

DRAFT NOTES

It is a joy to be with so many wonderful friends who are dedicated to America's greatest asset, our children. I hesitate to mention many good friends by name, knowing that I cannot fully do justice by including everyone.

But at the risk of omissions, may I salute your President, Mrs. DeForest Van Slyek, your Board Member, Mrs. Lindy Boggs, my dear friend Polly Shackleton and so many others.

LOCAL INITIATIVE

I want to congratulate Family and Child Services on its outstanding demonstration program in providing uninterrupted foster care for children in a family setting. You are an inspiring example of local, voluntary activity, as supported by the United Givers Fund-Health and Welfare Council, and in this instance with a pioneering Federal grant.

I believe in voluntarism. It is one of America's most distinctive contributions to the cause of the Family of Man.

~~This morning I do~~ - now → younger children
YOUTH COUNCIL

As Chairman of the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, it is my hope and plan to help strengthen and encourage both private and -- as appropriate -- public youth-serving organizations.

We are making an all-out effort to make the Summer of 1967 here in the District of Columbia and throughout the nation happy and fulfilling for young people -- by expanding recreation and other programs that will include both well and handicapped children.

But that's only the beginning. Twelve months, 365 days a year, we will seek to widen youths' horizons by enriching its hours and days.

MRS. OETTINGER

Your recognition of Mrs. Katherine Oettinger is so very well deserved. She is one of the great unsung heroines of our nation. The Chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau almost never gets into the headlines, but I know of few people who render more good for more people over a longer period of time -- from infancy onward -- than she.

CONCLUSION

To the 9 foster "assembled" families, my greetings for your fullest "togetherness."

This beautiful painting depicts so well what is in all our hearts.



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