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NALEO [National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 6, 1999

Mr. Arturo Vargas
Executive Director
NALEO Education Fund
311 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20002

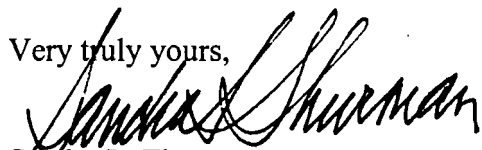
Dear Mr. Vargas:

Thank you for your recent offer to allow us to participate in NALEO's upcoming Miami conference, at which you will address the HIV/AIDS crisis among Latinos.

We would be more than happy to work with you and are excited about the possibility of raising awareness and galvanizing energy on the fight against AIDS. This past fall, the President announced a new initiative to address the ongoing crisis of HIV/AIDS in racial and ethnic minorities. He particularly recognized the devastating impact that this epidemic is having on Latinos, so your inquiry could not be more timely.

May I ask that you or your staff contact my deputy Todd Summers (202-456-2437) to determine how we can best be of service. We look forward to an effective and rewarding partnership!

Very truly yours,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy



NALEO Educational Fund

civic research & action on behalf of the Latino community

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Executive Director
Arturo Vargas

June 30, 1999

The Honorable Sandra Thurman
Director, National AIDS Policy Office
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Director Thurman:

I write to request the advice and assistance of the White House Office on AIDS Policy with respect to a major upcoming project of the NALEO Educational Fund. On October 22-24, 1999, we will convene 50 Latino state legislators from throughout the country in Miami to explore in-depth the AIDS and HIV infection crisis among Latinos. This Institute is the first of periodic gatherings of Latino elected officials this organization will organize to improve the public policy effectiveness of Latino policy makers on key issues. Because we recognize the severity of the AIDS crisis among Latinos, we decided to devote our first NALEO Policy Institute to this topic.

Over a full day and a half, we hope to increase the understanding of Latino state legislators on this topic, including model service delivery and prevention programs, funding opportunities for state and local communities, Latino access to and participation in current programs, and emerging research and trends. I believe your office could be of critical assistance in informing and advising on the policy concerns that should be at the forefront of state legislators.

I hope that the White House Office on AIDS Policy is able to play a key role in this historic event. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to explore your possible participation. Mr. Mickey Ibarra recommended that we begin with your office our exploration of the Administration's participation in this NALEO Educational Fund program.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Marcelo Gaete, our Director of Constituency Services in our Washington, D.C. office at 202-546-2536. We will contact your office shortly as follow-up to this letter.

Thank you for your kind consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Arturo Vargas
Executive Director

cc: Mickey Ibarra, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

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