

FOIA MARKER

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Dr. [May] Kennedy-CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention]

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 5, 2000

Helene Gayle, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Rd., NE Mailstop E07
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Gayle: *Helene*

I'm writing to express my sincere appreciation for the assignment of Dr. May Kennedy to the White House Office of National AIDS Policy. For the last nine months, Dr. Kennedy has been a tremendous asset to our staff. She has moved forward with several projects that were longstanding ONAP priorities, and she also helped us interface more effectively with the prevention systems at CDC.

While she was here, Dr. Kennedy successfully completed several major assignments:

- She worked with CDC to update descriptions of the status of action taken by CDC in response to past recommendations by the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS;
- She completed a White House report on youth and HIV in the United States and managed its vetting by White House officials and Federal agencies, production, and release activities;
- She represented ONAP in a partnership with advertising agencies that has already resulted in the production of several television spots and strategic campaign plans; and,
- She cleared with the Small Business Administration information about capacity-building resources that are available free of charge to community-based AIDS organizations.

Dr. Kennedy was also cheerfully willing to help address the myriad daily challenges that arise in this busy (and often chaotic) setting. On behalf of the office, and sometimes with very little notice, she met with several groups of international visitors, veterans groups, a manufacturer of auto-retractable syringes and others. She was also a big help in pitching in during the rush of preparations before major public events that ONAP sponsored, participating in everything from making administrative arrangements to keeping track of guest lists.

Several of the recommendations made in the ONAP youth report have already been acted on by the governmental agencies involved. I trust that Dr. Kennedy can continue to work with us from Atlanta to encourage implementation of these recommendations, and that she can also help to insure that our new Advertising Agency partners get the best possible technical assistance in the areas of behavioral science and epidemiology.

Again, thank you so very much for assigning such a great person to give us a hand and for your continuing support and friendship. Wishing you all the best in the New Year-

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director, Office of National AIDS Policy, and
Presidential Envoy for AIDS Cooperation