

CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

For six years, the President has sought to help working families balance the demands of work and family. In this budget, he proposes a significant new investment in strengthening child care -- making it better, safer, and more affordable for working families. The budget includes the following:

- **Expanding the Child Care Block Grant to Create Better, Safer and More Affordable Child Care:**

Providing Child Care Subsidies to a Half Million Additional Children: The President proposes to expand the Child Care and Development Block Grant to help working families struggling to afford child care. This block grant is the primary federal subsidy program to pay for child care, enabling low-income parents to work. Funds are distributed by formula to the states to operate direct child care subsidy programs, as well as to improve the quality and availability of care. Today, however, millions of families who are eligible for assistance with their child care costs do not receive any help. In FY 1997, states provided child care assistance to only 1.25 million of the 10 million low-income children eligible for assistance. The President's budget significantly increases investment in the child care block grant by increasing funding for child care subsidies by \$1.2 billion to provide child care subsidies for 500,000 more families in 2000.

Promoting Early Learning: The President proposes to increase the block grant to provide challenge grants to communities (distributed by states) to improve early learning and the quality and safety of child care for children ages zero to five. Research shows that children's experiences in the earliest years are critical to their development and ability to reach school ready to learn. The budget provides \$600 million to States to provide challenge grants to communities to help get children ready to learn.

Improving Child Care Quality: Last year, Congress fully funded the President's request to increase investment in improving child care by providing States with additional resources for quality enhancement efforts such as performing inspections of child care facilities, providing resource and referral services for parents, assisting providers with training and scholarships, and creating networks for family day care providers. The President's FY 2000 budget provides \$173 million for this initiative.

- **Giving Greater Tax Relief for Child Care to Three Million Working Families:** The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit provides tax relief to taxpayers who pay for the care of a child under 13 or a disabled dependent or spouse in order to work. The credit is equal to a percentage of the taxpayer's employment-related expenditures for child or dependent care, with the amount of the credit depending on the taxpayer's income. The budget proposes to increase the credit for families earning under \$60,000, providing an additional average tax cut of \$345 for these families and eliminating income tax liability for almost all families with incomes below 200% of poverty (\$35,000 for a family of four) that claim the maximum allowable child care expenses. The President's budget includes \$5 billion over five years to expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for nearly 3.3 million working families paying for child care.
- **Providing Tax Relief to Parents Who Stay at Home:** The President proposes an initiative to enable parents who stay at home with children under the age of one to take advantage of the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit by claiming assumed child care expenses of \$500. The President's

budget provides an average tax credit of \$178, at a cost of \$1.3 billion over five years, which will benefit 1.7 million parents.

- **Creating New Child Care Tax Incentives for Businesses:** The President proposes to create a new tax credit for businesses that provide child care services for their employees, by building or expanding child care facilities, operating existing facilities, training child care workers, or providing child care resources and referral services. The credit covers 25% of qualified costs, but may not exceed \$150,000 per year. The President's budget includes approximately \$500 million over five years for these tax credits.
- **Serving over a Million Children through After-School:** The President proposes to triple funding for the 21st Century Learning Center Program, which supports the creation and expansion of after-school and summer school programs throughout the country. The program increases the supply of after-school care in a cost-effective manner, primarily by funding programs that use public school facilities and existing resources. In awarding these new funds, the Education Department will give priority to school districts that are ending social promotion by requiring that students meet academic standards in order to move to the next grade. The President's budget includes \$600 million in FY 2000 to help roughly 1.1 million children each year participate in after-school and summer school programs.
- **Increasing Head Start:** Head Start, one of the President's highest priorities, is America's premier early childhood development program. It supports working families by helping parents get involved in their children's educational lives and by providing services to the entire community. The budget provides \$5.267 billion, a \$607 million increase over 1999 levels for Head Start. This increase would enable the program to serve 42,000 additional children in 2000 and will keep the program on track to reach the President's goal of serving 1 million children by 2002.
- **College Campus-Based Child Care:** These budget proposes \$5 million to establish and support child care services on college campuses. These new resources will help increase low-income parents' access to higher education.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

January 7, 1998

President Clinton today announced an historic initiative to improve child care for America's working families. The President's FY 1999 budget will include **approximately \$20 billion over five years for child care, the largest single investment in child care in the nation's history.** President Clinton's initiative responds to the struggles our nation's working parents face in finding child care that they can afford, trust, and rely on. The President's proposal will help working families pay for child care, build the supply of good after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning.

- * **Doubles the number of children receiving child care subsidies** to more than two million by the year 2003 by increasing funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant by \$7.5 billion over 5 years.
- * **Increases tax credits for three million working families to help them pay for child care** by investing \$5.2 billion over 5 years in the Child and Dependent Tax Credit. The President's proposal also provides a new tax credit for businesses that offer child care services for their employees.
- * **Provides after-school care for up to half a million children per year** by expanding the 21st Century Community Learning Center program by \$800 million over 5 years to provide funds to school-community partnerships to establish or expand programs for school-age children.
- * **Improves child care safety and quality and enhances early childhood development** by establishing a new Early Learning Fund as well as supporting enforcement of state child care health and safety standards, providing scholarships to up to 50,000 child care providers per year, and investing in research and consumer education.

Child Care Block Grant Increase	\$7.5 billion over five years
Child and Dependent Tax Credit Reform	\$5.2 billion over five years
Tax Credit for Businesses	\$500 million over five years
After-School Program	\$800 million over five years
Early Learning Fund	\$3 billion over five years
Head Start Increase	\$3.8 billion over five years
Standards Enforcement Fund	\$500 million over five years
Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund	\$250 million over five years
Research and Evaluation Fund	\$150 million over five years

TOTAL:	\$21.7 billion over five years
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Makes Child Care More Affordable for Working Families

Doubles the Number of Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies to More than Two Million. The President proposes to expand the Child Care and Development Block Grant to help working families struggling to meet the costs of child care. This block grant is the primary federal subsidy program to pay for child care, enabling low-income parents to work. Funds are distributed by formula to the states to operate direct child care subsidy programs, as well as to improve the quality and availability of care. The President's initiative will more than double the number of children served from the one million served in FY 95 (the latest year for which data are available). The President's budget will increase funding for the block grant by \$7.5 billion (with a match) over five years, which will enable states to provide subsidies for more than two million children by 2003.

Increases Tax Credits for Child Care for Three Million Working Families. The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit provides tax relief to taxpayers who pay for the care of a child under 13 or a disabled dependent or spouse in order to work. The credit is equal to a percentage of the taxpayer's employment-related expenditures for child or dependent care, with the amount of the credit depending on the taxpayer's income. The President's proposal increases the credit for families earning under \$60,000, providing an additional average tax cut of \$358 for these families and eliminating income tax liability for almost all families with incomes below 200% of poverty (\$35,000 for a family of four) that take the maximum allowable child care expenses under the law. The President's budget will include \$5.2 billion over five years to expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for three million working families.

Provides New Business Tax Credits. The child care initiative includes a tax credit to businesses that provide child care services for their employees, by building or expanding child care facilities, operating existing facilities, training child care workers, or providing child care resources and referral services to employees. The credit covers 25% of qualified costs, but may not exceed \$150,000 per year. The President's budget will include approximately \$500 million over five years for these tax credits.

Promotes Early Learning and Healthy Child Development

Promotes Early Learning. Research shows that children's experiences in the earliest years are critical to their development and future success. The President's proposed Early Learning Fund provides challenge grants to communities (distributed by states) to support programs to improve early learning and the quality and safety of child care for children ages zero to five. Funds may be used for the following activities: providing basic training to child care providers (including first aid and CPR); connecting individual child care providers to centers for education and support; assisting child care providers to meet accreditation and licensing requirements; linking child care

providers with health professionals; reducing group sizes and child-to-staff ratios; and providing home visits, parent education, and consumer education about child care. The President's Early Learning Fund builds on state initiatives such as North Carolina's Smart Start, which helps North Carolina's children enter school healthy and ready to succeed. Smart Start funds a broad variety of local efforts, including improving staff-to-child ratios, health linkages that have raised immunization rates, and parent education and mentoring programs to give new parents support. The President's budget will include \$3 billion over five years for this fund.

Increases Investment in Head Start and Doubles the Number of Children Served by Early Head Start. Head Start provides early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services, preparing children for a lifetime of learning and development. The President is committed to reauthorize Head Start and reach one million children by 2002. The President's budget will invest \$3.8 billion over five years to keep on track his commitment to serving one million children by 2002, and to double the number of infants and toddlers in Early Head Start to 80,000.

Improves the Quality of Child Care

Steps Up Enforcement of State Health and Safety Standards. Building on the military's model child care program, this proposed initiative will fund state efforts to improve licensing systems and enforce child care health and safety standards, including by increasing unannounced inspections of child care settings. The President's budget will include \$500 million over five years for this program.

Facilitates Background Checks on Child Care Providers. On the day of the White House Conference on Child Care, the President transmitted to Congress the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, which will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to sharing criminal history information for non-criminal purposes. Although the vast majority of child care providers are dedicated to the teaching and nurturing of children, one tragedy in child care is too many. Background checks are an important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility.

Increases Scholarships and Training for Child Care Providers. At the White House Conference on Child Care, the President proposed establishing a Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund to enable states to provide scholarship funds to students working toward a child care credential. Eligible child care workers must commit to remaining in the field for at least one year for each year of assistance received and will earn increased compensation or bonuses when they complete their course work. The President proposed a federal investment of \$250 million over five years, which will support 50,000 scholarships per year. The President is also proposing to expand the Department of Labor's Child Care Apprenticeship Program to fund the training of child care providers.

Invests in Research. Because too little is known about our child care system, the President's

budget will increase support for data, research, and evaluation. This research fund will also support a National Center on Child Care Statistics and a child care hotline that parents can call to get information about how to find child care in their communities and how to identify appropriate, quality care for their children. In addition, the research fund will support demonstration projects to test approaches to help new parents who choose to stay home to care for their newborns or newly adopted children. The President's budget will include \$150 million over five years for this fund.

Expands and Streamlines After-School Care

An estimated five million school-age children spend time as "latchkey kids" without adult supervision during a typical week. Research indicates that during these unsupervised hours children are more likely to engage in at-risk behavior, such as crime, drugs, and alcohol use. To meet this pressing demand, the President is proposing a dramatic expansion of after-school care.

Provides After-School Care for up to Half a Million Children a Year. The President proposes a dramatic expansion of the 21st Century Community Learning Center Program to provide start-up funds (with a local match) to school-community partnerships to establish or expand before- and after-school programs for school-age children. The program increases the supply of after-school care in a cost-effective manner primarily by funding programs that use public schools and their existing resources, such as computers, gymnasiums, and sports equipment. The program also includes a set aside to fund programs run by community organizations. The President's budget will request \$800 million of entirely new money for this program, for a total of \$1 billion over five years.

Improves Coordination of Federal After-School Initiatives to Help Communities Make Best Use of Existing Resources. The President will put in place a collaborative effort involving numerous federal agencies to eliminate duplication and better coordinate federal funding for after-school programs in three to five pilot cities, including the District of Columbia.

Child Care:

- **Child Care and Development Fund:** A \$1.2 billion increase to a total of \$4.5 billion in funds to provide child care subsidies for 500,000 more poor and near-poor families in 2000.
- **Early Learning Fund:** \$600 million to States to provide challenge grants to communities to support child care providers and programs serving children ages 0 to 5, including language development, emergent literacy, and other child development activities aimed at improving readiness for school.
- **Head Start:** A \$607 million increase that will add 42,000 new slots for young children, including 7,000 Early Head Start slots, for total enrollment of 877,000 and on track to meet the one million participation goal by 2002.

MAKE CHILD CARE MORE AFFORDABLE

- **Tax Relief for Child Care for Three Million Working Families, Plus Tax Relief to Parents Who Stay at Home.** The President's proposal increases the child and dependent care tax credit (CDCTC) for families earning up to \$59,000, providing an additional average tax cut of \$345 for these families and eliminating income tax liability for almost all families with incomes below 200% of poverty (\$35,000 for a family of four) that claim the maximum allowable child care expenses. The President also proposes to enable parents who have children under one year old to take advantage of the CDCTC by allowing them to claim assumed child care expenses of \$500. The President's budget proposal will provide an average tax credit of \$178 and will benefit 1.7 million families. Overall, this combined proposal costs \$6.3 billion over five years.

▶ **Jason H. Schechter**
10/27/98 12:16:42 PM

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Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

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Subject: S. 2206 Fact Sheet 3: Child Care

CHILD CARE: THE UNFINISHED AGENDA AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October 27, 1998

Today, the President signed the Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998, which renews and strengthens America's premier early childhood program -- Head Start -- and builds on important progress made in the Clinton Administration to improve and expand Head Start services. This legislation represents an important victory on the President's agenda to improve child care for America's working families.

About one year ago, the President and First Lady hosted the *White House Conference on Child Care*. The Conference showed that America's families, more than ever, are pressed to find safe, affordable child care. Responding to this critical need, the President has proposed and fought for an historic child care initiative -- the largest single investment in child care in the nation's history -- to help working families pay for child care, build the supply of good after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning.

The Republican Congress Blocked Key Elements of the President's Child Care Initiative:

- X **Serving More Families With Child Care Subsidies.** The President's proposal for a significant new investment in the Child Care and Development Block Grant, combined with the funds provided in welfare reform, would have served up to one million new children -- assisting low-income working families struggling to pay for child care.

- X **Increasing Tax Credits for Child Care for Three Million Working Families.** The President's proposal to expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit would have helped three million low- and middle-income working families afford child care. The President's plan would have wiped out federal income taxes for families of four making less than \$35,000 and saddled with high child care bills. Also, The President's plan included a new tax break for businesses that offer child care assistance to their workers.

The President Has Made Considerable Progress on Child Care Over The Past Year:

- U **Expanded After School Programs.** The President fought for and won his full budget request -- \$200 million -- to serve a quarter of a million children with after-school programs that help keep children safe and help them learn.
- U **Improved Child Care Quality.** The President secured \$182 million in new money to help states make critical improvements to the quality of child care for America's working families.
- U **Strengthened Head Start.** The President fought for and won an increase of \$313 million for Head Start to reach more low-income preschoolers and help prepare them for school. Today, the President signed bipartisan legislation that will increase Head Start funding, improve the quality of the program, and double the percentage of funding for the successful Early Head Start program, which was created by the President to reach children under three years old.
- U **Facilitated Background Checks on Child Care Workers.** The President signed the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, which, when ratified, will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to sharing criminal history information for non-criminal purposes. On the day of the White House Conference on Child Care, the President transmitted this important legislation to the Congress.
- U **Improved the Quality of Federally-Sponsored Child Care.** The President issued an Executive Memorandum to improve the quality of federally-sponsored child care, directing all federally-sponsored child care facilities in the executive branch to become nationally accredited and ensure proper background checks of child care workers. The President believes that the federal government should lead the way in improving the child care it sponsors for the families of its employees.
- U **Created the Treasury Working Group on Child Care.** At the White House Conference on Child Care, the President asked Secretary Rubin to convene a group of business and labor leaders to look at child care problems facing working parents and to examine best practices in the private sector and in public-private partnerships. In a White House ceremony, the President received the report of the working group, which found that investments in child care make good business sense and identified successful programs across the country. There, he announced that the Department of Labor will serve as a clearinghouse for businesses interested in child care and set up a business-to-business mentoring program on child care.
- U **Improved After-School Care through Nutrition.** The President will soon sign legislation that strengthens after-school care for children by expanding the reach of nutrition initiatives, such as the School Lunch Program and the Child and Adult Care Food Program, to serve children in after-school programs.

Nanda Chitre

06/17/98 10:17:50
AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: President Clinton Announces New Efforts to Keep Children Safe and Help them Learn in the After-School Hours

**President Clinton Announces New Efforts
to Keep Children Safe and Help them Learn in the After-School Hours
June 17, 1998**

Today, President Clinton will unveil new efforts to keep our children safe and help them learn after school. He will announce nearly \$40 million in new grants to establish or expand after-school programs in communities across the country through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program --a program he has proposed dramatically expanding in order to reach up to half a million children each year. The President will also release a new report that shows that quality after-school programs can both decrease juvenile crime and improve children's academic performance.

New Grants to Communities Will Support After-School Initiatives Throughout the Country. Today, the President will announce nearly \$40 million in new grants to establish 21st Century Community Learning Center school-based after-school programs for our nation's children. The 98 grants will enable 315 rural and inner-city schools in 36 states to provide programs after school, and during weekends and summers, in safe, drug-free and supervised environments. This was one of the most highly competitive programs ever managed by the Department of Education: the Department received nearly 2,000 applications to fund programs in over 6,000 schools in every state in the country. Only 1 out of 20 applicants received grants this year.

New Report Shows After-School Programs Can Lower Juvenile Crime, and Improve Academic Performance. President Clinton will also release a new report titled *Safe and Smart: Making the After-School Hours Work for Kids*, by the Departments of Justice and Education. The report shows that after-school programs work; many communities that have adopted after-school initiatives have experienced lower juvenile crime rates and lower tobacco, drug, and alcohol use among young people. The report also shows that quality after-school programs improve academic performance --helping more children stay in school, increasing aspirations for college, and lowering the number of children who must be kept back. In addition, the report

identifies key components of high-quality programs, and highlights model after-school initiatives. *Safe and Smart* will be sent to community-based organizations and every school district in the country in order to help them address the huge demand for after-school programs.

A Huge Demand for After-school Programs. Over 28 million school-age children have both parents or their single parent in the workforce. At least 5 million children -- and possibly as many as 15 million -- are left alone at home each week. Experts agree that school-age children who are unsupervised during the hours after school are far more likely to use alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, commit crimes, receive poor grades, and drop out of school than those who are involved in supervised, constructive activities.

Statistics show that most juvenile crime takes place between the hours of 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and that children are also at much greater risk of being the victim of crime during the hours after school.

President Clinton's Child Care Agenda Building on What Works for Kids . As part of his balanced budget request, the President proposed to invest \$200 million each year, for a total of \$1 billion over five years, in the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, in order to reach up to half a million children. (The program is currently funded at \$40 million for FY 1998.) The President's proposal requires that schools work closely with community organizations in establishing these programs, and includes a set-aside of up to 10 percent of funds for community-based organizations to establish or expand their own after-school programs. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program is part of the President's historic child care initiative, which would invest over \$20 billion over five years to help working families pay for child care, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning.

Program

The First Lady

Representative Leonard Boswell (D-IA)

Senator James Jeffords (R-VT)

Tom Frazier, Baltimore Police Commissioner

Gloria Nava, Air Force Technical Sergeant, San Antonio, Texas

President Clinton

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21st Century Community Learning Centers Seven Examples of Efforts to Keep Our Kids Safe and Smart

Baltimore County Public Schools

Baltimore, Maryland

\$794,254 first year/\$2,438,469 total

funding

AAA Community Learning Centers (After-Care, Access, and Achievement) will be established at four middle schools to create extended school day and extended year programs, which will focus on tutoring in reading, math, and writing, as well as computer education. These learning centers will work to improve student's academic performance, a concern of the community. Marjorie Marie Mayor, Coordinator of Title I and Child Care Services, will attend the announcement at the White House.

Barre City School District

Barre, Vermont

\$200,000 first year/\$600,000 total

funding

The **Cityscape** program at Barre City Elementary and Middle Schools will help students who are at high academic risk, between grades 5 and 8, by teaching reading, mathematics, science and social studies. The program will also include violence prevention, substance abuse education and counseling. The focus of this initiative is to reduce at-risk behavior and to improve the academic performance of participating children. Thomas T. Hayward, Director of Washington County Youth Bureau, will attend the White House event.

School District of Bayfield

Bayfield, Wisconsin

\$262,500 first year/\$787,500

total funding

The **Lighthouse Project** will provide educational, social and cultural programs for middle school students, including tutoring in reading, technology education programs, social services, parent education and recreation. The project has two major goals: to improve the academic achievement of all participants and to excite them about their future work opportunities. Bruce La Rose, District Administrator, will be in attendance at the White House announcement.

Olympic Educational Service District 114

Bremerton, Washington

\$759,917 first year/\$2,279,751 total

funding

The **Rural Western Washington Consortium of Community Learning Centers** is a collaboration between six rural schools and two Educational Service Districts. The community has been plagued by academic failure, juvenile crime, rising tobacco, alcohol and drug use, and gang involvement. The Learning Centers will offer a safe environment and variety of educational activities for underserved youth in grades 6-9. Planned activities include: technology programs; integrated education, health, social service and recreation programs; and vocational education. Superintendent Frank M. Deebach will attend.

San Francisco Unified School District

San Francisco, California

\$785,859 first year/\$2,357,577 total

funding

The San Francisco Unified School District's Office of Youth Development and four middle schools will implement the **Learning Centers for Learning Communities** initiative in the Bayview, Hunters Point, Mission and Visitacion Valley Enterprise Communities. This effort will expand after-school, weekend and summer programs, with a particular focus on youth at

risk of gang involvement and substance abuse; improve literacy and math skills among students at risk of academic failure; expand access to technology; and expand access to parenting education. John Flores, a Coordinator for the initiative at Visitation Valley Middle School, will attend.

Marshalltown Community School District

Marshalltown, Iowa **\$382,092 first year/\$1,146,276**
total funding

The **Caring Connection Project** will provide services through before- and after-school programs and summer recreation, including tutoring and homework support, substance abuse and violence prevention, outreach to "unconnected" students and their families and adult education programs. Marshalltown is a rural community in Central Iowa that is partnering with several community agencies, local businesses and the local community college to establish these initiatives in two middle schools. Todd Redalen, Coordinator of the Caring Connection, will attend the White House event.

Jefferson County School District

Fayette, Mississippi **\$448,409 first year/\$1,345,227**
total funding

As part of a consortium with Claiborne and Franklin County School Districts, Jefferson County leads the **Tri-County After School Community Learning Centers Program**, serving 300 students in grades 5-8 from rural and sparsely populated poor communities. After-school and summer programs will provide targeted help in reading, math, science, technology, and telecommunications, along with tutoring, field-trips, and parenting classes. Superintendent of Education John E. Dickey will attend the White House event.

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21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) 1998 Awards

State	Estimated First Year/Total Year Funding
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ALABAMA

<u>Bellingrath Junior High School</u> , Montgomery	\$599,704/\$1,799,112
Star Search , an after-school and summer program, offers support activities to both students as well as parents.	
<u>Huntsville City Schools</u> , Huntsville	\$279,008/\$2,499,710
Camp Success offers students academic support in a summer and extended day program.	

<u>Mobile County Little Rock District</u> , Mobile	\$505,174/\$1,515,522
The Links to Success project links a variety of services within the community to the schools.	

ARKANSAS

<u>Little Rock School District</u> , Little Rock	\$380,401/\$1,027,323
Little Rock LEADERS provides academic support as well as medical services and adult education.	

ARIZONA

Alhambra Elementary School District, Phoenix

\$348,246/\$1,044,738

The **Kids-At-Work Neighborhood Learning Center** fosters academic growth with parental support.

Amphitheater Public Schools, Tucson

\$258,864/\$734,192

Camp MID provides youth with comprehensive extended day, intersession and summer school programs.

Coolidge Unified School District, Coolidge

\$159,241/\$472,975

The **Coolidge 21st CCLC** programs target improved academic performance and help parents acquire parenting skills.

Red Mesa Unified School District, Teec Nos Pos

\$495,795/\$1,420,171

The **Red Mesa 21st CCLC** encourages family participation in academics and cultural activities.

Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District, Rio Rico

\$185,887/\$504,461

The **Calabasas Middle School 21st CCLC** plans to produce higher test scores and increase parent literacy skills.

Tucson Unified School District, Tucson

\$316,219/\$948,657

Project Sano y Salvo provides integrated drug and violence reduction and enrichment programs.

CALIFORNIA

Alum Rock Union Elementary School, San Jose

\$239,116/\$671,475

The **ARUSD 21st CCLC** focuses on education in the After-School Homework Centers.

Desert Sands Unified School District, La Quinta

\$196,438/\$591,814

The **Digital-Family Project** uses educational software and various on-line services to conduct after school classes.

Emery Unified School District, Emeryville

\$100,379/\$268,297

The **Emery Middle School District CLC** plans to reduce juvenile crime and substance abuse through achievement.

Golden Plains Unified School District, San Joaquin

\$253,613/\$760,839

Project PACT provides literacy education, encourages physical fitness, and promotes drug and violence prevention.

Hayward Unified School District, Hayward

\$347,673/\$1,043,019

The **Hayward 21st CCLC** engages students in art, recreation, academic enrichment, and technology, with mentors.

Lake County Office of Education, Upper Lake

\$286,818/\$829,214

The **Community & Family Network** provides life skills curriculum, community service, and mentoring.

Modesto City Schools, Modesto

\$342,444/\$1,027,332

The **Modesto 21st CCLC** will offer links from school to work, including employment training, and placement.

Oakland Charter Academy, Oakland

\$170,381/\$511,143

The **La Familia Center** offers leadership development, computer skills, and workplace visits.

Oakland Unified School District, Oakland

\$310,000/\$930,000

The **Renaissance Quartette** offers visual and performing arts programs, and school-to-school transition programs.

Ontario-Monclair School District, Ontario \$117,000/\$351,000
The **Cougar 21st CCLC** has summer and weekend literacy programs and parenting classes.

San Francisco Unified School District, San Francisco \$785,859/\$2,357,577
The **Learning Centers for Learning Communities** plans for technology, as well as theater/creative writing programs.

Santa Ana Unified School District, Santa Ana \$600,000/\$1,800,00
The **Santa Ana Youth Empowerment CLC** will offer a neighborhood advisory council and an integrated academy.

Sausalito School District, Sausalito \$111,210/\$333,630 The
The **ACE Program** arranges drug prevention, adult literacy, and family oriented recreation and cultural activities.

COLORADO

Denver School District #1, Denver \$200,000/\$600,000
The **Denver 21st CCLC** includes School-to-Career services, technology training, and employment services.

CONNECTICUT

Danbury Board of Education, Danbury \$141,025/\$448,969
The **Danbury 21st CCLC** will support academic learning and positive role models in a structured environment.

Hartford Public Schools, Hartford \$189,110/\$578,764
The **Hartford Public School System** plans to offer tutoring, as well as development in the areas of math and reading.

Waterbury School District, Waterbury \$352,051/\$1,056,153
The **After School Option** provides academic assistance, in addition to enrichment programs for students.

FLORIDA

Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville \$800,000/\$2,400,000
The **Duval County 21st Century CLC** provides activities based on experiential learning of skills.

Pinellas County School Board, Largo \$140,211/\$430,856
The **21st CCLC** includes science exploration using field studies, and enrichment in the arts.

Miami-Dade County School Board, Miami \$400,000/\$1,200,000
The **Miami-Dade CLC** addresses students' educational and employment needs, while keeping kids safe.

GEORGIA

Ben Hill County School System, Fitzgerald \$145,879/\$392,785
The **Ben Hill County CLC** will develop intervention, remediation, and prevention of youth problems.

ILLINOIS

Alton Community Unit School District #11, Alton \$598,920/\$1,796,760
The **21st Century CLC** allows students and parents access to the computer center and athletic events.

East Louis Board of Education School District #189, East St. Louis \$390,000/\$1,170,000
The **East St. Louis CLC** offers an academically oriented after-school program, in addition to recreational opportunities.

Lincoln Elementary School District #27, Lincoln \$127,035/\$464,742
The **Time for Our Children** provides mentoring, training for child-care personnel, and workshops on health/nutrition.

Prairie-Hills Elementary School District, Markham \$200,000/\$600,000
The **PHASER project** focuses on parental involvement in its summer and after-school programs.

INDIANA

New Albany-Floyd County Consortium School Corp., New Albany \$79,070/\$237,210
Lillian Emery 21st Century Learning Village offers technology education, and senior citizen services.

IOWA

Marshalltown Community School, Marshalltown \$382,092/\$1,146,276
The **Caring Connection** provides drug abuse and violence intervention, adult education, and outreach to families.

KANSAS

Lawrence Unified School District 497, Lawrence \$347,005/\$1,041,015
The **Central School Project** includes academic enrichment, a life skills program, and recreation.

KENTUCKY

Clinton County School District, Albany \$115,389/\$349,886
The **Clinton County 21st CCLC** engages youth in academic activities and parents in GED classes and job training.

Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative, Shelbyville \$600,000/\$1,800,000
The **Ohio Valley 21st CCLC** has activities in recreation, arts, clubs, health/nutrition, and technology.

Wayne County, Monticello \$106,063/\$318,189
The **Wayne County 21st CCLC** will provide personalized and individualized subject instruction to students.

MAINE

Maine School Administrative District #46, Dexter \$511,763/\$1,501,763
The **Maine 21st CCLC** focuses on reducing drug use and violence among rural youth.

MARYLAND

Baltimore County Public Schools, Towson \$794,254/\$2,438,469
The **AAA CLC** provides a safe extended school day and extended year program that emphasizes academic success.

MICHIGAN

Armada Area Schools, Armada \$1,999,668/\$3,999,119
The **Middle School Clubhouse Consortium Partners** will establish a network of middle school computer classes.

Benton Harbor Area Schools, Benton Harbor \$160,816/\$482,448
The **Benton Harbor 21st CCLC** will produce stronger literacy, technology and conflict resolution skills.

Grand Rapids Public Schools, Grand Rapids \$620,613/\$1,865,562
The **Grand Rapids Middle School CLC** will offer programs after school hours, during the week and on the weekend.

Highland Park School District, Highland Park \$373,850/\$1,126,371
The **Highland Park CLC** provides recreational, educational, and enrichment activities to serve the community.

MINNESOTA

St. Paul Public Schools, ISD #625, St. Paul \$198,750/\$595,722
Achievement Plus Family Learning plans to improve achievement in 4th - 8th grades and offer parental skills

training.

MISSISSIPPI

Humphrey's County School District, Belzoni

\$478,050/\$1,439,668

The **Humphreys County 21st CCLC** will offer mentoring, safety programs, and drug abuse and violence prevention.

Jackson Public School District, Jackson

\$551,048/\$1,653,144

21st CCLC will offer enrichment to the community during afternoons, evenings, Saturdays, and the summer.

Jefferson County School District, Fayette

\$448,409/\$1,345,227

The **Tri-County After School CLC** plans tutorial assistance, educational enrichment, and field trip experiences.

New Albany Public School District, New Albany

\$189,805/\$570,437

The **Community Connections Project** includes parent education, alternative education, and youth apprenticeship.

MISSOURI

Independence School District, Independence

\$191,100/\$573,300

21st CCLC establishes an after school literacy program to avoid the problem of latch key kids.

Seneca R-7 School District, Seneca

\$209,210/\$627,630

The **Seneca 21st CCLC** sites offer a wide variety of education, cultural, social services, and health activities.

St. Louis Public Schools, Saint Louis

\$1,109,827/\$3,059,481

Connections for Youth: A 21st Century CLC Program provides an after-school academic and recreation program.

NEW JERSEY

Leap Academy Charter School, Camden

\$100,000/\$300,000

LEAP Academy 21st CCLC focuses on extending the school day and enhancing weekend and summer programs.

Newark Public Schools, Newark

\$1,800,000/\$5,400,000

Newark Public Schools 21st Century CLC provides nutrition, health programs, and technology education programs.

Plainfield Board of Education, Plainfield

\$414,520/\$1,243,560

The **Plainfield Partnership for Learning** provides integrated education, literacy courses, and parenting skills.

Union City Board of Education, Union City

\$200,000/\$600,000

The **Washington School CLC** includes arts/drama, conflict resolution training, and social service counseling.

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque Public Schools, Albuquerque

\$458,504/\$1,375,512

The **Connections for Learning Family Focus Centers** include a site-based computer lab and home lending program.

Springer Municipal Schools, Springer

\$47,600/\$142,800

The **Springer CLC** will focus on reading, writing, and computer skills, using a learning center.

NEW YORK

Community School District 5, New York

\$398,680/\$1,173,580

The **Literacy Plus Centers** provides expanded library hours, computer classes, and integrated education.

Community School District 7, Bronx \$200,000/\$600,000
At **Super Saturday Plus**, youth engage in instructional technology, art/drama, and recreation.

Ithaca City School District, Ithaca \$200,000/\$600,000
A Bridge Across Cultures intends to reduce drug abuse, violence, and self-destructive behaviors.

New York City Board of Education, New York \$150,000/\$435,000
Family Enrichment Center for Continued Education includes exercise classes and cultural enrichment.

NORTH CAROLINA

Watauga County Board of Education, Boone \$102,927/\$308,773
The **Watauga LEADERS** includes mentoring, recreational activities, and technology education.

NORTH DAKOTA

North Valley Vo-Tech Center, Grafton \$198,500/\$538,500
The **Westview CLC** will improve academic achievement, arts education, and fitness for kids.

OHIO

East Cleveland School District, East Cleveland \$194,583/\$583,749
The **Kirk Community Learning Center** will provide health education, computer technology, and career preparation.

Port Clinton City Schools, Port Clinton \$100,000/\$323,062
Port Clinton 21st CCLC offers adolescents after-school education, enrichment, and health and wellness services.

OKLAHOMA

Cushing Public Schools, Cushing \$238,101/\$529,929
The **Cushing CLC** has specialized career information and skills, and age-appropriate recreational activities.

Oklahoma City Public School District I-89, Oklahoma City \$459,525/\$1,284,772
The **OKC CLC** provides educational, recreational, cultural, life skills, arts, and community service experiences.

Osage County Interlocal Cooperative, Hominy \$407,348/\$1,063,704
Project BRIDGE will provide after-hours activities that offer significant expanded learning opportunities.

OREGON

Jackson County School District #6, Central Point \$125,980/\$568,958
The **Options Project** includes extended day activities, monthly family nights, and evening classes.

Salem-Keizer Public Schools, Salem \$200,000/\$600,000
The **Lighted Middle Schools** will expand to create school-based community learning centers.

SOUTH CAROLINA

McCormick County School District #1, McCormick \$556,032/\$1,553,458
The **Alliance for Rural Kids** improves academic progress in reading, mathematics and science.

Richland County School District #1, Columbia \$364,571/\$1,093,713
Connections: Improving Academic Achievement focuses on computer technology, sports and community services.

Spartanburg School District #3, Glendale \$889,737/\$2,610,197
Addressing the Three Faces of Need promotes a union of school and out-of-school services to improve achievement.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Todd County School District, Mission \$336,698/\$1,010,094
The **Todd County 21st CCLC** focuses on integrated education, employment counseling, job training, and technology.

TENNESSEE

Hamilton County Board of Education, Chattanooga \$650,177/\$1,950,531
The **Lights On** focuses on guiding the healthy development of children, while providing a safe haven.

Memphis City School, Memphis \$1,273,645/\$3,661,697
21st Century CLC moves students through four modules focused on learning and using technology to solve problems.

TEXAS

Crosbyton Consolidated Independent School District, Crosbyton \$48,300/\$118,900
The **Hub of the CLC** will offer parenting, after-school, and summer recreation programs.

Houston Independent School District, Houston \$2,279,838/\$6,554,588
Houston Builds Strong Communities focuses on family literacy and equitable access to technology for kids.

Irving Independent School District, Irving \$103,026/\$290,078
The **Austin Middle School CLC** plans homework assistance, counseling and guidance courses, and technology classes.

Martin's Mill Independent School District, Ben Wheeler \$148,217/\$482,577
The **PRIDE Center** allows students to participate in academic enrichment activities, such as math, reading and science.

North East Independent School District, San Antonio \$200,000/\$600,000
The **Nimitz Academy CLC** will participate in academic improvement, career awareness, and community service.

Rio Hondo Independent School District, Rio Hondo \$199,574/\$598,772
The **Rio Hondo 21st CCLC** prepares to provide literacy, technology, and extended school programs.

UTAH

Board of Education Ogden School District, Ogden \$300,000/\$900,000
The **Community CARES Learning Center** coordinates community efforts in child care and summer programs.

San Juan School District, Blanding \$945,362/\$2,836,086
San Juan School District 21st Century CLC will follow a hands-on, active learning framework in small settings.

VERMONT

Barre City School District, Barre \$200,000/\$600,000
Cityscape will work to achieve out-of-school learning opportunities, and decrease gaps in community services.

WASHINGTON

Olympic Educational Service District 114, Bremerton \$759,917/\$2,279,751
 The **Olympic 21st CCLC** plans technology programs, vocational exploration, and social services.

Renton School District #403, Renton \$231,080/\$689,768
 The **Renton CLC** project serves students with academic, recreation, arts, and social support services

WEST VIRGINIA

Gilmer County Board of Education, Glenville \$298,400/\$895,200
 The **Gilmer County Lighted Schools Project** benefits educational, social, cultural, health, and recreational needs.

Monongalia County Schools, Morgantown \$600,000/\$1,800,000
 The **Kaleidoscope CLC** trains parents to help at after-school and summer centers where students receive mentoring.

Ritchie County Board of Education, Harrisville \$135,843/\$349,443
 The **CLEAR** project provides after-school youth remediation in addition to adult education.

WISCONSIN

Kenosha United School District No. 1, Kenosha \$375,410/\$1,126,230
Kenosha 21st CCLC provides activities to improve academic skills and prevent drug abuse or gang involvement.

Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee \$1,446,222/\$4,338,626
 The **Milwaukee CLC** provides recreation and academic assistance.

Racine Unified School District, Racine \$125,000/\$375,000
 The **Racine CLC** provides academic support and social activities for its students in a safe environment.

School District of Bafield, Bayfield \$262,500/\$787,500
 The **Lighthouse Project** plans to advance the academic and educational skills of all its participants.

###

21st Century Community Learning Centers-- 1998 Grant Awards

State	# of Applicants	# of Grantees	State	# of Applicants	# of Grantees
Alabama	30	3	Nebraska	8	0
Alaska	20	0	Nevada	10	0
Arizona	70	6	New Hampshire	10	0
Arkansas	31	1	New Jersey	42	4
California	165	13	New Mexico	28	2

Colorado	42	1	New York	103	4
Connecticut	20	3	North Carolina	46	1
District of Columbia	9	0	North Dakota	16	1
Delaware	4	0	Ohio	51	2
Florida	36	3	Oklahoma	56	3
Georgia	50	1	Oregon	41	2
Hawaii	14	0	Pennsylvania	53	0
Iowa	33	1	Puerto Rico	5	0
Idaho	12	0	Rhode Island	7	0
Illinois	63	4	South Carolina	44	3
Indiana	21	1	South Dakota	28	1
Kansas	28	1	Tennessee	39	2
Kentucky	71	3	Texas	99	6
Louisiana	20	0	Utah	18	2
Maine	29	1	Virginia	33	0
Maryland	25	1	Vermont	23	1
Massachusetts	41	0	Washington	60	2
Michigan	72	4	West Virginia	24	3
Minnesota	37	1	Wisconsin	49	4
Mississippi	33	4	Wyoming	15	0
Missouri	46	3	Island Territories	4	0
Montana	25	0	Total	1959	98

Message Sent To: _____

Nanda Chitre

05/08/98 02:23:56 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Press Paper: Radio Address on Child Care

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES NEW EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CHILD CARE AND GIVE PARENTS PEACE OF MIND

This weekend, millions of Americans will celebrate Mother's Day and take time to recognize the critically important role that mothers play in the lives of their children. To give our nation's mothers the peace of mind they deserve, President Clinton today announced new steps to help parents choose safe, appropriate child care and again urges Congress to take action on child care legislation this year.

The President Announces A New Justice Department Report to Help Protect Children in Child Care. The Justice Department report is designed to help protect children, the elderly and the disabled from abuse and neglect in care. Although the vast majority of child care providers are dedicated to the teaching and nurturing of children, one tragedy in child care is too many. Background checks are an important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility. *Guidelines for the Screening of Persons Working with Children, the Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities in Need of Support* offers practical guidance for screening potential caregivers and makes recommendations for developing statewide screening and background check policies.

The new report underscores the need for the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact, which the President transmitted to Congress last fall, and has strong bipartisan support, and currently awaits congressional action. The Compact will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for non-criminal purposes.

The President Announces New HHS Efforts To Help Parents Choose Child Care. Studies confirm that consumer education is a key ingredient to child care quality. Today, HHS releases two documents to help parents get the information they need to choose child care that is right for their children:

- **New guide will help parents select high quality child care.** The guide recommends four simple steps for parents in choosing child care: (1) interview the potential caregivers; (2) check references; (3) evaluate how the caregiver meets your child's needs; and (4) stay involved. The guide will be available to parents through the Internet.

- **New report highlights model consumer education efforts in the states and urges greater action.** The new report, *Reaching Parents with Child Care Consumer Education*, will help states improve parental education. It highlights successful state approaches and makes recommendations to states and child care administrators on ways to provide information to parents on how to assess their child care needs, locate services, obtain subsidies for income-eligible families, evaluate quality, and choose the best, appropriate care for their children.

The President Urges Congress to Protect Child Support Collection. The President called on Congress to join him in opposing a provision in proposed bankruptcy reform legislation that may undermine the ability of single parents to collect child support and alimony. The Administration supports responsible bankruptcy reform, but under one bill in the House of Representatives, some parents who try to collect child support from former spouses who file for bankruptcy could find themselves in competition with large credit card companies. Since 1992, child support collection has increased by 68 percent, and the President is committed to safeguarding that important progress.

The President Calls for Congressional Action on Child Care Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs each day. As part of his balanced budget request, the President called for significant new investments in child care --to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning. Today, the President renewed his call on Congress to put aside partisan differences and take action on child care this year.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PROPOSAL: CHILD CARE THAT STRENGTHENS AMERICAN FAMILIES

"Not a single American family should ever have to choose between the job they need and the child they love."

President Bill Clinton
State of the Union

Address, January 27, 1998

Included in President Clinton's balanced budget request is an historic initiative to improve child care for America's working families. The initiative proposes over \$20 billion over five years for child care -- **to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning**

Ensuring affordable, accessible, safe child care. The President's child care initiative responds to the struggles our nation's working parents face in finding child care they can afford, trust and rely on. The new initiative:

Makes child care more affordable for working families. To help working

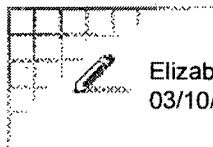
families struggling to meet the costs of child care, the initiative invests \$7.5 billion over five years to double the number of children receiving child care subsidies to more than two million by the year 2003. The initiative also invests \$4.8 billion over five years to increase tax credits for child care for three million families and provides a new tax credit for businesses that offer child care services to their employees at a cost of \$500 million over five years.

Increases access to and promotes early learning and healthy child development. To improve early learning, the initiative includes \$3 billion over five years to establish an Early Learning Fund that helps local communities improve the quality and safety of child care for children ages up to age five. The initiative also increases investment in Head Start and doubles the number of children served by Early Head Start to 80,000.

Improves the safety and quality of child care. To help ensure safe, quality child care, the initiative: steps up enforcement of state health and safety standards in child care settings, facilitates background checks on child care providers, increases scholarships and training for child care providers, and invests in child care research and evaluation.

Expands access to safe after-school care. To help create safe, positive learning environments for American school-age children who lack adult supervision during a typical week, the initiative increases the 21st Century Learning Center Program by \$800 million over five years to provide after-school care for up to half a million children a year.

Message Sent To: _____



Elizabeth R. Newman
03/10/98 11:10:15 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Child Care that Strengthens America's Families

President Clinton Calls for Child Care That Strengthens America's Families

March 10, 1998

Today, President Clinton renewed his call to make child care better, safer, and more affordable for America's working families. In a speech in Connecticut, the President issued an executive directive to improve federally-sponsored child care, and announced the release of a new report by HHS which reveals a pressing need for greater child care investment.

Ensuring the Quality of the Federal Child Care System. The President believes that the federal government should lead the way in improving the child care it sponsors for its employees. The executive directive President Clinton issued today instructs all executive agencies to: (1) reach 100 percent national accreditation of federally-sponsored child care by the year 2000 (accreditation is done by nonprofit, non-governmental professional organizations to validate safety and quality; criteria include developmental programming, staff training, appropriate staff-to-child ratios, as well as health, safety and facility standards); (2) ensure proper background checks on child care workers in federally-sponsored child care; (3) explore public-private partnerships to improve child care quality and affordability; and (4) ensure that all federal workers have full information on child care benefits and options available to them. The executive branch of the federal government operates 1,024 child care centers -- 788 by the military, 109 by the General Services Administration, and 127 by other federal departments -- and the military sponsors nearly 10,000 professional family child care providers. In total, about 215,000 children are in federally-sponsored child care.

New Report Points to Innovation But Limited Resources In the States. *The Child Care and Development Block Grant: Report of State Plans* outlines strategies that the states have developed to administer the Child Care and Development Block Grant and meet the pressing child care needs of working families. The report reveals:

States need more resources to help working families afford child care. The welfare law allows states to use the Child Care and Development Block Grant to provide child care subsidies to lower-income working families -- defined as families with less than 85 percent of state median income. This new report shows that because of resource constraints, some states set eligibility levels far below what is allowed by federal law. For example, in 10 states, a family of three with as little as \$20,000 of income is not eligible for any help with child care costs. In as many as 37 states, a family of three with \$28,000 of income is not eligible for a child care subsidy. Further, most states have insufficient funds even to subsidize all families meeting their eligibility

requirements.

States have innovative strategies to improve child care quality, such as scholarships and basic training for child care providers, tax credits for businesses that offer child care services, initiatives to link the child care and health care communities, support for resource and referral services, and initiatives to expand school-age care.

The President's Child Care Initiative Addresses the Need for More Resources And Builds on Innovation in the States. The President's balanced budget calls for an historic investment -- more than \$20 billion over five years -- to help working families pay for child care, build the supply of after-school programs, improve child care safety and quality, and promote early learning.

Connecticut is Improving Child Care Quality. Connecticut recently passed bipartisan School Readiness Legislation to improve child care quality and promote early learning.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PROPOSAL: CHILD CARE THAT STRENGTHENS AMERICAN FAMILIES

"Not a single American family should ever have to choose between the job they need and the child they love."

President Bill Clinton
State of the Union

Address, January 27, 1998

President Clinton's balanced budget includes an historic initiative to improve child care for America's working families. The initiative proposes over \$20 billion over five years for child care -- **to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning.**

Ensuring affordable, accessible, safe child care. The President's child care initiative responds to the struggles our nation's working parents face in finding child care they can afford, trust and rely on. The new initiative:

Makes child care more affordable for working families. To help working families struggling to meet the costs of child care, the initiative invests \$7.5 billion over five years to double the number of children receiving child care subsidies to more than two million by the year 2003. The initiative also invests \$4.8 billion over five years to increase tax credits for child care for three million families and provides a new tax credit for businesses that offer child care services to their employees at a cost of \$500 million over five years.

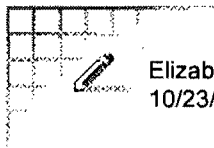
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child care for children ages zero to five. The initiative also increases investment in Head Start and doubles the number of children served by Early Head Start to 80,000.

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Expands access to safe after-school care. To help create safe, positive learning environments for American school-age children who lack adult supervision during a typical week, the initiative increases the 21st Century Learning Center Program by \$800 million over five years to provide after-school care for up to half a million children a year.

Message Sent To: _____



Elizabeth R. Newman
10/23/97 02:35:16 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Childcare Accomplishments

Caring for America's Children
The Clinton Administration and Child Care
October 23, 1997

Over the past decade, the number of American families with working parents has expanded dramatically. Making high quality child care more affordable and accessible is critical to the strength of our families and healthy child development and learning..... Each of us --from business to religious leaders to policy-makers and elected officials --has a responsibility and an important stake in making sure that children of all ages have the best possible care available to them. From infancy through adolescence, in child care settings and after-school programs, children can learn and thrive with the right care, attention, and education.
-- President Clinton, July 23, 1997

President Clinton is hosting the first-ever White House Conference on Child Care to focus the nation's attention on the importance of addressing the need for safe, affordable, quality child care. This Conference underscores and builds upon the President Clinton's commitment to strengthen the American

family by giving parents the tools they need to fulfill their responsibilities and giving children the ability to reach their full potential.

Strengthening America's Working Families

Putting Families First. Throughout his presidency, President Clinton has worked hard to help America's working families. That is why the President fought for the passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to allow workers to take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a newborn or adopted child, to attend to their own serious health needs, or to care for a seriously ill parent, child or spouse. In June 1996, President Clinton proposed expanding FMLA to allow workers to take up to 24 unpaid hours off each year for school and early childhood education activities, routine family medical care, and caring for an elderly relative. The President also has fought for greater health security for America's families. He signed into law the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act which includes important new protections for an estimated 25 million Americans who move from one job to another, who are self-employed, or who have pre-existing medical conditions. And in August 1997, President Clinton signed the Balanced Budget Act which included \$24 billion for the Children's Health Initiative -- the single largest investment in health care for children since 1965 -- to provide meaningful health care coverage to millions of uninsured children.

Providing Economic Opportunity. In 1993, President Clinton put into place an economic strategy that invests in people and provides real opportunity. President Clinton has fought for policies that help working parents fulfill their responsibilities, including winning inclusion of a \$500 per-child tax credit for children under age 17 in the Balanced Budget Act -- helping 27 million families with 45 million children. The new Child Tax Credit is in addition to the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (tax credits President Clinton protected during the balanced budget negotiations). President Clinton also expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million working families tax relief. In 1997, the average tax credit is \$1,450 on family income up to \$29,290. And the President proposed and signed into law an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$5.15. For a full-time, year-round worker at minimum wage, this 90-cent increase raises yearly income by \$1,800 -- as much as the average family spends on groceries over seven months.

Investing in Child Care

Increasing Child Care Funding. Because of President Clinton's leadership, federal funding for direct child care subsidies has increased by nearly 70 percent since he took office, providing child care services for over one million children. The 1996 welfare law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over six years, providing child care assistance to low-income working families and parents moving from welfare to work.

Increasing Participation in Head Start and Improving Program Quality. For more than thirty years, Head Start has been one of our nation's best investments ensuring that low-income children start school ready to learn. President Clinton has made expanding and improving Head Start a priority of his Administration. Since 1993, funding for the program has increased by 43 percent -- in fiscal year 1997, Head Start will serve nearly 800,000 low-income children four years old and younger. The Balanced Budget continues the expansion of Head Start toward the President's goal of serving one million children in 2002. Over the last three years, the Clinton Administration has also invested significantly in improving program quality, providing local programs with the resources they need to attract and retain high quality teachers, and ensuring the safety of Head Start centers.

Created Early Head Start for 0-3 Year Olds. Initiated by the President in 1994, there are now 143 *Early Head Start* programs across the country, expanding the

proven benefits of Head Start to low-income families with children age three and under. The program provides early, continuous and comprehensive child development and family support services, preparing children for a lifetime of learning and development. In FY 1997, the program will have served nearly 25,000 children and their families.

Developed a Full-Day, Full-Year Head Start Initiative.

In March 1997, the Administration announced a new Head Start initiative that will expand Head Start services for children while also helping parents, including those moving from welfare to work. Under the new initiative, child care providers will be given priority for Head Start expansion funds to deliver full-day, full-year Head Start services in partnership with Head Start. Children will stay in one place all day rather than attending Head Start for half a day then moving to child care for the remainder of the day.

Expanding Child Care in Rural America. Under the Clinton Administration, the Agriculture Department's Rural Housing Service's Community Facilities program is directing its efforts towards meeting the need for quality child care in rural areas. As a part of this effort, 31 child care centers were created in FY 1997 and the program will expand in FY 1998. In addition, the Rural Housing Service has been forming partnerships with other federal programs (including Head Start) and the private sector to help provide child care in rural America.

Providing Child Care in Urban Communities. Under the Clinton Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development is supporting working families and those moving to work by providing both quality child care for their children and opportunities for parents to become self sufficient. Community Development Block Grants fund initiatives that include education/training opportunities, on-site after-school child care and construction of child care and youth centers. The Ounce of Prevention Program enhances efforts already underway in Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities with summer and after-school education/recreation activities and mentoring and tutoring programs. In 1997, the Department awarded \$550 million in urban revitalization (HOPE VI) funds which will be used to physically revitalize communities and fund initiatives such as on-site day care centers and transportation services that provide access to

employment centers and health care facilities. In 1997, the Administration funded \$42 million for the Family Economic Development and Supportive Services (EDSS) program that will include child care services, youth leadership and mentoring skills and family/parental development counseling.

Serving Children with Special Needs. Under the Clinton Administration, the Department of Justice has worked hard to make sure that children with disabilities have access to child care along with non-disabled children. For instance, the Justice Department has entered into agreements regarding children with disabilities with the two largest child care companies in the country -- KinderCare has agreed to do "finger-prick" tests as requested by doctors and parents for children with diabetes and, in another agreement with KinderCare, the company has agreed to develop a model policy to enable a child with mental retardation to attend one of its centers with a state-funded personal care attendant. In addition, La Petite Academy has agreed to do the same "finger-prick" tests, to keep epinephrine on hand for severe and possibly-life-threatening allergy attacks, and to make changes to some of its programs so that children with cerebral palsy can participate. The Justice Department also provides information through its ADA information hotline (1-800-514-0301, 1-800-514-0383 TDD) and produces *Commonly Asked Questions about Child Care Centers and the ADA* for distribution. Additionally, the HHS Child Care Bureau has launched a special initiative to assist ten states to develop and implement effective plans aimed at improving

and expanding their child care service delivery system. The project, "Map to Inclusive Child Care," will expand to other states over the next three years.

Easing the Commuting Dilemma for Families. The President is fighting for welfare-to-work transportation grants to assist states and local communities in moving individuals from welfare-to-work -- including helping parents with small children obtain transportation to their jobs *and* to child care. Proposed legislation is included in the transportation authorization bills currently before Congress. In addition, as a part of the Transportation Department's Livable Communities Initiative, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has provided opportunities for on-site community services -- Head Start facilities, a health clinic, and child care centers -- at transit facilities across the country to help parents obtain child care for their children on their commuting routes to work or training.

Ensuring Health and Nutrition in Child Care

Improving Health and Safety with Healthy Child Care America. In an effort to improve the health and safety of child care programs and to provide child health education to child care providers and parents, in 1995, the Clinton Administration launched the Healthy Child Care America initiative. This effort has established partnerships between child care providers and health care services in 46 states,

combination of resources, training, oversight and peer support. Notably, 87 percent of family child care homes that are considered to be providing good quality child care are participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program, according to the Families and Work Institute's *Study of Children in Family Child Care and Relative Care*.

Caring for School-Age Children

Convened the 1997 School-Age Child Care Forums. The Child Care Bureau at the Department of Health and Human Services convened ten regional conferences to share promising initiatives for school-age children among child care, education, and community based organizations from nearly every state. These conferences spurred additional dialogue among participants and stimulated planning to address "out of school time" in states and communities across the country.

Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers -- A Guide. In May 1997, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton released *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers: Extending Learning in a Safe, Drug-Free Environment Before and After School*. The Department of Education, along with the National Community Education Association, Policy Studies Associates, and the American Bar Association, wrote the step-by-step guidebook on how school facilities can be used for after-school programs.

Providing After-School Activities Through 21st Century Learning Centers and Title I. The Clinton

Administration's Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This law included a new statutory requirement that encourages schools receiving funding to enhance their instruction with such programs as extended school years, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs -- effectively giving "teeth" to after-school options. For instance, Title I -- which is funded by the Improving America's Schools Act and provides extra help with basic and advanced skills to disadvantaged students in elementary and secondary schools -- has been successful in helping Title I funded schools provide after-school programs. In addition, under this law, the 21st Century Community Learning Center program has been developed -- a program that once fully implemented will benefit urban and rural schools and their communities, allowing schools to stay open beyond the normal hours, offering expanded learning opportunities to children after-school. The President's current budget request includes \$50 million to fund 350 21st Century Community Learning Center programs in FY 1998.

Supporting Positive After-School Choices with the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Communities Act. Because

children unsupervised after school are more likely to engage in risky behaviors like substance use, the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act funds before and after-school programs. In the 1994-95 school year, over 2,700 school districts used these funds to support before-

helping to ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments.

Ensuring that Children in Child Care Settings Are Properly Immunized. In July 1997, President Clinton proposed new child care regulations to ensure that children in child care receive the immunizations they need on time. The proposed rule would require that all children in federally subsidized child care be immunized according to state public health agency standards. This proposed regulation will particularly affect those children in child care arrangements that are legal but exempt from state licensing requirements.

Providing Quality Nutrition to Children in Child Care. President Clinton has maintained the commitment to providing quality nutrition in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), a federal program that provides healthy meals and snacks in child and adult day care facilities. In 1997, the program provided meals to about 2.5 million children and almost 50,000 adults in approximately 35,000 child care centers (including after-school centers), 195,000 family and group day care homes, and 1,500 adult day care centers. Child care providers in the CACFP must serve meals that meet federal nutrition guidelines, and must offer free or reduced-price meals to those eligible. The General Accounting Office identified CACFP as one of the most effective vehicles for reaching family child care providers and enhancing the care they provide because of its unique

and after-school activities.

Staying Safe After School with Community Schools. In the Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Initiative, the President has called for 1,000 new after-school initiatives across the country. Schools that stay open longer and are open on weekends and during the summer can provide students, parents and communities with access to valuable resources. Turning schools into after-hour safe havens can help to prevent violent crime and violent behavior while boosting our children's academic achievement.

Helping Children Through Service. As co-chair of the Presidents' Summit for America's Future, President Clinton helped bring businesses, nonprofits, states and communities, and volunteer groups to Philadelphia in April 1997 to focus on service and to ensure that every child in America has five key resources -- a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, a marketable skill, and a chance to serve. Many of the hundreds of corporations and nonprofits that made commitments at the summit pledged to become involved in after-school and mentoring programs. America's Promise, the nonprofit organization founded to follow up on the summit promises, is now working with these organizations to ensure that they do so.

Enhancing Child Care and After-School Care with the Corporation for National Service. Established by President Clinton in 1993, the Corporation for National

Service, through AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America and the National Senior Service Corps, is addressing the needs of children through service activities. Approximately two-thirds of the national service programs work to address the needs of children and youth often in child care and after-school settings. AmeriCorps members, college students, and senior volunteers, working alongside child care providers, are serving as tutors and mentors, health and nutrition educators, in both child care and after-school programs across the country.

Aiding the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The Clinton Administration is providing resources to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to establish and enhance more clubs throughout the United States. These Clubs are situated in at-risk communities and reach thousands of kids through violence prevention and reduction, educational health programs and youth leadership development. For instance, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America was awarded an AmeriCorps grant to provide education awards to 100 full-time and 800 part-time AmeriCorps members in up to 100 clubs early next year. The AmeriCorps members will be either older (17 and 18 year-olds) Boys or Girls Clubs members or club member alumni who will serve as tutors, mentors, and recreation activity coordinators in after-school programs.

Providing Information and Technical Assistance

Providing Child Care Information. In 1995, the Clinton Administration established the Child Care Bureau at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to streamline child care program operations and improve the quality and efficiency of service. In addition, HHS launched the National Child Care Information Center to disseminate child care information, publications and resources to help providers start up child care centers, parents locate child care in their communities, and researchers and policy makers attain access to policy information. Through the Technical Assistance Project, HHS has brought states together to share promising practices and has held special forums on school-age care, consumer education, Tribal child care programs, and a range of other topics.

Promoting Public/Private Partnerships. The Child Care Bureau has launched a nationwide effort to promote public/private partnerships in child care by providing technical assistance to states on promising initiatives going on across the country.

Providing a Resource and Referral Clearinghouse for Working Families. The Department of Labor Women's Bureau recently published a report entitled: *What Works! The Working Women Count Honor Roll Final Report* which highlights employers who have made real change in the areas that working women and their families care about most -- pay and benefits, family friendly workplaces (including child care) and respect and fair treatment on the job. Hundreds of employers accepted this challenge to

deliver real change -- especially in child care. This guide was a result of the Working Women Count national questionnaire which surveyed 250,000 working women -- the largest questionnaire of working women ever. Notably, child care was identified as a top issue for working women. In addition to this guide, the Labor Department has expanded its resource and referral clearinghouse for employers and working families. The agency has established a toll-free number (1-800-827-5335) and provides materials like the *Work and Family Resource Kit* and *Care Around the Clock: Developing Child Care Before 9 and after 5*.

Training Caregivers -- a Nationally Acclaimed Program. The Education Department's Office of Educational Research and Improvement supports the regional laboratory in San Francisco, California called WestEd. WestEd has developed a nationally acclaimed Infant/Toddler Caregiver Training Program which teaches caregivers how to provide nurturing and stimulating environments to promote quality child care. Research-based videos and printed materials are available in Spanish, Chinese, and English. Eight thousand caregivers have been trained in California and the program has been expanded across the nation.

Learning Lessons from the Military Child Development Programs

Providing High Quality Child Care -- The Military Model. Under the Clinton Administration, the Department of Defense (DoD) has made important strides to improve the

quality of child care for the children of the men and women who serve our country. The DoD Child Care System serves over 200,000 children (age zero to 12) daily making the U.S. military system the largest employer-sponsored child care program in the nation. The DoD Child Care System, known as the Child Development Program, includes Child Development Centers, Family Child Care homes, School Age Care programs, and Resource and Referral services. Through this system, the military offers full-day, part-day, and hourly child care, part-day preschools, before- and after-school programs for school age children, and extended hour care which includes nights and weekends to accommodate shift workers. Because of the Department of Defense's commitment to excellence in child care, since 1992, the number of military child care facilities that are accredited by the independent National Association for the Education of Young Children has risen from 55 to 353. Currently, over 75 percent of military child care programs are accredited, as compared to only 7 percent of other child care facilities nationwide. Since the early 1990s, the DoD has focused on improving the quality, availability, and cost of child care for military families.

Sharing the Military's Expertise. Because of the DoD's high quality, comprehensive child care programs, in April 1997, President Clinton directed the Secretary of Defense to share the expertise and lessons learned from the Military Child Development Programs with Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, as well as with private and nonprofit groups, that are responsible for providing child care. In his

Directive the President stated, "The Military Child Development Programs have attained a reputation for an abiding commitment to quality in the delivery of child care. The Department of Defense's dedication to adequate funding, strict oversight, improved training and wage packages, strong family child care networks, and commitment to meeting national accreditation standards is laudatory. I believe that the military has important lessons to share with the rest of the Nation on how to improve the quality of child care for all of our Nation's children." In response to the President's directive, the Pentagon is implementing a plan to reach out to states and civilian child care centers to share its expertise.

Supporting A Family-Friendly Federal Workplace

Promoting Family-Friendly Initiatives. Under President Clinton's leadership, the federal government, striving to be a model employer for other private and public employers, has implemented family-friendly leave initiatives that enhance the ability of employees to balance family and employment obligations. In addition to leave initiatives, the federal government offers compressed or flexible work schedules to many workers so that they may spend more time with their families.

Providing Child Care for Federal Workers. In addition to the Department of Defense's model child care program, there are more than 230 child care centers for civilian

government employees in federal buildings in as many as 36 states. The General Services Administration (GSA) oversees 108 of these centers, making GSA the largest civilian sponsor of work-site child care in the nation. Under this Administration, the emphasis on quality has continued -- with 73 percent of GSA sponsored centers accredited by the independent National Association for Education of Young Children, and with a goal of reaching 100 percent accreditation within two years. Striving to meet the needs of parent workers, 89 percent of GSA centers have infant care, 74 percent have drop-in/emergency care, and 42 percent provide summer programs for school aged children. In addition, more than 80 percent of centers are open 11 or more hours per day. Nearly 70 percent of the child care center directors have ten or more years of experience in early childhood education.

Message Sent To: _____

THE PRESIDENT URGES SERVICE AS A STRATEGY IN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The White House Conference On Child Care

October 23, 1997

Today, at the White House Conference on Child Care, President Clinton announced steps to use community service to strengthen after-school programs.

Helping Communities Link Service and After-School Programs. To enable more communities to use community service to enrich their after-school programs, the President announced actions by the Corporation for National Service's new To Learn and Grow Initiative, a public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to and enhancing the quality of after-school programs through service. The initiative will:

- Release a "How-To Manual" that shows after-school programs how they can use service to strengthen their efforts (prepared by the Corporation for National Service with the National Institute on Out-of-School Time at Wellesley College); and

- Provide training and technical assistance to after-school programs that want to use national service and volunteers to help meet their needs.

Building on What Works. Today, communities use both volunteers and those engaged in full-time service commitments such as AmeriCorps to extend the reach and improve the quality of many child care and after-school programs. These individuals work alongside child care providers, educators, and community-based professionals across the country.

Two-thirds of national service programs supported by the Corporation for National Service, including AmeriCorps, address the needs of children and youth, many in child care and after-school programs. The To Learn and Grow Initiative will build on this experience to show programs across the country how to use volunteers and others engaged in service to provide better care to more children.

Young people can also benefit from serving others after school hours. For example, Big Brothers/Big Sisters committed at the Presidents' Service Summit that its mentors would participate with young people in service projects. In addition, the Corporation's Learn and Serve program supports service-learning programs across the country, where young people serve and then reflect on that experience. The To Learn and Grow Initiative's manual and training activities will guide after-school programs in incorporating service into their activities.

Successful Programs Exist. Successful programs where service strengthens after-school

programs today include Jumpstart AmeriCorps, where AmeriCorps members get needy children and their families ready for school; Columbia University's Community Impact program, where AmeriCorps members provide educational enrichment, mentoring, and tutoring for youth from K-3rd grade in collaboration with the YMCA; the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program in St. Paul, Minnesota, which pairs seniors and middle school students in after-school programs with 900 children in K-3rd grade; and the Sheridan Family Resources Center in Colorado, where AmeriCorps members tutor at-risk youth, run after-school and summer camp programs, and help youths and senior citizens have access to health services offered by school-based and community clinics.

PRESIDENT CLINTON SENDS NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION AND PRIVACY COMPACT TO CONGRESS

October 23, 1997

Today, President Clinton transmitted the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact to Congress. The compact will facilitate effective background checks on child care providers by eliminating state law barriers to the sharing of criminal history information for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations. The vast majority of child care providers are caring people who have dedicated their lives to teaching and nurturing children. But one tragedy in child care is too many, and background checks are one important way to ensure that the people watching our children are fit for this responsibility.

Current Limitations on Information. Many states currently have laws prohibiting release of criminal history records for purposes other than ongoing criminal investigations --such as in connection with background checks for employment or licensing. This means that a child care agency wishing to do a nationwide check to determine whether a potential child care worker has a criminal history will not be able to gain direct access to all states' records but instead must go to the FBI for information. FBI records, however, are not nearly as complete as states' own records because state reporting of criminal dispositions to the FBI is wholly voluntary. In addition, FBI checks can take weeks or months to complete because of the total volume of FBI records and the FBI's nationwide criminal responsibilities.

Effect of the Compact. Under the compact, each ratifying state would agree to release its own criminal history information to other ratifying states for any

purpose authorized by the receiving state's law. This means an agency wanting to do a nationwide check for a purpose authorized by state law need not rely on incomplete FBI records, but may gain access directly to other states' complete criminal records. The only role played by the FBI would be to give the requesting agency a list of the states in which the individual has a criminal record (information which the FBI would have in complete form), so that the agency can access those states' records directly. In this way, the compact will vastly increase the effectiveness and efficiency of nationwide criminal background checks.

One Step in Ensuring Safety of Child Care. A background check is only a first step in assuring that our children are cared for safely. Many people who are unsuited to be child care providers are never arrested or convicted of a crime; most child abuse cases, for example, are not prosecuted in criminal court. A recent study by the American Bar Association's Center for Children and the Law found that personal interviews and reference checks are essential tools in checking the credentials of caregivers.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES CHILD CARE PROVIDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

October 23, 1997

Today, President Clinton announced a National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund as well as an outreach plan to let child care providers know that they may be eligible for Pell Grants. Too many child care providers currently do not have the training our children deserve and are not rewarded with higher compensation when they do have training. The measures announced today will help improve the quality of our nation's child care by helping caregivers get training and raise their pay, and thereby supporting efforts to recruit and retain them.

New National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund: The National Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund will provide more than \$300 million in scholarships over five years to up to 50,000 child care providers annually --helping the more than half a million children they care for.

Up to a \$1,500 Scholarship and Higher Pay For Continued Service: The Fund will provide scholarships of up to \$1,500 to current and future child care providers who agree to remain in the field for at least one year after receiving assistance. These providers will earn increased compensation or a bonus when they complete their course work, provided by some combination of the Fund and the provider's employer.

Public-Private Partnership: The Fund will receive at least \$250 million in Federal

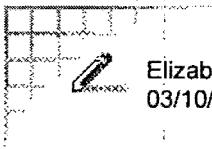
funds over five years, with every four dollars of Federal funds matched with at least a dollar of private, local or State funds. States will have flexibility in designing their programs, and can provide scholarships for students working toward a state or national credential, certificate, or Associate, B.A. or B.S. degree. States cannot use the Fund to substitute for existing efforts. States also cannot provide scholarships to employees or child care providers that are not licensed or registered.

Modeled on Successful Programs: The Fund is modeled on the North Carolina T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Project, a bipartisan program that has been shown to work. Participants in T.E.A.C.H. complete an average of 18 credit hours per year and receive an average 10 % increase in their wages. They have less than a 10 % turnover rate, compared to the statewide rate of 42 %. The President's Child Care Provider Scholarship Fund is also modeled on the Defense Department's model of tying pay raises to increased training, which has helped to make the Department of Defense child care system one of the best in the world.

Builds On Pell Grants: While not limited to those eligible for Pell Grants, the scholarships build on Pell Grants for those eligible, by covering any costs not covered by Pell, including tuition and fees, books, supplies, transportation, and child care expenses. For example, a typical caregiver in a child care center earns \$12,000 a year. Attending a community college half time, with total costs of \$3,000, this individual would be eligible for a \$1,350 Pell Grant in 1997-98. The Fund will then provide additional monies. All applicants must first apply for Pell Grants before receiving a Child Care Provider Scholarship.

Actions To Help Child Care Workers Take Advantage of Pell Grants, the New Lifetime Learning Tax Credit and Other Financial Aid: Many child care providers are not aware of other financial aid that is available now. Today, the Secretaries of Education and Health and Human Services jointly sent a letter to child care providers in all 50 states, providing them with information on the aid already available to current and future child care providers, including Pell Grants, the new Lifetime Learning and HOPE Tax Credits, and loans.

Builds on the President's Actions to Make Higher Education Universal and Lifetime Learning the Standard: Today's initiatives build on President Clinton's historic achievements to promote opportunities for lifelong learning, including winning the largest increase in Pell Grants in more than 20 years, creating HOPE and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits, expanding College Work Study, creating the Direct Lending program that lets students repay their loans as a share of their income, and creating AmeriCorps National Service program to enable young people to earn money for college while serving their country.



Elizabeth R. Newman
03/10/98 12:20:18 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

CC:

Subject: Executive Memorandum: Steps to Improve Federally Sponsored Child Care

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Bridgeport, Connecticut)

For Immediate Release

March 10, 1998

March 10, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Steps to Improve Federally Sponsored Child Care

Now more than ever, America's working parents are struggling to balance their obligations to be good workers -- and their more important obligations to be good parents. By choice or by financial necessity, millions of Americans rely on child care to care for their children for part of each day. Parents deserve to know that their children are safe and nurtured in child care.

One of my highest priorities is to make child care better, safer, and more affordable. That is why my balanced budget includes the most significant investment in child care in our Nation's history and proposes specific measures to improve child care quality.

As a supplier of child care and as an employer that must recruit and retain a strong workforce, the Federal Government should lead the way in improving child care. I am proud that our military has developed one of the finest child care delivery systems in the world, and that the Department of Defense, at my request, is sharing its expertise with the public and private sectors. Still, we need to do more. The executive branch of the Federal Government has

responsibility for over 1,000 child care centers -- 788 through the military, 109 through the General Services Administration, and 127 through other Federal departments. In addition, the military oversees nearly 10,000 professional family child care providers. In total, approximately 215,000 children are in our care.

Today I am directing my Administration to take significant new steps to improve the quality of Federally sponsored child care in the executive branch by (1) ensuring proper background checks of child care workers; (2) achieving 100 percent independent accreditation of all eligible centers; (3) exploring partner-ships among Federal agencies and with the private sector to improve child care quality and affordability; and (4) ensuring that all Federal workers become better informed of child care benefits and the options available to them.

First, all child care workers in Federally sponsored centers should undergo thorough background checks to make sure that our children are safe. The vast majority of child care workers are caring people who have dedicated their lives to teaching and nurturing children. But one tragedy in child care is too many, and criminal and civil background checks are necessary to determine whether the people caring for our children are fit for this responsibility. The military already has a model system to conduct background checks of child care workers. I now want to guarantee that workers at all nonmilitary, Federal child care facilities undergo such background checks in a thorough and timely fashion.

more

(OVER)

I therefore direct the Administrator of General Services ("Administrator") to report to me, within 90 days, with a plan to ensure complete and timely background checks, to the fullest extent possible, for all child care workers in nonmilitary, Federally sponsored child care settings. Agencies with oversight of nonmilitary child care settings will report to the Administrator within 60 days on this matter.

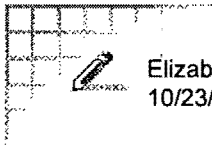
Second, all Federally sponsored child care centers should receive nationally recognized, independent accreditation as soon as they are eligible to do so. Currently, only 76 percent of military centers, and 35 percent of other Federally sponsored centers, are accredited. By the year 2000, 100 percent should be accredited. I therefore direct the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator to provide me, within 90 days, with a plan to ensure, to the fullest extent possible, independent, nationally recognized accreditation of all eligible, Federally sponsored child care by the year 2000. Agencies with oversight of non-military child care settings shall report to the Administrator within 60 days on this matter.

Third, partnerships among Federal agencies and with the private sector are an increasingly important way to maximize existing resources and improve child care. I therefore direct the Administrator to work with the heads of all Federal departments and agencies to explore opportunities for collaboration both within Government and with the private sector to improve child care quality and affordability in Federally sponsored settings.

Finally, employers have a responsibility to make sure that their workers are better informed on child care and the options available to them at the national, State, and local levels. I therefore direct the Director of the Office of Personnel Management ("Director") to ensure that, to the fullest extent possible, all Federal workers receive full information about child care benefits available to them on the Federal, State, and local levels, including information on resource and referral networks, available tax credits such as the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit, as well as public subsidies. The Director shall also host a nationwide summit designed to showcase model public and private sector solutions to child care needs.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

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Elizabeth R. Newman
10/23/97 02:28:49 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Childcare Fact Sheets

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILD CARE

October 23, 1997

"I hope that this conference will be the beginning of a national dialogue about how best to care for all of America's children and will make a valuable contribution to our effort to improve child care in this country."

--President Clinton, July 23, 1997

Today, the President and First Lady are hosting the first-ever *White House Conference on Child Care*. The day-long conference will address the need that America's parents have for safe, affordable child care for their children. Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs to care for their children for part of each day. Exploring the roles of both the public and private sectors, the Conference is intended to begin a dialogue on three of the most pressing child care issues --availability, affordability, and assuring safety and quality. The President will announce new steps that the Administration is taking toward achieving these goals including helping link community service with after-school programs, increasing background checks on child-care providers, and improving training and educational opportunities for child-care providers.

Clinton Administration Commitment to Strengthening Child Care. President Clinton has worked to improve and increase funding for child care. Under President Clinton's leadership, federal funding for child care has increased by nearly 70%. The 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by \$4 billion over 6 years to provide child care assistance to low-income working families and parents moving from welfare to work. A percentage of these funds are set aside for efforts to improve the quality of child care. To ensure that children in child care are in safe and healthy environments, the President also launched the Healthy Child Care America Initiative. And because the Department of Defense child care system has become a model of employer-sponsored child care and after-school programming, the President asked the DOD to share its expertise and lessons learned with the civilian child care community.

During President Clinton's time in office, funding for Head Start has increased by 43%. This funding will continue to expand until it reaches the President's goal of serving 1

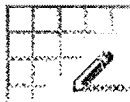
million children by the year 2002. The President also initiated the Early Head Start Program to expand the proven benefits of Head Start to low-income families with children age three and under.

To expand the benefits of after-school care, the President has, among other things, supported and signed the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act to fund after-school programs; called for an increased number of community schools that stay open longer and provide valuable resources to families and communities; and published a guide on *Keeping Schools Open as Community Learning Centers*.

Clinton Administration Commitment to America's Working Families. This Conference builds on the President's record of helping America's working families. To take a few examples, the President fought for passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act to allow workers to take unpaid leave when their families need them. And he signed into law the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act to extend important new protections for an estimated 25 million Americans who move from one job to another, or who have pre-existing medical conditions. And in August 1997, the President signed the Balanced Budget Act which included \$24 billion for the Children's Health Initiative --the single largest investment in health care for children since 1965. President Clinton has also fought to expand economic opportunity for working families, including a \$500 per-child tax credit for children under age 17 --helping 27 million families with 45 million children. The Administration also expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to give 15 million families tax relief, and increased the minimum wage by 90 cents.

Conference Program and Participants. During the morning session, experts will discuss why child care matters both to our children's development and to the economy, and will examine the state of child care in this country. The panelists for this first session are: Ms. Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute; Ms. Michelle Seligson, National Institute of Out-of-School Time; Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin; Secretary of HHS Donna Shalala; Governor James Hunt, North Carolina; Dr. Valora Washington, W.K. Kellogg Foundation; and Patty Siegel, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network. The afternoon session will highlight promising efforts around the country and discuss how all members of the community can meet critical child care challenges. Panelists are: Major General John G. Meyer, United States Army; Representative Jane Maroney, Delaware State Legislator; Dr. Susan Aronson, American Academy of Pediatrics; Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan, Diocese of Brooklyn; Ms. Beatriz Otero, Calvery Bi-Lingual Multicultural Learning Center; Mr. John J. Sweeney, AFL-CIO; and Mr. Doug Price, FirstBank of Colorado.

Broad Participation Across the Country. The entire conference will be broadcast by satellite to over 100 locations in over 45 states across the country, as well as to several Federal agencies. Satellite conferences will be co-hosted by regional federal agencies, local officials, and children's and other organizations.



Elizabeth R. Newman
04/23/98 09:51:04 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

CC:

Subject: President Clinton Releases Reports on Child Care

**PRESIDENT CLINTON URGES CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION ON CHILD CARE
AND RELEASES REPORTS HIGHLIGHTING PRIVATE SECTOR EFFORTS**
April 23, 1998

President Clinton called on Congress today to take action to make child care better, safer, and more affordable for America's working families. In a Rose Garden ceremony, the President released two reports highlighting private sector efforts to provide child care assistance to workers. These reports show that providing child care is good for workers, good for businesses, and good for the economy. Today more than ever, America's parents are working: three out of five mothers with children under age six work outside the home. Yet a recent study found that *only one percent* of revenues for child care and early education come from the private sector.

Treasury Department Working Group on Child Care Report Finds that Investments in Child Care Make Good Business Sense. At the White House Conference on Child Care (10/23/97), President Clinton asked Secretary Rubin to convene a group of business and labor leaders to look at child care problems facing working parents and to identify best practices in the private sector and in public-private partnerships. Today, the Treasury Working Group on Child Care released a new report, *Investing in Child Care*:

Child care problems can reduce productivity and profits. The Working Group report finds that businesses benefit from providing child care assistance -- through increased productivity, lower turnover, better recruitment, reduced absenteeism, and improved morale.

"The report carries an important lesson: investments in child care can pay off in real dividends for employers and employees." --Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, *Investing in Child Care*.

The Treasury Working Group is made up of business and labor leaders, and includes Sandy Weill, CEO, The Travelers Group; Randy Tobias, President, Eli Lilly; John Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO (and Linda Chavez-Thompson, Vice President, AFL-CIO representing him); Doug Price, CEO, First Bank of Colorado; George Stinson, President and CEO, General Converters and Assemblers; and Marcy Whitebook, National Co-Director, Center for the Child Care Workforce.

New Department of Labor Report Highlights Model Business Practices and New Initiative Aims at Increasing Private Sector Involvement. Today, the Department of Labor released a new report, *Meeting the Needs of Today's Workforce: Child Care Best Practices*, which examines best practices initiated by businesses, government agencies, unions, not-for-profits,

and business/community partnerships to meet the demands of employees who are also parents. The key finding of the report is that, in today's global economy, providing child care and other family-friendly policies helps companies recruit and retain the best workforce for the future. The President is also announcing a new commitment by the Department of Labor to serve as a clearinghouse for businesses interested in child care, and to set up a business-to-business mentoring program on child care.

Businesses Can't Do it Alone: The President Calls for Congressional Action. Millions of Americans, struggling to be both good parents and good workers, rely on child care and after-school programs for part of each day. As part of his balanced budget request, the President called for significant new investments in child care -- to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning. To encourage more private sector investment in child care, the President has proposed a new tax credit for businesses that offer child care services to their employees. Today, the President calls on Congress to put aside partisan differences and take action on child care this year.

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Elizabeth R. Newman
04/23/98 09:55:22 AM

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To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

CC:

Subject: President Clinton's Child Care Proposals

**PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PROPOSAL:
CHILD CARE THAT STRENGTHENS AMERICAN FAMILIES**

"Not a single American family should ever have to choose between the job they need and the child they love."

President Bill Clinton
State of the Union

Address, January 27, 1998

President Clinton announced an historic initiative to improve child care for America's working families. The initiative proposes over \$20 billion over five years for child care -- **to help working families pay for child care, build a good supply of after-school programs, improve the safety and quality of care, and promote early learning.**

Ensuring affordable, accessible, safe child care. The President's child care initiative responds to the struggles our nation's working parents face in finding child care they can afford, trust and rely on. The new initiative:

Makes child care more affordable for working families. To help working families struggling to meet the costs of child care, the initiative invests \$7.5 billion over five years to double the number of children receiving child care subsidies to more than two million by the year 2003. The initiative also invests \$5.1 billion over five years to increase tax credits for child care for three million families and provides a new tax credit for businesses that offer child care services to their employees at a cost of \$500 million over five years.

Increases access to and promotes early learning and healthy child development. To improve early learning, the initiative includes \$3 billion over five years to establish an Early Learning Fund that helps local communities improve the quality and safety of child care for children ages zero to five. The initiative also increases investment in Head Start and doubles the number of children served by Early Head Start to 80,000.

Improves the safety and quality of child care. To help ensure safe, quality child care, the initiative: steps up enforcement of state health and safety standards in child care settings, facilitates background checks on child care providers, increases scholarships and training for child care providers, and invests in child care research and evaluation.

Expands access to safe after-school care. To help create safe, positive learning environments for American school-age children who lack adult supervision during a typical week, the initiative increases the 21st Century Learning Center Program by \$800 million over five years to provide after-school care for up to half a million children a year.

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