
Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.



LEAVE
NO CHILD
BEHIND®

Children's Defense Fund®

Marian Wright Edelman,
President

C D F Reports

March 1999
Volume 20, Number 3

New report highlights recent state child care developments

Although investments in child care and pre-kindergarten have increased in a number of states, not all are offering the help and the hope that working families need, according to the findings of CDF's *State Developments in Child Care and Early Education: Highlights and Updates for 1998*.

The new report, released in late February, shows that much work remains to be done to ensure that America's young children enter school ready to succeed, that older children and youths have access to the constructive after-school

activities they need to stay in school and be safe, and that parents who are working hard to lift their families out of poverty can remain independent.

"Even with increased spending in the current fiscal year, large numbers of eligible families cannot access child care assistance, and there are still severe shortfalls in the quality of care," the report says. "Our existing child care investments come nowhere near meeting the needs of families, children, and caregivers, despite the positive steps that some states continue to make."

In discussing the findings, CDF Child

Care Division Director Helen Blank, the report's co-author, stressed that the gaps are having a dire impact not only on parents' ability to support their families but also on children's overall well-being, intellectual development, and education potential. "All the latest research shows that there is a critical window of opportunity for child brain development between birth and age 3," said Blank. Meeting the child care needs of children during this time is all the more important, she said, given that more than half of mothers with children under age 3 work outside the home.

Because older children also need quality care and programming after school if they are to reach their full potential, parents who need to work must be able to go to their jobs each day secure in the knowledge that their children, no matter their age, are well-

In This Issue ...

A Voice for Children 3
by Marian Wright Edelman

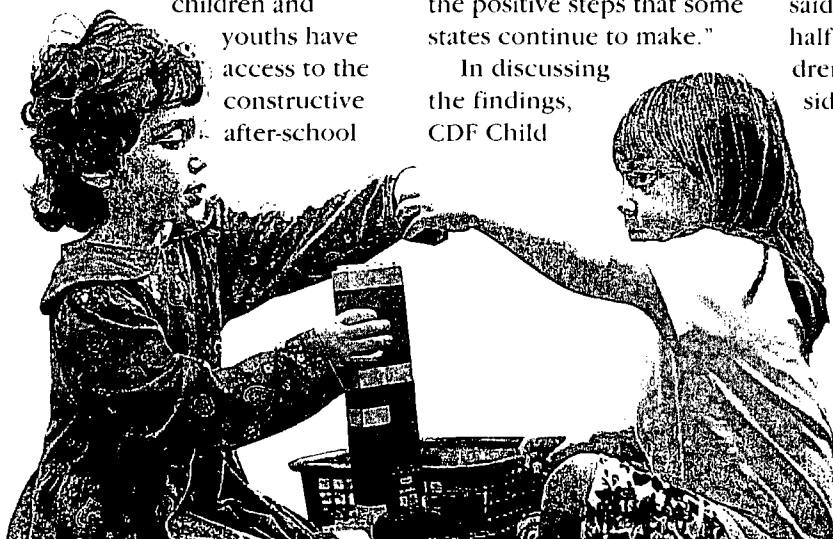
Americans support "pragmatic compassion" for working poor 4

Special Report: Sizing up the odds

What's happening to America's children, day by day, moment by moment 5

Necessary 11

CDF at Work 12



(See page 2)

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

A Chronology of the Children's Defense Fund



★ **CELEBRATING 25 YEARS** ★★



LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND®



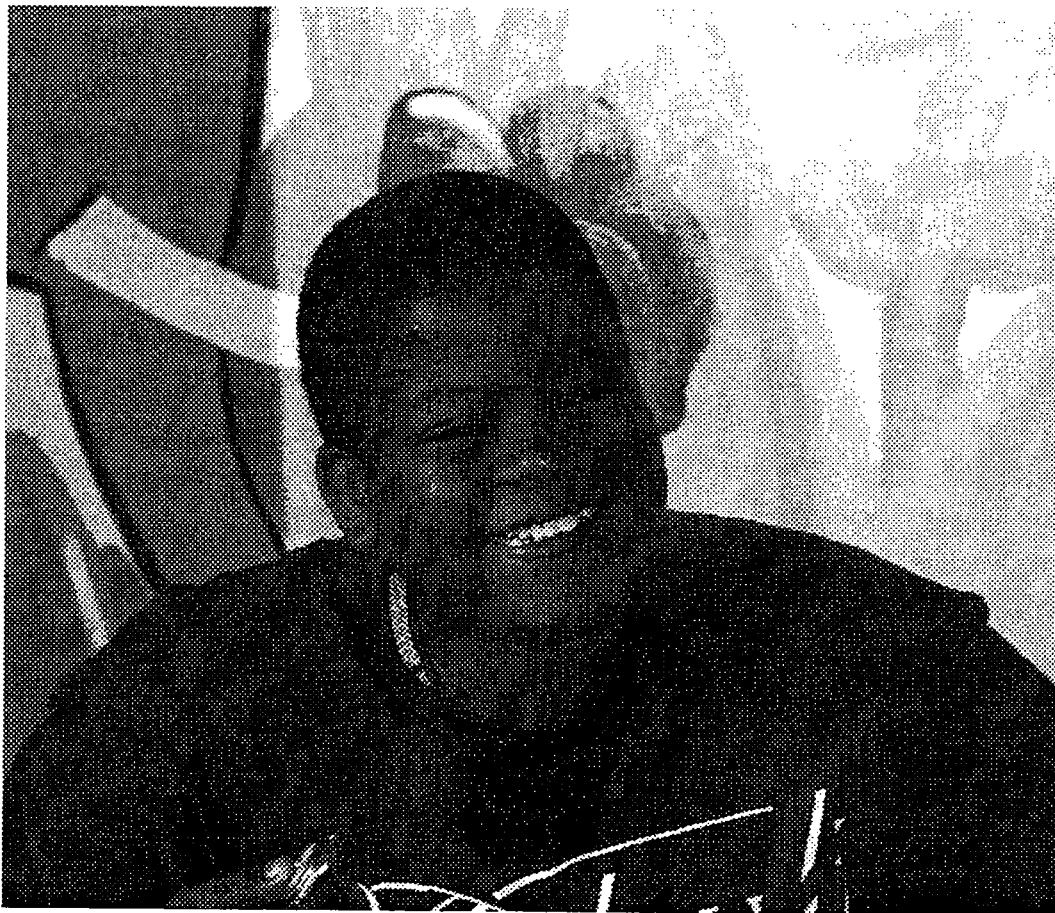
Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

Children's Defense Fund's Freedom Schools Book List



Children's Defense Fund®



THE BLACK COMMUNITY
CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

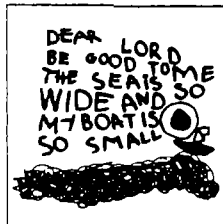
This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

A National Symposium
on Arts and Scholarship

The Sixth in a Series
on
Children, Race, and Poverty



Children's Defense Fund®



1000 ALEX HALEY LANE
CLINTON, TENNESSEE
MARCH 19-21, 1999