

Barack Obama

August 12, 2008

Shane Salter, Ex. Dir.
CASA of Washington, DC
919 18th St. NW Ste. 510
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Shane,

Thank you for your thoughtful letter and for your support. I want to take a moment to commend you for everything you have done to be named Father of the Year. Your efforts sound incredibly impressive, and if we're going to succeed in changing this country for the better, we'll need people like you to maintain that energy over the long haul.

I strongly encourage you to share your ideas and stories by using the "My Policy" tool at www.BarackObama.com/Issues. There, you can contribute your thoughts to the nationwide conversation we are building online and receive input from others across the country. Such conversations are part of our effort to replace old-style, top-down, politics-as-usual with open, principled and civil discussion about the future of our nation.

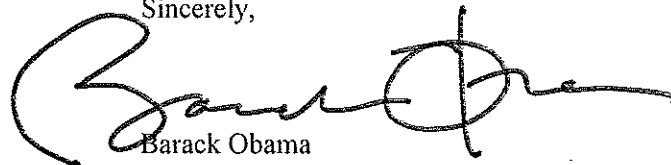
Many in Washington are skeptical that we can move past the cynical, divisive politics that have plagued our country in recent years. But I believe that in the face of impossible odds, people who love their country can change it. And that's not just the rhetoric of a campaign – it's been the cause of my life.

On the South Side of Chicago, where neighborhoods were struggling to rebuild after the closing of nearby steel plants, I learned that when ordinary people come together, they can achieve extraordinary things. At first, no one thought those neighborhoods had a chance. But we banded together, and we organized, and we taught people to stand up to their government when it wasn't standing up for them.

With your help, the same work that we did in Chicago can be done throughout this great nation. I am confident in my ability to lead, but I know I can't do it alone. Our campaign has to be about your hopes, and your dreams, and what you will do. I hope people like you will continue to take ownership of our movement to transform America.

Thank you again for your dedication and service to your community. We're building a terrific campaign all across the country thanks to folks like you.

Sincerely,



Barack Obama



Obama for America • PO Box 8210 • Chicago, IL 60680 • BarackObama.com

Paid for by Obama for America

