

RICHARD B. HARRISON PUBLIC LIBRARY
RALEIGH, N. C.

Wake Opportunities News

Volume I Number 5 November 1966 307 W. Jones St., Raleigh, N. C. Tel. 833-2886

G I V E T H A N K S F O R

Talents
Hands
America
Neighbors
Kindness
Silence
Generosity
Insight
Vision
Ingenuity
Nature
Goodness



WAKE COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
307 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

NON PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
Raleigh, N. C.
Permit No. 320



Mrs. Mollie H. Lee, Librarian
Richard B. Harrison Library
214 South Blount Street
Raleigh, N. C. 27601

Wake Opportunities, Inc.

CADET SCOUTS VOLUNTEER FOR WAKE OPPORTUNITIES

"I read in your October newsletter about a Girl Scout Troop doing volunteer service for Wake Opportunities. Please give us some ideas," said Mrs. Leola Spaugh, leader of Troop 436.

The Director of Volunteers met with the Troop, eighteen Cadet Scouts ages 12-14, on November 5 and recommended a number of service project ideas.

The Troop is divided into two patrols, Happiness Is and Adventurers. Each patrol elected to send two representatives to work at the Tuttle Community Center on Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:00 P.M. Beginning November 12 the girls will serve as aides to Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, who sponsors Community Lights, a group of boys and girls ages 10-12.

Each patrol elected a reporter to work with Mrs. Arline of Wake Opportunities as their projects and service progress.

Mrs. Lucille Webb is Assistant Troop Leader. Kay Frances Jones and Denice Spaugh are the reporters.

Many thanks to Mrs. Fred Carnage, Director of Tuttle Community Center, for her cooperation in this Girl Scout Project.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 487

Senior Girl Scout Troop 487, under the leadership of their advisor, Mrs. Woodrow Price, voted on Monday, October 31, to volunteer their services to Wake Opportunities for one year.

Planned patrol projects have been set up and four specific areas of service will include Homemaking, Arts, Trailblazer (nature and camping skills) and Panorama. Five girls will work every day from 4:00 - 5:30 P.M. and on Saturday mornings and afternoons. Field and camping trips will be taken in addition to the patrol projects.

The decision will be made on the location for their service in the early part of November. We will give a progress report on their service each month.

This is the first "group volunteer project" for Wake Opportunities. We wish the Scouts much success.

---- Not failure, but low aim is Crime.

--- Lowell ---

CLOTHING NEEDED

In the early stages of home visiting the Center Directors and Home Visitors have already discovered a great need for clothing.

Call the Central Office - or one of the Centers - if you have any articles of clothing you would like to contribute to Wake Opportunities!

A pair of shoes may be the means of some child attending school!

A News Summary of the WAR ON POVERTY October 31, 1966

THE ANTI-POVERTY APPROPRIATIONS BILL passed joint approval in the closing hours of the 89th Congress. The final version appropriates \$1.6125 billion for the Office of Economic Opportunity for Fiscal 1967. The OEO had requested \$1.75 billion for the period. The House originally cut the request to \$1.563 billion, but a compromise in the House-Senate conference boosted the amount to the final level.

If you have friends or acquaintances in Wake County who would like to be placed on the "Wake Opportunities News" mailing list, please have them complete this coupon:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

MAIL TO: Wake County Opportunities, Inc.
307 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

..... SPOTLIGHTS FROM THE STAFF

CENTRAL OFFICE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Mrs. Charles Wood . . .

The Economic Opportunity Bill for fiscal year 1967 finally passed with a substantial reduction in funds which means, of course, a curtailing of planned programs. As you probably know, the entire North Carolina delegation voted against the bill.

The challenge for Wake Opportunities becomes threefold as a result. First we must meet the needs of the economically deprived through motivation, education, training, or employment. Second, through demonstrating the prudent use of those funds made available to us, as improving the well-being of the economically deprived, to gain the support and volunteer participation of all segments of Wake County's citizens. Third, as a result of the first two, we would hope to reverse the vote on the Economic Opportunity Act of 1968.

The survey form has been pre-tested. By November 12, 1966, the final instrument should be mimeographed and ready for use. As these data are compiled and needs are identified, programs will be carefully planned to get the maximum value from each tax dollar.

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Wanzo Hendrix . . .

The activities of the Waldrop Community Action Center Staff have varied from House-to-house visitations, conducting a survey, to orientating the staff members to public speaking and group leadership. Each person delivered a 15-minute speech and was criticized by the rest of the staff for improvement. We as staff members do not consider ourselves utopians; however, we are very sincere in our work and are therefore trying to do our job effectively.

We are very elated that the majority of the people in this area are willing to accept our program and feel that it can be of great benefit to this community. This is based on reports received by the Home Visitors, interested persons visiting our Center seeking information about the program, and others wanting to know how they can help us to help the impoverished in the community. We have also received numerous calls from people stating how glad they are that such a program exists. That is, not giving or handing

out, but motivating the people to the extent that they are becoming aware and wanting to do something about their problems.

The following are some statements taken from individuals with whom we have talked:

1. An 82-year-old lady: "The Anti-Poverty Program is the best program for the poor people since the Social Security Act."
2. A Home Visitor on a house-to-house visitation was told: "I am very happy that you came by to visit me....I feel that you are a blessing from heaven...before your visit I had no idea who to talk to about my problems or what to do about them."
3. From a retired Teacher: "Talk to someone who the program would benefit....I cannot see how it could be of benefit to me."
4. A man in a wheel chair: "Your program can be of great benefit to the poor people...at last we feel people have a chance to overcome their undesirable conditions."

If the attitudes of the people remain as they are now toward our program, we feel that we will be successful in reducing the problems of poverty within the Waldrop area.

LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Wallace Temple . . .

Although the Little River Community Action Center cannot report complete acceptance of the OEO Program in this area, we are happy to report that a good bit of interest has been aroused. Our Home Visitors are continuing to interpret OEO on a door-to-door basis and report that they are welcomed into most homes and the program well received.

Our staff conducted a sample survey last Friday and the consensus seemed to be that a day care center is one of the first needs in this area. We are anxiously awaiting the final go-ahead on the survey so that we may find out what some of our other community needs are.

CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Allen Weatherford . . .

The Chavis Heights Community Action Center Open House was held Sunday, October 16, 1966. There were approximately one hundred persons who attended the event.

It is to be remembered that the persons not only looked over the office, but they were informed of the Community Action Program and how it can benefit them.

The Home Visitors have been visiting homes in the center area during which time they introduced OEO in terms of economic, cultural, and psychological elements to various existing conditions in the community.

Our preliminary survey started during the first week of November. It was, indeed, an informative experience for the Home Visitors. We found, among other things, that there exists a definite need for Child Day Care Centers in the Chavis Heights area.

We are now working toward establishing centers of this type. In addition, working in cooperation with the Raleigh Rescue Mission we hope to establish a playground area, to be staffed by Volunteers, on South Blount Street.

We very much appreciate the warm reception and cooperation which we have received in our community, and we hope that this relationship will be a lasting one.

P D C P A N E L

The Program Development Council meeting of October 25, 1966 presented a panel of experts who gave to those assembled in the Records Court Room of the Municipal Building "An Overview of Employment in Wake County."

The experts who made up the panel for this most interesting discussion were (from left to right in above picture): J. Mills Holloway, Business Manager of St. Augustine's College; William Poole, President of the Raleigh-Wake County Personnel Association; W. C. Davenport, Farm Agent for the Agricultural Extension Service; John Washington, representing the local branch of AFL-CTO; John Fleming, Manager of the Employment Security Commission; and Mr. Robert W. LeMay, Jr., President of W.W. Holding Technical Institute. Mr. Holloway was moderator of the discussion.

It was brought out that unemployment is not the real problem in Wake County, but rather the pressing problem is a twofold one of "under-employment" and "over-employment".

"Over-employment" occurs when there are too many available jobs and not enough people qualified to fill the vacancies. "Under-employment" on the other hand occurs when a person is employed but not in a job worthy of his capabilities.

It is to be hoped, according to this panel, that much can be done by the agencies existing in our county to help relieve the dual employment problem that the panel presented.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR STAFF

October 4 and 5	Human Relations
October 24	Public Relations - Elmer Oettinger Financing American Government Budgeting
October 25	Training and Manpower - Panel Hugh Cashion, J. H. Ellerbe, and Rocco Fazio
October 27	Head Start Conference at Southern Pines with OEO Regional Head Start Analysts
October 31-November 4	Temple University Community Action Program Directors' Institute: an intensive week of Seminars and study on all phases of Community Action Program work with par- ticular emphasis on Health, Manpower, and Educational Programs, Funding Sources, and Community services. Seminars and discussions chaired by experts from OEO office in Wash- ington, Temple University, and Consultants in the various fields under discussion.
November 14 and 16	Role of Board and CAA Executives Program Planning and Community Involvement The Ecology of Community Action Programs

TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR HOME VISITORS

The special training sessions being developed by the Welfare Department, the Health Department, and the Home Extension Service for the Social Services Aides, the Health Aides, and the Home Management Aides will begin on November 14. These programs have been jointly planned by the respective agencies and the Wake Opportunities Staff.

The Social Services Aides will be given a brief introduction into the overall sphere of responsibility in the Public Welfare Department with emphasis on the categorical assistance programs and child welfare service. The Health Aides will receive an introduction to human relations as well as technical information regarding specific health services. The Home Management Aides will spend one day in each of the five homemaking skills provided through the Home Extension Service.

Following this period of training, each of the Aides will work in their Center Communities under the supervision of the Center Director and seek technical guidance from the respective professional as the need arises. Wake County Opportunities is grateful to the agencies and their personnel for taking the initiative in developing such training programs and their cooperation in aiding the economically deprived.

SURVEY UNDERWAY

The purpose of the survey in the target areas is to determine:

- 1) The present use and knowledge of services and available resources.
- 2) To glean from the people their beliefs, concepts and attitudes toward the causes of poverty, and solution they would institute to alleviate them.
- 3) To tabulate these data for analysis leading to specific program planning with the neighborhood groups based on needs the families and individuals recognize as problems.
- 4) To establish a baseline of information for program evaluation and re-appraisal.

NOVEMBER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Mrs. Charles Wood . . . Nov. 16 - Methodist Conference, St. Paul's Church

Mrs. Margaret Arline . . Nov. 6 - Cary Methodist Church
Nov. 10 - Goodhope Baptist Church, Shotwell Community
Nov. 13 - Fuquay Methodist Church
Nov. 15 - East Cary Elementary PTA
Nov. 28 - West Cary High School PTA

Mr. Alfred Newkirk . . . Nov. 15 - East Cary Elementary PTA
Nov. 20 - Oak City Baptist Church in Cary
St. James Baptist Church in Cary
Nov. 22 - Cary Advisory Council, Swift Creek School
Nov. 28 - West Cary High School PTA

Mrs. George Debnam . . . Nov. 18 - Health Affairs Roundtable

WAKE COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES, INC. -- WHAT IS IT?

Many have asked why the Federal Government felt it necessary to pass the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Communities were once close knit neighborhoods made up of families either related or life long friends. The social and economic needs of the neighborhoods were known to all: friends and families banded together in community action to right the problems.

As the population in our nation has grown so have the social and economic problems. Neighborhoods are mobile and attitudes have changed regarding "getting involved in" others' problems - "we have enough of our own." For the most part we want to be like our neighbors - conforming in areas of controversy to the average mid-line concepts--neither taking a stand to the left or the right.

Other factors are involved. Since World War II there has been an extremely rapid increase in our population which means a greater number for the nation's labor force. To add to this, machines have replaced many of those employed in the unskilled and semi-skilled trades. Further, scientific knowledge and technological change have greatly increased the need for more education in order to qualify for many jobs.

These four are the major factors which have produced the paradox in our nation--poverty in a nation of abundance.

The Economic Opportunity Act was passed in order that every individual could have the opportunity to attain his maximum capacity to earn a living which would include the basic necessities of life--adequate food, clothing, shelter, and medical care.

It is not the objective of Wake Opportunities to change our capitalistic system of economy. There will always be a segment of our population who will be recipients of social welfare due to birth abnormalities, age or infirmity. The major portion of our population falls into the main stream of the American labor force. There is a small percentage at the bottom of this main stream who are physically and mentally able to earn their own livelihood if given the opportunity to learn a saleable skill or trade. It is within this group that Wake Opportunities is concerned.

All of the programs are designed to up-grade the individual through their assuming the responsibility to do for themselves rather than being done unto. The overall objective is to motivate and provide opportunities for the poor to earn while they learn in order to become self-supporting, tax-paying participants in their communities.

To this end Wake County Opportunities, Inc. was organized as a local non-profit corporation to administer the community action funds granted to Wake County through the Economic Opportunity Act. The Central Administrative Office is located at 307 West Jones Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

At present Wake Opportunities is operating four Neighborhood Centers in Apex, Chavis Heights, South Raleigh and Zebulon. The purpose of these centers is to aid the economically deprived through making known to them available resources and services in our community as well as assess the needs and develop programs with the community to meet these needs.

Each Center is staffed by:

- 1) Director who is responsible for the administration, programming, and coordination of the activities within the Center area;
- 2) Secretary who provides the clerical service necessary to the Center Staff and acts as a liaison between the center and community;
- 3) Community Organization Aide who determines community needs, establishes community organization where needed, and gives direction to community development through its leadership;
- 4) Health Aide who works in health problem areas and who receives technical guidance when needed from the Public Health Nurses serving the area;
- 5) Social Services Aide works primarily with families receiving welfare assistance and receives technical guidance when needed from the Social Welfare Case Worker serving the area;
- 6) Home Management Aide who works with families in budgeting, homemaking, cooking, etc., and receives technical guidance when needed from the Home Extension Agent;
- 7) Services Aide who will work in the area of greatest need in the community whether it be juvenile delinquency, agriculture, or alcoholism for example.

The summer Head Start programs have been delegated to the Raleigh and Wake County School Systems.

Wake Opportunities looks toward the creation of a manpower development program which would be primarily the coordination of the multitude of resources available within Wake County. This would also incorporate day care centers for the children of the economically deprived to release the parents for gainful employment.