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Alexander D. Crary

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February 11, 1980

Ms. Mary F. Dunfee
Program Associate
Neighborhood Reinvestment
1700 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20552

Dear Mary:

Enclosed is the letter which Senator Pell has sent to Chairman Biddle at the Arts Endowment on behalf of the NHS application for a Challenge Grant.

I will be back in touch with you when I hear further from the Endowment.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Alexander D. Gray
Professional Staff Member
Subcommittee on Education,
Arts, and Humanities

Enclosure

AC:CF

February 11, 1980

Honorable Livingston L. Biddle
Chairman
National Endowment for the Arts
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to support the application of the consortium of Neighborhood Housing Services programs submitted by Neighborhood Housing Services of America as a somewhat unusual but very worthy applicant for a Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

In reviewing the Statement of Goals and Basic Policy of the Arts Endowment, I find that many of the objectives are actively implemented at a grassroots level by the nationwide NHS program. NEA seeks to foster a climate in which the arts may flourish and be experienced by the widest number of people. In the course of working with neighborhood residents toward neighborhood revitalization and housing rehabilitation, NHS stimulates an awareness of aesthetic environmental design which results in a more attractive neighborhood. The evidence shows that, once sparked, this awareness can develop into a broad variety of neighborhood sponsored artistic celebrations.

Very importantly, the NHS programs serve a low to moderate income level segment of the population who are not often able to afford conventional performing and visual arts events.

I want to express my strong support for this Challenge Grant proposal and hope that, after careful consideration, the Endowment will act favorably on it.

Warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC:CF