

Carlottia Scott

Chief of Staff, Representatives Ronald V. Dellums and Barbara Lee of California

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

Congressional Black Caucus Community: Part Two

Carlottia Scott remembers the network of working parents that supported each other in the House.

Interview recorded April 24, 2018

A lot of the staff—it was CBC staff, it was our committee staffs, and our personal office staffs—everyone was always willing to help out. So, example, I'm trying to think. Who would be a good example? Barbara and I always shared responsibility for the kids until the time she went back to Oakland. Our office, we were always open. You can bring your children if you need to bring your children to work. If the daycare is closed, or somebody has an appointment, bring that child to work. If someone had to go someplace, or say if I had to do something with Ron in the evening, one of the other staff folk would go pick up the kids from school. Theta Shipp, who used to work for Major Owens—and for Merv Dymally—would pick up the kids. Then when she adopted her daughter, we would trade off on babysitting. Everyone was amenable to helping. Your children were not only yours, they belonged to everybody else. The kids, consequently, had lots of aunts and uncles.