

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

TEXT OF MRS. FORD'S REMARKS UPON RECEIPT OF THE "SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE AWARD" AT THE GOLDEN SLIPPER CLUB DINNER, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1976

Thank you so much. What an absolutely exquisite crystal eagle! I am deeply honored by this "Spirit of Independence" Award, especially because it comes from the Golden Slipper Club.

I've heard so many wonderful things about the work you do to help people. It seems to me the very best way to promote independence is to help people help themselves and that's exactly what you do. By providing a summer camp for the young, by taking older people on excursions, and by responding to individual needs--- you are truly celebrating the Bicentennial.

You give of yourselves---your time and energy---and you reach out to individuals in a personal way. Somehow your recent work with Russian immigrants symbolizes how the Golden Slipper reacts to the needs of this community.

By your good works. . . you are honoring the "Spirit of Independence" by helping those in need stand tall and appreciate themselves.

I am deeply touched to be honored by a group that believes and practices its motto---people helping people. Your gift and award inspire me. Thank you so very much.

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