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Dear Friend,

The board and staff of the Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa (CSC) extend warm greetings for 2002, which marks the beginning of our second sixty years of service. This special year finds CSC in the midst of an unusual period characterized by major successes, changes, and challenges. We want to share a number of recent developments and news.

In the past several months, together we have experienced *celebration*, as CSC marked the anniversary of our first sixty years of service, *tragedy* on September 11th, unique *challenges* in its aftermath, and *hope*, as 2001 ended with significant accomplishments toward several of our highest-priority community goals (*see enclosed*). We have also experienced *change*, as the Council has needed to relocate all its offices this year, and *planning and hard work*, as we continue moving ahead on our many community initiatives. These and other developments have contributed to the following highlights to date in 2002.

- The tragic events of September 11th led the Council to form a coalition which is *planning in concrete terms for disaster response*, but also *exploring more deeply the far-reaching implications and impacts of profound changes in our world and in the daily lives of Tulsans*. The Council has convened a group of civic, education, religious and other leaders to help identify and respond to some of these impacts.
- The events of September 11 also led to an unprecedented outpouring of willingness to help from Tulsans of all ages and backgrounds. The Council's Tulsa Volunteer Center has been here to *channel people's renewed energies toward ways they*

can best make a difference. We are working now to enhance the Volunteer Center's website, www.tulsavolunteercenter.org, to more efficiently match more people with more volunteer opportunities through a new *online* capacity.

- While responding to the challenges of September 11, *the Council has remained committed to its "investing in people" agenda.* The Council's 2001 highlights report, enclosed, touches on important progress in early childhood education, child health, substance abuse prevention, drunk driving prevention, literacy promotion, family support, prevention of HIV/AIDS, self-sufficiency for persons with disabilities, addressing the needs of Tulsa's rapidly-growing Hispanic population, and more. *These priorities continue to be our focus in 2002.*
- Progress on these and other issues continues amid some important changes, including *moving offices.* A long-standing arrangement with F&M Bank to generously provide very affordable space for the Council's Information Services and Child Care Resource Center came to an end earlier this year as F&M needed the space. Both programs have moved to new locations. In June the Council's administrative and other program offices which have been in the Tulsa Area United Way Building on Boulder Avenue for many years will move to a building a few blocks away. Once we're settled, we'll invite you for a visit. *(See the last page for details.)*

- This spring has been unusually active for our public policy work. A special focus has been on passage of SB37 to *establish the Oklahoma Partnership for Early Childhood Education.* For several years a key Council priority has been the creation of such a partnership to guide a coordinated state/local commitment to preparing children to enter kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed. Regardless of the bill's outcome, CSC will help shape such a structure that is critical to improving early learning and success in school.
- Much has been accomplished in recent years, in the Tulsa area and around the state, on improving early learning, child health, and support to young families. The Council has begun planning for a *Tulsa Summit on Early Childhood in October 2002* to celebrate progress and launch next efforts. We'll keep you informed as our plans progress.
- Information is most critical to guiding all the Council's functions. This winter the Council prepared the *2002 Community Profile Report* which has been widely used to help decision-making affecting human services. The Report is *now available online* in the newly-expanded "Data" section of www.csctulsa.org. We are currently working on a data report on the conditions of young children and their families in Tulsa County; it will be published this fall.

- Increased *community awareness and education is a key strategy* to our success. The third regional conference on women and AIDS, June 14th, will *raise awareness and provide opportunities for important new directions in HIV prevention, care and treatment for women*. The event will be presented by the Council's AIDS Coalition of Tulsa, Tulsa Community AIDS Partnership, and twenty-four co-sponsors.
- The Council often receives national recognition for its innovation and results. The MetLife Foundation recently *named the Tulsa Alliance for Families (a Community Service Council initiative) one of six outstanding model programs nationwide* for its innovative work in engaging parents' involvement with elementary schools in low-income areas. Based on a recent site visit from a Foundation representative, TAF will likely be individually featured as a national model for its comprehensive approach to family/student engagement and support.
- Looking ahead to the rest of the year, increased attention will be given to *improving early child literacy* as a part of our focus on early childhood education. Related work will focus on improving language and literacy skills among Hispanics. We also will continue to enhance our neighborhood and youth development work in east Tulsa through our highly successful East Tulsa Prevention Coalition.

The Council's mission is to *provide leadership* for community-based planning and mobilization of resources to address the human service needs of the greater Tulsa area. Being a leader requires that there is a *clear vision* of what needs to happen, a *clear knowledge* of how to achieve the vision, a *commitment to get the job done*, and the *resources to do it*. For the Council, assuming a more proactive leadership position in recent years has brought with it more responsibilities, more opportunities, more successes, more needs for accountability, and a lot more work. We need to pause sometimes *to acknowledge progress, to reaffirm our commitment, to recognize and act on needed adjustments, and to say thank you*.

We would like to thank you and hundreds of others who guide and support our efforts as leaders, volunteers, advisors, tireless workers, and financial contributors. The Council's work is possible because of this broad base of involvement and support. As always, we welcome your suggestions and value your participation.

All best wishes,



Michael P. Evanson
President



Phil Dessauer, Jr.
Executive Director

CSC's administrative offices are moving in June

The administrative offices for all CSC programs except the CCRC will be moving to this new location.

New address: **16 East 16th Street, Suite 202 - Tulsa, OK 74119**

The phone number will stay the same: 918-585-5551

Directions: CSC will be in the Main Square Towers, at 16th and Main ... about three blocks east and south from our current location. The new location will feature several meeting rooms of various sizes, and convenient parking

The Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) has moved

New address: **18 North Norwood - Tulsa, OK 74115**

The phone number is the same: 918-834-2273 (834-CARE)

Directions: The offices are in Sheridan Village Annex, between Admiral Place and Admiral Boulevard, just north of Bell Elementary School. Access is easy from I-244: take the Sheridan exit south, to Admiral Place, then west one block to Norwood. Look for the Carpet Mill Outlet at Norwood and Admiral -- CCRC is in the same building.

Visit the Community Service Council's websites

For latest information about the Council and its sponsored programs, please visit us online:

[Community Service Council](http://www.csctulsa.org) -- www.csctulsa.org

[Child Care Resource Center](http://www.ccrctulsa.org) -- www.ccrctulsa.org

[Tulsa Volunteer Center](http://www.tulsavolunteercenter.org) -- www.tulsavolunteercenter.org

[Helpline](http://www.helplinetulsa.net) -- www.helplinetulsa.net

Looking ahead ...



Please join us for the Council's annual

2002 Community Awards Celebration -- October 10th

from 5:15 - 7:30 p.m., at Gilcrease Museum. *Special thanks to AEP/PSO.*

You are invited to nominate people for these awards.

Nomination forms are now available on the website, www.csctulsa.org.

Deadline is July 22nd.
