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[New Markets Tour]: [Digital Divide Tour]

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This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

DIGITAL DIVIDE

Divider Title: _____

FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

The Clinton-Gore Administration: From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity

Photo from Wednesday's Event

Wednesday, February 2, President Clinton unveiled a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes. Please read the documents below to learn more about the Clinton-Gore Administration's: From the Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity proposal.

- [From Digital Divide to Digital Opportunity](#)
- [The Clinton-Gore Agenda for Creating Digital Opportunity](#)
- [The Importance of Bridging the Digital Divide](#)
- [A Strong Record of Working to Close the Digital Divide](#)
- [Find a Community Technology Center Near You](#)
- [Excerpt from President Clinton's State of the Union Address on the Importance of Closing the Digital Divide](#)



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FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION: FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

February 2, 2000

Today, President Clinton will unveil a comprehensive proposal to help bridge the digital divide and create new opportunity for all Americans. This issue has been a top priority for Vice President Gore, who has worked to bridge the Digital Divide by ensuring that all children have access to educational technology. Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to use this technology effectively are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. Unfortunately, unequal access to technology and high-tech skills by income, educational level, race, and geography could deepen and reinforce the divisions that exist within American society. President Clinton believes that we must make access to computers and the Internet as universal as the telephone is today -- in our schools, libraries, communities, and homes.

To make the most of these new opportunities, the President believes we must:

- Broaden **access** to technologies such as computers, the Internet, and high-speed networks;
- Provide people the **skilled teachers** and the **training** they need to master the information economy;
- Promote **online content** and **applications** that will help empower all Americans to use new technologies to their fullest potential.

President Clinton will announce specific proposals in his new budget to help accomplish these goals and help create digital opportunity for more Americans -- including \$2 billion in tax incentives to encourage private sector activities such as computer donations, and \$380 million in new and expanded initiatives to serve as a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

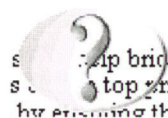
PRESIDENT CLINTON'S NEW BUDGET INITIATIVES

1. \$2 billion in tax incentives over 10 years to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers.
2. \$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce to use technology effectively.
3. \$100 million to create 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural neighborhoods.
4. \$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families.
5. \$45 million to promote innovative applications of information and communications technology for under-served communities.
6. \$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities.
7. \$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in Information Technology and other technical fields.

To Help Mobilize Public/Private Partnerships To Close the Digital Divide, President Clinton Will Lead A New Markets Trip during the week of April 9th: Closing the Digital Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and

Divide requires creative partnerships between industry, non-profit organizations and government. That's why President Clinton will lead a New Markets trip during the week of April 9th designed to mobilize a significant private and public effort to close the digital divide. This trip, which will include leading high-tech CEOs, will highlight communities that are using information technology to enhance our children's education, expand access to life-long learning, and create economic growth and high-tech, high-wage jobs.

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FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

THE CLINTON-GORE AGENDA FOR CREATING DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

February 2, 2000

Private sector competition and rapid technological progress are powerful forces to bridge the digital divide and make Information Age tools available for more and more Americans. The information technology industry is able to double the amount of computing power available at a given price every 12-18 months, and is now selling low-cost computers and "information appliances" -- such as specialized Internet access devices. Some companies are even offering free, advertiser-supported Internet access. By working with the private sector and community-based organizations, the Administration can accelerate the trend toward expanded access.

But access to technology is only the first step. We also need to give people the skills they need to use technology, to promote content and applications of technology that will help empower under-served communities, and to ensure that teachers can use technology effectively in the classroom. Below is a brief description of the initiatives that President Clinton and Vice President Gore are proposing to help accomplish these goals:

1. **\$2 billion over 10 years in tax incentives to encourage private sector donation of computers, sponsorship of community technology centers, and technology training for workers:** President Clinton's budget includes \$2 billion in new tax incentives to encourage companies to donate computers to schools, libraries and community technology centers, to sponsor schools, libraries, and community technology centers in designated Empowerment Zones, and to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for their employees.
 - **Encouraging companies to donate computers.** The President proposes to extend and expand tax deduction that gives companies an incentive to donate computers to schools, libraries and computer technology centers. This enhanced deduction allows companies to deduct more than the cost of their donation. Under current law, this deduction applies to donations of computers to schools only and expires after the year 2000. The President's proposal would extend this provision through June 30, 2004 and would expand it to donations to public libraries or community technology centers in Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and high-poverty areas.
 - **Promoting corporate sponsorship of schools, libraries and community technology centers.** The President proposes tax relief to encourage companies to sponsor schools and community technology centers in Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. The President's proposal would allocate credits for \$16 million in corporate sponsorship to each of the 31 existing Empowerment Zones and 10 proposed new Empowerment Zones and \$4 million in corporate sponsorship for each of the more than 80 Enterprise Communities. In total, the President's proposal would help support up to nearly \$1 billion in annual sponsorships to help improve schools and community technology centers.
 - **Supporting technology training for workers.** The President's proposal would provide targeted tax relief to encourage companies to provide basic computer training, workplace literacy, or other basic education for employees that lack the basic skills to succeed in the modern workplace. Companies would be allowed to take a 20 percent tax credit for up to \$5,250 in annual expenses per employee. Eligible employees generally would not have received a high school degree or its equivalent.
2. **\$150 million to help train all new teachers entering the workforce use technology**

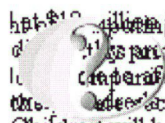
effectively in the classroom: Under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore, the United States has made enormous progress in connecting schools to the Internet, and increasing the number of modern computers in the classroom. However, access to computers and the Internet will not help students achieve high academic standards unless teachers are as comfortable with a computer as they are with a chalkboard. President Clinton's budget calls for \$150 million in Department of Education grants -- double the last year's investment of \$75 million -- to ensure that all new teachers entering the workforce are technologically literate and can integrate technology into the curriculum. The need for this investment is clear. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 20 percent of teachers report that they are "very well prepared" to integrate technology into classroom. And over the next 10 years, K-12 schools will need to hire 2 million new teachers to fill the vacancies left by retiring teachers and to accommodate increasing student populations.

3. **\$100 million to create up to 1,000 Community Technology Centers in low-income urban and rural communities:** The President's budget more than triples the Department of Education's support for Community Technology Centers - from \$32.5 million in FY2000 to \$100 million in FY2001. This initiative, championed by Congresswoman Maxine Waters was initially funded at \$10 million in fiscal year 1999. The goal of the initiative is to help close the "digital divide" by providing computers and Information Age tools to children and adults that are not able to afford them at home. These community technology centers will help empower hundreds of thousands of low-income children and adults in a variety of ways. Children will be able to improve their performance in school by having access to high-quality educational software after school and prepare for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century by getting certified with an information technology skill. Adults will be able to use computers and the Internet to take a self-paced adult literacy course; get access to America's Job Bank to see what jobs are available; learn to type up a resume and cover letter using word processing software; learn to start up their own "micro-enterprise" or Web-based business, or acquire new training. A study sponsored by the National Science Foundation confirms that Community Technology Centers are helping to bridge the digital divide. Of the users surveyed: 62 percent had incomes of less than \$15,000; 65 percent took computer classes to improve their job skills; and 41 percent got homework help or tutoring at the center.
4. **\$50 million for a public/private partnership to expand home access to computers and the Internet for low-income families:** The President's budget includes a new \$50 million Department of Commerce pilot program to expand access to computers and the Internet for low-income families, and to give these families the skills they need to use these new Information Age tools effectively. This new program will provide competitive grants to public-private partnerships at the local level. Potential partners might include: local school districts seeking to expand parental involvement in education; high-tech companies willing to provide discounts on computers and access; libraries offering training on "information literacy"; employers seeking to upgrade the skills of their workforce using distance learning, and government agencies at all levels seeking to save taxpayer dollars through the electronic delivery of government services. The Administration will continue to work with the private sector and non-profit organizations on the most effective way to design this program.
5. **\$45 million to promote innovative applications of information technology for under-served communities:** President Clinton's budget will increase the investment in the Department of Commerce's highly-successful Technology Opportunities Program (TOP) to \$45 million -- triple the current level of \$15 million. This program encourages innovative applications of information technology that help empower low-income communities -- public health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner-cities, tele-mentoring for at-risk youth, and electronic networks that strengthen local communities by fostering communication and collaboration.
6. **\$25 million to accelerate private sector deployment of high-speed networks in under-served urban and rural communities:** High-speed Internet access is becoming as important to the economic vitality of a community as roads and bridges are today. The President will propose a new \$25 million program at the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture to accelerate private sector deployment of broadband networks in under-served urban and rural communities -- using grants and loan guarantees. The potential payoff from these kinds of investments is enormous. One company, for example, has helped people move from "welfare-to-work" by connecting their community with the high-speed networks needed to support telecommuting. This solves some of the biggest barriers associated with welfare-to-work -- lack of childcare and transportation.

7. **\$10 million to prepare Native Americans for careers in information technology and other technical fields:** The National Science Foundation will support efforts by tribal colleges to increase the number of Native Americans who are prepared to pursue careers in information technology and other technical fields.

The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

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FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

THE IMPORTANCE OF BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Access to computers and the Internet and the ability to effectively use this technology are becoming increasingly important for full participation in America's economic, political and social life. People are using the Internet to find lower prices for goods and services, work from home or start their own business, acquire new skills using distance learning, and make better informed decisions about their healthcare needs. The ability to use technology is becoming increasingly important in the workplace, and jobs in the rapidly growing information technology sector pay almost 80 percent more than the average private sector wage.

Technology, used creatively, can also make a big difference in the way teachers teach and students learn. In some classrooms, teachers are using the Internet to keep up with the latest developments in their field, exchange lesson plans with their colleagues, and communicate more frequently with parents. Students are able to log on to the Library of Congress to download primary documents for a history paper, explore the universe with an Internet-connected telescope used by professional astronomers, and engage in more active "learning by doing." Students are also creating powerful Internet-based learning resources that can be used by other students -- such as award-winning Web sites on endangered species, the biology of sleep, human perception of sound, and an exploration of the American judicial system.

Access to computers and the Internet has exploded during the Clinton-Gore Administration. Unfortunately, there is strong evidence of a "digital divide" -- a gap between those individuals and communities that have access to these Information Age tools and those who don't. In some instances, this divide is actually widening. A July 1999 report from the Department of Commerce, based on December 1998 Census Department data, revealed that:

- **Better educated Americans more likely to be connected.** Between 1997 and 1998, the technology divide between those at the highest and lowest education levels increased 25%. In 1998, those with a college degree are more than *eight times* likely to have a computer at home and nearly *sixteen times* as likely to have home Internet access as those with an elementary school education.
- **The gap between high- and low-income Americans is increasing.** In the last year, the divide between those at the highest and lowest income levels grew 29%. Households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher are more than *twenty times* more likely to have access to the Internet than those at the lowest income levels, and more than *nine times* as likely to have a computer at home.
- **Whites more likely to be connected than African-Americans or Hispanics.** The digital divide is also persistent and growing along racial and ethnic lines. Whites are more likely to have access to the Internet from home than African-Americans or Hispanics have from *any* location. African-American and Hispanic households are roughly *two-fifths* as likely to have home Internet access as white households. The gaps between white and Hispanic households, and between white and African-American households, are now more than six percentage points larger than they were in 1994. However, for incomes of \$75,000 and higher, the divide between whites and African-Americans has narrowed considerably in the last year.
- **Rural areas less likely to be connected than urban users.** Regardless of income level, those living in rural areas are lagging behind in computer ownership and Internet access. At some income levels, those in urban areas are 50% more likely to have Internet access than those earning the same income in rural areas. Low income households in rural areas are the least connected, with connectivity rates in the single digits for both computers and Internet access.

In addition, data from the National Center for Education Statistics reveals a "digital divide" in our nation's schools. As of the fall of 1998, 39 percent of classrooms of poor schools were connected to the Internet, as compared to 62 percent for wealthier schools.

FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

A STRONG RECORD OF WORKING TO CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

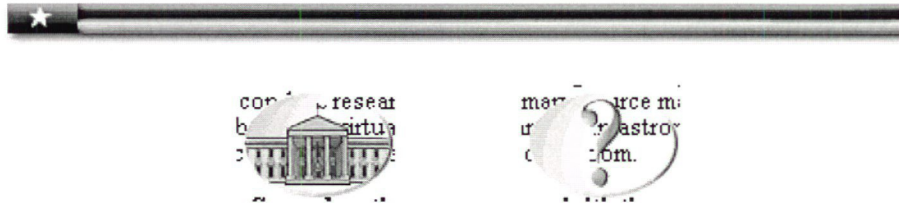
President Clinton and Vice President Gore have worked hard to close the digital divide, and to help create opportunity for more Americans in the Information Age.

- President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set a national goal of **ensuring that every child is technologically literate**. In addition to preparing children for the high-tech workplace of the 21st century, technology can help change the way teachers teach and students learn. Teachers can communicate more frequently with parents, keep up with the latest developments in their field, and exchange lesson plans with their colleagues. Students can conduct research using primary source material, learn the principles of genetics by breeding virtual fruit flies, and learn astronomy by using a professional telescope located 3,000 miles from their classroom.
- **As a result of the Clinton-Gore educational technology initiative:**
 - The number of **classrooms** connected to the Internet has increased from 3% in 1994 to 51% in 1998.
 - The number of schools connected to the Internet has increased from 35% in 1994 to 89% in 1998.
 - The "e-rate", part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is providing \$2.25 billion in 20% - 90% discounts to connect schools and libraries to the Internet, with the deepest discounts going to the poorest schools that need it most. The e-rate alone has provided Internet access for children in more than 1 million classrooms.
 - Our total investment in educational technology at the federal level (including the e-rate) has increased from \$23 million in 1993 to over \$3 billion today.
 - Grants supported by the Department of Education are training 400,000 new teachers to use technology effectively in the classroom.
- **In addition, President Clinton and Vice-President Gore have worked to:**
 - **Expand access to technology for people with disabilities:** President Clinton and Vice President Gore have been strong supporters of efforts to make technology more accessible for people with disabilities. Recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission will help ensure that telecommunications equipment, such as cellular phones, is designed to be accessible for people with disabilities.
 - **Expand access to technology in under-served communities:** In addition to the Community Technology Center program, HUD Sec. Andrew Cuomo has created approximately 500 Neighborhood Network learning centers that bring state of the art technology to publicly-assisted housing across America. HUD's Neighborhood Networks are innovative private/public partnerships that establish computer-based multi-service centers to help people in publicly-assisted housing learn critical computer skills and prepare for 21st century jobs.
 - **Ensure that the Administration makes closing the Digital Divide a top priority.** In December, 1999, President Clinton directed members of the Cabinet to take specific actions to address the digital divide: President Clinton is directing members of his Cabinet (Secretaries of Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor) to take

specific steps to close the Digital Divide, including:

- Continuing to measure the nature and extent of the digital divide by examining the importance of income, education, race, gender, geography and age to Americans' access to Information Age tools;
- Expanding the network of Community Technology Centers to provide access to technology for those American who can't afford it;
- Promoting applications of the Internet that will empower low-income families, such as the ability to start their own business; and
- Upgrading the IT skills of workers in low-income communities.

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FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

Digital Divide Text from State of the Union Speech

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Opportunity for all requires something else today -- having access to a computer and knowing how to use it. That means we must close the digital divide between those who've got the tools and those who don't. (Applause.)

Connecting classrooms and libraries to the Internet is crucial, but it's just a start. My budget ensures that all new teachers are trained to teach 21st century skills, and it creates technology centers in 1,000 communities to serve adults. This spring, I'll invite high-tech leaders to join me on another New Markets tour, to close the digital divide and open opportunity for our people.

I want to thank the high-tech companies that already are doing so much in this area. I hope the new tax incentives I have proposed will get all the rest of them to join us. This is a national crusade. We have got to do this, and do it quickly. (Applause.)

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FROM DIGITAL DIVIDE TO DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS: Making A Difference In Communities Across The Nation

February 2, 2000

"Opportunity for all requires something else today -- having access to a computer and knowing how to use it. That means we must close the digital divide between those who've got the tools and those who don't." — President Clinton, State of the Union Address, January 27, 2000

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have made increasing access to technology and closing the digital divide one of their top priorities. This year, the President's budget proposal calls a number of measures to make progress on that goal. One of those proposals is a call for increased investment in Community Technology Centers. Listed below are a number of Community Technology Centers in communities across the nation. These centers currently receive some Federal funding from the one or more of the following sources: the Department of Education (DOE), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Commerce (DOC), and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

STATE	PROJECT	CONTACT
Alabama	Ozark Homes' Computerized Community Connection (HUD) 202A Crestview Terrace Ozark, AL 36360	Tel: 334-774-1424 Fax: 334-774-5085 ccc@nohill.com
	Creekwood Village Neighborhood Network Center (HUD) 1750 40th Avenue, Apartment F-1 Tuscaloosa, AL 35401	Tel: 205-349-5283 Fax: 205-752-4609 theot1906@aol.com
Alaska	Southeast Regional Resource Center (DOE) 210 Ferry Way Suite 200 Juneau, AK 99801 (Juneau, AK Enterprise Community)	Project Director: JoAnn Henderson Tel: (907) 586-6806 joannh@akrac.k12.ak.us
	Fairnet, Inc. (DOE, NSF) 1215 Cowles Street Fairbanks, AK 99701	Project Director: John Johnston Tel: (907) 488-5001 fyfnet@vaf.edu
	Galena City School District (DOC)	Superintendent: Carl Knudsen

	PO Box 299 Galena, AK 99741	Tel: 907-656-1205 carlk@galenanet.com
Arizona	Casa Grande Elementary School District 4 (DOE) 1460 North Pinal Avenue Casa Grande, AZ 85222	Project Director: Pamela Simmons Tel: (520) 836-2111 psimmons@cgelem.k12.az.us
	Ganado Unified School District (DOE) P.O. Box 1757 Ganado, AZ 86505 (Window Rock, AZ Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Donna Muri Tel: (520) 755-1096 pmb@cia-g.com
	Chandler Village Neighborhood Network Center (NSF) 598 N. McQueen Rd. Chandler, AZ 85225	Scott McFarland Tel: 602-963-2685 Fax: 602-917-8816 scottmac8@hotmail.com
	Seba Dalkai Boarding School (DOC) HC63 Box H Winslow, Arizona 86047	Dr. Kyril Calsoyas, Principal Tel: (602) 657-3208
Arkansas	Central Arkansas Library System (NSF) 100 Rock Street Little Rock, AR 72201	Lynette Jack Tel: 501-918-3062 ljack@cals.lib.ar.us
	Lee County Technology Learning Collaborative (NSF) P.O. Box 1005 28 S. Poplar Street Marianna, AR 72360	Renee Wilburn, Rev. Tom Robinson Tel: 870-295-5828 Fax: 870-295-6303 LEECOCDC@aol.com
California	Desert Sands Unified School District (DOE) 47950 Dune Palms Road La Quinta, CA 92253 (Riverside County, CA Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Dr. George Araya Tel: (760) 771-8577 george@surf.dsusd.k12.ca.us
	Edudyne Foundation (DOE)	Project Director: Kenneth Allen

	2232 Salt Air Drive Santa Ana, CA 92705 (Santa Ana, CA Empowerment Zone)	Tel: (714) 703-5093 kallen2232@aol.com
	YMCA of the East Bay (DOE) 2230 Broadway Oakland, CA 94612 (Oakland, CA Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Glen Price Tel: (510) 451-8041 ymcaebay@aol.com
	Mercy Charities Housing (DOE) 1028A Howard Street San Francisco, CA 94103 (San Francisco, CA Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Patricia Harney Tel: (415) 522-6380 PHarney@Mercyhousing.org
	Barrio Action Group (NSF) 4927 Huntington Drive, North Los Angeles, CA 90032	Tammy Membreno, Ulises Diaz Tel: 323-221-0779 dosotres@earthlink.net
	Santa Ana Unified School District (DOC) 1601 East Chestnut Avenue Santa Ana, CA 92701-6322	Della Gongalez Tel: (714) 558-5555 Fax: (714) 558-5812 dgongalez@sausd.k12.ca.us
Colorado	Curtis Park Community Center (NSF) 929 29th Street Denver, CO 80205	Paul Verizzo Tel: 303-295-2399 x215 pverizzo@www.curtis-park.org
	The Denver Public Library (DOC) 10 W. Fourteenth Ave. Pkwy. Denver, Colorado 80204	Tel: 303-640-6200
Connecticut	Fairfield University (DOE) Psychology Department North Beacon Road	Project Director: Dr. Judy Primavera Tel: (203) 254-4000 jprimavera@fair1.fairfield.edu

	Fairfield, CT 06430-5195 (Bridgeport, CT Enterprise Community)	
	Leadership, Education, and Athletic Partnership, Inc. (DOE, NSF) 31 Jefferson Street New Haven, CT 06511 (New Haven, CT Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Drema Brown Tel: (203) 773-0770 drema@leap.yale.edu
Delaware	Delaware Technical & Community College (DOE) 1832 N. DuPont Parkway Dover, DE 19901	Project Director: Bonnie Derbyshire Tel: (302) 741-2855 bderbysh@outland.dtcc.edu
District of Columbia	ASPIRA Association Inc. (DOE) 1441 I Street NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005 (Washington, D.C. Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Johnny Vilamil Tel: (202) 835-3600 Jvilamil@aspira.org
	Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center (NSF) 1420 Columbia Road, NW Washington, DC 20009	BB Otero, Jomo K. Graham Tel: 202-332-4200 Fax: 202-745-2562 bbotero@pop.dn.net cbmlc@yahoo.com
Florida	Bridge/Family Health Services (NSF) P.O. Box 43126 18 Pearl Street Jacksonville, FL 32203-3126	Matt Burt, Margaret Moore Tel: 904-354-7799
	The Non Violence Project (NSF) 535 NW 19th Street Miami, FL 33136	Kristopher Smith Tel: 305-573-0874 Fax: 305-371-3630 youngblood_06@hotmail.com
Georgia	Nonprofit Resource Center Georgia (NSF) 50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 220	Randi Zelcer, Karen Beavor Tel: 404-688-4845 x3183 Fax: 404-521-0487

	Atlanta, GA 30303	randi.zelcer@pathways-ga.net
	Southeastern Library Network (Solinet) (DOC) 1438 West Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30309-2955	Keith Belton Tel: 404.892.0943 keith_belton@solinet.net
Hawaii	Akaku: Maui Community Television (NSF) 333 Dairy Rd. #104A Kahului, HI 96732	Sean McLaughlin Tel: 808-871-5554 Fax: 808-871-5510 info@akaku.org
	Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children (DOC) 1319 Punahou Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96826	Tel: 808-983-6000
Idaho	Blackfoot School District 55 (DOE) 270 E. Bridge Blackfoot, ID 83221	Project Director: Dr. Betsy Goeltz, Tel: (208) 782-9548, goelb@d55.k12.id.us
	Lewis-Clark State College (DOC) Office of Media Relations, 500 Eighth Ave. Lewiston, ID 83501	Mel Coulter Tel: 208-799-2200
Illinois	Charles A. Hayes Family Investment Center (DOE) 626 W. Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60615 (Chicago, IL Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: William Rhodes Tel: (773) 285-1167 brhodes@thecha.org
	Chicago Commons (DOE, NSF) 915 N. Wolcott Avenue (Chicago, IL Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Don Duster Tel: (773) 342-5330 Dduster845@aol.com
	DePaul University (DOE) 1 East Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-2287 (Chicago, IL Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Dr. Roxanne Owens Tel: (773) 325-4329 rowens@wppost.depaul.edu

	Zone)	
	RiverTech (NSF) 4501 North Sterling Peoria, IL 61615	Dr. Barbara Hartnett, Maria Cimadevilla Tel: 309-675-4753 Fax: 309-494-1880
Indiana	Allen County Public Library (NSF) 900 Webster Street, PO Box 2270 Fort Wayne, IN 46801	Cathy Wise Tel: 219-424-7241 x2255 Fax: 219-422-9688 cwise@everest.acpl.lib.in.us
	Training Inc. (NSF) 5264 Roxbury Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46226	Marty Miles Tel: 317-546-1700 Fax: 317-546-7773 milestinat@iquest.net
	The Youth Voice (DOC) Indiana Youth Services Association 309 West Washington Street, Suite 245 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204	Tel: (317) 238-6955
Iowa	Des Moines Area Community College (DOE) 2006 S. Ankeny Blvd. Ankeny, IA 50021-3003 (Des Moines, IA Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Mary Entz Tel: (515) 964-6476 mjentz@dmacc.dd.ia.us
Kansas	Hillcrest Schools - USD #455/ School/ Community Library (NSF) P.O. Box 167 Cuba, KS 66940	Darrell Genereux, Brenda Lemon Tel: 785-729-3816 Fax: 785-729-3352 dwg43@AOL.com blemon@nckcn.com
	The University of Kansas Medical Center Telemedicine Program (DOC) 3901 Rainbow Boulevard Kansas City, KS 66160-7171	Gary Doolittle, MD Tel: (913) 588-2225 gdoolitt@kumc.edu

Kentucky	Urban League of Lexington - Fayette Co. Community Computer Center (NSF) 426 South Fourth Danville, KY 40422	Jacqueline Allen Tel: 606-236-5340 Fax: 606-236-7437 lexul@mis.net
	Jewish Family & Vocational Service/Easy Access Sites (NSF) 3640 Dutchman's Lane Louisville, KY 40205	Stephanie Spiegel, ACSW, Tom Allen Tel: 502-452-6341 Fax: 502-452-6718 ssgold1@jfv.com , twaa@jfv.com
	Center for Rural Development (DOC) CenterTech 2292 South Highway 27 Suite 300 Somerset, KY 42501	Pam Bridgman Tel: (606) 677-6000 Fax: (606) 677-6010 pbridgman@centertech.com
Louisiana	J. Bennett Johnston Learning Center at My House, Inc. (NSF) 2010 Peniston St. New Orleans, LA 70115	Ruth Mazokera Tel: 504-895-4242 Fax: 504-895-4433 my_house_inc@hotmail.com
	Greater New Orleans Free-Net (DOC) 1600 Canal Street, Suite 527 New Orleans, LA 70112	Carolyn Sanders-O'Hare Tel: (504) 539-9240
Maine	The Housing Foundation/Talmar Wood Computer Learning Center (NSF) Orono, ME 04473	Kim Thibodeau, Duska Hayman, Tom Noonan Tel: 207-866-4300 talmar_clc@hotmail.com
	Northeast Maine Telemedicine Network (DOC) Houlton Regional Hospital 20 Hartford Street Houlton, ME 04730	Dianne Berry, R.N. Tel: (207) 532-9471 Fax: (207) 532-4755
Maryland	Board of Education, Prince George's County Public Schools (DOE)	Project Director: Judy Finch Tel: (301) 386-1608

	14201 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	jfinch@pgcps.org
	The Shelter Foundation, Inc. (NSF) 218 N. Charles Street, Ste 100 Baltimore, MD 21201	Diane Baum, Anna Burns Tel: 410-962-0447 Fax: 410-625-9653 aburns@sheltergrp.com
	Goodwill Industries International, Inc. (DOC) 9200 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20814	Tel: (301) 530-6500
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Easter Seal Society, Inc. (DOE) 484 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608	Project Director: Jeff McAuslin Tel: (508) 751-6448 Jeff@eastersealsma.org
	Asian American Resource Workshop (NSF) 160 Kneeland Street Boston, MA 02111	Anne Marie Booth Tel: 617-426-5313 Fax: 617-542-4900 aarw@atablast.net
Michigan	Mott Community College (DOE) 1401 East Court Street Flint, MI 48503-2089 (Flint, MI Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Dave Holland Tel: (810) 762-0554 dholland@mcc.edu
	Detroit International Stake Adult Housing Corporation (DOE) 16631 Lahser Road Detroit, MI 48219 (Detroit, MI Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Gwen Simpson Tel: (313) 531-5903 vanrossum@rldsdtroit.org
	Greater Lansing Housing Coalition (NSF) 1017 W. Lapeer Lansing, MI 48915	John Duley Tel: 517-372-1884 Fax: 517-372-1930 Duley@pilot.msu.edu
Minnesota	Science Museum of Minnesota (DOE)	Project Director: Natalie Rusk Tel: (651) 221-4710

	30 East 10 th Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2265 (St. Paul, MN Enterprise Community)	nrusk@smm.org
	MIGIZI Communications: National Native Information Center (NSF) 3123 East Lake Street Minneapolis, MN 55406	Colin Rusch Tel: 612-721-6631 x200 Fax: 612-721-3936
Mississippi	Connect-2-Tomorrow (DOC) Post Office Box 771 Jackson, Mississippi 39205 Suite 136, Central High School 359 North West Street	Tel: (601) 359-3954
Missouri	University of Missouri-Columbia -- Rural Sociology/Community Development (NSF) 102 Sociology Bldg. Columbia, MO 65211	Kenneth Pigg Tel: 573-882-4350 Fax: 573-882-1473
Montana	Parents, Let's Unite for Kids (NSF) 516 N 32nd Street Billings, MT 59101	Katharin Kelker, Roger Holt Tel: 406-255-0540 Fax: 406-255-0523 plukinfo@pluk.org
Nebraska	ABC: Access for a Better Crete (DOC) Crete Telecommunications Center 245 E. 9th Street, Box #6 Crete, NE 68333	Sandy Rains Tel: 402-826-4222
Nevada	Community College of Southern Nevada (DOE) 3200 E. Cheyenne Ave. North Las Vegas, NV 89030-4296 (Clark County, NV Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Norma Buccelato Tel: (702) 651-4394 norma_buccelato@cssn.nevada.edu

	Nevada Rural Telecommunications Task Force (NSF) 6905 Beach Nest Las Vegas, NV 89130	Gerald Ackerman, Brenda Trainor Tel: 702-656-8656 Fax: 702-656-5504
New Hampshire	ALPHA Alliance (NSF) 83 Hanover Street #8 Manchester, NH 03103	Carlos Agudela, Marcela Seiderman Tel: 603-627-5127 Fax: 603-627-1650 alpha@xtdl.com
	WINGS: A New Hampshire Telecommunications Planning Initiative (DOC) 268 Mast Road Durham, NH 03824	Frank Windsor, Project Director Tel: 603 868-4359 fwindsor@nhptv.unh.edu
New Jersey	Hudson County Community College (DOE) 25 Journal Square Jersey City, NJ 07360	Project Director: Estelle Greenberg Tel: (201) 714-2103
	Libraries for the Future/Access Newark (NSF) 50 Hayes Street Newark, NJ 01703	Shavonne Jones Tel: 973-733-4326 Fax: 212-352-2342 sjones@lff.org
	Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic (DOC) 20 Roszel Rd. Princeton, NJ 08540	Tel: (800) 803-7201
New Mexico	La Plaza Telecommunity Foundation, Inc. (DOC, NSF) 224 Cruz Alta, Suite F Taos, NM 87571	Judith Pepper Tel: 505-758-1836 Fax: 505-751-1812 jpepper@laplaza.org
	National Indian Telecommunications Institute (NSF) 110 North Guadalupe, Suite 9 Santa Fe, NM 87501	Lisa Nelmidia, Karen Buller Tel: 505-986-3872 Fax: 505-989-4271 lisa@niti.org

New York	Armory High School Sports Foundation (DOE) 216 Ft. Washington Avenue New York, NY 10032-3704 (New York – Washington Heights Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Dr. Norbert Sander Tel: (212) 923-1803
	Harlem Center for Education (DOE, NSF) 1 East 104 th Street, Room 382 New York, NY 10029 (Harlem, NY Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Paula Martin Tel: (212) 348-9200 PaulaJ24@aol.com
	100 Black Men of Albany, New York Capital Region, Inc. (DOE) 388 Clinton Avenue Albany, NY 12206 (Albany, NY Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Gregory Fields Tel: (581) 432-0500
	Boys & Girls Club of Rochester, Inc. (NSF) 500 Genesee Street Rochester, NY 14611	Jennifer Taylor Tel: 716-328-3077 Fax: 716-328-5863
North Carolina	Charlotte's Web Community Network (DOC, NSF) 119 E. Seventh St. Charlotte, NC 28202	Steve Snow Tel: 704-332-5778 Fax: 704-332-4752 shsnow@charweb.org
	Durham County Literacy Council (NSF) 2119 Chapel Hill Road Durham, NC 27707	Lucy Haagen Tel: 919-489-8383 Fax: 919-683-2035 durhamlit@mindspring.com
	V. H. Chavis Lifelong Learning Branch Library (NSF) 900 S. Benbow Road Greensboro, NC 27406	Lou Sua, Sandy Neerman Tel: 910-373-5838 Fax: 910-841-8572 lou.sua@ci.greensboro.nc.us
North Dakota	Mayville State University (DOC)	Keith Stenehjem

	330 3rd Street NE Mayville, ND 58257	Tel: (701) 786-4755 Fax: (701) 786-4748 stenehjem@mail.masu.nodak.edu
Ohio	Family Solutions (DOE) 2100 Front Street Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 (Akron, OH Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Jill Dickie Tel: (330) 928-1159 FamilySolu@aol.com
	The Cleveland Housing Network, Inc. (DOC) 2999 Payne Avenue Suite 306 Cleveland, Ohio 44114	Beth Lipka Tel: 216-574-7100 blipka@chnnet.com
	Appalachian Center for Economic Networks (NSF) 94 Columbus Road Athens, OH 45701	Amy Borgstrom, Katherine Clarke Tel: 740-592-3854 Fax: 740-593-5451 amyb@seorf.ohiou.edu ag197@seorf.ohiou.edu
Oklahoma	Northeastern State University/Center for Study of Literacy (NSF) 1003 N. Grand Avenue Tahlequah, OK 74464	Frank McKane, Steve Rice Tel: 918-456-5511 Fax: 918-458-2157
	OK-FIRST Project (DOC) Oklahoma Climatological Survey 100 East Boyd Street, Suite 1210 Norman, OK 73019	Dr. Ken Crawford, Director Tel: 405-325-2541 Fax: 405-325-2550 kcrawford@ou.edu
Oregon	Neighborhood Pride Team (NSF) 7455 SE 52nd Ave. Portland, OR 97298	Ben Siegel Tel: 503-774-4880 Fax: 503-774-4832 ben_seigel@hotmail.com
	Columbia Foundation/Columbia Technology Center (NSF) 375 S. 18th Street St. Helens, OR 97051	Barbara Peschiera, Genell Grow Tel: 503-397-1139 Fax: 503-397-1183 bcp@columbia-center.org

Pennsylvania	Capital Area Intermediate Unit (DOE) 55 Miller Street Summerdale, PA 17093-0489	Project Director: Dr. Linda Rhodes Tel: (717) 732-8400 linrhodes@aol.com
	Allequippa Terrace Residents' Council/ Wadsworth Hall Technology Center (NSF) 415 Burrows Street Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2168	Ron Wilson, Nicole Hankins, Eric Hearn Tel: 412-683-9237
	Lutheran Settlement House - Computer Lab/Neighborhood Access Center (NSF) 1340 Frankford Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19125	Wendy DePuy Tel: 215-426-8610 Fax: 215-426-0581
Rhode Island	Woonsocket Housing Authority/Veterans Memorial Campus of Learners (NSF) 69 Memorial Drive Woonsocket, RI 02895	Carl Morse Tel: 401-767-8035 Fax: 401-767-8069 camplearn@aol.com
	The Providence Plan (DOC) 56 Pine Street, suite 3B Providence, RI 02903	Tel: 401-455-888 Fax: 401-3316840
South Carolina	United Way of Midlands (DOE) 1800 Main Street P.O. Box 152 Columbia, SC 29202 (Columbia, SC Empowerment Zone)	Project Director: Michael Gray Tel: (803) 733-5422 Mgray@uway.org
	Piedmont Technical College (DOC) Piedmont Education Network P.O. Drawer 1467 / Emerald Road Greenwood, SC 29648	Dr. Dan Koenig, Director Tel: (864) 941-8446 Fax: (864) 941-8558
South Dakota	Sinte Gleska University	Project Director: Mike Bengé

	(DOE) P.O. Box 490 Rosebud, SD 57570	Tel: (605) 747-2263 mbenge@rosebud.sinte.edu
	Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition, Inc. (DOC) P.O. Box 2890 Rapid City, SD 57709-2890	Tel: (605)343-6054 Fax: (605) 343-4722
Tennessee	Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority (DOE) P.O. Box 1218 Morristown, TN 37816-1218 (Rutledge, TN Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Ray McElhaney Tel: (423) 587-4500
	Ctr. for Urban Research and Extension, Community Resource Mapping (NSF) University of Memphis Fogelman Memphis, TN 38152	Dr. Stan Hyland Tel: 901-678-3322 Fax: 901-678-5101 shyland@cc.memphis.edu
Texas	Texas A&M (DOE) Center for Housing and Urban Development College Station, TX 77843-3137	Project Director: Pradip Pramanik Tel: (409) 862-2370 pramanik@archone.tamu.edu
	Middle Rio Grande Development Foundation (DOE) P.O. Box 1199 Carrizo Springs, TX 78834	Project Director: Tammie Carpinteyro Tel: (830) 278-6817 tcarpin@admin.hilconet.com
	Austin Free-Net (DOC, NSF) 1711 S. Congress, 3rd Floor Austin, TX 78704-3556	Ana Sisnet, Denise Guckert, Dale Thompson Tel: 512-326-9084 Fax: 512-326-8309
	Technology For All (NSF) 1000 Louisiana, Suite 3600 Houston, TX 77002	William S. Reed Tel: 713-652-6605 Fax: 713-652-6629

		wreed@tfa-houston.org
	SER-Jobs for Progress of Southwest Texas (NSF) 4605 Maher Avenue Laredo, TX 78041	Efrain Sanchez Tel: 956-724-1844 Fax: 956-724-1831 efrain@border.net
Utah	Sevier River Water Users Association (DOC) 302 East 1860 South Provo, UT 84606	Tel: 801-379-1000
Vermont	Chittenden Community Television: Old North End Community/Tech. Ctr. (NSF) 294 North Winooski Ave Burlington, VT 05401	Lauren-Glenn Davitian, Al Voegele, Kenny Herring Tel: 802-860-4057 Fax: 802-860-2370 ctc@cctv.org
	Vermont Telecommunications Application Center (DOC) 163 South Willard Street Burlington, VT 05401	Alan B. Kamman, Executive Director kamman@vtac.org
Virginia	Garfield Childs Fund (NSF) 436 Calhoun St. Richmond, VA 23220	Jackie Ziglar Tel: 804-780-4841 Fax: 804-643-1412 jziglar@rnpnp.org
	Hope Institute of Technology, Inc. (NSF) PO Box 12592 Roanoke, VA 24026-2592	James Scott, Jr. Tel: 540-992-6362 Fax: 540-992-6362 jascottj@hopeit.org
	Blacksburg Electronic Village (DOC, NSF) 840 University City Boulevard Blacksburg, VA 24060	Andrew Cohill Tel: 540-231-7855 Fax: 540-231-2139 director@bev.net
Washington	Seattle Public Library (DOE) 100 4 th Avenue Seattle, WA 98104 (Seattle, WA Enterprise	Project Director: Willeen Denton Tel: (206) 386-4125 willeen.denton@spl.org

	Community)	
	Washington State Migrant Council, Pasco Center (NSF) 3330 W. Court Street, Suite J Pasco, WA 99301	Kathy Kilgore Tel: 800-223-8515 wsmcjtpa@quicktel.com
	Community Voice Mail (DOC) Community Technology Institute P.O. BOX 61385 Seattle, WA 98121	Jenn Brandon, Executive Director Phone: (206) 441-7872, x175 Fax: (206) 441-4784
West Virginia	Montani Towers HealthNet (HUD) 940 Market Street Wheeling, WV 26003	Tel: 304-233-7353 Fax: 304-233-7353 montani@ndcrealestate.com
	Southmoor Hills Neighborhood Networks Center (HUD) 4992C Richland Drive South Charleston, WV 25309	Tel: 304-768-9722 Fax: 304-768-0924 stc@citynet.net
Wisconsin	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin (DOE) P.O. Box 910 Keshena, WI 54135 (Keshena, WI Enterprise Community)	Project Director: Jan Yeakey Tel: (715) 799-5199 jyeakey@mail.wiscnet.net
	Neighborhood House of Milwaukee Youth Media Project (NSF) 2819 W. Richardson Place Milwaukee, WI 53208-3546	Azeeza' Islam Tel: 414-933-6161 Fax: 414-344-0137 neighb@execpc.com
Wyoming	Mansface Terrace Housing Computer Center (HUD) 320 Mansface Street Green River, WY 82935	Tel: 307-875-9122 Fax: 307-875-4158

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Subject: remarks of the President on bridging the digital divide

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 9, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT ON BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

The South Grounds

8:12 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: I just thought we ought to come out here in the brisk morning sunshine and wake up together. (Laughter.) I want to thank the representatives here from all parts of the communication industry, from the foundation world, from various civil rights and other civic groups for being here, and coming in and giving me a chance to make this statement, because I had intended to go to Secretary Daley's conference today on bridging the digital divide, and because I'm going to Worcester, I couldn't do that. So they came in this morning and we had a visit. I want to thank them for being here and for their commitment, and for all those who aren't here, but are at the conference.

This conference is about closing the digital divide. And we have worked hard on that for the last several years in very specific contexts. Under the Vice President's leadership, we have worked to make sure that eventually a digital divide will not deprive business of the technology-savvy workers they need, and will not hurt our educational systems

today.

We started with the first NetDay in California, back in 1994, when only 3 percent of our classrooms were wired and only 14 percent of our schools were. And we've been working ever since. Now we know that, through the public-private partnership that have been established all over America, through the Telecommunications Act and the e-rate, which the FCC set to make sure our poorest schools could afford to be connected, we're now up over 50 percent of the schools, from 3 percent, and over 80 percent of the classrooms, from 14 percent, since 1994. And I think that's pretty good.

I'm very pleased by that, and we're on our way to meeting our goal sometime next year of having all of our schools wired, and soon after that, all of our classrooms wired. I want to thank the Vice President and all the people in various industries who have supported us and helped us in this regard.

But as Secretary Daley's most recent Falling Through The Net report shows, there is still a lot more to do. We must connect all of our citizens to the Internet not just in schools and libraries, but in homes, small businesses, and community centers. And we must help all Americans gain the skills they need to make the most of the connection. So this morning, as they go back to their meeting, I want to announce a series of new plans and partnership that will expand on both these efforts, to use the combined forces of public, private, and non-profit sectors, finally to slam shut the digital divide.

First, I have decided to lead a prominent delegation, including top CEOs, on a New Markets tour this spring to focus specifically on the digital divide out in America. As we've done on our previous tours, we will visit communities that have not fully participated in our nation's economic growth. And yet, in the communities we'll also see how partnership between the public and private sectors can unleash the power of the Internet to link children and adults to a lifetime of learning, to provide access to distant medical care, to empower parents, to assist job seekers, to enhance safety and foster economic development.

Second, I am signing an executive memorandum to ensure that closing the digital divide will be a vital goal not just for Secretary Daley and for us here in the White House, but throughout the federal government. For example, I'm directing Secretary Daley to work with the private sector to develop a national strategy for connecting all Americans to the Internet; and directing Secretaries Daley, Riley, Herman, Cuomo and Shalala to expand our growing network of community technology centers.

I just ask you all to think about this one thing: What do you believe the economic impact would be if Internet access and usage were as dense in America as telephone access and usage. I think it's clear that we need to keep working until we achieve this goal.

Third, with the help of many other groups, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights is launching an initiative to empower the entire civil rights community through an expanding civil rights.org website, through leadership forums and even modern-day freedom

riders who will bring high-tech training to the door-steps of non-profit organizations.

As the Congress of National Black Churches has said, the digital divide is a key civil rights issue of the 21st century. That's why our civil rights organizations must be ready, wired, and able to lead the change.

Fourth, the Benton Foundation is bringing together companies from across the computing, telecommunications, software and Internet industries, as well as the Urban League and several other large private foundations, to create the Digital Divide Network, an enormous clearinghouse of information for information on public and private efforts to bring technology to underserved communities. For the first time, we'll have one-stop shop for tracking our progress in every community, and for learning exactly what's worked and what hasn't.

Now, these are the steps we'll take immediately. I want to thank all the leaders who are here today who are making these initiatives possible, and all of those who are going to announce specific things that they and their companies and organizations are doing at the conference. I thank them for the other major commitments they will make, because there is no single big silver bullet here, but we know we have to have a national commitment to closing the digital divide.

I also want to send out an invitation to all of your counterparts around the country who are not able to be with us today, but who should join with us in this great national endeavor. Together we have the power to determine exactly what we want the Internet to become, and what we want it to do is to be an instrument of empowerment, education, enlightenment, and economic advance and community building all across America, regardless of the race, the income, the geography of our citizens. And thanks to these people, we're going to be closer to achieving that goal.

Thank you very much.

Q Mr. President, there seems to be a divide with President Yeltsin this morning. He has given you something of a long-distance tongue-lashing, saying that you've forgotten that Russia is a great power and has a nuclear arsenal. And he accuses you of taking an anti-Russian position on Chechnya.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I'll say again what I said yesterday. I don't think what they're doing will help them to achieve their goal. Their goal, their legitimate goal, is to defeat the Chechen rebels, and to stop their terrorism within Russia, to stop their invasion of neighboring provinces like Dagestan. And I don't think displacing hundreds of thousands of civilians will achieve that goal. I don't know what else to say.

I haven't forgotten that. You know, I didn't think he'd forgotten that America was a great power when he disagreed with what I did in Kosovo. I mean, we can't get too serious about all the -- let's not talk about what the leaders are saying and all these words of criticism. Let's focus on what the country is doing. Is it right or wrong? Will it work or not? What are the consequences?

I think -- I don't agree with what's going on there. And I think I have an obligation to say so.

Thank you. I've got to go.

END

8:20 A.M. EST

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