I AM PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE SUCH A DISTINQUISHED PANEL OF AWARD RECIPIENTS —— ALL OF THEM HAVE PROVIDED REAL LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN SERVICE PROGRAMS WHICH PROMOTE THE INDEPENDENCE AND DIGINTY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH PAUL HEARNE WHO SERVES AS PRESIDENT OF THE DOLE FOUNDATION, AND IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO HONOR HIM FOR HIS TIRELESS EFFORTS AND DEDICATION TO EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

AMERICA'S CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES ARE PERHAPS OUR GREATEST RESOURCE OF UNTAPPED HUMAN POTENTIAL. WORKING TO OPEN SOCIETY TO GREATER PARTICIPATION BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WILL IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL AMERICANS.

THE USC CONFERENCE 'FORGING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SELF HELP PARTNERSHIPS' IS AT THE RIGHT TIME AND RIGHT PLACE. AS CONGRESS WORKS THIS YEAR TO PASS THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

OPPORTUNITIES ARE LIMITED ONLY BY OUR CAPACITY TO CHALLENGE OURSELVES AND TO PRODUCE INNOVATIVE

ALTERNATIVES WHICH WILL ENABLE ALL AMERICANS TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MAINSTREAM.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU ON OUR PRIORITY ISSUES. CONGRESSIONAL PASSAGE OF THE ADA AND OTHER IMPORTANT PIECES OF LEGISLATION WILL INSURE THAT

NATIONAL POLICY REFELCTS SELF SUFFICIENCY AND THE REMOVAL OF BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT, ALONG WITH FULL INTEGRATION —— ALL KEY TO ELIMINATING DEPENDENCY.