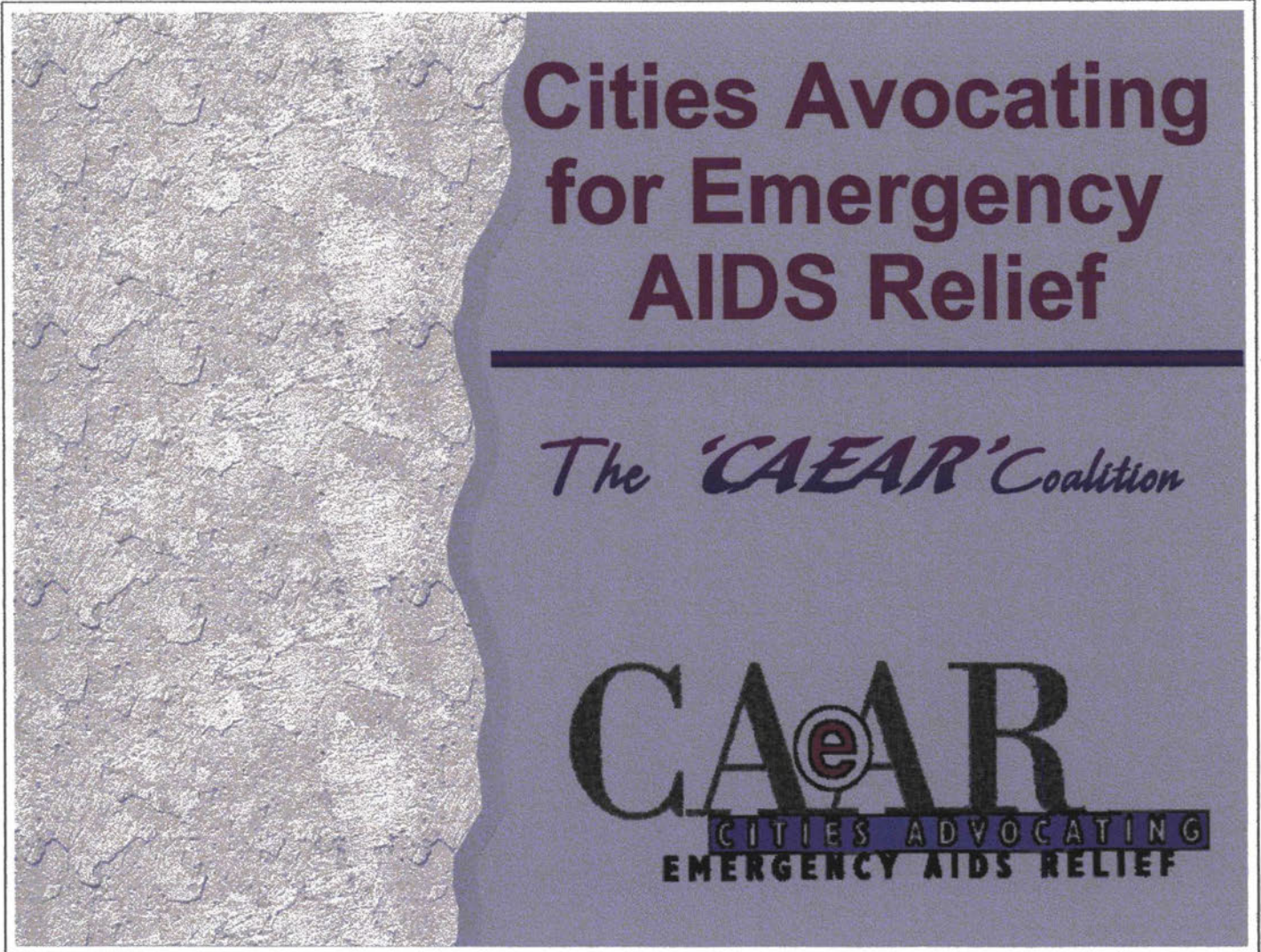
The CAEAR Coalition urges you to reconsider this .53% cut in funding because of its immediate negative impact on vulnerable people living with HIV - and because of its potential negative impact on the willingness of Congress to reauthorize the Act so it can continue to serve its critical role in our nation's public health system.

Sincerely,



Matthew McClain
Chair, Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief Coalition

cc: Jacob Lew, OMB
Sandra Thurman, Office of National AIDS Policy
Kevin Thurm, HHS
John Callahan, HHS
Eric Goosby, M.D., HHS
Claude Earl Fox, M.D., HRSA
Joseph O'Neill, M.D., HRSA

The cover features a dark blue background on the right and a textured, light-colored area on the left that resembles torn paper. The title is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below the title is a horizontal line. The subtitle is in a script font. At the bottom is the CAEAR logo, which includes the acronym in large letters and the full name in a smaller box below it.

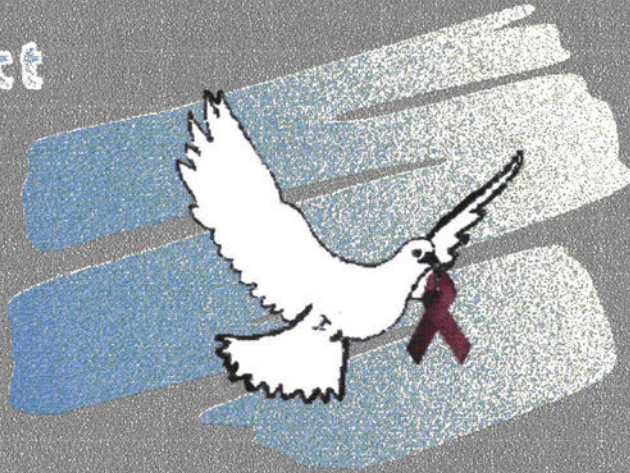
Cities Advocating for Emergency AIDS Relief

The 'CAEAR' Coalition

CAEAR
CITIES ADVOCATING
EMERGENCY AIDS RELIEF

The Reauthorization Discussion of . . .

The Ryan White CARE Act



Authorization

- To Sanction
- The Appropriations of the

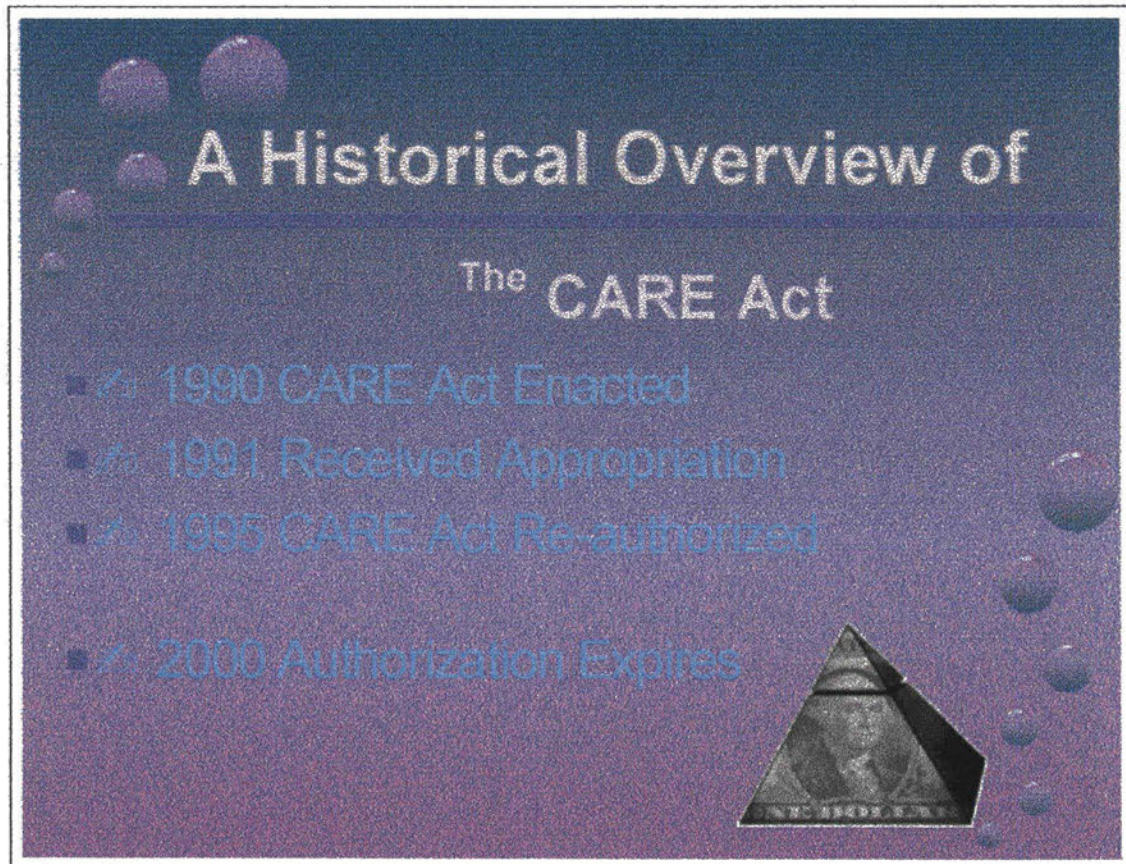


Examples of ACTS *(that have been authorized)*

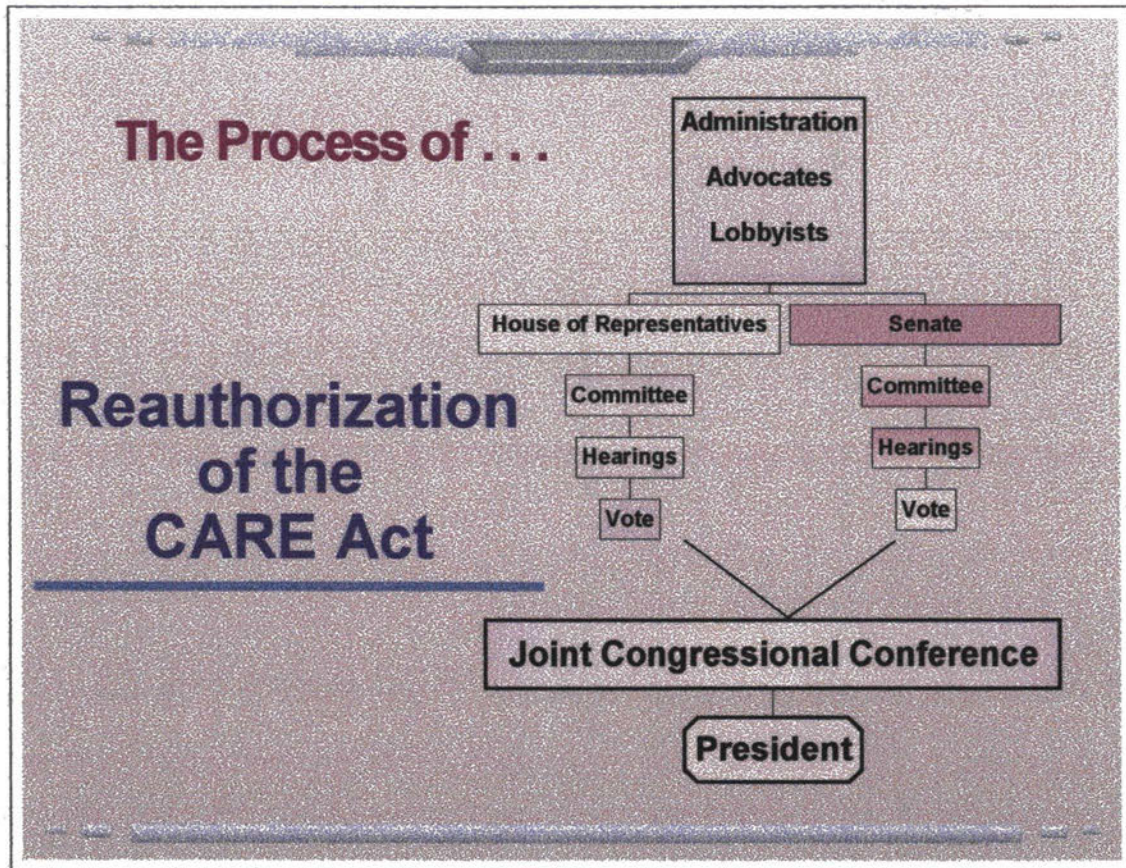
- The Clean Air Act
- Wetlands & Wildlife Enhancement Act
- Rhinoceros & Tiger Conservation Act
- The **CARE ACT**



Definitions



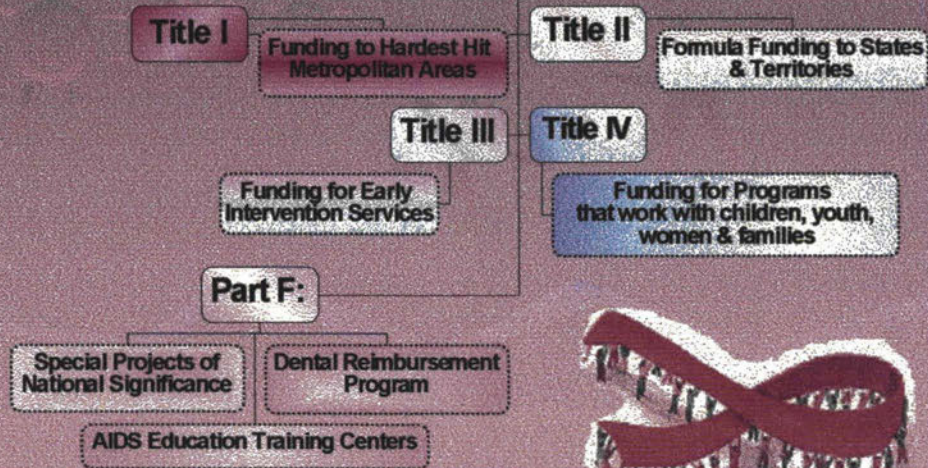
The History of The CARE Act



The Process . . .

The Ryan White CARE Act

COMPREHENSIVE AIDS RESOURCES EMERGENCY ACT



The Act Itself

Questions For Discussion

- Should the CARE Act be Reauthorized?
- Should a new CARE Act look like or be a continuation of the current Act?
- How should the dollars be allocated?
- Who should have control over the dollars?

- ◆ The Feds ?
- ◆ States / Territories ?
- ◆ Localities ?



The Roles of the Participants

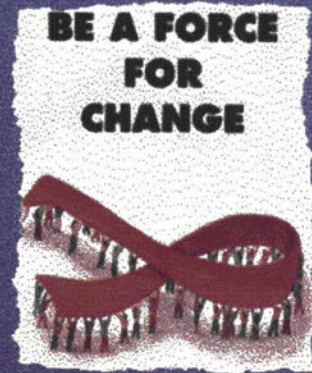
- "Inter-Title" Collaborations
- The role of the current AIDS Service infrastructure
- Who are our "Voices of People Living with HIV/AIDS"?
- Who should our partners be?
 - ▼ HIV Related ?
 - ▼ Non HIV Related?



As a profoundly insightful associate
once expressed . . .

*" . . . we all have AIDS,
until none of us has AIDS! "*

So . . .

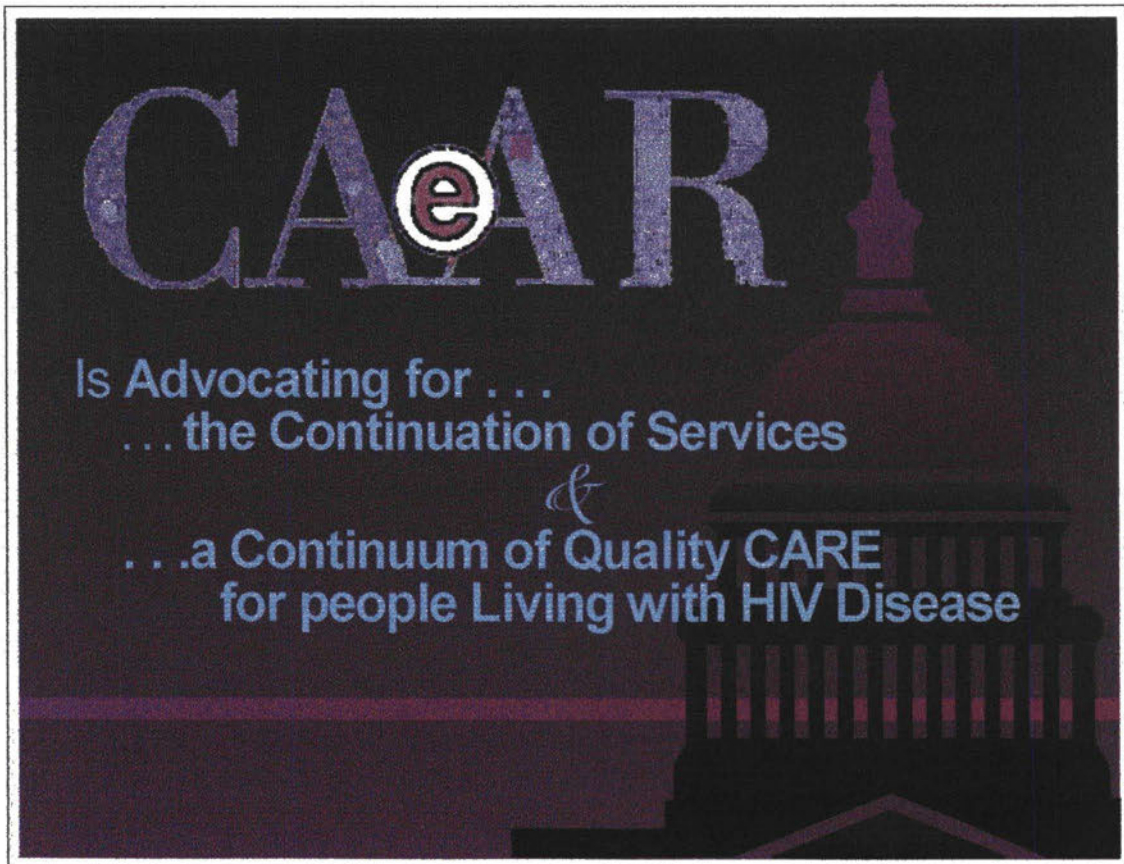


"Be a Force of Change"

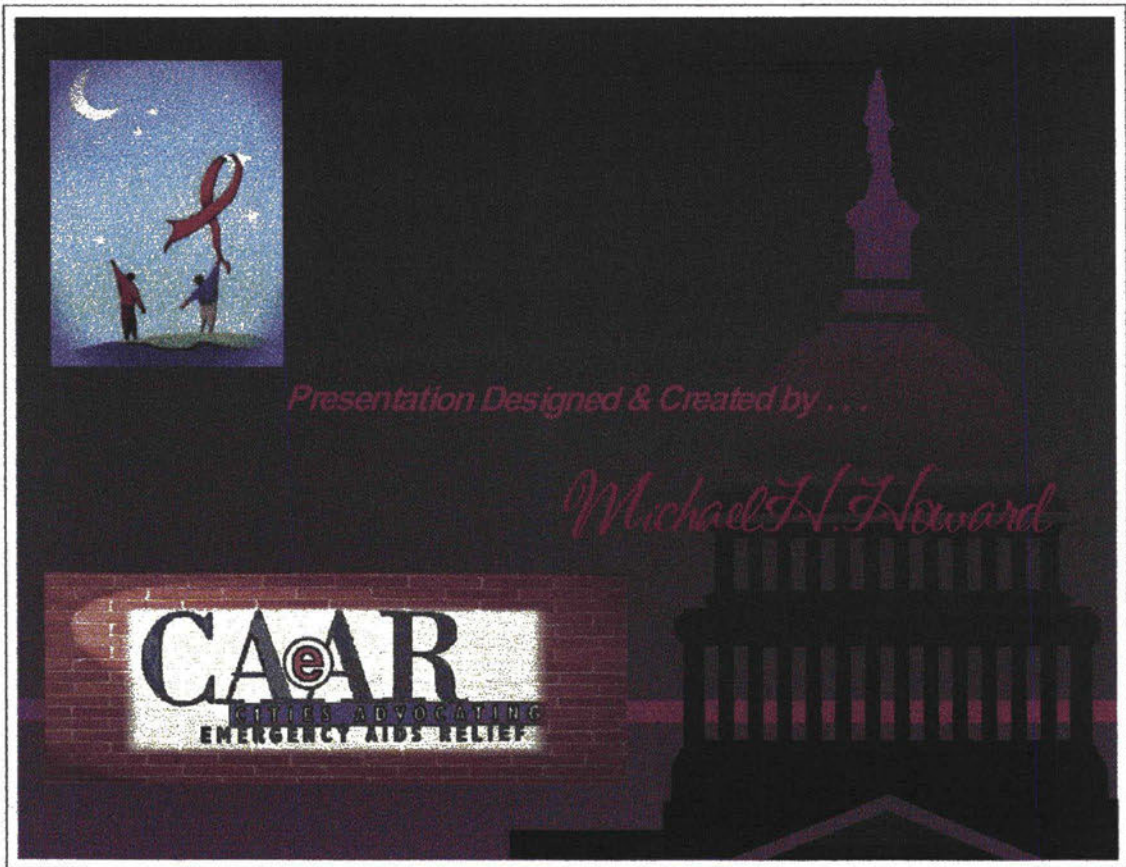
Final Thoughts

- How does the “*Changing Face of AIDS*” effect the mix. . .
 - . . . With regards to the allocation of the \$\$’s? *and*.
 - . . . Within the structures of the currently funded programs?
- What ‘Time-Line’ do we adopt and follow?

CA@AR



In Closing



12

Credits

Reauthorization Discussion of
the Ryan White
CARE ACT

AUTHORIZATION:

- ☛ To sanction
- ☛ Appropriation of \$\$

ACTS *[that have been authorized]*

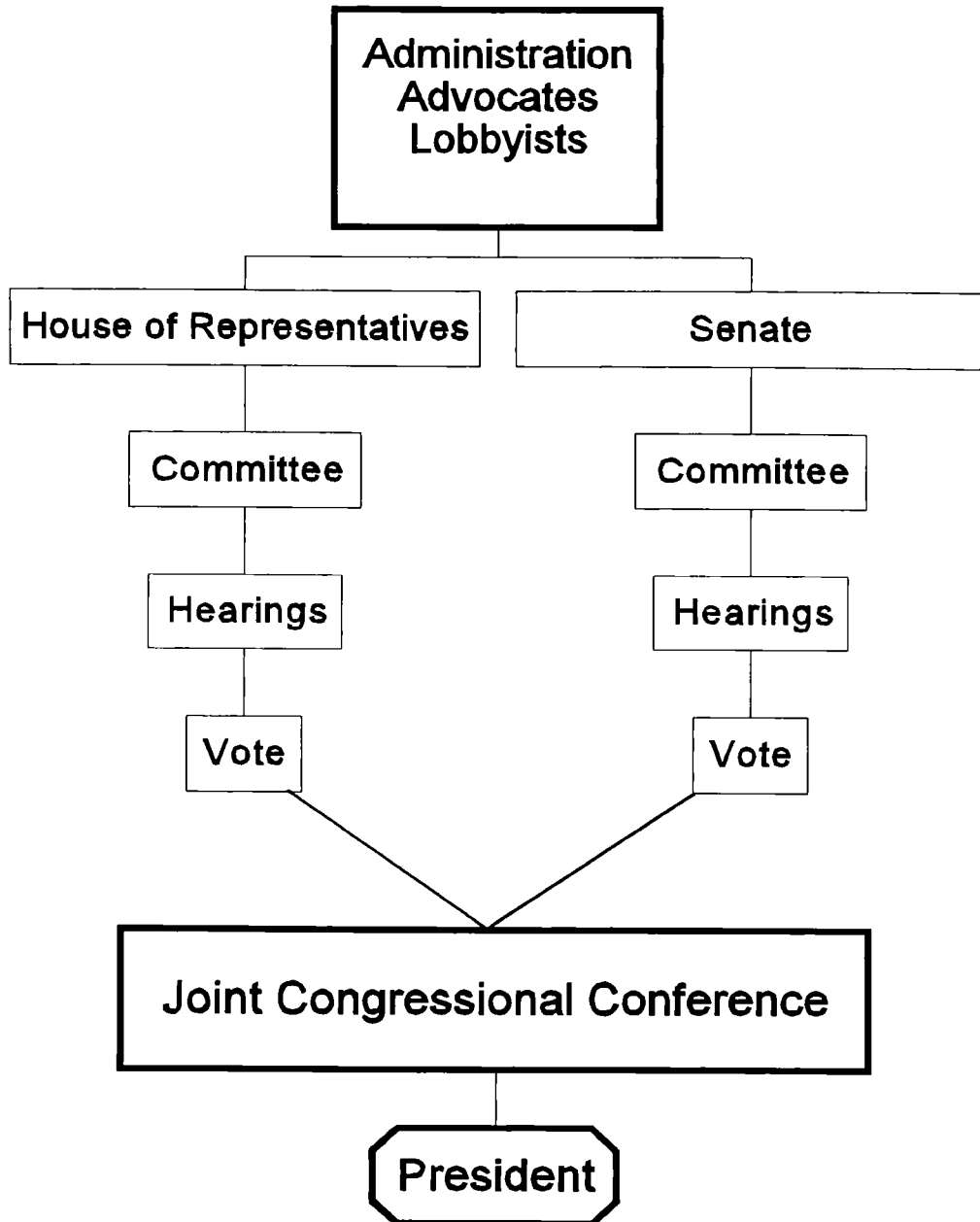
- ◆ The clean Air Act
- ◆ Wetlands and Wildlife Enhancement Act
- ◆ Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act

- ◆ CARE ACT

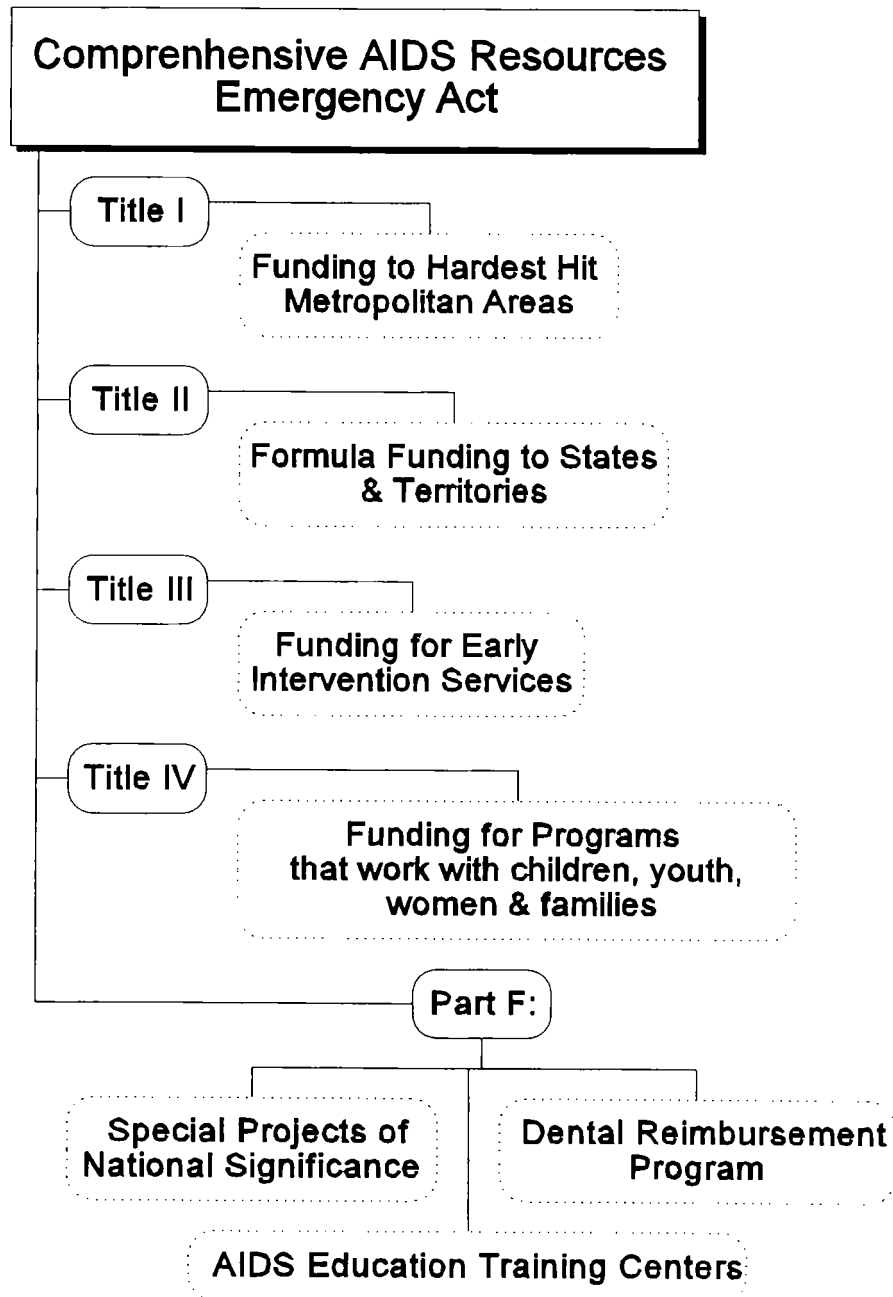
CARE Act Historical Overview

- 📅 1990 CARE Act Enacted
- 📅 1991 Received Appropriation
- 📅 1995 CARE Act Re-authorized
- 📅 2000 Authorization Expires

The Process:



The Ryan White CARE Act



Issues for Discussion

- ☐ Should the CARE Act be Reauthorized?
- ☐ Should a new CARE Act look like or be a continuation of the current Act?
- ☐ Who should have control over the dollars?
 - Feds
 - States / Territories
 - Localities
- ☐ How Should the dollars be Allocated?
- ☐ How does the “changing face of AIDS” effectfunded programs?the allocation?
- ☐ What is the role of “*inter-title*” collaborations?
- ☐ Who should our partners be? HIV related?
Non-HIV related?
- ☐ What is the role of the Current AIDS Service infrastructure in the reauthorization.
- ☐ Who are “the voices of PLWA” and, what role do they play in the reauthorization?
- ☐ What Time-Line do we adopt and follow?



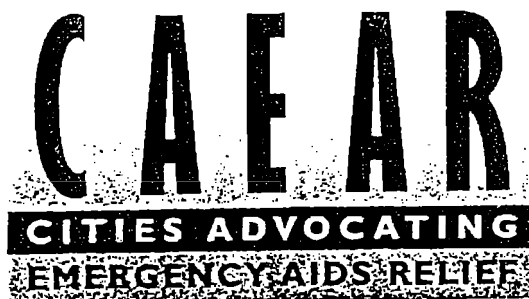
FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: 11/23/99TO: Office of National AIDS PolicyFAX #: 456-2439FROM: Tim McKenna3 PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET

NOTE:

CAEAR Coalition letter requesting a meeting with
Ms. Thorne.

Members of the Executive Committee will be available
for meetings on Dec. 7 (all day) and Dec. 8 (in the
morning) - NOT on the 6th as stated in the letter.



**The CAEAR
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November 18, 1999

Sandra Thurman
National AIDS Policy Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
736 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition is a national grassroots organization advocating on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS who depend on Title I and Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act for health care and support services. Title I alone funds 55 cities that contain more than 71% of AIDS cases. We include members of Title I planning councils, people living with HIV/AIDS, community-based AIDS service organizations, providers of HIV/AIDS health care, CARE Act grantees, and consortia. We represent all segments of society that have been impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Members of the CAEAR Coalition leadership would like to meet with you to discuss the upcoming reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act and the FY 2001 budget. The Executive Committee of the CAEAR Coalition will be in Washington, DC on December 6 and 7 and would like to request an appointment on one of those days, to be scheduled at your convenience.

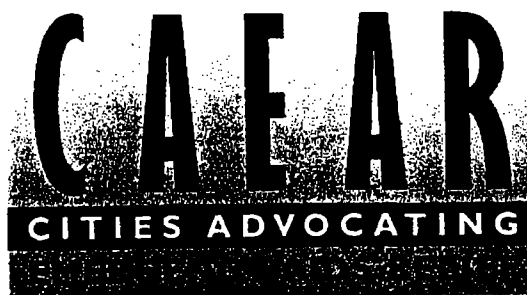
I hope you will meet with CAEAR leaders to discuss this vital program that provides services for so many, including low-income uninsured and underinsured persons and traditionally underserved communities. Tim McKenna from The Sheridan Group will be calling your office to see about scheduling an appointment.

I look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Barbour
Executive Director

Encl. CAEAR Executive Committee list



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Coalition**

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CAEAR Executive Committee

Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition is a national grassroots organization advocating on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS who depend on Title I and Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act for health care and support services. We include members of Title I planning councils, people living with HIV/AIDS, community-based AIDS service organizations, providers of HIV/AIDS health care, CARE Act grantees, and consortia. We represent all segments of society that have been impacted by HIV/AIDS.

CAEAR Officers

Matthew McClain, Chair
Philadelphia Dept. of Public Health
Philadelphia, PA

Patricia Bass, Vice Chair
Philadelphia Dept. of Public Health
Philadelphia, PA

Jacqueline Muther, Treasurer
Grady Health Systems
Atlanta, GA

Dr. David Reznik, Secretary
HIVdent
Atlanta, GA

CAEAR Executive Committee Members

Errol Chin-Loy
Office of the Mayor
New York, NY

Dr. Gene Copello
Florida AIDS Action Council
Jacksonville, FL

Tracy Fischman
Chicago Dept. of Public Health
Chicago, IL

Daryl Flynn
LA Drug and Alcohol Task Force
Los Angeles, CA

Eugenia Handler
Fenway Community Health Center
Boston, MA

Patricia Hawkins
Whitman Walker Clinic
Washington, DC

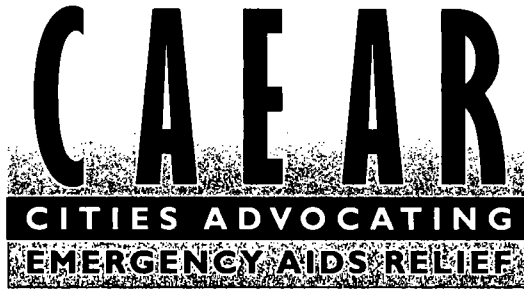
Matt Hamilton
Office of the Mayor
New York, NY

Ernest Hopkins, Chair – Policy
Subcommittee
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
San Francisco, CA

Suzi Rodriguez
LA HIV Drug and Alcohol Task Force
Los Angeles, CA

Herb K. Schultz
AIDS Project Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

November 1999



**The CAEAR
Coalition**

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CAEARinDC@aol.com

December 23, 1999

Sandra L. Thurman
National AIDS Policy Director
736 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Sandy:

On behalf of the Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition, I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with our Executive Committee when we were in Washington earlier this month. We greatly appreciated the opportunity to speak with you about the Ryan White CARE Act and your frank advice about the difficult challenges we face.

Since our meeting, we have not heard encouraging reports about the status of the Ryan White CARE Act in the development of the FY 2001 Budget. I must reiterate our strong belief that a reasonable increase in funding over last year's level is necessary to address the need in communities across the nation and to signal the Administration's strong support of the program as we engage in a potentially divisive debate over reauthorization in Congress. We appeal to you to promote this issue in the critical days ahead.

The CAEAR Coalition has scheduled a meeting of our full membership in Washington, DC February 6 -9. I hope we will be able to arrange a time for our leadership to talk with you again during this event. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me or Jennifer Vasiloff at The Sheridan Group (462-7288) if members of the CAEAR Coalition can be of any assistance to your office.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Barbour
Executive Director

Enclosure: CAEAR Coalition position paper on reauthorization of the Ryan
White CARE Act

Fact Sheet on Title I and Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act

The Sheridan Group
Government Relations
Representative

Senate
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR & PENSIONS COMMITTEE

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Judd Gregg	New Hampshire
Bill Frist	Tennessee
Mike DeWine	Ohio
Michael Enzi	Wyoming
Tim Hutchinson	Arkansas
Susan Collins	Maine
Sam Brownback	Kansas
Chuck Hagel	Nebraska
Jeff Sessions	Alabama

Democrats	
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Christopher Dodd	Connecticut
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Barbara Mikulski	Maryland
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Robert Ehrlich Jr.	Maryland/2	(202) 225-3061	Charli Coon

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Bobby Rush	Illinois/1	(202) 225-4372	Yardly Pollas
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* Health and Environment subcommittee

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C A E A R

CITIES ADVOCATING
EMERGENCY AIDS RELIEF

June 1999

Advocating for CARE Act Title I & Title III

Policy Position Paper: Ryan White CARE Act Reauthorization

CAEAR

CITIES ADVOCATING EMERGENCY AIDS RELIEF

The CAEAR Coalition

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Philadelphia

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The Sheridan Group
Government Relations
Representative

February 29, 2000

Dear U.S. Representative:

On behalf of the Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition, I urge you to support prompt reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.

The Ryan White CARE Act provides healthcare and essential supportive and access services to low-income, uninsured or underinsured persons infected with HIV. Since its enactment in 1990, the Ryan White CARE Act has dramatically improved the quality of life of people living with HIV disease and their families, reduced use of costly inpatient care, and increased access to care for low-income, underserved populations, including people of color. A reauthorized Act would build on this decade of success by fine-tuning the CARE Act to address new challenges in the HIV/AIDS epidemic while maintaining the successful structure and strong local control present in the current law. Congress must move swiftly, as the authorization of the Ryan White CARE Act expires in September of this year.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic remains an enormous health emergency in the United States. More than 40,000 individuals in the U.S. are likely to be infected with HIV in 2000; the number of AIDS cases in the U.S. has nearly doubled during the last five years to 711,344. The CARE Act serves as the safety net for underserved communities with little or no access to high quality HIV-specialty care. The need remains great: the initial HIV Cost and Services Utilization Study, sponsored by the US Public Health Service, estimates that 250,000 to 300,000 individuals diagnosed with HIV infection currently receive no medical treatment.

The community-based, early intervention model of the CARE Act reduces expensive inpatient hospitalizations and hospital-based services and decreases the use of medical specialty care. Early diagnosis and treatment programs funded through the CARE Act remain an effective investment in people and in the health care system, saving substantial dollars by reducing hospital admissions by 30 percent nationally and up to 75 percent in some locales. The CARE Act enables people living with HIV/AIDS to maintain their dignity and quality of life, allowing many to return to work and remain healthy, productive members of their community - thereby reducing their use of Medicaid and Medicare.

The Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition is a national grassroots organization advocating on behalf of people living with HIV/AIDS who rely on Title I and Title III of the Ryan White CARE Act for their health care and support services. The coalition includes CARE Act grantees and consortia, people living with HIV/AIDS, members of Title I planning councils and community based AIDS service organizations. The CAEAR Coalition urges Congress to swiftly reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act so that life-saving health care is not interrupted for the thousands of individuals who depend on CARE Act services.

Sincerely,



Matthew McClain
Chair