

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National AIDS Policy Office

Series/Staff Member:

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 19394

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

6

Shelf:

6

Position:

2

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. form	Correspondence routing slip (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	04/18/1997	b(6)
001b. letter	Inmate to Sandra Thurman re: AIDS Policy Director (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	04/14/1997	b(6)
001c. letter	Sandra Thurman to Inmate re: AIDS Policy Director (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	06/17/1997	b(6)
002. email	Individual living with AIDS to White House (Personal) [partial] (3 pages)	03/18/1997	b(6)
003. faxes	re: Sandra Thurman's taxes (Personal) (4 pages)	04/04/1997	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F

jm2034

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G3692

Date Rcvd: 04-28-97

From: Arita Eichler M.P.H.
Department of Health & Human Svcs.

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: _____ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: _____

RCVD: _____ DONE: _____

Recommendations/Instructions:

Set a meeting → May/June
to Anita - Set up mtg as soon
as possible

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: _____



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Bureau of Health Resources Development

Health Resources and
Services Administration
Rockville MD 20857

APR 25 1997

Ms. Sandra Thurman
Director, Office of National AIDS Policy
808 17th North West
Eighth Floor
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ms. ^{Sandy} Thurman:

On behalf of the Division of HIV Services (DHS), Bureau of Health Resources Development (BHRD), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), I want to congratulate you on your appointment as Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy. Congratulations also on the positive and strong description of your commitment, work, and the priorities of your office in the April 22 *Washington Post* article.

My purpose for writing is to highlight the role that DHS can play in helping you to address the many challenges around HIV/AIDS care, particularly improving service delivery, expanding the availability to new antiretroviral therapies, and improving access to care for the increasing number of low income individuals with HIV/AIDS. I know you are very familiar with DHS's responsibilities with the implementation of Title I and Title II of the Ryan White CARE Act, including assuring implementation of Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act requirements, as well as monitoring and providing technical assistance to maximize care delivery and management of CARE Act funds.

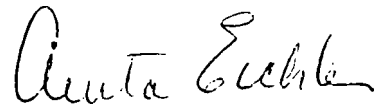
What may be new to you are the DHS priorities for FY 1997: (1) ensuring implementation of CARE Act reauthorization requirements; (2) ensuring a basic level of functioning by all grantees (i.e., Title I planning councils and State Title II programs) so that they can meet legislative requirements and develop responsible systems of care; (3) promoting and supporting full and effective participation of people living with HIV/AIDS in Title I and Title II programs; (4) assisting grantee communities to integrate CARE Act programs within managed care systems; and (5) maximizing the effectiveness of

Page 2 - Ms. Sandra Thurman

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) to provide access to needed HIV medications. Also, the implementation of the pending treatment guidelines will present important challenges for all of us.

I can be reached at (301) 443-3726 and look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anita Eichler".

Anita Eichler, M.P.H.
Director
Division of HIV Services

Before you set
up this meeting,
~~I believe~~ that it
is very important for
SLT to visit w/

~~Barry Fox~~ Acting

Administrator, HRSA-
(301) 443-2216

and Joe O'Neill

Bureau Chief, HRSA

(301) 443-4588 or

(301) 443-1993

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

FILE COPY

Tracking Number: G3695

Date Rcvd: 04-28-97

From: Frank Spooner

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Michael

RCVD: _____ DONE: _____

Recommendations/Instructions:

general acknowledgment

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/2/97

n:\corresli

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1997

Frank Spooner
Caseworker Assistant
Office of Congressman Sanford Bishop
Suite 216, Albany Towers
235 Roosevelt Ave.
Albany, GA 31701

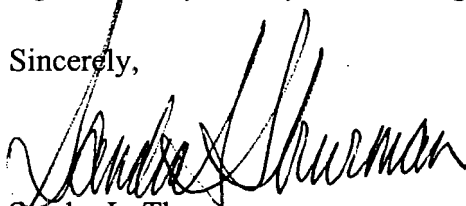
Dear Mr. Spooner:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations and your own dedication to helping those in need. It is with great excitement that I embark upon this challenge to steer the course of the nation's AIDS policy. I have supreme confidence that our efforts will be successful, knowing that there are caring and understanding workers like yourself on the front lines.

As you mentioned in your letter, experience with the individuals suffering from this disease provides one with a unique perspective on the true nature of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The time I spent working firsthand with people living with HIV in Atlanta exposed me to the hardships which HIV positive persons face, and the courage with which they confront them. It makes me proud to hear that a fellow Mercer graduate is out there helping others conquer this disease.

Again, thank you for your encouragement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra L. Thurman", written over a horizontal line.

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

April 17, 1997

Sandy Thurman,
Director
Office of National Aids Policy
750 17th Street NW
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

I wanted to ad my congratulations and offer a few words of encouragement to you upon being named to lead our nations' effort to combat aids. The President made a wise choice in selecting someone with your "frontline" perspective to lead the way.

As a caseworker, in the Albany, Ga. office of Congressman Sanford Bishop, I am aware of the importance of caring and understanding when assisting people as they face life's problems.

Your firsthand insight regarding individual suffering and the awareness you seem to have of the enormity of the epidemic should make for useful weapons in the fight. I'm confident that with this background your directorship will be marked as a time of accomplishment.

The criticism also mentioned in the press seems to follow the path of the dedicated as well as the derelict. I'm sure that you won't allow those folks with narrow agendas to deter you from the important work at hand.

I will mention briefly that for a short time our paths crossed many years ago at Mercer University of Atlanta. I believe we shared a literature class under Dr. Wes Pittman. It was pleasant for me to learn that an acquaintance out of that time of personal turmoil had received recognition for her commitment to others.

Best regards,

Frank Spooner
Frank Spooner

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FRANK SPOONER
CASEWORKER ASSISTANT

54216
Albany, Georgia
235 300 3000

ALBANY, GEORGIA 31701
PHONE: (912) 439-8067
FAX: (912) 436-2099

SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
2ND DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

np2

Auto Picture

Office of
National AIDS Policy
Correspondence Routing Slip

FILE COPY

Tracking Number: G36543

Date Rcvd: 04-18-97

From: Louis Schlamowitz

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ☒ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Intern

RCVD: _____ DONE: 6/17/97

Recommendations/Instructions:

Note & photo

Sandy Sy

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 6/17/97

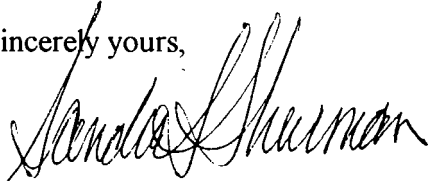
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1997

Louis and Natalie Schlamowitz
2045 Rockway Parkway, Apt 3-I
Brooklyn, NY 11236

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schlamowitz:

Thank you for your very kind note of congratulations on my appointment by President Clinton as the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy. I am pleased to send you a photo in appreciation of your support in the fight against AIDS.

Sincerely yours,


Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Enclosure

SCHLAMOWITZ, LOUIS
2045 ROCKAWAY PKWY - 31
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11236

April 7, 1997

Dear activist - I andy I human,
of Atlanta.

Natalie and I want to wish,
you I andy I human the best of all on your
new appointment by our great President of
United States - Bill Clinton as his new
Director of his aids Policy with all
God's Blessings.

God Bless you - I andy I human,
with many more happy years ahead of
you with President Clinton's great administ
ration for a better America for all here
at home and abroad as his new AIDS,
Policy Adviser.

Natalie and I would deeply appreciate from
you I andy I human if you or your
office would be able to mail Natalie and me
an autograph picture of you and President,
Bill Clinton together in one picture to
put up on the wall if it is possible,

(2) _ April 7, 1997

any autograph picture you could mail me of you,
and the President & Andy & Herman Natalie
and I both would be very grateful to you
and your office.

Thank you and God Bless you always,
activist - Sandy & Herman with the
best of all in all your great work and
~~every~~ every thing you stand for.

Always up with Activist - Sandy & Her
man of Atlanta all the way.

Sincerely yours,
Louis & Natalie Schlamowitz
Canarsie - U.S.A.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. form	Correspondence routing slip (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	04/18/1997	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F

jm2034

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Office of
National AIDS Policy

FILE 0077

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G3667

Date Rcvd: 04-18-97

Fro (b)(6)

Confuga Correctional Facility

[00/9]

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ☒ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Intern

RCVD: _____ DONE: 6/17/97

Recommendations/Instructions:

✓ please write nice note
for Sandy S.

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 6/17/97

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001b. letter	Inmate to Sandra Thurman re: AIDS Policy Director (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	04/14/1997	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F
jm2034

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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Demacratic Activist
AIDS POLICY DIRECTOR

Dear Mrs. Thurman:

Congradulations" on behalf of being chosen as the new Aids Policy Director, a bright, promising, confident person and has genuine concern for the people battling this disease. It gives me great pleasure to envision a (President) that not only speak-out about the existing problems of the world, but also focuses on the immediate problems in our own neighborhoods, plus dedicate a very-strong organized effort in eliminating as many of these problems immediately. YOU, HE, and WE, the people forms the perfect team once and forever rid our Cities and Streets of the problems presently Today, also devise a plan to prevent others from occuring, before they get to the point where so many lives are lost (uselessly) in order to regain control of issues we (Irresponsbily) let material-ize into greater problems.

Being a survivor of the (HIV) virus for 77 years caused me to live my life in a great deal of fear, before I gained the knowledge needed to to sustain my frame of mind toward being able to live any kind of normal healthy life and still find happiness. With the comittment in me to support whatever strides of efforts in the direction to find a cure for this (AIDS EPIDEMIC) along with the oath taken by you to up-hold your comittment as to strive to create a safer America. (THANK-YOU MR. PRESIDENT)

I would personally like to become an (Activist) in the WAR on DRUGS and to also be a part of (your Team) elected to combat the Aids Epedemic. Please don,t allow the fact that because I am a convicted felon cloud your judgement about the nature of person I really am. My personal experiences with the virus should be veiwed and shared Nationally, in hopes of revealing to others that are infected how I dealt with the fact of being (HIV+) and living with it, rather than allowing it to weigh inside my mind as death-sentence. Today I dream of being a part of the pioneering-team that will make all of America proud with the Medical Break-through that cures the Aids Virus for the ones who has reached this stage also the vaccine that will keep people from contracting the virus at all. Know that through newspaper, television, or radio broadcasting, these are the extent that I am willing to go. But without your support this may never become a reality for me, because of my felony I won,t be given a fair oppertunity in a lot of advanced positions back out in (SOCIETY).

Throughout my life I have allowed drugs to destroy my sense of-being, which led to prison, abandoning my (2) kids, that deprived them of the very essence of their lives. I appeal to you at this is no longer a part of my life, nor do I ever intend to allow this and anthing else stop me or cause me to fall-short of assuming my responsibility. I am in great need of your support and encouragement to help me to become, even a better me. Unless I am afforded this oppertunity to righten my life, be a real (Father) to my (2) kids, and support the efforts of (UNITY) in America, then I'm afraid of the possibility of dying a ~~very~~ lonely, miserable man. I am asking that you help me to make this dream a reality, so please reply to this letter in acknowledgement that somewhere out there someone besides myself, feels that I am (worthy) of my existance.

CORDIALLY, WITH-RESPECT

(b)(6)

[0016]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001c. letter	Sandra Thurman to Inmate re: AIDS Policy Director (Personal) [partial] (1 page)	06/17/1997	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F
jm2034

RESTRICTION CODES

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1997

(b)(6)

Cayuga Correctional Facility
PO Box 1186
Moravia, NY 13118

[001c]

(b)(6)

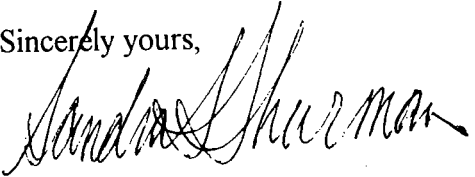
Thank you for your very kind note of congratulations on my appointment by President Clinton as the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy. I appreciate your encouragement, and I will do my best to lead the movement in the fight against AIDS.

On reading your letter, I was impressed with the path you have taken to achieve a positive state of mind. We need more people like you to educate others, heighten awareness, and serve as role models for other HIV infected individuals and drug users.

Your willingness to support the efforts against both drugs and AIDS are evident and admirable. We can always use more activists, especially those like you who offer a wealth of personal experience and accomplishment. Your efforts at Cayuga are just as important and valuable as another's in California, Washington D.C., or South Dakota. I encourage you to continue your efforts and know that they are valued by our office.

I wish you the best, and I thank you again for your letter.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Sincerely yours,


Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Pictone

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G 3659

Date Rcvd: 04-18-97

From: Jules Greenberg

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: _____

RCVD: _____ DONE: 6/17/97

Recommendations/Instructions:

note + photo
ef

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 6/17/97

n:\corresli

4/9/97

Dear Must Herman,
May I please have an
8X10 autographed photo of you
for my collection

Thanks
Jules Greenberg
PO Box 358
Great NY 12075

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

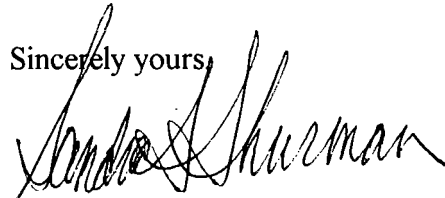
June 17, 1997

Jules Greenberg
PO Box 358
Ghent, NY 12075

Dear Mr. Greenberg:

Thank you for your interest in the activities of the Office of National AIDS Policy. Enclosed please find the photo you requested.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sandra L. Thurman", written over the typed name.

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Enclosure

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. email	Individual living with AIDS to White House (Personal) [partial] (3 pages)	03/18/1997	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F
jm2034

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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

3
after
17 APR 1997
From nobody@Whitehouse.GOV Tue Mar 18 21:19:50 1997
Date: Tue, 18 Mar 1997 21:17:41 -0500
From: (b)(6)
Subject: Inbound-White_House_WWW_MAIL => PRESIDENT
Apparently-to: president@Whitehouse.GOV
To: president@Whitehouse.GOV
Errors-to: The Postmaster <postmaster@Whitehouse.GOV>
Reply-to: (b)(6)
Message-id: <199703190217.VAA04856@www2.whitehouse.gov>

Comments: This message scanned by SCAN version 0.1 jms/960226

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: www-az5.proxy.aol.com[152.163.237.226]
BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (Compatible; AOL-IWENG 3.0; Win16)
URL: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail_Presi=
dent.html

[Sender Information]

(b)(6)

[002]

Carmena, how
do I log this
in there was
no cover letter
this time.
Ac

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Extend invitation to visit or speak
TOPIC: Human Rights
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen
SUBJECT: Seeking Miracles...

[Message]

Sometimes to feel better about ourselves,
we have to be willing to look bad in front of others.
Truth is humbling, but effective. The following letter
demonstrates where my head has been & what's been
really going on in my life. At the risk of looking
awkward and in an effort to leave no stone unturned,
here is what has been sent out to my community & the
Universe.

To:
Respon: 15

To Whom It May Concern,

I wanna die. I don't want to kill myself,
I just have no interest in living anymore. Ya, know,
back in =9183, when I was diagnosed with HIV
(or The Hiv as I sometimes affectionately call it)
"They" thought I had 6 - 18 months to live.
So I got sober, pulled my life together & set
out to tie up my loose ends. What happened after
that was nothing short of a miracle.

I was living on the streets, Shooting up behind
dumpsters off Hollywood Blvd. and hooking West Holly
For \$20.00 bucks a pop. I stayed sober for 5 years,
twice.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Then I came home to Sacramento, in=20

October, to be near my family.....and die.=20

50,000 in debt. Some bad checks...I'm on disability.
\$792 a month, plus the generosity of a few friends.
My T-cells are holding at just under 200, but my viral
load is up in the 100 thousands...not good.
I'm on my second "Cocktail", the virus grew accustomed
to the last one & stopped working. The meds they are
giving me make me sick. No, really, I constantly feel
like I wanna throw up. Side effects, they tell me.
Could last a few months, but you'll get used to it.
Oh good! So I started smoking pot to relieve the
nausea...Done with that! Done with the meds, too!

I have really been there for people, listening &
dispensing advice, to people with AIDS, Alcoholism,
broken hearts, depression, loneliness and abusive
childhoods...but when it comes to taking care of
myself, interest wains. Often I've felt trapped
in a gay lifestyle because of AIDS. . That's where
my medical support often came from. So much in our
communities is based on labels & sometimes, whether
they fit or not, we wear them, without ever having the
courage to be everything! Straight & Gay, Republican &
Democrat. This is not a Black & white world any more,
most of us are living in the grey area & afraid to
admit it, but quick to judge others. I am ALL of you.
I have experienced discrimination & I have
discriminated. Now I look at people as individuals,
not as the labels with which we have categorized great

blocks of humanity.

When I moved to Sacramento, I was referred to a few places for help, you know, settling in to a new City (I was born here, but much has changed). As I went to each charity for help, I also offered my vast production experience to help with raising money for their causes. No one called. I went to The Sacramento AIDS Foundation & LAMBDA and they both suggested I go to CARES. Cares called back! (SAF has nice offices, though).

I'm the oldest of 8. Ostracized by my parents, I sought refuge in LA for 13 years. I think I made a difference to a few. I brought my brothers & sisters, Aunts & Uncles and cousins back together, in time to witness the positive example of family strength by my Grandpa [REDACTED] before he passed, this last Halloween. I have no secrets from my family. They know everything about me, scars & all...and they still hold me in great regard. How fortunate am I!?

Oh, my God, I'm gonna live, now what?! I am ready to die, & now I have to start untiing loose ends.

Death doesn't scare me, life does. I've done therapy, anti-depressants, prayer and hard work to straighten out my head. So why don't I still feel normal? Why don't I want to live? I don't know where to go for help, anymore. I'm tired. Is there some one, anyone in The American Community that can help pull me out of this? I don't care if you're straight, gay, republican or democrat. I'm not calling upon an organized charity. I'm calling upon that little part of you, that I have so freely given of myself. Any Ideas?

[REDACTED]
(b)(6)

①

CORRESPONDENCE

①
63766

Seth Berkley, MD - Interim President, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative - cc: of letter to Porus

- support President's vaccine initiative
- ~~went~~ offer to work with Administration
- ~~was said. don't recreate the wheel~~
- Eric says we asked for letter

②
G-3774

Edward Kennedy + 6 other MA delegates

- objection to cuts by CDC of several small CBOs in Massachusetts

③

Genevieve M. Clarrveul, PhD.

- request for meeting on 6/4 or 6/6
- says she is following up conversation with you at AIDS Watch and National Women's Conference
- had 1 yr old letter of intro from Dr. Gallo

④

Ronald B. Moss, MD - Immune Response Corp.

- offer to do informal presentation on the Salk Immunogen
- included copy of presentation to Council

⑤
G-3758

Les J. Leibow

- concerns about inability to patent non-traditional AIDS treatments

⑥
G-3776

Betsy Lieberman, Exec. Director, AIDS Housing of Washington

- comments on HUD + HHS coordination

- request for ONAP to call meeting

(C7)
G-3773

David Rosen

- incarcerated
- history of treatment problems
- offer to be on Council

(C8)
G-3761

Robert William Green, Jr.

- request for Wt policy on herbal treatments

(C9)
G-3753

Kenneth E. Newsome

- incarcerated
- offer to be on Council

(C10)
G-3748

Donald M. Clark

- unspecified concerns of racism within Ryan White + HopWA

(C11)
G-3741

William Paul Eldridge

- request for info

(C12)

Jack Kelly -

- request for mtg. w/ Eric

Barb Hiatt

- request for sponsorship of AIDS ride

(C12)

Donald L. McCants
- anti-needle xchange

(C13)

G-3651

Don Sneed - Renaissance III Rise Project (Exec. Dir)
- general comments
- well thought out
- minority



LAW OFFICES

ROSSMAN BAUMBERGER & REBOSO

A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

CHARLES H. BAUMBERGER
STEPHEN F. ROSSMAN
MANUEL A. REBOSO
HOWARD A. SPIER
LINCOLN J. CONNOLLY

March 28, 1997

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE MIAMI CHAPTER OF A.B.O.T.A.
FROM: CHARLES H. BAUMBERGER

Dear ABOTA Member:

Since the first of the year, there have been three significant ABOTA meetings. They are as follows:

1. The National Board of Directors meeting at Grand Cayman Island in January. In addition to myself, that meeting was attended by Stuart Grossman, Mike Olin and Larry Friedman of the Miami Chapter. Enclosed is a copy of the Minutes of that meeting.
2. In February, the National Bar Coordinating Committee met in Washington. This is an ABOTA committee that facilitates ABOTA's relationship with the American Bar Association, the Defense Research Institute, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, and the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys. Claude Smart, a very prominent defense lawyer from California who many of you know, is the ABOTA member who is the chair of that committee. I am very proud to report that ABOTA has taken the lead in bringing the different lawyer organizations together to discuss our common interests which include professionalism and preserving the right of trial by jury.
3. On March 19-22, ABOTA combined its Chapter Presidents Leadership Conference with our *Washington Day* with Capitol Hill visits. Mike Olin, Miles McGrane, Stuart Grossman and I were in attendance. On Thursday, ABOTA members, both plaintiff and defense, visited numerous senators and members of the House of Representatives. More than one senator remarked how unusual it was to have both a plaintiff's attorney and a defense attorney, as a team, with whom to discuss pending legislation. The reception which was held Thursday evening was well-attended by representatives and senators of both parties.

The meeting on Friday was very informative for the Chapter Presidents. The Presidents, many of whom were attending their first national meeting, were given an overview of the different activities in which the national organization is involved.

Best personal regards,

CHARLES H. BAUMBERGER

CHB/nao
Enclosure

**AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES
MEETING RECAP
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 25, 1997, GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND**

PATRICK C. SIMEK, NATIONAL SECRETARY/DAPHNE A. BURNS, GENERAL COUNSEL

National President Michael F. Colley began the meeting after a welcome greeting by Hon. Truman Bodden, Minister of Aviation, Grand Cayman, B.W.I. The minutes of the September 21, 1996, National Board meeting in Vancouver, B.C. were presented and approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ABOTA in 1997: President Colley stated that he wants new emphasis placed on expanding chapter membership and on including more qualified female members and members of ethnic backgrounds. He also stated that he will target for new ABOTA chapters the five cities in the country with a population over 500,000 that do not have a chapter. The Board unanimously ratified the appointment of Robert C. Baker and Don C. Keenan to the Executive Committee.

New Committees: President Colley announced that he formed two new committees this year: the Media Committee and the State Legislative Action Committee. The Media Committee will form a network of media contacts and produce talking points for media interviews and op-ed articles. It is chaired in the west by Donna Melby and in the east by Dulin Kelly. The State Legislative Action Committee, chaired by Wylie Aitken in the west and Gary Kendall in the east, will work with Legislative Analyst Robert Lembo to provide information to the chapters on legislative actions and bills in each state.

Continuing Legal Education: President Colley stated that ABOTA has the best education program in the country. To date, there are 19 Masters in Trial programs scheduled in 1997 and another 13 programs awaiting finalization.

Legislative Developments: President Colley announced that major legislative debates this year will be on products liability — S. 5, medical malpractice — S. 79, and no-fault/choice legislation.

Bar Coordinating Committee: President Colley announced that at ABOTA's invitation, leaders of the prominent national bar associations will meet in Washington, D.C. on February 6, 1997, to discuss ideas and work together on common causes.

Proposed Budget: Treasurer Norman London said efforts were being made to find ways to trim expenditures so as not to drain surplus funds. The 1997 budget was approved.

Chapter Presidents/Presidents-elect Leadership Conference: President Colley stressed the importance of ABOTA having a presence in Washington, D.C. on "Washington Day," which is March 20, 1997, the day before the Chapter Presidents and Presidents-elect Leadership Conference. National Board members and key persons have also been invited and encouraged to participate in the Congressional activity which includes a briefing, lunch with guest speakers, Hill visits, and a Congressional reception.

Next National Board Meeting: The next meeting of the National Board of Directors will take place at the Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, May 9-11, 1997, at which time the Past National Presidents will be honored and a video history of ABOTA will be presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning and Policies Committee Chair Pat Simek reported that they will review the history of the committee, and compare where ABOTA is in 1997 and where it wants to be in the year 2000.

Membership Committee Chair Kevin Martin recommended 88 new member applications, 12 advancement-in-rank applications, and 6 emeritus status changes. The Board approved the recommendations. Martin said some chapters have questioned the meaning of "courts of general jurisdiction" as stated on the membership application, and he invited the chapters to provide him with their interpretation.

Chapter Presidents/Presidents-elect Leadership Conference Chair John Holcomb announced that the conference is scheduled for March 19-22, 1997, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. National Board

members were asked to encourage their chapter presidents and presidents-elect to attend the conference as it is a great opportunity to learn how to activate a chapter and a chance to exchange ideas with other chapter officers from around the country. Holcomb recommended that if a chapter treasury can afford to, they should defray all or some of the costs of the trip to enable their president and president-elect to attend. Members of the National Board and key persons have been encouraged to attend the Congressional events set for Thursday, March 20.

Chapters Committee Chair John Holcomb reported that the New York Chapter has requested an extension of time for revitalization in order to get applications in for an additional 25 members; the Board approved the extension to the first day of business at the May meeting in Colorado Springs. Holcomb also stated that the Chapters Committee will work on expanding ABOTA in the areas of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Allentown, Rochester, Syracuse, Puerto Rico, and in southwestern Texas to form a chapter of members from Midland, Odessa, and San Angelo. Holcomb said that the committee is working on revitalizing chapters in Philadelphia and Boston.

Key Person Committee Chair Chuck Baumberger reported that a fax requesting key person sign-ups was sent to all of the members; those interested were asked to return the fax to the National office. Baumberger stated that the expectation is for ABOTA to have a key person assigned to every Member in the House and Senate.

Professionalism, Ethics, and Civility Committee Chair Edward Chapin reported that the "Seventh Amendment Standards" are being reviewed by the committee and will be presented for consideration at the Colorado Springs meeting in May.

National Office Committee Acting Chair Scott Welch reported that the National office has had e-mail capacity for six months and now has a web site. A show of hands revealed that three-quarters of the attendees had e-mail capacity in their offices. Welch reported that the committee is grappling with the issue of what information should be placed on the web site; he asked Board members to e-mail or send their suggestions to the National office (at ABOTA@aol.com).

ABOTA Foundation Director Allen Kimbrough reported that the youth education program and the development of a CD-Rom game on the civil justice system are underway. The game will be previewed at the leadership conference in Washington, D.C. in March. Other projects in the works are a full curriculum for fifth graders including a video with children acting as jurors, revamping the "Justice by the People" video, a pilot jury town hall meeting, a jurors handbook modeled after the Washington state handbook, a study at the Ohio State Center for Socio-Legal Studies, and an updated Speakers Bureau Sourcebook to be published in February.

Kimbrough reported that the death of two ABOTA members was the impetus to establish an ABOTA Memorial Scholarship Fund. He stated that the Foundation will sponsor the first ABOTA Memorial Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament on Friday, May 9, 1997, at the Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, during the weekend of the National Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Honorary Diplomat: Stuart Grossman, Miami Chapter, presented the nomination of Hon. James Lawrence King for Honorary Diplomat. Grossman read an impressive resume of Judge King and mentioned that he is the first living federal judge after whom an entire federal courthouse complex has been named. The Board unanimously approved the nomination.

Special Blue Ribbon Committee: President Colley appointed Norman London, Mark Robinson, and Scott Welch to a special blue ribbon committee to review ABOTA programming based upon current circumstances and to look for ways to reduce budget expenditures.

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

COPY

Tracking Number: G3660

Date Rcvd: 04-18-97

From: Jim McDermott
Congress of the United States

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: _____ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Michael

RCVD: _____ DONE: _____

Recommendations/Instructions:

g thanks for letter
look forward to working w/you

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/2/97

n:\corresli

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1997

Jim McDermott
Member of Congress
2349 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4707

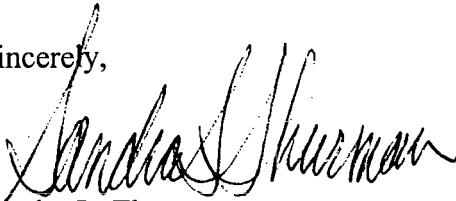
Dear Congressman McDermott:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations. There are many obstacles on the road to ending this epidemic and it is only with the efforts of dedicated leaders like yourself that we will emerge victorious.

We have made great strides toward helping people living with HIV/AIDS, but there is still a long way to go before this epidemic is over. As you know, the President has recently launched an AIDS Vaccine Initiative aimed at bringing together experts from around the world to develop a vaccine within the next ten years. Governmental encouragement such as this initiative and your Congressional Task Force of International HIV/AIDS is essential to the effort to bring an end to this epidemic.

Again, thank you for your letter and for your tireless efforts to help people living with HIV/AIDS. I look forward to working with you in the battle against this epidemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra L. Thurman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sandra" being more prominent than the last name "Thurman".

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 1997

Sandra Thurman, Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
750 17th Street, Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20503

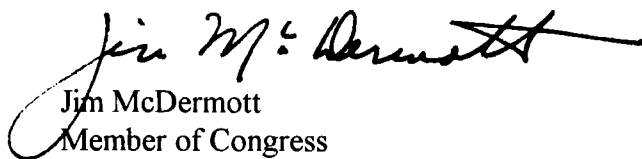
Dear Mrs. Thurman:

Congratulations on your appointment as AIDS Adviser to President Clinton and Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy. With the numbers of new HIV/AIDS infections still climbing worldwide, it is essential to give the fight against AIDS national priority.

As you know, the World Health Organization estimates that by the year 2000 more than 40 million people will be infected with the AIDS virus worldwide, 90% of them in the developing world. This will have serious implications for our national security and foreign policy as well. The United States, therefore, should continue to play a leadership role in the global fight against AIDS. As the founder and Chairman of the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, I have been concerned about the dimensions of the global pandemic for a number of years now, and I hope that we can meet soon to discuss possible areas of cooperation.

Once again, congratulations and best wishes for your new endeavor. I look forward to working with you on this important challenge, and stand ready to help in any way I can.

Sincerely,



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

FILE COPY

Tracking Number: G3658

Date Rcvd: 04-18-97

From: Pandora Singleton
Project Azuka, Inc.

Reviewed By Sandy:_____ **Reviewed By:** _____

Assigned To: Michael

RCVD: DONE:

Recommendations/Instructions:

general acknowledgement

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/2/97

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 2, 1997

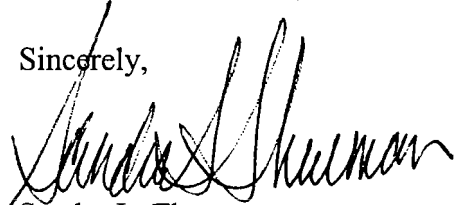
Pandora Singleton
Executive Director
Project Azuka
P.O. Box 9173
Savannah, GA 31402

Dear Ms. Pandora:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations and the commitment which Project Azuka has shown to people living with HIV/AIDS. As you are well aware, the epidemic has increased dramatically among women of color. Your work and the efforts of Project Azuka are paramount in working to decrease the rates of infection in women of color.

Again, thank you for your letter, and keep up the fight.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman



P.O. Box 9173 • Savannah, GA 31402

Office: (912) 233-6733 • Fax: (912) 233-6082

08 April 1997

Ms. Sandra Thurman
Office of National AIDS Policy
750 17th Street N W Suite 600
Washington, D. C. 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Congratulations on being appointed AIDS Czar. I was delighted to hear the announcement yesterday. It is good to see a person in that position that "knows AIDS", especially in the south.

We will be more than willing to assist you in making the voices of Women heard, and finding a cure for all of us. Best of luck to you.

Sincerely,

Pandora Singleton

Pandora Singleton
Executive Director

Enclosures

She Said

The Bimonthly Newsletter of Project AZUKA, Inc.

March/April 1997

Project AZUKA is a grassroots nonprofit community-based agency established in Response to the Growing HIV/AIDS epidemic in and around Savannah, GA among Women of Color. We exist to decrease the rates of infection in Women through gender-specific education and proactive teachings. We provide and advocate for support programs that will enhance the lives of Women infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Executive Director:
Pandora Singleton
Education & Outreach
Coordinator: Charlie Hurst
Program Assistant:
Lisa Lambert

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Medical information in SHE SAID is intended for informational purposes only. Project AZUKA does not endorse any product or treatment.

The Road We Have Walked *Pandora Singleton Talks About Why We Are,* *Who We Are, And What We Do*

AZUKA. The word is a female name from the language of an ethnic group in Nigeria. In English, it means "Support is Paramount."

In 1993, I and five women living with HIV decided to start a support group for women infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. Because we had no money to hire a facilitator, we chose the self-help model provided by the National Black Women's Health Project, Inc. The self-help model allows for the group to set ground rules agreed upon by all members. All participants are of equal value, and any member can facilitate a meeting. Everyone has an opportunity to share anything they want, but they are free not to speak if they choose.

The Azuka support group began to meet weekly during that summer of 1993, and we have done so since then. The locations have changed a lot, but never have we altered our purpose of empowering women to conquer the obstacles that HIV/AIDS can erect.

After the support groups were underway, it

became apparent that the particular concerns of these women could not be addressed by talking alone. They were struggling with issues such as lack of access to information, care, legal problems, finances, loneliness, fear, and personal rights. I went on a mad search to find every possible bit of information relevant to women and HIV.

**We are committed.
We believe in this project.**

We have been blessed

to women and HIV. Dazon Dixon, executive director of SisterLove, was very instrumental during this overwhelming process.

The decision was finally made unanimously to start a community-based organization for women to address HIV and AIDS from prevention to care. The support group became known as S.I.S., "Sistas In Support." The word "Project" was added to AZUKA after a suggestion by Gayle Terry, Executive Director of the D.C. Women's Council. She said, "Women/HIV is a lot of work. It is a big project." Hence, the legal name be-

came Project AZUKA, Inc.

I became full-time executive director of Project AZUKA in 1995. The support group is now only one of many programs that we run. We have a speaker's bureau, a meal program, clothing/personal needs assistance, a food pantry and resource materials. We also coordinate social and recreational events for women and conduct primary and secondary prevention via safer sex workshops and one-to-one counselling. We are an active member of local, state, and national consortia dealing with HIV/AIDS. We support community functions like neighborhood health fairs and try to be a part of the team of health care providers when possible. We are a voice for women in the AIDS arena.

Despite the hardships trying to maintain a place for women, we are committed, believe in this project, and we have been blessed. The combination of the three makes for a winning product.

There has been some confusion about who Project AZUKA is. We are an independent organization. We are not a part of Phoenix Project or any other agency. We do not provide the same kinds of services. We are an organization for women.



Pandora's Box

A quote on one of Project AZUKA's brochures says "I am not afraid to trust my sisters - not I." These words by Angelina Grimke illustrate why Project AZUKA operates as we do. Project AZUKA started as a family of sorts. These overtones will remain for as long as we exist. We know our clients and their families, and they know ours. We ask very personal question and, at times, have to answer some.

There is a genuine bond here; a sisterhood that is very special. I cherish each and every relationship. Even the hard ones. A certain amount of mutual strength is gained from them.

I love what we have been able to create, even though I dream of the day when we are in the unemployment line because there is a cure for AIDS.

Unity among women is needed now more than ever. Women deserve better than what we get. We must be more aggressive in going after those things that sustain life and make it pleasant.

Project AZUKA focusses on women of African descent because they constitute 80% of reported cases of AIDS among women. We support and advocate for all women regardless of race, sex, religion, sexual preference, or age. We invite all sisters to join us in changing and saving our lives. We may not have come on the same ship, but we are all in the same boat.

I believe in US.

Highlights In Project AZUKA's History

May 1993: 1st support group is held

February 1994: AZUKA clients appear on The Rolonda Show

August 1994: AZUKA moves into its first office

October 1994: AZUKA takes the largest delegation of women outside of Atlanta to the 1st Women's Summit on AIDS and the National Skills Building Conference.

April 1995: AZUKA wins first grant, courtesy of Ryan White II

August 1995: Completed film ing of Project AZUKA video

with help from Jackie Sheridan and other SCAD students.

September 1995: Video premieres in Beijing, China at 4th United Nations Conference on Women

October 1995: AZUKA is chosen as one of 25 agencies to participate in the 1st National Task Force on AIDS Treatment Education Training Institute.

June 1996: Executive Director carries the Olympic torch for a leg through Savannah

April 1996: Executive Director featured as a community hero on WTOC

January 1997: Executive Director appointed co-chair to the Georgia Community Planning Group

The Facts

Georgia has the eighth highest number of AIDS cases in the country.

An estimated 30,000 Georgians are HIV-infected.

25% of people with AIDS in Georgia are Women.

80% of Women with AIDS in Georgia are African-American.

Savannah zip code 31401 has the second highest number of AIDS cases in the state.

70% of people with AIDS in Savannah are African-American.

20% of people with AIDS in Savannah are Women.

Heterosexual sex is the fastest growing mode of transmission category for women.

By the year 2000, more than half of newly infected adults worldwide will be Women.

Know Them. Learn Them. Act!

Her Story

Estelle: Informed by Faith

From a young girl, I always caught hell. I used to live with my grandmother. Then I came to Savannah and stayed with my mom. My aunt husband raped me. My grandmama had a roomer, he raped me. When I told my mom and them, they tried to kill me. Say I lied. My godmom, she next door. She could see everything what go on. And he used to beat me like I was a grown woman. So one day she came and she said, "I know what's going on, but I can't do nothing or say anything. So she told me, she said, "Well, if he molested you, you might as well get the money to shop, buy your clothes and stuff." So I ended up twelve years old, prostituting. I got pregnant. My mama and them tried to kill me 'cause I got pregnant. So I ran away from home. I gave my sister the baby. I was fourteen. I had my baby October the third. I don't remember the year. And my birthday was November the 15th. I was turning 15. My baby was a little baby, so I told my sister "You take her and raise her." My sister was 'bout six or seven. She said, "I don't know how to raise no baby." I said, "You take her."

So, like, long time ago, it was season busses goin' to Virginia, different places, Maryland, New York. Pickin' apples, oranges, and fruits and potatoes. I used to do that. My mama had the police looking for me. They couldn't find me. I came back. My mom was sick. I was fixin' to go to Florida. I couldn't go. I had to stay home with my baby.

I always was ripping and running. I been on my own ever since I was 14. I got my house at the age of 15. I been on my own ever since. I met men; they dogged me out. Caught hell. You know.

When I found out I had HIV, the doctor told me, "You sittin' there calling me a liar." I said, "No, I ain't calling you no liar." I said, "Well, I gotta talk to somebody." He ain't explaining nothing to me. They kept me in the Urban Health (Westside Urban Health Center) till 'bout 11 o'clock at night when they closed. It was me and another young lady. If the girl come up to me to-

day, I wouldn't know her. She said, "You want something to eat?" I said, "No, baby, I don't want anything to eat." But I was hungry and I was like I was 'bout to lose my mind. So she got us something to eat. She ain't know what I was going through. I don't know what she was going through.

While I was walking home, the devil say, "What your God gonna do for you now?" When I came by the package shop, he said, "Go in there, get you something to drink." I been had got saved. The spirit said no. I came on. The devil said, "Go up on the bridge and jump off it. Commit suicide." I said, "No, I ain't gonna do that neither."

At the time, I was living with this man. My baby was here. She was staying home. She was pregnant. So she was on the sofa. He was looking out the door when I

came. So he said, "Where you at." I said, "The doctor. They say I got HIV." He said, "Girl, you need to stop playing." Both of 'em say, "You need to stop playing." So I went on upstairs. I said, "I don't want to be bothered with nobody."

I just went up in my bedroom and sat there. I got ready to go to church. My oldest daughter came to pick me up. She

said, "Mama, what did they say?" "They say I got HIV." She started crying. I said, "Honey chile, please don't cry."

Don't feel sorry for me. Don't show me no sorry. Bring yourself back up."

We went to church. My pastor looked at me and said, "What's wrong with my daughter?" I said, "I need to talk to you." So I had talked to her. I told her what they say. She said, "Honey, don't believe that. Let me tell you something. Everybody gonna die with something." She grabbed me, embraced me, showed me love. That just made me calm down. 'Cause everybody is dying with something.

When God get ready for me, I'm a go. But he promised me something and I'm standing on God word. He'll heal me by his strength. And I'm standing on that word.

I don't take medicine. The doctors get mad at me. Only time I take

something is when I got an infection, and I be don't wanna take that. I know what my God do for me. He keeps me.

I have good days and I have bad days. But I know it ain't for nothing 'cause I didn't take care of myself at a young age. I used to just work and party. I laugh at myself now. I was a working lady on the job all day. At night, working the street at night.

Before AIDS was out, I used to suffer with my body. They told me I had cancer. I never took medicine for that. They told me I was mentally [ill]. They sent me to a psychiatrist. I was counseling her.

God is good to me. A couple months ago, I lose so much blood a certain time. I mean, like you having a baby. But it come from out the rectum. I mean big, black, thick blood. This time I had went in the hospital. It scared me so bad. I don't let fear take me. They said, "Well, we got to give you some blood." I went to praying. I broke down and started to crying. I thought about my sister. My sister been dead now, I think, a year ago. Two years. They had to do a spinal tap on her back like they did me. And I told her to do it. And I broke down, telling the doctor, "Sometimes I think I caused my sister to die 'cause, if I wouldn't have told her that, she'd probably be still living." He said, "No, don't think that way." When he came back, they didn't have to give me no blood. I said, "God, thank you." And I done been in the hospital three or four times by then. So, I just thank God. God is good to me. He is so

*"I just ask God,
with the time I
have, I just want
to be happy. Do
things to help
other people
enjoy life."*

good to me.

I just ask God, with the time I have, I just want to be happy, do things to help other people, enjoy life. That's what I really want to do. Make somebody else happy.

I don't take no medicine. They keep asking me, "Why? Why? Why?" I said, "Lord, show me. Must I take it?" I ain't got a answer yet. I was sick, and they gave me some medicine. Look like the medicine made me sicker. So I took it for a minute and left it alone. I guess they think I'm crazy.

[My caseworker] sent me to the health center 'cause she was telling me 'bout the new medicine. She said they could give me

the new medicine. I'm asking the nurse 'cause that's all I had. They finally let me see the doctor one time. I'm asking the nurse 'bout the new medicine. She said, "I don't know what you talking 'bout." Then she break it down, talking 'bout mix with this and mix with that. I said, "Uh-uh! I don't want nothing depress me and make me sleep and walk like a zombie. Everybody taking the same medicine, but everybody bodies and systems not alike.

Sometime it get low. Sometime I get sad. Sometime I get lonely. I don't never hardly cry. And I don't question God why I gotta go through this. I know he making me. I

know God got work for me to do. I gotta go through them trials and tribulations so I can help somebody else. I look around and I just laugh. When I wake up in the morning, I throw my hand up and say, "Thank you, Jesus." I can see. I can hear. I can walk. I just thank him for the little things. I used to be looking for the big things. If I'm thankful for the little things, the big things come little bit by little bit.

[When I met Pandora], she told me "I'm trying to start something for women with HIV. Get some more women together and go to Atlanta to Sisterlove and meet other women and they'll teach and talk to ya'll." So that's how

I met Pandora. We sat around and talked about different things, and that's how we started Project Azuka-through Sisterlove. Met women from all over the world with HIV: white, black, Jamaicans, Asians. We talked. They cried. Tell you 'bout their life. Their kids got HIV. She used to talk us back to Sisterlove. Take us on trips and stuff. Then we kept bumping and bumping till we got Project Azuka.

Community Nourishment: The Savannah High Z Club Reaches Out

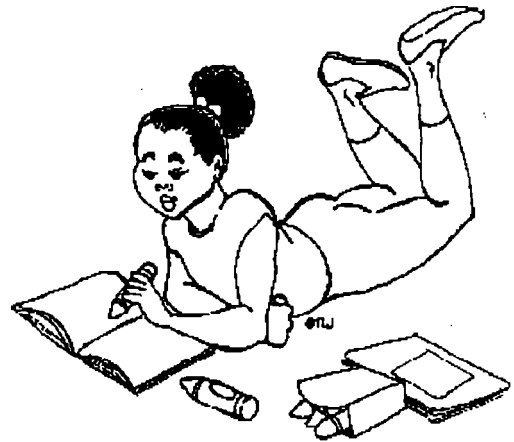
This past Thanksgiving, the Z Club at Savannah High School initiated its first schoolwide canned goods drive. From the 4th through the 22nd of November, students were asked to bring in a canned good. For extra incentive, a prize was offered to the homeroom that collected the most goods. The outcome was an abundance of food, all of which was donated to Project Azuka's free meals program just in time for Thanksgiving.

Although the schoolwide drive is the greatest effort the Z Club has made on behalf of Project Azuka, it is certainly not the first. A similar effort was made in 1995 to collect food from members of the club. The broadened scope is a significant accomplishment for the young group.

Established at Savannah High three years ago under the guidance of Ms. Hern, the Z Club is the

student arm of Zonta Club International, an organization of executive women dedicated to service all over the globe. During the first three years of Ms. Hern's tenure as English teacher at the school, none of the students responded to her requests for them to get involved in community service. As a member of Zonta International, she decided to start a chapter of the Z Club as a vehicle for young women to support each other in maintaining high academic, moral, and social standards. The principal thrusts of the club are camaraderie and community service.

Project Azuka was chosen as a recipient of the Z Club's kindness because the members were interested in supporting an organization which does not receive universal support. Rather than giving to one of the larger, more established charities, they decided to help one



that most people overlook.

The Z Club's outreach was not only beneficial to Azuka because of the donations, but also because it involved the organization with a group of teenage African-American women who are concerned about AIDS awareness. Given the success of the canned goods drive, both parties are looking forward to further collaboration in the future.

Her Health

Fighting Yeast Infections

In each issue, SHE SAID will feature a section on ways that women can manage their own health. It is essential that all women work to prevent and manage those ailments that commonly prey on us. It is particularly important that WWAs supplement the medical treatment they are receiving with informed self-care.

What is a yeast infection? Candida (yeast) is a friendly bacteria that lives in the intestines and plays a large part in digestion. When yeast infections occur, it is because this bacteria has grown out of control, left the bowels, and entered the bloodstream. Its exit opens a pathway for toxins and undigested food particles to also leave the bowel, rather than being eliminated from the body. In WWAs, the bacteria causes itching, pain, and discharge in the vagina, throat, eyes, ears, skin, and mouth (thrush).

What causes yeast infections? Antibiotics are the major cause of yeast infections in women with AIDS. Other causes are stress, pollution, steroids, birth control pills, and diets high in sugar.

How are yeast infections treated? Doctors usually treat these frequent, painful yeast infections with a powerful prescription antifungal medication called fluconazole (Diflucan). Although fluconazole may provide relief from the infection, it has several drawbacks. First, it tends to cause side effects that may

worsen symptoms already being experienced by PWAs. Some of these may include nausea, vomiting, stomach pain, and diarrhea. Second, it may also interfere with other drugs, decreasing their effectiveness and increasing side effects. Third, repeated use of Diflucan may cause your body to develop a resistance to the drug. This is especially dangerous because Diflucan is an important treatment for other types of infections also.

Antibiotics are the major cause of yeast infections in WWA's. Here's how you can reduce your risk.

Why is prevention and treatment of yeast infections important for women with AIDS?

In addition to the drawbacks of using Diflucan, yeast infections can cause symptoms that lead to the deterioration of health. The dry mouth and pain of thrush cause reduced appetite and weight loss. The presence of yeast and toxins in various organs may also cause fatigue, depression, allergies, sinus problems, indigestion, and diarrhea. If WWAs take steps to limit the growth of yeast bacteria in their body, they make receive greater benefits from their medical treatment and experience greater overall wellness.

What can I do to reduce my risk of contracting yeast infections?

It requires a strict diet to

completely rid your body of the overgrowth of yeast and return the bacteria in the bowels to their natural balance. However, you can reduce your risk of severe infection by making some of the changes below:

1. Relax. Stress can easily bring and keep a yeast infection. Trade neck rubs with a friend. Breathe deeply. Take a walk. Lay back in a hot bath. Sit quietly in a quiet room. Call somebody up and talk. Just concentrate on chilling out.
2. Eat vegetables and high protein foods such as eggs, raw nuts, millet, seafood, and chicken. Try not to eat a lot of foods that are high in starch such as corn and potatoes. You need foods that are easy to digest since your bowels need time to regain their health.
3. Watch what you wear. Wear loose pants, skirts, white cotton panties, and unscented deodorants and tampons. After bathing or exercising, dry your vagina well before dressing.
4. Eat plain yogurt. Yogurt contains good bacteria called acidophilus that are lacking in the bowel when yeast grows out of control. It should be plain because those that contain fruit and sweeteners will only make the yeast infection worse. If you don't care for yogurt, you can also get acidophilus capsules from health food stores.
5. Take fresh garlic or garlic capsules. Garlic is a natural antifungal. You can take up to six cloves a day.
6. For vaginal irritation, douche with plain yogurt or a solution of one tbsp. of vine-

gar in one quart of warm water. To control oral thrush, rinse with an antiseptic mouthwash or hydrogen peroxide. There is also an over-the-counter antifungal recently approved by the FDA called Fungilin which is effective for thrush in the mouth and throat.

7. Take some (or all) of the sugar, alcohol, and bread out of your diet. All three feed the yeast bacteria in your body and help it reproduce. Read the labels on your food. Sugar comes under several names, among them being fructose, sucrose, corn syrup, honey, and molasses. Try to find cereals, such as shredded wheat or puffed rice, that don't have sugar. Cut back on sodas, juices, and diet shakes, which are all really high in sugar. Use artificial sweeteners in your tea and coffee. There are many creative ways to lower the amount of sugar in your diet.

Eat breads that don't contain yeast. You can still eat cornbread, biscuits, and flat breads like pita. Just stay away from that bread that rises.

8. Take vitamin supplements to make sure you are getting full nutrition and strengthening your immune system. Make sure to take a multi-vitamin that does not contain yeast or sugar. Digestive enzyme capsules after meals will also help aid in absorption of food and keep undigested food from re-entering the bloodstream from the bowel.

Wish List

money
volunteers
refrigerator
microwave
bookcases
postage stamps
bleach
white toilet paper
personal items (sanitary napkins, toothpaste, soap, etc.)
canned goods
two liter sodas
grocery store gift certificates



Acknowledgements

Thanks to some very special people who helped us
to begin this journey.

Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney
Mayor Floyd Adams
National Council of Negro Women
First City Network
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Southwest Community Church
Savannah College of Art & Design
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Trinity Methodist Church
Susan Alt
Antoinette Barnes
Robert Bush
Jacquelyn Coleman

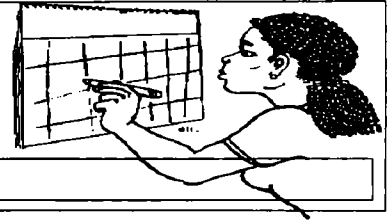
The Reverend Vernell Cutter
Dazon Dixon
Rudy Carn
Brandy Haywood
Selena Johnson
Paul Kawata
Harry King
Mary Lee
Harris Odell
Dee Salters
Ben Tucker
Gordon Varnedoe
Juanita Williams

Project AZUKA, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) organization. We thrive on the contributions of those in the community who support our work and want it to continue. All donations of time and material goods are deeply appreciated. Monetary donations are tax-deductible. We accept cash, check, and credit card donations. Checks are payable to Project Azuka, Inc.

You may reach us at:

Project AZUKA
P.O. Box 9173
Savannah, GA 31412
Ph. 912-233-6733
Fax 912-233-6082

March



1997

<i>S</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>S</i>
						1
2	3 Project AZUKA was incorporated	4	5	6 10 am Support Group	7	8
9-6pm Overcoming Faith Church: A Sister's Story	10	11	12	13 10 am Support Group	14 10:30 am AIDS Coalition Meeting	15
16	17 Atlanta: Community Planning	18	19	20-10 am Support Group/ Spring Begins	21	22
23	24	25 6:30 Movie Night	26	27 10 am Support Group	28	29
30 Project AZUKA received non-profit status	31					

April

1997

<i>S</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>S</i>
		1 Project AZUKA won first grant monies	2	3 10 am Support Group	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 10 am Support Group	11	12 Rural AIDS Summit-Valdosta
13 Washington, DC: AIDSWatch 1997	14	15	16	17 10 am Support Group	18	19 Community Forum on AIDS-City Lights Theatre
20	21	22	23	24 10 am Support Group/ Women's Day at the Health Dept.	25	26
27	28 6:30 pm Movie Night	29	30			

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2 Pgs

Isolation

Death

We

Desertion

Suffering

alone

Are

Helplessness

PAIN

No longer

loss

Survival

Immune

Support

Compassion

or

EDUCATION

Help

Understanding

Alone.

Love

I am not afraid to trust my sisters - not I.

-Angelina Glinka

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

FILE COPY

Tracking Number: G3684

Date Rcvd: 04-25-97

From: TERRY M. Stone
Northwest AIDS Foundation

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Michael

RCVD: _____ DONE: 7/14

Recommendations/Instructions:

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/14

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 14, 1997

Terry M. Stone
Executive Director
Northwest AIDS Foundation
127 Broadway East , Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98102-5786

Dear Mr. Stone:

Terry

It was great to meet you last April, and to get your letter of congratulations.

I share your excitement about my appointment to this position at such a pivotal point in the HIV/AIDS epidemic. As we enter in to this new era, let me reiterate how important I believe it is for this office to stay in close contact with the AIDS community. The Northwest AIDS Foundation has a strong history as a caring, productive AIDS services organization, and I look forward to working with you.

Again, thanks for your letter and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Sincerely,

Sandra

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy



April 11, 1997

Sandy Thurman, Director
White House Office on National AIDS Policy
808 17th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Sandy:

It was a pleasure to meet you on April 9 at the AIDS Action Council Board of Directors meeting in Washington. Once again, my congratulations on your appointment as the new Director of National AIDS Policy! You are coming on board during a time of great change in the character of the epidemic, and I am delighted that you will bring your great experience and skills to the challenge of formulating the federal response to AIDS.

I particularly appreciated your emphasis to the AAC Board on maintaining good working relationships between your office and the community-based AIDS service organizations. The Northwest AIDS Foundation is eager to cooperate with you in establishing means for dialogue and collaboration.

Please let me know how you see us working together to promote sound, meaningful policy. I look forward to a productive relationship that advances the goal of gaining the upper hand against AIDS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Terry M. Stone
Executive Director

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

FILE COPY

Tracking Number: G3670

Date Rcvd: 04-21-97

From: Cathalene Teahan, R.N.
Georgia AIDS Coalition

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Vi

RCVD: _____ DONE: 7/18

Recommendations/Instructions:

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/18

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 18, 1997

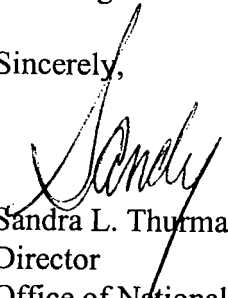
Ms. Cathalene Teahan, R.N.
Georgia AIDS Coalition
P.O. Box 1258
Snellville, Georgia 30278

Dear Ms. Teahan:

Thank you for the letter of congratulations on my recent appointment, as well as your kind words about my previous work at AID Atlanta. It is with great excitement that I embark upon this challenge to steer the course of this nation's AIDS policy.

I salute the good work that the Georgia AIDS Coalition has done on behalf of those living with HIV and AIDS, and look forward to working with you in the future. Again, thank you for your encouragement and offer of support.

Sincerely,


Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

GEORGIA AIDS COALITION

P.O. Box 1258

Snellville, Georgia 30278

April 17, 1997

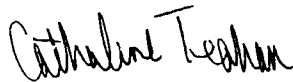
**Ms. Sandy Thurman
Office of National AIDS Policy
8th Floor
808 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006**

Dear Ms. Thurman:

The Georgia AIDS Coalition wishes to extend its warmest congratulations to you on your appointment to head the Office of National AIDS Policy. Your many years of experience (especially your exemplary work at AID Atlanta), coupled with your natural compassion for those suffering from this illness, commend your appointment and the President's wisdom in selecting you for this important position.

Please know that the GAC stands ready to offer whatever assistance you may deem necessary to help you with your responsibilities. Hopefully, you will feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely,



Cathalene Teahan, R.N.

CT/las

cc: Demetrius Mazacoufa

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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National AIDS Policy Office

OA/Box Number: 19394

FOLDER TITLE:

Correspondence - SLT - Incoming - 4/97 [1]

2018-0764-F

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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Office of
National AIDS Policy

FILE COPY

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G3683

Date Rcvd: 04-25-97

From: John M. Seiber
Caring For Babies With AIDS

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: Regan

RCVD: _____ DONE: 7/14

Recommendations/Instructions:

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/14

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 14, 1997

John M. Seiber
Public Policy Coordinator
Caring for Babies with AIDS
P.O. Box 351535
Los Angeles, CA 90035

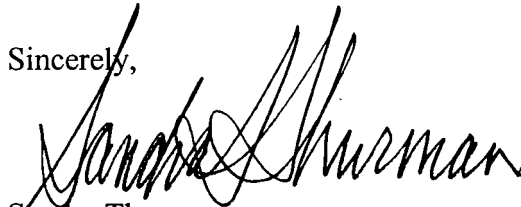
Dear Mr. Seiber:

Thank you for your congratulations and for including information about Caring for Babies with AIDS. I am fully committed to fighting for adequate HIV-related information, housing and care for children, infants and pregnant women.

The combined work of CBA's Residential Program and the Family Support Services Program have greatly assisted many HIV affected families and I commend you on your efforts to help these families remain together.

I appreciate your taking the time to write and look forward to working with Caring for Babies with AIDS and other advocates to help insure proper care and protection for children and families living with HIV and AIDS in Los Angeles and around the country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Thurman", written over a horizontal line.

Sandra Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

CARING FOR BABIES



WITH AIDS

April 15, 1997

Ms. Sandy Thurman, Director
National AIDS Policy
750 17th Street N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Director of The National AIDS Policy. Your reputation as Executive Director of AIDAtlanta is very encouraging. My hope is that you will be enabled with the staff and budget resources to fight this horrific disease on a national level as valiantly as you did in Georgia.

Caring for Babies with AIDS (CBA) has been on the cutting edge of services for HIV infected infants and children since the epidemic, long relegated to the adult community, began to show up in the pediatric wards of Los Angeles hospitals. CBA provides full service AIDS care to infants and children who are HIV infected as well as those affected who have a HIV positive parent.

Our residential program for children is the only one of its kind in Los Angeles County and, indeed, in the Western United States. We also provide community outreach programs, treatment education and advocacy programs, and are preparing a "drop-in" Child Care Center.

I look forward to working with you as we provide for those who can not care for themselves.

Sincerely,

John M. Seiber
Public Policy Coordinator

This info is from the CBA's web site,
all other info came from Mr. Seiber's
letter.

—

THE BODY: AN AIDS AND HIV INFORMATION RESOURCE



WOMEN ALIVE

Awareness Is Life - Involvement Is Power - Summer '95
Strategies for Self-Advocacy



Caring For Babies With AIDS A Multifaceted Organization

by Pat Rolands

Caring For Babies With AIDS is a multifaceted AIDS organization located on the Culver City/Los Angeles border. It's appropriately tucked away in a residential area. One of the main functions is to house children, ranging from newborns to six years of age.

Ginny Foat has been the Executive Director of Caring For Babies With AIDS (CBA) since the first residential facility opened in 1990. We met one sunny afternoon and I was able to tour the grounds. Tours are rarely given, because as Ginny put it, "We like to keep the houses as much as a home as possible. We try to keep the interference in the children's lives to a minimum. Afterall, how many people come walking through your house?"

Residential Program

That day most of the children were at school, so I was able to see the open, airy and colorful houses where they live. Vivid murals by various artists cover many of the walls. The potty training bathroom has an incredible life-size mural of the Little Mermaid donated by Disney Imagineering. A large playground covered with toys, little vehicles to ride, and places to climb is in the center of the grounds. It's fitting for the playground to be in the center, as the children are obviously the focus of this agency. While the housing facilities are comfortable and spacious, the administrative offices are, let's say, a bit cramped. Fortunately for the staff of 57 and 80 volunteers, that situation should be alleviated soon with construction of an additional building.

Ginny explained the criteria for residency, "The children here are either 'at-risk' or HIV infected. To be a client, there must be AIDS/HIV present in the family and there must be a child. We get children in the program and the only thing we know about them is that their mom is positive. As you know, you can't really tell on a newborn, because they will test positive, even if they're not." (Note: Babies are born with their mother's immune system. Over 70% of these babies will convert to HIV negative when their own immune system kicks in.)

All of the children are placed at CBA through the L.A. County Department of Children and Family Services. There are numerous reasons why a child might need temporary residence. Ginny lists a few, "It's sometimes a simple reason, like mom is too sick to take care of them. Or it can be complicated, mom might be involved with legal problems, or there might be a child endangerment issue in the home."

"The kids always come under stressful circumstances, whatever the reason. It takes several days for the child to adjust & sometimes

considerably more if there's been a lot of trauma in the child's life. Our program is structured so that stability in that child's life starts the moment they get here."

Stability is achieved in many ways. Caretakers are assigned to specific children. Each child has 3 caretakers in their life. Even volunteers are assigned to specific children with consistent times & days. There are nurses on staff who give medications, weekly physicals and monitor the children under the direction of the child's physician.

The children are not admitted on a permanent basis. Although, as Ginny explains, several have stayed for quite awhile. "Some of our children are here for longer periods of time because there isn't anyplace else for them to go. They're really medically involved. There is no family. There are a lot of wonderful people who foster children, but it is a major commitment to take one of these kids."

The goal of the program is to reunite the children with their families and to assist the family in obtaining all the help and services available to them. "As nice as these houses are, they're still not home with their parents." And to that end, the Family Support Services Program was founded.

Family Support Services

When the first residential facility of CBA filled up immediately, it was obvious that there were many HIV affected families in crisis. While building the second residential facility, the Family Support Services Program was initiated. The goal of this program is to keep HIV infected families together in as healthy an environment for as long as the disease allows.

Family Support Services helps fill a wide variety of needs, from obtaining the basic necessities of life such as housing, food and medical care to providing emotional assistance, mental health care and case management. Currently, 150 families benefit from the assistance of Family Support Services.

The program has gotten so large, that the new building currently in the planning stage, will house a day care center, offices and a resource center, as well as providing space for counseling and support groups.

Volunteer Program

As with so many other AIDS agencies, volunteers are a vital part of Caring For Babies With AIDS. However, volunteers who want to work with the children must make a firm commitment. In trying to stabilize these children's lives, much of the balance comes through regular hours and days on the part of the volunteers. Also, the volunteers play with the same children. They work under the direction of the Child Development Specialist who prescribes play activities based on the child's physical and emotional needs.

Other volunteer opportunities include working in the office or as a Family Home Companion to the clients of Family Support Services, helping to run errands and take care of the children. Volunteers also hold "Baby Showers" in their home and ask their friends to bring items which will replenish supplies, clothes, toys and diapers.

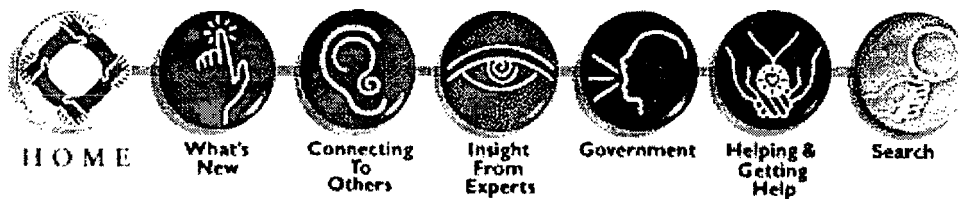
Many volunteers help with fund-raising events. But, look out, that's how Ginny started, and she's been there for years. "I was going to retire," she laughs.

While we were touring, an adorable, wide-eyed 15 month-old child was being brought in by a nurse and the case manager. The baby's big blue eyes were taking in all the stimulation and activity of her new home. I couldn't help but feel for the mother who, for whatever reason, was not able to take care of and enjoy this beautiful baby. The poignancy comes from knowing that this facility was probably saving this child's life.

Ginny laments, "We're just beginning to see the tip of the iceberg with family infection. We're at capacity in all of our programs. And that's not what we want to see. We have a saying that the happiest day of our lives will be the day we close the doors and say we're no longer needed." To that, I say: "Amen".

Caring For Babies With AIDS
P.O. Box 351535
Los Angeles, CA 90035
(213) 931-9828
Fax: (213) 931-1440

This article was provided by Women Alive, BngAlive@aol.com.



Office of
National AIDS Policy

FILE COPY

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G3693

Date Rcvd: 04-28-97

From: Sandra R. Hernandez, M.D.
City and County of San Francisco - Dept. of Public Health

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: _____ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: _____

RCVD: _____ DONE: TS
8/21

Recommendations/Instructions:

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 8/21/97

n:\corresli

Inter-
General
acknowledgment-
look forward to
Chana to meet

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 21, 1997

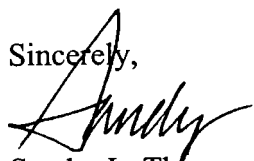
Sandra R. Hernández, M.D.
Director of Health
City and County of San Francisco
Department of Public Health
101 Grove Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Sandra,

Thank you so much for the kind note of congratulations on my recent appointment. This is certainly an awesome challenge, and a wonderful opportunity to help end this epidemic.

Next time you're in Washington, I hope you'll give me a call so that we can catch up! Thank you for your encouragement and offer of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

City and County of San Francisco



Department of Public Health

Sandra R. Hernández, M.D.
Director of Health

April 21, 1997

Sandy Thurman, Director
Office of AIDS Policy
808 17th St., NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ms. Thurman:

Please accept my sincere congratulations on your recent Presidential appointment as Director of the Office of AIDS Policy. Your commitment to AIDS through your advocacy work has been exemplary.

My travel schedule puts me in Washington, DC for a couple of days each month. As you settle into your new position, I hope you will feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance. I look forward to working with you and wish you continued success.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra R. Hernández" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sandra R. Hernández, MD
Director of Health

FILE COPY

Office of
National AIDS Policy

Correspondence Routing Slip

Tracking Number: G3687

Date Rcvd: 04-25-97

From: Robert W. Cooper

Staff Action:

Reviewed By Sandy: ✓ Reviewed By: _____

Assigned To: ~~RET~~ Michael/V.

RCVD: _____ DONE: 7/14

Recommendations/Instructions:

See G 3833

To Support Staff: _____

Date of Response: 7/14

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 14, 1997

Robert W. Cooper
1350 N. Third Ave
Upland, CA 91786-3228

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for your letter and your concern.

Today, more than ever, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is threatening our youth. With nearly half of all new HIV infections occurring among people under the age of 21, the need for youth-oriented prevention efforts is greater than ever.

Our young people need to know the link between substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. We need to help our young people understand that they have the power to protect themselves through education and prevention. It is up to us all to put an end to these twin epidemics.

Again, thank you for your concern and activism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra L. Thurman", written over a horizontal line.

Sandra L. Thurman

Director

Office of National AIDS Policy

April 8, 1987

Dear Sandy Thurman,
Director of AIDS Policy

If you wish to halt
the spread of AIDS you
will need to confront
the "hospitality industry,"
advertisers, and broadcasters.

Education does not help
much when people are under
the influence of alcohol and
other drugs. Moderation only
gives young people the green
light to disregard the intent
of the law. It destroys the
just say No line of defense.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Cooper

Mailed to all 100 U.S. Senators:

1350 North Third Ave.
Upland, CA. 91786-3228
(909) 982-6446
February 20, 1997

Dear Director Sandy Thurman,

Stop marketing alcohol on radio and television. Teleculture is the most powerful socializing and enculturating force in society. Many people, especially young people, do not have the psychological resources to resist alcohol commercials. Their parents and their peers have also been saturated with beer and wine TV commercials since earliest childhood. These commercials not only try to persuade young people to drink, they also teach ways of behaving that are not anticipated. Beer company revenue pays about 1/4 of all TV sports broadcasting. The Busch family gives their babies a few drops of Budweiser Beer before they ever taste their mother's milk. "We must promote the consumption of alcoholic beverages as part of normal, everyday life." The wine company revenue stresses wine with food, the family table, the ethnic heritage, rather than the athletes and the young people. "We certainly do not in any way, as part of our lifestyle, discourage our children from exposure to wine at the table. We think it is the best education we could communicate to our children...We have made a cultural decision and the beer community, obviously, has made their cultural decision. What binds us all together is that we have alcohol in our product."

Clearly, beer is the central substance of abuse for teenagers. Students tend to believe getting high with friends is lots of fun, quite socially acceptable, and may "generalize" to drugs other than alcohol.

Senator Paula Hawkins, of Florida, questioned many children at juvenile detention centers throughout her state:

"Why are you here?"

"I drank a little and used a little drugs."

"What did you use first?"

..."In every instance it was beer. They buy it by the case and mix it with anything they can find in cabinets. They're off and on their way. It arrests their maturation, and most of these children will always be children physically and mentally."

Most existing alcohol research has been sponsored by the alcohol industry, and is therefore highly suspect. We can't afford to postpone action pending "scientific proof" acceptable to the beer, wine, and broadcasting industries. Children and adults are being drowned in a sea of seductive ads.

The alcohol industry maintains: "Research proves there is no clear linkage between alcohol advertising and total consumption, much less alcohol abuse or alcohol addiction."

Elaine Stienkemeyer, President of the National P.T.A., pointed out that TV ads never depict alcohol being linked with child and spousal abuse, employee absenteeism, fires, accidents, liver disease, suicide, birth defects, and mental retardation.⁴

Mrs. Stienkemeyer was trying to speak for 5.5 million P.T.A. Members on February 7, 1985, but she only had 800,000 signatures on the SMART Petitions and the senators hardly heard a word she said. SMART became extinct.

Dr. Melvin H. Knisely and two young associates, Dr Herbert A. Moskow and Dr. Raymond C. Pennington, at the Medical University of South Carolina, were recognized throughout the scientific world as outstanding experts on the strange phenomenon known as "blood sludging". They discovered that alcohol in the

blood causes red cells to stick together in clumps. As these bits of "sludge" reach capillaries they pile up into a wad that may entirely plug the capillary. With every increase in alcohol, the number of wads of red cells increased, the rate of blood flow slowed, an increasing number of fully plugged capillaries were observed, and at highest concentrations, a substantial number of the capillaries had been ruptured, producing microscopic hemorrhages. They had discovered the mechanism by which alcohol injures and destroys brain cells by depriving them of the oxygen they need to survive. Binge drinking will thus cause a substantial number of small brain hemorrhages and an even larger number of plugged capillaries. Around each of these minute points, some brain cells will die for lack of oxygen. Our bodies are incapable of creating new brain cells. But since the average adult brain contains more than 17 billion individual cells, the destruction of even a few thousand leaves the heavy drinker with his brain powers apparently intact.

If his drinking bouts continue year after year, however, millions of irreplaceable brain cells will be lost to him. Gradually, the accumulation of such losses will show up as the slowed wit and impaired judgement of the alcoholic. And when he dies — probably some years sooner than if he had been a non-drinker — an autopsy of his brain will reveal enormous numbers of small areas wasting away. In some cases the loss of brain tissue can be seen the moment the brain is exposed to view.

Whenever people drink alcohol, lack of oxygen may cause irreplaceable brain cells to die. The only real difference between a moderate drinker's loss of brain tissue and that of a heavy drinker is one of degree.²

The hospitality industry, advertisers, and broadcasters cooperate to suppress such research and information, and these findings become extinct. Sixteen years after Reader's Digest, June 1970, published these findings, Psychology Today, January 1986, published an article, "Pickled Brains Age Faster!" as if a startling new discovery had been made.

In a memorandum, March 6, 1985, Carol T. Crawford, Director of Consumer Protection, proclaimed there was found to be no relationship between alcohol advertising and alcohol abuse. She warned that restrictions on broadcast advertising might result in a reduction in the number of free public service announcements concerning alcoholism and drunk driving.

The U.S. Brewers Association developed and distributed a comprehensive 2nd through 12th grade curriculum called, Preventing Alcohol Abuse, and helped sponsor SADD. These programs stressed that teachers must understand that abstinence is not a realistic goal. Children and teenagers should be educated to become mature, responsible, consumers of alcohol. They should learn to drink with moderation and select a designated driver.

The brewers' curriculum was very successful. Roughly half of all college freshmen and 80% of the fraternity brothers and sorority sisters at our renowned colleges and universities are binge drinkers. One or both partners were under the influence of alcohol in over 90% of the campus reported rape cases.

Experts in treating cocaine and crack users estimated that 95% have histories of alcohol consumption prior to taking illegal drugs. Teenagers were the least likely group to use illegal drugs. The group from 35 to 44 had the highest rate of drug related deaths, five times that of 18 to 19 years olds. They had "generalized" to illegal drugs and often mixed alcohol with the illegal drugs.

Alcohol loosens sexual inhibitions. About 65% of teen moms were unmarried. Approximately 2/3 of these girls reported prior sexual abuse, almost always by parents, guardians, or relatives. On average, these girls were less

than 10 years old at the time of the first abuse, while the average age of the offending male was 27 years old.

Nearly one in three babies are born to single moms, and 1/2 of the couples who are married get a divorce. Girls from broken homes or who have been abused are easy prey for men. Roughly 200,000 DNA paternity tests are given each year with taxpayers footing the bill. Medical studies suggest that up to 10% of all men, who think they are the fathers of their children, really are not. California's new temporary assistance program will deny benefits to welfare mothers who can't or won't identify the fathers of their children.

All babies deserve to have a real mother and a real father who will love them, provide for them, and who will remain totally free from the influence of alcohol and other drugs.

The peak year for abortion was 1990, when there were 1.4 million. Most of the women who had abortions were white, single, and younger than 25. Near the end of 1997, abortion pill (RU-486, mifepristone) marketing will be aimed at physicians, because RU-486 needs to be administered by doctors. Many physicians may wait on the sidelines to monitor the demand and possible backlash. Birth control pills and morning-after pills are already quietly made available at many health centers, especially those on college campuses.

Our First Lady recently traveled to Thailand to focus attention upon the sale of twelve year old girls into that country's flourishing sex trade. Many of them die of AIDS. Older men in the U.S. may seek out young girls believing there is less risk of disease. Florida found that even men at upscale retirement condos drink and party with prostitutes, and about 4000 of Florida's senior citizens had unprotected sex, got AIDS, and have died.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases account for 5 of the top 10 infections in the United States. Twelve million people, including 3 million teenagers, become infected with STDs each year. Women contract STDs more easily than men and suffer greater health consequences, such as cancer and infertility, yet they must rely on men to wear condoms to protect them. Teens with STDs are 3 to 5 times more likely to contract HIV. A much greater share of U.S. men carry the AIDS virus than women. A 1992 study found that there was one in every 160 men compared to one in every 1000 women. The fastest growing group of HIV infected Americans in 1992, were people infected through heterosexual contact. From 1986 to 1992 that group tripled in size.

The hospitality industry leaders seem to become very generous whenever measures relating to alcohol are under discussion by local, state, or federal government. The Rancho Cucamonga City Council voted to permit the Quakes Baseball Stadium to display alcoholic beverage advertising on the outfield fence and on the scoreboard. The city will start receiving 20% of all money received from the sale of alcoholic beverages at the Quakes Baseball Stadium.

July, 1996, Governor Pete Wilson vetoed a bill that would remove the 4% alcohol content ceiling from beer. September, 1996, he changed his mind and signed it. The bill allows any malt beverage, regardless of alcohol content, to be sold as beer. Neighborhood cafes, pizza parlors, pool halls, clubs, etc. which have special beer-only licenses will be pushing potent power-beer making it much easier for people to get high, starting July, 1997. California taxes beer and wine by the gallon regardless of alcohol content. Fortified wine and power-beer will provide binge drinkers more bang for their bucks in California.

It is interesting to note that while cigarette advertising entices young people to smoke, beer and wine commercials only influence brand share to a mature and stable market. The hospitality industry explains that an alcohol advertising ban would be unfair since it would represent a statement by the government that consumers are doing something wrong merely drinking a beer or

a healthful glass of wine.

With the help of TV, beer sales have almost doubled since the 1960s. Without TV commercials, hard liquor consumption has declined 29% just since 1980. The Distilled Spirits Council has decided to end its voluntary 60-year ban on the broadcast advertising of whisky, gin, vodka etc.

During the 1996 elections, Seagram, a Canadian distilling company, directed \$950,000 in "soft money" to the Democratic Party committee, making it the party's largest single "soft money" benefactor. Giving \$646,000 in "soft money" to the Republican Party committee, Seagram ranked the fourth largest single "soft money" benefactor for the Republican committee. Seagram's spokesman, Thomas Lauria explained, "You try the best you can to communicate to both parties what your views are."

Highly respected retiring senators have stated that effective campaign finance reform must come from pressure at the grass roots. The pressure will never come from the beltway.

Even DARE Officers seem to feel that, since alcohol is perfectly legal, getting high is no problem unless you hurt someone. High on beer and wine, many Southern Californians "generalize" to other drugs, often mixing alcohol with the illegal drugs. Southern California has become the methamphetamine lab, drug trafficking, and money laundering capital of the United States. And the United States has the world's highest incarceration rate — six to eight times higher than rates in other industrialized countries.

Several judges in Southern California believe we have lost the drug war and should make all drugs legal to remove the profits from drug-trafficking. They concede that permitting alcohol advertising, when Prohibition ended, was one of the worst mistakes our nation ever made.

Predictions for 1997 indicate the "in" crowd will socialize at cocktail parties and there appears to be no end in sight to the Las Vegas luster.

My predictions for the year 2000 indicate that many of the "in" crowd will be drinking cocktails of protease inhibitors in combination with older drugs such as AZT; and the party will have ended. These new cocktails will cost about \$20,000 per year for each consumer. The American taxpayers will be forced to pick up the tab or watch them die, begging on the sidewalks like the untouchables of Calcutta during World War II.

Southern California may become the Black Hole of The United States. I hope that I am wrong, but it will take all of us to turn these problems around.

There has been enough ambivalence and complacency already. It is time to forget the "soft money" and plant new grass along the beltway.

The Subcommittee on Communication of the Senate Commerce Committee, chaired by Senator Conrad Burns of Montana, will start hearings on Hard Liquor Broadcast Advertising on February 25, 1997. Senator Burns will permit other interested senators to testify and submit statements for the record.

Please help,

Robert W. Coopers

Update: These hearings have been postponed indefinitely! Write or phone: Brett Scott, Senate Commerce Committee, Communications Subcommittee, 227 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20510, or phone (202) 224-5184, and urge action!

Representative Joseph Kennedy will soon reintroduce the "Just Say No" Act in the House of Representatives to ban Liquor Broadcast Advertising. Please write or phone your representatives in Washington, D.C.

I sincerely wish that you also will try your best to communicate to both parties what your views are. Please act!



CITY OF ATLANTA

BILL CAMPBELL
MAYOR

CITY HALL
55 TRINITY AVENUE, S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300

(404) 330-6100

April 8, 1997

Ms. Sandy Thurman
Director of National AIDS Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Sandy:

Congratulations on your appointment to serve the Clinton administration as our nation's Director of National AIDS Policy. We are all so very proud of you.

Scotty Greenwood suggested I send you a copy of the television news clips from Monday's coverage of President Clinton's announcement. I have also enclosed a copy of the press release and The Atlanta Journal and Constitution article which ran on page three of the "A" section. A color photo of you and President Clinton ran on the lower half of the front page, too.

Please let me know what Mayor Campbell and the City of Atlanta can do to help get your message out to the people of Atlanta.

Again, congratulations! Best wishes for continued success in Washington.

Sincerely,

Nick M. Gold
Press Spokesman

cc: Scotty Greenwood



CITY OF ATLANTA

NEWS RELEASE

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0319

CONTACT: Nick Gold
(404) 330-6511 or pager
1-800-672-4861

April 7, 1997

PRESIDENT CLINTON NAMES SANDY THURMAN AIDS CZAR
Mayor Campbell applauds her appointment

President Bill Clinton today appointed Atlanta native Sandra L. Thurman the nation's AIDS Policy Director. The announcement was made at a White House ceremony.

"Sandy Thurman has been a good friend and will be a tremendous asset to President Clinton and his administration in moving forward the nation's AIDS agenda," said Mayor Bill Campbell. "Sandy has a long history of commitment to Atlanta's AIDS community as well as the nation's. She is a goal oriented and results driven individual whom I know will make significant progress in better informing our nation about the AIDS epidemic."

Ms. Thurman's commitment to serving the AIDS community began a decade ago. In 1988 she joined AID Atlanta, the southeast's first and largest AIDS service organization, as the Director of Public Affairs. In 1989 she was named its Executive Director. Under her leadership, AID Atlanta tripled in size, becoming a multi-million dollar, direct-service agency with 90 staff members and over 1,000 volunteers.

On World AIDS Day in 1994, Mayor Campbell hosted the first Mayor's Conference on AIDS in the Workplace. More than 400 business and labor leaders participated in the conference, and "thanks to Sandy Thurman and the support of her constituents in the AIDS community the conference was a great success," added Mayor Campbell.

#

WEATHER

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Partly cloudy, but pleasant.
High, 68, low 48. F10



HOME EDITION

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
50 CENTS

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1997

ATLANTAN IS NEW AIDS CZAR



Former AID Atlanta leader Sandra Thurman gets a big welcome Monday in Washington after being chosen by President Clinton as director of national AIDS policy. In Atlanta, the reaction is mixed. Article, A3

RICK MCKAY / Washington Bureau

CLINTON APPOINTEE

Atlantan to oversee nation's AIDS policy

By Julia Malone
STAFF WRITER in WASHINGTON
and M.A.J. McKenna
STAFF WRITER in ATLANTA

Washington — President Clinton tapped Atlanta community organizer Sandra Thurman on Monday to be his latest director of AIDS policy.

"She's worked on the front lines in the AIDS epidemic for more than a decade," the president said in a brief ceremony at the White House.



Clinton cited **Thurman** Thurman's 1989-93 work as head of AID Atlanta, where she was credited with building the largest non-profit organization on AIDS in the South and attracting 1,000 volunteers.

"She is passionate, she is committed, she is difficult to say 'no' to," the president said of Thurman, 43, who served as political director for his reelection campaign in Georgia.

Thurman pledged to improve housing, Medicaid and welfare services for AIDS patients and to "counteract the devastating effects that homophobia and racism continue to have on this epidemic."

"The president has given me his personal commitment ... and, in turn, I offer the community my commitment to the efforts to develop vaccines, to find a cure, to stop the transmission of HIV," Thurman said.

She wants Congress to consider endorsing federal funds for programs that offer clean needles to drug users in an effort to stem the spread of AIDS.

Thurman replaces Patsy Fleming, who departed several months ago amid complaints of lackluster leadership.

The reaction in Atlanta to the announcement was notice-

able and political — just like the woman herself.

Former colleagues hailed her hard work and fund-raising muscle, and longtime opponents renewed criticism of what they called inappropriate spending and excessive political ties.

"Thurman might have been a good bureaucrat, but she certainly was no leader in the war on AIDS," said Roger Garza, Atlanta representative of the advocacy group ACT-UP.

"Sandy was a gift to this community and to this agency at any price," countered Ken Britt, current chairman of AID Atlanta.

A former executive director of AID Atlanta, Thurman is known for her directness, humor and distinctive style: She kept a Wedgwood teacup full of multicolored condoms on her desk and once dressed up as a drag queen for a fund-raiser.

But she was also a lifelong Democratic Party insider: daughter of Marge Thurman, former head of the Georgia Democratic Party; friend of James Carville, Clinton's former political strategist; and a campaigner herself for Clinton, which last fall led to being chair of his post-election victory bash in Little Rock.

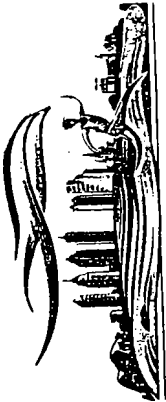
Until recently, Thurman was a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS.

On Monday, local AIDS experts said they hoped Thurman's political ties would help AIDS treatment in Atlanta.

Thurman, who was mentioned as a contender for the AIDS position in 1993 and 1994, was director of public affairs at AID Atlanta from 1982 through 1988. She became the agency's first heterosexual executive director in 1989 and stayed until 1993, when she left to head the Task Force for Child Survival and Development, a program affiliated with the Carter Center.

HOME EDITION

50 CENTS



WEATHER

Partly cloudy, but pleasant
High: 68, low: 48 F10

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1997