

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL
CENTENNIAL DINNER
FEBRUARY 6, 1997

Good Evening. I very much wanted to join you at this celebration of Children's Mercy Hospital's 100th birthday, and I'm sorry that other events have kept me from coming. I was looking forward to another trip to Kansas City, to the opportunity to visit one of our country's finest pediatric hospitals, and the chance to catch up with my old friend from Arkansas, Rand O'Donnell.

But I am delighted to be able to send my best wishes to all of you on this special night. As you celebrate a century of service to the children and families of Kansas City, you have a unique opportunity to reflect on the rich experiences of the past and on the lessons that will guide you in the future. If your founding doctors, Katherine Berry Richardson and Alice Berry Graham, were to come back today, they might not recognize the state-of-art complex that has grown from their original five-bed hospital on Highland Avenue. But they would have no trouble seeing that their hospital's fundamental commitments to excellence, to education, and to serving all children in need of medical care are still thriving. And those are the commitments we will all need to carry into the new century.

For one hundred years, the doctors, nurses and patrons of this hospital have recognized that children are our country's most precious resource. To all of you at Children's Mercy, each child who comes through your doors doesn't represent a race, a religion, or an economic class, he or she represents our hope for the future. That is why you have dedicated your hearts, minds, and hands to making sure every patient has the chance to fulfill his or her God-given potential. Your cutting edge research into childhood disease, your use of the most innovative treatments, and your boundless compassion have helped heal the bodies and spirits of thousands of children and offered comfort and hope to their families.

You have also helped your patients grow. The classroom which has been a part of Children's Mercy since 1917 represents a belief that illness need not stunt a child's intellectual and emotional growth. A love of learning is a fundamental part of a healthy childhood. And that begins with a love of reading. As many of you know, new research has shown that reading to young children is vital to their neurological, intellectual, and emotional development. Last month, I announced, along with representatives of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a national campaign to encourage doctors to prescribe daily reading to children and their parents. I hope all of you will support us in this effort.

I congratulate you on a magnificent century. I have no doubt that all Americans will continue to look to the leadership of Children's Mercy Hospital in years to come. Have a wonderful evening.

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Good evening to all of you at the Children's Mercy Centennial Dinner. I hope you're having a wonderful time on this exciting occasion: the 100th birthday of your hospital. I apologize for missing this special event, but other duties called. I was looking forward to another visit to Kansas City and I would have loved the opportunity to see your bright and colorful hospital. You are such lucky and blessed people. I'm also sorry I missed a chance to catch up with my friend Rand O'Donnell, who we worked with closely during his time at Arkansas Children's.

As you know, we're spending a lot of time these days looking forward to the next century. But like you, we're also looking back over the past 100 years to see where we've been. And like the rest of the nation, Children's Mercy has come a long way since your two founding sisters, Drs. Katharine Berry Richardson and Alice Berry Graham picked up an abandoned little girl in the Kansas City stockyards and gave birth to what today is one of the finest -- and perhaps the very newest -- children's hospital in the land: Children's Mercy..

The president has made education one of the cornerstones of his second term. He believes it is essential that as we close the curtain on this century that the United States have the finest educational system in the world; that we give our young people every chance to achieve, to excel, to succeed and to prosper. And I know all of you at Children's Mercy value the education of our young people. There's even been a classroom at your hospital since 1917! I know the dedication you all have toward your work is because you fully appreciate the value of the younger generation. Our future belongs to them. We must prepare them for it. Already we have the most dedicated people -- like yourselves -- working to make lives better for children. The children need a good education, they need educated parents, they need doctors and nurses and other health care professionals to give them great care.

We all know children are our greatest asset. Thanks to places like Children's Mercy, the proper value is being placed on them. For 100 years, you have been taking care of all children, no matter their medical or psychosocial needs. You have been building brighter tomorrows.

And so, as the nation prepares for the dawn of the new millenium, let us remember the past. Let us take those lessons we have learned and put them to good use. Let us look to the children of Kansas City and the nation and build a better life for them and for their children. You're already doing it at Children's Mercy ... and have been for 100 years. Keep up the good work. I know your hearts are in the right place. God bless you.

From Bill and I, thank you. And have a pleasant evening. I am with you in spirit and you are in my heart tonight.

Good night.

OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL:

- Founded in 1897 by two sisters -- Dr. Katharine Berry Richardson, a surgeon, and Dr. Alice Berry Graham, a dentist. They found a crippled, abandoned child in the street and rented a bed at a maternity hospital to care for the sick child.
- This bed became the "Mercy bed," where the sisters provided care for sick children. They also formed the Free Bed Fund for Sick, Crippled and Deformed Children to support their work.
- The sisters moved to a home at 414 Highland Ave. in 1904 and opened Mercy Hospital with five beds. Within two years it had grown to 27 beds.
- The hospital moved again in 1916, to the location on Independence Ave. where it would remain until 1970. The name also changed in 1916, to Children's Mercy Hospital. The cornerstone of this building bore a statement of the hospital's purpose: "In 1897, Dr. Alice Berry Graham founded this hospital for sick and crippled children, to be forever non-sectarian, non-local and for those who cannot pay."
- For its entire 100-year history, Children's Mercy Hospital has never turned away a child in need of care because of race, religion, or inability to pay.
- In the very early years of the hospital, the Berry sisters only allowed women physicians to practice in their hospital. Also, for many years, only women were allowed to serve on the hospital's board. Dr. Richardson also worked with African-American physicians in Kansas City to provide pediatric care for black children.
- Children's Mercy also was very progressive in providing educational and psychosocial support for its young patients. In 1917, the local Board of Education began providing teachers for patients requiring a prolonged hospital stay, and a school teacher has been part of the hospital staff ever since then. Children's Mercy also provides staff in Child Life, Social Work, Chaplaincy Services and a full-time Patient Representative to help meet all of the psychological and social needs of patients and families.
- In December, 1970, Children's Mercy Hospital moved to its current location on Hospital Hill (2401 Gillham Road). The hospital now includes 167 inpatient beds, 45 outpatient specialty clinics, a Level I Pediatric Trauma Center and a number of satellite facilities.
- In its early days, Children's Mercy received no public funding, but was supported entirely through donations from the community. Even today, community support for the region's only pediatric hospital plays a major role in the hospital's success; from 1992-1996, donors in the region contributed \$67 million to build a new inpatient bed tower, outpatient center and other needed facilities at the hospital -- one of the largest single fund-raising drives for any children's hospital of comparable size throughout the nation.
- Children's Mercy was named one of the eight "top children's hospitals" in the U.S. in the December/January, 1997 issue of "Child" magazine.

FAST FACTS ABOUT CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL Kansas City, Missouri

Founded in 1897, Children's Mercy is the only pediatric medical center between St. Louis and Denver. We serve a 70-county region covering western Missouri and eastern Kansas.

- The hospital has 167 beds, with more than 7,000 children admitted last year. The beds include a 15-bed Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and a 40-bed Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery.
- Nearly 160,000 outpatient visits are made every year to the hospital's 45 pediatric specialty clinics. Outpatient services are offered in three different locations in the metro area, with 20 outreach clinics offered in 12 different communities throughout the region.
- Children's Mercy offers the region's only Level I Pediatric Trauma Center, with more than 50,000 visits to the emergency department last year. The "Children's CareForce" teams provide neonatal and pediatric transport throughout the region.
- More than \$68 million was raised from the community from 1993-1995 to expand the hospital's facility. The spacious new Outpatient Center opened in 1995 and houses 21 specialty clinics, and the Sutherland Patient Tower opened in January, 1997, offering state-of-the-art inpatient facilities.
- Children's Mercy is a teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Missouri-Kansas City, providing pediatric education for medical students, residents, nursing students and other health care profession students.
- The hospital's research program also is gaining national prominence, including one of the top three clinical pharmacology programs in the country and a number of breakthrough research projects in the areas of genetics, allergy/asthma and more.
- Children's Mercy South, a new facility in Overland Park, Kansas, will open in the summer of 1997 to provide more easily accessible pediatric health care for families throughout the southern part of the metro area and in eastern Kansas. The new hospital will include outpatient specialty clinics, same-day surgery, after-hours urgent care, ancillary services and short-term-stay inpatient beds.
- Throughout its 100-year history, Children's Mercy's mission has been to never turn away a child because of inability to pay. Last year, more than \$20 million in charity care was provided to area children.



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FAX

Page 1 of 4

To: June Shih
From: Barbara Mueth
Date: 2/5/97

Please call if you need additional information.



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Copy to:
T. Barnes
(2) June
19
Vicki

January 7, 1997

Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Contract
Due 2/13/97
M. Barnes
24-7400

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

As you may recall, you and I had the opportunity to talk briefly during your visit to Kansas City last June. At that time, I had mentioned to you the upcoming Centennial year for Children's Mercy Hospital, and the possibility that you might be able to attend our celebration gala.

We have now entered our Centennial year, to be highlighted by a dinner celebration on Thursday, February 13, at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City. Although we realize that this is somewhat late notice, we would certainly be honored and delighted if it were possible for you to be the keynote speaker for our Centennial Dinner Gala.

Obviously, I'm well aware of your long-time commitment to children's hospitals, and I know that your presence as our keynote speaker would make our celebration of 100 years of service to children truly memorable and exciting. We are expecting more than 700 of our community's business and civic leaders to attend the dinner, as well as Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan, Congresswoman Karen McCarthy and Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver.

We very much hope that, despite your extremely busy schedule, it will be possible for you to join us on February 13. Thank you so much for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Randall L. O'Donnell, Ph.D.
President/Chief Executive Officer

Mary Jane Barnes
Centennial Gala Chairperson

cc: Roshann Parris

FROM : NCWP

PHONE NO. :

Jan. 07 1997 02:59PM P1

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE PHILIPPINES (NCWP)**

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1946-1996

Member: INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (ICW) * ASEAN CONFEDERATION OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION (ACWO)

January 7, 1997

MS. ROSHANN PARRIS

White House Presidential Advance Team

Fax No. (816) 9318991

Dear Ms. Parris:

In behalf of the National Council of Women of the Philippines (NCWP) Officers and Board of Directors, we wish to extend our warm greetings for a Happy New Year to you and your family.

We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude for the generous assistance, concern and commitment you extended to us during the preparatory activities for the visit of Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton last November 24, 1996. Please find attached copies of our letters addressed to US First Lady Hillary R. Clinton and Ambassador Thomas Hubbard summarizing our feelings on the milestone that the Filipino women and NCWP have achieved in our successful hosting of this memorable event.

Indeed this was made possible through the efforts and cooperation of the US Embassy Officials and your White House Advance Team untiringly extended to us. We gained a lot of experience working you and your group as we went through the different stages of the detailed preparations. The professionalism, openness and friendship resulted in our working together as one big family. We shall cherish these memories for we have not only made the difference in the women's movement but our organization made a significant leap in our journey in the advancement of women.

Once again thank you for your inspiring dynamism and cooperation, as we look forward to meeting you in the future as Gina de Venecia and myself are planning to be in the United States. We might visit President and Mrs. Clinton depending on their availability.

Is it possible for you to give the attached faxed letter to Mrs. Clinton. We have sent the original, together with the newspaper clippings through US Ambassador to the Philippines Thomas Hubbard.

Our warm regard to you and your group.

Sincerely yours,

NONA S. RICAFORT

NCWP President

FROM : NCWP

PHONE NO. :

Jan. 07 1997 03:00PM P2

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE PHILIPPINES (NCWP)**

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Member: INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (ICW) * ASIAN CONFEDERATION OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION (ACWO)

January 7, 1997

MRS HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

First Lady of the United States of America

White House, Washington DC.

USA

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

In behalf of the National Council of Women of the Philippines (NCWP) Officers and Board of Directors, with our 239 National Member Affiliates and 4 419 Local Councils of women, our warm greetings and wishes that you and your family will be blessed with all the joys of the New Year.

The year 1996 was a meaningful and memorable year for us in NCWP as we celebrated our 50 years of service to women. It was also the year when we hosted for the first time major activities such as the GU-NGO National Women's Summit, General Assembly of the Asian Confederation of Women's Organization (ACWO), and National Youth Summit. We are glad to inform you that in these and other activities, we succeeded in networking and collaborating with Government and International Agencies.

Among all these milestones and achievements, the most acknowledged, both in the Philippines and Internationally, was our successful hosting of the **WOMEN'S FORUM** with you as our **Keynote Speaker and Guest of Honor**.

The Forum brought much awareness to both men and women. Through your speech, you had encouraged NCWP and the women "to shift to high gears, to transform their vision and mission on how women can achieve a more favorable **BALANCE OF POWER** in their private and public lives between men and women in society... recognizing that their progress and prosperity depend on the progress and prosperity of women".

It is in this regard that we would like to express our sincerest gratitude and appreciation for your being one with us, in realizing the wishes and dreams of the Beijing (HUAIROU) Women NGO Forum and in working for the realization that will usher us to the forefront of Women's empowerment.

PHONE NO. :

JAN 11 1994 03:01 PM '94

FROM : NCWP

Your inspiring presence and dynamism challenged us to be more determined and committed to the implementation of the Beijing Women's Agenda and our Government's Social Reform Agenda. We shall keep on our journey of service emboldened by your commitment to serve your people, men and women.

We would also like to acknowledge that this momentous event would not have been possible without the dedication, untiring efforts and expertise of the US Embassy Officials and your Advance Team, most especially Ambascador Thomas Hubbard, his wife Joan, Consul General Kevin Herbert and Ms. Roshann Parris, for closely coordinating with us in the smallest detail. Their professionalism and motivation made us all cooperate and work like one big family. We shall treasure the experience and wisdom we have gained for indeed, with this event, we have made a significant leap on women's empowerment.

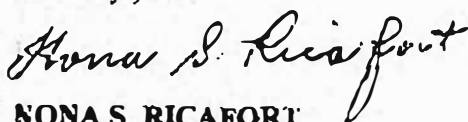
NCWP, with its more than 10 million strong women members, joins the Philippine Government in expressing our warmest Congratulations to you and US President Bill Clinton on his Second Term Inaugural Ceremony and Celebration. The re-election of your husband also earned the admiration of people around the world as indicated by the strong vote of confidence from your people for the Clinton Administration.

Mrs. Gina de Venecia and myself with our husbands are planning a trip to the United States this January or at a later date. At your convenient time and if your schedule will allow, we would appreciate extending our respect to President Bill Clinton and visit both of you at the White House.

Our warm regards to you and your family.

Speaker Jose de Venecia and Gina extend their warm wishes for the New Year too!

Sincerely yours



NONA S. RICAFORT
SECRETARY GENERAL

P.S. In a separate package, we are sending you copies of all the press releases on the above Women's Forum.

FROM : NCWP

PHONE NO. :

Jan. 07 1997 03:01PM P4



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THE PHILIPPINES (NCWP)

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Member - INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (ICW) - ASIAN CONFEDERATION OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION (ACWO)

January 7, 1997

HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR THOMAS HUBBARD

U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines
Embassy of the United States of America
Roxas Blvd., Manila

Dear Ambassador Hubbard:

In behalf of the National Council of Women of the Philippines (NCWP) Officers and Board of Directors, we wish to extend our warm greetings for a Happy New Year to you and your family.

Time flies so fast that it seems only recently when we were initially discussing the possibility of inviting US First Lady Hillary R. Clinton to speak to Women leaders. The confidence you extended to our organization, your generous assistance and concern made this possible for which we are very grateful.

It was a dream come true that finally our constituents could also listen to Mrs. Clinton's very impressive and motivating speech that the Philippine Delegation experienced at the Beijing NGO Forum on Women last 1995. This memorable and significant event ushered our organization to the forefront of women's empowerment.

Indeed, as we celebrated our 50th year of service to women, the year 1996 was a good year for NCWP. The various programs and activities we embarked upon such as the GO-NGO Women's Summit, General Assembly of the Asian Confederation of Women Organization (ACWO), National Youth Summit, and the Women's Forum with the APFC First Ladies with First Lady Hillary R. Clinton as Keynote Speaker were very encouraging and successful which made the difference in the women's movement here and abroad.

It is in this regard, that we express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to you and your team, most especially Consul General Kevin Herbert and the Advance Party of Mrs. Clinton headed by Mrs. Roshann Pama, for your cooperation and professionalism in handling the affair. Amazingly, we all worked as one big family towards its success. For this, please extend our gesture of appreciation to all of them.

We are highly impressed by your dedication and commitment in working for the Philippine-US relationship and very especially for your cooperation in putting together unified efforts of women leading to the 1998 Philippine Centennial Celebration.

Our warm regards to you and Mrs. Hubbard.

Very truly yours,

NONA S. RICALFORT
NCWP President

P.S. May we request your kind assistance in forwarding our attached letter to US First Lady Hillary R. Clinton. Thank you