

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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001. letter	Dorothy Stoneman to Shirley Sagawa (1 page)	01/27/1999	Personal Misfile
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Shirley Sagawa
OA/Box Number: 24340

FOLDER TITLE:

Shirley Sagawa Invitations Regret

2013-0124-S

rc1105

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]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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INVITED TO STRATEGY MEETING

Sam Halperin, American Youth Policy Forum
Alan Zuckerman, National Youth Employment Coalition
Bruce Katz, Brookings Institution
Bob Greenstein, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities
Marian Wright Edelman, Children's Defense Fund
David McKean, Chief of Staff, Senator John Kerry
Bob Rapoza, Rapoza and Associates, lobbyist for YouthBuild,
Roy Priest, National Congress for Community Economic Development
Bart Harvey, Enterprise Foundation
Marion Pines, Johns Hopkins University
George Knight, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation
Jack Calhoun, National Crime Prevention Council
Tim Barnicle, Dir. Of Policy & Work Force Development, NCEE
David Kass, Office of Senator John Kerry
Roger Wolfson, Office of Senator Paul Wellstone
George Seymore, Legislative Director, U.S. House of Representatives, Jesse Jackson Jr.
Shirley Sagawa

Memo from -
DOROTHY STONEMAN

FYI -
I just received
this faxed
news report from
Lowell apropos
our meeting...
it breaks my
heart. but speaks
to the need.
Dorothy

Officials lament loss of YWCA program that got kids off the streets

Lowell teen thrived under YouthBuild
before he was fatally stabbed

By CHRIS IVEN
Sun Staff

LOWELL — After last week's stabbing murder of an 18-year-old boy, many people in the city are asking themselves what could have prevented the killing.

Middlesex Assistant District Attorney Michael Ortiz, who prosecutes juveniles accused of violent crimes, is among several officials who think a program called YouthBuild might have kept Keoudone Onexaieng off the streets Jan. 12, the day he was murdered.



Keoudone
Onexaieng

But the program folded Dec. 30 when its state and federal grant money ran out. The 2-year-old program, run by the YWCA, prepared unemployed, out-of-school young adults age 16 to 24 for a high school equivalency tests and taught them construction skills on alternating weeks. In the process, the students rehabilitated affordable housing in Lowell. The program also offered counseling and career placement services.

The program paid trainees \$300 every two weeks. In its first year, 22 of 27 participants completed the entire program. About 80 percent of the graduates were placed in well-paying construction jobs, according to Cynthia Harvey, who ran the program. Onexaieng, who joined YouthBuild in August, was a model member, with the best attendance

YWCA (978) 454 5405

(2)

Officials lament demise of program that got kids off the streets

YOUTHBUILD/From Page 1

rate among his peers, Harvey said.

"He was always at YouthBuild," Harvey said. "It was his life."

The program lasted every day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

But Onexaivieng wasn't at the program Jan. 12 — it no longer existed.

On that day, at 3:15, Onexaivieng was walking from downtown Lowell with three of his friends, at least two of whom had criminal records. The group ran into two 15-year old boys on Gorham Street, according to members of the group. After a stare-down, a shoulder bump and a scuffle, Noeun Phan and Noeun Sok began chasing the group with a sword, they said.

Phan and Sok caught up with Onexaivieng on the corner of Central and Charles streets, and stabbed him at least once in the back, police said. Onexaivieng died that night, and Phan and Sok have been charged with murder.

No one can say for sure that Onexaivieng would be alive today if the YouthBuild program hadn't been dismantled. But officials said the demise of such programs give at-risk youth fewer alternatives to joining gangs and getting into trouble.

"The average kids join (gangs) because they want to belong to something," Ortiz said. "YouthBuild gave them something to belong to."

Instead of wearing gang colors, trainees would proudly wear their green YouthBuild shirts as they walked through the city, Ortiz said. Their friends often envied them for participating in the program, he said.

Paying trainees for work completed is a unique and especially effective component of YouthBuild programs, Ortiz said.

"It's reward, it's education and it's job skills," said Ortiz, who often refers troubled teens to YouthBuild and other programs.

Those who ran the program also offered emotional support, Ortiz said. For participants lacking strong parents, one of the few other ways to get such support and a sense of belonging is through gangs, he said.

The city needs more programs like YouthBuild if it wants to crack its gang problem, according to Jim Conlon, who works with at-risk teens through a Big Brothers/Big Sisters program called the ADAM Project.

"The government and people have to realize that those programs can save lives," Conlon said.

The ADAM Project, for example, offers weekly after-school instruction to teenagers who have been referred to the program by the courts, schools or their parents. Participants learn about issues that affect them: drugs, violence, sexuality and gangs. They also participate in community service projects, Conlon said.

Getting out of gangs is the most difficult task some teenagers have ever encountered, Conlon said.

Every day, they have to choose not to hang out with their friends, not to go to the places they know best, Conlon said. Programs like YouthBuild gave them an alternative, he said.

For one thing, it's less expensive, he said. It costs about \$50,000 for each juvenile in jail in Massachusetts. In contrast, the state-funded ADAM Project serves 30 juveniles at

a cost of \$40,000 per year, Conlon said.

More importantly, anti-gang programs are more effective than incarceration, Conlon said. New criminals will surface where the old ones were arrested, he said. Good anti-gang programs stop that cycle, he said.

Lowell Police Superintendent Edward Davis said there should be a concerted effort for programs that rehabilitate young criminals and prevent gang association. He said his efforts to lock-up criminals applied to a small hardcore group of kids who shouldn't be involved in programs.

"For the great bulk of kids: get the programs in place, get them some options, give them something to do," Davis said. "But there are some indigenous leaders out there, and those kids are opting for violence. It's those kids that ... we have to get off the streets."

Although YouthBuild disbanded two weeks earlier, it met last week to talk about Onexaivieng.

"I kind of looked up to him," said Dennis Greenwood, 20. "His life was a lot rougher than mine and he was here every day."

Greenwood, who now has a job as a construction worker, said that he, like Onexaivieng, had a troubled youth. YouthBuild, however, taught him responsibility and has helped him turn his life around. He now has a job as a construction worker.

"It didn't matter about your criminal history — they were there for you," Greenwood said.

Lowell's YouthBuild program started in late 1996 with 30 students, all of whom had dropped out of high school. Many of them had violent criminal histories. The

first session ended in late 1997 and 22 students graduated.

About 60 percent were successfully placed in well-paying construction jobs, Harvey said.

The YouthBuild site at the YWCA is one of about 10 in the state. There are 108 YouthBuild sites in 91 cities nationwide. Because the program pays its 15 trainees for the work they complete, the local program cost about \$500,000 per year to run according to Arva Clark, director of the YWCA of Lowell. When the Department of Housing and Urban Development failed to renew its grant last year, it could not continue, Harvey said.

Because YouthBuild is a successful program, competition for federal funding is intense, she said. Since the Department of Housing and Urban Development began funding the program in 1993, it has received more than 1,700 applications.

The program started with an \$870,000 grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. That money ran out in mid-1998. The state Legislature approved \$135,000 to keep the program running, but even with the YWCA using its own funds to supplement the state aid, the funding ran out.

Although the city's YouthBuild program ran out of money, it hasn't run out of steam, according to Katherine Kobos, associate executive director of the YWCA of Lowell. The group plans to reapply for funding in March.

Davis said he welcomes such programs in the city.

"We're not the answer to this problem," he said. "We need help. We can't do this alone."



POSTER FOR PEACE:

Sign for YouthBuild peace march created by Keoudone Onexaivieng, the Lowell 18-year-old fatally stabbed last week



Shirley Sagawa, Deputy Chief of Staff for the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington DC 20500

Dear Ms. Sagawa:

We need to know if you will be participating in the Minnesota Public Radio *Sharing the Wealth: Charitable Giving in Prosperous Times* summit. It now will be held on Thursday and Friday, September 7 and 8, 2000 in St. Paul. We anticipate our participation roster will be filled soon; when it is, the invite process will end.

We are pleased to announce that Paul G. Schervish, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Social Welfare Research Institute at Boston College, will be one of our keynote speakers. He is co-author of *Millionaires and the Millennium: New Estimates of the Forthcoming Wealth Transfer and the Prospects for a Golden Age of Philanthropy*, which estimates the wealth transfer over the next half century to be between \$41 trillion and \$136 trillion. Plus he has done extensive research on what causes Americans to give or not to give. He will be addressing these topics at the summit.

We will follow this letter with the names of other high profile people who are on the cusp of accepting our speaking invitations, including at least one who will address how venture philanthropy is changing giving in America.

This summit will bring together the best thinkers and practitioners involved in the world of philanthropy. They will represent academia, nonprofits, foundations, government, corporations, financial institutions, religious organizations and philanthropists themselves. They will identify the challenges facing philanthropy today and build action steps to confront those challenges. MPR's summits work well because we bring great thinkers together. That's why it's important that you attend. The summit is free, and we will pay for one night's lodging at the elegant St. Paul Hotel. We'll begin with a reception and banquet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 7. The summit will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on September 8 at the Minnesota History Center.

MPR, with its vast national connections to radio, print and the Internet, will spread the word to a mass audience as well as targeted policy makers and opinion leaders. The work done at this summit will make a difference. To RSVP or for more information, please contact me at 651 290-1262 or lwitt@mpr.org. Thanks for considering this invitation.

Sincerely,

Leonard Witt

Executive Director

Civic Journalism Initiative