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Friday, October 22, 1999

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LOREN KIEVE
555 13TH STREET, N.W., SUITE 1100E
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004
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LKIEVE@DEBEVOISE.COM
LOREN.KIEVE@MINDSPRING.COM

gods
gr

10-22-99

October 21, 1999

By Hand

The President
c/o Ms. Nancy Hernreich
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

99 OCT 22 PM 4:51

Dear Mr. President:

In 1994, as you know, you appointed and the Senate confirmed me as a trustee of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, generally known as the Institute of American Indian Art, located in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The IAIA is the only college where American Indians from across the United States can come together to carry on their native cultures and traditions through the arts. Students from virtually every one of the 558 recognized tribes in America have gone to the IAIA. UNESCO has named it one of the world's seven most important cultural arts institutions.

I am asking for your help in the current budget dispute with Congress. Since the Republicans took over Congress in 1995, a small leadership group has been trying to destroy IAIA along with other Indian and arts programs by eliminating their federal funding. In the most recent round, the House Republican conferees have persuaded those in the Senate to cut IAIA's crucial federal funding in half, down to \$2.125 million, and then to eliminate it entirely after this year.

This is obviously not even a drop in the overall federal budget. But it is the lifeblood of the IAIA.

As chair of the IAIA, and on behalf of its students and faculty and every Native American who benefits from its programs, I am asking that you include full funding for IAIA – and the elimination of the language that would eliminate federal funding in the future – as one of your list of priorities in the current negotiations with Congress. You would have the backing of the entire New Mexico congressional delegation, Republican and Democrat, the State's Governor (a Republican) and its Legislature, and that of Native Americans everywhere.

More important, your support would send a clear signal that your Administration is committed to Native Americans and the continuing importance of their heritage and education throughout the country.

My co-trustee Letitia Chambers has given Maria Echaveste a more detailed briefing on this issue.

I know that you have much more pressing issues to deal with. To use Daniel Webster's words, however – describing another Indian-oriented college facing a similar challenge – this involves not merely "a small college" off in the woods, but, in this case, the potential destruction of the only federally chartered institution devoted to preserving Native American culture for all Indians through their artistic traditions.

Thank you again for your leadership on this, and on so many other important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Loren Lave".

DEBEVOISE & PLIMPTON

555 13TH STREET, NW · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

X-RAYED

The President
c/o Ms. Nancy Hernreich
The White House
Washington, D.C.

BY HAND

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(202) 408-8337
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10/21/99

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The President said
that this is a terrible
story. Casework should
handle it as we
should contact
Ken Apfel directly -
JH

99 OCT 22 AM 8:40

10-23-99

Send to Berkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Casework -
Call Ken
Apfel if you
have to

Letters to the editor

Tax on terminally ill?

Dear editor:

After my husband, Larry, was diagnosed with cancer in February of 1997, I became aware firsthand of our government's protocol concerning receiving Social Security disability benefits. In my husband's case, their ruling was totally unfair. After his application was submitted in May of that same year, Larry finally received a check in January of 1998 for one month's payment. This was his first and only check.

The following story is a very personal one. I am sharing it in hopes that someone having a political agenda will read this and start procedures to change the laws concerning disability for the terminally ill.

After being diagnosed, Larry had 14 inches of his colon removed and his cancer was already in the fifth stage. Ninety out of 100 lymph nodes also tested positive for cancer. He was very ill from the beginning but also determined to beat this disease called cancer. He tried, but struggled for a couple of months after his chemotherapy treatments and soon was no longer able to withstand a full work schedule. Determined to continue providing for us, he began to work from his bed. Larry designed sawmill machinery. He worked at this task a couple of hours each day for about two months. Full of hope and determination that he would be successful at beating cancer, he avoided applying for Social Security Disability Income benefits as long as possible. In his mind, applying for

disability benefits would be the same as submitting to the disease.

Late one night in early May, Larry called me for assistance to get to the bedside toilet. The lower part of his body was so swollen that his skin shined. His legs, hips and groin area were tripled in size. Cancer has no mercy on its victims. Larry fell as we were trying to get him back into the bed. We tried several times to get up, but his body just would not work. I made him as comfortable as possible, surrounding him with pillows as we lay on the floor together talking and even laughing at what we could try next. After a couple of hours passed, I asked Larry if 911 responded to matters like this. I called and they arrived in 10 minutes. Larry was in bed at last. His condition worsened each day resulting in him being unable to work at all. I was unable to work because Larry could not be left alone. At the end of May, Larry applied for disability benefits. For months we heard nothing.

Christmas came and still we had not received a ruling. Our savings were practically gone. I called the Social Security office in Little Rock and was told, "The board has not ruled and did not know when they would rule." Our last resort was Jay Dickey. I called his office and explained the situation. He acted immediately and we received a check in the mail for January along with the board's ruling. According to the notice I received, Larry was declared eligible for disability benefits as of June 1997. I wondered why the check we had received was only for a one month payment when we were counting on and needed the full amount. I called again to the

Social Security Administration. I was told, "One must draw Social Security disability for six consecutive months before one can receive the full amount that one is eligible for."

Larry was 52 years old. He died Feb. 6, 1998. All of his working life, Larry paid the maximum amount to Social Security. He received one month's payment and the payment stopped without notification from me. The \$200 burial allotment was never sent. I am supposed to notify them in order to receive that check. I won't. Sound cynical? I suppose. Social Security is just another tax. For Larry - a tax on the terminally ill.

501-525-6788

Rita Grove
Hot Springs



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-21-99

YOUTH INAction

Los Angeles

Kansas City

Washington D.C.

CAMPAIGN

NATIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jill Asmus, National 4-H Council
Jody Carter, Hugh O'Brian
Youth Foundation
Marie Celestin, Youth On Board
Nicole Childers, University of
Pennsylvania
Tami Colon, Campfire Boys
and Girls
Brenda Curry, Berea College
Mark Ferguson, Youth On Board
Zach Goldberg, YMCA
Shanna Paddock, United National
Indian Tribal Youth
Benjamin Quinto, Founder,
UN Youth Assembly
Erin Seltzer, Guilford College
Perren Thomas, National
Urban League
Frank Vivacqua, NY State
Commission & National
Community Service

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National Publicity, A&M Records
Peter Raducha, Executive Director,
Foundation of America
Kelly Ellison, Development Director,
Foundation of America

NATIONAL AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

(partial list)

American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of School
Administrators
Camp Fire Boys and Girls
Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation
Junior Achievement
National Association of Secondary
School Principals
United States Conference
of Mayors
YMCA National State
Office Network
Youth Service America
YWCA of the USA
National 4-H
National Governors Associations
UNESCO
National Network for Youth
National Education Association
Kiwanis International

October 19, 1999

President Clinton
White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking time to visit with the representatives of the National Youth Action Council. We have been working diligently since the Presidential Summit for America's Future to publicize the positive happenings of groups of young people around the nation. I apologize for my last minute absence in this gathering; the Arkansas Department of Higher Education is sending over 150 representatives to Henderson State University to observe our school and Dr. Charles Dunn, the President of the University, has requested that I, along with a group of student Ambassadors, escort our guests around the campus for the day.

I appreciate your time in reading these few humble words I have to say concerning the importance of the voice and actions of the youth of America. The news focuses so often on the negative aspects of the young people of the nation, the gang violence, the drug problems, the homicides. There are, though, countless gatherings of our nations future who are intentionally attempting to make a difference in their communities. Classrooms are gathering, assembling, and distributing gift baskets for the less fortunate. Student Councils are holding peace rallies crossing across not just racial and economic lines, but across to other schools. Religious organizations are organizing free summer camps for the underprivileged children of their communities.

What we are asking is for your support, both verbal as well as physical. There will be press conferences held periodically throughout the year to announce the recipients of our \$1,000 Action Award Grants. If you could make an appearance with us this spring to recognize these groups, more attention and resources would be focused towards young people. Also, there will be a Youth Convention 2000 in the summer of 2000 and we are requesting you aid our cause with your presence, which will attract the media as well as other support.

I thank you for your time in both reading this letter, as well as speaking with representatives from the National Youth Action Council. Together, we can achieve more.

Sincerely,

Jody Carter
Internal Liaison
National Youth Action Council

*Many thanks to
we need to reply
do a press conference if possible
try to do their banquet
BC*

*Copied
Cahill
Podesta
Sent to BwKbord4*

a project of

FOUNDATION OF AMERICA 43 Malaga Cove, Suite D, Palos Verdes, CA 90274

(310) 373-3359 • fax (310) 791-2003 www.Youthlink.org

Constitution of the National Youth Action Council

Article I: Purpose and Mission

Section 1:

We shall be known as the National Youth Action Council

Section 2:

Mission Statement:

The mission of the National Youth Action Council is to enable youth to effect positive change on community and national levels by valuing, sustaining, and representing their diverse values, ideas, and solutions. To create financial support and recognition for the diverse voices, ideas and concerns of young people.

Section 3:

The National Youth Action Council (NYAC) recognizes that they are sponsored by Foundation of America, and that they shall reserve the power to review and veto any and all National Youth Advisory Council decisions and actions.

Article II: Membership

Section 1:

The National Youth Action Council is a diverse group composed of 16 to 24 year old young Americans from youth serving groups and organizations.

Section 2:

The NYAC reserves the right to make recommendations concerning regulation for potential NYAC membership in order to create a diverse group of young people.

Section 3:

NYAC members must be present at NYAC functions and meetings.

Section 4:

Term Limits

- a: Each member is committed to serving a term of 3 years. In order to fulfill a 3 year commitment, a member must be selected on or before their 22nd birthday.

Article III: Meetings

Section 1:

General meetings shall be held no less than two (2) times a year.

Section 2:

Emergency general meetings of the NYAC shall be convened:

- a: by the Executive Director of Foundation of America
- b: by the Board of Directors
- c: by a majority vote of NYAC members

Section 3:

Meetings will also be conducted by e-mail.

- a: All members of the NYAC are required to check-in at least once a week.
- b: The week check-in day will be determined by the members.

Article IV: Voting

Section 1:

A quorum shall consist of 60% of the membership.

- a: Voting can be done either on-line or at a face to face meeting.

Section 2:

A 3/4 vote of members present must pass a proposal.

Section 3:

A fist to five will be taken before all votes when possible.

Article V: Governing Structure

Section 1:

It is hereby established that the position of NYAC Liaison:

- a: who shall be elected from the body of the NYAC by a simply majority;
- b: who is responsible for maintaining contact between all NYAC members and the Executive Director or Foundation of America.
- c: whose term of office shall be one (1) year.

Section 2:

It is hereby established the position of the Recording Secretary:

- a: who shall be elected from the membership of the NYAC by a simple majority;
- b: who is responsible for recording the minutes of all meetings, and distributing them to the members;
- c: who is responsible for turning in all documents to the Executive Director for the purpose of record keeping;
- d: whose term of office shall be one (1) year.

Section 3:

It is hereby established the position of Meeting Co-ordinator:

- a: who shall help organize face to face meetings;
- b: who creates a loose agenda to work with, including answering the 5 W's;

- c: work with local people to finalize all arrangement for the meeting.

Section 4:

It is hereby established the position of Local Co-ordinator:

- a: who shall help organize the meeting;
- b: who shall establish and confirm all plans for the NYAC face to face meeting;
- c: who office shall rotate depending upon meeting place.

Section 5:

It is hereby established that the position of NYAC Friends Co-ordinator:

- a: who shall facilitate how to involve other youth;
- b: who shall send packets and information to interested people;
- c: who shall keep a running record of interested volunteers to build a broad base of support.

Article VI: Committees

Section 1:

The NYAC is empowered to form temporary and standing committees as deemed necessary to the group.

- a: Structure is left open to the body of the committee.
- b: A committee spokesperson shall be designated by the committee to report back to the NYAC.
- c: All committees shall be approved by a simple majority of the membership of the NYAC.

Section 2:

The Nomination Committee

- a: consults with the Executive Director of FOA to present nominations to the council;
- b: conducts in-depth interviews with the NYAC applicants.

Article VII: Amendment Procedures

Section 1:

A proposed amendment to the Constitution shall only be considered when:

- a: in written form;
- b: cosponsored by one third (1/3) of the voting membership.

Section 2:

A two thirds (2/3) vote of NYAC membership is required for adoption of a Constitutional amendment.

Section 3:

Approved amendments shall take effect upon closing of the meeting, or when all on-line votes are tallied and reported to the NYAC.

YOU

CAN



THE

VIOLENCE!



**\$1,000 FOR
TOP YOUTH SOLUTIONS!**

For middle schools, high schools and youth 12-18.

THEN WHAT HAPPENS?

goals you've agreed upon.

B. Discuss how long it will take to accomplish your goals. Make a list of what you will need (e.g. money, help from other youth and adults, information). Discuss and decide when you will finish your project (timeline) and the results your wish to accomplish.

C. Brainstorm a list of responsibilities needed to accomplish your goals and action plan. Have each team member discuss and commit to what he or she would like to contribute.

D. Match each team member's contributions to your list of needs and timeline. (If you have too many unmatched needs, you may want to choose another project and/or add new team members.)

Step 4 - Create your Youth In Action project!

A. Make a list of WHAT each team member is doing and WHEN they are doing it.

B. Choose places to hold regular meetings to work together, and discuss your problems and progress. (Remember, you are working individually and together. Keeping your commitment insures the success of your team and community action project.)

C. Complete your project and report your results to the Foundation of America. Contact your local newspaper and let them know the positive things youths are doing to reduce violence.

Step 5 - Submit your project to apply for a \$1000 Award

Fill out and mail your Action Response Sheet by January 21, 2000. Make sure to completely summarize your project in 250 words or less. Remember to include the results you have created, how many people were involved, and how many people you have helped (positive impact). You will also need the signature of a teacher or an activity advisor familiar with your project and the results your team has created.

\$1,000 Youth In Action Awards and \$100 Honorable Mention Awards will be announced on February 15, 2000. Awards are determined by the National Youth Action Council, a team of youth leaders from organizations, schools and universities across the country - who review all youth project summaries, their total hours of work, the number of team members, and the positive impact and results created for communities. All project summaries are posted on our youthlink website, shared with local and national media.

WANT TO DO MORE?

We're glad you asked! There are a few more ways you can be involved in the Youth In Action Campaign. You can...

1. Host a Community or University Youth Action Summit at your school or community youth-serving organization. To learn how, check out www.youthlink.org under "Take Action!"

2. Add the voice of your team to help create the National Youth Platform 2000. Submit your top three concerns/issues, solutions, and message to the Presidential candidates by mail (see Award Application for our address) or through the Youthlink website, www.youthlink.org under "Speak Out." Not only can your actions change your community, but your voice and ideas can help change your country! Our goal is to have over one million youth add their voices and ideas. How about yours?

3. Apply to be a member of a Congressional, Senate or the National Youth Action Council.

And...all Youth In Action team and project leaders will be considered as potential delegates for the National Youth Convention 2000. Delegates will be taken by train to Washington D.C. to meet with the Presidential candidates to deliver the National Youth Platform in August of the year 2000. Want to make history?

REMEMBER... YOU CAN STOP THE VIOLENCE!

COMBINING YOUR TEAM'S IDEAS: BUILDING CONSENSUS USING FIST-TO-FIVE

When a group comes to consensus on a matter, it means that everyone in the group can support the decision; they don't all have to think it's the best decision, but they all agree they can live with it.

To use this technique, the Team Leader restates a decision the group may make and asks everyone to show his or her level of support. Each person responds by showing a fist or a number of fingers that corresponds to his or her opinion.

FIST:

1 FINGER:

2 FINGERS:

3 FINGERS:

4 FINGERS:

5 FINGERS:

A no vote—a way to block consensus. "I need to talk more on the proposal and require changes for it to pass."

"I still need to discuss certain issues and suggest changes that should be made."

"I am more comfortable with the proposal but would like to discuss some minor issues."

"I'm not in total agreement but feel comfortable to let this decision or a proposal pass without further discussion."

"I think it's a good idea/decision and will work for it."

"It's a great idea and I will be one of the leaders in implementing it."

If anyone shows fewer than three fingers, he or she should be given the opportunity to state objections, and the team should address these concerns. Teams continue the Fist-to-Five process until they achieve consensus (a minimum of three fingers or higher) or determine they must move on to the next issue.

ANTI-VIOLENCE YOUTH IN ACTION AWARD APPLICATION

Congratulations on the completion of your Youth In Action project! The deadline for submission is January 21, 2000. Please type or print all responses. All award winners will be determined by the National Youth Action Council.

STOP! DO NOT PROCEED IF YOUR PROJECT:

- is not student/youth initiated
- did not create positive results
- did not create a solution for reducing violence or improving tolerance

Project Title: _____

Youth Project Initiator _____ Age _____

Sch _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Number of Participants in your Youth In Action Team _____

Total Project Hours (number of team members X number of hours worked on the project) _____

Include a neatly printed or typed summary of 250 words or less. Your summary should address how your project:

- A. Fulfills a need(s) specific to your school/community;
- B. Succeeded at setting/achieving goals;
- C. Improved tolerance or reduced violence your community. (Include total project hours);
- D. Incorporated new and innovative methods/ideas.

Signature of Youth In Action Team Leader

Date

Print Name Here

Signature of Activity Advisor or Teacher

Date

Print Name Here

Mail completed application to: Foundation of America - Youth In Action Campaign
43 Malaga Cove Plaza, Suite D
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

YOUTH ACTION GUIDE

HISTORY

In 1996, at the first-ever National Youth Convention, over 500 youth delegates created a National Youth Platform consisting of issues and solutions distilled from the ideas contributed by young people across America. Six issues were identified: human rights, public safety, government, health, education and environment.

In 1997, the Youth In Action Campaign sent out our first Youth Action Guide to 36,000 middle schools and high schools, as well as to thousands of youth-serving organizations across America. The Guide was created to offer \$1,000 awards and recognition to those youths willing to take action on their ideas, hopes and dreams for improving themselves, their communities and our nation. Over 200 youth-initiated projects were generated. In 1998, young people developed more than 300 community solutions.

PURPOSE

In light of the escalating violence of youth toward youth, and the ensuing national dialogue, this Youth Action Guide is geared towards encouraging youth-initiated community action projects that reduce violence and promote safety in our communities. The goal of this Youth Action Guide is to assist youth in developing practical solutions to the problem of youth violence in our schools, our neighborhoods and our homes.

What is violence? Why does it seem to be increasing in our society? Is violence a problem in your school and community? Do you think violence and discrimination are affecting your life? Is there anything we (you) can do about it?

Youth violence may result from feelings of fear and despair, of isolation and alienation. These feelings are often intensified by parents, schools, communities and peers. Sometimes those characteristics or groups that we identify with - our cultures, our races, our schools, our teams - can lead to prejudice and hostility. By using this guide, you can form a team to develop a project that can inspire others to transcend judgements, promote tolerance and create connection - and reduce violence in your community.

YOUTH IN ACTION AWARDS

\$1,000 Awards are given for youth-initiated projects that improve tolerance and reduce violence in your school and community. These solutions are posted on our youthlink.org website and shared with schools and youth throughout the country. Youth In Action Awards are determined by the National Youth Action Council.

Remember, only youth-initiated projects are eligible for awards.

Now more than ever we need the solutions of youth to help shape America's future.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS — ANYONE CAN CREATE A TEAM!

Step 1 - Building your Youth In Action Team

- A.** Talk to friends, classmates, and family members for their ideas on reducing violence and improving tolerance in your community.
- B.** Ask them if they are willing to work with you and other youth to develop their ideas and solutions into ACTION.
- C.** Pick a date, time, and place to bring everyone interested together to discuss their ideas. School classrooms, community and youth organization centers, or team members' homes can be used. Determine your common concerns and solutions. Agree to become a Youth In Action Team. Choose an adult activity advisor and/or teacher to advise your team and help create support for your project and ideas.
- D.** Establish ground rules with your group. Examples include: Be respectful, speak one at a time, listen, no idea is a bad idea, etc. Choose a youth-action team leader.

Step 2 - Choosing your top idea and solution

- A.** Discuss the impact of violence in your school/community.
- B.** Have each team member write down at least one idea/solution for reducing violence and creating tolerance. Have them explain what they wrote and why.
- C.** Choose the best idea/solution using the *first-to-five* consensus model (*see page 3). The solution should be a project your team can do if you wish to apply for a \$1,000 Youth In Action Award. (See Youth In Action Award Application Form on page 4 for deadlines and rules).

Step 3 - Developing goals and an action plan

- A.** Have the whole team discuss the purpose of your proposed solution. Using consensus, set goals to accomplish the purpose of your team's solution. Discuss how you can accomplish the

10-21-99

After you have seen we
will send to Burkhardt for
reply

**YOUTH
ACTION
GUIDE**

**YOU CAN CREATE
\$1,000
FOR YOU AND
YOUR COMMUNITY**

**WAKE
SPEAK
IT'S TIME FOR
CHANGE**

100%

**NO ONE IS TOO YOUNG
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOLS AND YOUTH 12-18

Citrus Heights Teen "Unity" Team

PO Box 7498
Citrus Heights, CA 95621
Non-Profit 2131889

Phone (916) 721-0634

July 27, 1999

Youth in Action Campaign
Peter Raducha, Executive Director
43 Malaga Cove, Suite D
Palos Verdes, CA 90274

Dear Mr. Raducha,

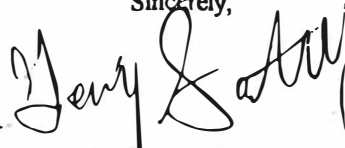
As a Youth Leader of the Citrus Heights Teen "Unity" Team, I'd like to thank you for granting us the \$1000.00 Youth in Action Award that will go toward our Teens VS Cops Softball Challenge.

This award will help make this years game a much greater success. We plan on using this award to purchase a banner that will stretch across the major intersection located by the ball park. This banner will help us advertise for this event every year. If there is any money left, we hope to be able to purchase T-shirts or medallions for all players.

This years event will take place on Sunday, September 19th from 1pm - 3pm at Rusch Park 7801 Auburn Blvd. in Citrus Heights. This year we decided that we needed to encourage more relations between the teens and cops. Since the teens have lost terribly for the past two years, we are going to make a change in the teams. We will instead have the teens and cops work together. Each team will be a mixture of teens and cops. This way the teens will be spending more one on one time with the cops at practices, and we will all be working together instead of against each other. GREAT CONCEPT don't you think? It was not just our idea. Our Chief of Police made the suggestion and we agree.

We appreciate your support, and we'll keep you updated on our progress.
Please mail check in the name of the Citrus Heights Teen "Unity" Team

Sincerely,


Georgia Santangelo
Youth Leader

cc: Adult Board Members
Citrus Heights Police Department

YOUTH IN ACTION AWARD

Submitted by: Citrus Heights Teen "Unity" Team
PO Box 7498
Citrus Heights, CA 95621
non-profit # 2131889

Contact Person: Georgia Santangelo, Teen Vice President
Phone # (916) 721-0634
E-Mail address: pugsby @cwnet.com.

Teens in Citrus Heights were frustrated when the City of Citrus Heights incorporated and our new police department was every where. You couldn't stand on a street corner without them asking what you were doing. Six of us spent thirty-eight hours together organizing a softball game between cops and teens. We decided to build better relationships. They beat us 42-12. Actually we're the winners, they took all twenty of us teen players plus, out for pizza. They got to know us and now they wave or stop and talk to us. It's tight. This is now an annual event.

We wrote to Sunrise Mall explaining everything and they built us a trophy case that we use for the trophy and teen recognition. We developed the guidelines and maintain it.

We were doing so many things that we decided to organize ourselves. We hand picked adults that listen to us, to help us get our own non-profit status which we just received this January. We get the names and phone #'s of teens that want to get involved. We started this two years ago and now have a teen phone list of over 438 teens. Best of all our city now recognizes us.

MISSION:

To implement teen ideas into educational and charitable programs and events that will bring positive activities for teens into our community. To encourage positive relations and unity throughout our community by working with and through all aspects of our community.

We could do lots with \$1000.00.

THANKS

"Peace Links"

L'Anse Creuse High School
Harrison Township, MI
L'Anse Creuse High School North
Macomb, MI

We addressed goal 2: to reduce and prevent teen violence by creating a school assembly to focus on the issues of teen violence and bring kids together from rival communities and neighborhoods.

In December 1997 we experienced our first true act of violence when some young people from our two high schools finalized a weekend dispute with a drive-by shooting which claimed the life of a young man from one of our high schools.

The student councils of both high schools met to develop the basic idea. They produced colorful "peace links" from construction paper. These links were sold to students at both high schools for \$0.25 each and the student signed the link and returned it to the student council. When a student had purchased 8 links they received a peace bracelet. The sales campaign lasted one month and the bracelets were distributed on the last day. The campaign's final activity was the basketball game between both of our high schools. During half time, the student council members from both schools, who had stapled the peace links together forming a gigantic peace chain, marched into the gym carrying the chain. A student, from one high school, read the attached speech and a student from the other high school sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth." The family of the young man who had lost his life also took part in the activity and the victim's father spoke to the students pleading with them not to engage in violent acts and to learn to "walk away."

The 2800 students worked together to diffuse any further acts of violence or retaliation. The students raised \$1,500, which was donated to a local hospital and dedicated to violence prevention work. They are continuing their work to bring alternatives to violence to the student body by exploring and expanding opportunities for conflict resolution opportunities.

"It makes me happy that we did some positive and that it was recognized by people, instead of all of the negatives that happen. We wanted to make something to feel comfortable and happy. We made peace links and sold them for 25 cents each.. For every 4 that were sold, you got a bracelet. We sold them between out high schools and the Pancow Vocational Tech School. We had a basketball game one night against North. Student Council linked the links up and included the family of the victim. It stretched over 1 ½ miles, and we raised over \$4,000 dollars. We circled our gym, and I gave a speech, and someone sang a song."

Amber Bruce, 18 yrs.
Student Council President
L'Anse Creuse High School

"I was very proud to be a part of the peace links project. The violence that occurred in our district was very tragic and unnecessary. It was not until half-time at the basketball game

FOUNDATION OF AMERICA - YOUTH IN ACTION CAMPAIGN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A 1997 Public Agenda report—*Kids These Days, What American's Really Think About Its Next Generation*—shows that 58% of adults believe our next generation will make America worse than it is today. If the majority of adults are giving up on children and youth as a source of renewal and hope for our future, how is this mind set affecting the over 100 million young Americans who represent over 40% of our nation's population?

1996 and 1998 Surveys from *Kidspeak* and *Youthlink* show that three-quarters of America's youth believe their ideas and opinions are not valued in adult society. In addition, over 80% of youth believe they are unfairly and negatively stereotyped. These collective perceptions contribute to apathy and feelings of disempowerment and hopelessness towards impacting their (our) future.

To address these problems and to improve citizenship, service, democratic participation, and civic responsibility in our next generation(s), the Foundation of America created the **Youth In Action Campaign**. The Foundation of America is a nonprofit, charitable organization dedicated to improving the health, safety and well being of children and youth. Our mission is *to create opportunities, recognition and financial support for the voices, ideas and solutions of youth*. The Youth In Action Campaign serves as an umbrella to provide programs, recognition, and incentives for youth-initiated activities that are improving communities and our nation.

The campaign was launched in 1996 with two non-partisan *first ever National Youth Conventions*. Held concurrently with the '96 Republican and Democratic conventions in San Diego and Chicago, the conventions were developed to provide a sustainable vehicle for a national voice of youth to address their most important issues and concerns. Prior to the conventions our **Youthlink.org** web site provided the communication link necessary for thousands of youth from across the nation to contribute their ideas for improving America. Over 500 youth delegates summarized these top issues and solutions to create a **National Youth Platform**. This historical document was presented to presidential candidates, governors, senators, and mayors. Youth were encouraged to vote for the candidate that best represented their issues.

Based on the success of the Youth Conventions, the Heinz Foundation and corporate supporters including—Sega, Bank of America, A&M Records and Sun Microsystems, supplied initial funding to take our youth convention model and action incentive program into schools, universities and youth organizations across America.

Our yearly programs include: **The Youth Action Guide**—a team building curriculum for youth 12-18 and **Community and University Youth Action Summits**—our youth convention model for middle schools, high schools, universities and youth-serving organizations. In all program materials, young people are encouraged to work in consensus and take *action* on their issues, vision and solutions for improving America. All resulting *youth-initiated* projects that create positive community impact are eligible for **\$1,000 Youth In Action Awards**.

To date, over 500 youth-initiated projects have been submitted. The **National Youth Action Council**—youth leaders from organizations and schools across America—review all projects to determine \$1,000 Youth In Action Award recipients. Awards are given out as part of National Youth Service Day at a yearly ceremony in Washington D.C. Youth leaders who initiate projects are eligible to become delegates for the **National Youth Convention 2000**. Selected delegates will be brought to Washington D.C. to deliver the next National Youth Platform to Presidential candidates.

The Youth In Action campaign includes corporations, foundations and over one hundred non-profit affiliates—including 4-H, YMCA, YWCA, Campfire Boys and Girls, UNITY, HOBY, Girl Scouts, Youth Service America, COOL, along with Scholastic Magazine, Teen People, MTV, TIME Education and others—who distribute program materials and create youth outreach and recognition. Our collaborative relationships provide us with the ability to maximize program distribution in a cost-effective manner. Youth in Action's programs and materials have the capacity to directly reach over 40 million young Americans as well as their teachers and families each year.

We are seeking collaborative and/or coalition organizational partners to distribute the Youth Action Guide, a "Speak Out!" flyer for your youth constituents to add their voices to help create the National Youth Platform 2000 and to select youth leaders as delegate representatives for the National Youth Convention 2000. Let us work **together** to assure greater recognition for the voices, ideas and solutions of youth to improve citizenship and inspire hope in this generation and in generations to come.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, Please contact:

Mr. Peter Raducha, Executive Director
Foundation of America, Youth In Action Campaign
43-D Malaga Cove Plaza, Palos Verdes Est, CA 90274
Telephone: (310) 373-3359; E-Mail: peter@youthlink.org

Ideas for anti-violence movement

Recreational Centers : Creating safe and inclusive space

Program that are youth run with adult providing guidance and supervision. It is the youth that will provide the leadership.

Visibility of youth leaders and youth role models

Tackle issues and develop skills in local communities:

- **Stereotypes: Discrimination and prejudice**
- **Self esteem**
- **Culture**
- **Conflict resolution:**
- **Hateful language**
- **Homophobia**
- **Sexuality**

Generation gap:

Develop programs for adults and youth to collaborate together and to challenge values and beliefs that have been internalized as we were growing up.

POPP 2000

INTROSPECTIVE COMPONENT

“Self Love”

The POPP Youth consulting team will introspectively examine the psychosocial dynamics that lead toward risky behavior through the arts, music, creative writing, and holistic visualization. This holistic approach will raise awareness on how self worth, culture, relationships, and abusive forces in our lives create patterns that are self-destructive and unhealthy.

Once we've broken down the negative influences we have around us and recognize where they come from, we begin to appreciate who we are. When we value our minds, our bodies and souls, we are able to love ourselves enough to want to make responsible decisions and healthier choices in our lives.

Charly Dominguez
Youth Consultant 1999

POPP 2000

SKILL BUILDING COMPONENT:

“Treating Your Body as a Temple Is A Skill”

In the next couple of workshops we will explore and provide specific skills that will aide the new POPP Peer Educators and Community Peers Educators to communicate and generate discussions on sex, drugs, and violence with their peers, partners and family members. In addition, we will explore learned behaviors and how they influence our attitudes and beliefs around violence, drugs and sex. The workshops will increase effective skills to aide partner negotiations, boundary setting, anger management, and conflict diffusion.

The message that we will promote is that the right decision is always within you. No one knows you better then you know yourself. So we need to look within ourselves for decision that we make everyday. If you are in tuned with yourself and your body then you are more likely to make healthier decisions in your life or help others with the same process.

Marisol DeLeon
Youth Consultant 1999

POPP 2000

HIV/AIDS PREVENTATIVE COMPONENT

“Practicing Safer Sex 100% of the time, who are you kidding?”

The overall objective is to raise awareness about HIV/ AIDS and HIV/AIDS related issues that put us at-risk. Instead of concentrating solely on the do's & don'ts of safer sex or the concrete applications of the use of latex barriers, we will explore risk perceptions. In other words, decisions to practice unsafe sex are reflections on how youth perceive certain risky behavior.

The lower the risk, the more likely youth will justify and engage in risky behavior. When we are aware of our risk perceptions, we are more likely to protect ourselves. In addition, we will explore with the peers the issues that influence risk perceptions as well as their ability to negotiate sexual boundaries, by exploring self worth, internalized homophobia/ racism/ sexism, and gender role expectations.

*Angela Cuspepper
Youth Consultant 1999*



The Hetrick-Martin Institute
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WORKSHOP PROPOSAL

MAKING TOUGH DECISIONS IN NO TIME FLAT: Integrating the Heart, Head and Body Towards Effective Decision-Making

*Should I pay attention to my intuition?
Why do I let my pet peeves get to me?
Why do I feel this way?
It seemed like a good idea at the time.
I wasn't thinking.
I lost it.*

Overview	Whether we like it or not, some of the most important decisions in our lives are not entirely "logical" ones. They are made in an instant when our adrenaline and our passions take over such as during a safer sex negotiation with a partner or a conflict in the streets. Once we learn to self reflect on our strongest feelings and learn to interpret the signals that our bodies are sending, we will be better equipped to make tough decisions quickly and easily.
Objectives	By the end of this workshop, participants will: ▪ learn specific strategies for effective decision-making ▪ be able to recognize the physical indicators of their emotions ▪ be able to recognize how their emotions effect their decision-making in concrete ways ▪ be better able to make decisions that reflect the messages of their hearts, minds and bodies ▪ make healthier decisions before, and in the midst of intense moments
Facilitators	Three Youth Peer Educators, One Adult Trainer
Workshop Description	This workshop will consist of two parts: decision-making making and emotional intelligence. In the first part of this workshop, participants will be led through an activity that will introduce basic decision-making processes and principles. The discussion that follows will address the factors that influence <u>everyday</u> decisions such as friends, family, values, sexuality, and experiences, as well as the impact and indicators of "healthy" and "unhealthy" decisions. Participants will then explore scenarios that show how we are often more likely to react according to the rush of our emotions and the force of our adrenaline. These are the moments when we are most likely to act irresponsibly and often violently. There are often clear indicators of when we are "getting caught up in the moment" or "about to get caught up," and we can prepare for and sometimes avoid them. In the second part of the workshop, participants will learn about emotional intelligence, review communication techniques, and discuss strategies for channeling emotionally charged behaviors. Participants will be encouraged and challenged to identify the ways in which their bodies "wear" emotions and to explore how certain emotions may lend themselves to certain types of decisions (for example, fear makes us alert and may lend itself to cautious decision-making; love makes us relaxed and may lend itself to compromise). To conclude, workshop participants will discuss how our minds, bodies, and emotions work together (or at odds with one another) during emotionally charged moments such as a safer-sex negotiation with a partner or a conflict in the streets. It is <u>not</u> always possible for our conscious minds to dominate decision-making, but it is imperative that we be aware of our bodily and emotional influences, and to use them to support healthy decision-making.

FACTFILE

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Youth

POPULATION

Many gay men and lesbians sensed something "different" about themselves as early as age four or five. The age at which most acknowledge their homosexuality is between 14 and 16 years for males and between 16 and 19 years for females.

Source: Saghir MT, Robins E, Walbian B, *Male and Female Homosexuality*, Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins, 1973.

The Kinsey study found that from puberty to age twenty, 28% of boys and 17% of girls had one or more homosexual experiences.

Source: Kinsey AC, Pomeroy WB, Martin CE, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, 1948 and *Sexual Behavior in the Human Female*, 1953, Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders.

During adulthood, 37% of Americans have homosexual experiences. Ten percent are predominantly homosexual. (This is the source of the commonly accepted 10% figure.)

Source: Kinsey, op cit.

STRESS FACTORS

Eighty percent of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth report severe isolation problems. They experience social isolation (having no one to talk to), emotional isolation (feeling distanced from family and peers because of their sexual identity), and cognitive isolation (lack of access to good information about sexual orientation and homosexuality).

Source: Hetrick ES, Martin AD, "Developmental Issues and Their Resolution for Gay and Lesbian Adolescents," *Journal of Homosexuality*, 14(1/2):25-43, 1987.

Half of all lesbian and gay youth interviewed report that their parents rejected them due to their sexual orientation.

Source: Remafedi G, "Male Homosexuality: The Adolescent's Perspective," *Pediatrics*, 79: 326-330, 1987.

In a study of gay male adolescents, 68% reported alcohol use (with 26% using alcohol once or more per week), and 44% reported drug use (with 8% considering themselves drug-dependent). Among young lesbians, 83% had used alcohol, 56% had used drugs, and 11% had used crack/cocaine in the three months preceding the study.

Source: Rosario M, Hunter J, Rotheram-Borus MJ, Unpublished data on lesbian adolescents, HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies, New York State Psychiatric Institute, 1992.

SUICIDE

Gay youth are two to three times more likely to attempt suicide than heterosexual young people. It is estimated that up to 30% of the completed youth suicides are committed by lesbian and gay youth annually.

Source: Gibson P, LCSW, "Gay Male and Lesbian Youth Suicide," *Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Youth Suicide*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1989.

In a study of 137 gay and bisexual males, 29% had attempted suicide, almost half of whom reported multiple attempts.

Source: Remafedi G, Farrow JA, Delsher RW, "Risk Factors for Attempted Suicide in Gay and Bisexual Youth," *Pediatrics*, 87(6), June 1991.

HIV/AIDS

Sixty percent of young adult cases of AIDS are among men who have had sex with men. Because HIV has an average incubation period of 10.5 years before the onset of AIDS, this statistic indicates that these young people were infected as teenagers.

Source: Centers for Disease Control, 1992.

A San Francisco study of gay and bisexual men revealed that 14% of the men between ages 17 and 22 were HIV positive—a figure four percent higher than young men in the 23 to 25 age group.

Source: AIDS Office, Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Control, San Francisco City Clinic Special Programs for Youth and San Francisco Department of Welfare, "The Young Men's Survey: Principal Findings and Results." San Francisco, CA, June 1991.

The factors that place lesbian and gay youth at very high risk for HIV transmission include: having to exchange sex for money, unsafe sex, substance abuse, and denial of sexual identity.

Source: HIV Center for Clinical and Behavior Studies, New York State Psychiatric Institute, 1992.

VIOLENCE

In a study of self-identified lesbian and gay youth in New York City, 41% reported suffering violence from their families, peers, or strangers. Of the violent incidents, 46% were directly gay-related and primarily perpetrated by family members.

Source: Hunter J, "Violence Against Lesbian and Gay Male Youths," *J. Interpersonal Violence*, 5(3) Sept. 1990, Sage Publications.

Forty-five percent of gay males and 20% of lesbian females experience verbal or physical assault in high school. Twenty-eight percent of these youth are forced to drop out of school because of harassment resulting from their sexual orientation.

Sources: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "Anti-Gay/Lesbian Victimization," New York, 1984; and Remafedi G, "Male Homosexuality: The Adolescent's Perspective," *Pediatrics*, 79: 326-330, 1987.

HOMELESSNESS

Twenty-six percent of gay youth are forced to leave home because of conflicts with their families over their sexual identities.

Sources: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, "Anti-Gay/Lesbian Victimization," New York, 1984; and Remafedi G, "Male Homosexuality: The Adolescent's Perspective," *Pediatrics*, 79: 326-330, 1987.

Up to half of the gay/bisexual males forced out of their homes engage in prostitution to support themselves, greatly increasing their risk for HIV infection.

Source: Savin-Williams RC, "Theoretical Perspectives Accounting for Adolescent Homosexuality," *J. Adol. Health Care*, 9(2):95-104, March 1988.



ABOUT THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

Founded in 1979, the Hetrick-Martin Institute is an education, social service, and advocacy organization that offers services to lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth, ages 13 to 21, in New York City and nationally.

Hetrick-Martin Institute

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"POWERS"

Giving Power To Youth

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

THE POWERS, or Peer Orientation Workers, Youth Initiative trains young people to welcome their peers to the Institute, introduce them to the range of services it provides, and serve as their liaisons to the staff.

In addition, The POWERS Program helps make both new and old mem-

bers feel comfortable, as they are given the opportunity to ask questions – not just of another adult but – of another young person who “speaks the same language” and knows how the system works.

Moreover, POWERS helps keep young people in school. It does so by offering them a stipend for their work as Peer Orientation Workers – but only on condition

that they are working toward completion of their high school education and, in the case of older students, investigating college.

The Preparation of a POWERS Youth

At Hetrick-Martin, POWERS are trained in a wide range of topics, including: HIV/AIDS risk reduction, the history of the agency, who’s who in the current structure, and what services are provided.

In addition, because their peers often see them as safe people to talk to, POWERS are trained in a number of skills and topics that will help them fulfill that role.

For example, they receive training on HIV/AIDS issues, human sexuality, how to avoid making value judgments about other young people, as well as how to communicate more effectively. All of this tends to result in a growth in self-confidence. As one young person said, it makes them feel like an adult.

Young people who participate in The POWERS Training Program are required to be in school, so the POWERS Program trainers make the training as fun and inspiring as possible through a variety of educational games, interactive learning projects, and team projects. Equally important, is they do it by recognizing that these young people are not in-training because they have to be; they’re in it because they want to be.

Assistance is Available

If you are a young person interested in participating in the POWERS Youth Initiative, contact the Training Department at Hetrick-Martin.

If you are interested in learning more about how to implement the POWERS Youth Initiative at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the “POWERS Guide-Book,” which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We’ll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

THE WELCOME OF KNOWLEDGEABLE YOUTH

SO MANY THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT HOME FOR A LOT OF YOUNG PEOPLE. COMING HERE AND BEING MET BY A PEER, YOU SEE PEOPLE YOU CAN LOOK UP TO – PEOPLE WHO ARE DOING THINGS THAT MIGHT LEAD THEM SOMEWHERE IN LIFE. IT’S AN ORIENTATION TO A GROUP OF GOOD FRIENDS.
– KAREEN

The Hetrick-Martin Institute is located at 2 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003. Our phone is (212) 674-2400.

PROJECT FIRST STEP

A Program Where Youth Reach Out to Homeless Youth

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

THERE ARE an estimated 30,000 homeless young people on the streets of New York City. Some of them are run-aways; some are "throw-aways," some are as young as 12 years old. As a whole, they are at high risk for HIV infection and other sexually-transmitted diseases, drug addiction, prostitution, illnesses, and suicide. Many don't see a way out.

Project First Step, a Hetrick-Martin Youth Initiative, is designed to help these young people begin – to take a first step toward life off the streets and into society's mainstream.

Through Project First Step, trained youth and professional outreach workers go out to the places where home-

less young people "hang out" – on the street, in train stations, and video arcades – and offer them safer-sex kits, tell them how to use them, and encourage them to visit

Hetrick-Martin, where they can receive access to showers, clean clothing, a nutritious meal, and to the range of programs and services that HMI has to offer.

Participation in the program requires a six-month commitment, which is comprised of two months of training and four months of work.

Youth Participants

Needless to say, not all young people are comfortable with the thought of working with homeless youth. Nor will

all those who are comfortable working with homeless youth feel safe reaching out to them on the street. Project First Step works with these considerations, first, by offering youth participants options: They may conduct outreach on the street; or they may work within Hetrick-Martin, by running the Cafe where homeless and other youth from the agency are invited to come for free meals; or they may choose to do both.

Second, they receive a two month-long training program that provides the information they need to know, as well as training in necessary safety tactics and interpersonal skills.

Street Outreach

Project First-Step outreach workers go out in teams – with a minimum of one adult staff member and one youth – five nights a week, from 3:30 to 7:30, targeting areas where youth congregate throughout the five boroughs of New York City.

Using the good judgment they have learned regarding safety, they approach street youth with a welcoming and non-threatening demeanor, and, as mentioned above, offer them safer-sex kits, containing condoms and dental dams, and an explanation of how and why they need to use them.

Handing out safer-sex kits is one of the most practical ways to make an intervention on the street because it does not require a complex exchange between the outreach worker and the street youth; and it is immediate: the street youth must not go anywhere or do anything but receive and use what is provided to them.

Cafe HMI

The Hetrick-Martin Cafe, where street youth are offered free access to showers; a store house of donated, clean, folded clothing; and a nutritious meal, is run and maintained by the youth participants of Project First Step.

The Cafe HMI does not look, or operate, like an ordinary soup kitchen. It is designed to appeal to young people from all walks of life.

Alex, a staff member of Project First Step explains: "On the surface, people often do not know who among the young people getting dinner in the Cafe is homeless, and that's why the space works: It doesn't require them to put aside their pride."

Assistance is Available

If you are interested in learning more about The Project First Step Youth Initiative and how you might use it at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the "Project First Step Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

**WHY HAVE YOUTH
REACH OUT TO
HOMELESS YOUTH?
WHO ELSE CAN DO
IT BETTER?**

**— ALEX, YOUTH
COORDINATOR**

**The Hetrick-Martin Institute
is located at 2 Astor Place,
New York, NY 10003. Our
phone is (212) 674-2400.**

THE PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Where Youth Empower Youth

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

THE PEER Education Youth Initiative prepares young people to train their peers – in public and private schools, colleges, and youth agencies – in a wide range of important topics, including: human sexuality, HIV/AIDS and sexually-transmitted diseases, gay and lesbian issues, racism, and sexism.

PEER ED TAUGHT ME THAT I CAN GET OUT AND REACH PEOPLE. IT SHOWED ME THAT I HAVE LEADERSHIP SKILLS, AND I'M MORE OF A PEOPLE-PERSON THAN I THOUGHT. IT TOTALLY AFFECTED MY EVERYDAY LIFE.

— MICHELLE,
PEER ED YOUTH

While working in teams of two, and supervised by a staff trainer, Peer Educators offer several unique benefits to the young people they teach:

- First, they demonstrate that youth have important information to share
- Second, they show that

young people have the power and ability to take control of their lives

- Third, they command the attention of students because "the teacher" is someone who looks like them and shares their experiences.

In addition, The Peer Education Program offers participants an excellent opportunity to develop confidence, responsibility, leadership abilities, and communication skills. It helps them learn about vital topics, such as HIV/AIDS prevention, in a way that only teaching something can. It also encour-

ages them to complete their schooling and offers them a paid stipend.

Why "Peer Ed" Works

The Peer Education Program is grounded in a realistic fact: Youth tend to listen to each other. This is the basic reason why the Peer Ed Program works for youth audiences.

But why does it work for Peer Educators and the agency that sponsors the program?

In brief, Peer Ed works because it combines five key elements:

- Draws young people into the program with the opportunity to earn a stipend
- Thoroughly trains them to do the work they will be required to do
- Arms them with information they consider important
- Supports them as they are doing it
- Increases their confidence and their self-esteem.

Giving Youth a Voice

Not many people are born public speakers. And young people may be even more hesitant to speak up on sensitive topics than adults because they tend to be especially worried about feeling foolish before their peers.

Peer Ed helps them overcome these obstacles through a training program that gradually prepares them to speak with clarity, authority, and the confidence that they know what they're talking about.

This, above all, is what young people remember after they have completed the Peer Ed Program. As one Peer Educator put it: The Peer Ed Program helps them find their voices.

Assistance is Available

If you are a young person interested in participating in the Peer Education Youth Initiative, contact the Training Department at Hetrick Martin.

If you are interested in learning more about The Peer Education Youth Initiative and how you might use it at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the "Peer Education Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

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THE PEERS-IN-PARTNERSHIP YOUTH INITIATIVE

Building Leadership Skills Among Youth in Disadvantaged Communities:
A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

PEERS-IN-PARTNERSHIP (PIP) is a community-based program that helps young people in disadvantaged communities master life-saving health information and develop leadership, job skills, and self-esteem.

By building on the Peer Education Program (See Youth Initiative #3,) PIP sends peer educators out to talk to other youth about HIV/AIDS, violence prevention, pregnancy prevention, sexuality, sexually-transmitted diseases, self-esteem, and coalition-building – not just for an hour, or an afternoon but for three months or more.

BEFORE PEERS IN PARTNERSHIP, I WAS CHAOTIC. I WASN'T FOCUSED. I WASN'T INTO SAFER SEX. I LIVED LIFE DAY-BY-DAY. THEN I JOINED THE PROGRAM BECAUSE I WANTED TO EARN MONEY, AND I BEGAN TO LEARN THINGS. NOW I'VE DECIDED I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP ON LEARNING. I WANT TO RISE TO A HIGHER AND HIGHER POSITION.

— TISHA, PEERS IN PARTNERSHIP YOUTH

In the process, these peer educators prepare their "students" to become peer educators for other youth audiences at junior high schools, high schools, colleges, and organizations working with youth.

How PIP Works

Because this project draws its strength from collaboration, some responsibilities are taken on by The Hetrick-Martin Institute, and others by the youth organization receiving the training.

Hetrick-Martin provides the initial two-to-three months of training to youth from the collaborating agency. In addition, HMI offers consulting advice when those new peer educators are ready to go into their community, and pays the stipends of all participating youth.

The collaborating youth agency, in turn, agrees to:

- Permit ten young people to be trained as peer educators for two to three months
- Arrange for these new peer educators to go into the community and train other youth for a period of three to four months.

The Influence of Positive Role Models

Young people learn to follow in the footsteps of other youth, whether those footsteps provide positive role models or negative ones. This is one reason why many young people today are at risk of dropping out of high school, contracting HIV or other sexually-transmitted diseases, and becoming victims or perpetrators of violence.

But PIP offers an alternative, by presenting young people with positive role models and vital information

about issues at the core of their lives: their safety, sexuality, health, and emerging identities.

As simple as it sounds, PIP works in this way to improve the decision-making of young people. It does so not only by giving them important information but by improving their communication skills and self-esteem.

Assistance is Available

If you are a young person interested in participating in the Peers in Partnership Youth Initiative, contact the Training Department at Hetrick Martin.

If you are interested in learning more about The Peers in Partnership Youth Initiative and how you might use it at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the "Peers in Partnership Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

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THE LINKING LIVES YOUTH INITIATIVE

Making the Risk of HIV/AIDS Real:

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

IT IS NO SECRET that despite the availability of condoms and safer-sex education materials, too many young people today continue to put themselves at risk of contracting HIV.

One reason is that many young people believe they will never contract HIV. Maybe their friends will. Maybe even their parents will. But they won't. They are invincible.

It's wishful thinking – and it's claimed too many young lives.

AGENCIES THAT KEEP US SHELTERED DON'T REALIZE HOW MUCH MORE WE LEARN FROM GETTING OUT THERE AND MEETING PEOPLE.

— MANNY,
A LINKING LIVES
YOUTH

The Hetrick-Martin Institute has designed a program that seeks to challenge young people with a full year of training and work experience that exposes them to the facts and faces of people who prove that

the risk of HIV is real. The program gives them an opportunity to make a difference – for themselves, and others.

"The Linking Lives Youth Initiative" offers young people:

- Three months of in-depth training on HIV/AIDS and working skills
- A three-month paid internship in a community-based organization that serves people with HIV/AIDS, such as: a hospital, a day-treatment center, or a non-profit organization like

God's Love We Deliver, which delivers meals to the homes of people living with HIV/AIDS

- An opportunity to put their experience to work for the benefit of others, through self-made projects geared at communicating safer-sex messages to their peers

Can Young People Take It?

Linking Lives is emotionally demanding of young people. It's natural for people to wonder whether young people can "handle it." Hetrick-Martin has developed a method of selecting young people who would be appropriate for the specific challenges of the Linking Lives Youth Initiative. Experience has shown that the right young people cannot only "handle" the Linking Lives experience, they become more caring about their own and others' health.

What are the Benefits?

Like the other Youth Initiatives offered by Hetrick-Martin, Linking Lives draws young people into the program by offering them a stipend and work experience. It then adequately prepares them for their challenges with training, and provides ample support – boosting their self-esteem, confidence and leadership abilities. Finally, it gives students a real incentive to stay in school. As a recent Linking Lives Youth, said: "When I came here they told me 'school is a must,' and they helped me

get in. Now, I'll be walking down the aisle in June."

Assistance is Available

If you are a young person interested in participating in the Linking Lives Youth Initiative, contact the Training Department at Hetrick-Martin.

If you are interested in learning more about The Linking Lives Youth Initiative and how you might use it at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help. Call or write us and ask for the "Linking Lives Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

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THE INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP YOUTH INITIATIVE

Helping Young People Get a Foot in the Door

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

THE INTERNSHIP/EXTERNSHIP Youth Initiative is a two-pronged job readiness program: one in which young people work as paid interns within the agency to which they belong, and the other in which they work as paid externs at

YOUTH TEND TO HANG OUT ON STREET CORNERS A LOT. HAVING A PROGRAM LIKE THIS MAKES IT SO YOU CAN HAVE A JOB AND HANG OUT IN A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT. IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT YOU FIND EVERYDAY.

— PAUL,
INTERNSHIP YOUTH

another agency or business in the community.

Young people are not required to participate in both parts of this initiative but those who wish to be externs must first complete a six-month internship.

This allows the sponsoring agency to virtually guarantee that the young people they

send into the community as workers – and representatives of the agency – are qualified to do the job.

The Internship

Young people eligible to participate in an internship include anyone who has participated in one or more of the prior Youth Initiatives, such as POWERS, or Peer Education. This provides that participating youth will already have received basic training in working and communication skills, had a certain degree of work experience, and demonstrated that they could meet the responsibilities of an internship.

"We talk a lot about job-readiness skills and how to prepare youth for the work force, and this seemed like an opportunity to mentor youth and let them see up-close what it is like to work in a professional environment in a professional capacity."

At Hetrick-Martin, interns are placed in a wide range of offices, including: development, finance, education, recreation, photography, the library, youth services, the school program, the executive director, the assistant executive director, and the manager of information services.

The Externship

Once young people have successfully completed a six-month internship within the agency, they are eligible to apply for a six-month externship in another business or agency in the community.

Hetrick-Martin seeks employers interested in having youth work for them for 20 hours per week, over 10 weeks, and willing to pay a stipend.

Externships have been arranged in graphic design offices, law offices, art galleries, and a buyer's club for HIV medication.

Job Skills Training

Prior to beginning their externship, young people participate in a job-skills training program.

The training program, which is conducted by Hetrick-Martin staff members and guest facilitators representing various employment agencies, runs for

20 hours per week for two weeks.

Its goal is to prepare young people for administrative work and covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Resume writing
- The job-search process
- Interviewing basics and skills development
- Professionalism in the workplace
- Relating with your supervisor
- Financial facts, such as: tax information, savings and checking strategies, and budgeting money
- Homophobia and sexism in the workplace.

Assistance is Available

If you are interested in learning more about The Internship/Externship Youth Initiatives, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the "Internship/Externship Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

The Hetrick-Martin Institute is located at 2 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003. Our phone is (212) 674-2400.

THE YOUTH COUNCIL

A Program that Makes Young People's Voices Heard

A CREATION OF THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

ONE OF THE central philosophies of the Hetrick-Martin Institute is that all activities in a youth agency should be youth-driven. That means, to the greatest extent possible, all activities should reflect the real concerns, needs, strengths, and voices of young people. The Youth Council is the mechanism that allows this to happen.

The Youth Council offers the

**YOUTH OFTEN GET
INTIMIDATED
SPEAKING TO STAFF.
SO, WE BECOME
THEIR FACES.**

**— MANNY,
YOUTH COUNCIL
MEMBER**

agency a clear, direct way of structuring communication between young people and the staff; it offers youth participants the experience of learning how to listen to other people, be

responsible, and work within a system for positive change; and it offers all young people in the agency an effective venue for expressing themselves.

The Mission

The mission of the Youth Council is, first, to gather the concerns, suggestions, and ideas of young people; and, second, to report these concerns and suggestions to the agency's executive staff.

The Youth Council conducts the "gathering" portion of this work by holding monthly town meetings that are open to everyone; conducting youth surveys; maintaining a suggestion box; and making themselves

known to other members.

Youth recommendations which the Council elects to support – in general, on the basis of whether or not they deem them "reasonable" – are then further developed into a formal proposal, which they compose and submit to the Assistant Executive Director and Executive Director.

The Youth Council meets with the Assistant Executive Director every three months, and the Executive Director every six months to discuss progress on those youth concerns and suggestions they have reported on.

Town Meetings

On the first Tuesday of every month, the Youth Council holds a town meeting, to which all youth, and staff, are invited.

With the agenda set by Youth Council members, these meetings may be used to focus on gathering information from other young people, providing information on activities happening at the agency, reporting on the progress made on earlier proposals, or conducting training on a particular subject.

Making Proposals

While entrusted with a great deal of responsibility and influence, the Youth Council is not granted the power to make changes in the agency without staff approval. They also are discouraged from making endless demands, without doing the necessary thinking about them.

This is why any serious recommendation – say, for a new service, or for new equipment – must be written up as a formal proposal.

Supervision

Youth Council members are supervised by a staff member who provides training in how to write proposals, run a meeting, and more.

Staff supervisors also provide guidance on an ongoing, as-needed basis, helping build their negotiation, management, and communication skills as most people learn them: through practice, blended with support.

Assistance is Available

If you are interested in learning more about The Youth Council Youth Initiative and how you might use it at your agency, The Hetrick-Martin Institute is prepared to help.

Call or write us and ask for the "Youth Council Guide-Book," which will provide more information on how the initiative works. We are also prepared to work with you to organize your training program, and your work plan. We'll also help you to develop plans and proposals to apply for funding.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICY AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

THE DEPARTMENT of Policy and Public Information informs, educates, and builds awareness about the unique issues facing lesbian and gay youth. The Department works with child welfare professionals, health care providers, and

THEIR TALENT AS EXCELLENT TRAINERS WAS SHOWN IN THE WAY THEY WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE CLARITY ALONG WITH AN ENVIRONMENT THAT PERMITTED THE PARTICIPANTS TO THINK, GROW, AND LEARN. MY STAFF FELT AS IF THEY WERE REALLY LISTENED TO. THIS ALLOWED THEM TO SAFELY EXPLORE THEIR OWN FEELINGS AND, GUIDED GENTLY BY THE TRAINERS, THEY ACTUALLY SHIFTED SOME OF THEIR BELIEFS.

— JOAN ALTMAN, RN, MPH
DIVISION NURSE
ADMINISTRATOR
JEWISH CHILD CARE
ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

educators in order to strengthen service provision to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and all youth coming to terms with issues of sexuality. Importantly, the Policy Department's staff participate in meetings with city, state, and federal officials on policies affecting the lives of the Institute's youth members.

Training and Resources

Resources staff provide training and technical assistance to youth, adults, and adults who work with youth on a wide range of topics, including: human sexuality; HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections; safer sex and risk reduction; youth leadership development; and issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth. HMI's Training Associates tailor workshops to meet each agency's unique needs.

Policy staff work with agencies to develop greater expertise, expand staff skills, enhance existing youth programs, and initiate new ones.

Youth Initiatives

Youth Initiatives is an intensive series of youth leadership development programs. Each training initiative utilizes a unique peer-to-peer educational model in which youth interns are trained to educate their community-based peers on a range of issues, from HIV and sexually transmitted infection prevention to comprehensive human sexuality information.

Youth Initiatives features a graduated series of peer-based training programs, with each program building upon and enhancing the information provided in the preceding one. Participants complete a period of intensive classroom training. Then, equipped with lifesaving information, technical skills, and resources, the youth conduct a series of educational skills-building workshops for their community peers in order to help them incorporate healthier life choices. Additionally, all youth participants receive a stipend and develop their job-readiness skills during their Youth Initiative experience.

Youth Initiative Programming

Peer Orientation Workers (POWers) provide orientation sessions and tours for new HMI youth members.

Café HMI/Street Outreach interns provide street outreach and support services for street-involved and homeless youth.

Peer Educators provide human sexuality and HIV-prevention workshops for

their peers in New York City public schools and in youth-serving agencies.

Peers In Partnership interns create gay/straight alliances with their community-based peers throughout the city.

Peers Outreach to Peers interns provide training to their community-based peers to decrease the rates of adolescent HIV infections.

Linking Lives interns master comprehensive HIV/AIDS information, serve as interns in AIDS service organizations throughout the city, and translate the information and experience into HIV-prevention educational materials for their peers.

Internal and External Internships help youth develop their job-readiness skills and job experience by serving as interns throughout HMI and in the larger business community.

Youth Council interns work in collaboration with HMI staff to make the Agency's programming responsive to the needs of all HMI youth members.

Youth Board Members reflect HMI's commitment to the development of youth leaders. These youth serve as full voting members of the Institute's Board of Directors.

For additional information about HMI's Youth Initiatives programs, please contact the Department of Policy and Public Information.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND RECREATION SERVICES

FOR ADOLESCENTS, the educational experience should be one of the most rewarding in their lives. For many lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth, the experience is one of the most fearful and frustrating. Ridiculed, verbally abused, and assaulted in their schools, lesbian and gay youth are faced with a difficult decision: physical safety or education.

Incidents of this type result in increased drop-out rates and poor academic performance. Non-attendance can place adolescents at increased risk for drug abuse, involvement in crime, and street violence.

The Hetrick-Martin Institute's Education and Recreation Services department provides a comprehensive educational and vocational program. These services help ensure that youth complete their education safely and go on to lead productive lives. Programs are designed to challenge youth to set high educational goals and embark on a career plan for success.

The Harvey Milk School

Founded in 1984, the Harvey Milk School is the unique result of HMI's collaboration with the New York City Board of Education. Over 15 years old, the Harvey Milk School is the first and largest accredited public school in the world devoted to the educational needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth.

At the Harvey Milk School, students are given the opportunity to complete the NYC Board of Education high school curriculum in a safe and supportive environment. The school also

offers a full college preparatory program with the SAT exam offered on-site. The school's overall average on the New York State's Regents exams is 85%, with one third of the graduating class admitted to college programs — many with scholarships ranging up to \$16,000. The school's career week brings professionals in the arts, politics, law, medicine, and other fields on-site to share their success stories and assist youth in the development of their career plans.

General Equivalency Diploma Program

For those older adolescents who are seeking a more accelerated educational program, HMI offers the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) program. As with the Harvey Milk School, the GED program is fully accredited by the New York City Board of Education. Young people can work at their own pace with the help of tutors to complete their educational requirements and receive their high school equivalency diploma.

The GED Program has a 90% graduation rate with many students achieving record-breaking scores of 296 to 300 points on the state's GED examination.

The Computer Learning Center

The importance of computer skills in today's job market cannot be overstated. HMI's Computer Learning Center provides young people with beginning to advanced level computer skills training. Intensive training courses include computer programming, word

processing, desktop publishing, and Internet website design. Also included are computer repair and program design courses.

The Computer Learning Center was designed and built in collaboration with HMI's youth interns. Youth interns are vital to the design, maintenance, and supervision of all CLC programs.

The After School Drop-In Center

The After School Drop-In Center is a safe and supportive recreational space where youth can learn about themselves, their peers, and the larger world. Youth, who are often isolated in their home communities because of their orientation, are encouraged to make friends and develop socialization skills in an age-appropriate environment.

The After School Drop-In Center offers a wide variety of youth programming which includes photography, fine arts, music, and video production workshops. Youth can explore important health and social issues in women's and men's discussion groups and in weekly HIV-prevention workshops, or they can simply "hang out," watch a movie, or complete their homework.

The Drop-In Center's staff organizes frequent trips to museums, theaters, cultural festivals, films, and more.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING SERVICES

SOMETIMES just having a sympathetic adult to talk to about life's challenges can make a world of difference to a teenager. The Hetrick-Martin Institute's

BEING AT HMI, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CHANGE THE WAY I FEEL ABOUT MY WHOLE LIFE. HERE, THEY SAY TO YOU, 'YOU KNOW WHAT? YOU'RE THE BEST HUMAN BEING I'VE EVER SEEN IN MY WHOLE LIFE.' AND YOU COME TO BELIEVE IT, TOO. I'VE LEARNED TO LOVE MYSELF. THEY HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM SPECIAL AND UNIQUE. I CAN ACT, TALK, AND WALK THE WAY I WANT. I CAN BE MYSELF.

— RENE

Department of Counseling Services is a highly trained team of counselors who are available to assist youth and their families with crisis intervention and ongoing counseling on a wide range of issues.

The Counseling Department features specialists in the areas of family issues, HIV prevention, substance abuse,

transgender issues, and eating disorders, among many others. Staff provide youth with a safe and confidential environment to work on issues affecting their lives.

Individual Counseling

Youth participants in all of HMI's programming areas can readily participate in individual counseling. Young people can speak with a counselor for immediate crisis intervention or engage in ongoing counseling.

Youth who seek counseling most often cite isolation, rejection, and emotional or physical abuse from family members and peers as their most pressing concerns. Other presenting issues include current or impending homelessness, HIV infection, and substance abuse.

Family Counseling

The Institute's philosophy of comprehensive youth care is exemplified in its family counseling services. The Institute recognizes the importance of holistic intervention and care to a young person's development. Family counseling is available to all youth and their families to address the many challenges associated with growing up and "coming out."

Intake Services

HMI's registration and intake process ensures that youth are properly evaluated and provided with the appropriate services to address their needs. Intake staff work with youth to create an individualized plan of care, utilizing the resources of HMI and its comprehensive roster of linkage partners throughout the city.

Group Counseling

The Counseling staff recognizes the power and effectiveness of peer-to-peer communication and support. Group counseling sessions allow youth to receive feedback, not only from the professional staff, but from other youth as well. These sessions provide valuable support and interaction among youth facing similar challenges.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HOMELESS SERVICES

THROWN out of their homes by parents or running away to escape abusive families, the number of homeless teenagers in New York City has been estimated at over 20,000. Nearly 35% of New York's homeless youth population self-identify

I ALWAYS KNEW I WAS GAY. WHEN I TOLD MY PARENTS, MY FATHER SAID, 'YOU'RE GOING TO DIE. YOU WON'T HAVE A LIFE.' HE THREW ME OUT OF THE HOUSE AT THE AGE OF 16. I HAD NOWHERE TO GO. YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE A LOT, BUT AT HETRICK YOU BELONG. IT'S KINDA LIKE A LITTLE FAMILY WHERE YOU CAN BE YOURSELF.

— SEAN

as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. These youth often find their access to homeless services limited by service providers who are indifferent to, fearful of, or poorly educated about this population. Left with no place to turn, these youth often find themselves neglected, invisible, and forgotten,

as well as at increased risk for drug addiction, prostitution, violence, HIV infection, and suicide.

The Department of Housing and Homeless Services offers a comprehensive range of services to help all homeless and street-involved youth take their first steps toward building a healthy life away from the streets.

Project First Step

Street Outreach

Project First Step outreach workers search the streets looking for homeless and street-involved youth wherever they congregate throughout the five boroughs of New York City. Specially trained youth interns accompany adult staff on street outreach, providing crucial peer-to-peer, risk-reduction interventions.

Street outreach teams distribute food, safer-sex kits, personal hygiene items, and referrals to housing, health-care, and HMI's broad range of youth services. In addition to providing referrals to HMI's larger range of on-site programming, outreach workers often conduct crisis intervention sessions on the street in order to provide youth with the immediate, lifesaving care they need.

Case Management

When homeless youth step off the elevator in Project First Step, they are paired with their own Case Manager, who serves as a primary resource person. Case managers connect homeless youth to HMI's spectrum of quality child care services, which range from emergency housing, hot showers, nutritious meals, and clean clothing to medical care, educational programs, and vocational training.

Café HMI

While food is critical for survival, dignity is key to success. The Café HMI meal service program was created with this important distinction in mind. In order to feed the body and soothe the spirit, the Café replicates the youth-friendly atmosphere of trendy downtown cafes. Candlelight, mellow music, and even a disco ball greet youth as they sit down to a nutritious meal. Adolescents need a sense of belonging, and Café HMI is their space. To ensure that youth are not burdened by the shame that can accompany poverty and homelessness, all HMI youth share meals together. As with the Street Outreach program, youth interns assist staff with the planning, preparation, and serving of meals.

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THE HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE

HETRICK-MARTIN is the world's oldest and largest not-for-profit, multi-service, education, and advocacy organization dedicated to providing services to lesbian,

I FOUND MY VISIT BOTH IMPRESSIVE AND DISTURBING: IMPRESSIVE WAS THE QUALITY AND SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES YOU OFFER; DISTURBING WAS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE NEED AND THE HISTORY OF INADEQUATE FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS FOR SO MANY OF THESE YOUTH. THE NEED FOR INCREASED AWARENESS AND PROGRAMMING WITHIN THE CHILD WELFARE COMMUNITY FOR GAY YOUTH WAS CRYSTALLIZED EVEN FURTHER FOR ME.

— LYNETTE BROWN
DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC
POLICY ON FOSTER CARE
AND ADOPTION
COUNCIL OF FAMILY AND
CHILD CARING AGENCIES
(COFCCA)

the attack would not have happened if he were not gay. When doctors Emery

gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning youth, and all youth who are coming to terms with issues of sexuality. The Institute has over 20 years of experience providing quality youth services.

HMI was founded in 1979 in response to an incident in a NYC group home. A 15-year-old boy was beaten and sexually assaulted by other residents. Group home staff addressed the incident by discharging the victim, saying that

S. Hetrick and A. Damien Martin learned about the case, they marshaled the support of concerned community members and youth servicing professionals and founded the Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth. The Institute was renamed in their honor after their deaths.

HMI has grown from a small grassroots organization, run by volunteers, to a professional Institute, which serves over 7,800 youth each year with a broad range of vital services. HMI's youth members, ranging in age from 12 to 21, come from 172 zip codes throughout all five boroughs of New York City and the surrounding metropolitan area.

The agency's youth service programs, as detailed in this brochure, are designed to provide a comprehensive continuum of care for youth and their families. Youth services are provided in a non-judgmental manner and are designed to build on a young person's inherent strengths. Staff members work closely with youth to custom design a service plan that will successfully carry them from intake to discharge. HMI's goal is to provide each young person with the knowledge and the skills to move safely through adolescence and to achieve success in the larger worlds of higher education and career.

HMI's multi-service program models are available to local, state, and federal agencies. Consultation services are available both nationally and internationally. In 1991, HMI launched the National Lesbian and Gay Youth Advocacy Project to raise the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth and to educate youth-serving professionals and policy makers about the diverse needs of this underserved population on a national level. HMI continued this important work by sponsoring this coalition until it spun off to become the National Youth Advocacy Coalition.

By training educators, child welfare professionals, government officials, and medical and other youth service providers, the Hetrick-Martin Institute works consistently to make the world a safer, more nurturing place for all youth. The Institute's Staff, Board, and Volunteers remain committed to "Leaving no young person behind."

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phone is (212) 674-2400.

10-22-99

After you have seen,
we will send to
Burkhardt -

C.

Call to
Dr. Terri Nielson
To Welcome Home
From Antarctica

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10-22-99

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

PHONE CALL WITH DR. JERRI NIELSON
RETURNING DOCTOR FROM THE SOUTH POLE

DATE: Monday, October 18, 1999

LOCATION: Oval Office

TIME: TBD

FROM: Neal Lane

Surgeon General
1999 OCT 18 PM 3:36

Neal

I. PURPOSE

To welcome home Dr. Jerri Nielson, who has spent the last five months trapped by the Antarctic winter at the U.S. Station in Antarctica with breast cancer.

II. BACKGROUND

Dr. Jerri Nielsen arrived in Antarctica last November as the only doctor for the American base at the pole. Five months ago, she discovered a lump in her breast. Due to the harsh Antarctic winters, she was unable to be rescued to receive proper medical attention until this past Friday.

As soon as the National Science Foundation (NSF) was notified of her illness last June, officials coordinated the use of a satellite communications link, so that a U.S.-based medical team of cancer experts consulting on the case could obtain the information necessary to determine whether or not her condition posed any immediate threat to her life.

NSF issued a statement on Dr. Nielsen's behalf on June 17, 1999 that explained the basics of the situation, but which, at Dr. Nielsen's request, neither named her or described her duties at the station.

International media interest in the case was immediate.

Interest on the part of the press was further fueled when on Sunday, July 11, 1999, the U.S. Air Force airdropped medical supplies and diagnostic and telecommunications equipment to the Pole to assist doctors in the U.S. to diagnose Dr. Nielsen's condition and a range of medicines to treat a variety of possible conditions.

Subsequent to the airdrop, a diagnosis of cancer was confirmed and Dr. Nielsen began a course of chemotherapy as prescribed by her medical advisers. She appears to be tolerating the chemotherapy well and the tumor appears to be shrinking. She has not authorized anyone to discuss her diagnosis or her treatment.

and is, in fact strongly opposed to such public discussion. NSF is honoring that request.

Dr. Nielsen also repeatedly had asked NSF that she not be identified by name or profession to the news media, a request which NSF honored until she provided modified guidance. On July 31, 1999, the *Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch* published an interview with her father in which both her identity and her profession were confirmed. After consulting with Dr. Nielsen, NSF issued a statement on August 2, 1999, confirming her name and that she is the station's only physician.

Dr. Nielsen adamantly declines to give interviews.

To date, more than 300 stories about Dr. Nielsen and the situation at South Pole have appeared in U.S. newspapers. At the time of the airdrop, a similar number of stories were aired on network and local news. Immediately subsequent to the *Manchester Guardian* piece, NSF received requests for information from *Paris Match* magazine, the *Toronto Sun*, and other international press. International media interest is likely to be revived now that she has returned to the U.S.

Published reports to date indicate that some of the details of Dr. Nielsen's personal life can, or at least are, being cast in a negative light by members of her family. For this reason, it would not seem prudent to expose her to media scrutiny.

III. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| January, 1999: | Dr. Jerri Nielsen deploys to Antarctica. |
| February: | Austral winter begins, sun beings to set. |
| June: | Dr. Nielsen discovers a lump in her breast. She informs officials at the National Science Foundation, who assemble a team of U.S.-based medical experts to consult with her by means of a telecommunications link to the South Pole. |
| July 11: | After consulting with NSF officials, and with assistance from Antarctica Support Associates (ASA), of Englewood, Colo. the U.S. Air Force airdrops medical supplies and equipment to the South Pole. The medical airdrop is successful and all materiel arrives safely, with the exception of an ultrasound device that is irreparably damaged. The ultrasound is not considered critical to Dr. Nielsen's treatment. |

- July: Medical experts in the U.S. confirm that the lump in Dr. Nielsen's breast is cancerous. Dr. Nielsen begins a course of chemotherapy.
- July 31: *The Columbus (Ohio) Dispatch* newspaper publishes an interview with Dr. Nielsen's father in which he identifies her by name and by profession.
- Aug. 2: Dr. Nielsen, who previously had requested that NSF protect her anonymity, consents to allowing NSF to confirm in a statement who she is and what she does at the station.
- October 15-16: Dr. Nielsen is evacuated from the South Pole and returns to the U.S.

IV. TALKING POINTS - Attached

Talking Points for Telephone Call with Dr. Jerri Neilson*

- Dr. Neilson... we are so glad to have you back home in the United States with us. You've had a lot of people across the country holding their breath awaiting your safe return from the South Pole! We're glad the U.S. Air Force was able to help.
- I'm sure the trip home has been extremely exhausting. It must be a relief to your friends and family that you're now back here in capable hands getting good care.
- We recognize that when an American commits to a long period of isolation at one of our Antarctic stations that it not only requires a degree of personal sacrifice, but a certain amount of risk as well. The Nation is grateful to you for taking on that responsibility.
- Living and working on the Continent is an experience very few people will have -- but now that you're back home, I hope you'll concentrate solely on your own health!
- I know a little something of Antarctica -- although I haven't been lucky enough to visit. Yet. I was in Christchurch, New Zealand last month and was fortunate to tour our Antarctic facilities with Rita Colwell, NSF's Director. That visit only reinforced my desire to eventually get down to Antarctica myself -- although preferably not in the winter!
- In any event, all Americans wish you Godspeed and all the best in the days to come...and we hope you have a speedy and complete recovery!

Contact numbers to arrange a call:

Ms. Val Carroll, a support member of Antarctic Support Services, who is reportedly with Dr. Neilsen, can be reached on her cellular phone at 303/638-3201.

Dr. Neilson is currently under the care of doctors at the University of Indiana at the Purdue University Hospital. The contact there in the Public Affairs office is Ms. Mary Hardin at 317/274-5456.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10-22-99

Sandey
is this a problem
for us/canva? - xhc

Copied
Berger
Podesta

McDonnell Douglas and Chinese Indicted for Deal

By JEFF GERTH **A1**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 — A Federal grand jury indicted the McDonnell Douglas Corporation and a powerful state-owned aerospace company in China today on charges of conspiring to hide important details of a 1994 sale of American machining equipment, some of which was diverted to a Chinese military site.

The case could complicate relations between Beijing and Washington just as China and the United States are trying to complete one of the biggest trade agreements in history: China's entry into the World Trade Organization, American and Chinese officials said.

Bonni Tischler, the assistant commissioner for investigations for the United States Customs Service, said at a news briefing today that the indictment was the "first time a Chinese Government entity has been indicted for violations of U.S. export laws."

The indictment charges McDonnell Douglas, a unit of the Boeing

Company, and the Douglas Aircraft Company with 13 counts, including conspiracy, false statements and misrepresentations in connection with a 1994 export license to sell 13 pieces of machining equipment to China. It also contains 12 charges against the buyer of the equipment, the China National Aero Technology Import and Export Corporation, or Catic, and Catic affiliates in Beijing and California.

Two Chinese nationals employed by Catic were also indicted, as was a mid-level McDonnell Douglas employee, Robert J. Hitt, the director of the China Program Office at Douglas Aircraft in California.

Both Boeing and Catic representatives denied any wrongdoing and vowed to contest the charges.

"McDonnell Douglas Corporation did not commit any criminal violations in regard to the sale of the machine tools to the People's Republic of China and intends to vigorously defend against the charges brought by the United States Attorney's Office," Boeing said in a statement. "It is unfortunate that the prosecutors have apparently not taken the time to learn the facts and gain a full understanding of a rather complicated matter."

Fred F. Fielding, a partner in the Washington law firm of Wiley, Rein & Fielding who represents Catic and its affiliates, said: "Catic has cooperated fully with the Government investigation and has strongly maintained throughout that it has never intentionally violated any U.S. laws. This is a commercial transaction involving the sale of used machinery, and the Government's position that this is a criminal or national security case is absurd."

But Ms. Tischler said the diversion of civilian technology for military uses by China was a top priority for investigators.

At issue is whether McDonnell

Douglas knew or should have known that the equipment was likely to be used for something other than the intended commercial purpose.

Boeing also released a lengthy background paper that suggested that one of the company's defenses is that top Clinton Administration officials knew important details of the deal, so they could not have been misled.

The criminal investigation began in 1996. Lengthy plea-bargain negotiations between defense lawyers, and Lisa Prager, the Assistant United States Attorney who handled the inquiry, broke down Monday night, lawyers said.

Catic bought the machining equipment, which is used to bend steel in manufacturing aircraft, for \$5 million. But the sale was part of a billion-dollar deal in which McDonnell Douglas was to build trunkliner, or middle-size commuter, aircraft in China. The indictment cites an October 1993 meeting of Douglas executives in which they discussed the machining equipment sale as being part of "the pending \$1 billion trunkliner program," in which the equipment was to be used to manufacture the commuter aircraft.

A few months after the sale, Mc-

Donnell Douglas discovered that some of the equipment had not gone to the intended destination, a civilian site in Beijing, but instead wound up 800 miles away, at a military site in Nanchang that makes surface-to-surface missiles and fighter aircraft.

McDonnell Douglas reported the diversion in 1995, before the equipment had been put to use. The giant machines, which are still in China, were later moved to a civilian location, and the equipment was never used for any military purpose. Meanwhile, the airliner deal, which President Clinton hailed on the eve of the 1994 election as a job-rich program for 20 planes, has produced only one plane, according to the indictment.

The airliner deal was promoted by Mr. Clinton and Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown, who died in a plane crash in Croatia in 1996, as a centerpiece of the Administration's commercial diplomacy, the policy of using economic engagement to broaden ties with Beijing and promote exports. On the eve of a trip to China in 1994, Mr. Brown wrote a letter to China's vice premier about the airliner deal based on a draft letter from McDonnell Douglas, according to Boeing's background paper. The machining equipment export license was issued soon after Mr. Brown returned from Beijing.

State Department cables obtained

by defense lawyers in the case show that Administration officials delayed seeking timely assurances from Catic on how it planned to use the machining equipment so as not to disrupt Mr. Brown's announcement about the airliner deal in China, according to lawyers and officials who have read the cables.

The indictment accuses Catic officials of being responsible for the diversion of six of the machines to Nanchang. It also charges that Mc-

Donnell Douglas officials concealed or failed to disclose important information to Commerce Department licensing officials, including that the airliner deal was in jeopardy. If the deal was in jeopardy, it could be less likely that the equipment would be used for its intended commercial purposes.

The indictment also says that McDonnell Douglas, which was bought by Boeing in 1997, concealed its hiring of a "high ranking former Gov-

ernment official and his consulting firm" that was paid \$4 million "to intercede with Catic" and China "because the trunkliner negotiations were stalled."

Lawyers involved in the case said the former official referred to in the indictment was Alexander M. Haig Jr., the former Secretary of State. Woody Goldberg, a spokesman for Mr. Haig's firm, confirmed their representation of McDonnell Douglas on the China airliner deal.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 358-8900

JULIAN BOND

Chairman, Board of Directors

October 18, 1999

99 OCT 21 PM 7:23

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

DAN -
FOR REPLY
COORDINATE w/
POD'S
OFFICE

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to ask you not to attend the annual Renaissance Weekend scheduled for Hilton Head Island unless it is moved to a location out of South Carolina. I have asked Ambassador Lader to cancel or move it. *

As you know, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) has asked South Carolina not to fly the Confederate standard over the Capitol and to display it in a historical, rather than sovereign context.

It is an offensive badge of slavery and oppression for most South Carolinians and many visitors to the state. The NAACP is asking groups and associations to cancel or move activities planned for South Carolina after January 1, 2000.

Already, the National Governor's Association, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Association of State Democratic Chairs, the Progressive National Baptist Convention, the Clark-Atlanta University Alumni Association, Black Data Processing Associates, the AME Zion Church Ministers and Lay Association, Penn Center's Annual Heritage Days Celebration, the Omega True Vine Pentecostal Holiness Church of God and the National Association of Black Cardiologists have cancelled or moved national meetings formerly scheduled for South Carolina.

Furthermore, the National Urban League, the Improved Benevolent Association of Elks, the African American Leadership Group, the South Carolina Morticians Association, the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the Benedict College Board of Trustees, Black Methodists for Church Renewal, the South Carolina

Page 2

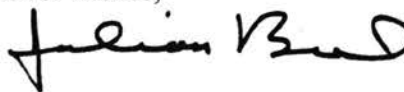
Honorable William Jefferson Clinton

Council of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, the Georgia Dental Association, the International Association of Black Firefighters, the African-American Episcopal Church, the National Council of Negro Women, the Southeastern Association of Law Librarians, the Smart Set Social Organization, the AME Zion Council of Bishops, the Midlands Pan-Hellenic Greekfest, the SE Chapter of Physicists in Medicine, the South Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches, and Black Methodists for Church Renewal have cancelled or moved regional or local meetings.

Your attendance at Renaissance Weekend activities in the face of widespread, popular opposition to displaying this hateful symbol constitutes an endorsement of loathsome conduct and insensitivity to the awful message it conveys.

Your administration has compiled a strong record of inclusiveness. Surely you do not wish to mar that proud record through association with bigotry and intolerance. I await your reply.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian Bond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "J" and "B".

Julian Bond

Chairman

NAACP National Board of Directors

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

NAACP

4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE
BALTIMORE, MD 21215

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

MARION BERRY
1st DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, OVERSIGHT,
NUTRITION AND FORESTRY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK,
DAIRY, POULTRY, AND
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CROPS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GROUND TRANSPORTATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0401

October 21, 1999

1113 LONGWORTH H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL.: (202) 225-4076
FAX: (202) 225-5602

615 S. MAIN STREET
SUITE 211
JONESBORO, AR 72401
TEL.: (800) 866-2701
FAX: (870) 972-4605

99 OCT 22 11:14

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

As I know you are well aware, the agriculture economy remains in severe distress, with prices at historic lows in most commodities, including rice, cotton, and soybeans. This week I have spoken to bankers and farmers in Stuttgart, Osceola, Wynne, Jonesboro and other towns across the first district that you know all too well. Loans are being held up and many farmers are currently prevented from receiving the funds necessary for them to complete harvest. I remain convinced that times in agriculture are as bad as I have ever seen them.

Though the fiscal year '00 Agriculture Appropriations bill contains many flaws, the emergency provisions in this bill are the only way to quickly deliver desperately needed assistance to farmers. I would have liked to have seen many other things in this bill - more funding for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, more funding for domestic food programs, and an emergency payment dispersing mechanism different from the one contained in the current farm bill. The agreement now on your desk, however, represents the compromise hammered out on behalf of farmers. I ask your help in getting this money out immediately so farmers in Arkansas and farmers across America stay in business.

The crisis in agriculture is a true emergency. Mr. President, I hope that you will sign this bill immediately. Please contact me anytime to discuss these matters further.

Sincerely,



MARION BERRY
Member of Congress

*See answer
to him - tells
him I did it*

10-22-99
Send to Reg Affs?

Yes ☒
No ☐

C

October 20, 1999

Dear Mr. President,

A warm "Hello" from Evergreen Academy's Second and Third Graders. We all wish we could meet you and hope Michael Kelly can give you this letter. Good luck with the rest of your term as president. What is it like to live in the White House?

Sincerely,

Jarryd Butler	Nathan Long
Michael Kelly	Kaitlyn Morris
Vannessa Beebe	Maggie Jung
Christopher Lierhomer	Ayla Scott
Thomas Suiter	Elaina Dewey
Julie McClintock	Carson Fugal
Jessica	Coline Story
Anderson	

10-22-99

Send to Burkhardt

Yes ☒
 No ☐

C.



Evergreen Academy
6891 Hwy 73
Evergreen, CO 80439

President Clinton

My - Rx
~~President Clinton~~

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10-20-99

THE WHITE HOUSE

10/22

Thurs Oct -

Copied
Bergen
Podesta

Mr. President -

This speech, which builds from the new isolationism theme of your recent press conference, resonated extremely well yesterday in New York (Council on Foreign Relations, NYT, Charlie Rose). If you want to stay with this, we could ~~incorporate~~ incorporate it into speech for you; ETBT has let a spark that I believe we can use to break through on engagement.

12/1
R
Story
WFL

Q

**THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary**

For Immediate Release

October 21, 1999

AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY

**SAMUEL R. BERGER
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
“AMERICAN POWER: HEGEMONY, ISOLATIONISM OR ENGAGEMENT”
THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

OCTOBER 21, 1999

We end this century at a unique moment for America, when our power and prosperity are greater than at any time in our history, unrivaled by any other nation. Our leadership has never been more needed, or more in demand. And so it is perplexing that America finds itself today being accused of both hegemony and isolationism at the same time.

I want to talk about that this evening – American power and how it is both perceived and used.

The contours of our power are beyond dispute. Our military expenditures now are larger than those of all other countries combined; our weaponry is a generation ahead of our nearest potential rival. Our military technology is so dominant that serious people actually lamented that we did not have enough casualties in the Kosovo conflict.

Because we are the only nation on earth able to project power in every region on earth, others look to us to deliver decisive influence where it is needed, whether that means maintaining security in Korea, helping negotiate an agreement between Peru and Ecuador, overcoming differences in Northern Ireland, invigorating implementation of the Dayton Accords, convincing Indonesia's military to accept peacekeepers to East Timor, or seeking peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Our economy not only brings unprecedented prosperity to Americans; it the engine of global growth and technological change. Americans own more than half the world's computers. We are home to the world's eight biggest high-tech companies. Remarkably, in 1995, more than half of all the royalties and licensing fees in the world were paid to Americans. We may be the first society in human history where children have no idea what they will grow up to be – because it hasn't been invented yet.

Then there is the realm of culture and values. Our movies, music and media are everywhere, irritating some, delighting many more. The poster I saw most often walking through the dorms of Beijing University last year was not Mao or Deng but Michael Jordan.

More important, the ideas the world associates with us have been ascendant since communism collapsed. The financial crisis of 1998, particularly in Asia, only reinforced the lessons we've stressed since 1989 – that open markets work better in open societies and that freedom is a universal aspiration.

These trends have, to say the least, been noticed overseas. Throughout the world, our success inspires a mix of wonder and worry. In America, too, it produces contradictory reactions.

Most Americans understand that we are fortunate to be in a position of leadership, and that to maintain it we must continue to lead. Their pride in our achievements makes them not triumphant but confident in our ability to shape, with others, a better world. But there are those in our country who do not look to the world -- or our ability to thrive within it -- with confidence. In fact, they are distinctly defeatist. America may be at the height of its power and prosperity, yet they see America in constant peril of losing our freedom of action.

It's not the majority view. There are leaders in both political parties who reject it. But we must face the reality that it no longer is a fringe view. In fact, it is the view of a dominant minority in the Congress.

Think of it: Nearly every other country in the world supports the nuclear Test Ban Treaty, even though they realize it has the effect of locking in America's superiority in nuclear weapons. Yet there were those who said on the floor of the U.S. Senate that the Treaty represented "unilateral disarmament" for the United States. Every member of the United Nations can see we can veto any UN action we oppose, and still act alone when the UN lacks consensus. Yet there are politicians in our country who say the UN threatens our sovereignty and dictates our policy. Developing countries are reluctant to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions because they worry that their growth will slow, whereas they can see that America has the technology to keep racing ahead. Yet our Congress is reluctant to support the Climate Change Treaty because it fears our economy -- the world's technological leader -- cannot embrace technological change.

There is a wide disconnect today between how others see America's strength and how some people in our country see it. I want to look at both sides of that equation today. I'll begin with the view from beyond our shores. Then, I want to talk about the view at home.

Among our many friends and allies around the world, the dominant vision of America still is one of a country whose leadership is essential to peace and prosperity and which exercises leadership for the greater good. Europeans still seek our troops on their soil, criticize us when we don't assert ourselves, and have worked to sustain our alliance long after its original reason for being has vanished. The same is true in Asia, where some of the biggest critics of our culture, such as Singapore and Malaysia, are some of the biggest backers of our security presence.

It is quite an experience travelling around the world with the President of the United States. America is still special for most people in the world -- a symbol of hope and resolve for those struggling to be free, to be at peace, or simply to have their voices heard. If you were to ask Jose Ramos Horta of East Timor what role America plays in the world; or John Hume of Northern Ireland, or Aung San Suu Kyi of Burma, or any Kosovar refugee, central European democrat, Israeli or Palestinian campaigner for peace, you would get one answer: America has and must continue to lead. If we disappoint, it's usually not from doing too much, but too little.

And yet, there is another image of America abroad -- of a country that is unilateralist and too powerful. We see that in the view expressed by the French, as only they can, that we are not merely a superpower, but a "hyperpower." We see it in the European reaction to Kosovo: relief we prevailed, but also angst over the necessarily disproportionate role America played, and among some the quest for a security identity detached from NATO. We see it in Russia's and China's reactions to Kosovo -- in their fear that what we saw as a legitimate, multilateral defense of common interests and values was in fact the start of a crusade to contain their power and impose our will on the world. We see it in the dismay among our friends and allies that we do not live up to many of our international obligations, even as we demand that others do.

The perception persists among some that the United States has become a hectoring hegemon. And since perceptions do matter, this is a problem we must do what we can to resolve. Let's begin by understanding the various strands of the criticism we face.

At one extreme, we are accused of trying to dominate others, of seeing the world in zero sum terms in which any other country's gain must be our loss. But that is an utterly mistaken view. It's not just because we are the first global power in history that is not an imperial power. It's because for 50 years, we have consciously tried to define and pursue our interests in a way that is consistent with the common good – rising prosperity, expanding freedom, collective security.

Consider our economic policies. In the last few years, we have grown our economy and fought for open markets, here and abroad. Our exports have supported the creation of 1.3 million U.S. jobs. But the impact on the world also has been remarkable. Through the Asian financial crisis, the President quite deliberately undertook to keep our markets open, knowing our trade deficit would increase substantially. As a result, we made a bigger contribution than any other country toward easing the crisis and lifting its victims from poverty. Korea, for example, has gone from negative to positive growth in the last year, helped by a \$31 billion swing in its trade balance. Trade with the United States accounted for 40 percent of that swing. And last year, American consumers and businesses accounted for almost half the growth in world GDP.

Think about our support for political freedom. Some people say that's forcing our values on the world. But when we promote democracy, we are promoting a system of government that allows the people of other nations to choose their own destiny according to their own values and aspirations. Ask the people of Poland and South Africa and the Philippines and they'll tell you: Dictatorship was imposed on them. Democracy was their choice.

Then there is a second kind of criticism that really reflects visceral reactions to our culture and status. I'm afraid that simply comes with the territory we momentarily and gratefully enjoy. For example, there is the slightly confused attitude of Europeans who flock to fast food outlets and then complain about the threat of "McDomination" to their "culinary sovereignty" – and of Asians who decry the superficial materialism of American culture but then compete to build the biggest skyscrapers. There is not much we can do about this except exercise a fair measure of humility and, as our Declaration of Independence says, a "decent respect for the opinions of mankind."

A third kind of criticism reflects disagreements about policy and resentment over the manner in which we pursue what we consider to be legitimate goals. For example, many countries react to our proclivity to pass judgment on their performance on everything from religious freedom to drug control, and about our imposition of sanctions on foreign companies doing business with countries that earn our opprobrium. In these areas, there is room for debate about the proper balance between isolating bad actors in the world and isolating ourselves.

Finally, from the outside looking in, there is a criticism that I believe is entirely well founded. It is inspired not by what we allegedly do to the world, but by what we fail to do with the world. It is an attack not on our wealth and power, but on the fact that despite our wealth and power, we do not pay our arrears to the UN and the development banks, or devote a higher percentage of our GDP to the reduction of global poverty, or give our President the authority to negotiate new trade agreements, or ratify the treaties we urge others to adopt. It views America as a country that demands of others what it will not give of itself.

And that critique brings me back to the first half of the equation I raised earlier – to our view as Americans of our own power. The internationalist consensus that has prevailed in this country for more than 50 years increasingly is being challenged by a new isolationism, heard and felt particularly in the Congress. The great irony today is that we owe our reputation for trying to dominate the world in no small measure to a group of people who are intent on disregarding the world.

It's tempting to say that the isolationist right in the Congress has no foreign policy, that it is driven only by partisanship. But that underestimates it. I believe there is a coherence to its convictions, a vision of America's role in the world. Let me tell you what I think they are, in simple terms:

First: Any treaty others embrace, we won't join. The new isolationists are convinced that treaties -- pretty much all treaties -- are a threat to our sovereignty and continued superiority. That's what they say about the Test Ban -- though it requires nothing more of us than we've already undertaken to do ourselves, though it so clearly locks in our strategic advantage. They think there is no point in trying to raise standards of international behavior, because rules can be violated, because perfect verification is impossible, because other countries can't be counted on to keep their word. Never mind that the alternative is a world with no rules, no verification, and no constraints at all.

We have a different vision -- and by "we" I mean the Clinton Administration, members of Congress of both parties and countless others who want to preserve America's tradition of leadership.

We agree it would be foolish to rely on arms control treaties alone to protect our security. But it would be equally foolish to throw away the tools good treaties offer: the restraint and deterrence that comes from global rules with global backing, the ability to shine a light on threatening behavior through inspections and to mobilize the whole world against it.

The second plank of the new isolationism is this: Burden sharing is a one way street. For example, its proponents rightly insist that Europeans fund the lion's share of reconstructing the Balkans, because we carried the heaviest burden of the conflict. But then they balk at doing our part. They oppose American involvement in Africa's tragic wars, but refuse to help fund the efforts of others, like Nigeria, when they take responsibility to act. And when it comes to paying America's part of the cost of UN peacekeeping missions, they're not interested, even if it is to uphold a peace we helped to forge. This year, Congress has cut our request for peacekeeping by more than half.

We believe that is dangerous and wrong. Unless we want to be the world's policeman, we must support the institutions and arrangements through which we share the responsibilities of leadership. That's why we've maintained our commitment to a revitalized NATO, while urging our allies to take on new responsibilities, with the capabilities to match. It is why we have aided Asian nations as they step up to the challenge of stopping the violence in East Timor. It is why we have helped to launch the African Crisis Response Initiative to train African forces for peacekeeping. And it is why all Americans, whether they are internationalists or those who wish to limit our involvement, should agree it is utterly self-defeating to fail to pay our dues and debts to the UN.

The third thesis of the new isolationism: If it's over there, it's not our fight. Foreign wars may hurt our conscience, but not our interests, and we should let them take their course. That is what many said about the war in Bosnia -- let it go on until they get tired of killing themselves. A part of the Congress would have let the brutal onslaught in Kosovo rage until it spread.

Let me be clear: America cannot do everything or be everywhere. But we also cannot afford to do nothing, and be nowhere. The new isolationism of 1999 fails to understand precisely what the old isolationism of 60 years ago failed to understand -- that local conflicts can have global consequences. In an era of worldwide communication, we cannot choose not to see; we can only choose not to act. Sometimes that's right. But not acting must be a conclusion, not a conviction. We have learned the hard way that when the spread of conflict threatens our interests and our values, often the only realistic choice we have is between acting sooner and acting later.

The fourth plank of the new isolationism: We can't be a great country without a great adversary. Since the Cold War ended, the proponents of this vision have been nostalgic for the good old days when friends were friends and enemies were enemies. We've seen lately how easily Russo-phobia can be revived. But for the role of new enemy number one, China is most popular with some, with its

growing economy, its nuclear program, its missiles aimed at Taiwan.

We should not look at China through rose colored glasses; neither should we see it through a glass darkly, distorting its strength and ignoring its complexities. Here is the China we see: A country that has lifted tens of millions of its citizens from poverty and expanded personal freedoms, but whose progress is constrained by its resistance to the political reforms necessary for its long-term growth and stability. A country that could, if it chose, pour much more of its wealth into military might and try to dominate its region, but which has not yet decisively made that choice. Our interest lies in protecting our security while encouraging China to make the right choices. We can only do that if we continue a policy of principled, purposeful engagement with its leaders and people.

The final plank of the new isolationism is: Billions for defense but hardly a penny for prevention. The President this week vetoed the Foreign Operations Bill, the vehicle for much of our international resources. It was about 40% below what America spent on international engagement in 1985, despite the fact that the world has become more, not less, complex; it is \$2 billion below what the President requested. It does not fund our request for a vitally needed expansion in the effort to safeguard nuclear technology and expertise in the former Soviet Union, increasing the likelihood that deadly weapons will fall into dangerous hands. It does not fund our initiative to help relieve the debts of impoverished countries that are finally embracing freedom, increasing the likelihood of humanitarian crises that will cause instability and conflict. Astonishingly, it does not fund the commitments to the Middle East peace process growing out of the Wye Accords. Meanwhile, the Congress is trying to add \$5 billion to the defense budget this year for projects our military says it doesn't need.

The President firmly believes America must have the strongest, best trained, best equipped military in the world, and has requested the first sustained increase in military spending in a decade. But he has also argued that if we underfund our diplomacy, we're going to end up overusing our military – which happens to be precisely the outcome these critics say they want to avoid. Those who fear that our military may become overextended should make it their first order of business to restore decent levels of funding to the programs that keep our soldiers out of war.

The outlines of this debate are, I believe, quite clear. The Clinton Administration believes we must use all the tools of our leadership to maintain our strength. The new isolationists would have us rely solely on our military defenses to protect our security. For example, to us, a missile defense is part of a sound national security strategy. To them, missile defense is the strategy.

In effect, they believe in a survivalist foreign policy – build a fortified fence around America, and retreat behind it. And if other nations complain that we're abdicating our responsibilities – or if they start abdicating their own -- let them, because we are stronger and richer than they are. As the President said last week, that is a recipe for a "bleak, poor, less secure world."

The outcome of this debate about our role – between leading the world and hunkering down -- is hardly academic. The Test Ban vote and the devastating cuts to our foreign affairs budget make clear that our most fundamental interests are at stake. I believe those interests are clear.

America must continue to be a peacemaker. That means seizing the historic chance in the coming year for a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, securing the peace in Kosovo, promoting stability in South Asia and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and Cyprus.

We must keep working to integrate Russia and China into the global system as open, prosperous, and stable societies. That means, in the coming year, helping Russia stabilize its economy as it conducts its first ever democratic transfer of power. It means bringing China into the WTO on acceptable terms, while speaking plainly about the need for political change.

We must continue the struggle to stop the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and to be especially vigilant where proliferation intersects with the threat of terrorism. That means working

in the coming year with Russia to pursue deeper arms reductions, to keep weapons secure at the source, to restrain North Korea's missile program, to contain Iraq, and yes, to build a consensus for eventually ratifying the Test Ban Treaty.

We must keep building an open global economy that sustains our prosperity while leaving no one behind. That means working at the WTO Ministerial next month to launch a new global trade round, pushing for debt relief, and for higher standards on labor rights and the environment.

And we must keep America as a force for freedom in the world. That means working in the coming year to support the fragile transitions to democracy in Nigeria, Indonesia, and Ukraine.

Above all, America must remain a builder of coalitions, remembering that few of our hopes for the future will be realized if we cannot convince others to embrace them as well.

We must remember that there is a difference between power and authority. Power is the ability to compel by force and sanctions; there are times we must do so, but as a final, not a first, resort. Authority is the ability to lead, and we depend on it for virtually everything we try to achieve. Our authority is built on very different qualities than our power: on the attractiveness of our values, on the force of our example, on the credibility of our commitments and on our willingness to work with and stand by others.

History teaches us that this moment of preeminence for America may be fleeting. Common sense tells us it won't be self-sustaining. That may be hard for many people to imagine, in part because there is no real threat to our power in the world today. But there is a very real threat to our authority. It lies in the impulse to withdraw from the world in a way that would squander our advantages, alienate our friends, diminish our credibility, betray our values, and discredit our example. We cannot let that happen. Every chapter in American history of which we're proud was written by people who refused to let that happen.

The Senate vote on the Test Ban Treaty was a cloud, but there is a silver lining. The stakes of our engagement in the world have been made clear. The lines have been drawn. And an old debate has begun anew. I have no doubt how it will end. The American people will choose as they have chosen so many times before: to keep America engaged in a way that will benefit our people and all people. That is a goal for which this President and his Administration will work every single remaining day of our term, a goal for which I solicit your active support today.

###

[Read our Privacy Policy](#)

F A C S I M I L E

GSD&M

CONTACT Nancy Hernreich
DATE / TIME October 19, 1999
NO. PAGES Cover plus 2
FAX # (202) 456-6703
SENDER Roy Spence
SEND. PH. # (512) 427-4480
SEND. FAX # (512) 427-4800
PHONE: (202) 456-6610

Dear Nancy,

When I spoke with the President via phone last weekend, he mentioned dropping a note to those who contributed their time and talent to the AmeriCorps television spots we just created. Following is a suggested letter and listing of those involved in the production. Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Best,


Roy Spence

DAN —
PLEASE ADVISE



10/22

DRAFT: SUGGESTED LETTER

October 19, 1999

Name
Company
Address
City, State ZIP

Dear ,

On behalf of the First Lady and myself, I would like to thank you for generously devoting your time, energy and talent and to the AmeriCorps campaign.

Your contribution was invaluable to the campaign's success, and the spirit behind your effort befits the spirit of the cause.

We sincerely appreciate and share your desire to further the mission of AmeriCorps.

Best regards,

The President and First Lady

GSD&M Staff

GSD&M
828 W. 6th Street
Austin, TX 78703

Joan Lyons, Senior Vice President
Tom Campion, Associate Creative Director
Dorothy Taylor, Vice President/Director of Broadcast Production
Heather Forshay, Account Manager
Alicia Kriese, Senior Vice President
James Martin, Senior Vice President
Anne Rix, Production Art Supervisor
Dorian Girard, Vice President
Jennifer Reilly, Creative Coordinator
Michele Hoelsher, Digital Retoucher
Leigh Ann Proctor, Associate Director of Print Services
Susan Eberhart, Vice President/ Group Media Director

GSD&M Vendor/Partners:Satellite Films (production company)

902 Broadway

16th Floor

New York, NY 10010

212-982-7300

Brian Carmody, Sales Rep

Matthew Pomerans, Executive Producer

Pam Thomas, Director

Pete Vitale, Producer

Brian Beletic, Director

Joel Tabbush, Producer

Lost Planet Editorial

113 Spring Street

New York, NY 10012

212-226-5678

Janell Brown, Executive Producer

Steve Jess, Editor

tomandandy (Music/Sound Design)

89 Greene Street

New York, NY 10012

212-431-3535

Scott Brittingham, Producer

Andy Milburn, Principle/Creative Director

Mitch Davis, Composer

Jeremy Adelman, Composer

Exposure NY

588 Broadway

Suite 312

New York, NY 10012

212-965-0555

Stacy Fischer, Producer

Stephen Danelian, Photographer

MARSHA SCOTT

Betty -

This is the packet
POVUS told Bertie to
drop off about coming
to his neighborhood.

Do you want to get
the proclamation done?
If not, I will, just
let me know. Bertie
also wants his picture
signed - me
centopen, please.

Thanks,
Marsh

10 - 22 - 99

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒
No ☐

C.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

10-22-99 1999
*Can we do letter/
proclamation for
Marche to read? B*

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

'99 OCT 22 PM 4:51

On November 14, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization will celebrate its 20th Anniversary as an active neighborhood watch block club. We are the oldest and largest Neighborhood Watch Block Club in the District of Columbia. I have had the pleasure of being the moderator for this organization since its inception.

To commemorate this occasion we will enjoy a buffet dinner at THE FOX DEN ENLISTED CLUB at Andrews Airforce Base and as a friend of yours for over 30 years, I would be honored if you could be our special guest.

When I was at the White House last month I mentioned it to you and you told me to check with Betty. Betty told me at that time that she thought you would be out of the country but that she was not sure. It was my hope then that you would either be going out or coming in and could stop by if you will be at Andrews Air Force Base on November 14, 1999. However, if your schedule does not permit, we would love to have some proclamation from you that could be read during the affair. Marcia Scott from your office has promised me that she will come and it is my hope that she could present the proclamation to the organization.

I have included our Manual and other material that will give you the history, goals and accomplishments of our organization. If you need anything else, please call or FAX me.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Bertie H. Bowman
Bertie H. Bowman

(202) 584-7545 home
(202) 584-3208 office
(202) 584-2536 FAX

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

September 26, 1999

Dear Ms. Scott:

Thank you for agreeing to get this package to the President for me. Also, would you mind getting this picture of The President and me signed so that I can frame it for my collection.

I was very pleased to hear that you may take time out of your busy schedule to come and present our organization with a proclamation from the President and I am really looking forward to having you. We have been friends (you, me, and The President) now for over 30 years and your accomplishments are history. I have worked very hard in my community for 20 years to keep it free from crime and have been President of this organization since its inception.

I would be deeply honored to have you there with something from The President for our organization. It would be wonderful to have something from our President to treasure.

Thank you again for everything. See you there. I have enclosed and ticket for the details.

Sincerely,


Bertie H. Bowman

(202) 584-7545	home
584-3208	office
584-2536	FAX

June 12,
1982

S.E. Husband-Wife Team Make 'Neighborhood Watch' Work

by Officer Gloria W. Vessels

The Neighborhood Watch Program, one of the 13 Point Anti-Crime Programs announced by Mayor Barry more than a year ago, is a crime prevention activity that gives citizens an opportunity to participate in protecting their homes and community. Under this program, 10 to 15 neighbors are brought together in an organized effort to secure their neighborhood.

The police department conducts the operation identification program and a home security inspection — informing the residents of any items requiring adjustments. In addition, police officers help citizens to organize and establish the program. Citizens learn to be aware of the signs of criminal activity, how to safeguard their property and the best ways to report suspicious activities to the police. More than 25,000 residents currently are taking part.

Prior to the Mayor's program, a group of Ward 7 citizens had organized themselves for similar purposes. This group was brought to the attention of the police department as one of the most effective groups in the city — it is called the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization.

It was organized four years ago when Mrs. Ezrell Brockman wanted Burns Street to become a one-way street. Bertie Bowman stood out as a leader, and was eventually made president of the group.

Bowman and his wife, Elaine, have lived in the 800 block of Burns Street S.E. for 27 years. They work as a team to better their neighborhood and keep their members informed about what occurs in the city, especially within Ward 7 and the Sixth Police District.

When asked what makes their organization stand out, Mr. Bowman replied: "We are not afraid to get involved." They are members of several civic associations, they visit their neighbors regularly and are always there when someone needs them.

The group now has 72 active members, most of whom are retired, and they meet once a month at the Bowmans' home. The meetings last for one hour and are attended by the area's ANC Commissioner Ben Thomas, and a representative from the Sixth Police District. To ensure that the meetings begin and end promptly, information is distributed before the meeting; post cards are sent out with the agenda; a newsletter is prepared monthly by Mrs. Bowman and if something newsworthy occurs between meetings, a news release is prepared and distributed to the members. A guest speaker is invited to each meeting. The speaker is an employee of the District of Columbia Government or other agencies, such as WMATA or PEPCO, that affect the lives of the group's members.

Although Bowman has been the leader of this organization since its inception, he sometimes still finds it difficult to convince his neighbors that the police are their friends.

He has developed a very good relationship with the Commander of the Sixth District, Deputy Chief Isaac Fulwood, who has pledged that his officers will work in, and with, the community. Bowman feels that Community Services officers play a big role in solving crimes, because the citizens in the Neighborhood Watch Program develop a rapport with these officers and will go to them when they have



Photo by Gloria Vessels

Bertie and Elaine Bowman make 'Neighborhood Watch' part of thier lives

information about crimes. Some of the members still pick up the phone and call him before calling the police, but he is trying to teach them that valuable time is saved if they call the police directly.

One or the other of the Bowmans attends every civic meeting in Ward 7, in addition to D.C. hearings and Service Area Committee meetings, so that they may bring factual information back to the organization.

The Bowmans are both employed full time, but they still find time for civic involvement. "It's hard to explain, but we have the types of jobs where we can move around during the day, use our lunch periods to attend different meetings, and most meetings in the evening don't start until 7:30, so that gives us time to get home, have dinner and then leave for the meetings," Bowman said.

They constantly receive phone calls about how to get things done, and how to organize. To alleviate some of this, the Bowmans, along with Sue McGinnis, Sixth District Community Services Officer, arranged a Neighborhood Watch Program Workshop last month. The workshop was designed to help residents carry out neighborhood watch activities in the most effective way possible.

Every police district in the city has an active Neighborhood Watch Program and such programs are growing daily. Thanks to conscientious citizens like the Bowmans, and dedicated officers like Sue McGinnis and Bobby Whitelow, the Sixth District has 5,000 households and 250 Neighborhood Watch Programs organized that are working with the police department and other District government agencies.

THE ORGANIZATION AND MAINTENANCE
OF
A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CLUB

Presented to

The Residents of the District of Columbia
from

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

Written by

Elaine King Bowman

December, 1989

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FOREWORD

At first glance, it seems as if a manual on the organization and maintenance of a Neighborhood Watch Block Club would simply give obvious and known information. That may well be the case, but our experience in implementing such a program has taught us that some of the most "obvious" observations turn out to involve the most essential details in the success of such organizations. A decade of experience has taught us that the most fundamental issues related to the successful operation of a Neighborhood Watch Block Club lie in the orchestration of "nitty-gritty" organizational details. Lofty goals and aspirations underlying such ventures often take a secondary role to the fine details of practical implementation.

A deep appreciation for the critical dimensions of practical details has led us to prepare the present "how to" manual. It is particularly geared for those communities interested in organizing and maintaining a Neighborhood Watch Block Club. For a decade, we have maintained a dynamic and resourceful Neighborhood Watch Block Club, with consistently high attendance at meetings and the regular involvement of community residents. We have surpassed even our own expectations. Why has it worked? Certainly, there is no prescription for success that simply can be applied to all situations, but there are helpful hints that we would like to share with other civic-minded communities. To that end, we present here some of the "unwritten" guidelines that have worked well in our community.

At the very least, our presentation should provide a convenient sounding board for working out the type of organization that can function effectively through the diverse communities of the District of Columbia. Contrary to popular opinion, we have found that concerned citizens ARE willing to get involved in a Neighborhood Watch Block Club, if it can be organized in a constructive, positive manner. Our only hope in sharing these observations is that other communities will catch the positive spirit and unity that radiates from an effective and successful Neighborhood Watch Block Club.

I am thankful to the following people who contributed to the compilation of the manual: Bertie Bowman, Moderator of the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization; Erzell Brockman, Recording Secretary of Neighbors of Burns

Street Organization; Helen Hasty, ANC Commissioner 7-E 09; Benjamin R. Thomas, ANC 7-E 08; and every member of the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization who contributed in countless ways simply through active participation in the Club. The section on the history of the Neighborhood Watch Block Clubs was adapted from a report by the Community Services Office of the Metropolitan Police Department. Special thanks to the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7E for their generous financial support of this project through a grant to the Neighbors of Burns Stree Organization.

Elaine King Bowman
Washington D.C.
December, 1989

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A BRIEF HISTORY OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The concept of Neighborhood Watch began with the Los Angeles Police Department in the late 1960s. Crime was increasing rapidly and it became clear that the police, acting alone, could no longer contain the problems facing the community. It was then realized that citizens could play a valuable role by learning how to make their own homes and property less vulnerable to crime. Furthermore, the community could work together with the law enforcement agency to report suspicious activities in the neighborhood. In effect, the citizens would become the "eyes and ears" of the police department.

The National Sheriffs' Association launched the National Neighborhood Watch Program in 1972, developing crime prevention materials for use across the country. It became apparent that the community crime prevention concept known as "Town Watch," "Crime Watch," "Community Watch," could be useful in urban, suburban, and rural areas alike. It could work equally effectively in single family dwellings, apartments, or high rise buildings. Through all of this development one factor remained constant: citizens and law enforcement, work closely together to reduce criminal opportunity and activity, block by block, could make a difference in turning neighborhoods into safe places to live and work.

In the District of Columbia, Neighborhood Watch began informally in the 1970s, and evolved into a city-wide formal program in February of 1981 with the implementation of the Mayor's Unified Program to Reduce Crime. In March of 1986, the program received an additional boost when it was combined with the Operation Identification Program and the Residential Shield Program to become the Neighborhood Anti-Burglary Program (NAB.). NAB continues to be one of the most productive and effective vehicles that citizens can utilize to report crime and reduce criminal activity by working with police. Regardless of the underlying concern, citizens can work with the police for the betterment of their neighborhood.

ORGANIZING A BLOCK CLUB

In the following section we present a step-by-step procedure for the preliminary organization of a Neighborhood Watch Club. These steps are not intended as a prescription for organization, but are offered here simply as some practical procedures that may guide the initial steps of organization.

STEP 1: Identify people in your block who are interested in basic neighborhood concerns.

A concerned neighbor will be the most dependable member of a Neighborhood Watch Block Club. Seek out the neighbors who seem interested in what is going on not only in the immediate area but throughout the City. In the process, get to know ALL of your neighbors. Choose the core memberships from among those neighbors who express concern. At the same time, do not exclude those neighbors who are not quite so verbal in articulating their neighborhood concerns. These neighbors may become more involved as the Neighborhood Watch Block Club develops.

Don't put off organizing a club because you only have a couple of interested neighbors. Work with what you have at first. When those few realize that you are providing information and activities to improve the neighborhood, other members will join. People really do want to be a part of an active organization if it can be demonstrated that it is effective and relevant.

Do not restrict your membership. If you live in an area with private homes and apartments, be sure to include everyone. People from private homes, projects, apartments, and condos often have very active tenant associations that have been organized and working together for a long time. Work with existing organizations and take in every member who is interested in keeping the community together and keeping the community free from crime. Remember: The more eyes, ears, and hands you have, the more work you can accomplish in the community.

STEP 2: Choose a responsible leader.

A good leader is one who has the interest of the neighborhood at heart, has a pleasing personality and, most of all, has time to carry out the job. You need a person who can speak for your community, can represent you effectively, and get relevant information to you in a timely manner. It is critical that this person be responsible in carrying out details of organization.

A leader must know what is going on in the neighborhood and the City. He/she must be able to attend community meetings and get back to you in a concise manner the information that impacts on you and your surroundings.

There are three monthly meetings that are a great source of information for block club leaders. Attendance at these meetings is a MUST for any block club leader. They are: 1) Your civic association, 2) your ANC meeting and 3) your Police District Advisory Council meeting. If your neighborhood borders another ANC Commission, the leader must attend meetings in both jurisdictions, as the information from both is invaluable for your area.

If those interested in a block club can arrive at a consensus candidate for a leader, this is preferable to a campaign and election, at least initially. Having a campaign and voting only causes confusion on this level. Usually, an initial leader falls into place when neighbors are really interested in the up-keep and tranquility of the neighborhood.

Don't spend too much time picking a leader. Allow those persons who want to do it have the job. If you would like to change leaders periodically, this is fine but your leader should not change every year. Changing leaders too often breaks continuity. Furthermore, your organization gets to be known throughout the City by its leader. When he/she is attending a meeting and speaking up, the City officials know that he/she represents you and the concerns that are important in your area. If you change every year you will lose the continuity that is so necessary in giving a block club stability.

The leader ("Moderator" or "President") should have the primary responsibility for planning the meetings. That means that he/she must pick the topic, arrange for the speaker, find the meeting place, get the flyers produced, and be responsible for their distribution. This may seem like an extremely big job but this is the way it works most effectively. Moreover, we

feel that this is the only way a club can stay together and continue to have relevant meetings.

In large organizations, a committee is usually used for sending out meeting announcements and selecting speakers, but on the block level it is best to let a single moderator do it. There are a couple of reasons for this: 1) the moderator's association with prospective speakers is better than a committee 2) having one person responsible will cut out having extraneous committee meetings.

Lastly, the moderator must be willing to invest some personal funds, when necessary. Many times, items must be copied and stamps must be used. At least initially, the moderator should be in a position to do this for the club without reimbursement simply for the sake of keeping the organization together. A moderator cannot run a club unless he/she is willing to donate not only time but some modest finances to keep the organization operating. This does not mean hundreds of dollars, but incurring incidental costs for flyers, postage for mailings, and so forth.

STEP 3: Set up a regular meeting time and place

Some block clubs can work better if they meet at different homes in the community while others feel that a designated meeting place is preferable. Discuss what is best for you club and stick to it.

Keep your meetings in the immediate neighborhood. When the majority of the members can walk to the meeting, your attendance is better. We have found that neighbors enjoy walking through the neighborhood to the meetings. This, strengthens community togetherness. It also gives neighbors a chance to compliment each other on the way their yard is kept and to stop on the way home to visit a neighbor who is ill and unable to come. Walking to the meeting gives one a chance to get a good feel for the City streets, alleys and sewers.

Once a time is established for a meeting, it should not be changed. If members have to check their date book for the time of the Block Club meeting, they will think twice about coming. Remember, people have too many things to do and do not want to try keeping track of elusive meeting times. Be consistent with both your time and your place of meeting.

THE NEIGHBORS OF
BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

*20th Anniversary
Celebration*

0135

THE NEIGHBORS OF BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

20th Anniversary Celebration

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1999 — 3 pm

• All You Can Eat Buffet •

The Fox Den Enlisted Club
Andrews Air Force Base

Donation:
\$10.00

0135

Weather permitting, try to have some meetings outside in the yard or a neighborhood park. This stirs up interest from neighbors who do not attend and potentially recruits new members. People may like to change environments for a meeting, but don't leave the immediate neighborhood.

STEP 4: Appoint a good recording secretary

Even in small block club meetings, a good secretary is critical. This person should be reliable and efficient, and feel comfortable in written language expression. No block club can be successful if good records are not kept.

The secretary should condense minutes to approximately one page and read them at the beginning of each meeting. Those minutes should be properly accepted, corrected and all additions made immediately so that changes can be reflected at the next meeting.

As the title implies, the job of the recording secretary is to keep accurate minutes of the meetings and to work with the corresponding secretary so that the history of the block club will not be misplaced.

STEP 5: Choose a good corresponding secretary.

It is very important to choose someone who has time and good writing skills for this job. This person must work very closely with the Moderator and is the second most recognizable name in the organization. This person must not only be available to write letters to prospective guest speakers and write letters to thank them afterward; this person must also know whom to address when speakers do not do a good job or do not satisfactorily answer the questions asked of them in meetings. In addition, the corresponding secretary must be available to attend other community meetings and important city-wide meetings. This is very important because most of his/her job is to assist the moderator in planning the agenda and keeping up with topics of interest to the members.

It is very helpful if the corresponding secretary is available for City Council meetings and becomes familiar with the Council members for the Ward, The School Board representative, the Congressman and most City department heads. This will enable the organization to get the best person for their

meetings and the most up-to-date information on everything that is important to the organization members.

STEP 6: Choose at least three people to handle monies for the club

The term "treasurer" is deliberately avoided here because that term denotes a person who is bonded and authorized to sign checks, etc. In a block club, it is only necessary to have a custodian of the funds since a bank account for a block club is usually not necessary. With bank accounts, a social security number is required and no one wants to take on this obligation. Therefore, it is recommended that the Block Club simply secure a safe deposit box at a neighborhood bank for important papers and money.

Keep good records of financial transactions and always have more than one person responsible for the money. It gives stability for accounting and fosters security for those people in the Club who give money. Financial records should be available to the membership whenever needed, and a financial report should also be read at each meeting. Remember that nothing can destroy a block club quicker than confusion and discord over money, so be very careful when selecting people to handle your funds. Never include the Moderator as one of the persons to handle the money. Things will run a lot smoother if these duties are carried out by someone else who likes keeping track of money and is trustworthy.

STEP 7: Choose an alternate for Club officers

Given the scope of a block club, there is probably no need for a Vice President or assistants to other officers. However, every club should have a general alternate in case the moderator, secretary or fiscal manager is unavailable. A special person may be appointed, or other officers may be used as alternates for each other. The alternate will report to the respective officer of the club as soon after the meeting as possible to bring him/her up to date on what happened at the meeting.

This alternate is a very important role and should not be overlooked when organizing a block club, as officers will inevitably be absent occasionally for one reason or another.

MAINTAINING A CLUB

The initial organization of a block club is usually easier than the maintenance of the Club. Keeping the interest of the neighbors so that they will want to continue to be involved is no small task. When a neighborhood is in the midst of a City-wide crises such as drugs, stolen cars, or burglary, it is easy to get people to come to a block club meeting. Everyone wants to organize and demonstrate that the community is involved in protecting their property.

Few people realize, however, that it is the regular, informative meetings of neighbors under ordinary circumstances that sustain a Club, not the meeting of neighbors facing a crisis. It must also be understood that people who don't attend meetings typically choose not to come because meetings are too boring and they last too long. The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization has found that their attendance has remained the same (no less than 40 people per meeting) for 10 years because of a sensitivity to and respect for the needs and concerns of the people in the community. This underlying concern has helped maintain attendance at this level in both good and bad times. Following are some of the practical hints that have helped maintain the high level of community involvement over the years.

Limit meetings strictly to one hour.

Neighbors do not want to spend all night at a Block Club meeting. One hour is enough. Plan your meeting accordingly and don't let people extend the time of the meeting by getting off the subject. Furthermore, make sure that speakers understand your insistence on this time limitation. It is the moderator's job to control the topic discussion and the time, and he/she must get a reputation for upholding the time limits.

Start and end your meetings punctually.

It is extremely important that you start at the stated time and end at the announced ending time. Once people understand that the meeting will start and end promptly, they will be there at the designated hour. Start with whomever is present at the starting time, even if it is one person.

Eventually, those who are interested and involved will be on time, and your Club will earn a reputation for being punctual.

It is also important that your guest speakers know that they also must be on time. Politicians, in particular, have a reputation for not arriving any place on time. When inviting them, you must stress the need for punctuality, including beginning and terminating on time. Politicians must politely be informed that their reputation, and your reputation as well, are at stake and your community will not tolerate the cavalier disregard for time constraints. Individual discussion with participants can resume after the formal adjournment of the meeting, but the meeting must end on time.

Questions and answer periods with guest speakers during the meeting must also conform to the time limitations. This means that neighbors can not be permitted to ramble about personal "pet peeves" in a public forum. The moderator must be firm but polite in using the time for the meeting most efficiently.

Select relevant, practical topics for meetings.

Each meeting should have a theme. This theme should be relevant and sensitive to the needs of the citizens. No issue is too big or too small for discussion, so long as it is relevant to the participants. Sometimes, informational sessions on various aspects of the District government and policies may be helpful, but the bulk of the meetings should have practical benefits to the community participants. Following are some of the topics that have been taken up in The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization:

- 1) crime update for immediate community
- 2) auto inspection
- 3) mail fraud
- 4) property assessment
- 5) health concerns (CPR, ambulance service, etc.)

This is just a sample, dictated by the concerns of one community. Some of these concerns may cut across communities and some may be unique to a given community. The essential ingredient for successful planning, however, is sensitivity to the concerns of the participants. The members should dictate what is to be discussed, although the moderator should always have several

options available for meetings.

Select appropriate guests speakers who can address the concerns of the community.

Nothing can hinder the maintenance of a club more than the poor selection of guest speakers. Speakers should know what they are talking about, what the concerns of the citizens are, and what type of presentation is relevant for the group. Politely direct speakers to stick to the topic and provide useful information. Community residents will not continue to attend meetings addressed by rambling, irrelevant speakers who ignore your time constraints and the guidelines for presentation.

Use an appropriate format for conducting your meeting.

Open the meeting simply and informally, but we do not advise starting community meetings with a spoken prayer. This may be offensive to participants from different religious persuasions. You may, however, have a moment of silent prayer in which each person can offer a prayer according to his/her religious convictions. In times of crisis, the moderator may suggest that a particular situation be remembered in the prayers of each participant. Community-wide situations may be shared with the members, as well as individual concerns of sick and bereaved members.

Valuable time during the meeting should not be consumed with reading letters verbatim; summarize and place letters in a convenient location where interested members can read the items for themselves. It should be remembered that one person's interesting item may be another person's boring detail. Make items available, but do not waste valuable time.

In conducting the meeting, the organization should not be burdened with extensive bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order. Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order have their place, but not in a Neighborhood Watch Block Club. It must be remembered that the neighborhood group is simply a group of concerned citizens. It is essential that all the members be allowed to express themselves without being burdened with cumbersome protocol procedures. In particular, the organization must show sensitivity to differing levels of educational and socio-economic background. Neighborhood Watch Clubs are

grassroots operations that are there to provide an organized outlet for citizen concerns. Meetings can be conducted in an orderly fashion without resorting to the minute details of Roberts Rules of Order. Bylaws may be helpful, but they should not be considered critical for the existence and successful operation of the Club.

The meeting should be closed by the moderator. The moderator may ask for a motion for dismissal, or, more informally, simply terminate the meeting.

Provide a congenial atmosphere for after-meeting socializing.

After the meeting, participants should feel free to leave immediately or to stay and socialize. Speakers should be notified that part of their obligation is to stay and chat personally with members. Neighbors may also use this opportunity to "catch up" with their neighbors lives. By the same token, members should not feel obligated to stay after the meeting to socialize; they should feel comfortable leaving immediately after the meeting if they have other obligations or prefer not to socialize.

Schedule regular meetings.

Meeting regularly is critical for the maintenance of the Club. The meeting should be scheduled on the same day and week of the month (e.g. the first Monday of each month) so that residents can make regular plans on this basis. At the inception of the Club, scheduled meetings should carry right through the summer months, so that high-level interest can be maintained. A summer break in the initial stages of the Club can make it very difficult to resume meetings after the summer. After a couple of years of regular meetings, this scheduling may be modified for the summer months, but it is not advisable to do this initially. And, residents must be aware of continued activity during summer months -- personal visitations by the moderator, short written newsletters and notices of relevant materials by the secretaries, and other activities indicating the Club is functioning during the summer must be indicated to continue its profile within the community.

Prepare an attractive, informative meeting flyer.

A concise, attractive flyer should be prepared for each meeting. The flyer should be neatly done and draw attention to itself (for example, use colored paper). The time (opening and closing) and place of the meeting should be clearly indicated, as well as the topic of discussion and guest speaker. Also, be sure the name of the organization is prominently indicated on the flyer.

Various techniques have been used to distribute the flyers, including hiring neighborhood youth, member distribution, and mailing. Whatever procedure is used, it should ensure (1) that all neighbors receive the flyer, (2) that the flyer arrives promptly, and (3) that flyers are not sloppily littered on lawns, in the street, and at other locations. It is essential that members receive their flyers timely, not too early and certainly not late. Two days is ideal. We have found that it is preferable to mail the flyers, unless their distribution is left in the hands of responsible adults. Of course, a mailing involves more work and money, but this is the procedure that has worked best for the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization. Our experience unfortunately, has taught us that distribution cannot be relegated to unsupervised youth. Unless adults are willing to closely supervise flyer distribution by youth, this distribution technique is not recommended.

Call members to remind them of the meeting.

It is helpful to follow up a flyer with a phone call. In the ideal circumstance (and the one adopted by the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization), each member should be called to remind them of the meeting and to elicit any concerns individual members may have. At the very least, members who have missed a meeting should be called to tell them they were missed. The personal concern indicated in a telephone call is one of the primary reasons for consistently high attendance at our monthly meetings.

Plan special events to complement regularly scheduled meetings.

Along with the monthly meetings, a Neighborhood Watch Block Club should plan special events. Such activities are necessary in order to promote community unity and spirit. These events can also provide an important spark

for the community and a diversion from the more routine monthly meetings. There are a variety of activities that can be built into special events -- health fairs, the Sickle Cell mobile, the book mobile, the drug mobile, and so forth. The District of Columbia government provides many items free for communities, but many communities are unaware of these resources.

While fundraising special events may seem attractive, we caution against unqualified commitment to these events. It involves considerable pre-planning, and includes ticket preparation and financial risk. Without a key person or group of persons willing to assume detailed responsibility for the successful outcome of a fundraiser, it will not succeed. Initial enthusiasm for fundraisers often dissolves in the face of the attention that must be given to minute details. And failure can have serious consequences for the financial status and prestige of a Club. It must be remembered that making money is not a primary concern of the Club, and a disproportionate commitment to fundraising activities can easily destroy the Club. The cautions expressed here are not intended to eliminate fundraisers from the list of special events, but to make members consider their high-risk status in terms of the overall functioning of the Club.

If the Club hosts a raffle, Casino Night, or Bingo game, it MUST contact the D.C. Lottery Board for the appropriate procedures to carry out such an event. Permits are required and specific guidelines must be followed in implementing such events.

Prepare a separate, distinctive flyer for special events.

A specially-designed flyer should be used to advertise special events. The SPECIAL NOTICE FLYER should be distinctive in its format and different from the regular meeting announcement. This flyer is distributed to everyone in the community, not just members of the Block Club. They can be distributed at broader-based community functions, such as the civic association and other community meetings, and deposited at local stores, but they should also be distributed to all the households potentially serviced by the event. The cautions about youth distributors mentioned above should, however, be kept in mind when planning the actual distribution of the flyers. On occasion, the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization has prepared Obituary Notices for

members of the Club. This flyer contains the types of information typically found in obituaries, with focus on the accomplishments of the person in the community (for example, offices held in the community, faithfulness in attending meetings, careful attention to the upkeep of property, etc.). It is a nice, personal touch if done appropriately. It must, however, be done attractively as these flyers are often distributed at the funeral service.

Consider preparing a newsletter for distribution to members.

Although a newsletter may seem like a lot of extra work, it can be the most effective avenue for disseminating information. And, it need not be bulky, limiting itself to tidbits of information and human interest items for members. It can also be distributed with a flyer announcing an upcoming meeting of the Block Club, making a separate distribution unnecessary.

Items included in the newsletter typically include announcements of other community meetings (e.g. ANC meetings, City Council meetings), special ordinances or changes in regulations affecting residents (e.g. a change in the trash pick-up day or regulations related to the placement of trash for pick-up). Any information affecting the members of the Block Club is appropriate for the newsletter, even if the information has been distributed through another vehicle, such as the newspaper or through the mail.

The newsletter can also be used to announce positive accomplishments of Block Club members. Youth receiving scholarships, students winning awards, or couples celebrating 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries are all appropriate information for inclusion in the newsletter, as well as other educational, occupational, and civic accomplishments. The newsletter may also be used to compliment the Block Club for significant events, creating a positive community image.

Engage in personal, positive public relations for the Club.

There are several levels of public relations that enter into the successful operation of the Club. The moderator of the Club is naturally a major public relations person for the organization, and must be able to talk with persons within the Club and those outside the community as well. This

person has the major liaison role in linking the Club with the broader-based community agencies.

At the same time, each member has a significant public relations function. Members should know a little about the history of the Club and understand its goals. Within the community, members must welcome new members at the Club; young people and couples with children must be especially welcomed, as such members offer the prospect for future stability; at the same time, it must be recognized that some of the younger members cannot be as involved in the levels of commitment that older people might have time for. It is critical that the Club not give the appearance of being cliquish and exclusive; it is an organization that can only profit from more expansive community participation, and each member must assume some responsibility for the level of participation.

Kind acts of concern can only facilitate the role of the Club in the community. These may include cards for the sick, the coordination of meals for a sick neighbor, and other acts of benevolence.

All members should also consider themselves public relations ambassadors to the outside community. Enthusiastic endorsement of meetings and activities, as well as invitations to non-participating members are vital for the growth of the Club. While several people may assume overt leadership roles in the Club, it is critical that ALL members feel that it is their Club and, therefore, their responsibility to spread positive public relations about the Club. People come because they have experienced firsthand or heard from others that the Club has a good reputation for offering informative and meaningful meetings, programs, and activities.

Keep committees to a minimum.

While committees may serve particular, useful functions, they can also be time-consuming and unproductive. We have found that a Club does not function effectively with a lot of committees. A standing committee might be responsible for benevolence and congratulatory items, but most committees should be ad hoc, formed for specific events and activities and disbanded after the activity has been carried out. Each committee should have chairs, but they should serve on a volunteer basis rather than an elected one. In

special cases, where more than one person wishes to lead, the committee may select a leader, but, in general, the Club should not be burdened with elections and parliamentary procedure. The useful service functions of the Club should take precedence over democratic process; there are already enough community and government agencies that give adequate attention to these processes. The Neighborhood Watch Club is a special type of organization, with different concerns and goals; if it gets bogged down in internal bureaucracy, it will become ineffective.

Since some of the democratic processes typical of other agencies are not to be found in the Club, it becomes essential for the leaders to be very sensitive to the potential pitfalls of favoritism and cliquishness. The needs and concerns of the overall constituency must be paramount in the deliberations of the Club leaders. An aura of favoritism can be singularly responsible for ineffectiveness and the eventual demise of the Club.

Make Club financial support a secondary item.

Although it certainly takes finances to carry out the regular operation of a Club, disproportionate concern for this aspect of its operation can be destructive. Members should feel that they are under no financial obligations to the Club. At the same time, there should be an underlying understanding that there are some costs involved in the Club.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization does NOT have membership dues, nor does it solicit funds directly. We do, however, have a donation container present at meetings and have found that the majority of the members willingly make a modest donation (averaging almost a dollar per person in attendance). These contributions do not cover the cost of the total operation, but they are helpful and encourage the leaders who typically expend their own funds for the Club. Realistically, this personal expenditure is probably unavoidable, and leaders should understand this modest commitment is part of their investment in the betterment of the neighborhood. Most civic-minded people make charitable contributions anyhow, so this personal investment may simply be considered a charitable neighborhood investment. It is not, of course, guaranteed that IRS will accept such items as under the category of "charitable contributions, but it is still a worthwhile investment.

SOME USEFUL PROTOCOLS

In this section, we present formats for some of the business routines that are essential for the successful operation of the Club. Although they are limited, there are certain procedures that should be adopted in carrying out Club business.

Writing a Letter of Invitation

A letter of invitation is essential for guest speakers. This letter should specify (1) what topic you would like the speaker to address, (2) the format of the meeting (3) the time and place of the meeting, (4) the type of audience and approximate number expected at the meeting, and (5) how they can reach you (telephone number and available times, if appropriate) to respond. Following is a sample letter of invitation written by the Neighbors of Burns Street.

The letter of invitation should be followed up by a telephone conversation. This encourages the speaker to participate in the meeting; it also confirms receipt of the letter.

The letter is important, but it cannot be relied upon exclusively for guaranteeing the speaker's attendance. Someone in the Club **MUST REMIND THE SPEAKER** a day before the meeting about his/her obligation. The caller should remember the times the guest may be called and take into consideration the difficulties in reaching some government officials when making arrangements to reach speakers. Callers must remind speakers that your Block Club is serious obligation and that people eagerly awaiting their attendance. If your Club should encounter an irresponsible leader who, in fact, does not show up at the meeting, he/she and the responsible supervisor must be notified. Your Club should work to get a reputation for intolerance with officials who do not show up.

By the same token, it is essential to write a follow-up letter thanking them for attendance at the meeting. If the person has done a good job, a copy of the letter should be sent to an appropriate supervisor. Such positive feedback makes speakers willing to take the time for the Club, especially when it involves participation that goes beyond a regular work schedule. A reputation for appropriate and formal appreciation has aided the Neighbors of

Burns Street obtain speakers with relatively little difficulty. Following is a sample letter written following a speaker's presentation at a Club meeting.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

10-22-99

1999

*Can we do letter/
proclamation for
Marche to read? B*

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

'99 OCT 22 PM 4:51

On November 14, 1999 at 3:00 p.m. the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization will celebrate its 20th Anniversary as an active neighborhood watch block club. We are the oldest and largest Neighborhood Watch Block Club in the District of Columbia. I have had the pleasure of being the moderator for this organization since its inception.

To commemorate this occasion we will enjoy a buffet dinner at THE FOX DEN ENLISTED CLUB at Andrews Airforce Base and as a friend of yours for over 30 years, I would be honored if you could be our special guest.

When I was at the White House last month I mentioned it to you and you told me to check with Betty. Betty told me at that time that she thought you would be out of the country but that she was not sure. It was my hope then that you would either be going out or coming in and could stop by if you will be at Andrews Air Force Base on November 14, 1999. However, if your schedule does not permit, we would love to have some proclamation from you that could be read during the affair. Marcia Scott from your office has promised me that she will come and it is my hope that she could present the proclamation to the organization.

I have included our Manual and other material that will give you the history, goals and accomplishments of our organization. If you need anything else, please call or FAX me.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Bertie H. Bowman

Bertie H. Bowman

(202) 584-7545 home

(202) 584-3208 office

(202) 584-2536 FAX

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

September 26, 1999

Dear Ms. Scott:

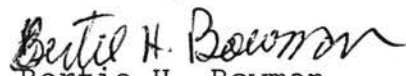
Thank you for agreeing to get this package to the President for me. Also, would you mind getting this picture of The President and me signed so that I can frame it for my collection.

I was very pleased to hear that you may take time out of your busy schedule to come and present our organization with a proclamation from the President and I am really looking forward to having you. We have been friends (you, me, and The President) now for over 30 years and your accomplishments are history. I have worked very hard in my community for 20 years to keep it free from crime and have been President of this organization since its inception.

I would be deeply honored to have you there with something from The President for our organization. It would be wonderful to have something from our President to treasure..

Thank you again for everything. See you there. I have enclosed and ticket for the details.

Sincerely,



Bertie H. Bowman

(202) 584-7545	home
584-3208	office
584-2536	FAX

June 12,
1982

S.E. Husband-Wife Team Make 'Neighborhood Watch' Work

by Officer Gloria W. Vessels

The Neighborhood Watch Program, one of the 13 Point Anti-Crime Programs announced by Mayor Barry more than a year ago, is a crime prevention activity that gives citizens an opportunity to participate in protecting their homes and community. Under this program, 10 to 15 neighbors are brought together in an organized effort to secure their neighborhood.

The police department conducts the operation identification program and a home security inspection — informing the residents of any items requiring adjustments. In addition, police officers help citizens to organize and establish the program. Citizens learn to be aware of the signs of criminal activity, how to safeguard their property and the best ways to report suspicious activities to the police. More than 25,000 residents currently are taking part.

Prior to the Mayor's program, a group of Ward 7 citizens had organized themselves for similar purposes. This group was brought to the attention of the police department as one of the most effective groups in the city — it is called the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization.

It was organized four years ago when Mrs. Ezrell Brockman wanted Burns Street to become a one-way street. Bertie Bowman stood out as a leader, and was eventually made president of the group.

Bowman and his wife, Elaine, have lived in the 800 block of Burns Street S.E. for 27 years. They work as a team to better their neighborhood and keep their members informed about what occurs in the city, especially within Ward 7 and the Sixth Police District.

When asked what makes their organization stand out, Mr. Bowman replied: "We are not afraid to get involved." They are members of several civic associations, they visit their neighbors regularly and are always there when someone needs them.

The group now has 72 active members, most of whom are retired, and they meet once a month at the Bowmans' home. The meetings last for one hour and are attended by the area's ANC Commissioner Ben Thomas, and a representative from the Sixth Police District. To ensure that the meetings begin and end promptly, information is distributed before the meeting; post cards are sent out with the agenda; a newsletter is prepared monthly by Mrs. Bowman and if something newsworthy occurs between meetings, a news release is prepared and distributed to the members. A guest speaker is invited to each meeting. The speaker is an employee of the District of Columbia Government or other agencies, such as WMATA or PEPCO, that affect the lives of the group's members.

Although Bowman has been the leader of this organization since its inception, he sometimes still finds it difficult to convince his neighbors that the police are their friends.

He has developed a very good relationship with the Commander of the Sixth District, Deputy Chief Isaac Fulwood, who has pledged that his officers will work in, and with, the community. Bowman feels that Community Services officers play a big role in solving crimes, because the citizens in the Neighborhood Watch Program develop a rapport with these officers and will go to them when they have



Photo by Gloria Vessels

Bertie and Elaine Bowman make 'Neighborhood Watch' part of thier lives

information about crimes. Some of the members still pick up the phone and call him before calling the police, but he is trying to teach them that valuable time is saved if they call the police directly.

One or the other of the Bowmans attends every civic meeting in Ward 7, in addition to D.C. hearings and Service Area Committee meetings, so that they may bring factual information back to the organization.

The Bowmans are both employed full time, but they still find time for civic involvement. "It's hard to explain, but we have the types of jobs where we can move around during the day, use our lunch periods to attend different meetings, and most meetings in the evening don't start until 7:30, so that gives us time to get home, have dinner and then leave for the meetings," Bowman said.

They constantly receive phone calls about how to get things done, and how to organize. To alleviate some of this, the Bowmans, along with Sue McGinnis, Sixth District Community Services Officer, arranged a Neighborhood Watch Program Workshop last month. The workshop was designed to help residents carry out neighborhood watch activities in the most effective way possible.

Every police district in the city has an active Neighborhood Watch Program and such programs are growing daily. Thanks to conscientious citizens like the Bowmans, and dedicated officers like Sue McGinnis and Bobby Whitelow, the Sixth District has 5,000 households and 250 Neighborhood Watch Programs organized that are working with the police department and other District government agencies.

MARSHA SCOTT

Betty -

This is the packet
POVUS told Bertie to
drop off about coming
to his neighborhood.

Do you want to get
the proclamation done?

If not, I will, just
let me know. Bertie
also wants his picture
signed - me
autopen, please.

Thanks,
Marsh

10 - 22 - 99

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

C.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

June 12, 1989

Mr. John Touchstone, Director
Department of Public Works
2000 14th Street, N.W.
6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Mr. Touchstone:

On behalf of the Neighbors of Burns Street Organization, I would like to commend to you, Mr. Phillip Hammond, Ward Representative for Public Works. On Saturday June 10, 1989, he coordinated a most informative meeting of Public Works experts for our neighborhood assembly. As citizens, we feel it is important to let you know when one of your employees have positively impacted the community.

On short notice he gathered experts in street maintenance, tree maintenance and construction to answer our questions and address our concerns. Given the large group, personal nature of the meeting, we feel that Mr. Hammond contributed immeasurably to neutralizing the potential barriers that sometimes exist between city maintenance people and the community. Both his presentation and personal demeanor were immeasurable in this regard, and we want you to know how much we appreciate him.

More importantly, we want to take this opportunity to tell you how appreciative this organization is of a District employee who willingly takes his weekend to speak to a community group. It was our pleasure and privilege to be the recipient of his commitment and concern and are hopeful that this letter will make you aware of Mr. Phillip Hammond's positive influence on our community.

Sincerely,

Elaine Bowman
Corresponding Secretary

cc: Mr. Phillip Hammond

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

October 28, 1985

Deputy Chief Fred Thomas
Commander, 6th Police District
100 42nd Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019

Dear Deputy Chief Thomas:

On behalf of the Neighbors of Burns Street, we would like to commend to you Officer Fred Johnson for participation with our community which extends far beyond the normal obligation of a police officer. As citizens, we feel it is important to let you know when your officers have positively impacted the community; we are always ready to criticize shortcomings so that it is essential for us to recognize positive contributions.

On October 12, Mr. Johnson came to our Neighbors of Burns Street monthly meeting, spoke to us, and stayed afterward to chat with individual members who wanted to talk personally with a police officer. It was his day off, but he did not begrudge us the time. Instead, he made an articulate, knowledgeable presentation, showing great understanding of our community and its concerns. Following the presentation, he informally interacted with the community members in an extremely professional manner. We felt greatly enlightened about the dangers of various types of violent and non-violent criminal activity, and the importance of community cooperation. His spirit of cooperation with us made us feel that we, in turn, wanted to cooperate with him as a representative of the police department.

Given the small group, personal nature of meeting, we feel that he contributed immeasurably to neutralizing the potential barriers that sometimes exist between law enforcement officials

and the community. Both his presentation and personal demeanor were immeasurable in this regard, and we want you to know how much we appreciate him. It is obvious that the success of the Neighborhood Watch Program is contingent upon the cooperation of community members; with policeman like Officer Fred Johnson, we feel that great strides can be made in making our community a better safer place to live in.

It was our privilege to be the recipient of his commitment and concern, and we want you to be aware of Officer Fred Johnson's positive influence on our community.

Sincerely,

Elaine Bowman
Corresponding Secretary

cc: Officer Fred Johnson
Capt. Nelson Grillo
Chief Maurice Turner

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

840 Burns Street, Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20019

March 20, 1986

Mr. Robert King
Associate Director
Assessment Office
Room 2132
300 Indiana Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. King:

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization will hold its next regular monthly meeting on Saturday April 12, 1986 and this letter is our request for a speaker from the Assessment office as our special guest.

As you know, District of Columbia home owners recently received home assessments that carry no explanation of how your office arrived at the figures. Some of our neighbors have called your office to inquire and have been told that this information is not for publication. As District home owners, we feel that it is our right to know the process of determining these figures or at least be told face to face why this information is a secret. Moreover, we would like you to send someone who can explain why these assessments are made while you sit downtown at your desks without ever having seen our homes. We want to know why a small home with two bedrooms sitting next to a large home with four bedrooms are assessed the same. These questions are of deep concern to the neighbors of Burns Street and we are hopeful that you can send people who can answer them to our satisfaction.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization is a community organization concerned with our neighborhood, crime and services we pay for through our tax dollars. We were organized in 1979 and have met monthly since that time. We have 74 active members and always have 40 or more in attendance at each meeting. We are made up of a series of block clubs that stretch over 20 blocks. Our main focus is information. We make a special effort to inform our members and keep them current with respect to the 'goings on' in the District government. Our meetings last only one hour. We start at 6:30 sharp and end promptly at 7:30. Our meetings are held at 840 Burns Street, S.E.

Our guests are allowed a 15 minute presentation and another 15 minutes for the question answer period. You are invited to bring charts or slides and we would like very much to recieve any hand outs that can be digested at our leisure. If you will be bringing slides, please come a few minutes early to set up so that we can start on time.

We would like to send the meeting announcements out by April 4, 1986 so we really would appreciate having a conformation from you by the end of March.

The directions to 840 Burns Street, S.E. follow: East on Pennsylvania Ave. to Alabama Ave, S.E. (at Fairfax Village) left on Alabama Ave., continue down Alabama to Burns Street turn left. Continue down the hill, cross Ridge Road and continue down Burns Street to 840.

If you need any further information, I can be reached during working hours on 727-2318. Please send me a telephone number where I can reach you or the people who will be coming to the meeting, I would like to touch base before the meeting to be sure that everything is in order.

Thank you very much for considering having your experts come to our meeting to enlighten us. Assessments is the most talked about subject in our area right now and I am relieved to know that we will soon get some answers to the many questions we have.

Sincerely,

Elaine King Bowman
Corresponding Secretary

Home Phone: 584-7545

Work Phone: 727-2318

Meeting Minutes

For various reasons, it is sometimes difficult to find people willing to record the minutes of a meeting. Nonetheless, it is an important function that needs to be carried out, so that an effort should be made to streamline the procedures for minutes. The following are some types of information that should be included in the minutes.

- 1) Give the place of the meeting, the time the meeting started and the time it ended;
- 2) When minutes are accepted as given or accepted with corrections and additions, this should be reflected in the next meeting's minutes;
- 3) Minutes should give a factual synopsis of activities that took place at the meeting, but do not attempt to record every word;
- 4) Motions should be noted faithfully, recording (a) what the motion was, (b) who made the motion, (c) who seconded it, and (d) that the motion carried or was rejected;
- 5) Proper noting of guest speakers, titles, and organizations represented by the speaker should be given;
- 6) An account of numbers of members in attendance is helpful for the record;
- 7) Minutes should conclude with a statement of submission and the name and title of the recorder;

Following is a sample of minutes for a Neighbors of Burns Street Meeting.

MINUTES OF BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

April 9, 1989

Meeting was called to order by the President at 6:30 p.m. We all joined in a silent prayer for those who were sick among us and those who could not be with us for the meeting.

Minutes of the previous Meeting of March 11, 1989 were read and accepted without corrections.

ANC Report

Commissioner Thomas gave a report on the last ANC meeting and reminded us that the next ANC meeting will be held at Jones Church on April 10, 1989. Commissioner Hasty gave a report on the status of the 6th District Police Boys and Girls Club.

Police Report

Officer Harris advised us of additional officers at 6D. He told us that we will be seeing more officers on the street in this area -- especially in high crime areas. Numbers were reported on car thefts, robberies and assaults with deadly weapons. For the past few months high crime time was between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Presidents Report

Mr. Bowman called our attention to several announcements that were spelled out in our Newsletter.

The President listened to concerns from the members and promised to contact Mr. Hammon to check the alley in back of the 800 block of Burns and the dead trees in the tree boxes.

Special Guest

Our special guest was Susan Schrieber of the National Organization for Victim Assistance. She spoke with us about services that are available for victims of crime. Handouts with details were distributed to all members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Attending 41 persons
 2 teenagers
 1 guest
 Officer Harris

Collected \$39.00

Respectfully submitted

Minutes should be a part of the secretary's record; they should be available for reading if necessary. It should, however, be remembered that recording of minutes is an unenviable task and the process should be streamlined rather than bogged down in cumbersome detail.

Sample Flyers, Special Notices, and Newsletter

Following are samples of flyers for monthly meetings, special notices, and a newsletter. These are intended only to illustrate how such items can be produced in a relatively inexpensive but attractive format, not to prescribe the protocol for other organizations.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

Monthly Meeting

Saturday April 13, 1985

6:30 - 7:30

840 Burns Street, SE

AGENDA

Minutes	Mrs. Erzell Brockman
Outreach Committee Report	Mrs. Reva Brown
President's Report	Mr. Bertie Bowman
Commissioner's Report	Comm. Ben Thomas
Police Report	Officer Prout 6th District

Special Guest

BATTALION FIRE CHIEF THOMAS McCAFFREY
Operation Commander, Emergency Ambulance
Division

Chief McCaffrey will discuss the following:

1. Ambulance Fees
(Is it \$50 or \$75? Do you have to have cash?)
2. Hospital
(Under what circumstances can you be taken to the hospital of your choice)
3. Ambulance Attendants
(What are their qualifications? Can you be sure they know enough to save you?)

Monthly Meeting

Saturday April 8, 1989

6:30-7:30

840 Burns St. S.E.

Agenda

Minutes from last meeting	Mrs. Brockman
ANC Reports	Commissioner Hasty Thomas
Policeman's Report	Officer Harris 6th District
President's Report	Bertie H. Bowman

Special Guest

Ms. Susan Schrieber
Coordinator
National Organization for
Victim Assistance

Ms. Schreiber has been asked to speak with us about services that are available for victims of crime. Did you know that financial, medical and legal help is available if you are the victim of a crime? Yes, there is help for those of us who have our homes broken into or our cars stolen or damaged. Haven't you often wondered if there any agencies working on behalf of the crime victims in the District. All too often we hear about drug rehab. centers for the criminal but rarely does someone tell us of organizations that can help us when we have been victimized by these drug addicts. Please come out and hear this presentation. You will really learn a lot.

++++
Remember-- We start at 6:30 sharp and end promptly at 7:30.

The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

SPECIAL NOTICE

FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE

ANNUAL HOT DOG DAY

Saturday
July 8, 1989

Where: Burns Street Park
at Burns and Hildreth

Time: 11:00 a.m.

BRING THE KIDS

Hot Dogs

CAKE

COOKIES

Punch

Candy

GAMES

TOYS

Come out and bring a neighbor

NEWSLETTER

THE NEIGHBORS OF BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

Volume 1

Number 4

April 1982

Thanks to the Department of Invironmental Services

Hooray! The parking lot surrounding Grand Farmers Market has finally been cleaned. Thanks again Mr. O'Donnell. We are happy that we don't have to look at that mess when we drive up Berning Road.

By the way, the Grand Farmers Market is being rehabilitated and planning a big re-opening. They have secured a Class B license to serve beer and wine in the Market. It is too late to do anything about this but our organization will be staying on top of this situation. We will keep you informed.

Neighborhood Watch Workshop

Officer Sue McGinnis, Community Service Officer from the 6th District is coordinating a Neighborhood Watch Workshop at the 6th District Headquarters on Saturday June 12, 1982. This workshop is basically a teaching workshop for block clubs and community groups.

Our president, Bertit Bowman and our ANC Commissioner, Mr. Ben Thomas will be working with Officer McGinnis to make this an event that our area will always remember. So, alert your block clubs and neighborhood groups about the event and we will be getting more information to you soon.

Deputy Chief Issac Fulwood and Judge Luke Moore are the scheduled guests.

ATTENTION NEIGHBORS WHO WOULD LIKE TO APPEAL THEIR TAX ASSESSMENTS

Our City Council members are now encouraging District residents who want to appeal their 1982 property tax assessments to pick up appeal forms that have been distributed to all the city's libraries and fire stations. If the libraries and fire stations are out, forms are also available from The Board of Equalization and Review in the District Building. Room 202. You may phone for a form by calling 727-1189. THE DEADLINE FOR FILING APPEALS IS APRIL 15, 1982

What's Happening at the Statehood Constitutional Convention Hearings.

If you really want to know, you are invited to attend open hearings at 929 E Street N.W. 9th Floor, 9:AM. Evening hearings start at 6:30 at the District Building.

How do you feel about a year- round Registration System for Tag Applications?

Councilmember Jerry Moore is introducing a bill to require DC to switch to a year-round registration system. Such a system would spread renewals over the whole year with a certain number of auto tags up for renewal each month. Let us know what you think.

NEWSLETTER

Neighbors of Burns Street Organization

SPECIAL ISSUE

RUBY L. CLAIBORNE

It is with deep tenderness of heart, that we, The Neighbors of Burns Street, pause to mourn the passing of one of our most dedicated members, Mrs. Ruby Claiborne. In the death of Mrs. Claiborne, The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization has lost a devoted friend, who, since the inception of this organization, gave time, effort, and earnest thought to every cause that touched our neighborhood.

Mrs. Claiborne was a loyal member of our organization and a neighbor on whom all of us could depend for guidance and love. She brought with her to Burns Street, from her home state of Mississippi, southern hospitality unmatched by many in this town. For when Ruby Claiborne asked you, "how do you feel?", she really wanted to know and sincerely wanted to help in any way she could. She was loving, giving caring and compassionate and her presence in this community will be sorely missed.

Although she received many awards and praise from the organization for her outstanding work as a NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAIN, we always knew that her most memorable award was presented to her at a Neighborhood Watch Workshop at the 6th District Police Headquarters by the Mayor of the District of Columbia in 1982.

Ruby Claiborne was always on her job as Block Captain. If she saw anything suspicious, she wrote down descriptions and kept her eye on them until they left her beloved neighborhood. She consulted often with our President to fill him in on what needed to be done to keep her neighborhood beautiful and free from crime. She loved The Neighbors of Burns Street Organization and rarely missed a meeting. We could always count on her full participation and her willingness to do any job that needed to be done. She was our treasurer and a member of our Reach-Out committee.

Mrs. Claiborne was a pleasure to know and her warm smile will always be remembered. We will miss her but we are extremely proud to have had her living close to us for so many years.

The Neighbors of Burns Street
Organization

THE NEIGHBORS OF
BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

*20th Anniversary
Celebration*

0135

THE NEIGHBORS OF BURNS STREET ORGANIZATION

20th Anniversary Celebration

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1999 — 3 pm

• All You Can Eat Buffet •

The Fox Den Enlisted Club
Andrews Air Force Base

Donation:
\$10.00

0135