

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. bio	adoptive child (1 page)	11/23/1998	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Domestic Policy Council (Nicole Rabner)
OA/Box Number: 15409

FOLDER TITLE:

Adoption-DC/Internet Event, 11/24/98 [2]

2012-1035-S

kc988

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 24, 1998

November 24, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SUBJECT: Using the Internet to Increase Adoptions

Technology will be an ever more important part of achieving our national goals as we approach the new millennium. New technological tools mean new opportunities for progress -- helping us to strengthen the global economy, bolster public education, and improve the health of American families. Technology can also assist our continuing efforts to meet our national goal of doubling, by the year 2002, adoptions and other permanent placements from our Nation's foster care system.

As we celebrate National Adoption Month, it is fitting that we reflect on the important steps we have taken to strengthen our child welfare system and, specifically, to improve the process of adoption. Through the Family and Medical Leave Act and tax credits, we have made it easier for families to adopt children. We have worked to eliminate discrimination and delay based on race and ethnicity. And, last year, I was proud to sign into law the Adoption and Safe Families Act, tightening the time frame for decision-making and affirming that the health and safety of children in foster care must always come first.

We are making progress but there is more work to be done. Because geographic and other barriers to adoption still exist, we must do a better job of informing America's families about the many children that wait in foster care for permanent, adoptive homes. To give those children the future they deserve, to give our families the opportunity to provide them with happy, healthy homes, we must infuse the public child welfare system with the power of technology.

Therefore, I am directing you to work with the States, courts, private agencies, and others to develop a plan for expanding appropriate use of the Internet as a tool to find homes for children waiting to be adopted from the public child welfare system. There are approximately 100,000 children in our country waiting in foster care for permanent adoptive homes. Sharing information through a national Internet registry about children legally available for adoption could shorten the time needed to find adoptive families for such children. To take full advantage of the Internet's potential to promote adoptions while also ensuring appropriate

confidentiality safeguards, close consultation with the States will be necessary.

You should report to me within 60 days with a plan to carry out this consultation; identify important issues and strategies to address them; and build on promising existing efforts to create an effective, national registry.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

30-30-30

PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF THE INTERNET TO INCREASE ADOPTIONS

November 24, 1998

Today, the President will issue a new directive to the Department of Health and Human Services to expand the use of the Internet as a tool to find homes for children waiting to be adopted from foster care. The President will make the announcement with the First Lady at a White House ceremony marking National Adoption Month and celebrating new adoptions in the District of Columbia.

Creating an Internet Registry to Meet the President's Goals for Adoption. In 1996, President Clinton set a goal of doubling, by the year 2002, adoptions and other permanent placements from the public child welfare system. Since then, adoptions have increased; from 1996 to 1997 alone, adoptions increased by over 10 percent, from 28,000 to 31,000. Today, the President is directing the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop a plan to expand internet use to share information about children who are legally free for adoption in order to shorten the time needed to find them adoptive families. HHS estimates that approximately 100,000 children in our nation's foster care system cannot return to their birth families and need families to adopt them. An effective national registry will help break down geographic barriers to adoption and assist in meeting the President's adoption goal. HHS Secretary Donna Shalala will report to the President within 60 days on a plan to work with the states and other leaders to carry out this effort.

Building on a Strong Record. Today's announcement builds on a deep commitment by the President, the First Lady, and the Administration to facilitate adoptions and improve the child welfare system. Since taking office, President Clinton has championed efforts to make foster care work better for the children it serves, to find and assist adoptive families, and to break down barriers, including high adoption costs and complex regulations:

✓ **Achieving Landmark Legislative Reform.** On November 19, 1997, the President signed the Adoption and Safe Families Act, reforming our nation's child welfare system and making it clear that the health and safety of children must be the paramount concerns of state child welfare services. This landmark legislation was based in large part on the recommendations of the Clinton Administration's *Adoption 2002* report, which the President requested by executive memorandum on December 14, 1996, to meet his goals of doubling adoptions and permanent placements by the year 2002 and moving children more quickly from foster care to permanent homes. The Act tightened time frames for making permanent placement decisions for children and ensured health insurance coverage for all special needs children in subsidized adoptions. Also, it created new financial incentives for states to increase adoptions, and continued funding for services to keep families together when it is appropriate and safe.

✓ **Making Adoption Affordable for Families.** In 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, which provides a \$5,000 tax credit to families adopting children, and a \$6,000 tax credit for families adopting children with special

needs. This provision has alleviated a significant barrier to adoption, helping middle class families for whom adoption may be prohibitively expensive and making it easier for families to adopt children with special needs. Since President Clinton took office, the number of children with special needs who were adopted with federal adoption assistance has risen by over 60 percent. In the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, President Clinton ensured more support for families who adopt children with the \$500 per-child tax credit.

✓ **Giving States Flexibility and Support.** To test innovative strategies to improve state child welfare systems, the Clinton Administration has granted waivers to 18 states, giving them more flexibility in tailoring services to meet the needs of children and families. In addition, the Administration has provided states with enhanced technical support and helped improve court operations. The President secured \$10 million in FY 1999 in new funds to support state efforts to implement the new adoption law, and has, through the Adoption Opportunities program, supported state and local innovative demonstration projects to promote adoption, provide post-adoptive services, and build new public-private partnerships. To prevent children from entering foster care in the first place, in 1993 the Clinton Administration enacted and secured federal funding for the Family Preservation and Support Program to help states, local governments, and service providers develop effective programs to serve children and families at risk.

✓ **Breaking Down Racial and Ethnic Barriers to Adoption.** New inter-ethnic adoption provisions, passed as a part of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, ensure that the adoption process is free from discrimination and delays on the basis of race, culture and ethnicity by strengthening the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act which the President signed in 1994.

✓ **Providing Supports for Child Protection and Adoption.** In 1993, President Clinton signed into law the Family and Medical Leave Act, enabling parents to take time off to adopt a child without losing their jobs or health insurance. In addition, the welfare reform legislation signed by the President maintained the guarantee of child protection and adoption, and did not reduce funds for child welfare, child abuse, and foster care and adoption services.

**NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH EVENT
INTERNAL Q & A
November 24, 1998**

Q: What is the President announcing today?

A: The President will issue a directive to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to work with the states, courts, private agencies and others to develop a plan to expand the use of the Internet as a tool to find homes for children waiting to be adopted from the foster care system. There are approximately 100,000 children in our country who everyday wait in foster care for a permanent, adoptive home. Sharing information about children who are legally free for adoption on a national Internet registry will help break down geographic barriers to adoption and shorten the time needed to find adoptive families. The Secretary will report to the President within 60 days with a plan to consult closely with the States, ensure appropriate confidentiality safeguards, identify important issues and strategies for addressing them, and examine ways to build on promising existing efforts.

Q: Isn't the Internet already being used in this way? Is this executive memorandum duplicative of existing efforts?

A: No. Today, the Internet is not being used to its fullest potential to break down geographic barriers to adoption and help us to meet our national goal to double adoptions from the foster care system by the year 2002. There are some efforts underway by private organizations, States, and local governments to use the Internet to facilitate adoptions, but even the largest site now in operation lists the photos of only 1,000 children. The President is directing HHS to develop a plan to use the Internet to its fullest capability to help the more than 100,000 children awaiting a permanent home. The executive memorandum asks HHS to build on promising existing efforts by States and private organizations.

Q: Will you meet the President's goal of doubling the number of children adopted or permanently placed from foster care by 2002? How close are you?

A: We are confident that we will meet the President's goal -- set in 1996 -- to double the number of children adopted or permanently placed from foster care by the year 2002. We now know that from 1996 to 1997 alone, States increased adoptions by over 10 percent -- from 28,000 to 31,000. And, we have been very pleased with the positive work of States to meeting the President's goal -- States are investing resources, training staff, expanding outreach and recruitment efforts, and setting tough year-by-year goals.

Q: What is happening at the White House with the D.C. Court?

A: Today, the White House will for the first time host D.C. Adoption Day, an annual event

in which the D.C. Superior Court finalizes a number of adoptions to mark National Adoption Month. This year is the 12th annual event, and a record 24 families will adopt 30 children. The D.C. Court invited the First Lady to participate in the ceremony at the D.C. Court House, and she offered to host it at the White House. D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton will preside over this portion of the White House ceremony, and will introduce each of the participating families. Also, Mayor-elect Tony Williams -- who himself was adopted from foster care -- will participate in the program at the Court's request. The Court selected for its theme this year "Adoption: Creating Loving Families for the Twenty-First Century."

Q: What is the Adoption and Safe Families Act?

A: On November 19, 1997, the President signed the Adoption and Safe Families Act, reforming our nation's child welfare system and making it clear that the health and safety of children must be the paramount concerns of state child welfare services. The Act tightened time frames for making permanent placement decisions for children, and ensured health insurance coverage for all special needs children in subsidized adoptions. Also, it created new financial incentives for States to increase adoptions, and continued funding for services to keep families together when it is appropriate and safe. This landmark legislation was based in large part on the recommendations of the Clinton Administration's *Adoption 2002* report, which was requested by the President by executive memorandum on December 14, 1996 to meet his adoption and foster care goals.

Q: What was the "Adoption 2002" report?

A: In response to a 1996 Presidential directive, HHS developed the "Adoption 2002" report, an administrative and legislative blueprint to strengthen our nation's child welfare system. The report took its name from of the President's central goals -- to at least double by the year 2002 the number of children adopted or permanently placed each year. "Adoption 2002" outlined a new action plan to set and meet urgent new adoption targets. We were very pleased that the Adoption and Safe Families Act was based in large part on the recommendations of this report, including clarifications to the reasonable efforts standard, new financial incentives for States to increase adoptions, and increased technical assistance to states, courts and communities to help move children more rapidly from foster care to permanent homes.

Q: What else has the Administration done to promote adoption?

A: The Clinton Administration has taken several important steps to encourage and increase adoptions and to support families that choose to open their hearts and their homes to these children. Since taking office in 1993, the President has championed programs that find and assist adopting families, and has committed his Administration to breaking down barriers, including high adoption costs and complex regulations.

These steps include (1) signing into law a \$5,000 tax credit to families that adopt and a \$6000 tax credit for families that adopt children with special needs; (2) ensuring that the adoption process is free from discrimination and delays on the basis of race, culture and ethnicity through the Inter-Ethnic provisions of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996; and (3) signing into law the Family Medical Leave Act, enabling parents to take time off to adopt a child without losing their jobs or health insurance.

Q: What are the adoption awards being given out?

A: The "Adoption 2002" report recommended that the Department of Health and Human Services work in collaboration with foundations and intergovernmental organizations to establish annual awards to recognize states, local agencies, courts, private organizations, employers and others who are making key contributions to the national effort to support adoption and promote permanency for children in foster care. This is the second year of these awards and they are being announced to celebrate National Adoption Month. HHS is giving out the awards in a private ceremony, and the awardees will be guests at the White House event. This year's 8 awardees are: (1) the Georgia Department of Human Services Office of Adoptions; (2) the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; (3) Hope for the Children, Inc., Rantoul, IL; (4) Three Rivers Adoption Council, Pittsburgh, PA; (5) Tim O'Hanlon, Ohio North American Council on Adoptable Children; (6) Governor and Mrs. Jim Edgar, IL; (7) Kansas Association of Broadcasters; and (8) Judge Max Baer, Allegheny Juvenile Court, PA.

Q: What does our nation's child welfare system look like today? How many children are in it and how long do they stay in foster care on average?

A: Today, approximately 520,000 of America's children live in our nation's foster care system. More than 100,000 of those children cannot return safely to their homes and need adoptive families. Our most recent data indicate that nearly 60 percent have been in care 24 months or longer. Of the children in care, the average age is 7; 35 percent are white, 45 percent are black, and 14 percent are Hispanic; and 5 percent of children turn 18 and leave the foster care system without having a permanent home.

Q: How much funding does the federal government invest in foster care and adoption services?

A: The federal government provides over \$5.5 billion to States to run their foster care, adoption and child welfare programs. The funding provides a variety of supports to States which include: preventive services, investigations of child abuse and neglect, caseworkers and administrators, foster care adoption benefits to families, training, recruitment of foster and adoptive families, demonstration grants to test innovative programs, services for teenagers who are leaving foster care to be on their own, and supports for children with special needs. States must provide matching funds in order to access a majority of these funds.

**FAMILIES PARTICIPATING IN WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL
ADOPTION MONTH CEREMONY
November 24, 1998**

1. **Richard Ira Honig and Dita Verheig-Honig** have adopted Saige Ayan Shonana Nicola Honig, an eleven-month-old girl. She joins the couple's two other adopted children, Miles and Keith. Mr. Honig is the chief executive officer of Community Systems, Inc. which he founded; Ms. Verheig-Honig is the company's comptroller.
2. **Albert and Barbara Elmore** are adopting eight-year-old Evander Lee and eleven-year-old Christina Anita. Mr. Elmore works for the U.S. Postal Service and formerly served as a Supply Sergeant in the District of Columbia National Guard. Ms. Elmore is a homemaker.
3. **Vannessia E. Davenport Campbell**, a widow, is adopting her brother's daughter, seven-year-old LaTonya Renee, and LaTonya's sibling, five-year-old Sparkle Erica. Ms. Campbell has a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and has worked as an Emergency Medical Technician for the last 12 years.
4. **Frances A. Cowan** is a retired teacher with a Master's degree in Special Education and experience working with special needs children. Ms. Cowan is adopting siblings Shirlene Marie and Gregory Rashawn, ages seven and six respectively. Ms. Cowan has already adopted Brandon, 12, and Albertio, 13.
5. **Barbara J. Ruffin** has been a foster parent since June 1990. She is adopting two siblings, five-year-old Victoria and six-year-old Vivian. They join a child Ms. Ruffin adopted in 1994. She has one married, adult biological daughter. Ms. Ruffin is an Administrative Assistant with the American Association of Retired Persons.
6. **Jeffrey and Rochelle Barnes** agreed to adopt three-year-old Fertiree Autumn Deshawn Barnes and 20-month-old Niles Tyshawn Barnes after their birth mother asked them to raise her children together. Both Mr. and Ms. Barnes graduated from Coolidge High School in the District. Mr. Barnes is currently a painter with Hann and Hann. Ms. Barnes is a porter with the George Meaney Labor Center.
7. **Rochelle Ross-Mays and Edward Mays** are expanding their family with the adoption of two siblings, eleven-year-old Steven and twelve-year-old Charday.
8. **Janet and Wendell Myers** are adopting six-year-old Destiny Marie, who was placed with them when she was three years old. Mr. Myers is employed with the District of Columbia Fire Department. Ms. Myers, who is herself adopted, is an Information Systems Specialist with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

9. **Keith P. and Nancy Wawrzyniak** have raised five biological children, all of whom are now adults. They have previously adopted another child, Carey, who is seven. They are adopting Kenika, who will celebrate her fourteenth birthday on November 25, 1998. Mr. Wawrzyniak is a senior analyst for Tecolote Research. Ms. Wawrzyniak is a budget analyst with the Internal Revenue Service.
10. **Robin and Bernard Jackson's** love of children is evident in their decision to adopt three-year-old Naomi. She joins the Jacksons' warm and nurturing family, which consists of twin eight-year old biological daughters, JaMeia and JaMeisha, and two foster children, Kenneth and Leah.
11. **Leroy Chambers and Vanessa Johnson-Chambers** are adopting nine-year-old Angela Lakeisha. Mr. Chambers attended Phelps High School in Washington and is now retired from being a self-employed carpenter. Ms. Chambers is a Dunbar High School graduate and has been employed at the Government Printing Office as a bookbinding assistant since 1994.
12. **Clarence and Yvette Evans** are adopting three-year-old Nakia Ashley. Mr. Evans is a social services assistant with the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency. Ms. Evans is a legal secretary.
13. **James Dukes and Alicia Dukes-Smith** are committed to caring for seven-year-old Constantina Elizabeth, who has made her home with them since 1992. Both Mr. Dukes and Ms. Dukes-Smith attended high school in Washington. Mr. Dukes is presently employed at Georgetown University Environmental Services. Ms. Dukes-Smith is self-employed as an in-home day-care provider.
14. **Kenneth and Deborah Washington** are adopting three-year-old LaTasha, who required special medical attention for the first year and a half of her life. Since her placement with the Washingtons, LaTasha has made significant progress with the help of ongoing medical care and the Washingtons' compassion and encouragement.
15. **David Edward Sahr and Lori Ruth Milstein** are both teachers in the District's National Cathedral School and are adopting a child from Seoul, South Korea, 15-month-old Joshua.
16. **David and Paula R. Robinson** are adopting eleven-month-old Sean Mykiel. Mr. Robinson is a Sergeant with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department. Ms. Robinson works as a Transportation Specialist with the U.S. Department of Transportation.
17. **Joseph and Susan Garcia** are adopting one-year-old Everett. Mr. Garcia is a research physicist who works at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. Ms. Garcia is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
18. **Willis and Joyce Miller** are adopting five-year-old Pamela Rena. While her siblings do not live with them, the Millers made sure that they would live close by. One of Pamela's sisters lives next door with Ms. Miller's sister, and Pamela's other sister is living with another

Miller relative. Mr. Miller is an electrician with the General Services Administration. Ms. Miller is a homemaker and part-time clerk with a local business.

19. Margie L. Barnes has been four-year-old LaTonya Hunter's foster parent since May 1994. Ms. Barnes presently teaches at the Brookland Daycare Center in Washington.

20. Terry Tanya Alexander is a Detective Sergeant with the District's Metropolitan Police Department. She is adopting six-year-old Sarah.

21. Sherry Thomas had been the foster mother of two-year-old Malik Tyrrell before deciding to adopt him. Ms. Thomas is employed as a receptionist at the law firm of Freid, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson.

22. Rhoda Zione is a registered nurse who founded the D.C. Public Schools program, "Say Thanks America", which involves young people in community service work. Ms. Zione is adopting eight-year-old Kahlil.

23. Stephanie Kay Eshelman is a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State. She is adopting two-year-old Brittany Wang Eshelman, who was born in China.

24. Ellen M. Wells, a Program Manager in the District of Columbia Department of Human Services, is adopting eight-year-old Jessica.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF FOUR FAMILIES PARTICIPATING
IN WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH CEREMONY
November 24, 1998**

Edward Mays and Rochelle Ross-Mays are adopting Charday, age 12 1/2, and her brother Steven, age 11. Other children in the family include Mr. Mays' 18 year old son, Edward Mays III, and the Mays' biological son, five year old Raymond.

Charday is a 6th grader at Waldon Woods Elementary School in Prince Georges County. Steven is in 4th grade at the same school.

The children have been in the foster care system since they were a few years old. They were initially placed with a family with whom they lived for many years. After the family began adoption proceedings, the husband died. The children were returned to the foster care system. It was at that time that the Mays family first saw them on Wednesday's Child. Another family was interested in adopting them, so the Mays family did not pursue adopting the children at that time.

The adoption fell through. The children were placed back into the foster care system, this time in separate foster homes. They were listed separately for adoption, but were placed together with the Mays family in the spring of this year.

The adoptive mother, Rochelle Ross-Mays, is a grant administrator at the Department of Justice for the Community Office of Policing Services (COPS) program initiated by President Clinton. She administers grants for the State of Minnesota. Her husband, Edward Mays, works for the Department of Defense at the commissary at Ft. Myers.

Clarence Evans, Jr. and Yvette Roberta Evans are adopting Nakia, date of birth of November 8, 1995 and placed with the petitioners on June 20, 1997.

Mr. Evans is a 1974 graduate of Virginia Union College with a B.A. degree and since has worked as a football coach, a private investigator, a child care provider with Terrific, Inc., and now as a social services assistant with Child and Family Services Agency of the District of Columbia. Ms. Evans is employed as a legal secretary with a union. They each have several grown children.

Janet and Wendell Myers are adopting six-year-old Destiny Marie, who was placed with them when she was three years old. Mr. Myers is employed with the District of Columbia Fire Department. Ms. Myers, who is herself adopted, is an Information Systems Specialist with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Richard Ira Honig and Dita Verheig-Honig. On September 15, 1998, the petitioners, a Caucasian couple, adopted the African-American child Saige Ayan Shonana Nicola, date of birth January 27, 1997. Saige was placed with the petitioners on January 8, 1998. The petitioners are the adoptive parents of two (2) other male African-American children.

Mr. Honig received his Bachelor of Science degree from American University in 1978, majoring in economics and business administration. Since 1982, he has been employed as the chief executive officer of Community Systems, Inc., a property management business, which he founded. Ms. Verheig-Honig is presently employed as the Comptroller of Community Systems, Inc.

Charday Mays

Charday Mays [Shar day], age 12, is one of the children whose adoption is being finalized today; she will introduce the President at today's event. Charday is a 6th grader at Waldon Woods Elementary School in Prince Georges County. Charday has been in the foster care system since she was about three years old. Her brother Steven, age 11, and Charday are being adopted by Edward and Rochelle Mays. The Mays have 2 other children.

Hi,

My name is Charday Mays. My brother Steven and I have been in many different foster homes since we were little. So, I can really tell you how important it is for us and all of the children here to have a permanent place to call home. This Thanksgiving, Steven and I have so much to be thankful for.. We now are officially part of a family. That makes me very, very happy. To top it off, I have the great honor of introducing to all of you the President of the United States.

WHSO LAYOUT FINAL

a/o 11/23/98; L. Schwartz 6:00 p.m.

ADOPTION EVENT

Tuesday, November 24, 1998

East Room

Gates Open: 12:45 p.m. Adoption families arrive via bus to EV Gate.
1:15 p.m. General guests arrive EV Gate.
1:15 p.m. HHS winners and children arrive North Portico escorted by
S.O.S. from the Indian Treaty Room.

Invite Time: 1:30 p.m.

Principal Time:	1:10 p.m.	Brief	At Ground Floor Elevator (HRC only)
	1:15 p.m.	Group Photo	South Portico (HRC only)
	1:20 p.m.	Brief	Map Room (POTUS only)
	1:30 p.m.	Meet	State Dining Room (HRC only)
	1:45 p.m.	Event	East Room

Approx. 180 guests/Open Press/Business Attire

8 Social Aides

3 Volunteers

12:00 p.m. House cleared of tours.

12:40 p.m. IN PLACE TIME

12:45 p.m. EV Gate opens for the Adoption Families.

Note: Families arrive in a bus.

Note: Coat check at Family Theater

Contact: Victoria Lynch; OPL

12:55 p.m. U.S.S.S. - S.O.S meet 50 guests in Indian Treaty Room and escort them to the North Portico for entry to the event -

Note East Room will not be ready to receive guests until 1:15 p.m.

Contact: Kelly O'Dell, Women's Office

1:15 p.m. EV Gate opens and guests proceed to the East Room.

1:10 p.m. **THE FIRST LADY** receives briefing at Ground Floor Elevator.

Contact: Nicole Rabner and Jen Klein

1:15 p.m.

THE FIRST LADY proceeds to the South Portico for a group picture with the adoptive families and Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton.
Inclement weather option: North Portico

South Portico Participants

Adoption Families
See briefing material

1:20 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT arrives the Map Room for briefing.
Contact: Nicole Rabner and Jen Klein

1:30 p.m.

THE FIRST LADY proceeds to the State Dining Room to meet event participants and other special guests.

State Dining Room Participants:

Event Participants (on stage)

Sec. Shalala
Dave Thomas, CEO Wendy's Corporation
Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams
DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton
Adopted child: Charday Mays and parents (audience seats by name - yellow)

Members of Congress (seated in audience - MEMBER CARDS)

Sen. Levin
Sen. Landrieu and spouse Frank Snelling
Rep. Oberstar and spouse Jean

State Elected Officials (seated in audience - BY NAME)

Governor and Mrs. Edgar, IL
Mayor and Mrs. Marion Barry

Others (seated in audience - GENERAL BLUE)

Dave Thomas' Family:
Alyson Farber (granddaughter), Molly Postlewaite (daughter), Christopher Postlewaite (grandson), Wendy Thomas Morse (daughter), Amanda Morse (granddaughter), Kathy Thomas (daughter-in-law), Sean Thomas (grandson), Stephanie Thomas (granddaughter).
Jann Heffner, Executive Director of the Dave Thomas Foundation and daughter Casey.

1:40 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT arrives to the Blue Room to greet event participants.
See above event participants.

1:45 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY accompanied by the event participants are announced to honors from the Blue Room into the East Room and take their place on stage.

PROGRAM

Secretary Shalala makes remarks and introduces Dave Thomas.

Dave Thomas makes remarks and introduces **THE FIRST LADY**.

THE FIRST LADY makes remarks and introduces DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton.

DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton makes remarks and introduces Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams.

Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams makes remarks and introduces Charday Mays.

Charday Mays makes remarks and introduces **THE PRESIDENT**.

THE PRESIDENT makes remarks and invites guests to a reception in the State Dining Room.

2:40 p.m. **THE PRESIDENT** and **THE FIRST LADY** depart.

Following reception in State Dining Room, Guests exit East Gate

SET UP NOTES: 180 chairs; 10x16 stage at Washington's portrait on angle; family sitting stage left, cut away at gold curtain; 3 press risers along North wall; water at podium; blue goose; water at podium; honors group; strings and piano in Grand Foyer; US and Presidential flags on stage.

**ADOPTION EVENT
RESERVED SEATING**

Name cards in Yellow

Stage

The President
Mrs. Clinton
DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton
Mayor-Elect Williams
Ms. Mays
Sec. Donna Shalala
Dave Thomas
Charday Mays

State Dining Room Participants:

Event Participants (on stage)

Sec. Shalala
Dave Thomas, CEO Wendy's Corporation
Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams
DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton
Adopted child: Charday Mays and parents
(In audience seats by name - yellow)

Members of Congress (seated in audience - MEMBER CARDS)

Sen. Levin
Sen. Landrieu and spouse Frank Snelling
Rep. Oberstar and spouse Jean

State Elected Officials (seated in audience - BY NAME in BLUE)

Governor and Mrs. Edgar, IL
Mayor and Mrs. Marion Barry

Others (seated in audience - GENERAL BLUE)

Dave Thomas' Family:
Alyson Farber (granddaughter), Molly Postlewaite (daughter),
Christopher Postlewaite (grandson), Wendy Thomas Morse (daughter),
Amanda Morse (granddaughter), Kathy Thomas (daughter-in-law),
Sean Thomas (grandson), Stephanie Thomas (granddaughter).
Jann Heffner, Executive Director of the Dave Thomas Foundation and
daughter Casey.

SENIOR STAFF BY NAME - BLUE

MR. JACK LEW	MS. SYLVIA MATTHEWS
MS. ELENA KAGAN	MS. MELANNE VERVEER
MR. CHARLES RUFF	MR. IBARRA
	MS. LYNN CUTLER

YELLOW GENERAL RESERVED #: 70

(ADOPTION FAMILIES FROM GROUP PHOTO ESCORTED BY VICTORIA LYNCH)

RED CARDS = IGA 6

(DC COUNCIL MEMBERS IDENTIFIED BY PATRICE STANLEY)

PINK GENERAL RESERVED = 14

(HHS WINNERS/KIDS FROM INDIAN TREATY ROOM ESCORTED BY KELLY O'DELL)

THE PRESENTATION OF THE 1998 THANKSGIVING DAY TURKEY
The Rose Garden, The White House
November 24, 1998

On Tuesday, November 24, the National Turkey Federation will present President Clinton with the 1998 National Thanksgiving Day Turkey in the Rose Garden. Continuing a tradition begun by President Truman, President Clinton will give a presidential pardon to the National Thanksgiving Day Turkey.

This year's National Thanksgiving Day Turkey will be presented by National Turkey Federation Chairman Frank Gessell. Mr. Gessell is president of Gessell Turkey Farms in Swanville, Minnesota.

The 1998 National Thanksgiving Day Turkey was raised in West Concord, Minnesota by Jerry Jerome, NTF Secretary Treasurer. The turkey will be 23 weeks old at the time of the presentation and weighs approximately 45 pounds. The turkey was hatched in early May and has been raised using normal turkey production techniques for breeder toms. The criteria for selecting the turkey includes appearance and demeanor.

The National Thanksgiving Day Turkey and the alternate were flown to Washington by the Gessells on the day before the ceremony. The Gessells and the turkeys stayed overnight in the Hotel Washington before going to the White House for the presentation. During the ceremony, the turkey will be handled by Walter Gislason.

The event will take place before an audience that includes members from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington provides at-risk youth programs emphasizing character and leadership development; education and career development; health and life skills; the arts; and sports fitness and recreation. The organization serves over 20,000 youth at its 17 Clubs and nine Group Homes.

The National Thanksgiving Day Turkey and the alternate will be taken to Kidwell Farm in Herndon, Virginia. Kidwell Farm, at Frying Pan Park, is operated by the Fairfax County Parks Department and is a replica of a 1930s working farm. The birds will reside at the farm with National Thanksgiving Turkeys and alternates from previous ceremonies.

###

DC Background, FY 1:

STATUS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

The District's child welfare system has had many problems over the years. These problems culminated in a major law suit in which the District was found in violation of its own laws and that of Federal and constitutional law. Highlights of events resulting from the lawsuit, and the District's inability to implement major reforms of its child welfare system are presented below.

Since the appointment of Ernestine Jones as Receiver, the situation has improved for the most part. There have been some significant achievements, including a total realignment of staff into new functional units. Also, the Receiver is committed to moving all staff into new office space. The Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) is working with the eight Healthy Families, Thriving Communities collaboratives to jointly develop a system of neighborhood services and supports for at-risk families served by the child welfare system. In addition, there have been improvements in fiscal operations and their management information systems. Virginia Commonwealth University was selected to provide Title IV-E child welfare training in collaboration with Howard and Catholic Universities.

Task forces have been established to examine problems related to service delivery and to propose solutions. One group is working on barriers to permanency for children and is charged with developing recommendations for implementing the Adoption and Safe Families Act legislation. Another is developing a program and standards for therapeutic foster care.

→ There is an Adoption 2002 partnership agreement between the CFSA (LaShawn General Receiver) and ACF to double the number of children adopted or placed annually in other permanent homes over a five year period. There were 86 total adoptions finalized in FY 1995; 113 in FY 1996; and 132 in FY 1997. Over this three year period, the average number of adoptions was 110. Over the next five years, the District projects to double the number of finalized adoptions: 125 in FY 1998; 145 in FY 1999; 165 in FY 2000; 190 in FY 2001; and 220 in FY 2002.

As of March 31, 1998, there were 3,081 children in foster care in the District. Of that number, 975 have either a recent case plan that specifies adoption or have had parental rights terminated (TPR), or both. Thirty-one and two-tenths percent of the children are under the age of five; 77.0 percent are under the age of ten; and 94.8 percent are under the age under the age of 13. The majority (97.7 percent) of these children are Black.

CHRONOLOGY OF LASHAWN LAWSUIT

1989: ACLU Children's Rights Project filed LaShawn A. v. Barry on behalf of seven children who had been placed in foster care and thousands of other children who have been involved in the system. The suit alleged that these children had been injured by the District's failure to provide required services and that these children's constitutional rights had been violated.

1991: The suit was heard in Federal District Court; Judge Thomas Hogan ruled in favor of the plaintiffs.

1991: District officials and plaintiffs reached agreement on a remedial order, calling for major reforms of almost every aspect of the District's child welfare system.

1992: LaShawn Implementation Plan was developed by the parties and approved by the Court.

1994: Judge Hogan appointed three limited receivers to deal with specific failures and investigations, corrective action and resource development. The same year, the plaintiffs filed a motion for contempt of court and asked for the appointment of a general receiver.

1995: Judge Hogan found the District in contempt, and called for the appointment of a general receiver.

Fall, 1995 - June, 1997: A general receiver was appointed but his tenure was marked by extreme controversy. As a result, Judge Hogan accepted his resignation in June 1997, and ordered a national search for a new receiver.

Fall, 1997: Ernestine Jones appointed as receiver.

September 1998: The CSFA submits to the court a strategic plan that includes the organizational structure, mission statement, goals and objectives. The plan also provides a management strategy for the programs serviced by the agency -- foster care, adoption services, and child protective services.

Background on DC Adoption Day and DC Child Welfare Services

At this event, the White House will for the first time host D.C. Adoption Day, an annual event in which the D.C. Superior Court finalizes a number of adoptions to mark National Adoption Month. As you know, the DC Superior Court invited you to participate in this ceremony, and you offered to host it at the White House. This is the 12th annual event, with a record 24 families participating in the ceremony (descriptions of families attached). This year's theme selected by the Court is "Adoption: Creating Loving Families for the Twenty-First Century." DC Superior Court Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton will preside over this portion of the White House ceremony, and will introduce each of the participating families.

As you know, the District's child welfare system has had many problems over the years, culminating in 1991 in a major lawsuit in which the District was found in violation of its own laws and that of the Federal and constitutional law. Reforms did not move quickly, and in 1995 the Judge found the District in contempt and called for the appointment of a general receiver. The receiver's 1995-1997 tenure was marked by extreme controversy; the Judge accepted his resignation and ordered a national search for a new receiver. Since the appointment last fall of Ernestine Jones as the new general receiver, the situation has improved for the most part, with task forces assigned to examine and address major challenges. Today, there is an Adoption 2002 partnership agreement between the DC Child and Family Services Agency and HHS to double, over a five year period, the number of children adopted or permanently placed in DC each year.

As of March 31, 1998, there were 3,081 children in foster care in DC. Of that number, 975 have either a case plan that specifies adoption or have had parental rights terminated, or both. Thirty-one percent are under the age of five; 77 percent are under the age of 10, and 95 percent are under the age of 13. The vast majority (97.7 percent) are black.

**TWELFTH ANNUAL
ADOPTION DAY IN COURT
NOVEMBER 24, 1998**

OPEN YOUR HOME

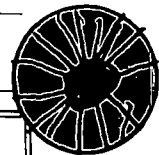
**"ADOPTION: CREATING
LOVING FAMILIES FOR THE
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY"**

**OPEN
YOUR
HEART**



**THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
AND
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY**

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11/23ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11/23 6:00pmSubject: Adoption Remarks

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
PODESTA	☒	☐	REED	☒	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	RUFF	☐	☐
LEW	☒	☐	SMITH	☐	☐
BEGALA	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SPERLING	☐	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STEIN	☐	☐
FRAMPTON	☐	☐	STERN	☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
KLAIN	☐	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
LANE	☐	☐	VERVEER	☒	☐
LEWIS	☒	☐	WALDMAN	☒	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	YELLEN	☐	☐
LOCKHART	☐	☒	<u>Klein</u>	☒	☐
MARSHALL	☐	☐	<u>Rubner</u> →	☒	☐
MOORE	☐	☐	<u>Kagan</u>	☒	☐
				☐	☐

states -

REMARKS:

Comments to LIT Shesol

RESPONSE:

Joker State



Draft 11/23/98 12:00pm
Jeff Shesol

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS AT NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH EVENT
THE EAST ROOM
November 24, 1998

TBD
Acknowledgments: the First Lady; Sec. Shalala; Gov. Edgar and Mrs. Edgar; DC Mayor Marion Barry; DC Mayor-elect Anthony Williams; Chief Judge Hamilton; Dave Thomas, head of Wendy's and the Dave Thomas Foundation; other speaker TBD

First, let me congratulate the families who have opened their arms today to new members -- and for making this momentous occasion a public one, so other Americans can share in their joy and, we hope, follow their example. I also want to extend my congratulations to this year's Adoption 2002 Award winners, and to offer you my gratitude for all the work you are doing in your states and your communities to encourage adoption. And the First Lady, as all of you know, has been working on this issue almost as long as I have known her, and I want to thank her for leading our efforts to make sure all our children spend the holidays -- and every other day -- with families that love and care for them.

The families who join us here today have something new -- someone new -- to be grateful for in this season of Thanksgiving. The expressions you are wearing today make a powerful statement: when we give, we grow. And, to a child in foster care, there can be no greater gift than a strong and loving family. There is no greater need than for a decent and orderly upbringing; and no greater desire than for a safe, healthy, and happy home.

That is why I have pledged my administration to help our foster children find the homes - - and the futures -- they deserve. The First Lady and other speakers, I know, have told you about the ways we are making good on that pledge... reforming our nation's approach to foster care and adoption... making the system work better for the children and families it serves. We are getting ever closer to our goal of doubling the number of children adopted by the year 2002. I am pleased to report that between 1996 and 1997, the number of adoptions increased by 10 percent, from 28,000 to 31,000. *or per m placed*
** States are doing imp wk -*

We know, however, that the number of adoptions is not the only measure of our progress. The real measure is whether our child welfare system puts the health and safety of children above all... whether children have the chance to live out their dreams and fulfill their potential... whether families who open their arms can reach -- to embrace -- a child in need.

As we celebrate National Adoption Month, Americans can take pride in the progress we are making. Still, we know there is more work to be done. We know that geographic and other barriers to adoption still exist. We also know we must do a better job in informing America's

families about the many children that wait in foster care for permanent, adoptive homes. To give those children the future they deserve, to give our families the opportunity to provide them with happy, healthy homes, we must take technology as a partner -- and propel the public child welfare system into the 21st Century.

Today, therefore, I am directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to work with the states, the courts, and private agencies, and to report to me within 60 days on a plan for a national, Internet-based registry of children waiting to be adopted. There are 100,000 children waiting in foster care for permanent, adoptive homes. The Internet holds the potential to shorten their wait -- to make an online link between foster care centers and families looking to adopt. Some states and private partners are already forging these connections, bringing together families in Alaska and children in Pennsylvania, for example. We want to build on these efforts to the ^{and} extent that it is possible ~~of~~ appropriate. By working closely with the states, we can use the Internet to promote adoptions while protecting the confidentiality of children and families. Technology gives us an important tool. We should use it.

Thanksgiving, again, is approaching; and families all across our nation are coming together to express their gratitude for the things that matter most. We sometimes speak of the comforts of home as the "small blessings"; but, when you look in the eyes of these grateful children and their adoptive families, we remember that there are few greater blessings. I would like to encourage more families to follow the example of those who join us here today -- to open their arms, and their hearts, to children who need loving homes. When we resolve to give our children the futures they deserve, we are blessed not only as individuals, but as a nation. Thank you -- and let me wish a very Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

I would now like to invite all of you to celebrate this special day at a reception in the State Dining Room.



Dave Thomas

Founder and Senior Chairman of the Board

Dave Thomas was born on July 2, 1932, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He never knew his birth parents, but a couple from Kalamazoo, Mich., Rex and Auleva Thomas adopted him when he was six weeks old. Auleva died when Dave was five and his early years included numerous moves from state to state as his adoptive father sought work.

These frequent moves proved challenging for Dave, who found himself without roots or a sense of belonging. Always the new kid on the block, Dave sought refuge in work. One of the things he enjoyed most during his childhood was going to restaurants to eat. There he'd see families eating together and enjoying the friendly atmosphere. He decided at an early age that he was going to have his own restaurant with great tasting food where families would visit again and again.

The Early Years

Dave started working at age 12, delivering groceries in Knoxville, but was fired after a misunderstanding with his boss about his vacation. His second job was as a soda jerk at Walgreen's, but he was fired again when his boss found out Dave wasn't 16.

While applying for his next job, 12-year-old Dave landed a job at the counter at the Regas Restaurant in Knoxville. He worked hard during his 12-hour shifts, afraid he'd lose yet another job. The Regas brothers treated Dave like one of the family, providing him with encouragement and a caring mentorship that had a positive and lasting effect on him.

By the time Dave was 15, he had moved again and was working full-time at the Hobby House Restaurant in Ft. Wayne. As his father and step family prepared for another move, Dave decided to stay in town and took a room at the local YMCA. Shortly thereafter, he made the biggest mistake in his life: he dropped out of high school to work full-time. He thought he could learn more about the restaurant business with a hands-on education than he could learn in school.

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When he was 18, Dave joined the Army, eventually becoming one of the youngest soldiers to manage an enlisted men's club. After the service he returned to the Hobby House, where he met his future wife, Lorraine, a waitress, whom he married in 1954.

Dave Meets The Colonel

In 1956, Dave and his boss Phil Clauss opened a barbecue restaurant called The Ranch House. There, Dave met the man who became one of the greatest influences in his life -- Colonel Harland Sanders, founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken. Clauss bought a KFC franchise from the Colonel and Dave was in the chicken business.

In 1962, Clauss offered Dave a chance to turn around four failing KFC carryouts Clauss owned in Columbus, Ohio. If Dave could turn the carryouts around and pay off a big debt, Clauss would give him 45 percent of the business.

Although daunting, this was the kind of challenge Dave liked. He realized the restaurants were failing because they lacked focus. He cut the 100-item menu to a handful of choices, focusing on chicken and side items. To increase public awareness, Dave added the famous bucket of chicken logo, and implemented some effective marketing campaigns that included trading buckets of chicken for radio air time. The restaurants began to prosper and he added four more restaurants. In 1968, his boss sold the restaurants back to KFC for \$1.5 million, making Dave a millionaire at age 35. He then joined the parent company as regional operations director.

The Call of Hamburgers

While working for KFC, Thomas remained drawn to hamburgers. Although experts said America didn't need another hamburger restaurant, Dave opened the first Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers restaurant on November 15, 1969, in Columbus. He named the restaurant after his eight-year-old daughter Melinda Lou, nicknamed "Wendy" by her older brother and sisters.

The first Wendy's menu included fresh, made-to-order hamburgers, chili, french fries, soft drinks and a Frosty Dairy Dessert. The decor was homey, with bentwood chairs and tiffany-style lamps. Thomas planned to open several restaurants around Columbus, giving his children a place to work during the summers.

Page 3

Competitors scoffed at this young entrepreneur, but Wendy's grew and prospered. In 1973, Dave began franchising the Wendy's concept, pioneering the idea of selling franchises for entire cities and parts of states, rather than single units.

Wendy's grew rapidly, with more than 1,000 restaurants opening in its first 100 months. That rapid growth continues: Wendy's and its franchisees now operate more than 4,800 restaurants in the U.S. and 34 countries.

The TV Spokesman

In early 1989, Dave agreed to appear in "a few" Wendy's commercials as the company spokesman. In April, the Dave Thomas campaign began, and the homey style of the advertising has made Dave one of the nation's most recognizable spokesmen.

In September, 1996, the Dave Thomas campaign reached a special milestone when Dave filmed his landmark 500th commercial, making this the longest running advertising campaign featuring a company founder as spokesperson.

While advertising a variety of Wendy's products, Dave has appeared with several famous celebrities in his commercials, including soap opera star Susan Lucci, blues great B.B. King and Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi. Dave has emerged from Wendy's advertising campaign as an American folk hero. His honesty and old fashioned values shine through and have solidified his popularity.

Dave as a Canadian Mountie?

In 1995, Wendy's merged with Tim Hortons, the second largest quick-service restaurant chain in Canada, which features coffee and fresh baked goods. Tim Hortons will be operated as a Wendy's subsidiary. This partnership enabled Dave to realize another dream: this merger enhances Wendy's growth and strength as a worldwide company while encouraging the development opportunities of both chains. Dave believes the merger is a marriage of two strong companies that were founded on the concept of quality and service.

The Importance of Giving Back

Dave strongly believes in giving back to the communities that support you. He is a long-time supporter of a variety of charities, such as St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis; Children's Hospital in Columbus; Children's Home Society of Florida; and The Ohio State University Cancer Research Institute.

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A cause closest to his heart is adoption. In 1990, he became a national spokesman for the White House Initiative on adoption, called "Adoption Works ... For Everyone." Since then, Dave has been a national adoption advocate, working to raise awareness for the tens of thousands of children who need permanent homes and loving families.

In 1992, Dave established the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, a not-for-profit foundation focused on raising public awareness about adoption, helping reduce the red tape from the process, and making adoption more affordable.

Dave donates all of his profits from sales of his autobiography *Dave's Way*, published in 1991, and his second book, *Well Done!*, published in 1994, to the foundation.

Personal Accomplishments

While dropping out of school was Dave's biggest mistake, it led to one of his greatest accomplishments. In 1993, 45 years after leaving school, Dave earned his GED certificate and received his high school diploma from Coconut Creek High School in Ft. Lauderdale. He was voted Most Likely to Succeed by the graduating class, and attended the prom with his wife Lorraine, where they were named Prom King and Queen.

From his early days as a soda jerk and short order cook, to becoming an entrepreneur and TV spokesman, Dave has been recognized for his work in the restaurant industry and for children. He's a Horatio Alger Award recipient, holds honorary degrees from Duke, Baylor and Clemson Universities, among many others, and is a 33° degree Mason.

Dave has received every major restaurant industry honor and countless Entrepreneur and Man of the Year awards. The adoption community has honored him with a variety of awards, and Dave has attended special receptions at the White House in recognition for his work for adoption. He has also testified before Congress in support of tax credits for adoptive parents.

On the rare occasions when he's not in the studio making commercials or traveling the country for interviews or speeches, you might find Dave on the golf course, perfecting his game. A golf lover, Dave has played in dozens of charity golf tournaments, including Wendy's Three-Tour Challenge benefiting adoption.

Dave's commitment to Wendy's and to America's children is what motivates him to continue working when others might have retired. He's accomplished a great deal in his life, but he considers his family -- his loving wife of more than 40 years, five children and 14 grandchildren his greatest accomplishment.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

HONORABLE EUGENE N. HAMILTON

Chief Judge Hamilton was born in Memphis, Tennessee, and attended public schools in Memphis from kindergarten through senior high school, graduating from Hyde Park Elementary School in 1947 and Manassas High School in 1951. Chief Judge Hamilton attended LeMoyne Owen College from 1951-1952, and then received both his B.A. and his LL.B. degrees from the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. From 1959-1961, Chief Judge Hamilton served on active duty as a Judge Advocate General Officer in the United States Army. Immediately after being released from active duty in April of 1961, Chief Judge Hamilton joined the Civil Division of the United States Department of Justice where he served as a trial attorney until his appointment to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1970.

Chief Judge Hamilton has been in active service on the Superior Court since his appointment and he has served in all of the various Divisions of the Court. From 1987 until January 1992, Chief Judge Hamilton served as Chairperson of the Judicial Training Committee of the Superior Court. Chief Judge Hamilton has served as the Chairperson of the Continuing Legal Education Advisory Board, Georgetown University Law Center and is presently on the faculty at the Harvard Law School in the Trial Advocacy Workshop. Chief Judge Hamilton is a former member of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Trial Judges of the Judicial

Administration Division of the American Bar Association. Chief Judge Hamilton is active in the American, Washington, and National Bar Associations.

After serving as the Deputy Presiding Judge of the Probate and Tax Divisions of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, he was, on January 1, 1992, appointed Presiding Judge of those Divisions. Chief Judge Hamilton has continuously served on the Joint Committee for Judicial Administration of the District of Columbia Courts since being elected thereto in November 1991. On October 29, 1993, Chief Judge Hamilton was designated as Chief Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, becoming the second African American to hold that office. Chief Judge Hamilton was redesignated for a second term effective November 1, 1997.

Chief Judge Hamilton is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Luke Charles Moore Academy, formerly D.C. Street Academy, the only District of Columbia Public School that has an independent Board of Directors. Chief Judge Hamilton is one of the founders of The Elementary Baseball Tutoring and Mentoring Program of Garrison Elementary School as well as the National Reclaim Our Youth Mentoring Program.

Chief Judge Hamilton is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the District of Columbia School of Law. He is the recipient of many awards including the *Washington Bar Association's Ollie May Cooper Award*, the *Washington Urban League Inc.'s Images of Fatherhood Loving Lifting Hands Award*,

the State of Maryland Governor's Citation for Outstanding Services to the Children of the State, the National Rainbow Coalition Citizenship Education Fund's Reclaim Our Youth Award For Outstanding Service to the Youth of this Nation, and the Luke Charles Moore Award and the National Bar Association's Wiley A. Branton Award.

Chief Judge Hamilton is married to the former Virginia David and they have nine children: Alexandra Jane Evanzz, John Steven, James Poole, Eric Eugene, David Nolan, Rachael Allyson, Jeremiah Quincy, Michael Kyle, Marcus Keith, and five grandchildren: Aaron, Kanaan, Arianna, Adrian and Yorlando.

Chief Judge Hamilton together with his wife, Virginia, has served for over twenty (20) years as foster parents for forty (40) children who were in the child welfare systems of both the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland. Michael and Marcus who are twins were foster children in which the Chief Judge and Mrs. Hamilton adopted 1986. One of the Hamilton's daughters has herself seen fit based on life experiences , to adopt a child.

Williams '98 Transition

1730 K Street, N.W., Suite 202
Washington, D.C. 20005

Anthony A. Williams

Anthony A. Williams served as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the District of Columbia from October 1995 to June 1998. Appointed by Mayor Marion Barry to lead the District to financial recovery, Mr. Williams restored fiscal accountability for District agencies, balanced the city's budget, which put the District on a track for the return to self government two years earlier than projected, and delivered a surplus of \$185 million in fiscal year 1997.

Having stabilized the city's financial management, Mr. Williams resigned as CFO in June to run for mayor. Mr. Williams brought extensive experience in management and strategic planning to his role as the District's independent CFO. Under his leadership, the District achieved significant improvements in cash management, budget execution and revenue collections.

Prior to joining the District government, Mr. Williams was the first Chief Financial Officer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, appointed by President Bill Clinton and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Mr. Williams also served as the Deputy State Comptroller of Connecticut, where he was responsible for the management of 250 separate funds, the state's budget and accounting services.

Mr. Williams was the Executive Director of the Community Development Agency in St. Louis, Assistant Director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, and Adjunct Professor at Columbia University. He was elected to the New Haven Board of Aldermen, where he served as President Pro-Tempore.

Born in Los Angeles, Mr. Williams is the adopted son of Virginia and the late Lewis Williams and is one of eight children. Mr. Williams served in the U.S. Air Force. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Yale College, where he graduated magna cum laude, a juris doctorate from Harvard Law and a master's degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Mr. Williams is a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church, as well as several social service organizations, including 100 Black Men and the Washington Urban League.

He and his wife, Diane, live in Ward 2. They have one daughter, Asantewa Foster.

**REMARKS OF CHIEF JUDGE
EUGENE N. HAMILTON
WHITE HOUSE
NOVEMBER 24, 1998**

Thank you Mrs. Clinton for those kind words. Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton...

This is Adoption Day in Court 1998 in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. This is the Twelfth Annual Adoption Day.

ACKNOWLEDGE SELECTED MEMBERS OF JUDICIARY AND GENERAL RECEIVER

Adoption Day is normally held in the Atrium of the Moultrie Courthouse of the District of Columbia, but this year, through the most generous invitation of the First Lady, the Twelfth Annual Adoption Day in Court is being held here in the East Room of the White House. These proceedings are being simul-cast back to the Moultrie Courthouse by BET as a public service.

On Adoption Day in Court, the Superior Court, with the consent of adopting parents, opens adoption proceedings to the public. We do this to give community recognition to the outstanding people who so unselfishly open their hearts, homes and families to give children a safe and permanent home through adoption.

The Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 mandates that children in the child welfare system be placed in safe and permanent homes within a much shorter period than ever before. We must, therefore, increase the number of qualified persons willing to become adoptive parents. We are sure that conducting our Adoption Day in the People's House, the White House, will significantly advance this objective. I am sure that many will be inspired by these proceedings to step up and become adoptive parents and will learn as so many others have that adoption is a magnificent experience.

Twenty-four families, are here with us today who have filed adoption petition for a total of thirty children. I have reviewed the Agency reports that recommended that these petitions be granted, and based thereon, I have just signed the adoption orders for these very special and beautiful children. Let me introduce them and their families to you: I ask that the families please stand as I identify you and ask that the audience please hold your applause until the end.

1. Richard Ira Honig & Dita Verheig-Honig are adopting Saige.
2. Albert & Barbara Elmore are adopting Evander Lee and Christina.

3. Ms. Vannessia E. Davenport Campbell is adopting LaTonya Renee.
4. Frances A. Cowan is adopting, Shirlene Marie & Gregory Rashawn.
5. Ms Barbara I. Ruffin, is adopting Victoria and Vivian.
6. Jeffrey & Rochelle Barnes are adopting Fertiree Autumn Deshawn and Niles Tyshawn
7. Edward & Rochelle Mays are adopting Steven and Charday.
8. Janet and Wendell Myers are today adopting Destiny Marie.
9. Robin and Bernard Jackson are today adopting Naomi.
10. Keith & Nancy Wawrzyniak (WAR-ZIN-EAC) are today adopting Kenika Starlite.
11. Vannessia & Leroy Chambers are today adopting Angela Lakeisha.
12. Clarence and Yvette Evans are today adopting Nakia Ashley.
13. James Dukes & Alicia Dukes-Smith are adopting Constantina Elizabeth.
14. Kenneth and Deborah Washington are adopting LaTasha.
15. David Edward Sahr (SAR) and Lori Ruth Milstein are adopting Joshua.
16. David & Paula Robinson are adopting Sean Mykiel.
17. Joseph and Susan Garcia are adopting Everett.
18. Willis and Joyce Miller are adopting Pamela Rena.
19. Margie L. Barnes is adopting Latonya.
20. Sergeant Terri Tanya Alexander is adopting Sarah Laya.
21. Sherry Thomas is adopting Malik.
22. Rhoda Zione is today adopting Kahlil.

23. Stephanie Kay Eshelman is adopting Brittany.

24. Ellen M. Wells is today adopting Jessica.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I hope the commitments we see here today inspire many, many others to come forward for children in need of a safe and permanent home.

Ladies and Gentlemen: before this Adoption Day In Court Program was invited to the White House, Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams had so generously accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker. We asked Mr. Williams to be the speaker because he was the fortunate beneficiary of a safe and permanent home and loving family through the adoption process.

Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am honored to present to you Mayor-Elect of the District of Columbia, Anthony Williams.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Chief Judge Annice M. Wagner
D.C. Court of Appeals

Judge George W. Mitchell
Presiding Judge
Family Division

Judge Zinora Mitchell-Rankin
Deputy Presiding Judge
Family Division

Former Presiding Judges of the Family Division
Judge Bruce Mencher
Judge Geoffrey Alprin
Judge Susan Winfield

Ms Ernestine Jones
General Receiver
Child & Family Services

Remarks of Sualala

(HRC praise
to add)

Good afternoon. Quite often we gather here at the White House to talk about stern policy matters, pressing public business, and urgent problems.

But today, as Thanksgiving Day approaches, let me give thanks for the story we're here to tell.

A story that's told in the faces of the families here today. And you can sum it up in one word: That word is love.

It's the basic need of every child.

Of course, young people know more about love than we might think.

Recently, a group of boys and girls agreed to share their feelings about it.

Jill, age 6 said, "I'm in favor of love as long as it doesn't interfere with my favorite program, 'Dinosaurs.'"

Regina, age 9 said, "I'm not rushing into being in love. I'm finding fourth grade hard enough."

And Ava, age 10 said, "One of you should know how to write a check. Because even if you have tons of love, there's still going to be a lot of bills."

That last comment is especially wise—it shows that even young people know it takes more than love to make a family.

That's especially true about making new families like those we're celebrating today.

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They also need the support of government to encourage adoptions.

That's why last year, the First Family posed a new challenge for the nation --to double the number of adoptions by the year 2002.

Part of the President's Adoption 2002 strategy is to offer special awards for excellence--whether it's increasing adoptions, supporting adoptive families, or improving adoption law to promote adoptions.

Today, it's my privilege to recognize this year's eight award winners. Those of you here, I'd like you to stand briefly and be recognized:

The Georgia Department of Human Resources.

Tim O'Hara of the NACAC of Columbus, Ohio.

The Kansas Association of Broadcasters.

The Three Rivers Adoption Council.

Judge Max Baer from the Allegheny County Juvenile Court, Family Division.

The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Hope for Children, Incorporated, of Rantoul, Illinois.

And finally, the first family of Illinois, Governor James Edgar and Brenda Edgar.

Congratulations to all of you.

The work you've done will keep on giving. Not only to the new families you've created, but by inspiring and showing others how it's done.

And now I'm proud to introduce a leading private partner in our efforts to strengthen adoption.

He's Dave Thomas, founder of The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption.

And of course, the founder and chairman of Wendy's. Dave?

Quite often we gather here at the White House to talk about stern policy matters, pressing public business, and urgent problems. But today, as Thanksgiving Day approaches, let me give thanks for the story we're here to tell. A story that's told in the faces of the families here today. And you can sum it up in one word: That word is love. It's the basic need of every child.

Of course, young people know more about love than we might think. Recently, a group of boys and girls agreed to share their feelings about it. Jill, age 6 said, "I'm in favor of love as long as it doesn't interfere with my favorite program, 'Dinosaurs.'" Regina, age 9 said, "I'm not rushing into being in love. I'm finding fourth grade hard enough." And Ava, age 10 said, "One of you should know how to write a check. Because even if you have tons of love, there's still going to be a lot of bills."

That last comment is especially wise—it shows that even young people know it takes more than love to make a family. That's especially true about making new families like those we're celebrating today. Families who adopt need the support of their relatives, their clergy and their communities. They also need the support of government to encourage adoptions. That's why young people who need families are lucky to have two friends in the White House. From the start, the President and Mrs. Clinton have strongly supported ways to find and help adopting families.

I especially want to commend the commitment of our First Lady. For twenty-five years, she's championed adoption. She's helped focus the national spotlight on this issue. And she's worked tirelessly to address the needs of families who adopt and the children who are waiting for homes.

Last year, the First Family posed a new challenge for the nation --to double the number of adoptions by the year 2002. Part of the President's Adoption 2002 strategy is to offer special awards for excellence--whether it's increasing adoptions, supporting adoptive families, or improving adoption law to promote adoptions. Today, it's my privilege to recognize this year's eight award winners. Those of you here, I'd like you to stand briefly and be recognized: The Georgia Department of Human Resources. Tim O'Hara of the NACAC of Columbus, Ohio. The Kansas Association of Broadcasters. The Three Rivers Adoption Council. Judge Max Baer from the Allegheny County Juvenile Court, Family Division. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Hope for Children, Incorporated, of Rantoul, Illinois. And finally, the first family of Illinois, Governor James Edgar and Brenda Edgar. Congratulations to all of you. The work you've done will keep on giving. Not only to the new families you've created, but by inspiring and showing others how it's done.

**DATE: 11/16/98**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
200 INDEPENDENCE AVE., SW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201**

PHONE: (202) 690-6311**FAX: (202) 690-8425**

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION
HUMAN SERVICES LEGISLATION
ROOM 413 H HUMPHREY BUILDING**

FROM:

TO : Elisa Millsap
Nicole Rabner ✓

[XX] MARY M. BOURDETTE
Deputy Asst. Sec.

OFFICE : WH

ROOM NO :

PHONE NO :

FAX NO : 410-2878

TOTAL PAGES
INCLUDING COVER): 3

REMARKS: Here's a list of hill folks you should consider inviting to 11/24 Adoption event at WH. Let me know what the final list looks like and/or if we should add names or give you priorities among these. Thanks.

POTENTIAL ADOPTION EVENT
CONGRESSIONAL LIST

SENATE

Sen. Craig	Co-Chair, Adoption Coalition
Sen. Landrieu	Co-Chair, Adoption Coalition
Sen. Roth	Chair, Finance Committee
Sen. Moynihan	Ranking, Finance Committee
Sen. Chafee	Chair, Family Subcommittee & ASFA sponsor
Sen. Breaux	Ranking, Family Subcommittee
Sen. Rockefeller	ASFA sponsor
Sen. DeWine	
Sen. Grassley	
Sen. Levin	
Sen. Jeffords	Chairman, Labor Committee
Sen. Coats	Chairman, Children and Families Subcommittee
Sen. Kennedy	Ranking, Labor Committee
Sen. Dodd	Ranking, Children and Families Subcommittee
Sen. Specter	Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee
Sen. Harkin	Ranking, Appropriations Subcommittee

HOUSE

Rep. Bliley	Co-Chair, Adoption Coalition
Rep. Oberstar	Co-Chair, Adoption Coalition
Rep. Archer	Chair, Ways & Means
Rep. Shaw	Chair, Ways & Means, Human Resources Subcommittee
Rep. Rangel	Ranking, Ways & Means
Rep. Levin	Ranking, Ways & Means, Human Resources Subcommittee
Rep. Camp	ASFA sponsor
Rep. Kennelly	ASFA co-sponsor
Rep. Cardin	
Rep. Castle	
Rep. Deborah Pryce	
Del. Norton	

Rep. Goodling	Chairman, Education & the Workforce
Rep. Clay	Ranking, Education & the Workforce
Rep. Martinez	Ranking, Early Childhood, Youth & Families Subcommittee

Rep. Porter	Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee
Rep. Obey	Ranking, Appropriations Subcommittee

CONGRESSIONAL STAFF

Ron Haskins	(Shaw, W&M staff)
Casie Bevan	(Shaw, W&M staff)
Nick Gwyn	(Levin, W&M staff)
Behrends Foster	(Camp)
Laurie Rubiner	(Chafee)
Barbara Pryor	(Rockefeller)
Doug Steiger	(Moynihan, Finance staff)
Alex Vachon	(Roth, Finance staff)
Karla Carpenter	(DeWine)
Brooke Roberts	(Craig, Adoption Coalition)
Sarah Gesiriech	(Grassley)
Jackie Parker	(Levin)
Kimberley Barnes-O'Connor	(Jeffords, Labor staff)
Stephanie Monroe	(Coats, Labor staff)
Stephanie Robinson	(Kennedy, Labor staff)
Suzanne Day	(Dodd, Labor staff)

HHS NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Kharfen
(202) 401-9215

HHS AWARDS EXCELLENCE IN PROMOTING ADOPTION

Secretary Shalala, President and Mrs. Clinton recognize individuals and organizations for contributions to helping children find permanent homes

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala today announced the 1998 recipients of the Department of Health and Human Services' "Adoption 2002" Excellence Awards. The awards were highlighted at a White House ceremony celebrating November as National Adoption Month. At the event, President and Mrs. Clinton honored the recipients for giving abandoned, neglected, or abused children a loving family and a safe and nurturing home.

Secretary Shalala also called for increased efforts to recruit and strengthen adoptive families and to shorten the time that children spend in foster care. She reported that the President's message to promote adoption is showing some results. From 1996 to 1997, adoptions increased by more than 10 percent -- from 28,000 to 31,000 -- the first significant increase since the federal program was established. However, HHS estimates that there are still more than 100,000 children who cannot return to their birth families and need families to adopt them. Typically, children awaiting adoption spend more than three years in foster care.

To help states and communities meet the goal of doubling the number of adoptions by 2002, HHS intends to develop a plan for expanding the use of the internet. By putting the photos of children who are legally available for adoption on a national internet service, the time that a child waits to find an adoptive family could be shortened. The plan also will identify important issues and strategies for addressing them, and examine ways to build on existing efforts that are underway in some states.

"One year ago President Clinton made history by signing the Adoption and Safe Families Act. That new law built on the administration's track record of breaking down barriers to adoption and established new tools to attain his goal of doubling the number of children adopted from foster care," said Secretary Shalala. "Today we honor the individuals and organizations who have demonstrated commitment and leadership in helping to find permanent and safe homes for children in foster care."

"Adoption 2002" is the HHS response to President Clinton's initiative to double by that year the number of children in foster care who are adopted or otherwise permanently placed. Many of the recommendations of the "Adoption 2002" report were included in the Adoption and

- More -

- 2 -

Safe Families Act. The recommendations included unprecedented financial incentives to states to increase adoptions, put the safety of children first in placement decisions, and set swifter time frames for permanent placement decisions. It also recommended annual honors to those who make exemplary contributions toward meeting the President's goal.

"President Clinton has set an ambitious and critical challenge to the country to provide all children in foster care with permanent homes," said Olivia A. Golden, HHS assistant secretary for children and families. "In the past year we have witnessed an unprecedented collaboration between the federal, state and local governments with foundations, businesses and citizens to work together for adoption. Today's remarkable honorees have earned our most heartfelt appreciation."

The 1998 awards recognized contributions by adoptive families and leadership by individuals as well as outstanding performance by organizations. A committee representing non-profit adoption agencies, child welfare and adoption advocates, adoptive parents, foundations, the business community, and state and federal offices reviewed and evaluated more than 65 nominations and selected eight winners in five categories.

The winners by category are:

Individual or Family Contributions

- **Tim O'Hanlon, Ph.D. Ohio North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC), Columbus, OH.** Dr. O'Hanlon volunteers his time as the state representative for Ohio with NACAC. He created and maintains the Adoption Policy Resource Center web site, and he has authored several books and articles on Adoption Advocacy.
- **Governor and Mrs. Jim Edgar, State of Illinois, Springfield, IL.** Governor and Mrs. Edgar are long-time champions of children's initiatives. They convened Project HEART to advise the state of Illinois in streamlining its adoption system and launched the Corporate Recruitment Initiative with the Illinois Hospital and Health Systems Association. Illinois adoptions have increased from 708 in 1991 to 4,239 in FY98.

Increased Adoptions

- **Georgia Department of Human Resources, Office of Adoptions, Atlanta, GA.** Adoptions have increased 66 percent since FY95. Regional Adoption Coordinators were placed in state service areas to advocate adoption and track the progress of adoptive children; privatization of services and placement was emphasized.
- **Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Springfield, IL.** Finalized adoptions were increased from 2,229 in FY97 to 4,293 in FY98. The "Illinois Permanency Initiative," to enable the department and juvenile courts to act more quickly in moving children to permanency, was enacted.

- More -

- 3 -

Support for Adoptive Families

- **Hope for the Children, Inc., Rantoul, IL.** In FY98, 13 families were supported in adopting 14 children, 13 children are in the process of adoption, and three await court determinations; 53 volunteers provided 17,620 volunteer hours to the families. The agency also partnered with Ronald McDonald House Charities to bring nearly \$8 million to communities for an intergenerational neighborhood care and support model.
- **Three Rivers Adoption Council, Pittsburgh, PA.** The agency partnered with Black Adoption Services to complete family and child profiles and host a Celebration of Families for 600 people. It also joined the Exchange to serve 539 families and 869 children, leading to the placement of over 300 children. Post-placement services were provided to over 70 adoptive and foster families.

Philanthropy

- **Kansas Association of Broadcasters, Topeka, KS.** KAB partnered with Kansas Families for Kids to produce radio and television spots valued at \$314,786, which resulted in an average of 200 calls per month. As a result, the number of children adopted in Kansas increased by 50 percent in just one year. KAB also began the "Kid of the Month, which features increased air time for hard-to-place children, developed an extensive web site, and financed the first sibling reunion camp for 90 children separated in the Kansas foster care and adoption systems.

Judicial Improvement

- **Judge Max Baer, Allegheny Juvenile Court, Family Division, Pittsburgh, PA.** As a result of Judge Baer's activities, Allegheny County doubled the number of adoptions to 457 in FY97-98. He initiated the Statewide Adoption Network Legal Project to eliminate barriers to adoption and expedite adoptions through private and public partnership. He established the One Judge/One Family policy to ensure consistency in judicial oversight and strengthened it with The Masters Project to alleviate overcrowding at the Juvenile Court. He also supported the Family Mediation Adoption Project which involved birth parents to identify solutions that may have delayed adoption.

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Note: HHS press releases are available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.hhs.gov>.

DRAFT

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SUBJECT: Using the Internet to Increase Adoptions

Technology will be an ever more important part of achieving our national goals as we approach the new millennium. New technological tools mean new opportunities for progress -- helping us to strengthen the global economy, bolster public education, and improve the health of American families. Technology can also assist our continuing efforts to meet our national goal of doubling, by the year 2002, adoptions and other permanent placements from our Nation's foster care system.

As we celebrate National Adoption Month, it is fitting that we reflect on the important steps we have taken to strengthen our child welfare system and, specifically, to improve the process of adoption. Through the Family and Medical Leave Act and tax credits, we have made it easier for families to adopt children. We have eliminated discrimination and delay based on race and ethnicity. And, last year, I was proud to sign into law the Adoption and Safe Families Act, tightening the time frame for decision-making and affirming that the health and safety of children in foster care must always come first.

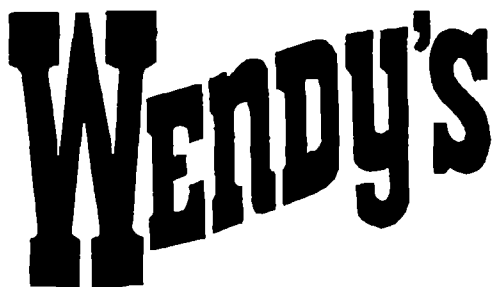
We are making progress but there is more work to be done. Because geographic and other barriers to adoption still exist, we must do a better job of informing America's families about the many children that wait in foster care for permanent, adoptive homes. To give those children the future they deserve, to give our families the opportunity to provide them with happy, healthy homes, we must infuse the public child welfare system with the power of technology.

Therefore, I am directing you to work with the States, courts, private agencies, and others to develop a plan for expanding appropriate use of the Internet as a tool to find homes for children waiting to be adopted from the public child

DRAFT

welfare system. There are approximately 100,000 children in our country waiting in foster care for permanent adoptive homes. Sharing information through a national Internet registry about children legally available for adoption could shorten the time needed to find adoptive families for such children. Because of the way the child welfare system is structured, close consultation with the States will be necessary to take full advantage of the Internet's potential to promote adoptions while also ensuring appropriate confidentiality safeguards.

You should report to me within 60 days with a plan to carry out this consultation, identify important issues and strategies to address them, and build on promising existing efforts to create an effective, national registry.



b-6201

COMMUNICATIONS

DATE: November 18, 1998

TO: Nicole Rabner

FROM: Kitty Munger *Kitty*

RE: Specialty Media List

Following are the media contacts that our agency would like to invite to the Adoption Event next week.

If necessary, we can take a second look at it and pare it down if you feel it is too extensive.

Thanks, Nicole.

White House Event Media Invitation List**Jasper Van Santen**

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Good Morning America Washington DC

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Bureau Chief

The Today Show Washington DC

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Producer

CBS This Morning Washington DC

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Mel Morton, News Assignment Editor**WUSA-TV, Channel 9****Network: CBS**

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Vision for a National Website **Serving America's Waiting Children**

THE VISION

The American public will know that there are thousands of U.S. children who wait to be adopted and that there is a single website on the Internet that will show pictures and descriptions of waiting children and provide information about how to adopt. As a result, chances will increase significantly that America's waiting children will find the safety, permanence and well-being that adoption provides.

THE CURRENT WEBSITE-- *FACES of Adoption: America's Waiting Children*

Background

In April, 1995, the National Adoption Center created a website--***FACES of Adoption: America's Waiting Children***--on which is included photographs and descriptions of waiting children from throughout the country and a section called AdoptionQuest, which provides a wealth of adoption information. Since the passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997, there has been a dramatic increase in states' usage of the Center's website.

Components

- Photos and descriptions of waiting children
- *AdoptionQuest* - An information and referral area featuring state adoption resources, information on how to adopt, adoptive parenting, special needs issues, financial assistance and more
- Downloadable information packets
- Direct contact with families via email

Target Population: Children featured on *FACES* are:

- Generally over age 5, with one or more physical, mental or emotional disabilities, often part of a sibling group of 3 or more; 88 percent are of minority racial or ethnic backgrounds
- Legally free for adoption.
- Will not be adopted by their foster parents, and
- Have no adoptive family identified.

Children and Families Served January through September 1998 *

- 1000 children are currently registered, a 300 % increase
- 38 states utilizing the system - 131% increase
- 3191 inquiries received from families with homestudies - a 100% increase
- 908 information packets downloaded - a 148% increase
- 9,570 email messages answered - a 5% increase

Placements

- 400 children placed: 58 appeared on ***FACES***, 350 were adopted by parents who began the adoption process by gathering information from the ***FACES*** site

*Statistics reflecting increases represent the same period in 1997

THE ENVISIONED PROGRAM

FACES will be expanded to become a single "one-stop" website which features *all* of the U.S. children waiting for adoption for whom no adoptive family has been identified. Continually up-dated adoption information and response components will be built-in. All state websites will be linked to **FACES**. The result will be that waiting children from all 50 states will become visible and more readily adoptable.

Enhanced Program Components:

- **Web Site Re-Design and Maintenance**

To meet the needs of a website featuring thousands of children and dramatically increased usage, the **FACES** website will be re-designed with the necessary technology enhancements, fresh graphics and additional content. Ongoing maintenance includes scanning children's photos, updating narratives and generating reports.

Cost: \$409,000

- **Assistance to the States**

All 50 states will receive a \$10,000 mini-grant to purchase computer hardware and software and to receive a full day of staff training. In addition, an NAC staff member will provide on-going support and technical assistance.

Cost: \$678,000

- **Public Awareness Campaign**

A national public awareness program will be developed to spread the word about the website. The program will target the general public, potential adopters, adoptive and foster parent groups, social workers and state adoption specialists. The program will be conducted through the media, including those on-line, targeted adoption publications, adoption seminars, conferences and workshops.

Cost: \$512,000

- **Response to Families**

Families with approved adoption homestudies will be contacted by phone and assisted in being matched with a waiting child. Families with no homestudy will receive an information packet on how to get started in adoption.

Cost: \$272,000

- **Information and Resources**

All visitors to the site will get access to a complete state-by-state searchable database of adoption agencies serving U.S. children, and other related resources.

Cost: \$114,000

- **Corporate Advisory Board**

5-7 top level corporate leaders in database and internet technology and marketing and public relations as well as a top state official in adoption or child welfare will serve on an advisory board meeting quarterly. All members except the state person will serve at their own expense.

Cost: \$ 15,000

Total Cost: \$2,000,000

Barriers to full participation by the states:

Provisions of the Adoption and Safe Families Act require that states utilize all appropriate state, regional and national adoption exchanges, including electronic exchange systems, and mandate against delaying or denying a placement based upon geographic barriers. These provisions are important first steps, but our feedback from the states identifies the following barriers:

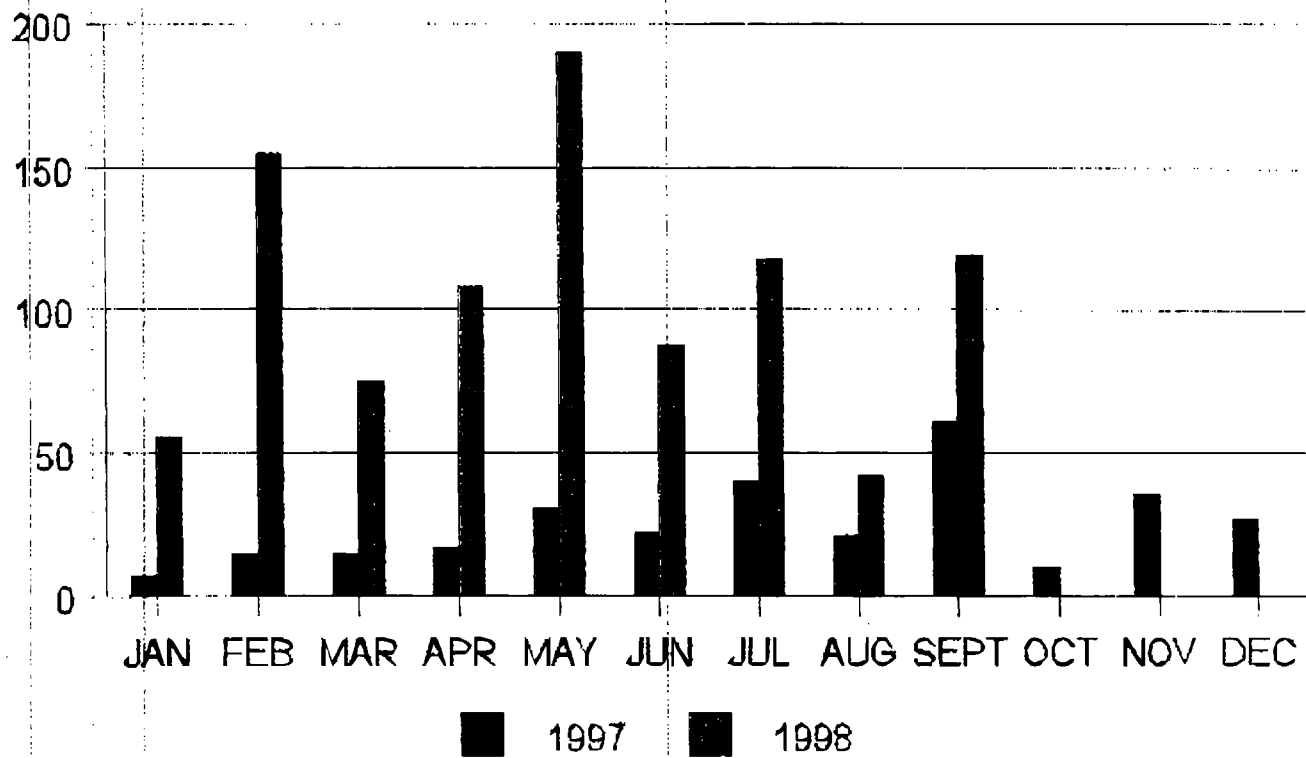
- Lack of clarity about the availability of funds or the mechanism through which funds would be received for adoption-related services including homestudies, travel for interjurisdictional placements and post adoption services
- Lack of computer equipment, internet access and training
- Attitudinal barriers related to whether or not some children are, in fact, adoptable and whether or not children should be moved across state lines for adoption

Issues for further consideration

- **Registration of children:** Should states be mandated to register their children, or should registration be voluntary? If mandatory, will there be timeframes for registering children?
- **Registration of families:** An effective database must include families as well as children. Should states be required to register (and share) all approved families?

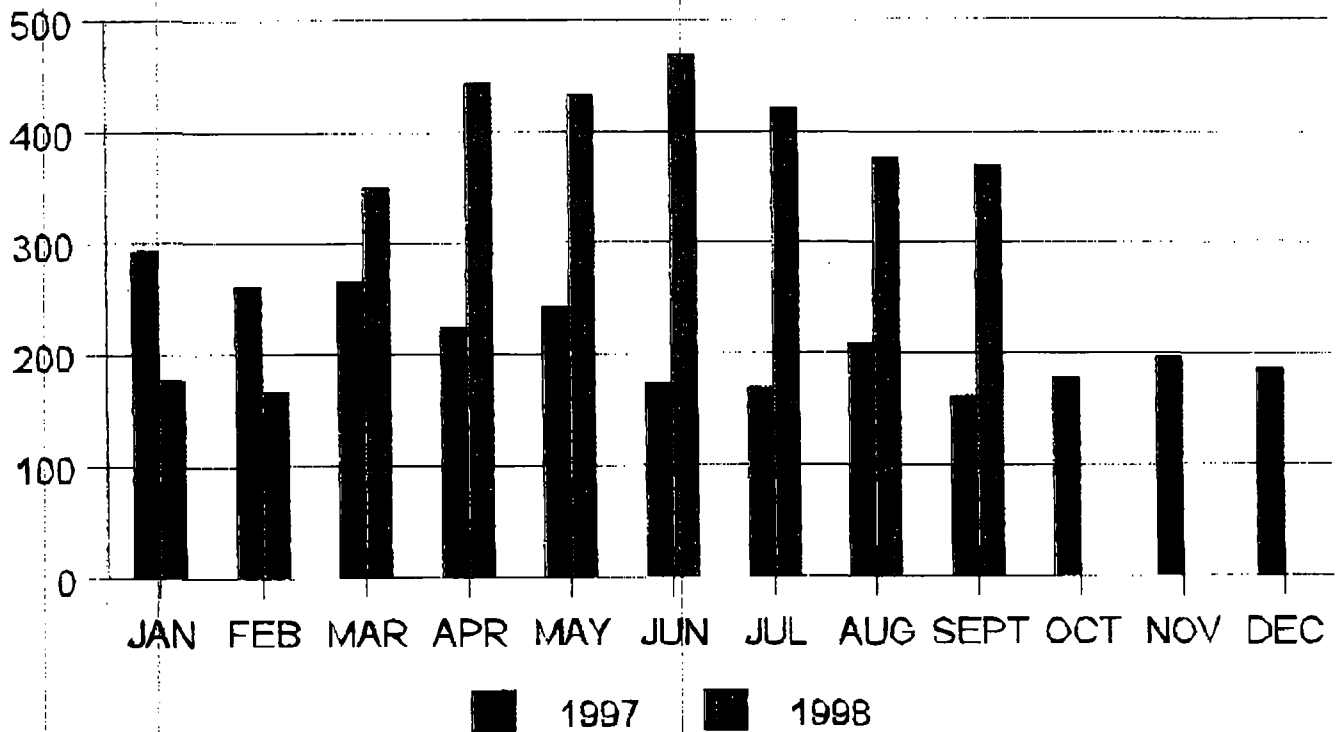
CHILDREN ADDED TO FACES

JANUARY 1997 - SEPTEMBER 1998



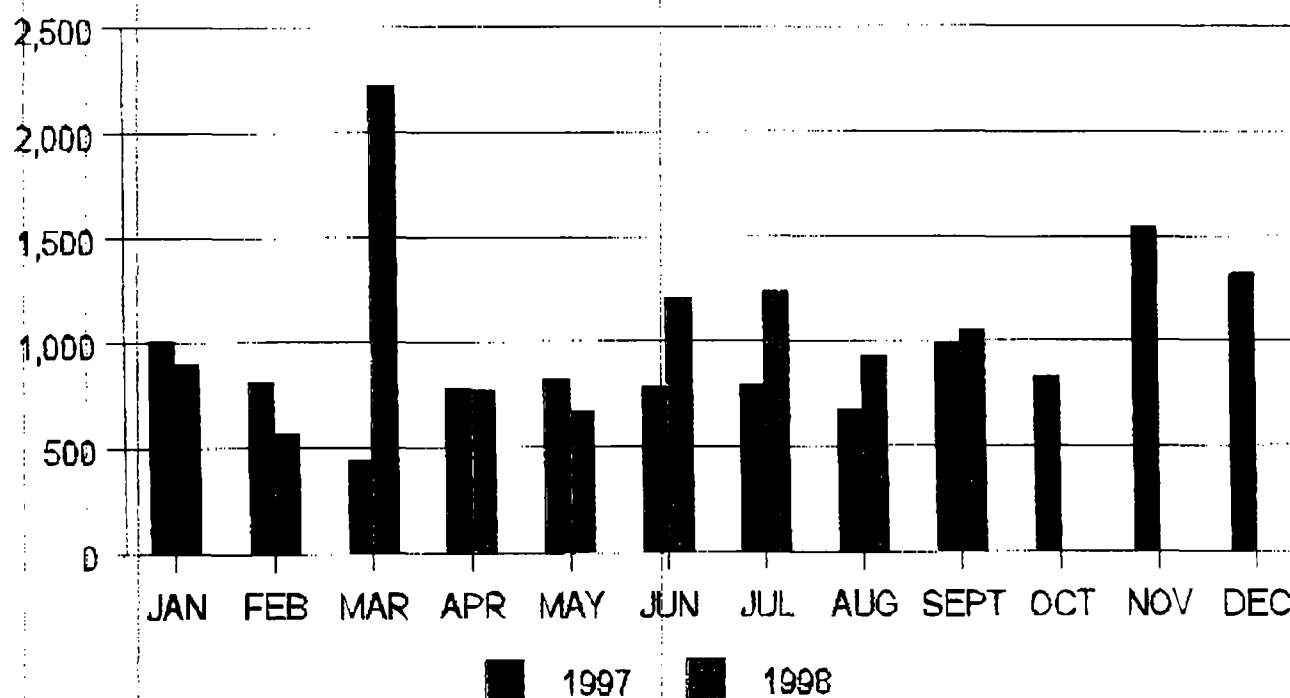
NUMBER OF INQUIRIES FROM STUDIED FAMILIES

JANUARY 1997 - SEPTEMBER 1998



E-MAIL RECEIVED

JANUARY 1997 - SEPTEMBER 1998



Faces of Adoption

[Next](#)[Previous](#)[AdoptionQuest](#)[Home Page](#)[E-Mail](#)[PLACED](#)

Daron

Born: April, 1983

Age: 15

Ethnicity: African
American/Caucasian

DISABILITIES

Physical: Mild

Emotional: Mild

Mental: None

Learning: None

Residence: Nevada

ID Number: NV016955

Updated: 01/07/98

Transportation: negotiable

Subsidy: yes

**Purchase of
Service:** yes

Daron is an attractive, biracial boy. He loves attention and is described as being a "ham". He has a great sense of humor and is pleasant to be around. He enjoys playing basketball, football and many other athletic activities. Daron has "grown up" in the foster care system having experienced numerous foster care and adoptive home placement disruptions. He is currently residing in a group home and is thriving. He has no developmental delays and is doing well in school. He has recently won awards in school for Math.

Daron wears braces on his teeth, otherwise is healthy. He receives counseling to help process the past losses in his life. He is hopeful an adoptive home can be identified that is willing to commit to him long term.

If you are interested in adopting, please send us e-mail. Make sure you refer to the child's ID Number.

Faces of Adoption

[Next](#)[Previous](#)[AdoptionQuest](#)[Home Page](#)[E-Mail](#)[PLACED](#)

David

Born: September, 1985

Age: 12

Ethnicity: Caucasian

DISABILITIES

Physical: Moderate

Emotional: Moderate

Mental: None

Learning: Moderate

Residence: Maine

ID Number: 34017245

Updated: 07/24/98

Transportation: do not
know

Subsidy: yes

**Purchase of
Service:** no

David is 12 year old who generally has a positive attitude. He entered care in 1994 as a result of abuse and neglect. He is fairly affectionate and lets his feelings be known. He enjoys all sports and is helpful with household chores. He has had a positive experience in his current therapeutic foster home of two years. He has significantly increased his ability to control his negative behaviors, although he is still very impulsive. He can be strong-willed and oppositional. His ability to develop and maintain relationships is limited due to David's need to be in control. David takes medication for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). David can seek out attention in positive ways and enjoys spending time with people. David needs a family with experience in dealing with a variety of systems and providers. David will need to maintain contact with his three siblings.

If you are interested in adopting, please send us e-mail. Make sure you refer to the child's ID Number.

Faces of Adoption

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[E-Mail](#)

365 of 652



June

Born: May, 1989

Age: 9

Ethnicity: Caucasian

DISABILITIES

Physical: None

Emotional: Moderate

Mental: None

Learning: Mild

Residence: Maryland

ID Number: MD01988423

Updated: 05/07/98

Transportation: yes

Subsidy: yes

Purchase of Service: no

Jessica and June Ashley are active and affectionate siblings who need a home in which they can grow up together. They were placed in foster care more than three years ago because of severe neglect. Due to circumstances beyond their control, they were recently moved to another home.

June Ashley, who prefers being called by her middle name, Ashley, is a quiet child who enjoys reading, playing outdoors, bike riding and roller-skating. She has made an exciting discovery in the world of books. Gardening is also a special interest and she recently wrote a poem about this activity. Special education is provided to address emotional problems and learning disabilities in reading, math and written expression. Intellectual functioning is in the borderline range.

June is in good physical health. She has a diagnosis of ADHD, for which she takes medication, and Adjustment Disorder With Disturbance of Emotion and Conduct. Treatment includes weekly therapy to address the various problems stemming from separation and loss.

Reaction to placement in her current home in 10/97 was traumatic. There were eating and sleeping problems. The eating problem has diminished significantly and the sleeping problem has disappeared. Academic work also suffered but has greatly improved. Inappropriate behavior on the school bus and episodes of lying and stealing are ongoing. Between the foster parents, the therapist, and the children's social worker, June is making gradual progress.

Jessica is a fun-loving child who enjoys playing outdoors, swimming, riding her bike, trampoline jumping, roller-skating and talking. She gives affection freely and thrives on one to one attention. Educationally, Jessica is in a special education class because of emotional difficulties. Intellectual functioning is in the borderline range.

Jessica has a diagnosis of ADHD, mixed type, for which she takes Ritalin, and Adjustment Disorder with Disturbance of Emotion and Conduct. In addition, Jessica has nocturnal enuresis. Jessica feels unloved and unlovable but is capable of deep feelings and bonding. However, feelings of rejection have resulted in her using denial and refusal to take responsibility for some of her actions as ways of coping with rejection and hurt. Treatment includes weekly therapy sessions to address the various problems stemming from separation and loss.

Reaction to placement in her current home in October 1997 was traumatic. There were significant eating and sleeping problems. The eating problem has diminished and the sleeping problem has been resolved. Academic work has greatly improved. Inappropriate behavior on the school bus and episodes of lying and stealing are ongoing problems. Jessica is making gradual progress with the help of her foster parents, the therapist, her social worker and her teacher.

Jessica and her sister, June Ashley, need a special two parent or single female family who can provide them with the stability, love, attention and structure they want and need. An adoption subsidy is available.

PLACED



Jessica

Born: January, 1988

Age: 10

Ethnicity: Caucasian

DISABILITIES

Physical: None

Emotional: Severe

Mental: None

Learning: None

Residence: Maryland

ID Number: MD01988424

Updated: 04/23/98

Transportation: yes

Do not use names - confidential

FACES of Adoption Success Stories

June and Jessica: The Internet Works!

June and Jessica, 10 and 9 year old siblings from Maryland with emotional challenges and ADHD were placed with a family from Georgia. This is a particularly unique story, because the parents, Edward and Carole, initially met one another on the Internet, and then went on to meet their new children via the Internet, on **FACES of Adoption**, as well.

Rube: Single Fathers Can Adopt!

Rube is a fifteen year old boy with a great sense of humor who loves to tease and joke around. He has been in multiple foster homes in just the past three years, and is challenged by seizure disorders and difficult behaviors. Just two days after the signing of the Adoption and Safe Families Act in November of 1997, a single man hoping to become an adoptive father, looked at **FACES of Adoption** and then inquired about Rube. When he learned that Rube dreamed of a family where he could "play sports and enjoy outdoor activities", he felt that his home, on a 300 acre farm in Missouri, would be ideal. Sure enough, within a few months, Rube was home. Forever.

Patricia: No Child is Too Disabled to be Adopted!

"When a social workers says that a child is too disabled to be adopted - that's the child we want," says Rachel Ginder, an adoptive mother who spotted Patricia, an 11 year old from Ohio who suffers from Shaken Baby Syndrome, on **FACES** one night while surfing the web. She immediately called to her husband, alerting him that she had found their next child and before long, Patricia was home with the Ginders in Indiana. Shaken so violently as an infant that severe brain damage occurred, Patricia is blind, non-ambulatory, unable to speak and fed through a tube. But Rachel and Ron tell us that her smile will light up a whole room.

Steven: Crossing a Continent to Find a Family!

Legally blind, mentally retarded and challenged by cerebral palsy, many would have given up hope that 15 year old Steven would ever be adopted. But his determined social worker saw **FACES** as a resource that would give some hope back to Steven. Soon after this Pennsylvania teenager was listed on the site, the Edmunds family in Alaska found him and instantly knew he was meant to be their son. After exchanges of paperwork, phone calls and letters, Steven and his worker finally flew to Alaska for the placement. Everyone knew the right decision had been made when Steven got off the plane, walked up to his new family and simply said, "I'm home."

Abel and Joshua: FACES Worked Twice for this Family!

Abel, a seven-year-old boy from Texas, was an angry child who wouldn't eat, couldn't read and had an 18-word vocabulary. He was thought to have fetal alcohol syndrome. In early 1997, he was adopted by Jon and Laurie LeBar, a South Dakota family who

found him through **FACES**. Three months later, the LeBars searched **FACES** again and found eight-year-old Josh from Illinois. Josh had serious emotional and behavior problems. Today, Josh has become, "a totally different kid, sensitive and able to relate to people," says his mother. "Abel is doing first grade work and is bright and funny. These kids have blown our minds with the progress they have made."

Antoine, Christopher and Paul: FACES Helps Keep Siblings Together

When three or more children in a family need adoption, workers often have to determine whether to keep them together or to separate them. 60% of the children placed through **FACES** have been sibling groups, including our most recent placement of Antoine, Christopher and Paul. These three African American boys, ages 6, 8 and 9 desperately wanted a family that would take them all together. Shortly after their New Jersey worker listed them on **FACES** a single African American man came forward: he wanted to become "Dad" to all three boys. They were placed just in time to truly be "Home for the Holidays" this year.



Carolyn L. Johnson
Executive Director

NATIONAL ADOPTION CENTER

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Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.735.9988 / Fax 215.735.9410
www.adopt.org
e-mail: nac@adopt.org

Gloria Hochman
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For release: Monday, November 2, 1998

Eighteen-year-old Steven has cerebral palsy, is legally blind and has moderate mental retardation. Two years ago, he was living in foster care and had almost given up hope that he would ever have a permanent family. But Steven was lucky. His persistent social worker listed his photo and description on *FACES of Adoption: America's Waiting Children*, a three-year-old Internet website that is revolutionizing the way adoption is practiced in this country. Today, Steven has a loving family--parents, four brothers and a sister--and lives in Anchorage, Alaska, 3000 miles from his original home in Pennsylvania. 1 *

Steven became the first of 58 children who have found families because their pictures appeared on *FACES*. It is estimated by the National Adoption Center, which operates the site with Children Awaiting Parents, that 350 additional children have also been adopted by families who began their adoption process by gathering information from *FACES*.

But more than 1000 children now listed on the site still wait for families to want them. They represent the nearly 100,000 children in the country who live in foster care and need to be adopted. None is the healthy baby often associated with adoption. Two-thirds of the children are boys over ten, and more than a third are sibling groups. Some have emotional, physical or developmental disabilities.

more

"There are no unwanted children... just unfound families"

adopt/2

Latasha is typical. She is a pretty, mature ten-year-old who wishes for a home of her own and a spacious yard. She is an only child who was raised by her mother, now deceased, then cared for by her grandmother who suffered a stroke in 1995. Latasha is in therapy for depression.

Noah and Reva, 11-year-old twins, and their eight-year-old brother, Charlie, want to stay together. They have a history of abuse and neglect, and are living in a foster home while waiting for permanent parents.

Arlen is a talkative 11-year-old who likes to make people smile. He is in fifth grade and receives special education to increase his math and reading skills. He is thought to have attention deficit disorder, but has made excellent progress both socially and in school.

Anyone with access to a computer and a connection to the Internet can log onto **FACES** and browse through color photographs and read descriptions of the children. They can view articles, "how-to" guides, bibliographies, resource lists and news on adoption trends.

Since the passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act in late 1997, which required states to use all available resources to maximize adoption opportunities for their children, registrations on **FACES** have tripled. States listing their children include: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C. Several more states are in the process of listing their children.

more

adopt/3

"We know that people adopt the waiting children once they know about them," says Carolyn L. Johnson, executive director of the National Adoption Center, whose Philadelphia-based organization has found homes for more than 8000 children since 1972. "The Internet gives us the chance to make the children visible to large numbers of people." Johnson hopes that eventually the website will include all of the waiting children in the country.

Abel and Josh are two of *FACES*' stunning success stories. Abel, 7, an angry child who was thought to have fetal alcohol syndrome, and Josh, 8, who had serious emotional and behavior problems, were adopted by Laurie and Jon LeBar in early 1997. "Abel has gone from a belligerent child who wouldn't eat, couldn't read, had an 18-word vocabulary and was kicked out of Head Start to a little boy who is doing first grade work and is bright and funny," says his mom. "Josh, who was violent and enmeshed in gang-like behaviors, has become a completely different kid, sensitive and able to relate to people. These kids' progress has blown our minds."

"Having access to information about waiting children on the Internet strips away the mystique associated with adoption," says Peggy Soule, executive director of Children Awaiting Parents in Rochester, New York. "Once people know the children exist, that adoption is not costly, and that agencies will welcome them, they are eager to open their homes and their hearts."

The Internet site, which is visited by nearly 20,000 people each month and receives more than 800 e-mail messages monthly, is funded partially by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and grants from the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption and the Freddie Mac Foundation. AnswerThink Consulting Group donated its services to design the website which is contributed by iNet Communications. The URL is www.adopt.org. Interested families can contact the Center through e-mail at nac@adopt.org or by calling 1-800 TO ADOPT.

TIIAP Award Number: 42-60-95038

National Adoption Center National Adoption Exchange

Application Area Public Services
Project Start Date October 15, 1995
Project End Date September 30, 1997
Total Project Cost \$231,337
Federal Share \$115,668
Contact Person Ms. MariAnne Clarke
Address 1500 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone (215) 735-9988
E-Mail maclarke@adopt.org

Description The National Adoption Center will provide Internet access to its existing bulletin board and database system, the National Adoption Exchange (NAE). Today, more than 100,000 children in this country wait to be adopted. They are often older children, many with physical, emotional or learning disabilities. Matching children with adoptive parents is made difficult by lack of communication across state and county lines. An adoption worker in one place may have a child that meets the description for a family in another place but may not be aware of the match. Also, many small agencies are unaware of programs and subsidies that are available for children with disabilities. Through this project, public and private adoption agencies, child advocacy organizations, and adoptive parent groups will establish an Internet connection to use both the NAE On-Line service and other resources available through the Internet. NetCom, an Internet service provider, will provide NetCruiser software to all NAE users at no cost; the software provides World Wide Web and Internet access and will lead users to the National Adoption Center's Home Page. This will give NAE users instant access to adoption information, without searching, and provide them with a gateway to other on-line computer networks. Using a personal computer, modem, and a local phone call, NAE On-line will give adoption agencies and individuals access to the latest information on children and parents interested in adoption issues. The National Adoption Center will also publicize existing resources for adoption agencies and provide extensive technical assistance for organizations who are just learning to use the technology.

Additional Project Resources:

[Send Comments to
TIIAP](#)

[TIIAP Home Page](#)

[NTIA Home Page](#)

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications

**Freddie
Mac**

Maxine B. Baker

Vice President, Community Relations &
Executive Director, Freddie Mac Foundation
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8200 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, Virginia 22102-3110

The Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program (TIIAP) is a highly-competitive, merit-based grant program that brings the benefits of an advanced national information infrastructure to communities throughout the United States. TIIAP grants play an important role in realizing the vision of an information society by demonstrating practical applications of new telecommunications and information technologies to serve the public interest.

Program Overview TIIAP provides matching grants to non-profit organizations such as schools, libraries, hospitals, public safety entities, and state and local governments. Grants are used to fund projects that improve the quality of, and the public's access to, education, health care, public safety, and other community-based services. The grants are used to purchase equipment for connection to networks, including computers, video conferencing systems, network routers, and telephones; to buy software for organizing and processing all kinds of information, including computer graphics and databases; to train staff, users, and others in the use of equipment and software; to purchase communications services, such as Internet access; to evaluate the projects; and to disseminate the project's findings.

Since its inception in 1994, TIIAP has generated tremendous interest. The program has received more than 5,300 applications, requesting \$2.1 billion, from across the country. Because TIIAP is a matching grant program, the applications have spawned hundreds of millions of dollars in commitments from local, state, and private sector sources.

In September, 1998, TIIAP awarded 46 grants in 35 states and the District of Columbia, totaling \$18.5 million and matched by \$24 million in non-Federal funds. Among other applications, these new projects will enhance the ability of public safety organizations to save lives and property and fight crime using network technology; assist the nation's human service organizations to collaborate in providing more cost-efficient and comprehensive services by creating shared, client-focused databases; connect artists as mentors to provide arts education to rural schools and create an Internet-based interactive teaching tool to train curators at Native American museums; and give rural communities the opportunity to overcome the problems associated with geographic isolation. By serving as models that can be replicated in similar communities across the country, TIIAP projects extend their benefits far beyond the communities in which they take place, and provide economic and social benefits to the nation as a whole.

Since 1994, TIIAP has awarded 378 grants in 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Approximately \$118 million in Federal grant funds have been matched by more than \$180 million in non-Federal funds. A significant portion of the funding has gone to rural regions and rural states, where telecommunications has the power to bring new opportunities for learning and job creation to residents in isolated areas. For FY 1999, \$18 million is available for TIIAP grant awards.

1998 Grant Round Although TIIAP is no longer accepting applications for the FY 1998 Grant Round, you can still obtain useful information to help you prepare for next year's Grant Round. For reference purposes, TIIAP will maintain a link to information on the 1998 Grant Round at **How to Apply**. Please note that the information provided in the **How to Apply** section is valid only for the FY 1998 Grant Round, and should be considered

informational. To ensure you receive updated application information for FY 1999, please contact the TIIAP office to add your name to the mailing list.

Contacting TIIAP For more information about the program or to have your organization added to the program's mailing list contact:

- ✦ Email: tiiap@ntia.doc.gov
- ✦ Fax: 202.501.5136
- ✦ Phone: 202.482.2048
- ✦ U.S. Postal Address:

Stephen Downs, Director
Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure
Assistance Program
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications

National Telecommunications and Information
Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4096
Washington, DC 20230

The TIIAP Staff is available to answer applicant's questions and general inquiries.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications
Posted: 12 October 1998

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. bio	adoptive child (1 page)	11/23/1998	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Domestic Policy Council (Nicole Rabner)
OA/Box Number: 15409

FOLDER TITLE:

Adoption-DC/Internet Event, 11/24/98 [2]

2012-1035-S
kc988

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



cc: Nicole Rabone
Laura Sawatz
Bryant Withers
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November 25, 1998

Missy Kincaid
Office of the First Lady
White House
East Wing
Suite 200
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Kincaid:

This is just a brief note to tell you how appreciative I am of your efforts in helping arrange for our children, parents, and seniors to meet Mrs. Clinton. We had a wonderful tour of the White House and I know that we will never forget last Tuesday. The children will also treasure the pictures that were given to them of Socks and Buddy.

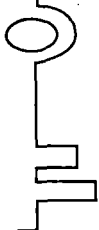
I want you to know too, how kind and friendly everyone we met at the White House was. Mrs. Clinton, of course, was just so gracious and kind, but so were all of the Secret Service men, Jose Brown and Ava Alexander. They just could not have done more to make our children's visit fun and interesting. My staff and I came away so impressed.

Thanks so much. Our visit was wonderful and very special to each one of us. You truly helped make 1998 National Adoption Month special to the children from Hope For The Children.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Casteel

BKE:cc



88 NOV 23 PM 5:21

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: THE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY

WHAT: ADOPTION EVENT

WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1998

NOTES: APPROX 180 GUESTS/OPEN PRESS/BUSINESS ATTIRE

FROM: CAPRICIA PENAVIC MARSHALL, LAURA SCHWARTZ

1:10 p.m. THE FIRST LADY receives briefing at Ground Floor Elevator.
Contact: Nicole Rabner and Jen Klein

1:15 p.m. THE FIRST LADY proceeds to the South Portico for a group picture with the adoptive families and Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton.
Inclement weather option: North Portico

<u>South Portico Participants</u> <i>Adoption Families</i> See briefing material

1:20 p.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives the Map Room for briefing.
Contact: Nicole Rabner and Jen Klein

1:30 p.m. THE FIRST LADY proceeds to the State Dining Room to meet event participants and other special guests.

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State Dining Room Participants:

Event Participants

Sec. Shalala
Dave Thomas, CEO Wendy's Corporation
Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams
DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton
Adopted child: Charday Mays and parents

Members of Congress

Sen. Levin
Sen. Landrieu and spouse Frank Snelling
Rep. Oberstar and spouse Jean

State Elected Officials

Governor and Mrs. Edgar, IL
Mayor and Mrs. Marion Barry

Others

Dave Thomas' Family:
Alyson Farber (granddaughter), Molly Postlewaite (daughter), Christopher Postlewaite (grandson), Wendy Thomas Morse (daughter), Amanda Morse (granddaughter), Kathy Thomas (daughter-in-law), Sean Thomas (grandson), Stephanie Thomas (granddaughter).
Jann Heffner, Executive Director of the Dave Thomas Foundation and daughter Casey.

1:40 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT arrives to the Blue Room to greet event participants.
See above event participants.

1:45 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY accompanied by the event participants are announced to honors from the Blue Room into the East Room and take their place on stage.

PROGRAM

Secretary Shalala makes remarks and introduces Dave Thomas.

Dave Thomas makes remarks and introduces **THE FIRST LADY**.

THE FIRST LADY makes remarks and introduces DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton.

DC Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton makes remarks and introduces Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams.

Mayor-Elect Anthony Williams makes remarks and introduces Charday Mays.

Charday Mays makes remarks and introduces **THE PRESIDENT**.

THE PRESIDENT makes remarks and invites guests to a reception in the State Dining Room.

2:40 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT and **THE FIRST LADY** depart.

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

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