

**Sent:** Thu, 29 Jan 2009 19:01:52 -0500  
**From:** Jennifer Palmieri <jpalmieri@americanprogress.org>  
**To:** [REDACTED] "Klain, Ronald A." <ronald\_a.\_klain@ovp.eop.gov>, "Klain, Ronald A." <"/o=eop/ou=first administrative group/cn=recipients/cn=ronald\_a.\_klain">  
**Bcc:** "Klain, Ronald A." <"/o=eop/ou=first administrative group/cn=recipients/cn=ronald\_a.\_klain">  
**Subject:** Options for Feb 10

Ron -

Below is a quick outline of options for an event on February 10. I think John told you that CAP has been working in conjunction with ACORN, the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and the Coalition on Human Needson an anti-poverty campaign called "Half In Ten" (HIT). The group was formed in May of 08 with the goal of cutting poverty in half in ten years. Looking a lot tougher to do that now, of course.

We'd appreciate your reactions to these options. Once we get some more guidance, and assuming you want to pursue, we can connect with Jared and whomever else on OVP staff and get to work on a serious plan.

Thanks again, Ron. We would be thrilled to have our VP here and promise to take good care of him!

Best,

Jen

#### OPTIONS FOR POLICY/MESSAGE FOCUS

Many of the policies HIT has been advocating for – including the child tax credit, extension of unemployment insurance and ETIC expansion – are part of the stimulus package (<http://halfinten.org/issues>). As I understand it from Podesta, you two discussed the possibility of having the Vice President come to CAP in his role as head of the Middle Class Task Force, and have him speak to the benefits of these anti-poverty measures in helping to lift low-wage workers out of poverty and into the middle class.

Assuming this is the direction we want the event to go, CAP will produce some analysis to be released the day of the event that would quantify the economic benefit of these measures for low-wage workers and families living in poverty.

Another option would be to focus on anti-foreclosure measures meant to keep families in their homes. CAP has done a good bit of work in this area and could produce new analysis to release on the 10<sup>th</sup> as well.

#### OPTION ONE – SPEECH AT CAP

Our space can accommodate 110 seated guests with a press pool. We would propose having an invited audience made up largely of activists from Half In Ten's partner organizations –

ACORN, CAP, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and the Coalition on Human Needs.

#### OPTION TWO – SPEECH AT FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Option Two would give you a bigger audience and more of a rally atmosphere. ACORN has their annual legislative meeting in DC February 8 – 12. February 10 is their lobbying day where hundreds of activists go to the Hill to lobby members. If you prefer a larger venue, we could hold the event at Friendship Baptist Church in SW near HUD. I gather ACORN already had planned to do an event there with Secretary Donovan for the afternoon of the 12th. In this case, the audience would be 500 ACORN activists.