

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Administration on Aging

Turning Resolutions Into Results: Building the Legacy of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging

AGENCY: White House Conference on Aging, AoA, HHS.

ACTION: Notice; Request for Public Comments.

SUMMARY: The White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA), which will be held May 2-5, 1995 in Washington, D.C., will conclude with the passage of resolutions designed to influence aging policy into the next century. This notice announces two categories of post-conference activities devised to ensure implementation of these resolutions into policy: (1) Follow up meetings recognized by WHCoA and held throughout the country; and (2) submission of public comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Goldmeier, White House Conference on Aging, 501 School Street, SW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20024-2755, phone (202) 245-7116.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As specified in Title II of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987 (Pub. L. 100-175, as amended) the 1995 White House Conference on Aging is to work jointly with States, individuals, and public and private organizations to devise a series of resolutions to guide national aging policy into the 21st century. Consistent with this grassroots focus, the WHCoA has solicited information and encouraged participation from a wide range of sources since President Clinton announced the Conference on February 17, 1994. The WHCoA has received input from individuals and organizations across the country, including over 900 responses generated by a proposed WHCoA agenda for public comment published in the October 12, 1994 *Federal Register*. In addition, by the May Conference in Washington D.C., more than 700 activities affiliated with the WHCoA will have been held around the country.

In keeping with this grassroots emphasis, the WHCoA proposes to recognize two avenues for public participation after the close of the Washington Conference. First, the WHCoA is announcing a series of events to follow the May Conference. These events, described in more detail below, will narrowly focus on strategies to implement the resolutions adopted by the Conference. Second, individuals

may submit comments regarding implementation of resolutions independent of these post-Conference events.

These two avenues, along with a final Conference report prepared by the Policy Committee with input by the Advisory Committee and Governors' offices, will help define a blueprint for proposed post-WHCoA implementation activities. This blueprint will provide the framework for immediate and long term actions to implement the Conference's highest priority recommendations. It will also identify areas and tasks in which the public and private sectors, including governmental and nongovernmental organizations and agencies, can play a role in implementing the Conference recommendations. These may include private initiatives as well as the enactment of public policies and laws affecting aging Americans, their families and their communities now and into the 21st century.

I. Post-Conference Events

The 1995 White House Conference on Aging proposes to recognize a final series of events focused on implementing the priority recommendations created in the May Conference. Organizations interested in sponsoring an event under the auspices of the WHCoA must adhere to guidelines similar to those that presently govern pre-conference events. Thus, to qualify for recognition, the activity must: (1) Be a policy-oriented event focusing on one or more of the priority resolutions adopted by the 1995 White House Conference on Aging; (2) guarantee the participation of older persons; (3) produce a written report within 30 days or by October 13, 1995, whichever is earlier; (4) raise funds only to the extent necessary to cover the cost of the event; and (5) be approved by the Executive Director of the WHCoA.

Recognition signifies the WHCoA's acknowledgement of the relevancy of the event to the goals of the WHCoA. It allows the sponsoring organization to publicize that the event has been recognized by the WHCoA and that it will be listed in the final report of the Conference. Recognition does not, however, imply that the WHCoA agrees with or endorses the recommendations.

Sponsoring organizations will be required to file a report of the event. The reports shall be 3-5 pages in length, double spaced, and should summarize recommendations adopted regarding implementation of WHCoA resolutions. These recommendations may address any aspect of implementation, including, but not limited to:

- Issues related to responsibility (federal, state and local government, private and/or foundation sector, individuals/families, or a combination of the above);
- Issues related to cost (reallocation of existing resources, obtaining additional funding if necessary, offsetting costs); and
- Issues related to process (specific legislative or regulatory recommendations, immediate goals and long-term timetables, suggestions to guide interested private sector participants).

These reports will be collected for future dissemination to the most appropriate entity. Some targets for distribution include: (1) The Administration on Aging and other divisions within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; (2) U.S. Departments of Housing, Veterans Affairs, and other federal government entities; (3) state and local government entities; (4) Congressional offices; (5) national and state organizations (6) corporations and private sector entities; and (7) nonprofit and grassroots organizations.

Interested organizations should submit a letter of intent asking for WHCoA recognition of the event to the White House Conference on Aging; 501 School Street, SW, 8th floor; Washington, D.C. 20024-2755. The letter must include the name, address, telephone number and contact person of the organization, as well as a brief description of the proposed post-conference event including the theme and/or title. All submissions must be received by May 31, 1995.

II. Public Comments

After the close of conference on May 5, 1995, the White House Conference on Aging will accept public comments from individuals and organizations that address practical aspects of resolution implementation. Like the reports generated from the post WHCoA events, submissions must focus on one or more of the three aspects of resolution implementation listed above and are to be a maximum of five pages long. Comments should be sent to the address listed in section I to be forwarded to the most appropriate entity to oversee implementation. The deadline for WHCoA consideration of these comments is October 13, 1995.

Dated: February 22, 1995.

Fernando M. Torres-Gil,

Assistant Secretary for Aging.

[FR Doc. 95-4851 Filed 2-27-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4130-02-M