

CONTRACT WITH RURAL ARIZONA

"TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF RURAL LIFE"

WHEREAS, Arizona and New Mexico are tied for first place in the nation with 27% of the rural population living in poverty, and Arizona's poverty rate is up 61% since 1979.

WHEREAS, Arizona has eight counties with poverty rates of 20% or above, an increase of 166% between 1980 and 1990 census.

WHEREAS, Arizona has, according to the 1990 census, over 40% minority population, of which two thirds are Hispanic or American Indian, and more than 1 in 5 children in Arizona live in poverty.

WHEREAS, Arizonans have a per-capita income of \$13,461 per annum, and in rural Apache, Coconino, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Navajo, Pinal and Yuma Counties per-capita income is less than \$11,000, and rural counties have an average poverty rate of 23% compared to a rate of 13% for urban counties.

WHEREAS, Arizona ranks #2 in the United States for housing units which lack either complete plumbing or a complete kitchen, and the vast majority of these sub-standard dwellings are located in rural areas. We, the Rural People and Human Service Agencies, respectfully suggest this

CONTRACT WITH RURAL ARIZONA

IN ORDER TO IMPROVE SERVICES FOR RURAL RESIDENTS AND INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING SERVICES, WE PROPOSE THAT THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES BE CONSIDERED AS AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO RURAL ARIZONA.

Submitted by: John David Arnold, Ph.D., this 1st Day of May, 1995.

CONTRACT WITH RURAL ARIZONA
"TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF RURAL LIFE"

PRIORITY : RURAL HOUSING

PROVIDE ADEQUATE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES TO FAMILIES LIVING IN RURAL AREAS, PARTICULARLY MIGRANT FARMWORKERS.

PRIORITY : ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & MICROBUSINESS

FUND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES. LINK STATE PROGRAMS TO CREDIT PACKAGES. LINK STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS WITH NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCIES.

PRIORITY : DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

ESTABLISH & MAINTAIN EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR DISABLED ADULTS IN RURAL ARIZONA, INCLUDING ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, AND COMMUNITY-BASED RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS, PARTICULARLY FOR AMERICAN INDIANS.

PRIORITY : EDUCATION / JOB TRAINING

CONTINUE COMMITMENTS TO RURAL EDUCATION INCLUDING COMPREHENSIVE ONE STOP VOCATIONAL TRAINING, CHARTER SCHOOLS, JOB TRAINING AND THE SCHOOL TO WORK PROGRAMS.

PRIORITY : RURAL HEALTH

INVEST IN COMMUNITY-BASED HEALTH CLINICS, FUND PROGRAMS TO PREVENT TEEN PREGNANCY, PESTICIDE SAFETY AND OTHER RURAL HEALTH CONCERNS.

PRIORITY : BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

FUND PROGRAMS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO A RURAL ARIZONA WHICH IS CLEAN AND FREE OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND GANG ACTIVITY.

PRIORITY : HUMAN SERVICES

TARGET STATE HUMAN & SOCIAL SERVICE RESOURCES TO ASSIST THE RURAL DISADVANTAGED TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY. PARTNERING WITH NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS ENSURES SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES FOR ALL THE ABOVE PRIORITIES.

CONTRACT WITH RURAL ARIZONA

Respectfully Submitted, this 9TH day of MAY, 1995.

Signed: *Alie S. Paul*
for NATIVE AMERICAN SERVICES RESOURCES INC

Signed: *Anna M. Strze, Vice*
for *Arizona Intergov. Resources Advisor*

Signed: *Thuyella Foster, President*
for ARIZONA RURAL & HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK INC

Signed: *Carol Van*
for RURAL BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL INC

Signed: *M/H, President*
for ARIZONA RURAL HOUSING COALITION INC

In behalf of:
**THE RURAL POPULATION
OF THE GREAT STATE OF ARIZONA.**