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NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

April 7, 1993

Ms. Carol Rasco Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Carol,

This is just a brief note of thanks. Your address to the Summit last Friday morning was wonderful. It carried a message that many in the room have waited a long time to hear. This gathering of leaders from across the country stirred great hope and a renewed commitment; your remarks gave all those good feelings a sense of purpose and possibility. On behalf of Senator Rockefeller and all the members of the National Commission on Children, I want you to know how deeply appreciative we are.

The Commission will conclude its work in the next few weeks. However, as you move ahead with the policy initiatives and program plans you outlined, I hope you will not hesitate to give me a call if I can be helpful. In developing the Commission's recommendations, we considered a multitude of options and contingencies. I would be happy to share with you and your staff any of our background papers, analyses, and documentation that might be useful.

Carol, again many thanks. With all best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Cheri Hayes
Executive Director

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Children's Summit Draft 2/April 1

It is wonderful to be here at this historic national summit on children and families. And it is inspiring to hear the stories of young people who are succeeding—with determination, personal responsibility, and help from those who care.

I wish that every child in America could tell such a story. But you and I know that they can't. Many children are thriving in our nation--but too many are not.

The statistics for our children and youth are grim. Educational attainment is stagnant—at best. Mental illness and suicide are up. Violent crime and homicide—way up. And today, child poverty stands at levels last seen a generation ago.

For most of that generation, families with children have faced a relentless economic squeeze. The real wages of workers with young children-even educated workers--have fallen dramatically during the past twenty years.

For the sake of our children, we must change course. That's one big reason why our country needs the President's bold new economic program of investment, growth, and jobs. With the help of the Congress, we're going to get that program—and get it in record time.

But the problems our children face are not just economic. Too many American families are disintegrating, or never forming at all. We have the highest divorce rate in the Western world, and the highest rate of children born outside marriage. Today, 28 percent of our babies are born to unmarried parents. For African-Americans, it's more than 66 percent.

Does this matter? Here are some findings from a report out just this week: Of the children born to young unmarried mothers without high school diplomas, 79 percent are living in poverty. For children born to married high-school graduates, the figure is only 8 percent.

The message is clear: if you stay in school and get married before you have children, your kids are ten times less likely to be poor. A stable, intact family is the best anti-poverty program our country has ever devised. That is the message we should be sending our young people, in every way we can.

For too long, these issues were mired in partisan gridlock. Some talked only about the economic squeeze on families and cuts in government programs; others talked only about the disintegration of families and the decline of American culture. It is time--high time--to put an end to the politics of false choices. We must move beyond conservative cheerleading for family values, on the one hand, and on the other, the old biggovernment notion that there's a program for every social problem.

There is a third way, a commonsense path that offers more opportunity to every family and demands more responsibility from every individual. As the President has said so eloquently: Family values alone cannot nourish a hungry child, and material security alone cannot provide a moral compass. We must have both.

This is the trail that the National Commission has blazed for our country. You have advanced an ambitious legislative agenda, which helped shape the President's budget proposals. You have crafted a new consensus on children and families that could put futile debates behind us. Most important, you have reminded us of the basic principles that should always guide our efforts:

- o First: Every American child should have the opportunity to develop to his or her full potential.
- o Second: Government doesn't raise children, parents do. Government can reinforce the vital work of parents, but it can't substitute for them. The family is--and must remain--society's primary institution for bringing children into the world and for supporting their growth throughout childhood.
- o Third: Children do best when they have the personal involvement and material support of a father and a mother and when both parents fulfill their responsibility to be loving providers.

Now let me tell you what the President is doing to turn these principles into reality.

First, he is rewarding work and family. Today, millions of Americans work full-time but don't make enough to lift their families out of poverty. That's wrong. No one who works full-time and has children at home should be poor in America. And that's why the President has proposed a dramatic increase in the Earned Income Tax Credit.

At the same time, Bill Clinton is moving aggressively to relax the tension between work and family. He's proud that the first piece of legislation he signed was the Family and Medical Leave Act, twice veoted by George Bush. And the administration is actively exploring other ways of making America's workplaces-including the federal government--much more family friendly.

Second, he is protecting the health of children and families, by fully funding the WIC program, by investing in childhood immunization, and by committing his administration to fundamental reform of our nation's health care system.

As you all know, we're working night and day to ensure that every American has access to quality health care at affordable prices. Next month, we're going to propose a comprehensive new health care plan. And during this Congress we're going to fulfill the dream of every Democratic president since Harry Truman and make health insurance a reality for all.

Third, the President is promoting the development of young children with the biggest expansion of Head Start ever. But the administration is not just going to make Head Start bigger; we're going to make it better. We're going to improve quality, increase flexibility, and better link the program to other child development efforts.

Fourth, the President is proposing fundamental change in public education. As governor, Bill Clinton helped draft the national education goals and bring them to the center of public debate. As president, he'll bring those goals to the center of education reform.

Bill Clinton is going to put an end to business as usual in American education. That means new initiatives with real incentives to states for systemic reform. It means a total reexamination of existing programs—such as Chapter 1—to ensure that every child has a fair chance to acquire high—level skills and make it in the economy of the 21st century. It means unprecedented emphasis on systematic, high—quality school—to—work programs. It means an expanded safe schools initiative because fearful kids can't possibly learn well. And yes, it means more choice for parents and students within our public school system.

Fifth, the President will deliver fundamental reform of our welfare system. He helped draft the Family Support Act of 1988, and he made it work in Arkansas. Now he has asked us to develop a plan to end welfare as we now know it. People don't want permanent dependency, they want the dignity of work, and we should give everyone the chance to have that kind of dignity. Its just common sense: more opportunity in exchange for more responsibility.

The President's responsibility agenda doesn't end there. He's going to get tough on child support enforcement, with a nationwide crackdown on deadbeat parents. That means establishing paternity right at the start, in the hospital; setting up a national registry; and using the IRS to collect seriously delinquent child support payments.

The principle is simple: if you are biologically responsible for a child, then you are morally and financially responsible as well. And that's why we have to get the message to our youth in schools, in the media, in every way we can: it's just plain wrong for children to have children, because you are assuming a responsibility that you aren't ready to fulfill.

The President wants to put government squarely on the side of keeping families together whenever possible. He wants us to do more for families at risk, especially at risk of foster care placement. He knows that constant shifting from one short-term foster home placement to another is an emotional disaster for kids; that in all but the most extreme cases, it's better for kids to be with their parents.

That why, last month he directed us to draft a new child welfare initiative combining family support and family preservation services--building on the work of Senator Rockefeller and Congressman Matsui and Congresswomen Schroeder and others. And believe me, we're going to deliver that initiative--to him and to the country.

I want to applaud the Commission for recognizing that families don't operate in a vacuum, but in neighborhoods, in communities—and in a climate of culture and values. We must do whatever we can to assist parents in educating their kids and teaching them right from wrong.

As every parent knows, in modern America that effort begins with the media. Three years ago, the Congress passed the Children's Television Act. And for three years, the Bush administration ignored it. The same kinds of folks who informed us that ketchup is a vegetable were happy to call GI Joe an educational television program.

Well, George Bush's FCC wouldn't enforce the bill--but Bill Clinton's FCC will. By law, broadcasters who want to keep on operating must demonstrate their commitment to the educational needs of children. We're going to hold them to that. And while they're at it, it wouldn't hurt if they cut out the gratuitous sex and violence either.

I've talked about what the President has done and what he wants to do. We've begun to shift course. But this is just the beginning. We must have the courage to change--to recognize mistakes, to abandon what doesn't work, to challenge ourselves to do better.

I know that many of you in this room are tired after the last twelve years. Without you, many of the programs that serve children and families would have been gutted. They weren't, and you've earned a rest.

But we're asking you to go another round. The President can't pass or fund his initiatives alone. He can't break the gridlock alone. He still needs your help, and so do America's children.

For the first time in a long time, your efforts will be supported--not rebuffed--by the executive branch of this government. The details remain to be worked out. But for sure, there will be an ongoing, high-level focus on children and families, cutting across agency, departmental, and programmatic lines, coordinated by the White House, responsible not to any single constituency but to the national interest and directly to the President of the United States.

At last, a new day is dawning for America's children and their families. We will work together with you. We won't always succeed, and we won't always be able to do everything that you-and we--would want.

But I can promise you this: we will never relent in our effort to give every child a chance to develop--fully. Because at the end of Bill Clinton's second term, at the dawn of the third millenium, I want to be able to say, with a clear conscience and a full heart: We did our best.

Thank you very much.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 31, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL RASCO

FROM:

Kim Tilley (x7845)

SUBJECT:

Briefing for the National Summit on Children and

Families

The following materials are attached for Friday, April 2nd:

National Summit on Children and Families Event Briefing

- Summit Program;
- Q&A on the most commonly asked questions regarding the Commission (prepared for Senator Rockefeller by the Commission staff);
- Summit Participants List;
- Bios of Program Participants;
- Washington Post Evans and Novak op-ed re: the Commission.

This is much more material than you need, but I decided to err on the side of overwhelming you with information. I will be attending the Summit tomorrow (Thursday), but will be back in the early evening if you need anything else.

Good luck.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 31, 1993

ADDRESS TO NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

DATE:

April 2, 1993

LOCATION:

Sheraton Washington

TIME:

10:00 a.m.

FROM:

Kim Tilley (x7845)

I. PURPOSE

To address the final conference convened by the National Commission on Children. Senator Rockefeller personally requested HRC to participate in this event. Approximately 1000 people will be present.

II. BACKGROUND

- As you are aware, the National Commission on Children sunsets next month. The Commission convened the Summit to pass the child and family advocacy mantle to the assembled participants and ensure the continuation of the Commission's agenda. Given the meeting participants' prominence and the significant media presence, your address should be viewed as a major Administration policy address.
- The Summit participants are eager to hear where the Administration is headed in this area. Given the significant areas of agreement between the Administration's policies and the Commission's agenda, their primary concern is the belief that, once the Commission is dismantled, no one will have the "big picture" of programs affecting children and families. They believe someone or some entity needs to be appointed who has no vested interest other than ensuring the children and families' agenda is advanced. (They ruled out any of the Departments with programmatic responsibilities because as a self-interested party, it would be difficult to 1) monitor itself and 2) remain neutral.
- The National Association for the Education of Young Children's annual conference begins Friday, April 2nd. The Summit's final session on Friday morning is NAEYC's opening session. Their 250 conference participants will be assembled in another conference room within the hotel and hooked up to the Summit by closed circuit T.V.
- Immediately preceding your talk is a panel moderated by Judy Woodruff that features six young adults who have beaten adverse conditions. Their stories are

testament to the Commission's goal of giving kids a fair chance to make the best of their lives. Their bios follow.

- FYI, conservative Commission members believe the Commission has become hostage to the "liberal" Clinton Administration's agenda and has lost its balanced view. They claim the Summit's focus is on programs and services rather than on tax relief. (See Evans and Novak op-ed.) The Commission disputes this. Their response is the policy agenda was developed by 34 commissioners with diverse political and policy opinions and that the Commission's recommendations focused on meeting the basic needs of all children, not just poor children.
- On Friday, March 26, Senator Rockefeller (as the primary sponsor) and Senator Bond (as the primary cosponsor) introduced "The Family Security Income Act". Similar to last year's bill, the legislation includes four major provisions: 1) a \$1,000 refundable tax credit for each child, 2) the expansion and simplification of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), 3) calls for tougher child support and demonstration in several states of a child support insurance program (a government insured minimum benefit for a parent who has a child support award but does not receive the support payments), and 4) a community work demonstration using waivers to redirect federal training funds to parents unable to find work in an economically depressed region. Senator Rockefeller recognizes the bill can't be passed as introduced because of conflicting committee jurisdictions (i.e. the Labor and Human Resources Committee v. the Finance Committee), but wanted to clearly lay out an agenda and get moving.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Senator Jay Rockefeller (see following list for additional participants)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

NOTE: If you are present for the panel preceding your address, you will be seated in the front row next to Senator Rockefeller.

- o Senator Rockefeller introduces CR;
- o CR remarks 20 minutes;
- o Depart.

IV. REMARKS

Speech provided by Alan Stone (x2777).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What follows are a number of questions and suggested responses that have come up in my briefings and conversations with journalists about the Summit. You should use them to prep for the television and radio shows you will be doing on Thursday morning, as well as for the breakfast briefing for journalists and the media availability that is scheduled at noon on Thursday.

Why is the National Commission on Children convening the National Summit on Children and Families?

As the Commission concludes its work and closes its doors, we felt it was extremely important to bring together leaders from across the public and private sectors and from across the country to launch a new phase of activism on behalf of children and families. We want to celebrate new leadership in the White House and the Congress and the new spirit of commitment that is evident in states and communities nationwide. We also want to create a forum for a thoughtful exchange of ideas on the challenges facing the nation, on pressing priorities for policy and program development, and on workable solutions for action. The Commission has highlighted the need to go beyond rhetoric in addressing the needs of America's children and families, and the Summit is our final effort to help make that happen.

What are the prospects for efforts to move forward and implement the agenda that the National Commission on Children presented in <u>Beyond Rhetoric?</u>

I am quite optimistic. In the elections last fall, the American people were quite clear that they wanted a change and that they expected the nation's leaders to give serious attention to the social problems plaguing our society. The Commission's recommendations for a comprehensive national policy to address the needs of America's children and families were a unanimous, bipartisan agenda. It was endorsed and urged by individuals representing every point of view along the political and ideological spectrum. In short, it is politically feasible. In the few short weeks since the new President and the new Congress began work, we have made great strides. Family and Medical Leave has passed and been signed into law. Senator Bond and I have reintroduced the Family Preservation bill. The President's economic plan calls for expanding the Earned Income Credit and new investments in Head Start, school restructuring, Job Corps, and proven programs to bring health services to underserved pregnant women and children. The process of change is well underway. The debate in Congress and in communities across the country is on the real issues -- not just symbolic ones. It is no longer about what the problems are or what solutions are needed; it is about how to move forward and get the job done.

Is the new attention and interest in children's issues just a way for liberal Democrats to advocate more spending for more programs for the poor?

I am delighted that you raised that issue, because it has been lurking below the surface for some time. The policy agenda set forth by the National Commissionon Children was not a conservative or liberal agenda; it was not a Republican or Democratic agenda. It was the product of two and a half years of hard work by 34 commissioners who were anything but like-minded. The Commission's recomendations focussed on the needs of all children, not just poor children. The Commission recognized that all children have the same basic needs. And therefore, we called for changes in policies and programs that are aimed at strengthening all families (not just poor families) and enabling them to do a good job of raising their children. Education is not a poverty issue. Neither is health care reform or efforts to help parents balance their work and family responsibilities. Neither is the threat of drugs and AIDS and violence. These are issues that affect many American families and children across the income spectrum and they urgently need attention because they threaten the health and well-being of us all not just those who live in poverty.

How would you answer Republican critics of the President's economic plan who claim that the stimulus and investment pieces are unnecessary, that we should devote our full attention to deficit reduction?

I would remind them that the economic problems that plague this nation are the cumulative result of some very bad investment decisions by the previous two administrations. While they poured hundreds of billions of dollars into savings and loan speculation, leveraged buyouts, and tax breaks for the wealthy, they failed to tend to the basic needs of our people. After more than a decade of increasing poverty and family disintegration, falling family incomes, rising school dropout rates, teen pregnancy rates and teen suicide rates, and an explosion of families who lack access to basic health care, we can no longer afford not to invest in developing our human resources. Debt reduction alone is important, but it can not substitute for long-term investments in strong, stable families and healthy, well-educated young people.

Many Americans are deeply skeptical about the efficacy of public and private sector efforts to provide health care, improve school failure, combat violence and poverty, and reverse the epidemic of broken homes and forgotten children. Will more funding for more government programs really solve the problems?

No! What America needs is not just more funding for more porgrams -- although there are clearly areas where greater public and private sector investments are critical. We also desparately need to restructure our policies and programs and reform our systems of service delivery so that we do better, not just more of the same. And that won't be easy. It will require that as a nation and a people we do business differently. It will require leaders at all levels, in all parts of society, to subordinate their own traditional interests and established approaches to new processes of shared decisionmaking, new institutional structures and professional practices, and new standards for measuring success. We can no longer be satisfied to measure our progress just by the size of the budget, the number of clients served, or the quantity of services that are delivered. We must also be concerned with whether or not our policies, programs, and practices make life better for the children and families they are intended to help.

At least one of your conservative commissioners has intimated that he is dissatisfied with the agenda for the Summit because none of the discussion sessions was specifically focused on tax relief for middle-class families. He has speculated that that was a conscious effort on your part to bury that part of the Commission's report because it is not a priority in President's economic plan.

I find that rather surprising. I have absolutely no desire to bury the Commission's recommendation for a refundable child tax credit. I continue to believe that it is an important element of a comprehensive income security package to help bring all American families raising children into the social and economic mainstream. Last week I reintroduced the Family Income Security Act that presents all the pieces of the Commission's plan for addressing the income needs of families raising children, including expansion of the Earned Income Credit and the refundable child tax credit.

More to the point, however, the theme of the Summit is "Coming Together for Kids". An important part of the Commission's message is the need for much more collaboration and cooperation in our policies and programs. Therefore, in setting the agenda for the Summit, I felt it was important to focus on policy priorities that require collaborative action from leaders inside and outside government in changing our systems of service delivery. State and local initiatives underway across the country present promising examples that embody the conceptual and organizational features we think are important and should be characteristics of all our policies and programs and the way we provide services everywhere. The discussion sessions have been structured to engage national leaders from many domains in a thoughtful exchange about the opportunities and obstacles to this kind of systemic change.

[Depending on how partisan you want to be in your reponse, you may want to add the following:] It is also surprising that our conservative commissioners are now so eager to publicly discuss their support for the refundable child tax credit, which was the single most expensive item on the Commission's agenda -- total cost \$40 billion per year. When our report was released in June 1991 and it was clear that the Bush administration wanted nothing to do with that proposal, most of the conservative commissioners were very quiet about their support for it. What they were very vocal about was their deep concern about how to create a culture of individual and collective responsibility for children and families. I share their concern, and we have devoted an entire discussion session to that subject, because it is critically important and it requires the kind of collaborative leadership from many groups that is the theme of the Summit.

Given the new focus on children's issues, is this a good time for the National Commission on Children to conclude its work and close its doors?

Yes. The bipartisan National Commission on Children was established by Congress and Presidents Reagan and Bush to assess the status of America's children and families and to develop a long-term strategic plan for policy and program development. We done that. In fact we have gone even further to lay out the specific steps that need to be taken to implement our recommendations and we have identified an array of promising efforts across the country that can serve as models. These steps are presented in a series of user friendly

implementation guides that the Commission has recently published and made available as follow-up to our report <u>Beyond Rhetoric</u>.

In short, we have done our job, and we have done it very well. Now it is time for all those individuals and organizations, inside and outside government, that will have a continuing role in shaping public and private sector policy and programs to step forward and assume the mantle of leadership for following through.

With the sunset of the National Commission on Children and the termination of the House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, there will be no focal point for child and family policy in the federal government. Will this inhibit our ability to set priorities and coordinate policies across the large number of agencies and congressional committees that have jurisdiction?

It is important to remember that both the National Commission on Children and the Select Committee were advisory bodies. Neither had any policy making authority. But the issue you raise is an important one that the Commission recognized. We recommended the establishment of a high level entity within the Executive Branch that would be outside any single Cabinet-level department and would have authority help set priorities, coordinate policies and programs, and monitor their effectiveness. Similarly we recommended the establishment of a joint committee of Congress to do much the same thing in the legislative branch. As the President moves forward to put his team in place and to develop the mechanisms he needs to effectively make and monitor policy, and as the Congress continues its efforts to reorganize and streamline its organizational structure, I hope that children and families will not get lost in the process.



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

List of Registered Participants for the National Summit on Children and Families

(as of 5:00 p.m. Friday March 26, 1993)

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NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

BIOGRAPHIES OF SUMMIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Coming Together for America's Children and Families

John D. Rockefeller IV, U.S. Senator from West Virginia, is Chairman of the National Commission on Children. He also chaired the Bipartisan Commission on Comprehensive Health Care (the Pepper Commission) and currently chairs the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Finance Subcommittee on Health. He was Governor of West Virginia from 1976 to 1984 and a VISTA volunteer in Emmons, West Virginia from 1964 to 1966.

Marian Wright Edelman is the founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund, which seeks to educate the nation about the needs of children and encourage preventive investments in children. Mrs. Edelman is a member of the National Commission on Children, an alumna and former Board Chair of Spelman College, and recipient of the MacArthur Prize and the Albert Schweitzer Humanitarian Award for her work on behalf of children.

Priorities and Approaches for the 1990's: A Series of Discussions with the Nation's Leaders

Session I: Rebuilding Caring Communities for America's Children, Youth, and Families

Moderator

Jacqueline Adams, an Emmy Award winning correspondent, covers child and family issues and breaking news stories for CBS. She appears on the "Evening News with Dan Rather," "48 Hours," "CBS News Sunday Morning," and "CBS This Morning."

Presenters

Tom Potter is the Chief of Police in Portland Oregon. He has been a Portland police officer since 1966, and was commander of the Community Policing Division from its creation in 1988 until his appointment as Chief in 1992.

Geoffrey Canada is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Rheedlen Centers for Children and Families, which provide social services to over 800 children each day in New York City. The Rheedlen Centers are part of New York City's Beacons Program. Mr. Canada has produced two video essays, "Throwaway Children" and "Justice for All" for PBS and is East Coast Coordinator for the Black Community Crusade for Children.

William H. Foege, M.D. is co-founder and Executive Director of the Task Force for Child Survival and Development at the Carter Center of Emory University. From 1986 to 1992 he was Executive Director of the Center. Dr. Foege has formerly been Director of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and President of the American Public Health Association.

Discussants

Angela Glover Blackwell is the founder and Executive Director of the Urban Strategies Council in Oakland, California. The Council is a non-profit public policy organization that develops strategies to combat persistent poverty and coordinates the activities of urban planning and advocacy organizations in six large cities across the nation. Ms. Blackwell also co-chairs the Commission for Positive Change in the Oakland Public Schools.

Henry G. Cisneros is Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He was Mayor of San Antonio from 1981 to 1989, the first Hispanic mayor of a major U.S. city. Mr. Cisneros is a past president of the National League of Cities.

Raymond L. Flynn has been Mayor of Boston since 1983 and is a member of the National Commission on Children. He was President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors from 1991 to 1992. Mayor Flynn was recently appointed U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.

David S. Liederman is the Chief Executive Officer of the Child Welfare League of America, Inc. Prior to assuming this post, he was Executive Director for Public Affairs of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. Mr. Liederman was the first Commissioner of the Massachusetts State Office for Children from 1973 to 1975.

Kweisi Mfume is the U.S. Representative of Maryland's 7th Congressional District, which includes the west side of Baltimore. He was a member of the Baltimore City Council from 1979 to 1987. Congressman Mfume is Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, serves on the Committees on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs and on Small Business, and is co-founder and Co-Chair of the House Task Force on Homelessness.

Douglas W. Nelson is Executive Director of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated exclusively to disadvantaged children. He formerly was Deputy Director of the Center for the Study of Social Policy.

Barbara Sheen Todd has been Commissioner of Pinellas County, Florida since 1980. She is Vice President of the National Association of Counties and will become its President this year. Mrs. Todd was appointed by President Bush to represent the counties on the National Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

Warren W. Valdry is President of Valdry and Associates, specializing in senior citizen housing and land development. He is President of 100 Black Men of Los Angeles, Inc., a mentoring program for young African-American males, and Vice President of the 100 Black Men National Association. In 1985, he started the Young Black Scholars program to encourage minority students in Los Angeles to achieve in high school and pursue higher education.

George V. Voinovich is Governor of Ohio. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Governors' Association and co-chairs the Association's Task Force on Education. Governor Voinovich, a past president of the National League of Cities, was Mayor of Cleveland from 1979 to 1989.

Session II: Great Beginnings: Supporting Young Children and Their Families

Moderator

Rebecca Chase, an Emmy Award winning correspondent, covers family and social issues for ABC News. Since 1988 she has reported for "American Agenda," a regular segment on ABC's "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings."

Presenters

Maria D. Chavez founded the Family Development Program in Albuquerque, New Mexico to provide educational opportunities and family support for low-income families in a predominantly Hispanic and African-American community. She is currently on assignment from the University of New Mexico's College of Education to direct the Office of Community Planning and Staff Development in New Mexico's Department of Children, Youth and Families.

Dwayne A. Crompton is Executive Director of KCMC Child Development Corporation, which provides child care and Head Start services to low-income families in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Crompton has also been a preschool and elementary school teacher, a public school administrator, and a child-care agency director.

Gail Breakey is Director of the Hawaii Family Stress Center. A co-founder of the Center in 1975, she has coordinated its child abuse prevention program and helped to develop, implement, and promote the expansion of the Healthy Start program.

Discussants

Christopher "Kit" Bond, U.S. Senator from Missouri, is a member of the Committees on Appropriations, on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, on Small Business, and on the Budget. Before his election to the Senate, he served two terms as Governor of Missouri.

David M. Hamburg, M.D., President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York since 1983, formerly served as Chairman of Stanford University's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; President of the Institute of Medicine; Director of Harvard University's Division of Health Policy Research and Education; and President and Chairman of the Board of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

C. Everett Koop, M.D. is co-chair of the National Ready to Learn Council and a former Surgeon General of the United States. In prior years he was Surgeon-in-Chief of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Professor of Pediatric Surgery and Pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania.

Ralph S. Larsen is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Johnson & Johnson. He also serves on the boards of Xerox Corporation, the New York Stock Exchange, the United Negro College Fund, and the United Way of America. Mr. Larsen is a member of The Business Roundtable and of the Corporate Advisory Board of the National Commission on Children.

Gerald W. McEntee is International President of the 1.3 million-member American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the nation's largest public employees' and health care workers' union. He also chairs the AFL-CIO's Work and Family Committee, serves on the Executive Board of the Child Care Action Campaign, and is a member of the National Commission on Children.

Irwin Redlener, M.D. developed and directs the New York Children's Health Project, the country's largest health care program for homeless children, and is President and cofounder of The Children's Health Fund. He is Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of Community Pediatrics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center.

Audrey Rowe is Commissioner of the Department of Income Maintenance for the State of Connecticut. She formerly served as Human Resources Administrator for the City of New Haven and as Commissioner of Human Services in Washington, D.C.

Donna E. Shalala is Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She has served as Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, President of Hunter College in New York, and Assistant Secretary for Policy in the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Bernice Weissbourd is a co-founder of Parent Action, a national advocacy organization for parents. She is President of Family Focus, Inc., President of the Family Resource Coalition, and a member of the National Commission on Children.

Session III: Educating America: Improving Schools and the Transition to Work

Moderator

David Gergen is Editor-at-Large of *U.S. News and World Report* and a regular commentator on "The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour" on public television. He is an analyst for Mutual-NBC and WMAL radio, President of the Washington Campus, and Director of the Domestic Strategy Group at the Aspen Institute.

Presenters

Judy B. Codding is Principal of Pasadena High School in California and a member of the Coalition of Essential Schools. In prior years she was a classroom teacher, Director of the Scarsdale Alternative High School, and Principal of Bronxville High School in New York.

David W. Hornbeck is Senior Adviser to the Business Roundtable and the National Center on Education and the Economy and is Co-Director of the National Alliance for Restructuring Education. He was an architect of Kentucky's 1990 education reform legislation. Mr. Hornbeck was formerly Maryland's State Superintendent of Schools and Pennsylvania's Deputy Secretary of Education.

Alan Khazei is co-founder and Co-Director of City Year, a youth service program in Boston, Massachusetts. He serves on the Executive Boards of the Massachusetts Youth Service Alliance and Share Our Strength, and was Vice Chair of the Commission on National and Community Service.

Discussants

Natalie S. Allen is President of the Philadelphia High School Academies, Inc., a partnership between the School District and the private sector that connects students to full-time, permanent employment. Before joining the Academies, she was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Private Industry Council of Philadelphia.

Betty Castor is Florida's Commissioner of Education. Formerly she chaired the Appropriations Subcommittee on Education in the Florida Senate. In prior years she was a county commissioner, university administrator, and public school teacher.

Matilda R. Cuomo is First Lady of New York and the founder and Chair of the New York State Mentoring Program, a school-based drop-out prevention program. She is Honorary Chair of the Council on Children and Families and chairs the New York State Citizen Task Force on the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Keith Geiger is President of the National Education Association, the nation's largest professional organization and labor union. He co-chairs the Martin Luther King Jr. National Education Committee. Mr. Geiger is a former member of President Bush's Education Policy Advisory Committee.

Bill Goodling is the U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania's 19th District, which includes York and Adams Counties in south central Pennsylvania. He is the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Education and Labor. Congressman Goodling is a former teacher, principal, school board president, and school district superintendent.

Joseph T. Gorman is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of TRW, Inc. He is Chairman of the U.S. Japan Business Council, the Business Roundtable's Education Task Force, the Industry Policy Advisory Committee for Trade Policy Matters, and the Defense Industry Initiative Steering Committee.

Pat Henry is President of the National PTA. She is a board member of the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Academy for State Goals, and is one of the founders of Pathway House, a rehabilitation program for drug-addicted children. She is a member of the Oklahoma Governor's Advisory Committee for Education Block Grants.

Thomas W. Langfitt, M.D. is President of the Pew Charitable Trusts and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Glenmede Corporation, which manages the Pew Trusts' assets. Formerly, Dr. Langfitt was Professor and Director of Neurosurgery and Vice President for Health Affairs at the University of Pennsylvania.

Richard W. Riley is Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. He was Governor of South Carolina from 1978 to 1986, where he initiated the Education Improvement Act of 1984 and was a three-time winner of the South Carolina Education Association's "Friend of Education" award.

Albert Shanker is President of the American Federation of Teachers and a Vice President of the AFL-CIO. He is a member of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the National Academy of Education, and the Competitiveness Policy Council.

Traci Tsuchiguchi represents the nine western states on the Executive Board of the National Association of Student Councils. A senior at Clovis West High School in Fresno, California, she is also a student representative on the California Child Nutrition Advisory Council and the Coalition to Improve Supplemental Nutrition. Ms. Tsuchiguchi recently received the Clovis Rotary Club's School Service Award.

Session IV: Creating a Culture of Responsibility for Children and Families

Moderator

Jane Pauley is co-anchor of NBC News' "Dateline NBC" program. For thirteen years she coanchored the "Today" show. Before joining the network, Ms. Pauley co-anchored the evening news on WMAQ-TV in Chicago, the first woman to co-anchor a regularly scheduled week night news program in that city.

Presenters

Susan Carlson is First Lady of Minnesota and Co-Chair of the Action for Children Commission. She serves as Honorary Chair of the Minnesota Violence Against Women Coalition and of the Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters.

Gary David Goldberg is Chairman of UBU Productions and a co-founder of the Children's Action Network. He has received numerous awards as a television and feature film producer, writer, and director and helped to establish the Paramount Studios Child Care Center in 1986.

Ann Wright is Director of Community Relations for KARK-TV Channel 4, the NBC affiliate in Little Rock, Arkansas. She was the project coordinator for "Arkansas' Timebomb: Teen Pregnancy," a public affairs campaign to educate teenagers about adolescent pregnancy. The campaign won a host of awards, including the George Foster Peabody Award.

Discussants

Amy Fradette, a senior at Hazen Union School in Hardwick, Vermont, was named 1992-93 Student of the Year by Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD). A member of the National Honor Society, she is President of the Student Council, a member of the Vermont Teen Leadership Safety Program, and the founder of an after-school program called "Teen Issues."

Margie Hale is Executive Director of the West Virginia Task Force on Children, Youth, and Families, which involves business leaders in efforts to assist poor and disadvantaged children and families in the state. She was formerly State Day Care Director for West Virginia and Director of West Virginia's White House Conference on Families.

Kay Coles James is Vice President for Policy at the Family Research Council and a member of the National Commission on Children. She was previously Associate Director of the Office of National Drug Policy, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and a member of the White House Task Force on the Black Family.

James A. Joseph is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Foundations. He formerly served as Under-Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior and is the author of *The Charitable Impulse*, a study of wealth and social conscience in communities and cultures outside the United States.

Robert Keeshan, creator and star of television's "Captain Kangaroo" for more than 30 years, is National Spokesperson for the Coalition for America's Children. He co-founded Corporate Child Care, Inc. to provide child care to the children of corporate employees nationwide. His autobiography, Growing Up Happy: Captain Kangaroo Tells Yesterday's Children How to Nurture Their Own, was published in 1989.

Pat Schroeder is the U.S. Representative of Colorado's 1st District, which includes most of Denver's metropolitan area. She chairs the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families and is a member of the Armed Services and Judiciary Committees. Congresswoman Schroeder is the author of Champion of the Great American Family.

Paul Simon is a singer, songwriter, and music producer whose Grammy-winning albums include "Graceland," the soundtrack to "The Graduate," and "Bridge Over Troubled Water." He has helped to establish and support the Children's Health Fund and the New York Children's Health Project.

Ruth A. Wooden is President of The Advertising Council, founded in 1942 to improve American society through mass communications. She is a trustee of CARE and of the National Elementary School Center.

David Zwiebel is Director of Government Affairs and General Counsel for Agudath Israel of America, the nation's largest grassroots Orthodox Jewish movement. He is a member of the National Commission on Children.

When America Invests in Success

Moderator

Judy Woodruff is Chief Washington Correspondent for "The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour." She also anchored PBS's award-winning "Frontline with Judy Woodruff" from 1984 to 1990, moderated the 1988 Vice-Presidential Debate, and is a co-chair of the International Women's Media Foundation.

Discussants

Larry Contreras is a 16-year-old living in Dallas, Texas. Two years ago he was in trouble with his parents and the law. With the help of the Lemmon Avenue Bridge, a youth development program, he and his family received counseling and Larry was able to turn his life around. He became involved with "The Male Connection," a program that encourages teenage males to teach their peers about responsible sexual behaviors, and received Planned Parenthood's "Teen Savvy" award in 1992.

Rubin Green is a 17-year-old from South Central Los Angeles. He lived in foster care for several years and currently lives in a homeless shelter. With the help of teachers in the Humanitas Program, an intensive academic program at his high school that emphasizes the arts and humanities, Rubin discovered a talent for video production. He produced a public service announcement dealing with AIDS that currently runs on a local television station and created an art installation focusing on issues that affect disadvantaged young people, "Metaphors for Growing Up in the Inner City."

Joe Huynh is a 19-year-old who grew up in Los Angeles. His family fled Vietnam in 1976 and he and his brother and sisters had to be placed in foster care when they reached the United States. With the help of his foster parents and United Friends of the Children, Joe was able to adjust to his new life. He was valedictorian of his high school class and is currently a sophomore at Stanford University. In 1995 he will graduate with a B.A. in psychology and an M.A. in sociology, after which he plans to serve in the Peace Corps.

Kimberly Neal is a 17-year-old from Boise, Idaho. She became pregnant at the age of 14 and had a son, Christian. With the help of her mother and the Booth Memorial Home, a school designed to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting teens, Kimberly was able to stay in school and graduated a year-and-a-half early with a 3.93 grade point average. She will enroll at Boise State University this summer.

Adebowale (Debo) Prest is a 22-year-old living in Wheaton, Maryland. In 1986 her family became homeless and lived in shelters for more than a year. Through her mother's perseverance and with the help of the Montgomery County Social Services Department and a local church, the family was able to locate permanent housing. Debo graduated in 1992 from the University of Maryland and has been accepted by the University's Medical School. She is deferring medical school for one year in order to work for Montgomery County Community Year, a voluntary youth service organization.

Maya Schneyer is a 17-year-old living in New York City. She was born in the Soviet Union, where her family encountered violent anti-Semitism. They came to the United States in the spring of 1990 and found a home in Brooklyn. In the fall of 1990, Maya was in an accident and lost her left arm. Maya was sustained through months of surgery and rehabilitation by her family, her community, and her school, the Bais Yaakov Academy. Today she is finishing her junior year of high school and hopes to become a physical therapist.

New Leadership -- New Momentum

Hillary Rodham Clinton is First Lady of the United States and Chair of the Health Care Task Force. As an attorney, former First Lady of Arkansas, and former Board Chair of the Children's Defense Fund, Mrs. Clinton has worked on a broad range of issues affecting children and families.

Christopher J. Dodd, U.S. Senator from Connecticut, is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Children, Families, Drugs, and Alcoholism of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

Donald M. Fraser is Mayor of Minneapolis and President of the National League of Cities. Prior to his election as Mayor in 1990, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 16 years.

Roy Romer is Governor of Colorado and Chairman of the National Governors' Association. He formerly served as the first Chairman of the National Education Goals Panel.

Reviving the Family Feud

The much celebrated National Commission on Children, headed by Sen. Jay Rockefeller, is about to sing its swan song without the lyrics that nearly two years ago won bipartisan praise.

The commission's National Summit on Children and Families, to be held in Washington April 1 and 2, plans to exclude what made conservatives buy into the Rockefeller group's 1991 report: a recommendation of tax credits for all children and an emphasis on the two-parent family. They go unmentioned in a Feb. 5 memorandum to commission members setting the conference agenda.

That fits President Clinton's abandonment of middle-class tax cuts and his downgrading of welfare reform now that he is in office. In particular, the new administration is not interested in hearing about an attractive but expensive tax relief program that Clinton has always been careful to keep at arm's length. Thus comes the end of the truce in the political war over children that was heralded when the Rockefeller commission report came out.

The commission was selected by the then-

Republican White House and the Democratic Congress. It balanced universal health services for children and pregnant women with what warmed conservative hearts: a \$1,000 tax credit for every child and a national policy that "children do best when they have the personal involvement and material support of a father and when both parents fulfill their responsibility to be loving providers."

"... at long last, old opponents are leaving their battle stations," rejoiced liberal columnist Ellen Goodman. But amid the jubilation there were a few clouds. Although the commission looked like a launching pad for Rockefeller as the Democratic presidential nominee, he did not choose to run. One commission member did: Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas. But he never attended a meeting of the commission, and was the only member who did not vote for the final report.

Furthermore, prolongation of the commission's life to hold the 1993 "summit" was intended as a prod by Democrats against what was thought to be a nearly certain second-term Bush administration. But in a Clinton administration

that is increasing instead of reducing taxes, rehashing the Rockefeller report could be an embarrassment. That required alterations for the April 1 and 2 summit.

The commission's Republican members—including former Bush officials Kay James and Nancy Risque Rohrbach—were not consulted about these alterations. They got the new agenda in Chairman Rockefeller's Feb. 5 memo.

"We have not attempted to be comprehensive in covering the commission's recommendations," he told the members. The interpretation: Topics that will be covered do not include what made headlines two years ago, the tax credit and the two-parent family.

Just to make sure the meeting is on track with Clinton policy, the opening address will be delivered by the administration's de facto chief of ideology, Marian Wright Edelman of the Children's Defense Fund. Described in Rockefeller's memo as the "preeminent children's advocate," she is a red flag to most conservatives.

A video on the changing American family produced by like-minded Gary David Goldberg

and the Children's Action Network will be shown. The token Republican on the program is Susan Carlson, the liberal wife of liberal Republican Minnesota Gov. Arne Carlson.

To confirm that the war over children is resuming, the confrontational Joycelyn Elders, Arkansas health commissioner and U.S. surgeon general-designee, has been picked to talk about reduction of teenage pregnancy. She is an ardent advocate of abortion rights and condom distribution.

Along with political correctness comes fluff. "Each discussion will be moderated by a celebrity journalist/moderator," Rockefeller informed his commissioners. Who would that be? Connie Chung, Katie Couric, Bill Moyers and David Gergen.

When they received Rockefeller's memo six weeks ago, Republican members of the commission contemplated protesting what they consider a betrayal. They thought better of it, hoping that the summit will go unnoticed, as both sides gird for action in the renewed war over children,

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THE WASHINGTON POST

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1993

It is wonderful to be here at this historic national summit on children and families. And it is inspiring to hear the stories of young people who are succeeding—with determination, personal responsibility, and help from those who care.

I wish that every child in America could tell such a story. But you and I know that they can't. Many children are thriving in our nation—but too many are not.

The statistics for our children and youth are grim. Educational attainment is

stagnant--at best. Mental illness and suicide are up. Violent crime and homicide--way up. And today, child poverty stands at levels last seen a generation ago.

For most of that generation, families with children have faced a relentless economic squeeze. The real wages of workers with young children--even educated workers --have fallen dramatically during the past twenty years.

These are the facts, and it's time we stopped ignoring them. We must show that we have not forgotten how to care. We need a new direction for our country. It's time to put our children first.

That's one big reason why our country needs the President's bold new economic program of growth and jobs. It's why we need the President's bold plan for investing in children and their families. With the help of the Congress, we're going to get that program -- and get it in record time.

But the problems our children face are not just economic. Too many American families are disintegrating, or never forming at all. We have the highest divorce rate in the Western world, and the highest rate of children born outside marriage. Today, 28 percent of our babies are born to unmarried parents. For African-Americans, it's more than 66 percent.

Does this matter? Here are some findings from a report out just this week: Of the children born to young unmarried mothers without high school diplomas, 79 percent are living in poverty. For children born to married high-school graduates, the figure is only 8 percent.

The message is clear: if you stay in school and get married before you have children, your kids are ten times less likely to be poor. A stable, intact family is the best anti-poverty program our country has ever devised. That is the message we should be sending our young people, in every way we can.

For too long, these issues were mired in partisan gridlock. Some talked only about the economic squeeze on families and cuts in government programs; others talked only about the disintegration of families and the decline of American culture. It is time--high time--to put an end to the politics of false choices. We must move beyond conservative cheerleading for family values, on the one hand, and on the other, the old biggovernment notion that there's a program for every social problem.

There is a third way, a commonsense path that offers more opportunity to every family and demands more responsibility from every individual. As the President has said so eloquently: Family values alone

cannot nourish a hungry child, and material security alone cannot provide a moral compass. We must have both.

That is the trail that the National Commission has blazed for our country. You have advanced an ambitious legislative agenda, which helped shape the President's budget proposals. You have crafted a new consensus on children and families that could put futile debates behind us. Most important, you have reminded us of basic principles essential values.

o First: Every American child should have the opportunity to develop to his or her full potential.

o Second: Grimment
doesn't raise children, parents
do. Gover at can reinforce
the vit ark of parents, but
it consubstitute for them.
The mily is—and must remain—
ety's primary institution
or bringing children into the
world and for supporting their
growth throughout childhood.

o Third: Children do best when they have the personal involvement and material support of a father and a mother and when both parents fulfill their responsibility to be loving providers.

These are the principles and values that guide us all. Now let me tell you what the President is doing to turn them into reality.

To begin with, he is rewarding work and family. Today, millions of Americans work full-time but don't make enough to lift their families out of poverty. That's wrong. No one who works full-time and has children at home should be poor in America. And that's why the President has proposed a dramatic increase in the Earned Income Tax Credit.

At the same time, Bill
Clinton is moving aggressively
to relax the tension between
work and family. He's proud
that the first piece of
legislation he signed was the
Family and Medical Leave Act,
twice veoted by George Bush.
And the administration is
actively exploring other ways of
making America's workplaces-including the federal

government--much more family friendly.

Second, he is protecting the health of children and families, by fully funding the WIC program, by investing in childhood immunization, and by committing his administration to fundamental reform of our nation's health care system.

As you all know, we're working night and day to ensure that every American has access to quality health care at affordable prices. Next month, we're going to propose a comprehensive new health care plan. And during this Congress we're going to fulfill the dream of every Democratic president since Harry Truman and make health insurance a reality for all.

Third, the President is promoting the development of young children with the biggest expansion of Head Start ever. But the administration is not just going to make Head Start bigger; we're going to make it better. We're going to improve quality, increase flexibility, and better link the program to other child development efforts.

Fourth, the President is proposing fundamental change in public education. As governor, Bill Clinton helped draft the national education goals and bring them to the center of public debate. As president, he'll bring those goals to the center of education reform.

Bill Clinton is going to put an end to business as usual in American education. That

means new initiatives with real incentives to states for systemic reform. It means a total reexamination of existing programs--such as Chapter 1--to ensure that every child has a fair chance to acquire highlevel skills and make it in the economy of the 21st century. It means unprecedented emphasis on systematic, high-quality schoolto-work programs. It means an expanded safe schools initiative because fearful kids can't possibly learn well. And yes, it means more choice for parents and students within our public school system.

Fifth, the President will deliver fundamental reform of our welfare system. He helped draft the Family Support Act of 1988, and he made it work in Arkansas. Now he has asked us

to develop a plan to end welfare as we now know it. People don't want permanent dependency, they want the dignity of work, and we should give everyone the chance to have that kind of dignity. It's just common sense: more opportunity in exchange for more responsibility.

The President's responsibility agenda doesn't end there. He's going to get tough on child support enforcement, with a nationwide crackdown on deadbeat parents. That means establishing paternity right at the start, in the hospital; setting up a national registry; and using the IRS to collect seriously delinquent child support payments.

The principle is simple: if you are biologically responsible for a child, then you are morally and financially responsible as well. And that's why we have to get the message to our youth in schools, in the media, in every way we can: it's just plain wrong for children to have children, because you are assuming a responsibility that you aren't ready to fulfill.

The President wants to put government squarely on the side of keeping families together whenever possible. He wants us to do more for families at risk, especially at risk of foster care placement. He knows that constant shifting from one short-term foster home placement to another is an emotional disaster for kids; that in all but the most extreme cases, it's

better for kids to be with their parents.

That why, last month he directed us to draft a new child welfare initiative combining family support and family preservation services--building on the work of Senator Rockefeller and Congressman Matsui and Congresswoman Schroeder and others. And believe me, we're going to deliver that initiative--to him and to the country.

I applaud the Commission for recognizing that families don't operate in a vacuum, but in neighborhoods, in communities, and in a climate of culture and values. We must do whatever we can to assist parents in educating their kids and teaching them right from wrong.

As every parent knows, in modern America that effort begins with the media. Three years ago, the Congress passed the Children's Television Act. And for three years, the Bush administration ignored it. The same kinds of folks who informed us that ketchup is a vegetable were happy to label GI Joe as an educational television program.

Well, George Bush's FCC wouldn't enforce the bill--but Bill Clinton's FCC will. By law, broadcasters who want to keep on operating must demonstrate their commitment to the educational needs of children. We're going to hold them to that. And while they're at it, it wouldn't hurt if they cut out the gratuitous sex and violence either.

I've talked about what the President has done and what he wants to do. We've begun to shift course. But this is just the beginning. We must have the courage to change--to recognize mistakes, to abandon what doesn't work, to challenge ourselves to do better.

I know that many of you in this room are tired after the last twelve years. Without you, many of the programs that serve children and families would have been gutted. They weren't, and you've earned a rest.

But we're asking you to go another round. The President can't pass or fund his initiatives alone. He can't break the gridlock alone. He still needs your help, and so do America's children.

For the first time in a long time, your efforts will be supported--not rebuffed--by the executive branch of this government. The details remain to be worked out. But for sure, there will be an ongoing, highlevel focus on children and families, cutting across agency, departmental, and programmatic lines, coordinated by the White House, responsible not to any single constituency but to the national interest and directly to the President of the United States.

Concern for our children must start at the top--but it can't end there. We must empower parents, neighborhoods, communities and voluntary organizations across this great nation to do what our children need. The President can take

the lead--but only you can complete the task.

At last, a new day is dawning for America's children and their families. We will work together with you. We won't always succeed, and we won't always be able to do everything that you--and we--would want.

But I can promise you this:
we will never relent in our
effort to give every child a
chance to develop--fully.
Because at the end of Bill
Clinton's second term, at the
dawn of the third millenium, I
want to be able to say, with a
clear conscience and a full
heart: We did our best.

Thank you very much.



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

March 26, 1993

MENORANDUM

TO:

Julie Hopper

FROM:

Kathy Morrell 1

RE:

National Summit on Children and Families

Attached is a drawing of the room set up for the April 1-2 National Summit on Children and Families. The Summit will be held in the Cotillion Ballroom of the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Mrs. Clinton is scheduled to speak at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 2.

Please note the positioning of the press risers toward the back of the room. The risers are between 53 and 55 feet from the stage.

Attached also for your reference is a copy of the program agenda.

Please call me as you need additional information.

sent via fax: 202-456-2317



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

March 26, 1993

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Julie Hopper

FROM:

Kathy Morrell F

RE:

National Summit on Children and Families

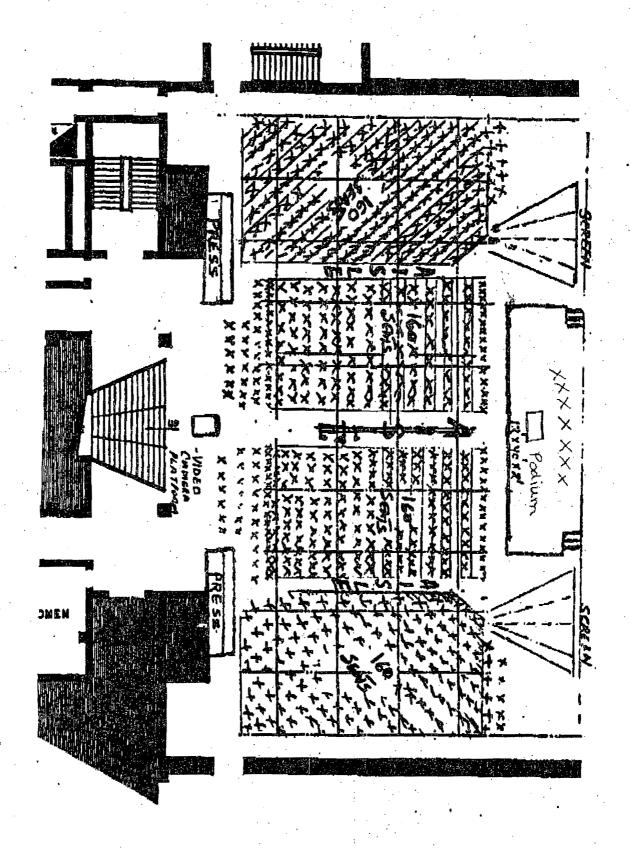
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COTILLION BALLROOM



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

SUMMIT PROGRAM

March 31

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Registration and check-in at the Sheraton Washington Hotel

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

"...AND ONE TO GROW ON,"

A presentation of photographs and reception at the National Museum of American Art, 8th and G Streets, NW

April 1

8:00 a.m.

Registration and continental breakfast

9:00 a.m.

COMING TOGETHER FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Invocation - The Very Reverend Nathan Baxter, Dean, Washington National Cathedral

Welcome - Hon. John D. Rockefeller IV, U. S. Senator and Chairman, National Commission on Children

Through Children's Eyes: The Changing American Family

A video essay produced by Gary David Goldberg, Chairman, UBU Productions, and Co-Founder, Children's Action Network; written and directed by Robin Young, VU Productions

America's Children and Families: The Challenge Ahead

Marian Wright Edelman, President and Founder, Children's Defense Fund

10:30 a.m.

PRIORITIES AND APPROACHES FOR THE 1990s: A SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NATION'S LEADERS

The Child and Family Agenda: An Investment Strategy Hon. John D. Rockefeller IV

Discussants

Hon. Christopher Bond David A. Hamburg, M.D.

Gerald W. McEntee Irwin Redlener, M.D.

C. Everett Koop, M.D.

Audrey Rowe

Ralph S. Larsen

Hon. Donna E. Shalala

Bernice Weissbourd

1:15 p.m.

Luncheon in the Atrium

2:30 p.m.

Session III: Educating America -- Improving Schooling and the Transition to Work

Moderator: David Gergen, Editor-at-Large, U.S. News & World Report

- Statewide school restructuring in Kentucky David W. Hornbeck, Senior Advisor, National Center on Education and the Economy and The Business Roundtable
- Improving school achievement and job skills in California -Judy B. Codding, Principal, Pasadena High School
- Youth serving their community in Boston Alan Khazei, Executive Co-Director, and Stephen Spaloss, Team Leader and Alumnus, City Year

Discussants

Natalie S. Allen

Joseph T. Gorman

Betty Castor

Pat Henry

Matilda R. Cuomo

Thomas W. Langfitt, M.D.

Keith Geiger

Hon. Richard W. Riley

Hon. Bill Goodling

Albert Shanker

Traci Tsuchiguchi

3:45 p.m.

Session IV: Creating a Culture of Responsibility for Children, Youth and Families

Moderator: Jane Pauley, Co-anchor, DATELINE NBC, NBC News

- Launching a community campaign to reduce teenage pregnancy in Arkansas - Ann Wright, Director of Community Relations, KARK-TV, Little Rock
- Building an effective statewide coalition in Minnesota -Susan Carlson, First Lady of Minnesota and Co-Chair, Action for Children Commission
- Mobilizing the entertainment community as advocates -Gary David Goldberg, Chairman, UBU Productions, and Co-Founder, Children's Action Network

Discussants

Amy Fradette

Bob Keeshan

Margie Hale

Hon. Patricia Schroeder

Hon. Kay C. James

Paul Simon

James A. Joseph

Ruth A. Wooden

David Zwiebel

5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

April 2

8:00 a.m.

Continental breakfast

9:00 a.m.

WHEN AMERICA INVESTS IN SUCCESS

A discussion with young Americans who have succeeded with support from their families, their schools, and their communities

Moderator: Judy Woodruff, Chief Washington Correspondent, MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour

Larry Contreras

Rubin Green

Dallas, TX

Los Angeles, CA

Joe Huynh

Kimberly Neal

Palo Alto, CA

Boise, ID

Adebowale Prest

Maya Shneyer

Wheaton, MD

Brooklyn, NY

10:45 a.m. Session I: Rebuilding Caring Communities for America's Children, Youth and Families

Moderator: Jacqueline Adams, Correspondent, CBS News

- Community-based revitalization in Atlanta William Foege, M.D., Executive Director, Task Force for Child Survival and Development, The Carter Center of Emory University
- Reaching out to youth in New York City Geoffrey Canada,
 President and CEO, Rheedlen Centers for Children and
 Families, and Nikki Matos, President, Teen Youth Council
- Community policing in Portland, Oregon Tom Potter, Chief of Police

Discussants

Angela Glover Blackwell
Hon. Henry G. Cisneros
Hon. Raymond L. Flynn
David S. Liederman
Hon. Kweisi Mfume
Douglas W. Nelson
Barbara Sheen Todd
Warren W. Valdry

Hon. George V. Voinovich

12:00 p.m. Session II: Great Beginnings -- Supporting Young Children and Their Families

Moderator: Rebecca Chase Williams, Correspondent, ABC News

- Providing comprehensive services to young children and their families in Albuquerque, New Mexico - Maria D. Chavez, Founder, Family Development Program, and Director of Community Planning and Staff Development, New Mexico Department of Children, Youth, and Families
- Giving children and their parents a head start in Kansas City, Missouri - Dwayne A. Crompton, Executive Director, KCMC Child Development Corporation
- Reaching out to families at risk in Hawaii Gail Breakey, Director, Hawaii Family Stress Center

10:00 a.m.

NEW LEADERSHIP -- NEW MOMENTUM

The White House

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Coral Rasco

10:30 a.m.

The Congress

Hon. Christopher J. Dodd, Chairman, Subcommittee on Children, Family, Drugs and Alcoholism, United States Senate

11:15 a.m.

The Governors

Hon. Roy Romer, Governor of Colorado, and Chairman, National Governors' Association

11:45 a.m.

The Mayors

Hon. Donald M. Fraser, Mayor of Minneapolis, and President, National League of Cities

12:15 p.m.

Closing Remarks - Hon. John D. Rockefeller IV

12:25 p.m.

Benediction - Rabbi David Saperstein, Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

12:30 p.m.

Adjournment

THE WHITE HOUSE

3/30

I was as kep to pass along all the information likewe all the information likewe on the Childrens Summit.

Attaches is what I we collected to sate of Please let me know I need Admittone I information.

I'll be happy to sig it up.



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

March 26, 1993

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Patty Solis

FROM:

Kathy Morrell

RE:

Agenda for the National Summit on Children and Families

Attached is a copy of the program agenda for the April 1-2 National Summit on Children and Families. Mrs. Clinton is scheduled to speak at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 2. She will be introduced by Senator Rockefeller.

The meeting is being held in the Cotillion Ballroom at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

For your reference and additional background, the Commission's Executive Director, Cheri Hayes, has sent a memo to Melanne Verveer today providing additional background notes.

Please call me if you need any additional information.

Sent via fax no.: 202-456-2317

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Adjournment



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES April 1-2, 1993

March 26, 1993

MEMORANDUM

To:

Melanne Verveer

From:

Cheri Hayes Week

Subject:

Message for the National Summit on Children and Families

As promised last week, enclosed are my "Thoughts on Message" that will be the basis for Senator Rockefeller's remarks at the upcoming National Summit on Children and Families. As you begin to craft Mrs. Clinton's speech, I hope they are helpful.

A couple of additional thoughts for you to mull over:

- Because of the timing of the President's budget, there are likely to be comparisons to the Commission's recommendations for new federal expenditures as set forth in Beyond Rhetoric (see the attached table). Given the President's early success on the Hill in gaining support for the basic parameters of his deficit reduction and economic reform package, you may want to highlight some of the areas where the Administration's requests (e.g., Earned Income Credit, Head Start, WIC, immunizations and other health services for underserved populations, Job Corps, family preservation) are similar to the Commission's recommendations. Given the Commission's diversity and bipartisanship, it could be an effective way of publicly signaling the political feasibility of getting these requests through. We have already had several journalists ask questions that suggest their interest in picking up on this angle.
- We have also had a number of inquiries from interest groups and journalists about what will happen when the Commission sunsets. Is the President planning to establish any new high-level entity to coordinate federal policy across departments and agencies, to set priorities, and to appraise programs serving children and families? The Commission recommended the establishment of such an entity and highlighted alternative organizational models (e.g., the Office of National Drug Control Policy or the Economic Policy Council); similar proposals have surfaced from think tanks and advocacy groups. Given the simultaneous sunset of the House Select Committee, there is interest (concern?) about whether there will be any strong focal point for child and family policy in the federal

government, and interest in whether the President has any plans to fill the void. It may be too early for you to know, but if there are any plans in the offing, the Summit would be a great setting to float the idea.

I would like to have another conversation with you Monday or Tuesday about the sepcifics for the reception and Mrs. Clinton's speech so that I can prepare all of the Senator's briefing materials, introductions, etc. In the meantime, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, don't hesitate to give me a call.

National Summit on Children and Families

SOME THOUGHTS ON MESSAGE

The National Summit on Children and Families will mark the end of the bipartisan National Commission on Children's four-year tenure. It will also bring together leaders from many domains and many parts of the country to help launch a new phase of activism on behalf of America's children and families.

Since 1989, the Commission on Children has served as a "forum on behalf of the children of the Nation". Its members were appointed in equal numbers by Presidents Reagan and Bush, and by the Democratic leaders of the Congress. They come from many walks of life and represent an array of viewpoints, professional affiliations, and political perspectives.

In June 1991, the Commission issued its landmark report Beyond Rhetoric: A New American Agenda for Children and Families. In it, the Commission presented the bold blueprint for a comprehensive national policy for children and families and outlined steps for public and private sector action.

The Commission urged all Americans to take decisive steps to ensure families' income security, improve children's health and educational achievement, strengthen and support families raising children, protect vulnerable youth, and create a culture of individual and collective responsibility for the well-being of the nation's youngest citizens. Despite their diversity, the members of the National Commission on Children unanimously endorsed these recommendations in every area except one -- health care.

As the Commission concludes its work, it is important to bring together America's leaders for a thoughtful exchange of ideas on the challenges facing the nation, pressing priorities and workable approaches for action, and the promise of new leadership in the White House, the Congress, and in states and communities across the country.

As the first national forum on children and families in many years, the Summit will help revive a spirit of shared commitment to address the needs of this and future generations of young Americans and to move the children's agenda forward in Washington and in communities nationwide.

Participants will include senior officials in the new Clinton administration, the Congress, state and local policymakers, business and labor leaders, philanthropists, religious leaders, children's advocates, educators, journalists, parents and youth leaders, and community volunteers.

The problems afflicting the nation's children and families are well-documented. The purpose of the Summit is not just to rehash what is wrong but instead to build support for promising approaches to set things right.

We know that as a powerful nation and a caring society, we are not protecting our most valuable and vulnerable resources -- our people. Our failure on behalf of poor and minority children and their families is especially profound.

Better futures for more American young people requires a greater commitment to public and private sector policies and programs that enhance economic opportunity, productivity, and self-sufficiency for the growing number of young families with children. It also requires that all Americans assume and expect a greater sense of personal responsibility for the care and rearing of children—their own and those in their community.

But these commitments -- fundamental as they are -- are not all that is needed. America needs to change. Meeting the challenge is not just a liberal or conservative, Republican or Democratic agenda, as the National Commission on Children clearly demonstrated. It is America's agenda.

This is a time of great hope. New leadership in the White House and the Congress has sparked renewed confidence that this nation can now take positive steps to address the critical needs of our children and families -- to remedy the conditions of their lives and to offer them and society a secure and prosperous future.

It is time to turn what has become a deepening skepticism about the efficacy of public and private sector efforts to provide health care; improve school failure; combat violence, drug abuse, delinquency, and poverty; and reverse the tide of broken homes and forgotten children, into a positive pledge to do things differently.

What America needs is not just more funding for more programs -- although there are clearly areas where greater public and private sector investments would help. We also desperately need to restructure our policies and programs and reform our systems of service delivery so that we do better, not just more of the same.

A more effective and sensible approach to addressing the needs of America's children and families should be based on several fundamental premises:

- 1) Families are the most essential and enduring social unit in our society, and almost all children grow up in families. Therefore, the best way to help a child is to help that child's family.
- 2) All children have basic needs -- for love, guidance and support; for food, clothing, and shelter; for health care and education; for hope and opportunities

that give meaning to life. We can't scrimp on any of them. Therefore, we need to meet the needs of the whole child from before birth through adolescence.

- 3) Most of our expenditures for child welfare, health, and juvenile justice are expensive reactions to problems and hardships that already exist. Smarter policy would move us to invest in programs and approaches that strengthen families, enhance healthy child development, and prevent problems before they are too mammmoth to ignore.
- 4) Meeting the needs of America's children and families is not just a job for the federal government. It will require shared responsibility and shared participation by leaders and organizations in all domains. It will require leadership, sustained support, and a commitment of time and attention by individuals who are raising children and those who are not. Education, health, employment, child welfare, and juvenile justice agencies must work together. Moreover, business, labor, and community leaders, as well as parents themselves, must also be active participants in decisionmaking and implementation.

Doing better also means redefining success. Public officials, professionals, institutions at the community level, as well as parents themselves must be accountable for progress on specific, meaningful, and clearly definable outcomes.

We can no longer be satisfied to measure progress only by the size of the budget, the number of clients served, or the quantity of services that are delivered. We must also be concerned with whether or not our policies, programs, and approaches make life better for the children and families they are intended to help.

Similarly, strict compliance with bureaucratic and administrative procedures can no longer be the sole criteria of program effectiveness if government and the private sector are to nurture innovative, responsive community-based initiatives to promote child and family development. Developing comprehensive, coordinated, cost-effective approaches requires flexible funding and non-categorical services.

Americans are tired of paying for public efforts that have failed to achieve the improvements they promised. They are increasingly critical of policies and programs that appear to be reactive and ineffective and of health, education, and human service systems that are rigid, unresponsive, and inhumane.

We can no longer afford to allow turf, tradition, institutional rigidity, and narrow self-interested advocacy to stifle innovation. The unfortunate and unacceptable consequences of failing to change the way we do business will be the continuation of ineffective and inefficient responses to the needs of our children and families. It will also be a deepening public distrust of our ability to solve the nation's most serious social problems.

The risks of this kind of fundamental change are great — so are the benefits. While some will urge caution in efforts to initiate reform, what really is needed is greater boldness. If there was any message in last November's election returns, it was that most Americans are eager for change. They believe that it is time to put our domestic house in order, and that the task calls for courageous new leadership. It requires leaders at all levels, in all parts of society, to subordinate their own traditional authority, interests, and procedures to new processes of decisionmaking, new directions for policy and program development, new approaches to service delivery, and new standards of success.

These conceptual and organizational features characterize a growing number of outstanding state and local initiatives to address the most basic needs of America's children and families and to revitalize the communities in which they live. The members of the National Commission on Children believe they should be characteristics of all our policies and programs and the way we provide services everywhere.

During the next several hours we will take part in a series of discussions with national leaders that will focus on pressing national priorities for action, highlight promising and workable approaches, and give us an opportunity to explore the opportunities and obstacles to change.

Tomorrow, we will hear directly from a spectacular group of young people who have overcome adversity with help from their families, their schools, and their communities. And we will hear directly from several of the nation's elected leaders about their plans and goals for moving the children's agenda forward.

Addressing the critical needs of America's children and families presents an immense challenge. The National Commission on Children presented a vision of our society as we believe it should be and mapped a course for achieving it. We have done our job. I believe, we have done it very well. In the next few weeks the Commission will close its doors. From here on it is up to the leaders who are assembled here today — the new administration, the Congress, the governors and mayors, business and labor leaders, philanthropists and religious leaders, professionals who serve children and families in their communities, community volunteers, and parents and children themselves.

The National Commission on Children presented the nation and its leaders a vision of a nation that puts its children first and makes the development of competent, caring and responsible young people its highest priority; a nation where every child has an equal opportunity to reach his or her full potential, limited only by his or her own talents and aspirations; a nation where families are strong and stable and where being a parent is a valued calling; a nation where communities come together to create safe, secure settings for all their people, especially their youngest members.

Achieving this vision will require the support and active involvement of individuals and organization nationwide, in government at all levels and in the private sector. Failure to develop a common focus and purpose, failure to act

today will only defer to the next generation the rising social, moral, and financial costs of our neglect. It is a price America can ill-afford.

TABLE 2 Estimate of New Federal Costs, Fiscal Year 1993

	and the second s
PROPOSED	(\$ Billions)
INCOME SECURITY	,
\$1,000 refundable child tax credit	\$40,300
Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	0.000
Child support insurance demonstration	0.104(a)
Transitional supports and services	0.000
• • •	0.000
Public employment opportunities Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)	0.000
Subtotal	40.404
HEALTH	
Public-private health insurance plan	7.696
National Health Service Corps	0.083
Community and Migrant Health Centers	0.213
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCH)	0.100
Special Supplemental Food Program	
for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	1.040
Subtotal	9.132(b)
EDUCATION	.,
,	'A 033 4 634
Head Start	0.832 - 4.024
School restructuring	0.478
School choice	0.239
Support for high-risk students	0.154
Subtotal	1.703 - 4.895
TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD	
Community-based adolescent development	
demonstrations	0.016
Adolescent Family Life Program	0.034
Job Corps	0.166
Community service	0.000
Subtotal	0.216
FAMILY SUPPORT	
Workplace policies	0.000
Child care	0.245
Family support centers	0.000 - 0.640
Subtoral	0.245 - 0.885
CHILD WELFARE REFORM	
Tide IV-B (family preservation)	0.000 - 0.430
Subtotal	0.000 - 0.430
COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION	
Coordinated health and social services delivery	
demonstrations	0.031
Subtotal	0.031
CHILDREN'S MORAL DEVELOPMENT	
National Endowment for Children's Educational	
Television	0.004
Subtotal	0.004
TOTAL	\$1,735 - 55,997

- (a) Rough estimate of costs, assuming FY 1993 is the second year in a five-year demonstration.
- (b) A minority of commissioners do not endorse the recommendations contained within the majority health chapter and therefore do not endorse the \$9.1 billion of expenditures: Allan Carlson, Therese Esposito, Adele Hall, Wade Horn, Kay James, A. Louise Oliver, Gerald (Jerry) Regier, Nancy Risque Rohrbach, Josephine Velazquez.

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National Commission on Children

November 23, 1992

Hon Jan D. Reckefeder IV

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Cherry D. Haves

Dear Hillary,

As chairman of the bipartisan National Commission on Children, I am writing to ask you to join me as co-chair of the National Summit on Children and Families. We plan to convene the summit on April 1-2, 1992 in Washington, DC to showcase the plans and initiatives of many public and private sector leaders who are working to put children and families at the top of the nation's agenda. It will also mark the end of the Commission's four-year tenure. Because of your longstanding leadership and involvement with these issues and because Governor Clinton has been a member of the Commission since its establishment, your willingness to serve as co-chair would mean a great deal. It would send a powerful message to America's parents and children and to those who touch their lives most closely that this nation is once again serious about making life better for its youngest citizens.

We see the summit as a "drumbeat event". Our intention is to refocus national attention on the needs of America's children and families and revive a spirit of shared commitment by all parts of society: government at all levels, private sector employers and professionals, the voluntary community, parents and children themselves. As the first major national forum on these issues in many years, the summit will spotlight and help link the action plans of many disparate public and private sector groups. With the Governor's victory earlier this month, it has also become a special opportunity to celebrate new leadership in the White House and a new era of cooperation between the President, the Congress, and the many organizations outside the federal government that are dedicated to improving children's lives and prospects.

Coming in the first 100 days after the inauguration, the summit also provides a neutral, bipartisan forum for the new administration to join hands with children's advocates, professionals who serve children, and others who work on these issues. As you know, most of these individuals and groups have received little attention or recognition from national leaders over the past decade. Therefore, the summit presents an important opportunity to make these individuals and groups once again feel connected and to see themselves as valuable allies rather than adversaries. It is a vehicle for marshalling their support and constructively channelling their energy to help the new President and those of us who will work with him in Congress.

In addition, our strong view is that the summit should not just be about children and families, it should involve them. Therefore, we hope this event will provide an opportunity for the President and other national leaders to reach out to parents and young people, to communicate directly with them about the future policy agenda, to give them a voice and make them a significant force in the policymaking process.

Plans for the summit are still at a very formative stage. We are tentatively thinking about a day-and-a-half long event for approximately 500 to 1,000 children's "leaders" from many domains. It would have several major components:

- an opening that sets the tone and combines a sense of urgency about the problems facing children with a sense of hope, opportunity, and new forward movement to address them;
- a platform, an eager, friendly audience, and extensive media for the President to publicly announce his plans and priorities related to children and families;
- an opportunity for the leaders in Congress to publicly present their legislative goals and to link them to the President's plans and priorities;
- several sessions that will enable key groups or coalitions of groups outside the federal government to showcase their plans and initiatives in a visible and prestigious forum and demonstrate their readiness to help the President get his children's agenda moving;
- a televised town meeting (as an element of the summit agenda or as an adjunct activity) that will enable children (and perhaps their parents) to engage national leaders directly on issues that are of great concern to them and will give national leaders an opportunity to take their message directly to real people.

Our conversations over the past couple of months with children's advocates and others suggest that there is enormous enthusiasm for the summit. A brief prospectus describing our preliminary thinking about the themes and structure for the event is enclosed. Also enclosed is a brief summary of several other possible activities that might be undertaken in conjunction with the summit, including a children's gala, a televised town meeting, a photo exhibition, and a series of community-based summits on children and families. Let me emphasize that none of these ideas is set in concrete, and we welcome your help in shaping the events and bringing them to life.

As you probably know, the National Commission on Children is a joint creation of Congress and the President. Its 34 members were appointed in equal numbers by the President, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House. They come from many walks of life and represent an array of viewpoints, professional

affiliations, and political perspectives. Yet in June 1991, they unanimously approved a bold blueprint for a comprehensive national policy for America's children and families.

Against this hackdrop, your participation as a co-chair of the summit would make a strong statement about the future partnership between Congress and the White House on children's issues. It would signal a serious commitment to action. And it would help launch a new phase of creative activism on behalf of the nation's children and families.

I realize how many decisions you will be pressed to make in the next few weeks and how difficult it is right now to schedule events as far off as next April. Yet for obvious reasons planning for the summit must proceed. My hope is that you will agree to serve as co-chair, and then over the coming several weeks we can work with you and your staff as well as the transition staff on more specific issues. Please know that we will be comfortable with whatever level of involvement you would like to have in planning and organizing this event.

Hillary, I want you to know how much your participation in the summit would mean to me, other commissioners, and to the individuals and organizations, inside and outside of government, who work on behalf of children and families. The National Commission on Children has significantly changed the terms of the debate over children's issues, and it has provided a very special experience for all who have been a part of its activities over the past three and a half years. I am quite confident that we have the talent, resources, and commitment to produce a national summit that will be an important focal point in the early days of the new administration and that will make a real difference in the course of children's policy over the coming several years.

I will be in touch with you by phone in the next week to follow up. In the meantime, I hope you will give this invitation serious consideration.

With all best personal regards,

Sincerely,

John D. Rockefeller IV Chairman

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton 105 West Capitol Street Suite 400 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

PROSPECTUS:

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

On April 1-2, 1993, the National Commission on Children plans to convene a National Summit on Children and Families. This event, which will be held in Washington, DC, will bring together children's "leaders" from many domains to showcase the plans and initiatives of individuals and organizations, within and outside of government, that will continue to work to put children and families at the top of the nation's agenda and to mark the end of the Commission's tenure.

The National Summit on Children and Families will be a "drumbeat event" to refocus national attention on the needs of America's children and families and to revive a spirit of shared commitment by all parts of society to meet them. With Governor Clinton's victory in the November Presidential election, the summit has also become a special opportunity to launch and celebrate a new era of cooperation between the President, the Congress and the many organizations outside the federal government that are dedicated to improving children's lives and future prospects.

As the first national forum on these issues since the White House Conference on Children in 1970 and the regional White House Conferences on Families in 1980, the summit will highlight and help link the efforts of many disparate public and private sector groups. The previous White House conferences were intended to get delegates to agree on prescribed statements of policy and program goals. In contrast, the National Summit will focus public attention on the action plans of governmental and non-governmental groups who play a role in shaping public and private sector policies and programs, against the backdrop of the National Commission on Children's broad framework for a comprehensive national policy for children and families. It will also involve parents and children, enabling national leaders to communicate directly with them about the salient issues and the future policy agenda.

Background on the National Commission on Children

The bipartisan National Commission on Children is a joint creation of Congress and the President. It was established under the provisions of P.L. 100-203 to serve "as a forum on behalf of the children of the Nation." The Commission's 34 members were appointed in equal numbers by the President, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House. They include a diverse group of elected and appointed officials, experts in child health and development, representatives of key advocacy and professional organizations, corporate and labor leaders, philanthropists, and community volunteers.

In June 1991, after two and a half years of intensive investigation and deliberation, the Commission unanimously approved the bold blueprint for a national policy for children and families. It presented its recommendations to the President, the Congress, and the American people in a report entitled, Beyond Rhetoric: A New American Agenda for Children and Families. To ensure that children have an

opportunity to become healthy, literate, and productive adults, the Commission urged the nation's public and private sector leaders to take decisive steps to ensure families' income security, improve children's health and educational achievement, strengthen and support families, protect vulnerable children, and create a culture of individual and collective responsibility for the well-being of the America's youngest citizens. In every area but one, the commissioners reached consensus. Nine of the 34 commissioners disagreed with the majority recommendations for addressing the health needs of pregnant women and children.

Since the release of its final report, the Commission has been involved in an ambitious series of dissemination and public education activities aimed at 1) heightening awareness of issues affecting the health and well-being of America's children and families, 2) identifying steps toward the implementation of its proposals for policy and program development, and 3) building the necessary base of support to get the job done.

The National Commission on Children will conclude its work in the spring of 1993. The National Summit on Children and Families is planned as the culminating event.

Purpose of the Summit

The National Summit on Children and Families will be a major national forum that brings together leaders from many walks of life to focus public attention on issues affecting the health and well-being of children and families and to launch a new phase of creative activism to solve them. The summit has several purposes:

- Revive a sense of urgency and a shared commitment. Over the past decade, the plight of many of America's children and families has become more imperiled. The National Commission on Children called on all parts of society to take leadership and work together to improve children's lives and give them a brighter future. The summit provides an opportunity to take stock of the status of the nation's children and families and mobilize public leaders, professionals, and private citizens to support mutual efforts to make things better.
- <u>Highlight new federal leadership on children's issues.</u> The election of Governor Clinton will usher in a new period of national leadership on children's issues and a productive partnership between the White House, the Congress, and groups outside the federal government. The summit provides a platform for the new President and the leaders in Congress to announce their plans and priorities and to marshall broad support for moving their agendas forward.
- Demonstrate widespread concern and involvement across all sectors of society.

 At the national, state and local level, among public officials, advocates, professional groups, and the philanthropic community, activities are being planned or are already underway to translate awareness of the needs of children and families into meaningful, sustained solutions. The summit provides an

opportunity to showcase these efforts and highlight a sense of common purpose and direction among disparate public and private sector groups.

- Bring the outsiders in. For more than a decade children's advocates, professionals who serve children and families, and others who work on these issues have received little attention or recognition from our national leaders. Yet they are important players in the policymaking process at all levels. The summit represents an important opportunity to bring them on board and constructively channel their energy to help the new President and the leaders in Congress advance their children's agendas.
- Engage children and families directly in a dialogue with national leaders. The national summit will not just be about children and families, it will involve them directly. This event provides an arena for the President and other national leaders to reach out to parents and young people, to communicate directly with them about the future policy agenda, to give them a voice and make them a significant force in the policymaking process.

If there is a single message we would like to come out of the summit, it would be that America is committed to addressing the needs of its children and families, and all parts of society are working together to make it happen.

Summit Participants

The summit will bring together "leaders" from many parts of society who will continue to play a role in shaping public and private sector policies and programs for children and families:

- the President and senior officials in the new administration
- Congressional leaders and members of their staffs
- Governors, state legislators, and other key state-level officials (e.g., health and human services executives)
- Mayors, city council members, and community leaders
- Child advocates and representatives of relevant professional religious, and civic organizations
- Foundation executives and other representatives of the philanthropic community
- Labor leaders
- Corporate leaders

- Representatives of the entertainment and communications industries
- Parents and children

Form and Content for the Summit

The summit should have a serious, substantive focus on the critical issues facing the nation's children and families, directions for future policy and program development, and the action agendas of the new Clinton administration, the Congress, and other public and private sector groups outside the federal government. In order to successfully spark the national imagination and mobilize a broad-based children's campaign the event should be structured and orchestrated to take full advantage of its intrinsic media value. It should combine compelling presentations in plenary and break-out sessions with powerful visual images and exchanges among summit participants that will capture the attention and interest of a broad audience. To achieve this the Commission will seek advice and assistance from a skilled and experienced events producer.

Regardless of how the agenda for the summit is structured, however, it will incorporate four major components:

- A strong beginning that sets the context and tone. The summit should open with a general session that conveys a sense of urgency about the problems facing the nation's children and families and a sense of hope, opportunity, and forward movement for solving them. The focus should be on the challenge ahead, not just rehashing how bad things are. The Commission presented the nation a bold framework for action and a sense of direction for addressing income security, health, education, and family support needs, while leaving plenty of room for others to hammer out the specifics of national policy and programs as well as community responses. Therefore, the message from the opening session should be: We know what the problems are, and we know what to do about them. We are entering a new era when there will be real national leadership on domestic social policy. It is time for all parts of society to come together, face up to the challenge, and get going. The subtext is that the National Commission on Children has fulfilled its mandate by providing a long-term strategic plan, and now we applaud the efforts of others who will carry on and make it happen.
- A plenary session that provides the President a platform for announcing his plans and priorities. Coming in the first 100 days after the inauguration, the summit presents a significant opportunity for the President to demonstrate his commitment to address children's issues, launch his agenda, and publicly join hands with all or many of the relevant governmental and nongovernmental groups that will continue to play a role in shaping children's policies and programs. Because the Commission is a neutral, bipartisan body, the summit will offer an authoritative platform, an eager friendly audience, and extensive media coverage for a major policy address.

- A plenary session that provides Congressional leaders an opportunity to publicly announce their legislative goals. The summit can also provide leaders in Congress an opportunity to present their legislative goals and plans and to link them to the President's children's agenda. Bringing the President and key congressional leaders together on the same platform (presumably at different times) would make a powerful statement about putting an end to partisan gridlock and forging a new partnership between the White House and Congress on children's issues.
- A series of break-out sessions that showcase the plans and initiatives of groups or coalitions of groups outside the federal government. One of the Commission's important messages was that the federal government needs to provide leadership, a policy framework, and some support, but it cannot and should not be expected to do the job alone. The summit will highlight the role and action plans of many other players in the process. It will give key groups or coalitions of groups an opportunity to announce new initiatives or call attention to activities they already have underway in a visible and prestigious forum. It will validate and hopefully add momentum to these individual efforts, which are critical elements of a renewed nationwide movement on behalf of children.

Other Related Activities

Many people have encouraged the Commission to think about the summit not just as a single event, but as a constellation of events designed to reinvigorate those involved in policy making and those who work directly with children and families, as well as to capture the spirit and imagination of the broader American public. Adjunct activities should contribute to the general tone of hope and optimism, and they should symbolize America's coming together to meet the needs of its children and families. Among the ideas that have surfaced:

Televised Town Meeting. Preliminary conversations with commercial and cable network producers suggest there may be strong interest in holding a televised town meeting with children (or parents and children) as an element of the summit agenda or as an adjunct activity on the evening of the summit's final day. In such a setting, children would have an opportunity to ask questions or offer comments to several high profile national leaders (e.g., the President and/or Mrs. Clinton, Senator Rockefeller). A high profile moderator (e.g., Peter Jennings, Jane Pauley) would help direct the discussion and serve as host and moderator. During the recent campaign, events like this enabled citizens to engage the candidates on the issues, and are now being credited with reviving the nation's democratic spirit and contributing to the large voter turnout. Whether or not this is true, such events offer regular people, including young people, an opportunity to communicate face-to-face with national leaders in ways that are likely to foster a positive sense of connection to them and to their agendas.

- Children's Gala. As a prelude to the summit, there is interest in staging a "Children's Gala" on the evening before the formal meetings begin. Such an event, perhaps at the Kennedy Center or the recently renovated Warner Theatre, would combine performances by child artists (e.g., Harlem Boys Choir) and well-known artists who have a longstanding interest in children's issues (e.g., Paul Simon) with a series of awards to individuals who would be recognized for their efforts on behalf of children and families. If the project attracts sufficient interest from a top producer and performers with marquis value it could be televised on PBS or a commercial network, greatly extending the audience for the summit.
- Photo Exhibit. As a part of its work, the National Commission on Children commissioned Eric Futran to prepare an extensive portfolio of photographs of children and families across the country. Many of these extraordinary images appear in Beyond Rhetoric and the Commission's other publications. To make them available to a broader audience, the Commission may assemble an exhibition and unveil it in conjunction with the summit. If a children's gala is held at the Kennedy Center, for example, the exhibition could be set up there with an opening reception before the performance. Alternatively, if the gala is not held or the gala location does not lend itself to an exhibition, space may be available in the Capitol or the Library of Congress or the National Capitol Children's Museum.
- Community-Based Summits. To extend the sense of involvement and build a strong base of support for addressing the needs of children and families in their communities, there may be an opportunity to replicate the national summit in several local communities across the country (either simultaneously or soon after the Washington event). Convened in partnership with a coalition of children's advocates, relevant professional organizations with large grass roots memberships, labor unions, elected officials, and the community foundations, these community-based summits would bring together local "leaders" in the same way that the national summit will bring together national leaders and representatives of many relevant non-governmental groups. These events would present opportunities for local leaders to take stock of the needs of children in their communities, confront their values, identify available resources, and clarify their commitment to work together to translate their concern into real and sustained solutions.

Media

It is likely that the summit and many of the candidate related activities will stir great interest among the broadcast and print media. Strategic media planning will seek to take full advantage of the public relations value of the events. The Commission in conjunction with the Communications Consortium will work to expand the reach of the media strategy by forming a child and family policy media strategies group involving public information officers from many of the relevant professional and advocacy organizations, as well as selected press secretaries for members of Congress. This group will work closely with the summit organizers and the organizers of community-based

summits to begin briefing child and family policy reporters and editorial writers as early as January, continuing through and beyond the summit.

In addition, the Commission will orchestrate a major media operation for the summit and other related activities that are convened in conjunction with the summit. This will include a media center at the summit; a "news service" for major markets and those of community-based summits; satellite and audio feeds; advance placement on public affairs talk shows; editorial boards; and placement of opinion pieces and signed articles.

National Commission on Children

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Hon. John D. Rockefeller IV

Barbara B. Blum T. Berry Brazelton, M.D. Allan C. Carlson, Ph.D. Hon, Bill Clinton Donald J. Cohen, M.D. Nancy Daly Marian Wright Edelman Rep. Theresa H. Esposito Hon. Raymond L. Flynn Mary Hatwood Futrell Hon, Martha W. Griffiths Adele Hall Irving B. Harris Betty Jo Hay Hon. Bill Honig Wade F. Horn, Ph.D. Mai Bell Hurley Hon. Kay C. James A. Sidney Johnson, Ill Ruth Massinga Gerald W. McEntee Hon. George Miller J. D. Northway, M.D. A. Louise Oliver Gerald (Jerry) P. Regier Hon. Nancy Risque Rohrbach Sarah C. Shuptrine Reed V. Tuckson, M.D. Josey M. Velazquez David P. Weikart, Ph.D. Bernice Weissbourd Barry S. Zuckerman, M.D. David Zwiebel, J.D.

Cheryl D. Hayes Executive Director March 8, 1993

MEMORANDUM

· To:

Carol Rasco

From:

Cheri Hayes

Subject:

Agenda for the National Summit on Children and Families,

April 1 and 2

It was good to get together with you on Friday afternoon. Following up on our conversation, I am enclosing a copy of the agenda for the Summit, including the names of invited and confirmed moderators, presenters, and discussants. As I indicated, we will be providing prepared talking points for all the journalist/moderators, and I would welcome your thoughts about issues you would especially like to surface in the discussion sessions on the first day. In each of the four sessions we hope to initiate a lively and thoughtful conversation among the invited "national leaders", using the presentations as a point of departure. As we discussed, several Cabinet secretaries have been invited to take part in these discussions.

As we also discussed, I would like to urge you and Mrs. Clinton's staff to give some reconsideration to ABC's interest in doing a nationally televised town meeting during an extended "Nightline" time slot on Wednesday, March 31, the evening prior to the beginning of the Summit. Peter Jennings would moderate a discussion with the First Lady and an audience of selected Summit participants and children and parents. I sense that the producers would be quite amenable to your suggestions (preferences) concerning the focus and format of the discussion, Mrs. Clinton's role (and the President's, if he also would be available/interested), as well as the size and make-up of the audience. To the extent that this format has worked well for the President, it may present a timely opportunity. Our conversations have been with ABC senior vice president, Paul Friedman, and American Agenda senior producer, Sally Holm. Let me know if there is there is any renewed interest on your end, and if there is anything we can do to be helpful.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Bill

AGENDA NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

April 1-2, 1993 Sheraton Washington Hotel Washington, DC

(confirmed participants are in bold face; invitees are in regular type)

Wednesday, March 31

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Registration and Check-In -- Sheraton Washington Hotel

6:00 - 8:00 pm

"...and One to Grow On" -- Photographic Showing and Reception at the National Museum of American Art, 8th & G Streets, NW

Thursday, April 1

8:00 am

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 am

Coming Together for America's Children and Families

Invocation -- Dean Nathan Baxter, Washington National Cathedral

Welcome and Introductory Remarks -- Senator John D. Rockefeller IV, Chairman of the National Commission on Children

(Title to come) -- Video Essay on the Changing American Family produced by Gary David Goldberg and the Children's Action Network

Opening Address: America's Children and Families and the Challenge Ahead -- Marian Wright Edelman, President and Founder of the Children's Defense Fund

10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Priorities and Approaches for the 1990s: A Series of Discussions with the Nation's Leaders

Introduction: The Child and Family Agenda: An Investment Strategy -- John D. Rockefeller IV, Chairman

Session I: Rebuilding Caring Communities for America's Children, Youth, and Families -- Moderator to be announced

- Community-based revitalization in Atlanta -- The Atlanta Project, presenter to be announced
- Reaching out to youth in New York City neighborhoods
 Geoff Canada, Executive Director of the Rheedlen Center for Children and Families in Central Harlem, and a community youth
- Community policing in Portland, Oregon -- Tom Potter, Portland Chief of Police

Discussion panel of national leaders:

- Angela Blackwell, Executive Director, Urban Strategies Council, Oakland, California
- The Honorable Henry Cisneros, U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC
- The Honorable Raymond Flynn, Mayor of Boston, Boston, Massachusetts
- David Liederman, Executive Director, Child Welfare League of America, Washington, DC
- The Honorable Kweisi Mfume, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
- Douglas Nelson, Executive Director, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Greenwich, Connecticut
- Barbara Todd, Commissioner, Pinellas County, Clearwater, Florida
- Warren W. Valdry, President, 100 Black Men of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
- The Honorable George Voinovich, Governor of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio

11:45 am

- Session II: Great Beginnings: Supporting Young Children and Their Families -- Rebecca Chase of ABC News, Moderator
- Providing comprehensive supports and services to young children and their families in Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Maria Chavez, Director of the Family Development Program
- Reaching out to families at risk in Hawaii -- Gail Breakey, Director, Healthy Start Program
- Giving children a head start in Kansas City, Missouri
 Dwayne Crompton, Director of the KCMC Child
 Development Corporation, and a parent in the program

Discussion panel of national leaders:

- The Honorable Christopher Bond, United States Senate, Washington, DC
- The Honorable Evan Bayh, Governor of Indiana, Indianapolis, Indiana
- David Hamburg, M.D., President, Carnegie Corporation of New York, New York, New York
- The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy, United States Senate, Washington, DC
- C. Everett Koop, M.D., Co-Chairman, National Ready to Learn Council, Bethesda, Maryland
- Ralph S. Larsen, CEO and Chairman, Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey
- Gerald W. McEntee, President, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Washington, DC
- Irwin Redlener, M.D., President, The Children's Health Fund, New York, New York

- Audrey Rowe, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Income Maintenance, Hartford, Connecticut
- The Honorable Donna Shalala, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC
- Bernice Weissbourd, Chair and Founder, Parent Action, Chicago, Illinois

1:10 pm

Lunch

2:30 pm

Session III: Educating America: Improving Schooling and the Transition to Work -- David Gergen of U.S. News and World Report, Moderator

- Statewide school restructuring in Kentucky -- David Hornbeck, National Center for Education and the Economy and the Business Roundtable
- Improving school achievement and job skills in Pasadena, California -- Judy Codding, Principal of Pasadena High School
- Community service for youth in Boston -- Alan Khazei, Executive Co-Director of Boston City Year Program, and a community youth

Discussion panel of national leaders:

- Natalie Allen, Executive Director, Philadelphia High School Academies, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Betty Castor, Commissioner, Florida Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida
- Matilda R. Cuomo, First Lady of New York, Albany, New York
- Keith Geiger, President, National Education Association, Washington, DC
- The Honorable William Goodling, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

- Joseph T. Gorman, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, TRW, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio
- Patricia Henry, President, National PTA, Lawton, Oklahoma
- The Honorable James Hunt, Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina
- Thomas Langfitt, President, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- The Honorable Richard Riley, U.S. Secretary of Education, Washington, DC
- The Honorable Robert Reich, U.S. Secretary of Labor, Washington, DC
- Albert Shanker, President, American Federation of Teachers, Washington, DC
- Traci Tsuchiguchi, Western States Representative, National Association of Student Councils, Fresno, California

3:45 pm

Session IV: Creating a Culture of Responsibility for Children, Youth, and Families -- Jane Pauley, Dateline, NBC News

- Community campaign to reduce teenage pregnancy in Arkansas -- Ann Wright, Director of Community Relations at KARK-TV in Little Rock
- Building an effective state-wide coalition in Minnesota
 Susan Carlson, First Lady of Minnesota
- Mobilizing the Entertainment community as national advocates -- Gary David Goldberg, President, UBU Productions, and Cofounder of the Children's Action Network

Discussion panel of national leaders:

Michael Eisner, Chairman and CEO, The Walt Disney

Company, Burbank, California

- Amy Fradette, Student of the Year, Students Against Driving Drunk, East Harwick, Vermont
- Margie Hale, Executive Director, West Virginia Task Force on Children, Youth, and Families
- The Honorable Kay C. James, Associate Director, Family Research Council, Washington, DC
- James Joseph, President, Council on Foundations, Inc., Washington, DC
- Robert Keeshan, National Spokesman, Coalition for America's Children, New York, New York
- The Honorable Patricia Schroeder, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
- Paul Simon, popular singer, New York, New York
- Ruth Wooden, President, Advertising Council, New York, New York
- David Zwiebel, Director, Office of Government Affairs, Agudath Israel of America, New York, New York

6:00 pm

Private White House Reception (for 350 invited guests)

Friday, April 2

8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

9:00 am

When America Invests in Success

A discussion with young Americans who have succeeded with support from their families, their communities, and their country -- Moderator to be announced

10:00 am

New Leadership -- New Momentum

THE WHITE HOUSE

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

THE CONGRESS

Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole

Speaker of the House Thomas Foley

THE GOVERNORS

Governor Roy Romer of Colorado

THE CITIES

Mayor Don Fraser of Minneapolis

11:45 am Closing Remarks -- John D. Rockefeller IV, Chairman of the

National Commission on Children

11:55 am Benediction

12:00 noon Adjournment