

**Schedule for Carol H. Rasco  
Sunday, April 17**

8:30am Car to National

9:10am DLTA Flight #977 to Atlanta

11:04am Arrive Atlanta  
Ground transportation by Barbara Voit  
(look for CHR sign)

12:00 - 1:30 Luncheon/Keynote Address: Women's Day  
Conference - Atlanta Jewish Community Center  
Location: Colony Square Hotel/Ballroom South  
188 14th Street  
Atlanta, GA  
Contact: Marsha Gilbert  
(404)892-6000

3:47pm DLTA Flight #1443 to Little Rock

4:20pm Arrive in Little Rock  
Alamo Rental Car - Conf. #8698531

Overnite With family -- P6/b(6)

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THE ATLANTA JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER'S  
**WOMEN'S  
DAY  
CONFERENCE**

**"FOCUS ON HEALTH"**



Sunday, April 17, 1994  
Colony Square Hotel  
188 14th Street  
Atlanta, GA

Atlanta Jewish Community Center  
1745 Peachtree Road  
Atlanta, GA 30309

AJCC'S WOMEN'S DAY CONFERENCE - Focus On Health - April 17, 1994

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Commend the Atlanta Jewish Community Centers  
Women's Day Conference Comm. - I wish  
every community whether by neighborhood,  
religious community, civic group, college -  
whatever, I wish every community of  
women had access to a program <sup>like this</sup> on a regular  
basis. The  
only problem I could foresee in  
looking over your program today  
was the potential stress created in  
each of you as you attempt to make  
the choices among the many fine, ~~the~~  
stimulating workshops!

REMARKS BY CAROL H. RASCO

~~CARNEGIE CORPORATION  
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Washington, DC  
November 22, 1993~~

Thank you.

I am very pleased, honored but somewhat overwhelmed to be in front of you today. As I reviewed the roster of participants and topics for this two day conference, I saw ~~the names of~~ <sup>topics</sup> individuals that have looked at me from pieces I ~~have~~ <sup>need</sup> read and studied ~~often at the suggestion of my boss over our 12+ years together~~ <sup>study frequently</sup> and I saw names of people to whom I have listened, with whom I've discussed the youth of our country, the conditions facing ~~our families~~ <sup>us as women, our</sup> and their needs and hopes. ~~And that's where the overwhelmed part comes in...What can I add to what has even and will be said?~~

I come to you to add my strong commitment and that of the administration as well as to reflect with you on the challenges before us. I might add that if you're like me, a luncheon speaker after a morning packed with stimulating, sometimes provocative thoughts, well a luncheon speaker is sometimes a nuisance...you want to TALK about what you've heard, assimilate <sup>to network</sup> it before moving on to the afternoon agenda...so I'll try to add to that assimilation, be quick, and allow you to continue your conversation with one another.

During my short number of years as a classroom teacher and elementary counseling when I sometimes had children from homes with outhouses or even a dirt floor, <sup>as well as children from middle-income to affluent homes</sup> during my volunteer days when I worked on foster care, juvenile justice and adult probation issues, <sup>and the arts</sup> throughout my 20 years of parenting and advocating for a child labelled as cerebral

palsied and retarded as well as through 15+ years of actively working in government...throughout all of this I have mourned most two things:

An increasing poverty of spirit, particularly in children

Professionals' piecemeal views of individuals, families and communities

And so, I was particularly gratified to read the name given to this ~~the~~ conference: ~~Strategies to Reduce Urban Poverty:~~  
FOCUS on Health

(and then)...~~the realization you truly took~~  
~~INTEGRATING Human Development and~~  
a comprehensive view of health - ~~social,~~ <sup>mental,</sup>  
~~Economic Opportunity.~~

~~political~~ ~~and social~~ physical and spiritual.

~~The~~ last half of the ~~title~~ <sup>title</sup> is music to my ears! to see this comprehensiveness.

**The Clinton administration has been committed from the beginning to a reinvention of government for families....as you look over our key domestic accomplishments, "family" is central:**

**-an economic package and indicators which show a good beginning: inflation is down, interest rates are down, the deficit is down, investment is up. ~~And in the last 10 months,~~  
~~this economy has produced more jobs in the private sector~~  
~~than in the previous four years.~~**

**-the Family Leave Law which says you can't be fired if you take a little time off when a baby is born or a parent is sick.**

**-a reform of the college loan program and national service -  
all designed to give more Americans a chance to broaden the**

availability of further education while in many cases giving those citizens a chance to serve their communities at home, to help repair the frayed bonds of community.

-a change in the Earned Income Tax Credit which on April 15th <sup>fall</sup> ~~will give~~ between 15 million and 18 million working families on modest incomes a tax cut, not a tax increase.

-the introduction of a comprehensive health care reform plan that guarantees health security to all Americans.

But we must do more...we MUST do more.

As President Clinton said <sup>recently</sup> ~~a little over a week ago~~ in Memphis... "I do not believe we can repair the basic fabric of

**society until people who are willing to work have work. Work organizes life. It gives structure and discipline to life. It gives meaning and self-esteem to people who are parents. It gives a role model to children.**

**Further...we cannot, I submit to you, repair the American community and restore the American family until we provide the structure, the value, the discipline and the reward that work gives.**

**And finally he said that, yes, we will deal with the ravages of crime and drugs and violence, BUT "unless we recognize that it's due to the breakdown of the family, the community and the disappearance of jobs...and unless we say some of this cannot be done by government because we have to reach deep inside to the values, the spirit, the soul and the truth of human**

**nature...none of the other things we seek to do will ever take us where we need to go."**

**No, it can't be done by government PROGRAMS in the traditional sense but we in government need help in thinking through how we best stimulate this process of individual, family and community healing and growth, that is where real reinvention must occur.**

**I am reminded inwardly on a constant basis of what an elderly physical therapist who had dedicated her life to young disabled children told me early in my son's life...she said, "Carol, I don't know a lot of philosophy or theory about programs for children like Hamp, but I think the best thing I can tell you as a parent is to remember the words of Joseph Addison, an essayist, poet "Everyone must have**

**Something to do**

**Someone to love**

**Something to hope for."**

**And how right she was and is in the case of not only Hamp,  
but people with whom I've worked with and worked for....and  
so at each age of life in our quest to reinvent how we  
approach the problems of ~~the urban poor~~ <sup>our communities, our citizens</sup> we must ask**

**What do they have to do? If a young child, what is the  
preschool program available? Can they play, dance, sing, and  
soar? If a child, is school relevant? Is school safe? I was  
struck ~~this morning~~ <sup>one morning recently</sup> as I went to my door to get the paper.**

**My daughter, in an attempt to make SURE I didn't forget to**

call her school early <sup>that</sup> ~~this~~ a.m. to let them know she would not be there due to illness had left me a note in front of the door so that I wouldn't miss it...we had quite a round last night because she didn't WANT to stay home from school...and then I opened the door and the Washington Post stares back at me: ACROSS U.S., SCHOOLS ARE FALLING APART. Now, this particular article was about the physical condition of the school plants but I bet you know what I thought...~~and I~~ ~~thought first of an essay I recently read by Benjamin~~ ~~Barber...~~ ~~and~~ as I read ~~it~~ I thought of the key phrase I learned in an ~~otherwise inadequate~~ <sup>my</sup> higher educational experience designed to prepare me to teach elementary school...I was taught there are two educations, one should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live. We do too far little of heeding that maxim. *Particularly we women.*

Until our communities get as fired up about our schools as we/they do about athletic teams, car manufacturing plant locations, Olympic sites, etc. we won't have a good answer to the question: What have we given the children – young and adolescent to DO?

And for adults: What do they have to do?

*Work  
Recreation  
Sense of community*

Number 2: Someone to love...and we all know that before you can love another, you must love yourself. Think about children's faces you've seen in urban poor neighborhoods, adults you've passed on those streets....do they have much to love about themselves? Many don't and therefore we can't truthfully expect the love to flow outward.

**Number 3: Something to hope for....My daughter who didn't want to miss a day of the eighth grade today has many hopes and I both thrive in that gleam of hope in her eyes constantly look for ways to nurture and keep that sparkle present....help me, help our administration look for ways to create that hope for all citizens of this great country. Health security frees up a family for hopes and dreams, safer streets help free children to look at what education can be for them....but untreated ear infections, uncorrected vision problems, lack of immunizations, school buildings in AMERICA where children must wear their coats in order to be warm enough to even begin to pay attention...and we wonder where hope has gone?**

**In the Enterprise Zone legislation we have an opportunity to test our real commitment to reinvention...will we truthfully recognize the need for integration of human development and**

## **Concerned Women Speak Out . . . . .**

### ***The Health Security Act Has the Answers***

Women from throughout the United States have sent letters to the President and First Lady voicing their health care concerns based on their own personal experiences. The Health Security Act addresses many of these important issues.

#### **No Insurance:**

*"I am a 40-year old single mother of two. The medicine I must take each and every day costs approximately \$150 a month. I do not have any health insurance for either myself or my children. . . . I would love to have health care; not only for myself, but for my children. I should be going into the doctor for periodic check-ups for my illness, but there is no extra money. I would like to take my children to the doctor when they are ill, but there is no extra money. . . . I sincerely hope that you can come up with a reasonable alternative so that everyone who needs health care can receive it." -- Liza Guevin, California*

**The Health Security Act** provides universal coverage for everyone regardless of employment status, marital status, health status or ability to pay. Those who are unable to pay will be given discounted insurance and preventive care. Each health plan would cover comprehensive benefits including prescription drugs which would include co-payments. President Clinton's plan emphasizes preventive care which would be beneficial for both Liza Guevin and her family.

#### **Pre-Existing Conditions:**

*"I'm 55 year old women without any health insurance. I teach part-time (20hrs) and my school system does not offer coverage to anyone who works under 30 hours. . . . We have tried to buy health coverage but due to the fact that I have only one kidney and have been diagnosed with a birth defect, no one will cover me. I live in constant fear of a catastrophic illness and losing everything we own. Last year I put off going to a physician, because of cost and ended up with pneumonia. . . . I'm hoping your health care plan will include people like me. I never dreamed I could find myself in this situation in a country such as ours. Please help me." -- Kay Schumaker, Arizona*

**The Health Security Act** does not place any limits on pre-existing conditions nor are there any lifetime limits on health care benefits. No one would fear losing everything due to health care needs. More women than men work part-time, or in jobs where health insurance is not available. President Clinton's plan requires employers to pay for a portion of part-time employees' health insurance. The Act emphasizes preventive care which would encourage women like Kay Schumaker to seek care before her illness developed into pneumonia.

# Women's Checklist For Health Care Reform

## The Health Care Security Act Meets The Criteria

### *Universal Coverage*

- √ NOT dependent upon health status or health history
- √ NOT dependent upon marital status, employment status or ability to pay
- √ Discounts for low income families

### *Comprehensive Benefits*

- √ No lifetime limits; no pre-existing condition exclusions
- √ Coverage for preventive care and prescription drugs
- √ Expanded sites for care

### *Preventive Health Care*

- √ Emphasis on regular check-ups, early diagnosis and treatment
- √ Clinical preventive services for high-risk populations; age-appropriate immunizations, tests, and clinical visits
- √ Screening for breast and cervical cancer including routine mammograms, pap smears and pelvic examinations

### *Quality/ Choice*

- √ Annual "report cards" of health care providers and health care plans including important consumer information: e.g., percentage of women who receive mammograms, number of babies delivered by Caesarean Section
- √ Option to change health care plans once a year

→ See sheet

### *Reproductive Health Care*

- √ Full-range of pregnancy-related services including prenatal, delivery, and post-partum care
- √ Family planning services
- √ Screening for sexually transmitted diseases

### *Research*

- √ Increase funding for prevention research at the National Institutes of Health.
- √ Research priorities on women's health care concerns including birth defects, prenatal care, adolescent health, mental health and substance abuse, reproductive health, osteoporosis and breast cancer

### *Long Term Care*

- √ Home and community-based long-term care initiatives
- √ Expansion of nursing home coverage
- √ Increased quality and affordability of private long-term care insurance

### *Mental Health/ Substance Abuse*

- √ Treatment for mental illness and substance abuse including inpatient treatment, partial hospitalization, and day treatment programs
- √ Community-based treatment encouraged
- √ Differences in insurance coverage eliminated by 2001
- √ No pre-existing conditions

MEMORANDUM FOR CAROL RASCO, Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

From: Christine Heenan  
Re: Women's Health Event

Below is information aimed at how our plan combats breast cancer. This speech is a great opportunity to take on the misperceptions about mammogram coverage. Attached is other info on women's health and how our plan benefits women. Let me know if you need anything further.

### **Early Detection of Breast Cancer and Health Care Reform**

The President and First Lady are committed to preventing breast cancer, and fighting the disease at its onset. That is why our health care plan calls for a comprehensive benefits package spelled out in law, and for preventive care focusing on early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

Women are increasingly at risk for life-threatening illnesses such as breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and heart and lung disease, yet still anchor the bottom of our medical research agenda. Of all the health problems women face, however, breast cancer is one of the deadliest:

- One in nine women in the U.S. will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. (National Breast Cancer Coalition)
- 2.6 million women in the U.S. have breast cancer today, and this year another 182,000 American women will be diagnosed with the disease, approximately one woman every three minutes. (National Breast Cancer Coalition)

The Health Security Act addresses women's health -- and the threat of breast cancer -- aggressively and comprehensively, guaranteeing all women coverage, regardless of whether they are healthy or sick, married or single, working or unemployed, wealthy or low income. **And the President's approach will provide unprecedented coverage of preventive care, including mammography. It will cover a whole schedule of preventive screenings, tests and check-ups at no cost, protection available in only a few of today's insurance policies.**

#### Coverage of Mammograms and other preventive services under The Health Security Act:

- **Coverage for all women:**
- Women of any age can receive clinical breast exams and mammograms at any time when the patient and doctor feel it is medically necessary or appropriate, and will pay a standard co-pay (for example, ten dollars) set by their plan.

- **Extra coverage for women at risk:**
- Women of any age who are defined to be at risk of breast cancer will receive additional visits, including clinical breast exams and mammograms, *with no cost sharing.*
  
- **Additional coverage of mammograms:**
- For certain age groups, at certain intervals, mammograms are free of any cost sharing, so there is no charge when a woman goes to the doctor for these services.
  
- As part of the preventive services package, all women age 50 and older would have routine mammogram screening every other year, free of charge. Again, any woman who needs more frequent mammograms would be covered, and would pay a co-pay.
  
- **Additional coverage of clinician visits:**
- Clinician visits, including clinical breast exams, are covered for all women, and additional coverage is available for women in certain age groups. Clinician visits are free once every three years for women age 20-39, and every other year for women from 40-64.
  
- **New investments in combating breast cancer**
- This year, the National Institute of Health's breast cancer research budget increased by 44 percent, from \$208 million to almost \$300 million.
  
- Under reform, new research initiatives will concentrate on the prevention of illnesses affecting women, including breast cancer, mental health, reproductive health and osteoporosis.
  
- **Women's groups support the President's plan:**
- *"The Older Women's League (OWL) endorses President Clinton's health care reform bill"*  
- Older Women's League, March 6, 1994
  
- *"In reviewing the current health proposals pending in Congress, only two proposals, the Health Security Act, proposed by President Clinton and introduced by Senator Mitchell and Representative Gephardt, and the American Health Security Act, introduced by Senator Wellstone and Representative McDermott, demonstrate a significant commitment to the principles developed by the Campaign for Women's Health. These plans offer unprecedented opportunities to provide coverage of health care services for women far beyond what is currently available."*  
- Campaign for Women's Health, March 1994

security, we can write more meaningful standards for our students... *health reform better parenting* all on the one side known as human development and we can talk about investments, deficits, inflation, job creation, etc. on the economic development side but until we recognize that giving people at every age

- (1) something to do;
- (2) someone to love; and
- (3) something to hope for

are all a part of a mandatory whole just as people and families and communities are both parts and "whole" entities"...

we will not have accomplished the task before us.

In closing I am reminded of <sup>2</sup>two pieces that haunt me, motivate me in this area of thought. ~~One~~ in my freshman philosophy course at Hendrix College in Arkansas, Dr. Ellis repeatedly pounded the table in his quest to motivate us to go out into the world and face the adversity necessary to make positive change, admonishing us to remember that saying from THE PRINCE: "There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things." <sup>-we as women in particular</sup> We have not a choice, we must take this moment in time to introduce a new order for our families.

For as Governor Clinton said back in 1987 as we closed our year's work on ~~MAKING AMERICA WORK:~~

~~America won't work if Americans can't work, or learn, or believe in the promise of tomorrow.~~

~~Thank you.~~

FACES

17  
We seized the moment,  
we did our very best.



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The Honorable Carol H. Rasco  
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

On April 17, 1994 the Atlanta Jewish Community Center is presenting a very exciting Women's Day Conference. This conference, the first of its kind for the Atlanta Jewish Community Center, will focus on health related issues important to the women of our community. Our schedule for the day includes an exhibit area, breakout sessions, lunch and a keynote address.

As a woman I am sure you share our committee's feeling that it is critical for women of every generation to take the time to focus on and share information about their mental, physical, spiritual and political health. By presenting what is going to be an exceptional program on April 17 we expect to accomplish this goal.

Your name was given to me by the Women's Division of the New York Jewish Federation. Ms. Sue Steven of the Women's Division spoke in glowing terms of your presentations and highly recommended we contact you to participate in our program. It would be our honor to discuss with you the possibility of your joining us as our keynote speaker. Your interest and personal involvement is commendable and worthy to note. By speaking to our group and bringing your thoughts to the Atlanta community you would be sharing an important day with us.

Atlanta is a very exciting city to be living in as awareness about women's health issues continue to be addressed and I am sure you will find our audience enthusiastic and eager to learn. If your schedule does not allow your involvement with us I do hope you will recommend other women of your calibre whom we could contact.

Very truly yours,



Marsha D. Gilbert  
Women's Day Conference Chair  
806 Garden Court  
Atlanta, GA 30328

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