**Cancer
Council****Address**153 Dowling Street
Woolloomooloo NSW

Australia

PostalP O Box 572
King Cross NSW
2011

Australia

Phone

(02) 93341900

Fax

(02) 93572676

Control of cancer through research, education and support

Facsimile Cover Sheet

Attention: Melanne Verveer
Company: Office of the First Lady
Fax No: 202-456-6244

*file
Australia*

From: Lesley Russell
Date: 13/12/96
Total Pages: 3

MESSAGE:

BREAST CANCER

December 13

Dear Melanne,

We were delighted to see that our letter finally made the Washington Post, and we have received a number of comments from friends via e-mail. I wonder if I might now ask you for a similar favour?

The Cancer Council is currently under attack from some isolated parts of the State Health Department and their nominees on the (new) Cancer Council Board. We have been unable to determine exactly why. At best it could be merely ignorance; at worst there is a real political agenda to destroy the Council, which is totally dependent on community funding. I suppose, as always, the reality is somewhere in between. Our usual allies in Government are totally preoccupied with other, more pressing problems.

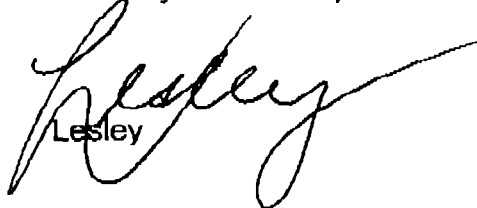
It occurred to me that one way to help focus the policy makers on the value on the Cancer Council and its programs at a state, national and international level, and to boost public confidence, would be a statement from someone of note -- like the First Lady.

At the recommendation of Paula Thomason we sent HRC a pack of Cancer Council sunscreen products, accompanied by a note from Elaine Henry, the Executive Director (attached). Would it be possible to organise a thankyou note from HRC that made mention of the international standing of the work of the NSW Cancer Council? In my brief conversation with the First Lady she indicated her awareness of the prevention programs that we run -- Slip Slop Slap for skin cancer and anti-smoking campaigns.

If you think that something like this can be done, and you need further information, please call me at work (612-9334-1938) or home (612-9810-7076) or on e-mail (Lesley.Russell@nswcc.org.au). We are 16 hours ahead of you, so if you call at the end of your day you will catch me in the office. Of course I should point out that the idea of such a letter would be to share it with the government and policy people, etc.

Melanne, thanks for your help on this. Hopefully you are heading into a quieter time over the holidays -- so enjoy them.

Best to you and Phil,


Lesley



**Cancer
Council**

**Control of cancer
through research,
education & support**

153 Dowling Street
Woolloomooloo
Sydney NSW
Australia

postal

PO Box 572
Kings Cross NSW 2011

telephone

(02) 334 1900

fax

(02) 357 2676

20 November 1996

Mrs Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States of America

Dear Mrs Clinton

On behalf of the NSW Cancer Council I would like to welcome you to Australia and to wish you and the President an interesting and relaxing visit. Although we all hope that the sun shines for you, we also want to make sure that you are protected from our harsh sun.

This week the Cancer Council launched National Skin Cancer Week to remind everyone, as we look forward to summer, of the need for sun protection. The Cancer Council produces its own consumer products to assist the public to be "sun smart". We thought that you would enjoy being "sun smart" during your visit here.

The NSW Cancer Council is engaged in cancer prevention, promotion, research, treatment and patient and family support programs. We are very proud of our efforts in areas such as skin cancer prevention, anti-smoking, breast cancer and informational services. Our activities are targetted to all of the community, with special efforts made to reach people from Aboriginal and non-English speaking backgrounds. We hope that you will visit Australia again soon, and that then you will have an opportunity to learn about our work.

Yours sincerely

ELAINE HENRY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR