

# Wake Opportunities News

Volume I Number 10 April, 1967 713 North Person Street, Raleigh, N. C. Tel 833-2886

. . . SPOTLIGHTS FROM THE STAFF . . .

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Charles Wood

The role of the administrator is varied and many fold. To relate my activities would be repetitious of other's reports, for the administrator's function is to give guidance and direction to on going programs and to develop plans which will enable the staffs to perform their duties in achieving our goals.

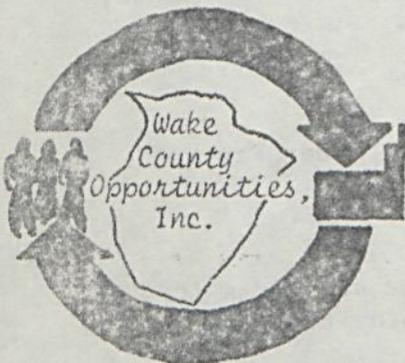
On Thursday, April 13, 1967, Wake Opportunities was informed by the U. S. Department of Labor that there were funds available for a Scheuer Amendment project for Wake Opportunities. The

emphasis of this program would be in creating sub-professional positions in local non-profit agencies which would provide services to people. In a sense this program follows the Out-of-school Neighborhood Youth Corps for the age group 22 years and over. The program is to provide training and work experience for the enrollees and a job at the end of two years.

Wake Opportunities is very grateful for the cooperation and willingness of local agencies working with us in the Economic Opportunity program for Wake County. We look forward to tackling the Scheuer Amendment project with each of them as counterparts to the whole all trying to improve the well being of the poor.

WAKE COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES, INC.  
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Raleigh, North Carolina

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## CENTRAL OFFICE-FIELD TRAINING STUDENTS

Wake Opportunities has had the distinct privilege and rare opportunity these past weeks of working with two students from the School of Public Health at U. N. C. Mrs. Tommie Glenn and Mr. Zaher Farag are assigned to us for their field training - a necessary part of their studies towards graduate degrees in Public Health Education - and have quickly become valuable members of our staff.

After a general orientation to Wake Opportunities and the agencies in Wake County, they have become involved in the process of coding surveys done in the Neighborhood Center areas in order that we may more quickly obtain needed statistical information from the survey forms. After the survey job is completed both Mrs. Glenn and Mr. Farag will work in the Centers in the fields of Community Organization and program planning.

We welcome these additions to our staff and hope their two months with Wake Opportunities will be as helpful to them as they are to us.

Mrs. Glenn and Mr. Farag introduce themselves to you in the following articles:

In my four weeks as a public health student in field training in Wake County Opportunities there are two features of the agency which have impressed me. One of these features is the excellent job Wake County Opportunities is doing in referring people to the services they need. Throughout our year of study in the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina we have heard of the need for referral service to help people locate the multiplicity of agencies for the services they need. Wake County Opportunities is helping to meet this need and this demand in Wake County.

Another aspect of Wake County Opportunities that has impressed me is

the extensive use of volunteer services and facilities. "If Wake County Opportunities ceased to exist, what would happen to its programs?" It is the hope of the staff of the agency that the numerous volunteers and volunteer groups would continue to carry on the present projects and take leadership initiating new ones as needs arise.

These two features of Wake County Opportunities make it a community program. In the words of the director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, "The War on Poverty is not exclusively a poor people's enterprise. It is an American enterprise. It is good for all America not just the poor."

Mrs. Tommie E. Glenn

I was born in Cairo, Egypt less than 10 miles from the great pyramids, and there I got my early education. From there I went to Lebanon for undergraduate work. After completion of my studies I became Dean of Boys, Biology and English teacher. After a brief encounter with Egyptian Village boys, among whom there was a great need for health education, I came to this country to study to meet that need. I, therefore, took up educational administration and received my M. A. from Maryland University. I taught Biology and was principal of a Junior Academy here in the U. S., but could not dismiss the health aspect of education. So I decided to get a Masters in Public Health Education at U. N. C. and intend to complete my Doctoral studies in Education Administration. I feel privileged to have been selected for field work in Wake County Opportunities, Incorporated. This is an educative program and a worthwhile cause, to which I hope to contribute during my stay.

Zaher Farag

Infinite goodness has such arms it takes whatever turns into it.

-Dante

CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR: A. E. Weatherford, III

Having completed our household surveys in Census Tracts 7 and 8, we have now turned our attention and efforts to the matter of originating and conducting programs for which you have indicated there is a need. In addition to the study program which has already begun, there are several others which we think you'll find interesting.

Miss Henrietta Faison for example, has met for the past week with a group of pre-teen and teen-aged young ladies. These young ladies, with Miss Faison's help, are trying to acquire more social poise, grace, and charm. They are planning such activities as reading programs, dramatic learning exercises, community service, and tours of noteworthy places throughout Wake County. On Thursday, May 11, Mrs. Hill will hold the first meeting of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Club for all interested junior high and high school students. This group will offer creative companionship and cultural enrichment, as well as recreational activities for its members. It, too, will be a community service group. Mrs. Allen, our Community Organization Aide, is establishing a Helping Hands Club to render services for the senior citizens of the area. Though her last meeting was "rained out," the members of the group are looking forward to another meeting on Monday, May 8. Our Home Management Aide, Mrs. Dixon, is looking forward to Tuesday, May 16. On that date, she will entertain the first meeting of the Home Achievement Group which will be sponsored by your Community Action Center. This group will begin its activities with a series of cooking classes, and will then broaden its areas to include canning, budgeting, sewing, and other areas of interest to homemakers. On May 19, Mr. Wasz will conduct the first meeting of a group to help the families of problem alcoholics in the Chavis Heights Area. All people interested in projects such as these are encouraged to contact us at the Center (phone 828-6326) for additional information concerning times and places of the meetings.

We would like to invite your attention to our radio broadcast on Radio Station WLLE on Sunday afternoons. On this fifteen-minute program, called "Your Community In Action," we try to provide an understanding of what goes on in your Community Action Center and

how we might all work together to improve our community. This program is broadcast each Sunday afternoon at 2:45 as a public service feature of the radio station. Please tune in.

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. David L. Haywood

Following the completion of 987 surveys taken in the Waldrop Area to determine the problems and unmet needs, which is the first step in community development, planning programs to meet these needs is now our primary concern.

During the month of March we had two meetings with our Advisory Committee. This committee consists of fourteen persons from this area. Their purpose is to bring ideas and suggestions from the community to our staff and serve as a channel of communication in interpreting our programs to the people in this area. They have also aided us with various problems confronting needy families. We as staff members are very proud of this committee for their cooperation and for working so diligently in the community.

We have also had three meetings with interested persons in this area to discuss programs that would enable them to improve their present condition. From these meetings we proposed four programs that were approved by the central office and now are the present activities of the Center. They are: (1) The M-O-T-H-E-R-'S GROUP. This program will include cooking, sewing and budgeting. (2) First Aid and Health Education (3) Children's and Youth Hour which provides little enrichment for the children and youth through classes, tours of the governmental, recreational and educational institutions of this area. We will also try to teach them to have an appreciation of the Fine Arts. (4) A Sanitation program that will be dealing with the eradicating of unhealthy and unsanitary conditions in the community.

Besides working on our program we have referred people to the Welfare Department, Health Department, Employment Security Commission Office, Raleigh Housing Authorities and various other agencies.

## LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

A sigh of relief was breathed by our aides when they completed the surveys. They did the lengthy and comprehensive surveys of 700 families in Little River Township. We thank each of you who helped us get this much needed and useful information.

From the information garnered from the surveys, the aides gained an insight into the lives of the people of the community, their needs, desires, hopes, ambitions, worries, frustrations, health, moral, and religious conditions.

One aide said: "I knew we had impoverished families, but I never knew there were so many and some existing with so very little. It was a vital learning experience for me."

The Center Director has been working with and through the proper agency authorities seeking funds for construction of a building where recreational activities could be held for the youth of the community. The lot, which was purchased several years ago, is available on which to construct the building when the hoped for funds are made available.

This building, of ample size and adequately equipped, could also be used for the Day Care Center, when this very much needed project comes to pass.

Plans are being formulated for youth groups. These youths will be encouraged to actively engage in activities of their own planning and liking. They will, however, be guided and directed wisely under the leadership of the aide.

Recruiting of persons for Basic Adult Education classes, set for the Center here, is being done. A certain number of persons must be enrolled in the classes before one can be begun, but the Center staff members feel there will be no trouble in getting the required--or more--membership.

The Center and the work it is doing and accomplishing is being publicized through the newspaper. A member of the staff is a former newspaper editor and he is contributing articles to the newspaper, thereby educating the general public what the purpose, aims, and how Little River Community Action Center and Wake Opportunities, Inc., can be vital and useful services to the people of Little River Township.

## WHITE OAK COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mrs. Geneva Baker

Isn't it good to be living in North Carolina in April when the dogwoods and azaleas are blooming! In Apex we are half through with our Surveys although this beautiful weather is interfering. We find people gone more often now than in the winter. We are planning to go in earlier in the day to make our surveys.

We have enlarged our Advisory Committee. We are proud of the people who have agreed to help us in this way and would like to introduce them to you, beginning with Mr. C. W. Pegram and Mr. W. T. Wilson, from the Wake Opportunities Board of Directors, Mrs. Sherrill Brinkley and Fred Richardson from the Development Council, Mr. C. E. Stephens, a local businessman, Mrs. Kent Goodwin from Olive Chapel, Dr. Daylene Page from Apex, Mrs. Essie Crittendon of Apex, Mr. Warren Thomas of New Hill, Mr. Robert Council of Apex and Mr. David Holmes of Swift Creek. We appreciate these fine people consenting to help us, and feel that we will be able to do a much better job in our Center with their help.

We are sorry to announce that, due to the illness of her husband, Mrs. Sue Jones felt it necessary to resign her position as Community Organization Aide. However, we feel very fortunate to have secured Mrs. Mable Lawrence to fill this vacancy. We enjoyed working with Mrs. Jones and sincerely hope that her husband's health improves.

Please come visit us and send to us any one that you think our help.