National Council of La Raza



National Office

1025 Fifteenth Street, N.W. Fourth Floor Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 659-1251

June 25, 1975

Programs Office

3001 W. Indian School Road Dr. Hector Garcia
Suite 306 Dr. Hector Garcia
1315 Bright St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85017 Corpus Cristi, Texas 79915
(602) 263-9506

Dear Dr. Garcia:

The National Council of La Raza (NCLR) is seeking your support on a matter of vital importance for the poor and near poor Spanish speaking people of this nation in helping to provide adequate and decent housing for families presently living in overcrowded, deteriorating or dilapidated homes in barrios and colonias throughout the country.

On September 4, 1974, the NCLR was named by the Office of Economic Opportunity as Successor-in-Interest to the National Spanish Speaking Housing Development Corporation (NSSHDC). Following the fulfillment of that commitment, NCLR submitted a proposal entitled "Proyecto Salva Barrio: A Neighborhood Housing and Kehabilitation Demonstration Project for the Spanish Speaking" to address the housing problems of the Spanish speaking. An abstract describing the proposed project is enclosed for your review.

The proposal has received much favorable support from Spanish speaking community groups, but a final decision has not been made by the Community Services Administration (CSA), formerly the Office of Economic Opportunity, to fund this project. And there is a possibility that CSA may not fund the project or may fund it at a very low level.

Your voiced support, as well as the vocal support of other Spanish speaking communities who stand to be benefitted by Proyecto Salva Barrio, can be instrumental in making our needs known to the CSA and having the project fully funded. Therefore, NCLR is urgently seeking your assistance in the form of a letter to CSA addressed to:

Mr. Bert Gallegos, Director Community Services Administration 1200 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20506

As the substance of these letters will ultimately influence the outcome of the project, we have enumerated some specific areas of concern which we hope you will address in your response.

They are:

- 1) The need for a national vehicle to deal with the housing problems of the Spanish speaking effectively, a role which NCLR is uniquely qualified to perform.
- 2) The need for innovative approaches to develop viable housing programs.
- 3) Specific reference to the housing problems of the Spanish speaking in your area (i.e., the need for technical assistance or the need for access to information on government housing programs, services which the NCLR intends to provide). In discussing the housing problems of your community, supporting statistical data should be included wherever possible.
- 4) A statement of general support for NCLR.
- 5) A statement manifesting the need for full funding for Proyecto Salva Barrio.

Soon after receipt of this letter, we will be calling you to answer any queries you may have on the matter or provide you with any assistance you may need in arranging your letter.

After your letter of support to Bert Gallegos has been completed, we ask that you send a copy to your Congressmen, both state and national representatives and senators, and also provide us with a copy.

Your full cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated. With best regards.

Sinceramente.

Raul Yzaguirre National Director

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