

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Nutrition

Karen-

What are your thoughts
on this?

CC: Reed
Marshall
Ucelli
Sosnik
Palmieri
Echaveste

— US Dept
— told me
Low of nutrients
etc.

Tom —

What do you think — ?
I think it's a good idea

Karen

S. DANIEL ABRAHAM

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

There is currently a tremendous body of knowledge that links food and nutrition to health and disease. Never before has there been a greater need and public interest to apply this knowledge to promote the health and well being of the American population. As President, you could have a major impact on the health of the nation by convening a White House Conference on Nutrition and Health in year 2000.

Only once before, in 1969, has such a conference been held. It had a profound effect on the nutrition and health agenda of the nation. A White House conference has been strongly advocated and would be enthusiastically supported by many members of congress on both sides of the aisle, by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, and by hundreds of consumer, producer and marketing organizations. Your own Domestic Policy Council has this proposal under consideration.

The USDA and HHS are planning a National Nutrition Summit that is tentatively scheduled for May 30-31, 2000, in Washington, D.C. The public hearing testimony indicates that the proposed Summit objectives would best be served through the prominent involvement of a White House Conference with participation by the President, and Vice President, and possibly Hillary Rodham Clinton and Tipper Gore.

This national nutrition summit is intended to provide an opportunity (a) to highlight accomplishments in the areas of Food, Nutrition, and Health, especially those achievements of this administration; (b) to identify continuing challenges and opportunities for the nation in these areas; and (c) to focus on the effects of good and poor nutrition on health and longevity, and the current epidemic of obesity. The poor quality of nutrition in America today is placing Americans at increased risk for diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, osteoarthritis, gallbladder disease, and high cholesterol.

Approximately 300,000 deaths each year can be attributed to obesity. The direct health care costs of obesity are estimated to be approximately 4.3% of all direct health care costs, a figure on the order of \$40 billion. Moreover, obesity is more common among certain ethnic minorities, women (particularly African American, Native American, and Hispanic women), and the poor.

777 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE • WEST TOWER, SUITE 1400
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33401

With disease prevention becoming more important in this time of health care reform proper nutrition can dramatically improve the lives of millions of Americans. The ideal time for such a conference is now. The only way we can truly succeed at ensuring a healthful diet for all Americans is to initiate a national dialogue and come together in a public/private effort to strengthen our national nutrition policies. A White House conference could project a food, nutrition and health agenda for the 21st century and beyond. Such a White House Conference could be announced at your State of the Union Address and would be a vivid demonstration and legacy of the commitment of your administration to the health of the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan".

S. Daniel Abraham

CC: John Podesta, Chief of Staff
Dan Glickman, Secretary of Agriculture
Donna Shalala, Secretary Health and Human Services
Hon Tom Daschle
Hon Patrick J Leahy



SARA EHRLMAN

V. S. Miller
1-14-99
Sara

Dear Mr. President,
This conference on nutrition
and health is very dear to
Danny Gleason's heart.
Could you possibly help
facilitate?

CENTER FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE & ECONOMIC COOPERATION
633 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW • FIFTH FLOOR • WASHINGTON, DC 20004 • (202)624-0850 • FAX (202)624-0855

We pray for success in
Shepardstown. The peace
treaty should be signed in
Dunethan Road. Can drive from
Damascus in a hour, Bama
in one and a half.

It'll be 5 in April. So they have
to move out.

Yours,
Sara Chman