

Wake Opportunities News

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Volume II Number 6 DECEMBER 1967 713 N. Person Street Raleigh, N. C. 27604
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WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES
RICHARD B. HARRISON BRANCH
RALEIGH, N. C. 27610



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.
713 North Person Street
Raleigh, N. C. 27604

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Mrs. Mollie H. Lee, Librarian
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214 S. Blount Street
Raleigh N. C. 27601

LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

Director: Mrs. Gloria George

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| November Contacts: | 394 |
| Follow-ups: | 57 |
| Services: | 288 |
| Referrals &
Walk-ins: | 218 |

This center had one of its most active months during November. There seemed to be some activity going on and requiring our attention all of the time.

One of the most important items requiring the attention of the entire staff and the Advisory Committee was the writing of the program for the Center for the coming year's funding. It required much thought in its developing in order that it might fully reflect the wishes and needs of the total community, but it was finally completed, submitted to the WCOI Board of Directors for their approval, and forwarded to Washington for the OK of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Re-funding date of the compnent will be March 1, 1968.

Because a new industry is now in the process of locating its new plant in the Zebulon area, many persons interested in securing jobs have come in to our Center to seek information concerning the positions available and to make application for these jobs.

Much of our time in November was also taken up in completing our maps of the township and the town. We are glad to say that they are now completed and are hanging regally, beautifully and with dignity on the Center's Conference Room walls.

Another great addition to our Center is the establishment in the Center of a Learning Lab by W.W.Holding Technical Institute. Having this institute bring its facilities into Zebulon has greatly enhanced Holding's already large contribution to the community. Come to the Center for details about the use of the Learning Lab.

With the proposed expansion of our Center's area work has been done on establishing new boundaries. When these boundaries are approved the Center staff can begin their contacts with the people of these new areas.

We are very busy, and thats how we like it to be. The busier we are the more we feel we are being of service to the community.

CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

Director: Mrs. Dorothy Allen

REFERRALS FOR NOVEMBER:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Employment | 5 |
| Education | 1 |
| Health | 98 |
| Social Services | 18 |
| Community Development | 267 |

Mrs. Dorothy Allen has assumed the position of Director of the Chavis Heights Center and both the staff and the community have given her every assurance of their whole hearted support.

During the past few week the Chavis Heights Community Action Center has been involved in numerous activities:

An Advisory Committee meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the re-writing of the program for the coming year and the suggestions and wishes of the community were included in the new program. Decisions were made by this group on the placement of priorities for program, staff needs, and budget requests. The entire WCOI component is now in the OEO office in Washington for its final approval. The new program year will begin March 1, 1968.

The Advisory Committee voted that the theme for 1968 should be "FOR BETTER PROGRAMS IN'68 - PARTICIPATE!" There were 22 persons present at the meeting. They play an important part in the life of our Center for they inform others of our function in the community.

A Community Meeting and luncheon was held November 27th at Ligon High School with over 100 persons in attendance. At this time the programs of Wake Opportunities and Grow, Inc. were presented by staff members of the two organizations, and the favorable response of those attending was most gratifying.

Our thanks go to those who attended the above mentioned meeting, and also to the Postal Alliance and other interested citizens for services rendered during the Thanksgiving season to citizens in our area.

We are looking forward to a "great '68", thanks to the wonderful support that we are receiving from the entire community.

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
Director: David Lorenzo Haywood

REFERRALS FOR NOVEMBER:

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Employment | 13 |
| Health | 2 |
| Social Services | 3 |

The Waldrop Center has been busy during November carrying out projects and scheduling new programs to be started or continued in our area.

On November 4 there was a massive Clean-Up Campaign in the Southside area and it was a real success. We wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the Southside People's Organization for a job well done. Waldrop Center participated with the SPO by selling 20 gallon garbage cans to the people of the community for the nominal cost of \$1.00, and we also served doughnuts and coffee to the many volunteers from Shaw University and NCSU who helped with the clean-up.

Now Waldrop Center has arranged with Ligon High Industrial Arts Classes to build garbage can racks, holding two cans each, to be sold to the residents of the area for \$1.00. The lumber for this project is being donated by Byrum Lumber Company, R.L. Goldston, Carolina Builders and Cast-A-Stone Company. These racks will be painted in order to better withstand the weather.

Our Advisory Committee met this month with the City Inspection Officers to request more playground area be made available to the children in Southside by the clearing of vacant lots, and the tearing down of old houses that are no longer occupied. Nothing has been heard from the city as yet on this request.

The Advisory Committee also met to help in the writing of the new program year requests to Washington.

The Staff has been busy with families that need attention in many ways. We have worked with mothers of the area trying to help them get their homes in a more livable condition, and it is a real pleasure to start with a family in need and finally see them doing for themselves, and to measure the progress the family has made.

Volunteers and In-Kind contributions have been too numerous to mention, but we are eternally grateful for all those who have helped us so much in our work.

MIDDLE CREEK COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
Director: Mrs. Mary Morris

Our Staff has really begun to see that this is the most challenging job of their lives! It takes the combined efforts of every member of the staff to get the job well done, and this is true not only of our work with people in the community, but also of all the 'paper work' that must accompany all that we do.

Our program for next year was written, with the guidance of our Advisory Committee whose priorities were set for the greatest needs of the greatest number. The 1968 Component was written on the old formula of "FIRST THINGS FIRST" and their first concern is with education in all of its many phases. We invite all concerned members of the community to come to the office and read this projected program, to see what we hope to have in 1968 in regard to programs for the different communities in our area. Our programming will involve the whole of Middle Creek.

The first testing session for Adult Basic Education was held November 30 (too late to report results in this Newsletter) but you can be assured that this will be reported in full in January.

The Center is planning a money-making project for the economically deprived teenagers by taking orders for Christmas greenery. We have received permission from three land owners to get greens and berries from their land for sale in the community.

Our November referral and contact records are larger than previous months and they continue to grow day by day. The coordination between our Center and the agencies in Wake County is very close, and through these agencies there are many and varied benefits to be derived by the citizens of our area.

Again let us invite you to come by and pay us a visit, and we will try to answer any questions which you may have about our agency.

We would like to thank publicly the many volunteers who have given so generously of their time, and to express our thanks for the many 'in-kind' contributions that have been made to us by our friends.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a
Happy New Year.

WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES
RICHARD B. HARRISON BRANCH

RALEIGH, N.C. 27601
NORTH BLOUNT STREET COMMUNITY
ACTION CENTER

Director: Mrs. Peggy Hicks

WHITE OAK COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
Director: Geneva Baker

Referrals for November:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|---------|
| Employment | 14 | 3 hired |
| Education | 8 | |
| Health | 7 | |
| Social Services | 6 | |
| Community Development | 163 | |

During October we paused to look back over our past several months experience so that we could draw upon this experience to plan our work for next year. A good bit of time and thought was put into planning and writing the component in preparation for sending it to Washington.

Our original enrichment group of five-year-olds continues to be a vigorous and rewarding group. On Nov. 1, another enrichment group for seventeen five-year-olds was started under the direction of a volunteer teacher. This group meets each Wednesday morning. Snacks are being provided for both groups by church women. The children have a happy and profitable time. Some of them are from desperately poor homes, so that even to be warm and to be treated with consideration is an enrichment. On Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. there is to be a program given by the children for their parents. Refreshments and favors for parents and children will be provided by the church women. Still more children need this type of cultural enrichment, so we are working to organize more groups. Volunteer help is needed.

Quilts continue to come into being through the work of the women whose families need warm covering and of the hard working volunteers who help them. Recipes are exchanged. Ideas are discussed and better ways of doing are discovered.

Each of the Aides continues to visit homes and to seek out those who, with a boost from us can raise their living standards, and become more self-sufficient. They have found some really needy cases of children with no warm clothing. Community members came to the rescue and the children were gotten back into school.

Again we invite you to visit us. Come by on Wednesday or Friday morning and have your heart warmed as you see how really worth while the two children's programs are.

REFERRALS FOR SEPTEMBER

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Employment | 29 |
| Education | 1 |
| Health | 2 |
| Social Services | 5 |
| Community Development | 5 |

With the completion of our surveys in the community, the staff of the North Blount Street Neighborhood Center have been able to turn their attention to the real problems in the area which presented themselves through the survey and through the Advisory Council made up of residents from the area.

Through the cooperation of Halifax Court Housing Authority, Wake County Public Health Department and Wake County Opportunities, Inc. a ringworm clinic at Halifax Court last month was well attended by the people in the area. This was followed by a Pet Clinic conducted by Dr. Ralph Williams at Halifax Court Apartments where ringworm conditions of pets in the area were diagnosed and treatment demonstrated with donated medicines.

Appreciation goes to those residents of Halifax Court Apartments who encouraged their neighbors and friends to attend these clinics. Mr. C. R. Matthews and Mrs. Sandra Strickland, Advisory Council members, were outstanding in this effort.

Residents in the Idlewild - Cooke Street area have been engaged in community meetings to discuss the real need and possibilities for recreational facilities in their area. Twenty-four teen-agers have organized behind Carolyn Mitchell, their chairman, to work closely with parents and other adults in their area in an effort to clarify their needs. Basketball for the boys and young men is the loudest plea, which is closely followed by a need for physical fitness, sewing and cooking instruction facilities, day care, and a place where young people can go with proper supervision. Tutorial needs in the area are not being overlooked, but will be started on a small scale with the first meetings being held at Tuttle Community Center.