

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

DOMESTIC

Addressing the Needs of Children and Youth

- **Early childhood development:** Promoted children's healthy development in the earliest years of life by co-hosting the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and speaking widely about recent developments in early brain development research. Successfully advocated for increased funding for Head Start and other programs serving young children.
- **Child care:** Co-hosted the White House Conference on Child Care and led development and championing of the President's Child Care Initiative. Helped secure FY 1999 budget negotiations \$200 million for after school programs and \$180 million in child care quality. Was a major proponent of the 1993 Family and Medical Leave Act.
- **Child welfare and adoption:** Served as major administration champion on adoption and foster care improvement through the development of the Adoption 2002 Initiative, the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, and by speaking widely to encourage adoption and improvement of the child welfare system.
- **Youth:** Successfully advocated for increased funding for after-school programs, the White House Conference on School Violence, and spoke in support of national service throughout the country.
- **Children's television:** Hosted a White House convening on children's television, advocated for increased educational children's programming, and led a round-table discussion with the President and Vice President on the V-Chip.
- **It Takes a Village:** Issued a national call for all sectors of society to take responsibility for our children in her book, It Takes a Village.
- **Charter schools:** Advocated for the support of charter schools and secured funding for DC Charter Schools.
- **School reform:** Worked on behalf of the President's education agenda, visiting schools around the country in support of public school improvement.
- **Prescription for Reading:** Launched the "Prescription for Reading" project to link health professionals with book publishers as a means to encourage reading to young children.

Family Economic Security

- **Bankruptcy:** Worked to ensure that bankruptcy reform legislation did not adversely impact child support collection.
- **Minimum wage:** Strongly supported an increase in the minimum wage to ensure that working families do not raise their children in poverty.
- **Legal services:** Prevented cuts in the Legal Services Corporation budget to provide low-income people with access to legal resources.
- **Microenterprise:** A foremost proponent for microcredit in the US and around the world to help low income people, especially women, to achieve economic self-sufficiency. Promoted administration policies to establish Presidential Microenterprise Awards in the US and helped establish an interagency task force to better coordinate microenterprise programs.

Women

- **Family planning:** Worked with the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy to support a broad-based effort to reduce teen pregnancy. Called for budget increases for family planning and supported legislation to require federal employee health plans to cover prescription contraceptives.
- **Working Women Count:** Helped launch “Working Women Count!” -- a Labor Department Initiative -- to bring the concerns of working women to the forefront of policy development in the Administration.
- **Domestic violence:** Successfully advocated for the Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice.

Improving Health Care for all Americans

- **Universal health coverage:** Chaired President’s Task Force on Health Care Reform and played a continuing leadership role in support of universal health coverage. Testified before five Congressional Committees. Advocated for the Kennedy-Kassebaum portability legislation and bill to extend hospital stays for new mothers, both of which became law.
- **Children’s health:** Opposed cuts in Medicaid, was instrumental in passage of the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and donated proceeds from *It Takes a Village* to children’s hospitals.
- **Immunizations:** Launched a Childhood Immunization Initiative and secured passage of the Vaccines for Children program. Spoke widely on the importance of children’s immunizations.
- **Tobacco:** Advocated for comprehensive, national tobacco legislation and campaigned for California’s tobacco tax ballot initiative.

- **Breast cancer:** Launched the Medicare Mammography campaign. Advocated to extend hospital stays for mastectomy patients and for Medicare preventive benefits to include annual mammography. Helped to safeguard existing Department of Defense funds for research.
- **Gulf war illnesses:** Visited VA and Department of Defense hospitals, listening to veterans concerns. Worked to establish the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses and participated in events relating to the Committee's work.
- **AIDS:** Promoted increased funding for AIDS research and prevention. Played a leadership role in pediatric aids, including work to encourage pregnant women to get tested and treated for HIV.
- **Disease Prevention and research:** Successfully advocated for increases in research budgets, including funding for epilepsy research. Worked to raise awareness of colon and ovarian cancer and to call attention to dramatic increases in asthma among children.

District of Columbia

- **Key Support:** As the leading advocate within the Administration on behalf of the District of Columbia, worked to apply the programs and expertise of the federal government to help the District's families, women, children, and families, including promotion of education reform, after-school programs, microcredit, the arts, and neighborhood revitalization.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Goodwill Ambassador for the United States:** Served as a leading voice for women's empowerment around the globe. Raised issues and participated in events relating to women's health, domestic violence, children's health, girls' education, family planning, microcredit and human rights.
- **Vital Voices:** Delivered keynote at Vital Voices Conferences in Vienna (6/95), Philippine Women's event (11/96), Women's Conference in Almaty, Khazakistan (11/97), Montevideo (10/98), and Belfast (9/98).
- **UN Conference in Beijing:** Led all planning efforts for, attended, and was keynote speaker at the UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing (9/14/95). Chaired President's Interagency Council on Women, organized to implement commitments agreed to at UN Conference in Beijing.
- **Trafficking of women:** Initiated administration's efforts to battle trafficking of women and children around the globe.

- **Civil Society:** Championed the building of civil societies and stressed the importance of NGO's in emerging democracies from Mongolia to the Slovak Republic. Advanced a new "Alliance of Values" in speech to Radio Free Europe in Prague (95).
- **Girls' Education:** Stressed the importance of girls' education as fundamental to development.
- **Health:** Spearheaded hospital partnerships between US medical institutions and health facilities in new democracies. Worked to raise awareness of Female Genital Mutilation and encouraged citizen efforts to ban the practice. Promoted international family planning, safe motherhood and a holistic approach to women's health.
- **Religious Tolerance:** Spoke out for religious tolerance and on behalf of societies threatened by sectarian strife. Marked first-ever Ramadan observance at the White House.
- **Third Way:** Initiated convenings on the "The Third Way" among progressive government leaders.
- **Children:** Hosted the Symposium on Children and the Americas at the Miami Summit of the Americas to work on reaching the Summit's goals for children (12/10/94). Launched Pan American Health Organization measles elimination campaign.

ARTS

- **NEA/NEH:** White House's leading supporter of and spokesperson on the arts and humanities, particularly for public support through the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities; chief White House liaison with the NEA, NEH and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.
- **Sculpture:** Created 20th Century American Sculpture exhibits in the First Lady's Garden; seven exhibits through 1998.
- **White House Collection:** Acquired the Tanner and O'Keeffe paintings (first by African-Americans and contemporary woman, respectively) for White House permanent collection and held events marking acquisitions.
- **Arts Education:** Highlighted the importance of arts education, especially for at risk youth and embarked on a campaign to put the arts back in the schools.
- **Arts education:** Hosted Arts Education Call to Action at the White House. Launched President's Council on Arts and Humanities report *Coming Up Taller* on arts programs for at-risk youth and sponsored the Coming Up Taller awards at the White House.

MILLENNIUM

- **Millennium Council:** Issued a call to the nation to “honor the past and imagine the future” through a series of White House events leading up to the millennium, including televised and cybercast White House “Millennial Evenings” with noted speakers and performers.
- **Save America’s Treasures:** Initiated a Campaign to Save America’s Treasures. Helped raise over \$30 million in 1998 to preserve America’s treasures, as well as successfully advocating for new public support of an additional \$30 million in support from Congress.
- **Millennial Communities:** Promoted millennial communities across America such as “Old Glory”, Thomas Edison’s Invention Factory, the Harriet Tubman House, etc..

List of accomplishments overview:

Foreign Affairs

Primary Leadership on Beijing Conference:

- Preparation, delegation selection – including Albright as Chair, setting themes, overcoming hurdles, intercessions at high levels of the U.N., U.S. commitments
- Creation of the President's Interagency Council on Women to implement commitments
- Speeches in Beijing and Huairou – received worldwide praise

Creation of the Vital Voices Democracy Initiative:

- Partnership with Albright to fulfill foreign policy objectives
- Conferences: Austria, Iceland, Uruguay, Northern Ireland; roundtables in Italy, Turkey and Iceland; follow-up meetings in Mexico, Bulgaria, Haiti, and the Caribbean
- U.S. assistance and private support to Vital Voices network around the globe
- Promoted women's progress in major regional women's leadership convenings in Tunisia, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, India, Pakistan, Bulgaria and Uganda

Key Administration Spokesperson and Promoter of Girls' Education, Women's Health Service/Family Planning, and access to Microcredit/Microenterprise Development

- Resulting in increases in USAID budget in these areas
- Highlighted successful projects around the world, initiated microcredit awards
- World spokesperson on the issues:
 - UN Population Forum – The Hague (Cairo + 5)
 - UN Social Development Conference – Copenhagen,
 - USAID Girls Education Conference
 - WHO Conference – Geneva
 - Safe Motherhood Conference – World Bank
 - International Microcredit Summit
 - Inter-American Development Bank Conference on Violence Against Women

Goodwill Ambassador:

- More solo travel than any previous First Lady to promote women's advancement, human rights, civil society, and social development
- Major solo trips to:
 - Southeast Asia (Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka)
 - Greece and Turkey
 - Central and Eastern Europe (Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Estonia, Bulgaria, Macedonia)
 - Bosnia
 - Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan)
 - Russia and Ukraine
 - Africa (Eritrea, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Senegal, South Africa)
 - Morocco and Tunisia
 - Central and South America (Paraguay, Bolivia, Brazil, Haiti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Panama)
 - Middle East (Israel, Jordan, Egypt)
 - Northern Ireland

Global Voice for Civil Society

- Met with NGOs around the world to support their efforts, especially in new democracies
- Keynoted "Partners in Transition" conference in Warsaw, Poland; the Civitas World Congress: Making Education for Democracy an International Priority in Palermo, Italy; Forum 2000 on Civil Society in Prague; and the World Economic Conference on civil society in Davos
- Proposed an "alliance of values" – Radio Free Europe, Prague

Championed Human Rights

- Voice for Women's rights:
 - Beijing leadership and Beijing + 5 follow-up
 - Fought for congressional and international action to combat the trafficking of women and girls; responded to pleas of women from Ukraine to Thailand – highlighted this pressing human rights issue around the world; spoke at bilateral and multilateral anti-trafficking announcements of assistance, including the OSCE announcement in Turkey
 - Met with Rwandan genocide victims; in Geneva and Arusha, promoted work of the International Committee on War Crimes
 - Supported efforts to ban Female Genital Mutilation

- Major address on continuing challenges at UN's observance of the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights
- Initiated Human Rights Day events at the White House (which included the President) – stressed issues ranging from Taliban treatment of Afghan women to trafficking of women
- Spoke with advocates and various victims of human rights violations from Algeria's Mothers of the Disappeared to the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo in Argentina
- Called for ratification of the CEDAW
- Children's Rights:
 - Fought for the ratification of the children's rights amendment and announced administration support
 - Major speeches on children's rights at the UN, Georgetown University and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda
 - Put global focus on issue of children in armed conflict
 - Launched International Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Work on behalf of Kosovar refugees:
 - Helped raise humanitarian aid from non profit and private sectors
 - The Office of the First Lady participated on Administration interagency humanitarian response team
 - Met with refugees in London, camps in Macedonia and in the U.S.
 - Helped bring relief to small businesses in Macedonia, who were suffering from dislocation
- Addressed issues of religious tolerance and rights of minorities from Turkey and Uzbekistan to Ukraine and China
 - Visited Jewish sites in Ukraine, Uzbekistan, China, Poland, Egypt and the Czech Republic
 - Highlighted plight of Roma in Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria, and other places.

Pushed Efforts within Administration to address TB, Malaria and HIV/AIDS as priority in Foreign Policy

- Convened HIV/AIDS meeting at the White House with the Treasury secretary, HHS secretary, World Bank head, USAID, and foundations to explore strategies to better address the AIDS pandemic – led to major administration initiatives

- Convened White House Administration-wide meeting on Malaria, which led to new initiative announced during President's Africa trip
- Convened major international funders of TB treatment at the White House to promote better collaboration and to target urgent problems in Russia – including the World Health Organization, World Bank, USAID, foundations, etc.

Targeted work in Russia and Ukraine to promote democratic values and better health

- Successfully advocated for increases in Administration's budget mark for social development and democracy building in region
- Worked to procure additional private health sector support for region and promoted hospital partnerships between U.S. medical institutions and their counterparts
- Worked for additional assistance for Chernobyl victims and commemorated anniversary of disaster at the White House

Promoted Support for U.S. Global Leadership and Engagement

- Convened several high level convenings of representatives from various sectors to forge greater support for U.S. funding commitments
- Major speeches to Preserve Global Leadership Coalition, Center for National Policy, InterAction, and the Council on Foreign Relations
- Lauded for her work in promoting sustainable global development by the National Democratic Institute, USAID, and the Center for National Policy

Targeted work in the American Hemisphere

- Convened First Ladies during the Summit of the Americas to adopt and undertake efforts to address the Summit's goals for children
- Participated in First Ladies conferences in Paraguay, Bolivia, Canada, Cost Rica, Chile, and Panama and put maternal mortality reduction, measles eradication, and education reform on the agenda
- Worked with Pan American Health Organization on measles elimination, and on efforts to combat infectious diseases and championed new USAID funds to support local government, education, human rights, and a reduction in maternal mortality