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Fernando -

I hope this will
do it, Think about
whether you think its
a good idea to get
Dominic in on this
again - I don't know -

Thanks -
Leo





City of Albuquerque

P.O. BOX 1293 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103

February 9, 1976

Mr. John F. Widert
Administrative Assistant to the Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Widert:

I have enclosed a brief description of our ongoing training program for Animal Care Attendants.

We would appreciate it very much if we could have an opportunity to meet with you and to discuss this and other related ideas with you.

As I mentioned, Fernando will be calling you, if he hasn't already.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Polo C'de Baca
Education Coordinator
Rio Grande Zoological Park
903 Tenth Street, S. W.
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Telephone: (505) 766-7823

PC/rm
enclosure

cc: ✓ Fernando C'de Baca w/ enclosure
Hon. Jerry Apodaca w/ enclosure



It is our understanding that because of public concern and pending legislation regarding animal welfare, all zoos and any animal keeping facilities must prepare to meet forthcoming accreditation standards. Our concern is the qualifications of our zookeepers.

The Animal Welfare Act of 1970 does not clearly specify the criteria for qualified personnel. It only talks about "a sufficient number of employees being utilized to maintain the prescribed level of husbandry procedures. . ."

Most zookeepers and animal attendants learn their jobs in an apprenticeship manner. The problem is that only those people who work with experts that are capable and willing to teach their skills and knowledge will become proficient. There is no systematic process. Although a good part of taking care of animals is house-keeping for them, zookeepers often make observations and exercise judgment which is critical to the health and safety of the animals. An animal attendant's repertoire must include knowledge and skills about diet, husbandry, animal handling, safety, public relations, animal behavior, habitat, symptomatology and other information. Not only zoos, but also veterinary clinics are in need of qualified help.

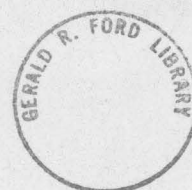


The Technical-Vocational Institute (T-VI) and the Rio Grande Zoo in Albuquerque have recently begun a course major for Animal Care Attendants. This kind of training had not previously been available in the state of New Mexico. The objectives for zookeeper training and animal care attendants training are similar, and because of this, T-VI and the Rio Grande Zoo have been cooperating in the specifications of training objectives.

Both T-VI and the Rio Grande Zoo feel that this joint effort is beneficial. T-VI is contributing its experience in classroom organization and the Rio Grande Zoo is providing an excellent site for cooperative work experience.

The Office of Comprehensive Education Training Act (CETA) is sponsoring sixteen students for a period of eight months by providing allowance funding for these students while they are in school. CETA is also paying the training costs for this program.

The cooperative work experience is structured and supervised by the zookeepers and the T-VI training staff. Zoo personnel act as tutors and will administer tests of demonstrated proficiency. It is an established fact that in a structured tutoring situation, the tutor benefits as much or more than the student.



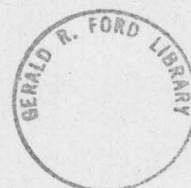
As the students are able to assume keeper responsibilities, the keepers are scheduled for classroom study. Presently, no zoo in the United States has a well structured training program. We believe this training program could set the norm for other zoos to follow.

Although our primary concern is having qualified keepers, we are also aware of the possibilities for placing the students in good jobs. The graduates could be employed by the zoo, by veterinary clinics, or in research facilities such as Lovelace Clinic, the University of New Mexico, Holloman Air Force Base or the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratories.

A certificate from T-VI will be a prerequisite for employment at our zoo in the future.

Since the mandate for trained personnel comes from the Department of Agriculture, we feel that you have a special interest in seeing this requirement for a competent work force met.

We want to develop self-instructional audio-visual materials to systematically train zookeepers. These courses will enable existing and future animal care people to pass tests necessary for pending certification requirements and to meet zoo accreditation criteria. This training program will be applicable nationwide.



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
OF ALBUQUERQUE
801 Mountain Rd., N.E.
Phone: 247-1423
Albuquerque, N. M. 87102

copy
Answered 2/14/76

January 29, 1976

The Honorable Jerry Apodaca
Governor of New Mexico
Capital Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Dear Sir;

May we take this opportunity to congratulate you for the choice you have made with Fernando C. de Baca as your Director of Health and Social Services. Mr. C. de Baca is most respected in the community. His efforts to help all people are recognized.

In my work with alternate educational systems, and as co-founder of two schools in the North - West, I am most indebted to Mr. C. de Baca.

Rest assured, you have our support in your choice.

Sincerely,

Rafael Pablo Ciddio y ABeyta
Executive Director

RPCA/lb

If you come in and we can be
of assistance please depend on
our office Pablo



February 17, 1976

Dear Dan:

Thank you for your thoughtful note and for enclosing copies of the Medical Malpractice and Professional Liability Fund bills currently before the New Mexico State Legislature.

I enjoyed meeting you and your colleagues from the New Mexico Hospital Association during your recent visit to the Nation's Capital. Additionally, I am looking forward to meeting the other members of your Association. I will certainly let you know when my travel plans are firm for returning permanently to New Mexico. We will then be in a better position to set up a full briefing on matters of mutual interest to your Association and the Department of Health and Social Services.

With every good wish, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Daniel S. Scott
Associate Executive Director
New Mexico Hospital Association
3010 Monte Vista Boulevard N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106



New Mexico Hospital Association

3010 MONTE VISTA BLVD., N.E.
SUITE 208
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87106



PHONE 505 265-3686

February 11, 1976

Mr. Fernando C DeBaca
1255 New Hampshire NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. C DeBaca:

I enjoyed the opportunity to visit briefly with you in Washington last week. We all appreciated your taking time from your schedule to join us at the Monocle.

Copies of the originally proposed bills are enclosed as you requested. The Medical Malpractice Act, HB 29, has received several amendments and the amended bill is enclosed. The other bills are in their original form and have received little alteration.

HB 29, 30, and 31 were passed by the House today in remarkable fashion as only one dissenting vote was cast against HB 29 and none against 30 or 31. They will now go to the Senate to be assigned to the Judiciary Committee. HB 32, Professional Liability Fund Act (Joint Underwriting Association), will be heard today by the House Corporations and Banks Committee.

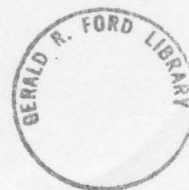
Again, to confirm our discussion in Washington, representatives of the New Mexico Hospital Association will be delighted to meet with you when you are in New Mexico whenever your schedule permits. Congratulations on your appointment as Director of Health and Social Services and best wishes for your future.

Sincerely,

Daniel S. Scott
Associate Executive Director

DSS:cm

Enclosures: HB 29, 30, 31, 32



February 17, 1976

Dear Alex:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter and warm words regarding my appointment by the Governor to head the New Mexico Department of Health and Social Services.

It has been an honor and a unique privilege to have had the opportunity these past eighteen months to serve both our great country and our Hispanic people. As you might surmise, these have been difficult and challenging yet rewarding and pleasurable months... at times tearful and frustrating, at times satisfying and exhilarating! But throughout these months of trials and anxieties, successes and failures, it is people like you, Alex, who have provided the moral, material, and spiritual wherewithall to keep the movement going. For that I owe you my total gratitude.

Mil gracias, amigo. I will look forward to working with you for the betterment of our State.

Con un fuerte abrazo,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Honorable Alex A. Sanchez
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003



DOÑA ANA COUNTY
OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION BRANCH

Box 3DA/Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003
Telephone (505) 646-3211



February 12, 1976

Mr. Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20013

Dear Fernando:

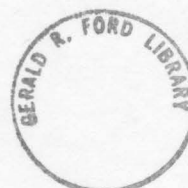
I recently read in the Albuquerque Journal where you will be leaving the Washington area and returning to New Mexico to assume the directorship of the Department of Health and Social Services. I certainly do want to congratulate you and I think that Governor Apodaca could not have made a better selection for that position. We will, of course, miss the great impact which you have had in the Washington area. However, I can certainly understand your reasons for wanting to return to New Mexico. If I can be of assistance to you, as you assume your new position, do not hesitate to call on me.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alex'.

Alex A. Sanchez
Director

m



February 6, 1976

Dear Messr. Mimiaga and Shelton:

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your kind congratulatory message on my appointment to the Directorship of the New Mexico Health and Social Services Department.

At this time I am not certain of my exact reporting date to my new position but once that date is set and my schedule is firm I shall notify you for the purpose of arranging the reception with your board members.

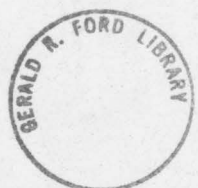
I am looking forward to my new post and to working with you and your respective organization.

Please give my best to our many mutual acquaintances.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Richard G. Mimiaga
2610 Alamosa Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



National Association of Social Workers

New Mexico Chapter

January 26, 1976

Fernando E. C de Baca, Special Ass't. to the President
White House
Washington, D.C.

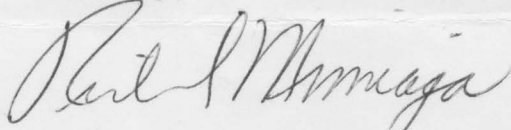
Dear Mr. C de Baca,

We have recently heard of your appointment to the Directorship of New Mexico Health and Social Services Department and offer our congratulations. Members of our profession were concerned that the new director be a local person with administrative experience in the field of welfare. Your background and expertise will serve you well in this new position.

Shortly after your return to New Mexico we would like to host a reception for you in your honor so our respective board members can meet you and personally welcome you back to Nuevo Mexico. You may already know some of our membership. Jerry Ortiz y Pino from the State OEO is now Planner-Director of Title XX Social Services, Juan Lopez, formerly with North Central New Mexico Comprehensive Health Planning Council is now City Manager in Espanola and Corrinne Wolf, formerly with HEW in Washington D.C., now retired in Santa Fe, is our first Vice President.

Again, congratulations and please let us know when you will be returning so we can select a suitable date for the reception.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Mimiaga, President
2610 Alamosa Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501



Elmo Shelton, President
New Mexico Council on Social Work Education
1617 Parkview Road
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701



February 17, 1976

Dear Sol:

I simply want to let you know that I received your letter of February 13 along with the brief outline of your book on the Mexican Timebomb.

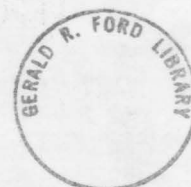
I will look it over just as soon as I have the time and then give you a call so we can get together to further explore this fascinating subject.

Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Sol Sanders, Editor
The Research Institute of America
852 National Press Building
Washington, D.C. 20004



Sol Sanders

EDITOR



*The Research Institute of America, Inc.
852 National Press Building
Washington, D.C. 20004*

February 13, 1976

Dear Mr. De Baca: --

Here is a rudimentary outline of the book I am proposing; my "pitch" may have to be modified after my literary agent in New York gets a look at it. I would appreciate any comments you .can make after taking a look at it. Remember, however, my problem: To dramatize a situation enough to get a publisher "to bite" and then once I have him committed, make the book as serious an effort as possible, possibly toning down the rhetoric.

Also after you have had a look at it and can get time to talk briefly about it to me, I'd appreciate an opportunity to talk out my idea of a U.S.-Mexico Reporting Service funded by the foundations --which I briefly suggested the other day. I see it possibly tied in to a journalism program at the University of New Mexico or somewhere in the Southwest. I wouldn't expect government funding --but if it has validity, I would need some help "selling" the idea to sponsors who could help get the money to fund it.

Again thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sol Sanders".

Fernando de Baca
Presidential Adviser on Hispanic Affairs
Room 171
Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501



February 17, 1976

Dear Mr. LeCesne:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your warm and generous invitation to address the 60th Annual Meeting of the American Red Cross in Albuquerque on Tuesday, June 8, 1976.

Unfortunately I am not in a position to definitively accept any speaking engagements at this time. I would, however, like the opportunity to contact you upon assuming my new position as Director of the New Mexico Department of Health and Social Services on or about April 1st.

Again, thank you for your thoughtfulness. I will look forward to seeing you upon my return to New Mexico.

Sincerely,

Fernando E. C. De Baca
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Errol LeCesne, Chairman
Bernalillo County Chapter
The American National Red Cross
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108





February 13, 1976

THE AMERICAN
NATIONAL
RED CROSS
BERNALILLO
COUNTY
CHAPTER
•P. O. BOX 8706•
ALBUQUERQUE
N. M., 87108
PH. 265-8514

Fernando C. deBaca
Special Assistant to the President
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Fernando:

The Bernalillo County Chapter, American National Red Cross, extends a formal invitation to you to be the speaker at our 60th Annual Meeting. This will be a dinner meeting at one of the local hotels on Tuesday, June 8, 1976.

We believe the attendance of you and Mrs. deBaca will enhance the celebration of our sixtieth birthday and your message will be of great significance to all New Mexicans.

Please accept our appreciation for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Errol LeCesne
Chairman

EL:st

cc: Leo Baca

