

**NLWJC - Kagan**

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**DPC [Domestic Policy Council] -  
Mission Statement**

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 4, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: BRUCE REED  
ELENA KAGAN

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The central mission of the Domestic Policy Council is to advance the President's domestic agenda. The following memo outlines our goals and objectives.

**GOAL: Education.** Develop and implement policies to achieve high education standards and accountability for students, teachers, and schools nationwide.

**Objectives:**

- Reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and Goals 2000 to strengthen federal support for state and local efforts to raise standards and improve student achievement, including by imposing more rigorous accountability requirements.
- Improve the quality of teaching by providing incentives and accountability mechanisms (through the ESEA and other vehicles) that will lead states and school districts to improve testing, training, and support of K-12 teachers.
- Help end social promotion by providing states and school districts that do so with extra after-school funds to support their children.
- Increase the number of states with charter schools legislation, and propose additional ways of expanding choice within public education, perhaps through the ESEA.
- Work with the National Assessment Governing Board and the business and education communities to reinvigorate the President's proposal for national tests, either by finding private financial support or by reframing the proposal to gain Congressional support.
- Enact the President's school modernization proposal.

**GOAL: Education.** Ensure that initiatives enacted this past year are effectively launched and implemented, and receive continued funding.

**Objectives:**

- Ensure a successful launch of the class size reduction initiative, so that local implementation proceeds smoothly, 30,000 teachers are hired, and Congress provides continued funding to keep on track to 100,000 teachers.
- Ensure that initial implementation of the Reading Excellence Act effectively supports the President's America Reads Challenge and improves reading achievement in the early elementary grades.

- Ensure that the President's new initiative to improve teacher education and recruit talented individuals into teaching is effectively launched, and spurs broader improvements in teacher preparation.

**GOAL: Health Care.** Develop initiatives and pass legislation providing for improved health care quality; targeted coverage expansions; a more efficient, modernized, and market-oriented Medicare program; improved access to long-term care services; and public health efforts to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure illness.

**Objectives:**

- Pass strong health care quality reforms, including a strong, enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights, medical privacy legislation, and protection against genetic discrimination. We also will take administrative and legislative action to improve the quality of the care in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- Implement executive actions and recently enacted legislation (the Children's Health Insurance Program) to expand coverage, and enact new legislation to advance this goal, including the Jeffords-Kennedy Work Incentives Improvement Act and our Medicare buy-in proposal.
- Implement BBA Medicare reforms in ways that increase new plan choices for beneficiaries, stop HMO withdrawals from program, reform Medigap, and cut down on fraud and abuse. At the same time, prepare for and respond to the Medicare Commission's recommendations in light of the President's goal of improving the program while protecting beneficiaries.
- Develop and pass new long-term care initiatives aimed at supporting family caregiving of the chronically ill through a new tax credit, as well as information, counseling, training, and respite services for individuals with the responsibility of caring for a chronically ill person.
- Develop and implement public health initiatives to address the threats of bioterrorism and resistant bacterial strains; increase the speed of new drug and product approvals; improve food quality; and combat asthma. These initiatives will build on our ongoing commitments to AIDS prevention and treatment programs, biomedical research, and a host of other public health initiatives.
- Work with OSTP to ensure that the Administration appropriately considers the medical benefits and ethical concerns related to new scientific discoveries.

**GOAL: Crime and Drugs.** Enact a new omnibus crime bill to advance the Administration's phase of anti-crime priorities, while continuing effective implementation of past accomplishments.

**Objectives:**

- Lead multi-agency effort to develop and draft new omnibus anti-crime legislation which will create new initiatives to combat crime and improve public safety, as well as reauthorize existing programs. Among the purposes of this legislation will be: to put in place the next phase of the COPS program; improve law enforcement technology;

promote drug testing and treatment for offenders under criminal justice supervision; and reduce firearms violence.

- Work with ONDCP and Department of Education to revamp Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program.
- Implement recently announced Administration policies, including transition to the Instacheck system, use of state prison money for drug testing, and school safety initiatives.
- Work with ONDCP on continued implementation of the National Anti-Drug Media Campaign and Southwest Border initiatives.

**GOAL: Tobacco.** Enact legislation and take other actions to reduce teen smoking.

**Objectives:**

- Enact legislation to reduce youth smoking by increasing the price of cigarettes, funding anti-tobacco public health efforts, and confirming FDA authority to regulate tobacco products, all while protecting tobacco farmers.
- Prepare and bring suit against tobacco companies to increase the chances of securing good legislation and/or an advantageous settlement.

**GOAL: Children and Families.** Develop a strategy to pass the President's proposals to provide greater assistance with child care costs to low- and middle-income working parents through significant new subsidies and greater tax relief, while building on last year's victory on after-school programs.

**Objectives:**

- Enact child care initiative similar to last year's proposal, but with a component for stay-at-home parents and different treatment (now within the block grant) of quality money.
- Achieve significant new investment in the 21st Century Community Learning Center after-school program, in part tied to education policy of ending social promotions.
- Promote other initiatives to help children and families, including expansions in family leave and improvements in child welfare and adoption systems.

**GOAL: Welfare.** Develop and implement policies to promote work and personal responsibility.

**Objectives:**

- Secure reauthorization of the Welfare-to-Work fund to help states and cities find and create jobs for the most disadvantaged welfare recipients and fathers of children on welfare.
- Extend tax credits to encourage companies to hire welfare recipients.
- Work with HUD and DOT to ensure successful implementation and secure continued funding for Welfare-to-Work housing vouchers and Access-to-Jobs transportation initiatives enacted in FY 1999 budget.
- Oversee implementation of the welfare law to ensure that the Administration does

everything it can to help states collect child support, promote personal responsibility, and help people move from welfare to work and succeed in the workforce.

- Support ongoing successful efforts to encourage the public, nonprofit, and private sectors to hire from the welfare rolls and help former recipients succeed in the work force.

**GOAL: Service.** Work with other White House offices and the Corporation for National Service to strengthen AmeriCorps and instill a national ethic of citizen service.

**Objectives:**

- Enact legislation to reauthorize AmeriCorps and get budget increases to expand its reach.
- Work with the Corporation for National Service to raise AmeriCorps' profile and impact.

**GOAL: Community Empowerment.** Enact additional community empowerment initiatives.

**Objectives:**

- Work with NEC to develop and enact new community empowerment legislation and initiatives to create jobs, provide enhanced access to capital and credit, and increase affordable housing and homeownership opportunities.
- Work with NEC to build on community empowerment successes of prior years -- for example, by getting full funding for empowerment zones and new incremental housing vouchers.

**GOAL: Political Reform.** Put effective campaign finance reforms into place.

**Objectives:**

- Coordinate Administration-wide efforts to secure passage of bipartisan McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform legislation.
- Work closely with the Vice President's Office on securing free TV time for candidates for federal office.

**GOAL: Food Safety and Other Consumer Protections.** Strengthen food safety legislation and improve effectiveness of food safety programs and initiatives. Oversee other consumer protection efforts by the Administration.

**Objectives:**

- Pass legislation strengthening FDA's and USDA's authority over food products -- for example by giving USDA mandatory recall authority and giving FDA increased ability to halt imports.
- Work to ensure full funding for food safety in the appropriations process.
- Work with the President's Council on Food Safety to draft a comprehensive strategic plan on food safety, perhaps leading toward a single food safety agency.
- Work with the CPSC and other agencies to expand consumer protections through legislation and executive action.

**GOAL: Race.** Continue to develop policies to promote the President's race initiative. Work with Counsel's Office to promote and strengthen enforcement of the civil rights laws.

**Objectives:**

- Advance the President's race initiative by developing policies to close the opportunity gap in education, health care, safety, courts, and other areas.
- Work to ensure increased funding for civil rights agencies and initiatives in the appropriations process; promote emphasis on voluntary compliance, technical assistance, education, and dispute resolution; and assist in building support for the use of "paired testing" and other effective enforcement tools.

# **DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL**

## **Accomplishments and Plans**

**December, 1996**

### **I. MISSION**

The Domestic Policy Council assists the President and White House senior staff in shaping and articulating the Administration's domestic agenda. The DPC develops Administration positions consistent with key Presidential themes (community, opportunity, and responsibility) and in furtherance of key commitments such as, for instance, reforming welfare, reforming government, and empowering families through opportunity.

In addition to shaping policy and message, the DPC coordinates legislative initiatives, monitors implementation of initiatives already enacted, addresses critical issues as they arise, and coordinates across agencies on policy matters.

### **II. KEY ACTIVITIES**

To achieve these broad goals, the DPC staff perform a range of functions across issues:

- Provide a mechanism for decision making -- serving as a "fair broker" among agencies and offices within the Administration. In many cases, the DPC chairs or co-chairs working groups or processes designed to develop Administration policy.
- Review speeches, testimony and other public statements of administration positions to ensure consistency in policy.
- Monitor the implementation of key Presidential initiatives.
- Act as trouble-shooters on issues of immediate importance such as, for instance, negotiations over the California Medicaid claim or health and welfare waivers.
- Coordinate among agencies addressing similar problems and serving similar constituencies. We have working groups on issues and groups from veterans to the homeless, from Native Americans to the disabled.
- Analyze policy proposals by agencies, the Congress, states, and/or outside groups.

- Supply basic information -- fact sheets, talking points, issue briefs, questions and answers -- on policy issues to the President and other White House offices and staff.
- Develop options for Presidential events. Serve as staff contact for events, help draft speeches, and coordinate production of appropriate materials.

### **III. SPECIFIC ISSUES**

On the domestic agenda in the coming months, some issues lend themselves to concrete, clear objectives, while others will be appropriate for ongoing management and monitoring. This section presents key concrete objectives where appropriate and then indicates those issues where the DPC will be involved in ongoing monitoring and management.

#### **I. DPC Staff and Council Accomplishments in 1996**

##### **(a) DPC Staff Accomplishments (lead staff in parentheses)**

##### ***Welfare Reform***

**Welfare State Waivers** (Bruce Reed, Diana Fortuna). Supervised HHS's review and approval of state welfare waivers to ensure reforms were in place as early as possible.

**Welfare Reform Legislation Implementation** (Jeremy Ben-Ami, Diana Fortuna). Led Administration effort to launch a smooth transition from AFDC to the new block-grant program and to minimize the impact of objectionable parts of the law through administrative actions. Issues successfully concluded to date include guidance on food stamp waivers, transitional Medicaid, exemptions for legal immigrants with a work history, delays in implementation of food stamp cuts, and oversight of state plans certifications.

**Outreach to States** (Jeremy Ben-Ami, Diana Fortuna). Working with Intergovernmental Affairs, led outreach to the National Governors' Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and the American Public Welfare Association through weekly meetings to ensure that the Administration is responsive to their concerns.

**President's Welfare-to-Work Jobs Challenge** (Lyn Hogan). Helped craft and refine the President's Welfare-to-Work Jobs Challenge, the \$3.1 billion proposal to create job opportunities for the hardest-to-employ welfare recipients.

## *Child Welfare*

**Child Welfare System Reforms** (Lyn Hogan). Consulted with child welfare experts from around the country regarding failures of the nation's child welfare system and potential areas for reform. Recently completed preliminary options document.

**Adoption Tax Credit** (Bruce Reed, Diana Fortuna). Coordinated Administration support of adoption tax credit enacted this summer, along with Administration actions on transracial adoption.

## *Health Care*

**Medicare and Medicaid** (Chris Jennings). Coordinated Administration decisions and provided substantive analyses regarding reforms and budget savings.

**Health Care Reform Legislation** (Chris Jennings). Coordinated the Administration's policy and strategy decisions. Worked with other White House offices, agencies, and interest groups to ensure passage of the Kassebaum-Kennedy insurance reform bill, legislation requiring insurers to cover 48 hours of hospital care for new mothers, and mental health parity legislation.

**Medicaid Waivers and Other Administrative Actions** (Diana Fortuna). Worked with HHS to consider waiver requests. Ensured smooth implementation of Los Angeles County Medicaid waiver. Worked to address labor concerns about changes in the industry due to waivers and managed care. Worked with HHS, USIA, and INS to make administrative improvements to program that brings foreign doctors to work in the U.S.

## *Public Health*

**Tobacco** (Elizabeth Drye). Worked with Office of the COS to shape policy decisions, communications strategy, and Presidential events.

**Food Safety** (Elizabeth Drye). Coordinated Administration work on the Food Quality Protection Act (signed in August, 1996). The bill better protects children from harmful pesticides, reduces unnecessary regulations, and incorporates the newest science into pesticide rules. Organized Presidential announcement of regulations modernizing meat and poultry safety laws.

**FDA Reform** (Elizabeth Drye). Worked with FDA and OMB to guide the Administration's negotiations with Congress on FDA reform legislation. Coordinated Presidential announcement of FDA initiative to speed cancer drug approvals.

**Cancer Policy** (Elizabeth Drye; Jen Klein). Worked with OMB to guide cancer budget

investments and prepare Presidential announcement of breast cancer research and cancer survivorship programs.

### *Immigration*

**Illegal Immigration Enforcement Bill (Steve Warnath).** Led interagency substantive work on the immigration reform bill and worked closely with White House Legislative Affairs to negotiate a bill the President could sign.

**Congressional Hearings (Steve Warnath).** Worked with DOJ/INS, State, Labor and OMB throughout the year to prepare for Congressional immigration hearings.

**Executive Orders (Steve Warnath).** Drafted the President's naturalization directive and participated in development of an Executive Order barring contractors who knowingly hire undocumented workers from obtaining federal contracts.

**Implementation (Steve Warnath).** Worked with relevant departments to develop and implement border control, removal, and worksite enforcement policies.

**Policy Position Statements (Steve Warnath).** Wrote or contributed to many of the immigration-related statements contained in legislative documents, letters, speeches, press releases, and other materials issued by the White House, DOJ/INS and other agencies.

### *Crime and Drugs*

**Crime Initiatives (Dennis Burke).** Wrote Presidential directives, assisted in drafting speeches, and coordinated events on the President's crime initiatives, including: school uniforms, truancy, community notification of released sexual offenders, curfews, missing children, youth crime gun interdiction, providing cellular phones for neighborhood patrols, establishing a national community policing non-emergency number, COPS grants and other 1994 Crime Bill grants, 1996 Antiterrorism Bill, and the One Strike policy for public housing.

**Drugs (Dennis Burke).** Developed and helped to move legislation to drug test prisoners and parolees as a condition of federal prison funding (signed into law on September 30, 1996). Drafted a Presidential Directive to ONDCP and the Transportation Department to report back on drug testing teens for their driver's licenses. Assisted in the confirmation of ONDCP Director General McCaffrey.

**White House Conference on Youth Drug Use and Violence (Molly Brostrom; Dennis Burke).** Organized and held a White House Conference on Youth Drug Use and Violence. The Conference provided a forum to hear the views of over 300 experts, practitioners and youth from around the country and to demonstrate the

President's commitment to reducing youth drug use and violence.

### *Civil Rights*

**English-Only and Affirmative Action Legislation** (Steve Warnath). Chaired the interagency working group on English-only policy. Worked with EEOC, DOJ Civil Rights Division, and OMB on the range of civil rights/affirmative action legislation before Congress, including the Administration's opposition to the Dole-Canady affirmative action bill, and proposed English-only legislation.

### *Government/Political Reform*

**Line-Item Veto** (Paul Weinstein). Worked with Legislative Affairs to achieve passage of the Line-Item Veto Act.

### *Economic Development*

**Brownfields** (Paul Weinstein). Worked with NEC to draft and introduce the Brownfields Tax incentive legislation.

**Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Tax Incentive Legislation** (Paul Weinstein). Worked with NEC to draft and introduce this complement to the President's CDFI grant program..

### *Homelessness*

**National Census Bureau Survey** (Molly Brostrom). Helped secure funding for an assessment of the needs and characteristics of the homeless (scheduled for completion this year).

### *Coordinating Federal Services*

**Interagency Internet "One-Stop" Web Sites** (Jeanine Smartt). Coordinated over six federal agencies to create two "one-stop" web sites: 1) "Family.Gov" is designed for community groups and local governments who are seeking information on federal resources to provide services to children and families; and 2) "Welfare Reform.Gov" is designed to assist the public in understanding the new welfare law and to provide access to available federal information.

**Partnerships for Stronger Families Conference** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Jeanine Smartt). Brought together over 80 leaders from nearly 25 states and 40 communities with Federal agencies to improve Federal responsiveness to state and community family service providers. The conference provided critical information to DPC's interagency government reform effort to better serve the needs of those in communities working

with children and families.

### ***Energy and Environment***

**Train Trip Initiative** (Diane Regas). Worked with CEQ and NEC to craft the President's Community Environmental Protection Initiative announced in August.

**New York/New Jersey Dredging** (Diane Regas). Led the Administration's efforts to restart dredging in the Port of New York and New Jersey. Dredging has started, halting criticism of the Administration by labor and environmental groups and helping protect 180,000 jobs that depend on the Port.

**Human Radiation Experiments** (Elizabeth Drye; Diane Regas). Coordinated the Administration's response to the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments' recommendations. Preparing to announce actions in January.

**Airtanker Legislation** (Diane Regas). Resolved interagency issues and successfully pressed for passage of airtanker legislation, demonstrating the President's leadership in the area of wildfire management -- a key concern in western states.

### ***Education***

**New Education Initiatives** (Mike Cohen). Helped develop the President's new education proposals, including HOPE Scholarships (tax credits and tax deductions for higher education), School Construction (financing to stimulate additional local and state investment in renovation and/or construction of schools), and America Reads (mobilization of 1 million volunteers to enable all fourth graders to read independently and well).

**Teacher Accountability Directive** (Mike Cohen). Led the development of a Presidential Directive to Secretary Riley on Promoting Excellence and Accountability in Teaching.

**Appropriations** (Mike Cohen). Helped develop and execute the Administration's legislative strategy for FY97 Education appropriations. Secured funding for Goals 2000 and protected the program against weakening amendments.

### ***Women's Issues***

**Domestic Violence Directive** (Lyn Hogan). Led drafting of the October 3, 1996 Presidential Directive to HHS and DOJ to assist states in implementing the family violence provisions of the welfare law.

**HR 1833/Late-Term Abortion Bill** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan). Worked with

all related White House staff, agency offices, and outside groups to support the President's veto of this legislation, and to successfully prevent an override of his veto.

**Title X Federal Family Planning** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan). Worked closely with OMB, Congress, and outside groups to maintain critical funding for this program.

**Other Choice/Family Planning Issues** (Lyn Hogan). Worked extensively with OMB and others to prevent Republicans from eliminating vital reproductive choice programs, including: the "Mexico City Language"; fetal tissue research; the "Gag Rule"; access to family planning for military families overseas; access for poor women to Medicaid funding for abortions; and access for federal employees to abortions funded through their health insurance plans.

### *Teen Pregnancy Prevention*

**The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan). Gained commitment from private groups to establish a new private, non-profit National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union Address challenge to leaders across the U.S. to come together to address this serious problem.

**Teen Pregnancy Advisor to the President** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan). Worked with HHS to develop clear, effective agenda for Dr. Foster.

### *Veterans*

**Medicare Subvention Legislation** (Molly Brostrom). Worked with OMB, VA, DoD, and HHS to introduce legislation to establish pilot projects to test Medicare reimbursement at VA and DoD facilities.

### *HIV / AIDS*

**Completed the National Strategy on AIDS** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi; Jeremy Ben-Ami). Developed by the Office of National AIDS Policy, in conjunction with the relevant departments and agencies, this document sets forth broad goals and opportunities for future progress to drive HIV policy in the years ahead. Its appendix contains a comprehensive accounting of all federally funded HIV-related activities by policy area (prevention, research, services, etc.), along with budget figures for each program.

**Repeal of the Dornan Amendment** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi). Led successful White House effort to repeal the Dornan Amendment, which would have required the discharge of all HIV-positive service members.

**AIDS Funding increases in FY 1997** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi). Achieved an overall 12 percent increase in funding for discretionary AIDS programs in FY97, including a 30 percent increase in funding for the critical Ryan White CARE Act program and a 15 percent increase for AIDS housing. Most importantly, as new, promising therapies became available for people living with HIV, at DPC initiative, the Administration sought -- and achieved -- budget amendments for FY96 and FY97 that tripled the funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

**AIDS Research** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi). Working with the Office of the Vice President, brought together key pharmaceutical companies to encourage their continued and expanded participation in AIDS drug, vaccine, and microbicide development. As a result of those discussions with the Vice President, the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research was created, a unique public-private partnership designed to be a catalyst for promoting post-marketing studies of new and combination therapies for HIV.

### ***Disability***

**Mobilized Disability Community on Medicaid/Medicare cuts** (Diana Fortuna). Working with public liaison, ensured that leaders of the disability community were informed about programmatic consequences of a Medicaid block grant.

**Housing** (Diana Fortuna). Worked with HUD and disability leaders to create new Office of Disability at HUD and to address civil rights and access issues in housing.

**Adult Foster Care** (Diana Fortuna). Worked with Department of Labor to ensure appropriate treatment of housing setting for adults with developmental disabilities.

**Drug Addicts and Alcoholics** (Diana Fortuna; Molly Brostrom; Jeff Levi). Worked with SSA and advocate groups to ensure that new law dropping drug addicts and alcoholics from disability rolls proceeded as smoothly as possible and gave clients access to needed services.

**Learning Disabilities** (Diana Fortuna). Launched interagency work group on learning disabilities with HHS.

**Special Education and Discipline** (Diana Fortuna). Coordinated White House actions on reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, including position on discipline provisions.

**Return to Work Proposal** (Diana Fortuna). Working with OMB and several agencies, developed proposal to increase incentives for SSA clients to work.

**Paralympics Congress** (Diana Fortuna). Coordinated White House involvement in policy congress held in conjunction with the Paralympics.

**Children's SSI (Diana Fortuna).** Working with OMB and SSA, coordinated Administration work on new definition of childhood disability. Coordinated contact with disability community on this issue.

## **(b) DPC Council Accomplishments**

**DPC Working Group on Native American and Alaska Natives.** Wrote Presidential Executive Order on Tribal Colleges to increase Indian education and tribal sovereignty by expanding federal assistance to tribal colleges across the nation (President signed October 21, 1996). Wrote the Executive Order on Native American Sacred Sites (President signed May 24, 1996). Launched a home page on the Internet, "Code Talk," that allows users to access information on federal programs and policies for Native Americans.

**DPC Working Group on Homelessness (Molly Brostrom).** When funding for the Interagency Council on the Homeless (ICH) was discontinued, the President asked that ICH become a working group of the Domestic Policy Council. The Council is chaired by HUD, HHS and VA and is housed at HUD. ICH developed the Federal Plan and has subsequently helped monitor its implementation. Through its role with the ICH, DPC has worked to maintain funding for homeless programs, played a key role in pushing agencies to fund the National Survey of Homeless Assistance Providers and Clients, and has been the White House office for communication with outside groups.

**Interagency Veterans Policy Group (Molly Brostrom).** The Domestic Policy Council, Office of Cabinet Affairs, and Office of Public Liaison created the Interagency Veterans Policy Group (IVPG) in the fall of 1994 to: 1) provide a regular forum for communication among programs and offices which focus on veterans throughout the Administration; and 2) provide a vehicle for veterans service organizations to discuss with the Administration policies affecting their members. VSOs have commended the IVPG for improving their communication with the Administration and addressing their process and policy concerns, including: representation in the White House Conferences on Aging and Small Business; the appointment of DOL's Advisory Committee on Veterans Employment and Training; veterans' access to HUD homeless programs; Medicare Subvention; and VA eligibility reform.

## **II. DPC Future Objectives**

### **(a) Legislative Objectives**

**Education Initiatives (Mike Cohen).** Work with NEC to secure passage of legislation for the President's education initiatives (HOPE Scholarship, School Construction, America Reads). Timeframe: To be determined, but likely as part of the FY98 Budget Reconciliation Act.

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)** (Diana Fortuna; Mike Cohen). Coordinate efforts to secure an acceptable reauthorization bill following the 104th Congress's failure to pass legislation.

**Vocational education** (Mike Cohen). Work with NEC to secure passage of legislation reshaping programs for youth consistent with the President's emphasis on higher standards and his school-to-work legislation.

**Crime** (Dennis Burke). Objectives: (1) Expand and pass legislation on gangs and youth violence introduced by the President in 1996; (2) pass Constitutional amendment on victims rights; and (3) develop Presidential initiative on afterschool programs to assist in crime prevention. Timeframe: Legislation on gangs and youth violence will be introduced in the beginning of the 105th Congress by Senators Daschle and Biden.

**Drugs** (Dennis Burke). Work closely with the National Office of Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and other federal agencies on reducing illegal drug availability and demand. Objectives: (1) promote the National Drug Control Strategy; (2) pursue results from report ordered by Presidential Directive to ONDCP and Department of Transportation on drug testing teens for driver's licenses; and (3) work to reauthorize and strengthen ONDCP. Timeframe: Immediate and Ongoing.

**Welfare Reform Legislative Fixes** (Bruce Reed; Diana Fortuna; Lyn Hogan; Steve Warnath). Continue to lead, with OMB, the Administration's effort to develop "fixes" on welfare reform. Timeframe: immediate.

**SSI/SSDI Work Incentive** (Diana Fortuna). Adopt plan to encourage people with disabilities on SSI/SSDI to return to work. Timeframe: immediate.

**Medicaid Community-Based Services** (Diana Fortuna; Chris Jennings). Adopt plan to encourage home and community-based services in Medicaid and discourage inappropriate institutionalization. Timeframe: immediate.

**Medicare Reforms** (Chris Jennings). Coordinate Administration Medicare policies and strategies. Objectives: Address the Medicare Trust Fund's short-term financing challenges in order to strengthen the Medicare Trust Fund and contribute to deficit reduction. Modernize Medicare and provide more health care options for beneficiaries through: a Medicare Preferred Provider Organization option, a Provider Sponsored Organization alternative, and a HMO with a point-of-service option. Add new preventive benefits for Medicare beneficiaries and establish a respite benefit for families of Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's Disease. Timeframe: Ongoing and immediate.

**Health Care Reforms** (Chris Jennings). Coordinate the development and passage of Administration health care policy legislation. Objectives:

- . Enact the President's "Workers' Transition Initiative" to help the temporarily unemployed afford to keep their health insurance;
- . Expand access to health care coverage and services for children;
- . Empower small businesses to access and purchase more affordable insurance through voluntary health purchasing cooperatives; and
- . Provide states more flexibility to administer Medicaid while constraining costs.

Timeframe: Ongoing and in the context of a balanced budget.

**FDA Reform** (Elizabeth Drye; Chris Jennings). Coordinate Administration position on probable FDA reform legislation, working in particular with Senate Democrats to advance reforms that speed medical device approvals while maintaining safety and efficacy standards. Work with FDA and OMB to achieve smooth reauthorization of the Prescription Drug User Fee Act.

**Immigration Fixes** (Steve Warnath). Lead substantive work on Administration efforts to "fix" parts of this year's immigration legislation, including strengthening employer responsibilities and repealing Congress' weakening of workplace anti-discrimination protections. Timeframe: Ongoing and immediate.

**Legal Immigration** (Steve Warnath). Coordinate and provide analytical support for Administration positions on possible legal immigration legislation.

**President's Final Report to Congress on Immigration** (Steve Warnath). Assist with this report, due in 1997.

**Civil Rights** (Steve Warnath). Assist with Administration strategy and policy on likely affirmative action and English Only legislation. In addition, work with others to evaluate whether to introduce amendments to the Hate Crimes Act.

**Economic Development** (Paul Weinstein). Work with Legislative Affairs, NEC and OVP to pass Empowerment Zones Round II legislation, Brownfields Tax Incentive legislation, and the CDFI Tax Incentive bill.

**Campaign Finance** (Bruce Reed; Paul Weinstein). DPC and Legislative Affairs proposed a communications timeline and legislative strategy to advance the McCain-Feingold bipartisan campaign finance reform legislation, and will implement the President's decisions on the strategy.

**Environment (Diane Regas).** Work with other White House offices to defend against continuing efforts to pass laws that adversely affect the environment, and to reauthorize the Superfund tax and/or create a clear public record that the President is fighting to clean up toxic waste sites.

**Homelessness (Molly Brostrom).** Work with the Interagency Council on the Homeless to improve assistance to homeless people with multiple diagnoses and to propose changes in the McKinney Act programs.

**Social Security (Molly Brostrom).** Work with NEC and OMB to respond to Social Security Advisory Commission recommendations due in December, and, per President's remarks, to establish a federal bipartisan process for addressing long-term financial health of the Social Security Trust Fund.

**Seniors (Molly Brostrom).** Work with HHS' Administration on Aging on reauthorization of Older Americans Act and other initiatives in home and community-based care, senior service, and consumer protection that help to address needs of our aging population.

**Veterans (Molly Brostrom).** Continue to work with OMB and agencies on establishing pilot projects for Medicare Subvention at VA and DoD health care facilities.

**Welfare-to-Work Initiatives (Jeremy Ben-Ami and Lyn Hogan).** Continue to work with OMB and other agencies to draft, introduce and pass this proposal.

**Domestic Violence Directive (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to work with HHS and DOJ to implement the October 3, 1996 Presidential Directive to implement the family violence provisions of the welfare law.

**Domestic Family Planning/Reproductive Rights (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to coordinate the fight to prevent Republican members from cutting and/or eradicating domestic family planning funds and programs, including Title X.

**Teen Pregnancy Prevention (Lyn Hogan).** Work with HHS to ensure the timely preparation of a strategy to prevent teen pregnancy, as mandated by the welfare reform law. The deadline for the establishment of the strategy is January 1, 1997. Also, continue to target new and innovative demonstration projects to prevent teen pregnancy in coordination with HHS.

**FY98 AIDS Funding (Patsy Fleming).** Work with OMB to assure maximum possible funding to meet the increasing needs of individuals with HIV and AIDS -- especially in the areas of prevention, services, and housing.

**Reauthorization of the National Institutes of Health (Patsy Fleming).** Work with Congress to retain the budget authority of the Office of AIDS Research, critical to the effective coordination of the NIH's research efforts.

**Substance Abuse Block Grant Reauthorization (Patsy Fleming).** Work to retain the set-aside for early intervention HIV services in high-incidence states.

**Reauthorization of the HOPWA program (Patsy Fleming).** Ensure Congress maintains the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS program, as housing is an increasingly important aspect of the nation's response to HIV.

**(b) Non Legislative Objectives**

**Child Welfare (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to explore areas for intervention and work to propose action steps in this field. OMB and the First Lady's Office are also participating.

**Child Welfare Waivers (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan).** Work with HHS to effectively implement HHS's new authority to grant 10 waivers from current child welfare laws.

**Implement Changes to Children's SSI Program (Diana Fortuna).** Working with OMB, oversee SSA's development of a new definition of childhood disability for the SSI program. Work with SSA to ensure smooth implementation of changes that will drop children from the SSI rolls.

**Substance Abuse (Molly Brostrom).** Work with the agencies and OMB to assess and address the challenges low-income people with drug and alcohol addictions will face given recent changes in SSI and other programs. Ensure the Administration keeps the commitment made in both our drug and AIDS/HIV strategies to continue to support drug treatment.

**Disability Issues (Diana Fortuna).** As part of the National Disability Policy Review, consider options for better coordinating services to disabled children and making the government more accessible to people with disabilities.

**Elementary and Secondary Education Reform (Mike Cohen).** Ensure continued Presidential leadership on elementary and secondary school reform, around issues such as increased standards and accountability, expanded choice and charter schools. Objectives: (1) improve coordination of related education reform efforts in the Education Department (e.g., Goals 2000), National Science Foundation, and School-to-Work; (2) identify for continued Presidential leadership cutting-edge education reform issues and challenges for states and local communities; and (3) identify key lessons and models of successful state and local reforms tied to the Administration's

program and agenda for the President to highlight.

**Food Safety** (Elizabeth Drye). Following up on the Vice President's REGO report, work with agencies to strengthen the nation's food safety system, including: establishing an early warning and response systems for foodborne outbreaks; better targeting inspections; building the scientific basis for preventive strategies; and ensuring adequate appropriations.

**Tobacco** (Elizabeth Drye). Continue to help coordinate Administration action on tobacco, including implementation of regulations and responses to possible Congressional action.

**Immigration** (Steve Warnath). Help resolve emerging issues, including: privacy and discrimination issues for citizens arising from large-scale inquiries of government databases to establish citizenship or immigrant status for work authorization or public benefits; document fraud; visa overstay enforcement; increased smuggling pressures; border poverty; and assimilation barriers such as access to English-language skills training and access to justice in immigrant communities.

**Microenterprise** (Lyn Hogan). Continue to work with SBA, NEC, and related agencies to craft creative microenterprise/youth enterprise programs particularly as they relate to welfare reform, and to work with NEC to coordinate microenterprise activities in related agencies.

**Energy and Environment** (Diane Regas). Complete interagency report responding to the Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments; complete an interagency effort to spur rural development and serve rural areas better; and coordinate interagency discussion of environmental issues in farm bill implementation.

**Sexual Predators** (Lyn Hogan). Work with DOJ to establish and implement a program that studies the linkages between statutory rape and teenage pregnancy and educates law enforcement about the issue. Timeframe: January 1, 1997.

**International Family Planning** (Jeremy Ben-Ami; Lyn Hogan). Continue working with USAID and the State Department to draft the Presidential Determination on international population funding due to Congress by Feb. 1, 1997, as requested in the Foreign Operations Appropriation, and work with Congress to maintain or increase International Family Planning Funding.

**Teen Suicide** (Lyn Hogan). Look at ways to address the growing problem of teen suicide and to meet HHS's pledge to reduce the number of teen suicides.

**Access to HIV/AIDS Treatment** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi). Work with the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, which has established a special working

group on this subject, to assess the impact of an evolving standard of HIV care on the services needed by people living with HIV and how these services are financed.

**Implementation of the National AIDS Strategy** (Patsy Fleming; Jeff Levi; Jeremy Ben-Ami). The Office of National AIDS Policy will begin a process working with the relevant departments and agencies, the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, and the AIDS community, to initiate specific implementation steps to achieve the goals articulated in the Strategy.

**(c) Ongoing Management Activities**

**Welfare Reform Implementation** (Diana Fortuna; Steve Warnath). Ensure that agency implementation of welfare reform reflects Administration policy and priorities.

**Crime** (Dennis Burke). Lead Administration efforts to implement the 1994 Crime Bill, sections of the 1996 Antiterrorism Bill, and other policy issues arising in criminal justice. Continue to convene a weekly interagency working group on crime, provide crime fact sheets on cities for President's visits, and staff the President on crime issues.

**Native Americans** (Leanne Shimabukuro). Work with the Department of Interior to ensure a smooth transition of policy review and formulation to the DPC Working Group on Native American and Alaska Native Affairs. Monitor and facilitate implementation of the Tribal Colleges Executive Order, including the establishment of a Presidentially-appointed advisory council.

**White House Immigration Core Group** (Steve Warnath). Chair the Interagency Working Group that coordinates Administration work on immigration issues.

**Worksite Enforcement and Non-Discrimination Group** (Steve Warnath). Oversee the work of the Administration's group tasked to design work authorization pilots in a manner to protect against discrimination.

**Civil Rights Working Group and Hate Crime Working Group** (Steve Warnath). Work with the present and new Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights to ensure interagency groups are effective Administration mechanisms for policy development.

**Sweatshop Enforcement Working Group** (Steve Warnath). Continue to participate in the Administration's working group to address sweatshop and worksite exploitation enforcement issues.

**Privacy Working Group** (Steve Warnath). Form an interagency group to work on privacy issues involving government databases and citizenship and immigrant status verification.

**Partnerships for Stronger Families (Jeanine Smartt).** Work with the many agencies responsible for children and family services to improve and coordinate service delivery. Take further steps to reduce fragmentation of services and encourage comprehensive strategies.

**Empowerment Zones/Enterprise Communities (Paul Weinstein).** As Vice Chair of the Community Empowerment Board, continue to work on implementation issues from the first round of EZ/ECs and utilize what we have learned for the successful implementation of a second round.

**Energy and Environment (Diane Regas).** Work closely with CEQ and Executive Departments to ensure consistency across our environmental agenda, and to ensure integration of environmental policies with the broader domestic agenda.  
Objective: Maximize the President's leadership on common sense, cost-effective and sustainable environmental programs, while seeking reform of those that do not meet these criteria.

**Women's Issues (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to work on a regular basis with this outreach office to coordinate activities, provide policy assistance, and connect with outside women's groups. Continue to write a bi-monthly White House newsletter for women's groups distributed by the Outreach Office.

**President's Interagency Council On Women (Lyn Hogan).** As a member of the President's Interagency Council On Women, continue to play a significant role working with and coordinating White House women's issues activities with those taking part at the agency level.

**Violence Against Women's Office (VAWA), Justice Department (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to work with VAWA on family violence issues, offering policy assistance, coordinating legislative activities, and working with outside groups.

**Teen Pregnancy Prevention (Lyn Hogan).** Continue to work with Dr. Henry Foster to coordinate and evaluate his activities as they relate to teen pregnancy prevention and youth issues and act as the White House liaison to the private National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

**Immunization (Jen Klein/Pauline Abernathy; Diana Fortuna).** Work with HHS on continuing implementation of the Vaccines for Children program and other immunization programs.