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NATIONAL PEDIATRIC
HIV
RESOURCE CENTER

900 Second Street, NE
Suite 211
Washington, DC 20002
202-289-5970
202-408-9520 FAX

FAX COVER SHEET

Washington Office

TO: Kristine Gebbie

FIRM: _____

FAX NUMBER: 632-1096

FROM: David C. Harvey

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March 18, 1994

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

We are writing to thank you for your commitment to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic and for demonstrating your personal leadership as well as the leadership of your administration in all areas of HIV care, research and prevention. As you know, much work remains to be done in improving the nation's ability to prevent new HIV infections, developing a cure and vaccine, and in caring for those already infected or sick from HIV related illnesses.

Toward these goals, we have been working closely with your administration, Congress, and the constituency that we serve on HIV related public policy and service issues. As one example of our activities in the area of HIV prevention, the Resource Center worked closely with Congressman Jose Serrano (D-NY) and Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) on a joint resolution in Congress (S.J. Res. 166, H.J. Res. 334) designating the week of May 29 through June 4, 1994 as "Pediatric and Adolescent AIDS Awareness Week" in the United States. Senator Specter and Congressman Serrano are to be applauded and recognized for their leadership on these issues in Congress and for their significant accomplishments in improving the nation's response to the HIV epidemic.

In support of the work of Congressman Serrano and Senator Specter, we respectfully request that you issue a proclamation in commemoration of Pediatric and Adolescent AIDS Awareness Week. The proclamation should request that the American people observe the week by sponsoring seminars and educational events for young people on HIV and health-related issues. We also request that you instruct key members of your Cabinet and the Secretary of the Department of Health & Human Services to conduct educational events related to care, research and prevention issues in order to educate the federal work force as well as the American public about the disease of HIV infection and AIDS.

The President

March 18, 1994

Page 2

In addition, we request that you consider the following suggestions as your staff considers options for organizing a White House response to the proclamation that is focused on prevention of HIV infection among the nation's youth.

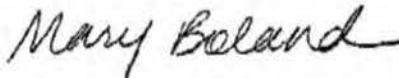
- * Mention of a proclamation and an explicit discussion of HIV prevention methods aimed at American youth could be incorporated in your weekly radio address on May 28, 1994. In addition, a public service announcement could be recorded by you for use in a national television campaign aimed at prevention of HIV infection in youth.
- * A White House reception with the president, first lady, Congressman Serrano, and Senator Specter could be hosted in order to meet with youth and families infected with HIV during the evening of May 22, 1994 or May 23, 1994. The Resource Center will be hosting a national conference during these days in Washington, D.C. and families and youth living with HIV will already be in Washington.
- * The president and first lady could visit a pediatric, adolescent and family HIV care clinic during the week of May 28, 1994 to stress the commitment of the administration toward providing compassionate care to persons living with HIV and AIDS. The first lady has already been invited by Congressman Serrano to visit Bronx-Lebanon hospital in the Bronx, New York during the week of May 28, 1994.

We would be pleased and honored to serve as a resource to The White House and to the office of the National AIDS Policy Coordinator, Kristine Gebbie, R.N., M.S.N., as you prepare an HIV prevention message for the nation's youth and make preparations for visiting an HIV clinic either in the Bronx, Newark, or elsewhere in the United States. Attached is a list of pediatric, adolescent and family HIV clinical sites funded under Title IV of the Ryan White CARE Act.

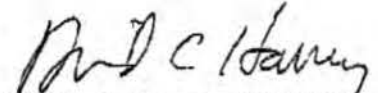
The President
March 18, 1994
Page 3

Thank you for your consideration of this request and thank you once again for your personal commitment to ending the HIV epidemic. Please contact David Harvey at the Washington office of the Resource Center to coordinate and provide assistance related to pediatric and adolescent AIDS awareness week.

Sincerely,



Mary Boland, R.N., M.S.N.
Director
Newark, New Jersey



David C. Harvey, M.S.W.
Coordinator for Public Policy
Washington, D.C.

cc: Donna Shalala, Ph.D.
Kristine Gebbie, R.N., M.S.N.
Joycelyn Elders, M.D.

Attachments