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September 26, 1973

Carmen Maymi, Director
Woman's Bureau
U.S. Dept. of Labor
Fourteenth St. and
Constitution Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Ciudad Cristal

Dear Ms. Maymi:

I'm almost tempted to call you Carmen since I feel I've known you from all the news I have been reading about you since 1971.

Chicanas in Texas feel very optimistic about your appointment as Director of the Woman's Bureau since your Hispanic background and language heritage will help bring you closer to us.

Mainly we would like to actively participate in DOL programs and plans for our communities. And we put ourselves at your office's disposal for any effort you might plan for Texas.

In the past very little has been available for minority women in Texas even of "aliento" communication, etc. When the one consultation for Spanish Speaking women was held last year it was held in Phoenix, Arizona and everyone was urged to attend "on their own". Consequently the women who are most concerned with the issues and are working with community efforts which do not have generous allowances for travel, could not go.

This happened to me and I meant to write long before this, because it happened again in the winter with a consultation that was held in Philadelphia.

If it is the poor minority woman that we are trying to reach we need to be more realistic about her situation and to bring consultations closer to her.

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For example a consultation in San Antonio, Texas would certainly be very effective for bringing Chicanas from Texas together.

Also, I'm inquiring about the Secretary's Advisory Committee on women and whether in addition to Julia Zozaya from Phoenix, which is culturally close to Calif. we could also have a Chicana from Texas especially someone representing the Migrant Labor Force. Because here is where our women are suffering most. There is a great deal to be done and we are ready to do our share. But we need you to consciously work at providing the opportunity for Chicanas, now that you are in a position to do so.

Sinceramente y Adelante,
Una amiga,



Martha P. Cotera
Director
Crystal City
Memorial Library
512 374-3132

MPC/lf