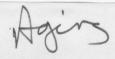
The original documents are located in Box 19, folder "WE 5: Geriatrics (2)" of the White House Central Files Subject Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America her copyrights in all of her husband's unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

September 6, 1974

NOTE TO DR. FLEMMING

Attached (Tab 1) as you requested is a matrix that summarizes the recommendations made by the representatives of organizations of older persons who met with the President on August 23. You will note that the majority of these recommendations relate to the area of income (24 of 37 total) and that the majority of these recommendations refer specifically to Social Security and SSI (12 of the 24).

I would suggest that the following procedure be pursued in developing a response to all these recommendations:

- 1. Determine, with White House approval, which recommendations should be considered for a response.
- 2. Have AoA staff, in consultation with appropriate staff from other Departments and Agencies, develop a brief, concise issue/options paper and recommended response on each of the recommendations selected for consideration.
- 3. Present these issue/options papers and recommendations to the Interdepartmental Working Group on Aging (roster attached -- tab 2) for recommendation.

This meeting could be held on Thursday, September 19. This would provide enough time to adequately develop the issue/options papers and recommendations, and allow for their distribution prior to a meeting, without unduly delaying the development of a response to the organizations.

4. The recommendations of the Working Group could then be presented to the Cabinet-level Committee on Aging (a list of the Departments and Agencies on the Committee is attached -- tab 3) for consideration at a meeting on Thursday, September 26.



5. The recommendations of the Cabinet-level Committee would be incorporated in a letter that the President could send the following week to the organizations that participated in the August 23 meeting. This timing would allow for the inclusion of any themes the President would like to strike as a result of the Economic Summit on September 27-28.

Decker

Attachments

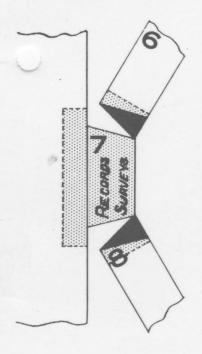


HOW TO USE THESE SEPARATORS

Use one page for each separation.

Select appropriate tab, add further identification if desired, and cover it with scotch tape.

Cut off and discard all tabs except the one covered by tape.





TABBED SEPARATOR SHEET Form HEW-69A (3-56)

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS OF OLDER PERSONS WHO MET WITH PRESIDENT FORD ON AUGUST 23, 1974

RECOMMENDATIONS RECOMMENDED BY

I. INCOME

A. Social Security/SSI Benefits

1. No deductions should be made in the level of OASDI or SSI payments

AARP/NRTA*

2. There should be no delay in scheduled cost-of-living increases in OASDI or SSI AARP/NRTA payments

3. The frequency of upward cost-of-living adjustments in OASDI and SSI payments should be accelerated.

a. Use Civil service retirement system method

b. Whenever the CPI increases by 3%

c. Quarterly

d. General recommendations

AARP/NRTA 4. Abolish the retirement test

5. Permit retirement under Social Security at 60 but with less than a full actuarial reduction in benefits

AFL-CIO

AARP/NRTA

NCSC, NCOA

AFL-CIO

GS

AARP/NRTA: American Association of Retired Persons/National Retired Teachers Association NARFE: National Association of Retired Federal Employees

GS: The Gerontological Society

NCSC: National Council of Senior Citizens

NCOA: National Council on the Aging BC: National Caucus on the Black Aged

ROA: Retired Officers Assoication

^{*} Organizations are identified by the following acronyms:

RE	COMME	NDATIONS	RECOMMENDED BY
	6.	Shift to an occupational definition of disability for both Social Security and SSI for those persons age 55 and over.	AFL-CIO
	7.	Initiate a major Federal outreach program to find all eligible SSI recipients	AFL-CIO, BC
	8.	Increase the income floor for SSI payments	BC, NCOA
	9.	Finance improvements/ increases in Social Security benefits from general revenues.	AFL-CIO, AARP/NRTA
	10.	Remove the Social Security Trust Funds from the Unified Federal Budget	NCSC
	11.	Administer the Social Security system by an independent Board of Governors	NCSC
	12.	Make public statement supporting the soundness of the Social Security system	NCSC
В.	Civ	il Service/Military Benefits	
	1.	Double Retirement Income Credit for Civil Service annuitants	NARFE
	2.	Support Military Pay Equalization legislation for older retirees	ROA
C.	Pen	sions	
	1.	Require pension plans to include automatic cost-of-living adjustment features	AARP/NRTA, GS
	2.	Allow retired workers to bargain with previous employers for pension improvements	GS
D.	Cos	t Indexing	
	1.	Develop a separate cost-of-living (or CPI) index for older persons	AFL-CIO, NCSC, AARP/NRTA
	2.	Develop an index of the interest rates payable on Government E and H Series bonds.	AARP/NRTA

RECO	MME	NDATIONS	RECOMMENDED BY	
		3. Cost index public retirement systems and private pension plans	AARP/NRTA	
	Ε.	Employment		
		1. Expand public employment programs for older persons	AARP/NRTA, GS,NCSÇ, NCOA	
	F.	Property Taxes		
		1. Provide property tax relief for older persons a. Through Federal reimbursement of States and localities	NARFE, NCOA NCOA	
	G.	Private Savings		
		 Repeal Regulation Q (which places limitations on rates of interest payable on savings by S and L's and banks) 	AARP/NRTA	
		2. Make high interest Federal bonds available in low denominations	AARP/NRTA, GS	
		3. Make available "constant purchasing power bonds" for small savers	GS	
I.	Неа	lth		
	1.	Enact "National Health Insurance program	AARP/NRTA (S.3154), BC,	
	2.	Re-establish wage/price controls for the health industry	NCSC AARP/NRTA, NCSC	
	3.	Prevent erosion of military health care programs/benefits	ROA	
	4.	Facilitate compliance to the Life Safety Code and other long term care facility standards for minority facilities	ВС	
1	Hou			
	1.	Accelerate the construction of Federally-assisted housing for older persons	NCSC	
,	2.	Develop housing and geriatric facilities in black communities	BC	

REC	ECOMMENDATIONS	RECOMMENDED BY BRAR
IV.	Social Services	F0R0
	 Evaluate all welfare programs regularly in order to adjust benefits and se for cost-of-living increases 	ervices GS
	2. Expand the Nutrition Program for the Elderly	GS
	3. Do not cut back social servcies that benefit older persons	NCOA, AARP/NRTA
V.	Other	
	1. Develop a comprehensive food policy	AARP/NRTA
	2. Balance the FY 1975 Federal budget	NARFE
	3. Control excessive concentrations of market power	AARP/NRTA
	4. Strengthen the Administration on Aging	NCOA

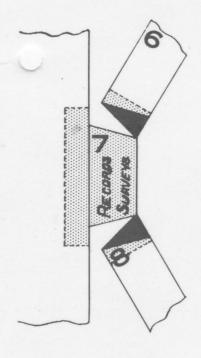
0

HOW TO USE THESE SEPARATORS

Use one page for each separation.

Select appropriate tab, add further identification if desired, and cover it with scotch tape.

Cut off and discard all tabs except the one covered by tape.



TABBED SEPARATOR SHEET Form HEW-69A (3-56)



MEMBERS OF THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON AGING

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Chairman: Arthur S. Flemming

Commissioner

Administration on Aging

Room 3085 S

Department of Transportation

Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Assistant Secretary

Office of Environmental Safety

and Consumer Affairs

Room 10101

(Contact: Ira Laster, 426-4380

Department of Labor

Kenneth McLennan

Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Political Development Room 5303 Main Labor

Civil Service Commission

Andrew E. Ruddock

Director, Eureau of Retirement Insurance & Occupational Realth

Room 4A10 1900 E Street

Alternate: Thomas A. Tinsley

Deputy Director

Veterans Administration

Richard L. Roudebush

Assistant Deputy Administrator

Room 1019 Symbol 001-2

Alternate: Dr. Paul Haber

Deputy for Chinical Services

Department of Medicine and Surgery

963-3581

426-4474

961-5145

632-4581

389-3276



ACTION

Mrs. Marjorie W. Lynch
Associate Director for Domestic Operations
Room 1007, 806 Connecticut Ave., Wash. 20525

SSA

Thomas C. Parrott 594-2300
Assistant Commissioner, Field
Room 960 Altmayer Bldg.
6401 Security Blvd. Balti. 21235

Alternate: Nelson Sabatini

Department of Commerce

Henry B. turner
Assistant Secretary for
Administration
Room 5830

967-4951

Department of Agriculture

Joseph R. Wright Assistant Secretary for Administration Room 212E

OMB

Harry Havens 103+4920 Room 7020 NEOB

HUD

Michael Moskow 755-5600
Assistant Secretary for
Political Development
and Research
Room 4100

755-6566

Robert F. Sykes Acting Assistant to the Secretary Programs for the Elderly & Mandicapped Room 7244



OB		
	Justine Rodriquez Special Assistant for Interagency Affairs Room 5239 North Building	245-6640
OFID		
	Jane Lampmann Director, Planning and Evaluation Office of Human Development Room 5720 North Building	245-7027
SRS		
	Jack Svahn Acting Commissioner Community Services Administration Room 2006 Switzer Building	245-8502
Health		
	Dr. Faye Abdellah Director, Nursing Home Affairs Room 17807 Parklawn Building 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, Maryland	443-1877

Alternate: Ruth Knee

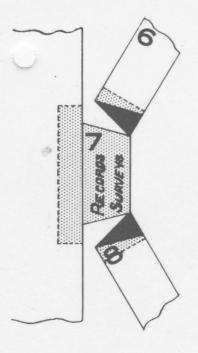


HOW TO USE THESE SEPARATORS

Use one page for each separation.

Select appropriate tab, add further identification if desired, and cover it with scotch tape.

Cut off and discard all tabs except the one covered by tape.





TABBED SEPARATOR SHEET Form HEW-69A (3-56)

MEMBER DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Department of Health, Education and Welfare

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Labor

Department of Transportation

Office of Management and Budget

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Veterans Administration

Action

Civil Service Commission

Office of Consumer Affairs



- Camp. Speeches

- meetings + Signing Statement

- Schelule for OF - routings

- wortch natural kudget in accepte.

- are according?

- numing home continuity -?

Office of Management and Budget

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Veterana Administration

Action

Civil Service Commission

Office of Consumer Affairs

September 9, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your telegram to the President urging that representatives of the elderly be invited to participate in the Summit Conference on Inflation.

I was pleased to pass along your message to the President's advisors who are formulating plans for the conferences and compiling the lists of invitees. I am certain that your suggestion will receive careful consideration.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Tem C. Korologos Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Thomas F. Eagleton Chairman Senate Subcommittee on Aging United States Senate Washington, D. C. 20510

bcc w/inc to Peter Fannon, Room 267, EOB-- for consideration TCK: EF:jlc



EXECUTIVE INES

X.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

GEORGE MEANY
PRESIDENT

LANE KIRKLAND

SECRETARY-TREASURER

JOSEPH D. KEENAN LEE W. MINTON I. W. ABEL MAX GREENBERG MATTHEW GUINAN PETER FOSCO FREDERICK O'NEAL JERRY WURF JAMES T. HOUSEWRIGHT MARTIN J. WARD JOSEPH P. TONELLI

A, PHILIP RANDOLPH JOSEPH A, BEIRNE HUNTER P, WHARTON JOHN H, LYONS C, L. DENNIS THOMAS W. GLEASON FLOYD E, SMITH S, FRANK RAFTERY GEORGE HARDY WILLIAM SIDELL ALBERT SHANKER RICHARD F. WALSH
PAUL HALL
PAUL JENNINGS
A. F. GROSPIRON
PETER BOMMARITO
JOHN F. GRINER
LOUIS STULBERG
ALEXANDER J. ROHAN
AL H. CHESSER
MURRAY H. FINLEY
SOL STETIN



815 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

(202) 637-5000



September 13, 1974



The Honorable Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I appreciate very much receiving your letter of August 29. I was very glad to have the opportunity of representing the AFL-CIO in the "listening session" you held on the problems of the aging. I thought it was a very worthwhile meeting which made possible a frank discussion of the very severe problems the elderly face in this period when a severe recession is combined with a raging inflation.

In your letter you refer to the great importance you attach to enactment of health insurance. As you know, the AFL-CIO was the first major national organization to call for enactment of national health insurance. We want national health insurance to be enacted as soon as possible. But we insist that it must be universal and comprehensive so that every American will have the right to quality health care.

We are convinced that establishment of the right kind of national health insurance is so important that enactment of a bill should, if necessary, be postponed a few more months if the additional time will help to ensure achievement of that objective. But I wish to assure you that we in the AFL-CIO are prepared to cooperate with you and your Administration to achieve, in your words, "good, early health insurance legislation."

Respectfully yours,

Bent Seidena

Bert Seidman

Director

Department of Social Security

SEP 18 1974
CENTRAL FILES

1974 SEP 17 PM 3 56 September 13, 1974 Inc Honorable Gerald E. Ford Washington, D.C. Dear Mr. President: 29. I was very glad to have the opportunity of regresenting the ARL-CIO'in the "listening session" you held on the problems of the eging. I thought it was a very worthwhile meeting which made raging inflation. to enactment of health insurance. As you know, the AFL-CIO was the

health insurance. We want notional health insurance to be enacted health care.

We are convinced that establishment of the right kind of If it is to from from sent successed as at accessor in the land to should, if necessary, be postpened a few more months if the additional time will help to ensure achievement of that objective. But I wish you and your Administration to achieve, in your words, "good, early health insurance logislation.

Respontfully vours.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF HOMES FOR THE AGING

374 National Press Building, 14th & F Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 The national organization of NONPROFIT HOMES Telephone (202) 347-2000

EXECUTIVE WES

OFFICERS President Richard A. Short President-Elect Msgr. Charles J. Fahey Vice Presidents Ronald R. Ramstead Jacob Reingold Secretary Mrs. Ann Finlaw Treasurer The Rev. Jerry D. Smart Immediate Past President Eugene T. Hackler, Esq. Executive Vice President H. Ted Olson



September 13, 1974

The President The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the members of the American Association of Homes for the Aging, I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with me and representatives from other organizations concerned with the elderly. The exchange of views on aging issues was extremely productive, and AAHA looks forward to continuing to work closely with you in the future. aled same

We wish you well, Mr. President, and offer you our wholehearted support and assistance.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

President



00

AM 10

20

1974 SEP



On behalf of the members of the American Association of Homes for the Aging I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with we and representatives from issues was extremely productive, and ARRA looks forward to continuing to doork desely



CITY OF

SANTA M

CALIFORNIA COMMIS

PR13-2 Lanta Menica MC3-1 WES

MONICA

COMMISSION ON OLDER AMERICANS

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

18 September 1974

Pm 10/1/

Dear Mr. President:

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20500

The President
The White House

Today in Council Chambers at City Hall, the Santa Monica Commission on Older Americans adopted by unanimous vote a resolution urging you to invite a senior citizen participant to the economic summit meeting at the White House. Such a representative should, in our opinion, not only be versed in general economic conditions and principles but also directly familiar with problems peculiar to the elderly on fixed income.

Respectfully yours

Olive M. Stone, Ph.D., Chairman Commission on Older Americans

This In Stone

RECEIVED OCT 18 1974 CENTRAL FILES September 20, 1974

PRIB-2 DETROIT

9/24

Dental File

Dear Mr. Bradley:

The President has received your letter enclosing the copy of the resolution adopted by the Detroit City Council. He appreciates your courtesy in bringing this expression of views to his attention.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Roland L. Elliott Special Assistant to the President

Mr. James H. Bradley City Clerk Detroit, Michigan 48226

mlu

cc and orig. incoming to W. Dewey Clower



RECEIVED
SEP 27 1974

9

CF

EXECUTIVE WES HU2

September 21, 1974

Dear Hobart:

Thank you for the material on The National Caucus on the Black Aged. This is most impressive.

I have digested it and sent copies to Jim Cavanaugh. He and his people are most interested in what you are doing.

Please let me know how we can jointly be more effective.

Sincerely,

Theodore G. Marrs Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Hobart C. Jackson
Executive Vice President
and Director

Stephen Smith Geriatric Center
4400 West Girard Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

CC: Mr. Jim Cavanaugh
Domestic Council



RECEIVED SEP 2 6 1974 CENTRAL FILES

Date Sep 21

MR. JAMES CAVANAUGH

FROM: DR. THEODORE C. MARB

For your signature

For your coordination

For your information

Per our conversation

Other:

rend. 9/25/14



4400 West Girard Avenue . Philadelphia, Penna. 19104

STEPHEN SMITH HOME FOR THE AGED 4400 West Girard Avenue Philadelphia, Penna. 19104 Telephone 878-9955

STEPHEN SMITH TOWERS, APARTMENTS FOR THE ELDERLY, INC. 1030 Belmont Avenue Philadelphia, Penna. 19104 Telephone 878-9560

September 5, 1974

Hobart C. Jackson Executive Vice President and Director

Junious Rhone Administrator

Mrs. Hyacinth Graham Deputy Administrator of Professional Services

OFFICERS

STEPHEN SMITH HOME Reverend Albert Campbell President Wilbur Hobbs Vice-President

Daniel Stone Vice-President

Arthur Zimmerman Vice-President R. Dean Short

Secretary Miss Lorraine Hathaway Assistant Secretary

Fred B. Payton Treasurer

STEPHEN SMITH TOWERS

Arthur Zimmerman President

Reverend Albert Campbell Vice-President

Wilbur Hobbs Vice-President

Daniel Stone Vice-President

R. Dean Short Secretary

Miss Lorraine Hathaway Assistant Secretary

Fred B. Payton Treasurer Albert Letson Assistant-Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Stephen Smith Home

Stephen Smith Home
Milton Adams, M.D.
Councilman Edgar Campbell
Mrs. Gertrude Covington
Charles Crumbley
Walter Dobbins, D.D.S.
Henry Dolan, Esq.
Senator Freeman Hankins
Robert D. Hedberg
A. William Hill
Mrs. Anna W. Hogan
Mrs. Sonora E. Hosein
Edward Howell, III
Mrs. Frances M. H. Jones
Albert Letson
Mrs. Mattie Lewis
Reverend Robert J. Lovett
John McDuffie
Alonzo McQueen
James D. Miller
Richard Owens
Reverend Kermit Overton
Mrs. Victorina Peralta
James H. Robinson, M.D.
David E. Thomas, Esq.
The Hon. C. Delores Tucker
ROARD OF TRUSTERS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Stephen Smith Towers Charles Crumbley Senator Freeman Hankins A. William Hill
Mrs. Anna W. Hogan
Edward Howell, III
Mrs. Frances M. H. Jones
Mrs. Mattie Lewis
Alonzo McQueen
Richard Owens Richard Owens David Thomas, Esq.

Dr. Theodore Marrs The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Marrs:

It was a pleasure meeting you at the dinner with Dr. Arthur Flemming on Thursday evening, August 22, 1974.

You might be interested in the enclosed material consisting of our brief statement to the President and some additional information supporting our position.

Best regards.

Hobart C. Jackson

Executive Vice President

and Director

HCJ: ebb Enc.



(215) 878-9955

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AT THE WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT OF HOBART C. JACKSON, CHAIRMAN THE NATIONAL CAUCUS ON THE BLACK AGED

Pres. re: meeting fled Exce: V

August 23, 1974

Mr. President:

First of all, we join with many other Black Americans in hailing your recent meeting with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus. We believe that opening the doors for this kind of communication is, at the very least, an important first step in moving towards some constructive action to correct some of the inequities that Black persons are forced to endure in our society.

With reference to our specific concern/some 1,700,000 aged Blacks: In view of the profoundly severe impact of the combined negative forces of institutional racism, agism, and poverty on the situations of elderly Black Americans, we do not see that they should be expected to carry any of the extra burdens related to inflationary factors or trends.

On the contrary, we feel that the country should recognize that the time is much overdue for them to begin to benefit more from some special programs and services established in their behalf. We say this fully recognizing the rights of others in a total societal approach where the principles of social justice and equity should be applicable.

while there are many concerns that we have, there are two or three that are priority considerations in the context of today's meeting. The west income thousing, and beath

(1) In the area of income, we strongly recommend that the Supplemental Security Income Program be implemented more effectively through Federal action and that within the next year a guaranteed minimum income be established through this program above the poverty level.

Only one state, Massachusetts, has supplemented this program with income of its own to bring the minimum above the poverty level. We feel that Federal action is needed to see to this it that / is achieved nationally as expeditiously as possible.

In addition we recommend that a massive Federal alert be undertaken to apprise the elderly of their benefits and entitlements under this program. Only 800,000 new applications have been approved out of some 3,000,000 that are newly eligible for benefits. This alert should be Federally financed and should involve the employment of peer groups in making the contacts with those that are eligible but not yet enrolled in the program.

(2) We recommend that much more emphasis be placed on the development of housing and comprehensive geriatric centers in Black communities providing elderly Black persons with some choices and options about where they may go for nursing home and related services.

At the present time the only institutional facilities routinely available to the Black elderly are those of public mental hospitals and other governmentally operated institutions.

In view of the current disproportionate access to these services by Blacks, we strongly urge governmental assistance in the development of these comprehensive geriatric centers in Black communities.

In this connection establishing new standards through such procedures as the invoking of the Life Safety Code in nursing homes becomes a very punitive approach to these institutions attempting to serve minorities and the poor, because they'll be the first to have to close, further eroding an already inadequate service.

We do not recommend relaxing the standards, but we do strongly recommend that special efforts be made to facilitate compliance and to enable these facilities to operate effectively.

health insurance legislation, but legislation that would be more related to the needs of the poor and the people generally, than any of the current proposals being considered. At the political level, if taking more time will get a more comprehensive bill through, then we recommend taking the necessary time rather than short changing those who should benefit by moving too rapidly on this legislation. We do recognize, however, that this legislation also long overdue.

We plan to submit additional position statements documenting these and other recommendations in due course.

NATIONAL CAUCUS ON THE BLACK AGED

NATIONAL CENTER FOR BLACK AGED

NCBA ON THE MOVE CENTER OPEN AND OPERATING

The National Caucus on the Black Aged, Inc., [NCBA] announces the opening of the National Center for Black Aged at 1725 DeSales Street, N.W., Washington, D.C..

The opening of the Center marks the culmination of three years of planning, organization and dedication since the 1970 founding of NCBA in Philadelphia.

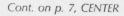
NCBA was founded in anticipation of the 1971 White House Conference on Aging, the feeling being that there would be a lack of responsiveness and sensitivity to the special concerns and problems of Black and minority aged.

The National Caucus on the Black Aged, Inc., received funding from the Administration on Aging (Grant No. 93-P-57566/3 for the budget period 7/1/73 through 6/30/74, for its modified proposal for a National Center for Aging and Aged Blacks; A Request for Project Support.

The purpose of The National Center on the Black Aged, as set forth in a sum-

marized version in the grant application, is as follows:

"The National Center on the Black Aged shall be set up to provide a comprehensive program of coordination, communication, information, and consultative services to meet the need for assistance in improving meaningful policies and programs involving aged blacks. Such activities as the following will be undertaken: collection, evaluation, and dissemination of information on aging and aged blacks; recommendation of research priorities and encouragement of such research by qualified scholars; provision of technical and consultative and training services to public and private organizations; operation of a national clearinghouse on aged blacks; publication of periodical bulletins and directories; promotion of integration of aging into ongoing, relevant curricula in institutions of higher education-(including black colleges and universities) and, where possible and needed, effective courses in gerontology at such institutions; development of curricula and audio-visual training materials; provision of legislative liaison and media coverage; conduct workshops/conferences on special needs of aged blacks for all relevant groups within our society, including decision-makers and program planners, and act in other appropriate ways to increase public awareness of aging and necessity to make adequate preparation for old age."





NCBA Director Hobart C. Jackson and Deputy Director Godfrey L. Bockett confer.

NCBA On WHUR

Godfrey C. Beckett, Deputy Director, National Center for Black Aged; Ms. Brin Hawkins, Professor, Howard University School of Social Work; Clavin Fields, Director, Institute of Gerontology at Federal City College; and Donald Davis, Project Director, Senior Community Service Project, National Council on Aging, were guests on WHUR Radio's The People's Platform on December 10 at 7 p.m..

Hosted by Jerry Phillips, The People's Platform is an hour-long weekly program designed to discuss, comment upon, and analyze issues pertinent to Washington's largely Black population.

The program revolved around the problems of Black aged in the areas of income, health and housing, and the role played by each panelist and his or her organization to deal with these problems.

Participation in The People's Platform is part of a continuing effort by NCBA to keep the community abreast of its activities as they relate to the specific problems of the Black aged.

In This Issue:

SSI Alert p. 2
Nursing Home Crisisp. 4
NCBA Notes p. 5
Tuskegee Talks p. 6

NCBA Joins HEW, Others To Aid Elderly, Blind, Disabled

The National Caucus on the Black Aged [NCBA] has joined a consortium of seven other national voluntary agencies serving the elderly to dissiminate information about the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's new benefits program for disabled, blind and aged.

The new program, called Supplemental Security income, will place on the Federal payroll about 3 million persons presently receiving payments from the 50 states, and add an additional 3 million who were not eligible for state payments, but who qualify for SSI payments.

Project SSI Alert was initiated by HEW and eight national organizations to make sure that the information about the program gets to the people.

In addition to NCBA, the other organizations in the SSI Alert are: The American Red Cross, The National Council on Aging, The National Council of Senior Citizens, The American Association of Retired Persons, The National Retired Teachers Association, The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and the Older and Retired Worker Program of the AFL-CIO.

Two HEW agencies, The Social Security Administration and the Administration on Aging, are coordinating and financing the SSI Alert effort.

The program, enacted in October, 1972 will take effect January 1, 1974, and will assure that persons who are 65 or older, or blind, or disabled, will have a monthly income of at least \$130 for individuals, and \$195 for couples.

The NCBA is working to secure volunteers across the country who will serve as area representatives for SSI Alert, informing Black aged about the new program, what criteria must be met to qualify, where to apply, and what documents will be required.

It is important to note that persons already receiving Old Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled payments will usually automatically be converted to the SSI payment system.

Those persons not presently receiving OAA, AB or APTD payments will have to be certified at a local Social Security office.

At a press conference announcing the SSI Alert program, HEW Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, said that more than 300,000 persons across the country have already applied for payments.

"Minority group elderly particularly should be alerted to take advantage of SSI," said NCBA director Hobart C. Jackson. "Unless special efforts are put forth to involve them, they will not be aware of their entitlement. Elderly Blacks are usually invisible and therefore excluded from what is due them," Mr. Jackson said.

Dr. Lindsay Hospitalized

Dr. Inabel Burns Lindsay, former co-vice chairperson of the National Caucus on the Black Aged, and formerly a member of the NCBA board of directors, is presently a patient at the Washington Hospital Center.

Dr. Lindsay is also Dean-Emeritus of the School of Social Work at Howard University and an Honorary Life Member of NCBA.

Recently, Dr. Lindsay was the recipient of the Service Achievement Award from the American Association of Homes for the Aging, presented by the Association's chairman, Hobart C. Jackson.

The NCBA staff wishes Dr. Lindsay a speedy recovery.

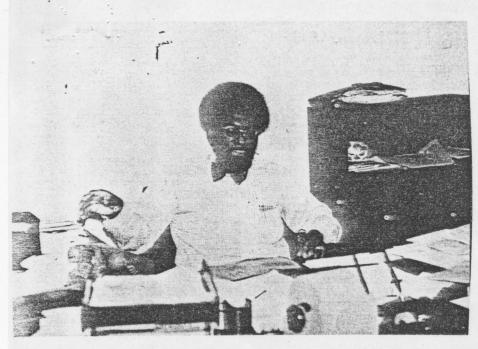
Smith Anniversary

The Steven Smith Geriatric Center in Philadelphia observed its 109th Anniversary on Sunday, October 28.

The Center, which includes housing for the elderly, a home for the aged, and noninstitutional services, was the first institution established in the United States to provide care and services for aging and aged Blacks.

NCBA chairman Hobart C. Jackson is executive director at Steven Smith.

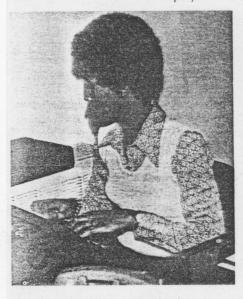




Deputy Director Godfrey C. Beckett



Public Information Director Penny Mickelbury



Secretary Brenda K. Gaston



Program Specialist Andrea E. Hill



Secretary Betty Sutton



Program Support Director David Z. Ben-Ami

The Current Nursing Home Crisis

by Hobart C. Jackson

Let me start by saying the the cold facts are that those who suffer the "triple jeopardy" of being old, Black, and poor in this country are not getting the long term care and services that they need. The forces of overt and covert racism and a deep and grinding poverty are precluding the attention that these persons need and deserve. This situation is a critical one across the country.

Among the hard questions being asked by our members and others is, whose responsibility is it to provide the resources for the long term institutional care of the impoverished and minority elderly? The reason the question is being asked and repeated over and over again is that neither the public nor private sector seems to want to face up to this major responsibility.

The nursing home situation has been escalated into a position of prominence across the country but no viable solutions are being proposed as the problem relates to minorities and the poor. Indeed the steps that are being taken are very punitive ones for these segments of our elderly population.

Let us take a look at the invoking of the Life Safety Code as an example.

We are very much concerned about the implications of the implementation of the Code and the impact this will have on minorities and the poor. We are on a course in this country of further eroding a much needed service in Black communities which is already completely inadequate.

Applying this Code to all nursing homes and homes for the aged across the country is felt, in general, to be a good thing. Certainly the residents and patients of these facilities deserve the additional elements of safety that the Code provides. But to comply with the Code is tremendously expensive. One home in Philadelphia, for example, has estimates of cost of \$500,000 and it still may be forced to reduce its occupancy by approximately 40%. This home has no endowment or other resources to be used for this purpose. Yet the need for its services is demonstrated by the fact that it has a long waiting list. Contrast this with another non-profit church related home with a huge endowment, no Blacks, no public assistance recipients, and no waiting list, even empty beds

In addition to mandating compliance, Federal and State Governments must develop a plan to facilitate compliance especially by those attempting to serve minorities and the poor. Our approach to this care just as to health care generally should be that access to these needed services is a "right" not a "privilege".

I'm sure that many of our readers have heard about the recent nursing home fires in Philadelphia area where twenty elderly persons, mostly medicaid patients, lost their lives. One of these homes was located within eight or nine blocks of the facility which I administer in Philadelphia. And my reaction immediately was - but for the grace of God, there go I.

Writing in the Philadelphia Inquirer, Jim Wooten had this to say:

"They're dead because, as a matter of course, their longevity earned for them the status of second-class citizenship.

"They're dead because their society consistently declined to acknowledge their right to survive with some grace.

"They're dead because their government has refused to act upon that right.

"The real reason they died is that no one really cared when they lived."

On the other hand how does one tell a dead person who has died of trauma relating to being moved out of a facility that the hallways in his home were not wide enough to assure his safety.

Life Safety Code! How Ironic!

We really need to ask ourselves other questions in this connection — such as the following: How many older persons died today from inadequate income? from malnutrition? from the lack of appropriate services? The invoking of the Life Safety Code is important, but are not these other matters equally important, if not more important?

The practice of closing Black institutions because they do not meet standards instead of developing an approach that enables them to excel in their performance has resulted in the systematic erosion and deterioration of services to Black and poor people.

Historically, one is reminded of what has happened to medical training for Blacks in this country.



Center Director Hobart C. Jackson

ENERGY SAVING TIP:

Full
Insulation of
The Sub-Standard
Housing In
Which 3/4
Of Elderly
Black Live
Would Not Only
Save Energy,
But Would Also
Keep Them Warm
This Winter.

The practice of closing Black institutions because they do not meet standards instead of developing an approach that enables them to excel in their performance has resulted in the systematic erosion and deterioration of services to Black and poor people.

Historically, one is reminded of what has happened to medical training for

Blacks in this country.

According to Dr. Jackquelyne Jackson, vice-chairman of the National Caucus on the Black Aged, prior to 1847 Black physicians tended to be self-trained or apprentice-trained, or, much rarer, to have received some training outside of the United States. In 1847, Dr. David Peck graduated from the Rush Medical College in Chicago, becoming the first Black medical school graduate from an institution in the United States. Subsequently, although a mere handful, other Black physicians were trained at white institutions. The first Black medical school was opened on 9 November 1868 at Howard University. At that time it was not restricted exclusively to Blacks. The first medical school restricted solely to Blacks was opened in 1876 when what is now the Meharry Medical College was a part of the Central Tennessee College.

In 1882, the Leonard Medical School of Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, was established and it was closed in 1915. The Medical Department of the University of West Tennessee, opened in 1900, closed in 1923. The Louisville National Medical College, founded in 1888, closed in 1911. Fling Medical College in New Orleans operated from 1889 until 1911. The Knoxville Medical College founded in 1895 had a brief existence of about six years, and the Chattanooga National Medical College also had a very brief existence around the turn of the century.

With the exception of the last two institutions (i.e., the Knoxville Medical College and the Chattanooga National Medical College), only Howard and Meharry were able to survive the devestating impact of the "Flexner Committee."*

That report established medical standards which should be met by existing medical schools (or by new ones) and had the net effect of forcing Leonard, the Medical Department of the University of West Tennessee, the Louisville National Medical College, and Flint Medical College to close due principally to their financial inability to meet the standards. Thereby Blacks were deprived of significant sources of medical education and, to this day, have been handicapped by an insufficient supply of medical physicians.

We should learn well from these lessons of history rather than have them go for naught. It is certainly time to develop viable systems of health care in Black communities through Black institutions rather than resort to the punitive approach of closing them because they do not meet standards.

If other facilities were truly "open" to Blacks the situation would be different but they are not! The effect then of closing the Black institutions is regressive and is abhorrent and repugnant to Black com-

If this problem is to be resolved there must be the development of multi-purpose, multi-service geriatric centers providing both institutional and non-institutional services and strategically located in these minority neighborhoods. Preferably they would have about 100 beds, although for economic reasons there might be more than this number. Incidentally we envision not only implementing the geriatric center concept but see how this could be expanded into satellite centers serving a much broader physical area and community including the utilization of churches and other facilities already

In this connection the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare should make available 100% financing for the development of Black sponsors of nursing homes; 100% grant money for construction; and operating reimbursements for these residents and patients at a level consistent with the costs of care and services provided; and 100% funding for the development of alternatives or non-institutional programs. Blacks and other minority sponsors are not able to take advantage of matching formulae plans because of inability to produce the matching funds and are not usually in position to amortize loans because of escalating operating costs. This same approach for housing the elderly in Black and minority communities should be made by the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

If some approach similar to the above is not instituted, we shall just have to overtly acknowledge that the subsystems of nursing home care for minorities and the poor consigns them to inferior care and services, unconscionable risks, and continued second and third class citizenship status.

NCBA Notes

The National Caucus on the Black Aged has tentatively set May 8 and 9th as the dates for its third annual conference and meeting, to be held in Washington, D.C.. The general theme will be the role of the Black Church in meeting the needs of the Black aged.

Contingent upon further planning and clarification, The National Caucus on the Black Aged will co-sponsor, along with African Methodist Episcopal Church, a Conference and Institute on the Black Aged, to be held in St. Louis June 25-28th.

The conference is designed to encourage churches to take a more active role in developing creative approaches to finding solutions to the problems ex-

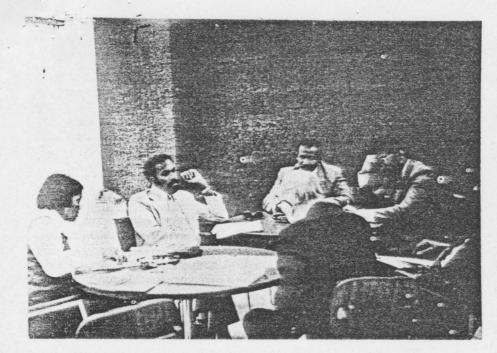
perienced by the aged.

The National Center for Black Aged will have an Open House at the Center office, 1725 DeSales Street, N.W., Washington, on Friday Afternoon, January 4, 1974, from 4p.m. to 7p.m..

Invitations will be mailed beginning next week, and we look forward to seeing NCBA board members, affiliate members and friends.

Support NCBA (National Caucus **Black Aged)**

^{*}Flexner, Abraham. Medical Education in the United States and Canada to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Carnegie Foundation, New York City, 1910.



Dr. Jacquelyne Jackson [NCBA], Dr. Lester Smith [National Institutes of Health], Dr. Wesley Nelson [Tuskegee Institute], Godfrey C. Beckett [NCBA], Dr. Robert Hill [NCBA] and Abraham J. Isserman [NCBA] at Washington meeting to discuss plans for Tuskegee Center.

Talks Continue on Tuskegee Center; Final Decision Forthcoming

Talks between representatives from the National Caucus on the Black Aged, Tuskegee Institute, and the City of Tuskegee, Alabama, continue to progress toward the eventual finalization of plans for a prototype Housing and Geriatric complex to be located in Tuskegee.

The joint effort on the part of the Institute, the City Government and the NCBA had its origins in December of 1972, chiefly in discussions between NCBA Director Hobart C. Jackson; Dr. Jacquelyne J. Jackson, Associate Professor of Medical Sociology at Duke University and NCBA Technical Director; Abraham J. Isserman, legal consultant on housing and NCBA attorney and housing consultant; Tuskegee Mayor Johnny Ford; Dr. L. H. Foster, Tuskegee Institute President; Dr. Wesley Nelson, Dr. Nathaniel O. Calloway, Dr. J. M. H. Henderson, Dr. Conrad Hopper and other Tuskegee Institute faculty and administrators

Tuskegee is considered an ideal location for such a Center because it is a University town, making available joint relationships involving research, service training, consultation and student involvement.

As proposed and invisioned, the Tuskegee center will include three different housing types: (1) A main building that will be centrally located to serve as a multi-purpose service center and domiciliary residence, comarable to a nursing home situation; (2) Adjacent, smaller units to provide congregate living for ambulatory elderly capable of taking care of themselves, but who would otherwise be too far removed from the mainstream of life; and (3) Scattered housing to support independent couples of small family units who will utilize the facilitities of the multi-purpose service center.

The multi-purpose center would include social, health, homemaker, dietary, recreational and other services, to be integrated with existing services and agencies within the city government and the Institute.

Another vital aspect of the Center as presently invisioned would be the built-in provision for the teaching of self maintenance and management in order to allow the Center residents to manage and maintain their own living units.

The complex will be designed to serve Tuskegee and surrounding areas. Elderly residents of public housing may be shifted, and aged Tuskegee alumni and retired faculty will be encouraged to take up residence in the Complex to add their knowledge and expertise.

The two most recent meetings between Tuskegee Institute and NCBA were held in October, at The National Center for Black Aged offices in Washington, and in November, at Tuskegee Institute.

Subsequent meetings between NCBA, Tuskegee Institute and City Government officials will be held in the future to determine the exact location of the Center, the sources of funding staff and the like

Where We're Located

The new National Center for Black Aged offices are strategically located near the headquarters of other national voluntary agencies and organizations serving the aged.

The National Council on Aging is located about two blocks away; The National Council of Senior Citizens is only about three blocks away; The National Retired Teachers Association is about three blocks away.

The proximity of these organizations to each other makes possible the exchange of information and ideas to better enable all of us to provide those necessary services to aging and aged persons in the CENTER from pg. 1

In the words of Hobart C. Jackson, executive director of the Steven Smith Geriatric Center in Philadelphia, president of NCBA, and director of the Center: "Those attitudes and practices that have always led and still lead to the premature death of many black children and adults in the United States linger on to plague those who survive into old age."

In the two months that the Center has been in operation, the staff has put forth a concentrated effort to bring to full realization the idealogical mandate of the NCBA founders, including such actions as conducting research, program evaluation, participation in forums and discussions, providing technical assistance in the planning of a prototype Housing and Geriatric Center at Tuskegee, publication of pamphlets and fact sheets on the Black aged, and publication of this Newsletter.

Godfrey C. Beckett, formerly Human Resources Director with the Lutheran Social Service in Washington, D.C., is the Center's Deputy Director. His immediate goals are to keep abreast of legislation pertaining to Black elderly, and to make the needs of

the Black Aged "very, very visible."

Educator and clergyman **David Z. Ben-Ami** has been active for many years in seeking solutions to the problems of the Black and the elderly from Mississippi to New York. Dr. Ben-Ami will spearhead the effort "to develop interest in and support for NCBA."

Penny Mickelbury, Director of Public Relations and Publications, is a former reporter for the Atlanta Voice, Athens [Georgia] Banner-Herald and Washington Post. Her priorities include establishing meaningful contacts and relationships with persons in government and in the private sector agencies that concern the elderly; exchange of information with such agencies; publication of pamphlets and newsletters; and in general "making certain that people across the nation are aware of the needs and problems of Black aged and efforts on the part of NCBA to alleviate them."

Program Specialist **Andrea Hill**, prior to joining NCBA, was a Field Training Coordinator with the National Center for Housing Management, Inc., responsible for both classroom instruction and on-the-job training for managers of housing for the elderly.

Ms. Hill's top priority is the development of viable programs for the Black aged and other minorities to enable them "to remain full and contributing members of our society."

The Centers' local staff is supported and directed by the national staff, headed by Hobart C. Jackson; Eddie W. Gibbs, financial officer and Executive Director of the Eliza Johnson Center for the Aging, Inc., in Houston, Texas; Dr. Robert Hill, research director and Director at Research for the National Urban in Washington, D.C.; Dr. Jacquelyne J. Jackson, technical and training director and Associate Professor of Medical Sociology at Duke University in Durham, N.C.; and Abraham J. Isserman, legal counsel and housing consultant and Consultant on Housing Programs, Douglas Urban Corporation, New York, N.Y..



Flemming Named to Civil Rights Post

Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, Commissioner of the Administration on Aging, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, has been named by President Nixon to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Flemming, 68, is a former H.E.W. Secretary, serving under President Eisenhower from 1958 to 1961. He will fill a vacancy left by Maurice B. Mitchell who resigned.

It is expected that, if the appointment is confirmed, Nixon will appoint Flemming chairman of the Commission, a post that has been vacant since Nov. 16, 1972, when the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University was forced to resign by the White House.

The U.S. Civil Rights Commission was established to investigate reports on violations of individual rights because of race,

religion, sex or national origin.

Flemming began his career as a law professor and has either served in government or academic posts since he was named to the U.S. Civil Service Commission in 1939.

In addition to his H.E.W. post, Flemming was director of the old office of Defense Mobilization, President of Ohio Wesleyan University, The University of Oregon and Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

In 1971, Flemming was chairman of the White House Conference on Aging. He has been Commissioner of the Administration on Aging since last May.

It is not anticipated that Flemming will encounter any opposition to his confirmation in the Senate, and there has been no opposition registered as of this printing by Civil Rights groups across the country.

Flemming will continue as AOA Commissioner.



The NCBA/NEWS welcomes letters from readers. Write us c/o

Ms. Penny Mickelbury
Director of Public Relations
& Publications
National Center for Black Aged
1725 DeSales Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 785-8766

The Black Aged: Facts and Figures

• Fifty percent of the Black elderly population are poor, compared to 23% of the white elderly population.

• In rural areas 66% of the Black elderly population are poor compared to 31% of the white elderly population.

• The large majority of elderly Black men had incomes of less than \$3,000 in 1969. Elderly white men received approximately twice that much.

• Forty-seven percent of the elderly

Black women had annual income of less than \$1,000 in 1969.

• The life expectancy for Black men is 60.1 years; for white men 67.5 years; for Black women 67.5 years; for white women 74.9 years.

 Many blacks never live long enough to collect Social Security benefits to which they have contributed.

 Only 3% of the tenants of Federally subsidized housing are Black despite the fact that the Black aged comprise 8% of the total elderly population in the nation.

These facts, and many more, equally appalling, reflect the need for a strong effort to combat the mounting problems of the Black aged.

Your support, through membership in the National Caucus on the Black Aged, Inc., can make the difference in securing a longer, better life for Black aged. Join to-day!

Membership Form

The National Caucus on the Black Aged

NAME:				
(first) Or Organization		(mid	ddle)	(last)
Mailing Address				
	(street or post office address)			
(city)		(county)	(state)	(zip code)
Telephone:	Home	Business	Employed Full-Time ☐ Part-Ti	me □ Retired □ Other □
Job Title				-
Membership Fees: 52.00 — Individual [55 and older; student] \$10.00 — Professional \$300.00 — Life Membership (Pledges accepted) Organizational			Return Form To: Godfrey C. Beckett, Deputy Director National Center for Black Aged 1725 DeSales Street, N.W. Suite 402 Washington, D.C. 20036	
S15.00 — under 500 members S20.00 — 500-999 members S30.00 — 1,000 members or more S35.00 — affiliated with other organizations			Checks should be made payable to: The National Caucus on The Black Aged, Inc	

NATIONAL CENTER FOR BLACK AGED

1725 DeSales St. NW Washington, DC 20036

SECOND CLASS PERMIT NO. PENDING



TESTIMONY PREPARED FOR THE HEARINGS ON "FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN SOCIAL SECURITY"

BEFORE THE U. S. SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING, 2:30 p. m., 15 July

1974, Room 1318, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., from

THE NATIONAL CAUCUS ON THE BLACK AGED, INC.

Our esteemed NCBA Chairman, Hobart C. Jackson, regrets his involuntary absence from these hearings today, but I am here to testify in his place. I am Jacquelyne Johnson Jackson, Vice-Chairman of The National Caucus on the Black Aged, Inc. (hereafter, NCBA).

NCBA has been appreciative of and impressed by previous efforts of the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Aging to assist elderly persons. We have been even more appreciative of and impressed by this Committee's recognition of and concern about those elderly unduly affected by racial discrimination and poverty. Therefore, we welcome and thank you for this opportunity today to testify before you about selected impacts of Public Law 92-608, Title XVI (hereafter, SSI) upon black elderly, with especial reference to its positive developments and our concerns, the most important of which are set forth below. Although our specific focus is upon black elderly, our assessment of these developments, as well as our concerns and recommendations, are, in all probability, applicable to non-black elderly and to non-elderly blind and disabled individuals.

POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS. NCBA's assessment of SSI has identified at least three positive developments. First and foremost is the legislative establish-

ment nationally of the principle of guaranteed income for indigent elderly, blind, and disabled persons, followed by implementative efforts nationally. Finally, the implementation of that legislative intent has provided some additional and much needed income for many eligible persons, and, as a byproduct, an increasing number of Americans of varying ages have become more aware of the serious income deficits confronting many elderly, blind, and disabled persons within our midst. In some instances, a further by-product has been increased social services to needy individuals contacted through the SSI-Alert Program.

Thus, it should be stated clearly that NCBA wholeheartedly supports the major intent of SSI. 2

CONCERNS. Our most overwhelming concern is the fact that the actual monetary amount guaranteed by SSI is deplorably and perhaps inexcusably low, and particularly so when measured by the federal government's own poverty standards. In other words, while SSI does provide some income, it merely helps to perpetuate poverty. If our information indicating that the present federal poverty level for an urban individual is not more than \$2,330 annually, and for farm areas not more than \$1,980 annually, then it is obvious that the current SSI income guarantee is ineffective in eradicating elderly poverty. In the words of our Chairman, SSI has "resulted more in 'guaranteed annual poverty' than in 'guaranteed annual income' primarily because of the meager benefits available and the mass of confusion involved in establishing eligibility," which brings me to our

second major concern.

Although the Social Security Administration was, or should have been, aware of SSI's passage and inception date of 1 January 1974, implementative efforts by it singularly or in combination with other governmental units appear woefully inadequate as measured by substantial proportions of eligible recepients failing to receive their benefits for one or more months since then, and, additionally, by many potentially eligible persons yet apparently unaware that they should be recepients. When one considers the relatively high degree of success our country has experienced in such phenomena as military draft registration or polio vaccination, the cynic among us may wonder aloud about differential efforts exerted under such differential circumstances.

A third concern has been the lack of sufficiently released data about both estimates of potentially eligible persons and their approximate residential locations, inasmuch as such data could (when employed properly) be extremely helpful in increasing efforts to enroll potentially eligible beneficiaries so that they could actually become recepients.

A fourth concern related to the immediately preceding two has been that of insufficient monies appropriated or provided to various groups, principally within states, to assist in SSI-Alert.

A fifth, and final, concern is that of the relationship between SSI and other federal programs. For example, while we clearly understand that SSI is



dissociated from Social Security as that term is commonly used, we do not understand why. SSI is a form of Social Security and should be recognized as such. The present trend toward such dissociation may well lead to invidious labeling of SSI, thereby thwarting further efforts to aid elderly poor. We are also concerned about relationships between SSI and such other programs as those designed to provide employment, food stamps, or housing for the elderly. We believe that, to the extent possible, the federal government should refrain from "giving with one hand, and taking away with the other hand." More specifically, we believe especially that incentives to work should not be curtailed by SSI. This is particularly important inasmuch as a major distinction between the non-poor and poor aged is that of earnings. We are also concerned about the somewhat arbitrary establishment of 65 years of age as the minimum age of participation for elderly persons, and believe that the age requirement should be lowered to 60 years of age, since that earlier age would help to reduce somewhat present inequities affected by racial discrimination.

We have set forth some recommendations which arose from our assessments of SSI developments and our concerns. Our major recommendations are as follows.

Recommendation 1. The minimum guaranteed income for SSI should, by all means, exceed the federal poverty level threshold, with provisions for adjustment to the cost-of-living index. Preferably, of course, it should even exceed that threshold. Following our recommendation to the 1971 White House Conference on Aging, we still propose a minimum of \$6,000 for a single individual, and \$9,000



for a couple, also with cost-of-living index provisions. We recommend now that Congress amend Public Law 92-608 by raising the minimum guaranteed income above the federal poverty level threshods, and provide therein for appropriate cost-of-living index adjustments.

Recommendation 2. Inasmuch as SSI implementation should and could be improved, we recommend the development of a massive alert, sufficiently funded by the federal government, involving a door-to-door canvas and outreach with interpretations of benefits and entitlements presented successfully to potentially eligible persons within the immediate future.

Recommendation 2.1. The appropriate federal agencies should provide necessary and sufficient demographic data helpful in this enterprise.

Recommendation 2.2. Elderly persons, including elderly blacks, should be the primary workers involved in such a door-to-door canvas and outreach. Even more important, elderly blacks should be utilized more fully in decision-making roles related to such a program.

Recommendation 2.3. Every effort should be made to involve canvas and outreach workers in contacting potentially eligible persons of any race, sex, or
other group. That is, the federal government must carry out its responsibility
in encouraging providers of services within our society to provide services to
all, irrespective of race, sex, and age, and recipients of services must learn
to receive services from providers, irrespective of race, sex, and age.

Recommendation 3. SSI literature should not indicate that SSI is not Social Security, and all persons employed to work with SSI in any manner should also

NCBA, Page 6

be instructed to cease from this practice.

Recommendation 4. We recommend that Congress lower the minimum age eligibility for the elderly for SSI to 60 years of age, inasmuch as a significant proportion of minority clderly (and especially black females) between the ages of 60 and 64 years dwell in dire poverty and a guaranteed, sufficient income, as opposed to labor force employment, will constitute a more practical means of reducing that poverty at this time. In this light as well, we also recommend anew that Congress lower the minimum age eligibility requirements for primary beneficiaries of OASDHI under the Social Security Act for black males so as to reflect extant racial inequities arising from differential life expectancies between black and white males.

Recommendation 5. We recommend that all clderly SSI recipients automatically become eligible for Medicare/Medicaid benefits without paying additional premiums for such coverage and without having such premiums deducted from their monetary entitlements under SSI.

In conclusion, may I reinforce our grave NCBA concern about the increasingly widening income gaps between black and white aged over the past several decades, emphasize the importance of congressional passage of a meaningful National Health Insurance Program within the immediate future, and urge action
now to ensure enrollment of all potentially eligible SSI recipients in SSI.
In that connection, while we were unable to obtain precise data about black
enrollment in SSI during its first six months of operation, unofficial data



'NCBA, Page 7

obtained from the Office of Research and Statistics, Social Security Administration for the first three months (i.e., 1 January - 31 March 1974) indicated an enrollment nationally of 452,285 elderly blacks, which, according to our best estimates, means that approximately 47 percent of such elderly blacks were not enrolled, and therefore not receiving their entitlements, as of 31 March 1974.

We trust that the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Aging will continue in its efforts to upgrade both the quality and quantity of life for our nation's elderly, with particular emphasis upon income, health, and housing. We also hope you will give particular consideration to our recommendations. If we can be of assistance in these endeavors, we shall be happy to cooperate, and we hope that we will again be able to share with you our assessment of positive developments within and concerns about SSI over its remaining operational life.

Signed:	

Jacquelyne Johnson Jackson Vice-Chairman, NCBA

15 July 1974



September 23, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The President has passed on to me your telegram recommending that qualified representatives of the elderly participate in the series of meetings on inflation.

As you know, representatives of the elderly have been invited to participate in the series of meetings preceding the Conference on Inflation. These meetings, which were held throughout the country, dealt with the problems of inflation in different sectors of the economy. All participating delegates are also invited to attend the Conference on Inflation in Washington, D. C. on September 27 and 28.

Your thoughts are very much appreciated as representatives for all sectors of the economy assemble to discuss issues bearing on inflation.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

L. William Seidman Executive Director Conference on Inflation

Honorable Thomas F. Eagleton Chairman Senate Subcommittee on Aging United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

LWS: TC: mco

bcc: Mr. Timmons



MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE 9/24/14

EXECUTIVE

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO: fames V. Griffo, fr.
FROM: Roger Semerad
SUBJECT: Project 65

Flarham- Mudison Campus Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.

BBI

INE5

September 24, 1974

Dear Mr. Griffo:

President Ford was pleased to receive your letter of September 9, bringing the Project 65 concept to his attention. I have taken the liberty of forwarding your letter and the proposal to Secretary Weinberger for evaluation. Should additional information or advice be required, I'm sure the Department of HEW will contact you.

On behalf of the President, thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Roger D. Semerad Staff Assistant to the President Domestic Council

Mr. James V. Griffo, Jr.
Provost
Florham-Madison Campus
Fairleigh Dickinson University
285 Madison Avenue
Madison, New Jersey

cc. Honorable Caspar Weinberger
Department of Health, Education
and Welfare

RECEIVED
SEP 2 7 1974
DENTRAL FILES

10.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

James Boys

MADISON

FLORHAM-MADISON CAMPUS 285 Madison Avenue Madison, New Jersey Area Code 201 377-4700

September 9, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Your speech of August 30, 1974, at Ohio State University was a most welcome, timely and refreshing message. As a university campus administrator and teacher I endorse your message for realistic education.

Enclosed is a copy of our Project 65 conceptual plan suggesting a partner-ship of government, labor and educational institutions in solving some problems of the older Americans. I believe Project 65 is a partial answer to your message of August 30.

The proposal has been sent to or discussed with Senator Harrison Williams, Senator Clifford Case and Governor Brendan Byrne. Reception to the proposal has been warm, but implementation and funding are complicated if not at a standstill. Perhaps the Secretaries of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare can consider the idea.

Several of the alternative means to fund the concept of Project 65 are:

- a. Federal legislation to provide challenge federal grants to match the dollar value of funds or other resources that are made available from industry, municipalities, counties, states, educational institutions, communities and labor organizations in support of Project 65. This would create a true partnership in serving older Americans.
- b. Federal legislation to fully fund the establishment of regional centers on college campuses for the training of personnel to the challenges and needs of the older person. This would be similar to the establishment of land grant colleges and is a highly desirable approach for the implementation of a pilot program.



The President September 9, 1974

> c. Federal legislation to award institutions matching or full funding where a college demonstrates a program which truly services the practical needs of the older person.

I am happy to submit the above to you in your effort to solicit ideas for solutions to the massive problems facing America.

Respectfully yours,

James V. Griffo,

Provost

Florham-Madison Campus

Enclosure



PROJECT 65

During the next decade (1974-84) the expected increase in the 65 and over age group in the United States will grow from the current 21.7 million to 25.5 million, or a 3.8 million increase (17 per cent growth). At the same time, the children and teenager population (under 20) is expected to decrease from 75.7 million to 73.6 million, resulting in a 2.1 million decline or a 3 per cent drop. The rapid rise in the number of older people promises enormous demand for apartments, medical care, and broader Social Security if not a lifelong work experience. The age groups between the two are expected to show significant increases.

Problems of the 65 and over age group are reaching crisis proportions. Social Security income is insufficient to meet the mounting cost of living and the availability of affordable housing has created a demoralized older population in this nation. A creative program for the reintegration of older people into society will provide an untapped pool of talent which will contribute effectively to American society. A national strategy is necessary to accomplish this.

Historically, the federal government has always responded positively with solutions to problems of national importance. Several outstanding examples are the development of land grant colleges to solve our problems in agriculture, the GI bill after the major wars of recent decades, and the development of financial aid programs to assist college students in paying for the high cost of a college education. The crisis of the older person has reached major proportions in the area of housing and meaningful activity, and the purpose of Project 65 is to introduce a logical solution.

The Florham-Madison campus proposes the creation of a special pilot project for the older person population. The intention is to develop the concept of a Center for Lifelong Living and Learning as a model that can be used nationwide to help solve the housing and activity problems of the masses of older citizens. It is important to note that in addition to housing, older people also offer an expanding market in many areas such as books, recreation, clothing, and perhaps luxuries.

CONFIDENTIAL

PROJECT 65

de.

The decline in traditional college age students is an obvious national trend, and it is projected to continue for at least a decade. Most institutions of higher education, public and private, have during the last 10 years invested in major construction of dormitory and residential housing, most often through federally subsidized loans or grants. Many of these facilities are luxurious and contain many, many desirable features such as constant temperature control, kitchens, private baths, meeting rooms, classrooms, elevators, conference centers, common rooms and so on. Today, most institutions are oversupplied with housing; some institutions have padlocked such facilities while the more fortunate have found other uses such as administration and storage facilities. This is wasteful. The American taxpayer has subsidized the original loans or grants, and today when such facilities do not generate income the institution is in default or it must rely on dwindling endowment money to repay the loan or mortgage.

Such facilities represent a logical location for the housing of senior citizens for the 1974-84 decade. I believe a nationwide survey of available college housing will demonstrate a significant availability factor.

The older person problem requires a strong and imaginative congressional commitment to excite the nation. For the last 2 years the Florham-Madison campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University as a private, independent college has sponsored an educational program for older persons (brochure enclosed) without financial subsidy. program provides for any person 65 or older who is physically able and mentally willing to attend our college and pursue work for credit or a degree if he desires. It is offered on a space available basis, absolutely free of any tuition. The program has been an outstanding success and has received national attention on television, radio, and in the press. One participant has requested regular residence in order to pursue his studies. The program provides an answer to an educational need, a social outlet, work and activity for the older person, and is a unique and exciting model of what can be done for the older person. We are quite proud and happy with the program as are the older persons who participate. We do have a 5-minute color film available to demonstrate the model program.

CONFIDENTIAL

PROJECT 65

Project 65 will by necessity require 100 per cent federal funding to construct a facility on campus that would serve as a model and training center for training the older person to establish similar centers across the nation on college campuses where there is an oversupply of very adequate housing. By minimal renovation of existing housing at many institutions one can accommodate the housing needs of older persons at a portion of what they now must pay for less than desirable housing. The colleges thereby fill their vacant housing, generate income, and can adequately repay their financial obligations to the federal government.

To mention a few features of Project 65-

Project 65 will require a total program for older persons, and such a total program can only be found on a college campus, with full interaction with all ages and cultures.

Project 65 will provide the means for older persons to reenter society and through their volunteer programs and day care centers can provide meaningful and vital services to the entire community as well as the educational community.

Project 65 will provide for internships, workshops, and exchange programs on a regional, state and national basis.

Project 65 will interrelate with the entire range of agencies serving older people and provide for extensive pre-retirement planning.

Project 65 will service the blind and other handicapped persons in the over 65 group as well as the physically fit.

Project 65, when established, will call for trainees from other institutions to receive stipends while being trained at the Florham-Madison campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

The estimated investment of the federal government to establish such a model center at the Florham-Madison campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University is between 10 and 20 million dollars but the spin-off effect could save hundreds of millions in salvaging expensive and unused



CONFIDENTIAL

PROJECT 65

residential quarters on all college campuses throughout our nation in addition to establishing a national strategy for the older persons.

My appeal is directed toward determining if HEW or HUD provides for such funds and, if not, can the appropriate legislation be introduced to quickly satisfy this most pressing need of national significance. The time frame calls for affirmative action immediately if not within a year. I am hopeful that through the Senate Committee on Aging of which you are a member, the Florham-Madison campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University can be the recipient of a 100 per cent grant to establish the model center as a pilot program for the State of New Jersey and for our nation. Such a pilot center could result in perhaps 5 - 6 regionalized centers nationwide at appropriate campus locations.

In my opinion Project 65 will be a Congressional response to the needs of a most important segment of our national population, and a segment that is growing larger in number every day with extensive growth in the next decade.

April 10, 1974



EXECUTIVE September 30, 1974 Dear Jacks I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your September 26 letter to the President expressing concern about the particular hardships that our senior citizens are facing because of the inflation problem. I am certain he will appreciate your suggestions relating to steps that might be taken immediately which would be beneficial to the elderly who are living on retirement income, and I shall see that they are called to his early attention. I am sure they also will be given careful consideration by his economic advisors. With kind regards, Sincerely, may Max L. Friedersdorf Deputy Assistant to the President The Honorable Jack Kemp House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc w/inc to William Seidman - for further appropriate handling
bcc w/inc to Warren Rustand (note last paragraph expressing hope he can
meet with the President)

MLF:EF:jk

10



NATIONAL RETIRED TEACHERS **ASSOCIATION**



ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS

October 1, 1974

The Honorable William Seidman The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Bill:

As one of the delegates to the mini-Summit at HEW and the general Summit representing the elderly, 40 percent of whom are poor or near-poor, my concern has been principally with the question of how to alleviate the impact of inflation on this group. Any good solution, however, would apply equally to the non-elderly poor.

For this reason, I want to call your attention to the short paper presented by Professor Robert H. *Haveman at the HEW pre-Summit meeting. This was easily the best analysis of our problem and the most coherent recommendation as to what we should be doing in the present situation. Most proposals attack one part of the problem or another, this proposal faces the general situation in a well-rounded manner.

I know you have little time to read memoranda, but I would appreciate it if you would turn this over to one of your aides for thoughtful consideration as to its usefulness in present thinking.

In substance, it is a recommendation for filling in the gaps in our present income-support system for the working and non-working poor. It is progressive rather than regressive and warrants your close attention.

The Summit Conference was a big step forward. I hope we can keep moving in the directions it set.

With warm personal regards

Sincerely,

Bernard E. Nash **Executive Director**

Enclosure

Mary Mullen President, NRTA Douglas O. Woodruff President, AARP

National Headquarters: 1909 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20006/(202) 872-4700 CHITRAL FILES



October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Kuhn:

President Ford has asked me to thank you for your recent letter and to tell you again that he was most appreciative of the opportunity to meet with you and the other representatives of the older American organizations.

The President would welcome your comments on a continuing basis; and as the Domestic Council staff member working on policies concerning aging, I will do whatever I can to facilitate this dialogue.

With warm personal regards.

Sincerely,

Pamela G. Needham Staff Assistant Domestic Council

Ms. Margaret E. Kuhn
National Convener
Gray Panthers
3700 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104



RECEIVED
OCT 31974
CENTRAL FILES

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 9/24

To: Pam Needham

Can you handle
This? Thanks.



THE GRAY PANTHERS

3700 CHESTNUT STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19104

(215) EV 2-6644

September 18, 1974

The President of the United States The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear President Ford:

Thank you for your letter of August 29th in response to my participation in the "listening session" with the leaders of groups of
older Americans. I was glad of the opportunity to consult with you.

Would your office also

Would your office please let me know with whom we should continue to communicate with regard to the problems of the elderly. We are of course in touch with Arthur Flemming and the Senate Special Committee on Aging. Would it be valuable to you to receive suggestions from us from time to time?

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Kulen

National Convener, Gray Panthers

MEK:k

recl. 9/25-/74

(Please respond to my home address below)

MEI/TX

1626 STRAIGHT WIRE - OCTOBER 4, 1974

Honorable Robert APT Member, United States Senate 508 Board of Trade Building St. Clair Street 43604 Toledo, Ohio

It pleased me greatly to know that you will be attending the ceremony dedicating a new addition of one hundred beds to Darlington House.

I hope that you will use this occasion to express my personal regards to all those who have made this progress possible. Their hard work, generosity and perseverance enhance the already well-established reputation of this fine Jewish home for the aged.

I share your pride in their achievements and extend my very best wishes to those who will guide its future course.

GERALD R. FORD

GRF: Hasek: bll

cc: D. E. Downton/R. Nessen/T. Korologos(gail)/P. Theis/E. Hasek/CF

EVENT: OCTOBER 6, 1974

RECEIVED

Requested by Sen. Griffin

OCT 91974

70-T

Rei Dedication of addition to Darlington House

October 10, 1974

Dear Governor Sargent:

The President has asked me to thank you for your recent letter and its suggestions on matters relating to older Americans.

As you know, in this time of economic difficulty, the President is particularly concerned about the problems faced by our older citizens. That is why, within his first weeks in office, he met with representatives of older American organizations to listen to what they had to say should be done. Suggestions from that meeting are in the process of being evaluated so that the President's programs can reflect as much as possible the concerns of the aging. The President has no higher priority than to see that older Americans are capable of leading lives of independence and dignity. Certainly his economic policies are evidence of his desire to alleviate the terrible burden of inflation that weighs heaviest on the poor and the elderly.

Your recommendations regarding the administrative structure of Federal aging programs are much appreciated, and you can be assured that they will be given full consideration as the review of the Administration's efforts for older Americans continues.

Sincerely,

James H. Falk Associate Director Domestic Council

Honorable Francis W. Sargent Governor of Massachusetts Boston, Massachusetts 02133

RECEIVED

OCT 1 0 1974

CENTRAL FILES

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 18, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PAM NEEDHAM

FROM:

JAMES FALK \mathcal{J}

Will you please draft a reply for my signature to the attached letter from Governor Sargent to the President concerning the need for a more progressive program to handle the problems of the nation's older citizens.

need. 9/19/74

Thank you for your assistance.

Attachment

R. FORO LIBRAY

RECTO

Dear Governor Sargent:

The President has asked me to thank you for your recent letter and its suggestions on matters relating to older Americans.

As you know, in this time of economic difficulty the President is particularly concerned about the problems faced by our older citizens. That is why, within his first weeks in office, he met with representatives of older American organizations to listen to what they had to say should be done. Suggestions from that meeting are in the process of being evaluated so that the President's programs can reflect as much as possible the concerns of the aging. The President has no higher priority than to see that older Americans are capable of leading lives of independence and dignity. Certainly his economic policies are evidence of his desire to alleviate the terrible burden of inflation that weighs heaviest on the poor and the elderly.

Your recommendations regarding the administrative structure of Federal aging programs are much appreciated, and you can be assured that they will be given full consideration as the review of the Administration's efforts for older Americans continues.

Sincerely,



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

September 11, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

JF 18

Massachusetts is the only state in the nation with a Cabinet-level Department of Elder Affairs, headed by a Secretary who reports directly to the Governor on all matters relating to elderly citizens. As Governor, I have found this arrangement extremely valuable in formulating policy vital to the well-being of elders. They, in turn, enjoy the advantages of having their own advocate at the highest level of state government. For these reasons, Massachusetts is recognized as having one of the most progressive programs for elders in the nation.

I am writing to request that you accord the same priority to programs for elders at the federal level. I urge you to elevate the Administration on Aging from its current position within the Office of Human Development to an independent office, headed by an Assistant Secretary, reporting directly to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. Such action would be consistent with the recommendation of the 1971 White House Conference on Aging. I also urge you to assign a member of your personal staff as liaison to this newly-created office thereby assuring your direct and instant awareness of the problems confronting the elders of this nation.

I commend you for the concern you have demonstrated by calling together leaders in the field of aging to discuss the impact of inflation on older people.



PRANCIS W SARGENT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSOTTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE, ROSTON ORISS M

eptember 11, 1974

974 SEP 17

The President The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President;

Massachusetts is the only state in the nation with a Cabinet-level Department of Elder Affairs, headed by a Secretary who reports directly to the Governor on all matters relating to elderly citizens. As Governor, I have found this arrangement extremely valuable in formulating policy vital to the well-being of elders, They, in turn, enjoy the advantages of having their own advocate at the highest level of state government. For these reasons, Massachusetts is recognised as having one of the most progressive programs for elders in the nation.

I am writing to request that you accord the same priority to programs for elders at the federal level. I urge you to elevate the Administration on Aging from its current position within the Office of Human Development to an independent office, headed by an Assistant Secretary, reporting directly to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. Such action would be consistent with the recommendation of the 1971 white House Conference on Aging. I also urge you to assign a member of your personal staff as liaison to this newly-created office thereby as liaison to this newly-created office thereby problems confronting the elders of this nation.

I commend you for the concern you have demonstrated by calling together leaders in the field of aging to discuss the impact of inflation on older people. The President

2

I hope you will give favorable consideration to this request.

With best wishes,

Sincerely, Nancia Wargan







CITY OF CHICAGO MAYOR'S OFFICE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

330 SOUTH WELLS STREET • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606 (312) 744-4016

ROBERT J. AHRENS, Director

ANDREE OLIVER, Deputy Director

Jed JM MAN EXECUTIVE

RICHARD J. DALEY, Mayor

October 15, 1974

Mr. William J. Baroody, Jr. Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Baroody:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness in writing to me and enclosing memorabilia of the August 23rd meeting at the White House.

I welcomed the opportunity to meet President Ford and to exchange views on the problems of our elderly and, needless to say, I am impressed with your proposal to keep these channels of communication open.

We shall surely use them, as appropriate. And, in turn, we invite you to draw upon the resources of our Office as they can assist in our shared task of making life better for our older people.

With all best wishes,

Robert J. Ahrens

Director X

October 16, 1974

FAS WES

Dear Don:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your October 10 letter to the Freeident concerning the need for release of funds in the Section 202 revolving fund to provide housing for the elderly.

You may be assured your letter will be called to the prospt attention of the President and the appropriate members of the staff. I am confident your recommendation will be given careful consideration consistent with the limitations of the President's announced program of fiscal restraint.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Hex L. Friedersderf Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Bonald G. Bretsman House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 29515

bcc: w/incoming to Roy Ash for appropriate handling bcc: w/incoming to Tod Hullin - FYI NLF: EF: VO:ckb



de

NES Mational Council on the aging

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

DR. CAYANAUGH

FROM

DR. MARRS

The military oriented organizations have an ad hoc group like the one Albert Abrams suggested in a letter to you. While in Defense, and now, I have met with them. It has been useful.

Enclosure

rend. 10/23/24





ALBERT J. ABRAMS

THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

August 27, 1974

Mr. James Cavanaugh Deputy Director Domestic Council The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Jim:

Because you were sitting almost directly behind me in the Cabinet Room last Friday and then scooted out for the press conference immediately after our meeting with the President, I did not have the opportunity to alert you that there was a discussion immediately after the group of senior citizen representatives started to head out of the room, to the effect that it might be useful for this group to meet quarterly to exchange various ideas and initiate a coordinated approach on policy. While the Executive Directors of a few of these organizations do meet periodically, the Presidents of these groups do not. So, a follow-up of President Ford's meeting in this way may prove to be extremely helpful to the Administration.

Such a quarterly arrangement would not be sponsored by the President of the United States, but would be initiated by the private agencies. I am sure, however, that we would want an appropriate top representative of the government to sit in with us.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Albert/J/ Abrams

President, National

Council on the Aging

ME3/SX WES

November 8, 1974

As the Salvation Army Colden Age Program of Syracuse marks its twenty-fifth anniversary of valuable community service, I am pleased to great your excellent staff and members.

Organizations such as yours add immeasurably to the vitality and strength of our society. It is most important that we acknowledge the debt we owe to our senior citizens by making their golden years as happy and satisfying as possible.

Your efforts in this worthwhile cause are an inspiration for all of us.
Sent Air Mail/Special Delivery to:

Major Sidney R. Langford
The Salvation Army ///.
749 South Warren Street
Syracuse, New York 19202

CRF:Hasek:sar CC: D.E. Downton/R. Nessen/P. Theis/E. Hasek/CF Event: Nov. 14, 1974 Req'd by: Major Langford

70 25 th anniv. Golden age Program

ks u ng

CF
EXECUTIVE
PRIZ-2
LG
WES
NOV 5 1974

Office of Eugan Development Administration on Aging

The President

Mr. Robert S. Thompson Clarion County Commissioner P.O. Box 402 1669 Conneaut Lake Road Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

Dear Mr. Thompson: or the Coined States and area you well in all

President Ford has asked me to thank you for the letter of September 20 which was signed by distinguished representatives of your seven county areas on behalf of elderly citizens. The President shares your concern for older Americans and is glad to hear about the success and public acceptance of the nutrition centers funded under the Older Americans Act.

As you probably know, Congress will reconvene on November 18 and is expected to take action shortly thereafter on appropriations for nutrition centers.

We are glad to learn about your support of the nutrition programs, and will certainly keep your letter in mind during the coming weeks. Thank you again for writing on behalf of senior citizens.

Very sincerely and cordially yours,

will be the total the burdens with

As you have pointed out, these are difficult times there is an evident need for the Fajeral sent belt during this time of a /s/Artimes. Flemming that the same thanks, in any Arthur S. Flemming that the as a nation, a Commissioner on Aging and Lincomes and many live in including from

ractudes less than the \$150 million authorization

OSCP/Stimpert: adp 10/31/74 resents one-there was a result of the second of the second

water of their friends and neighbors.

A FOROLIBRATO

NOV 1 1 1974

CENTRAL FIL



FEDERAL COUNCIL ON THE AGING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

FIH / FG 375

WES

December 9, 1974

Williams, Dick

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

20500

My dear Mr. President:

The Federal Council on the Aging wishes to convey to you its deep concern about the financial burden that would fall on the elderly as a result of the reductions you have proposed in the 1975 budget. In particular, we cite the additional costs that would have to be borne by the aged in relation to such programs as Medicare, Medicaid and food stamps.

As a body established by the Congress to advise the President on the needs of older Americans, we would have liked the opportunity of expressing our views on this matter, of such great consequence to the elderly, before it left the White House.

In the future, we would hope that the Administration might utilize the Federal Council on the Aging for advice and consultation when matters of such great impact on the lives of older Americans are still in their formative stages.

Sincerely,

Bertha S. Adkins

Chairman X



ME3-3/26/youngstons

December 10, 1974

TO THE CITIZENS OF YOUNGTOWN, ARIZONA

Your twentieth anniversary is an occasion of great pride for you as well as for our Nation, and although this note is belated, I want to join with you by sending my congratulations.

As the first retirement town in the United States, I can well understand the pride you must have in the development of Youngtown.

I admire the enthusiasm and the spirit which has characterized Youngtown, and it is my hope that the pride you feel at this time will give you all the confidence you need to continue with the same high purpose.

Mrs. Ford joins me in sending each of you our best wishes for the peace and contentment you so richly deserve.

SENT TO:

Mrs. Frances D. Hoppe 13019 111th Drive Youngtown, Arizona 85363

GRF: MAB: AVH: lrc



December 15, 1974

PRECUTIVE WE5 HE4-1 HE3

Dear Ms. Kunz:

Thank you very much for your recent letter describing the Denver nutrition project sponsored by the Volunteers of America. I especially enjoyed reading some of the many personal responses by the participants in the program.

It is very gratifying to hear first-hand from our older citizens that this program created by the Older Americans Act is proving so beneficial. Certainly, a major reason for its effectiveness is a direct result of the outstanding contributions made by organizations such as the Volunteers of America. Only with the cooperation of the private sector of our nation, can this people-oriented nutrition program be operated successfully and expand to reach more of America's older citizens.

I hope you will convey my congratulations and thanks to all of the participants in the Volunteers of America Denver program. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

With my warm best wishes.

Sincerely.

Ms. Dianna Kung Project Director X Seniors' Nutrition Program The Volunteers of America 1865 Larimer Street Denver, Colorado 80202

GRF:RLE:blh

Enclosures filed in 1279

RECEIVED DEC 28 1974 CENTRAL FILES



60

Derver nutrition project 1219741935 by Volunteers of ancica

December 16, 1974

SP2-3-11 WE7 DYE5

Dear Mrs. Williams:

I appreciate your writing to me about our country's economy and the tremendous hardships many people face. As you might imagine. I have received a large number of letters on this subject in the last several weeks, but few have talked about the problem in more real, human terms than you did.

Piease be assured that I fully realize what a very hard time this is for many Americans, especially senior citizens and others living on a fixed income. Letters like yours emphasize even more how difficult it is for individuals to make ends meet. It is nearly impossible for some people to tighten their belts any more. They are doing all they can, and likewise, my Administration will do everything in our power to break the back of inflation and stabilize our nation's economy.

We live in a time of great challenge which calls for the best efforts of everyone. I am confident that, working together in a spirit of determination and goodwill, we can succeed. It is a great help to me to have the benefit of your views, and I want to thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts with me.

I also want you to know that our family is deeply grateful for your message of encouragement for Mrs. Ford.

With best wishes to you and Mr. Williams.

Sincerely.

GERALD R. FORD

Mrs. George E. Williams Box 44 6008 Moeller Road Fort Wayne, Indiana 46806

GRF:JEB:RLE:blh

JAN S 1975 CENTRAL FLEE

60 economy

1. + al MAAN Ineu

IN /1975/5733/HENDERSON

WES
PRITT
HO12-1

December 19, 1974

Dear Mr. Quigg:

On behalf of the President, I wish to acknowledge your kind letter of October 31.

While his pressing schedule and the heavy volume of mail do not afford him the opportunity to send a personal reply, the President wanted you to know he does indeed remember you and Kay well and that he was interested to learn you presently are Program Administrator of the Aging Division for the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments.

The President very much appreciates your invitation to address his the Symposium you hope to hold in May, Senior Citizens Month, ivibut knows you will understand he is unable to commit his calendar so far into the future. Your letter is being carried forward for careful consideration as the May schedule is under advisement, and it would be appreciated if you could let me know how your plans for the Seminar develop and specifically the dates it is to prove be held. By forgettable experience, however, the partial provided by the held. By forgettable experience, however, the partial provided by the held.

With the President's very best wishes to you and a particular asset expression of his warm greetings to you and your wife for the Christmas holidays.

the regional representatives the rely-forth Carolina Gavernor's condinating Council on Aging and operates with funds provided by the

serve as a vehic Appointments Secretary concerning the ad by the aged. to the President oreate a more inco-

of the Older Americans Art. The of my major responsibilities as an advocate for the elderly citizens within son parties.

WSRLmhr:jlc cc and incmg to Helen Donaldson for May cal. cons. DEC231974
CENTRAL FILES

EDAMINI AN COMMINTE DEDCOM MANOE MADDEN COMMINTE