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Wake Opportunities News

Volume I Number 4 October 1966 307 W. Jones St., Raleigh, N. C. Tel. 833-2886

WHAT IS WAKE COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES, INC.? This Non Profit Organization is the local branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity. The home office is in Washington, D. C.

WHAT DOES THE ORGANIZATION DO? Wake County Opportunities is trying to involve and organize the people of certain neighborhoods in projects and activities to help themselves.

WHY DOES IT WANT TO DO THAT? We of Wake County Opportunities feel that all people have the right to get jobs which will help them and their families to earn enough money to get the things which they need.

HOW CAN THAT BE DONE? We feel that by having several Community Action Program Centers within the neighborhoods, the members of the communities will be able to benefit from more active participation in community activities and programs.

WHERE WILL THESE CENTERS BE? The Community Action Program Centers will be located throughout Wake County:

CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER - 520 E. Martin St., Raleigh, N.C. - Tel. 828-6326
LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER - 204 N. Arendell Ave., Zebulon, N.C. - Tel. 269-9628
WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER - 911 Manley Street, Raleigh, N.C. - Tel. 828-5275

WHEN WILL THEY GET STARTED? These Centers are open to help you now!

HOW CAN I GET HELP FROM THESE CENTERS? You may get in touch with your local Center by telephone or by going there. In a few weeks, workers from your center will visit you to ask some questions. Please cooperate with these persons so that your Center can be of the most benefit to you and your community. Any time you think we can help you, just give us a call!

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

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COMMUNITY ACTION CENTERS AT WORK

At long last, trained and enthusiastic Center Staffs are working in their respective communities. The primary objective for the first month or six weeks will be community organization and getting to know the neighborhoods and the people. The Home Visitors will be interpreting Wake Opportunities at every opportunity! They will prepare the residents for the door-to-door Survey which they will conduct beginning around the first of November.

Lawns are cut and trimmed

Curtains are hung

Bulletin Boards display the latest news

Fresh flowers add a real touch of beauty

The welcome mats are out

Your Community Action Centers are open to everyone - They are there to serve you! Plan to visit them right away. Tell your friends!

Community Action can provide opportunities for

Better jobs

Better homes

Better health

A News Summary of the WAR ON POVERTY

October 17, 1966

THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE JOINT CONFERENCE on the anti-poverty bill agreed late last week on a \$1.75 billion version of the bill which carries some restrictions on the program. One of these requires Community Action agencies to increase their local share of funds from 10 to 20 percent beginning July 1, 1967. The local share, as before, may take the form of in-kind contributions such as provision of facilities. The final conference version provides for stronger financial controls over local spending of Federal funds, and earmarks more than half the Community Action (Title 11) funds for specific projects chosen by Congress. Also, salaries that CAA's could pay its staff with Federal funds were limited to \$15,000, and limits were imposed on the number of OEO staff members who could be of supergrade (\$20,000 to \$25,000) to one official per 100 employees. The Senate will act first on the conference report, and its approval will automatically dissolve the Joint Conference Committee. But if the House rejects the report, a new conference committee will have to be set up. Meanwhile, late Thursday, October 13, the House Appropriations Committee specified holding funds for the program to its present \$1.563 billion level.

VOL. I-31 OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

SPOTLIGHTS FROM THE STAFF

CENTRAL OFFICE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Mrs. Charles Wood. . .

The Neighborhood Centers are open and work has begun in Chavis Heights, Waldrop, and Zebulon. There is no time to pause, look back or reflect that our task is done.

A staff and office space for the Apex Center must be secured by November 1, 1966.

The Community Survey form is in its final phase and undergoing the finishing touches of the experts. Based on the findings of these data, projects for Neighborhood Centers in Fuquay-Varina and Halifax Community will be written along with Neighborhood Day Care Centers, and a comprehensive Manpower Development Program.

Wake Opportunities Board of Directors is being expanded to assure representation from official agencies and other groups having mutual concern with providing services to the poor.

There is much to do but with the able direction of the Board of Directors and the study and recommendations of the Program Development Council, the staff accepts the challenge with eagerness.

COMPONENT COMPOSER - Mrs. Margaret Smith. .

My first real task on this very new job has been to search out from the minutes of the Board Meetings, from the memos of the By-Laws Committee, and from the original By-Laws the various changes necessary to bring the By-Laws up to date, and to re-write them in the form authorized by the Board. Giving this task to the newest member of the staff was the "genius-like" stroke of Mrs. Wood, for not only did it give me the feeling of being immediately needed on the staff, but it quickly familiarized me with the structure of the organization. So, I learned "on the job" in a most effective way.

I might also add that after only a few days in the office the job title might be Confused Component Composer. At best mine is an alliterative title and I can only hope that as time goes on and I settle into this writing game, that my efforts will bring forth not just alliteration but *real* results for projected projects and great good will for Wake Opportunities.



Mrs. Charles Wood

EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR - Mr. Alfred Newkirk. .

With the Neighborhood Center Staff Training Sessions now completed, and the initial opening of three of the six Neighborhood Centers, we are looking forward to the completion and implementation of the survey forms. Various programs of an educational nature will be set up according to the information obtained by the survey.

We are in the process now of setting up a Training Session for the Staff of the Apex Community Action Center which will open in November of this year. We shall attempt to expose them to the same type of training received by members of the previous Community Centers.

The Basic Adult Education program is moving slowly for a lack of interested students and, in some cases, adequate facilities. But a meeting is being set up between Wake Opportunities and W. W. Holding Technical Institute to determine what methods might be most effectively employed in order to create more interest in the BAE program. Although the surface has not been scratched in reaching the illiterates in Wake County, we feel that an effective Volunteer and Recruitment Program will do much toward scratching that surface. Our Neighborhood Centers will be very helpful in locating a large number of our functional illiterates in Wake County.

DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTEERS - Mrs. Margaret Arline

Telephone-receptionists topped the list of volunteer services this month. Without their help the Central Staff would not have been able to attend Wake Opportunities Staff Training and the monthly Wake Opportunities Staff Meeting at Little River Community Center in Zebulon.

The September Newsletters were addressed by volunteers, and Mrs. Uva Holland of Apex is working on our master mailing list.

Individuals and groups are beginning to offer their services, and we are delighted with their response.

Mrs. Basil Sherrill spoke at a luncheon meeting for Red Cross volunteers. As a result, Mrs. Kitty Williamson called Wake Opportunities and offered the services of Red Cross nurses to teach classes or help in any way they were needed. A group of Senior Girl Scouts, under the direction of Mrs. Woodrow Price, is now planning a volunteer project on behalf of Wake Opportunities. This group, Girl Scout Troop 487, took 16 youngsters from the Halifax Courts area to the fair Saturday, October 15, as the first in a series of these projects.

Wake County Opportunities held a Home Team Banquet on September 23 as a climax to Staff Training. Mrs. G. C. Debnam was the speaker.

Also speaking in September were: Mrs. Charles Wood on September 9 at the Zebulon Rotary Club, and on September 12 at Saint Michael's Church; and Mrs. Dorothy Allen on September 13 at Crosby Garfield School P.T.A., and on September 20 at Chavis Heights Improvement Association.

In addition to these dates, the October calendar has been filled with the following speaking engagements:

Mrs. Charles Wood . . .

Oct. 3 - Shepard High School P.T.A.

Oct. 6 - Zebulon Lions Club

Oct. 11 - Women's Church Group, Garner Methodist Church

Oct. 20 - District Meeting of Methodist Churches, Edenton St. Meth. Ch.

Mr. Robert Marley . . .

Oct. 5 - Fairmont Meth. Church, women

Mrs. Dorothy Allen . . .

Oct. 6 - Lucille Hunter P.T.A.

Oct. 8 - Seventh Day Adventist Church

Oct. 9 - Tupper Memorial Church

Oct. 17 - J. W. Ligon, P.T.A.

Oct. 19 - Elks Club Meeting

Oct. 20 - Precinct 26 Meeting, Bloodworth Street YMCA

Oct. 24 - Carnage School P.T.A.

Mrs. Shirley Winston . . .

Oct. 10 - Washington School P.T.A.

Mr. J. T. Locke . . .

Oct. 12 - Wendell Baptist Church, Adult Education Meeting

A set of 50-75 slides and text are well on the way to completion. These slides will portray the story of the Office of Economic Opportunity and Wake Opportunities. They will be used by the Speakers Bureau to interpret Wake Opportunities to any interested group.

The Center Staffs are busy recruiting volunteers in their respective neighborhoods. We plan to be ready with volunteers when programs and activities begin to develop. Keep up the good work!

Thanks to all our volunteers.

FINANCIAL OFFICER - Mr. Clyde Finch . . .

Following the Staff Training Program, activities pertaining to the fiscal accounting have returned to normal.

The federal share of funds from which we operate have now been made available for the Conduct and Administration Grant by OEO. This is somewhat of a relief since we had been operating on a very limited amount of funds remaining on our Program Development Grant since July 31, 1966.

CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Allen Weatherford, III . . .

Following the conclusion of the Training Institute which was interesting as well as informative, the entire staff attended a banquet at the S & W Cafeteria, at which time Mrs. Marjorie Debnam was presented as the speaker for the occasion. Mrs. Debnam portrayed how Wake Opportunities, Inc. could perform as a team in order to be successful with one definite goal in mind - "To help impoverished people to help themselves."

The Chavis Heights Community Action Center opened Monday, September 26, 1966. All staff members participated in general cleaning of the office. Local firms and private citizens contributed items of furniture and equipment for the office.

Our Home Visitors are traveling throughout the Chavis Heights Center area locating and identifying the various communities within our territory as well as some of the more urgent needs.

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THE ACTIONS of men are
like the index of a book;
they point out what is
most remarkable in them.

— Heine



Left to right: Mrs. Elgean McCullers, Mrs. Hazel Jones, Mrs. Nancy High, Mr. J. T. Locke, Mrs. Lucille Pippin

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Wanzo Hendrix

On Sunday, October 2, 1966, Waldrop Community Action Center had its open house with the purpose of acquainting the public with our center and its staff.

Each guest was introduced to our Director and the staff and then given a tour of the office. Refreshments were served.

We extend our appreciation to all persons who made possible the success of our open house. Special appreciation is given to: Mrs. Margaret Hinton, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitaker, Mr. Claude E. Debnam, Lighten Funeral Home, Community Florist, Pee Wee Hunter Florist's, Watkin Florist, Katie Flower Shop, King Greene Cleaners, Britt Wholesale, Streb's Cake Box, and Winston Mutual Insurance Company for their individual contributions.

Thank you again.

JUNIOR LEAGUE STUDY GROUP

In order that League members may better understand changes in our community and be better equipped to meet the "Challenge of Change", the Education Committee has arranged for a Study Group to be conducted on the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 and Wake County Opportunities, Inc. This Study Group will be conducted by the Director and Staff members of Wake County Opportunities, Inc., and we expect to learn a great deal about what is being planned and done to facilitate Anti-Poverty Programs in this area.

LITTLE RIVER COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER

DIRECTOR - Mr. Wallace Temple

The Little River Center Staff happily reported to work in our own office September 26, 1966. The first thing on the agenda was to remove a month's dust from our desks and try to bring a little organization to our surroundings. After many hours of hard work and aching backs, our office is now complete and each staff member has his own little nest made. Our staff has worked together for a number of days getting our areas mapped out so that each of us will be familiar with every nook and cranny of Little River. Mr. J. T. Locke and the other Home Visitors spent approximately a day riding over rural roads, locating little-known side roads so that no one will get lost when they are out on their own. All of us still have lots of homework to do to wade through the materials collected during Staff Training. We hope that by next month we will have some really constructive news to report.

FIELD TRAINING STUDENT

Mr. Andrew Popoli

Mr. Andrew Popoli, a technical assistant from the State Planning Task Force, began working this week with Mrs. Wood and her staff at Wake Opportunities. Mr. Popoli, a second year graduate student from the School of Social Work at Chapel Hill, will be in field placement at the Task Force until June of 1967 and will work two days a week with Wake Opportunities. Mr. Popoli is beginning his work by doing some preliminary ground work in the Halifax Courts area.

The Study Group will meet on Friday, October 7, Wednesday, October 12, and Wednesday, October 19 at 10 a.m. in the Board Room of the News and Observer Building.

Although the program at the January general meeting will be a summary of things discussed in the Study Group, the Education Committee cordially invites any interested Provisionals, Actives, and Sustainers to attend these more detailed and comprehensive discussions. — Dellie Smith, Education Chairman ("MISS PRINTS", Vol. 25, No. 3)

A Story about GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

Lord, let me do something for my country.

No.

Lord, let me do something for my people.

No.

Lord, let me do something for my college.

No.

Well then, Lord, let me do something for a peanut.

Well -- alright, you're down to something your size now.

We have a big opportunity to do something,
small in size maybe but great in importance.

— Luther Hodges
State Planning Task Force

I used to think I was POOR.

Then they told me I wasn't POOR,

I was NEEDY.

They told me it was self-defeating to think of myself as NEEDY,

I was DEPRIVED.

Then they told me DEPRIVED was a bad image,

I was UNDERPRIVILEGED.

Then they told me UNDERPRIVILEGED was overused,

I was DISADVANTAGED.

I still don't have a dime,

But I have a GREAT VOCABULARY.

— recent cartoon in a New York Newspaper