

Cindy Mahan

March 20, 1996

Ms. Cindy Mahan  
Executive Director  
Friendship Services Center, Inc.  
Post Office Drawer 2109  
Russellville, Arkansas 72811

Dear Cindy:

Thank you so much for the wonderful albums of letters and moving pictures, which Diana Fortuna and Carol Rasco passed along to me. The contributions make the powerful point that Medicaid is essential for many people with disabilities.

As I'm sure you know, I vetoed the Congress' budget plan -- which included a Medicaid block grant and substantial cuts to the program -- because of my concern that essential programs and services would be jeopardized under the proposed system. I remain committed to building on the progress we've made in helping people with disabilities to live as independently and productively as possible.

I hope you will let the contributors know how much it meant to me to hear their stories. I look forward to your continued efforts to spread the word about the difference Medicaid makes in the lives of so many Americans. You have my best wishes.

Sincerely,

**BILL CLINTON**

BC/DI/JFB/bws (Corres. #2768105)  
(3.mahan.c)

cc: Diana Fortuna  
cc: Carol Rasco

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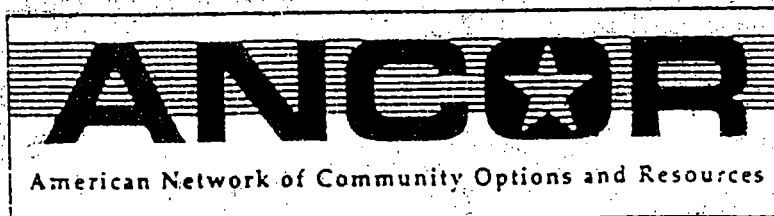
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Cindy Mahan

A Publication for Private Providers Supporting People with Disabilities



# LINKS

January 1996 Volume XXI No. 01

(Formerly the National Association of Private Residential Resources)

## ANCOR Board Member Carries Medicaid Message To Clinton And White House Staff

Cindy Mahan, Executive Director of Friendship Services Center, Inc., of Russellville, Arkansas met in early December with White House Senior Policy Analyst Diane Fortuna. In her meeting with the White House staffer, Mahan emphasized the reality of federal Medicaid reductions on the nation's children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities and their family members.

To emphasize the importance of this joint federal/state program that provides health coverage and long-term services to low-income people, many of whom have mental retardation and other disabilities, Mahan carried over 100 letters and pictures from Arkansas families to President Clinton, requesting his protection of Americans with disabilities in the current budget battle. [That is putting a real "face" on the current debate over Medicaid spending reductions and program reforms!]

Mahan, who also serves on ANCOR's Board of Directors,



ANCOR Board of Directors member Cindy Mahan (pictured on the right) presents letters and pictures from 100 Arkansas families to White House Senior Policy Analyst Diane Fortuna in Washington, D.C. Mahan carried the "many faces and personal stories of Arkansans" as part of the overall message she delivered to President Clinton on the Medicaid Program.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                                                              |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| ANCOR Board Member Carries Medicaid Message To Clinton And White House Staff .....           | pgs. front, 22 |
| PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE .....                                                                    | pgs. 2, 22     |
| OSHA UPDATES .....                                                                           | pgs. 3, 14     |
| ANCOR CALENDAR .....                                                                         | pg. 3          |
| Arkansas Mother Calls On Clinton To Continue Medicaid Community Services For Son .....       | pg. 4          |
| BOARD SENSE .....                                                                            | pgs. 5, 20     |
| President Vetoes GOP Budget: Stands Firm On Medicaid Entitlement .....                       | pgs. 6, 9      |
| ANCOR ARCHIVES .....                                                                         | pg. 7          |
| Per Capita Cap Medicaid Alternatives .....                                                   | pgs. 8, 17     |
| ANCOR HONOR ROLL .....                                                                       | pg. 9          |
| The Public Service Project .....                                                             | pg. 10         |
| Final Input Needed For Conversion Of Dues From Residential Services To Agency Expenses ..... | pg. 11         |
| SAF-T Bulletin .....                                                                         | pgs. 12-13     |
| BREATHING SPACE .....                                                                        | pgs. 15, 18    |
| Business Planning In A Changing Environment .....                                            | pgs. 16, 19    |
| OSHA Swamped With Mail Opposing Workplace Smoking Restrictions .....                         | pg. 19         |
| STAFF RAMBLING .....                                                                         | pg. 20         |
| Irwin Siegel Agency Announces New Sponsorship .....                                          | pg. 21         |
| ANCOR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & REPRESENTATIVES .....                                            | pg. 23         |
| ANCOR APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP .....                                                       | pg. 24         |

Continued on page 22

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