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Wake Opportunities News



Volume I Number 6 December 1966 307 W. Jones St., Raleigh, N. C. Tel. 833-2886



We in the OEO office of WAKE

Take this OPPORTUNITY our greetings to make.

This Christmas season we all want to say

"May the best of everything come your way."

We're here with but one prime purpose: To serve!

And the staff all approach this great task with verve.

So we send you our hope for a great good NEW YEAR

And a CHRISTMAS that's filled with much love and good cheer.

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

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N.C. Wake Opportunities, Inc.

CENTRAL OFFICE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Mrs. Charles Wood . . .

To quote Disraeli, "Circumstances may be beyond the control of man, but his conduct is in his own power." We can not control - nor would we want to - the beliefs, thoughts, and actions of the people in Wake County. To each generation is passed the challenge of a changing world, and to each the challenge supersedes the last because the present is more advanced. Most of us fall into the main-stream of socially accepted behavior patterns. On the fringes are those of widely divergent ideas and narrow limits of tolerance for differing opinions. Because of their fixed ideals, they speak out and are heard and recognized. The main-stream remains silent and mobile with complacent souls in comfortable indifference to the needs of those on the fringe.

As the season of "Peace on earth, good will toward men" approaches the stark incongruity of reality and this hope of mankind tarnishes the tinsel, dims the bright lights, gives a hollow sound to the jingle bells, and mutes the carols.

If we are to accept the challenge of our generation the complacent soul must be jarred into active involvement in helping shape the changes of this our time.

May your Christmas be blessed with the assurance that you have made your best contribution in bettering human relations looking to the day when there will be "Peace on earth, good will toward all men."

LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

ACTING DIRECTOR - Mr. J. T. Locke

Although the Little River Community Action Center has been the object of publicity during the last week, we are happy to report that there are still quite a few people in the community very interested in the Economic Opportunity Program.

Our Home Visitors have started working on the Survey on a door-to-door basis in Little River and are very anxious to see what the people's ideas and concepts of lifting themselves out of poverty are and to whom they turn for leadership.

We are very sorry to have lost our Director, Mr. Wallace Temple, and our secretary, Mrs. Jane Brannan; but everyone at the Center

is working very energetically to carry the OEO program as planned.

"Though there is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear."

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Wanzo F. Hendrix

"Beyond the call of Duty" has been the slogan for the Waldrop Center during the past month.

The Staff of Waldrop Community Action Center would like to commend those persons in the Center area for rendering their volunteer services. These services included: chaperoning the Washington School Head Start children to the Health Department for dental care; bringing clothes to the Center to be distributed to the needy; delivering Thanksgiving food baskets to those who are in need; and taking care of children who are not school age so their parents can work.

Favorable replies have come into the Center office from recipients of these volunteer services. They were:

Domestic Worker - "I have eleven children and six of them are going to school improperly dressed . . . the clothes I received from that "Poverty Center" has been a great help to my school age children . . . Now, . . . I won't have to take them out of school."

Welfare Recipient - "The Thanksgiving food basket I got really surprised me this time because I did not know whether or not the Welfare Department had enough to give out this year Thank God."

First Grader - "Why can't our teacher take us to the Health Department . . . ?"

Principal of School - "I did not know we had people who would do something for nothing, especially when they have to spend two or three hours a day with fifteen or twenty Head Start children at the Health Department . . . Thank you for helping us . . ."

The staff would like to take our hats off to those who have helped in every capacity in the Center area in a "Beyond the call of Duty" service. Here's wishing every one in and out of the Center area a prosperous Yuletide Season.

APEX COMMUNITY CENTER OPENS

With the hiring of Mrs. Geneva Baker as Director of the Apex Community Action Center, the orientation for the Apex Center Staff has now begun. The orientation consists of two weeks devoted to practical training experiences and technical training under the guidance of various professional agencies, and Wake Opportunities Community Action Centers in Raleigh and Zebulon. The opening of the Apex Center brings the number of Neighborhood Community Centers in Wake County to four.

The special aides have completed their training in the fields of health, home management, and welfare and are now working in their center areas.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Three Volunteer Training Sessions for Adult Basic Education Recruitment have been held this past month. Approximately fifty volunteers are recruiting students in Waldrop, Chavis Heights, Method and Cary. Follow-up meetings are planned for December to give progress reports.

. . . BOARD ACTION . . .

Mrs. Almata Latta was presented by the Nominating Committee to serve on the Executive Committee of Wake County Opportunities, Inc. and was unanimously elected.

There will be no December Board meeting. Meetings will be held at 7:30 P.M. instead of 8:00 P.M. beginning in January.

P D C MEETING

Day Care Centers and the many forms they take was the subject of an excellent panel discussion that highlighted the November 22nd meeting of the Program Development Council. Under the excellent leadership of Mrs. T. B. Dameron, Chairman of the Program Development Day Care Committee the panel, moderated by North Carolina Day Care Consultant, Mrs. Basil Sherrill, presented the picture of Day Care in Raleigh from the standpoint of the Day Care Commission, the co-operatively operated Raleigh Pre-School, the volunteer staffed Halifax Court Kindergarten, and the United Fund supported Raleigh Day Nursery School. The need for more such licensing such centers was forcefully presented.

Those participating in the panel were: Mrs. Margaret Scarborough, North Carolina Day Care Consultant; Mrs. Charles G. Watkins, Volunteer Director Halifax Court Kindergarten; Mrs. Rosia Butler, Raleigh Day Nursery School; Mrs. Charlotte Barnes and Mr. Benjamin Taylor, Raleigh Pre-School; Mrs. Lillian Freeman, P.T.A. Representative; and Mr. Carl Staley, Assistant Director for Child Welfare, Division of North Carolina Department of Public Welfare.

A News Summary of the WAR ON POVERTY

November 28, 1966

LOCALLY DEVELOPED COMMUNITY ACTION programs will be reduced in scope during the current fiscal year, Sargent Shriver, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, announced at a press conference last week. The programs--devised by some 1,000 communities to meet their own needs--have to be curtailed for three major reasons, Mr. Shriver said. (1) 45 per cent of the total OEO budget has been earmarked for specific programs such as Head Start, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Neighborhood Health Centers. (2) \$138 million was cut from the President's original request to Congress and most of this came from Community Action funds. (3) New and unrequested programs were added to the War on Poverty, without matching funds. As a result of these factors, available CAP versatile funds--those that can be used for locally initiated projects such as neighborhood centers, consumer information and education, family planning, etc.--are actually \$66 million less than the communities spent in Fiscal 1966 and \$166 million below the requested figure for Fiscal 1967.

The hardest hit of the CAA's will be those who were able to organize early and now have successful on-going programs with a number of components. To operate within budgetary limits the CAA's will have to limit themselves to programs with the highest priorities. Mr. Shriver said the OEO has tried to guide communities in deciding where cuts in the programs should be made, but that even those programs which OEO considers of less benefit than others, are "important to the communities which developed them."

He warned there will be no money available for summer programs, that programs of educational guidance and counselling, recreation and cultural enrichment will be drastically reduced, that Legal Services will fall far short of the goals the American Bar Association had determined were minimum for 1967, and that Upward Bound will have to turn away hundreds of promising youngsters.

While there will be enough funds available to continue the earmarked programs at their present level during Fiscal 1967, Mr. Shriver said, the number of persons reached by such programs will not be increased to any meaningful degree. In hundreds of communities throughout the country, especially in rural America where community action programs have not been started, they can not now be started because of the lack of funds, Mr. Shriver added.