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Wake Opportunities News

Volume II Number II August 1967 713 North Person Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604

NEW CAREERS FOR WAKE COUNTY

With the employment of Daniel Wert Sanders as the Project Director of the Scheuer, or New Careers, Program, Wake County Opportunities, Inc. is ready to launch its exciting program of employment training opportunities.

The Scheuer Program is one in which the enrollee can be trained and eventually permanently employed on the job for which he or she was trained. Any currently unemployed and economically deprived person over the age of twenty-two is eligible to apply.

The training and employment under this program will be in the areas of health, education, welfare and law enforcement. Besides the actual on-job training that this program will offer, classroom training in the specific field of employee enrollment will also be an integral part, and adult basic education courses and other remedial education classes will be available.

This is the chance for specific training for a specific job so that the enrollee may become a gainfully employed and contributing member of our community.

WAKE COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
713 North Person Street
Raleigh, North Carolina

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CHAVIS HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
DIRECTOR: A. E. Weatherford

During the month the staff has been busy in making referrals for unemployed young people. Many of the young people have gotten jobs while others did not for various reasons. The staff is assisting in trying to find out about these reasons.

The Big Brothers and Big Sisters Club was orientated by the Youth Educational Services Staff of Durham, North Carolina about tutorial and cultural enrichment programs. Cecil Glenn, a member of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Club attended a workshop sponsored by the Durham group.

A member of the Cultural Enrichment Club and a senior citizen visited State College to discuss on-going activities in the center and problems in the area.

The members of the Cultural Enrichment Club are being taught the importance of ethics.

The members in the Junior Council of the Helping Hands Club are presently engaged in rendering a variety of services for the senior citizens in the Chavis Heights Area. One of the senior citizens stated that the services were beneficial because for many years she had been unable to clean up properly because of poor health.

The Cooking Classes supervised by the Home Management Aide have been successful. It is well to note that each meeting night there is a different menu and different persons attending the classes.

MIDDLE CREEK COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
DIRECTOR: Mrs. Mary Morris

The Center has been holding individual conferences explaining work opportunities with those who have been into the office. We have worked closely with Family Aid in counseling a young man who, because of his abilities and attitudes, could not hold a job. We feel that we have made some progress with him. We have contacted a dentist for a 5 year old illegitimate child who is living with an 81 year old man

and a 70 year old woman. This will be followed up in July. There has been an Alcoholic entered in Dorothea Dix Hospital through two of our Aides. There have been 20 applicants for the Scheuer program. We have made some visits into the homes in Middle Creek but due to opening May 27, 1967 these have been limited and for the most part of the month of June we helped code surveys for the Centers that were already opened. The attitudes of the general public is improving and we know that we have made progress in helping people. We know that this will be increased as the community realizes the good coming from it.

NORTH BLOUNT STREET COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
DIRECTOR: Mrs. Peggy Hicks

REFERRALS FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1967

Employment Security Commission	8
Welfare Department	4
W. W. Holding Technical Institute	3
Health Department	2
On Job Training	1
Vocational Rehabilitation	1
Home Extension	1

This has been a busy month for the North Blount Street Neighborhood Community Action Center. The Aides and the Director were able to start visiting the various neighborhoods in our area, and to interpret the program of Wake County Opportunities to the people in their homes on a person-to-person basis. This was what we had been looking forward to during our training session at the Central Office in April and May--actually getting out in the community and starting to meet the people with whom we will be working. We were not disappointed; the interest and response we received from the people we contacted exceeded our highest hopes and expectations. Naturally, the people who quickest grasped our purpose and intent in their community were the ones who had the greatest needs. The few to whom our program appeared to have little significance were those who had no immediate needs of which they were aware.

During our visitations, obvious hardship cases were referred immediately to an appropriate agency or program. We talked to a frustrated young man, whose dream

North Blount Street - continued

of becoming a really good provider had been bitterly stalled by his lack of education and the hungry cries of his numerous children. We saw hope beginning to stir in his eyes as he heard of the real possibility of continuing his education through night adult education classes at Needham Broughton High School. Another young boy, having dropped out of school because of an inability to perform well academically, developed before our eyes an air of purpose and determination as he learned of opportunities offered at W. W. Holding Technical Institute for becoming a skilled mechanic. We saw a young mother, abandoned by her husband and suffering the crippling pangs of arthritis, shake off her despair as she took steps to secure training for appropriate employment through Vocational Rehabilitation which would enable her to achieve the dignity of being self-supporting. We saw appreciation in the eyes of an elderly lady as we explained our program, and then listened quietly while she told us of an uneasiness concerning a hospital bill she did not understand. The little effort required to check on this bill by phone and explain the situation to her little justified the warmth and gratitude that followed us out her door.

As we worked through the community, we came across the footprints of many of our county, state, and federal agencies already functioning in a most meaningful and worthwhile capacity. Problem situations could be discussed at the flick of a phone dial with an informed case worker at the Welfare Department. Their Old Age Assistance was found to be the bulwark between eating and starving of many of our older citizens. Social Security payments to a departed father's family was a comforting solace to them and a tribute to the many hours of work that poured into the funds that meant financial independence for his family after his death.

We also encountered the brotherly hand of John Q. Citizen, who took the opportunity of helping those in need in a way that would help them to really

better themselves. The job tendered a trouble-bound young man who needed it desperately, a small sum of money surreptitiously donated to help buy school books that would otherwise be inaccessible the untiring efforts of church members and their ministers--all these play a part in the community efforts we have observed.

People in 437 homes in our community were visited by us in the month of June. To all of these people, we explained that we would be back later with a survey, which would enable us to know what their thoughts and ideas are about their community, and in this way, we would be able to plan programs which would be meaningful to them. Out of the total number visited, there were only three people who expressed a reluctance.

It has been difficult to refrain from program planning as ideas occurred to us which might be helpful to the people in our community, but any preliminary planning we attempt leads us inexorably to the need for surveying first. We hope to start our surveying within the month of July, and look forward to seeing again those people who have welcomed us into their homes, and we hope, into their lives.

WALDROP COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
DIRECTOR: D. Lorenzo Haywood

THIS IS WHERE THE ACTION IS

MOTHER'S
YOUNG HOME
MAKERS
SANITATION
PHYSICAL
FITNESS
HEALTH AND
SEX
EDUCATION
CHILDREN'S
AND
YOUTH HOUR

The Waldrop Community Action Center of 911 Manly Street is making an effort to keep the programs going in the Community so that the adults and children in the Community will be well rounded individuals.

Here are some remarks that were made by some of the parents in this community concerning the different programs that have involved them and their children.

Anyone interested in these programs are asked to please come in person or call by telephone 828-5275.

Waldrop - continued

THE COMMENTS

I must really say that the trip to the Stewart's home was quite an experience for the children. The pony ride was really what they enjoyed most of all. The pony ride wasn't only an experience for them but the pony also. That was the first time for them actually seeing a pony and knowing that it was a pony.

Mrs. Harriet Stewart
518 Dorothea Drive

I think that the clean up drive was a wonderful idea, most of the people cooperated with it.

This clean up campaign should continue until this area is a much cleaner place in which to live.

Mrs. M. Blanche Dover
209 Cuba Street

I think this program about sex is a wonderful idea because I have two children who have one child each, of course I talked to them about sex education, but children have a tendency to listen to other children rather than parents. I really think it will prevent lots of girls from having babies.

Mrs. Zula Williams
1308 Holman Street

I think this program about sex is very nice, it is a great help to us parents in order for our children to learn more about sex and to broaden their knowledge of the child. To eliminate a lot indecency and illegitimacy. Please continue this program.

Mrs. Margaret McClain
1302 Holman Street

I am a volunteer worker at the Waldrop Community Center. I have enjoyed working with the Art and Craft division with the children because Art is one of my favorite hobbies.

The girls I have worked with have enjoyed working and learning also. They are very attentive and willing to endure new adventures in Art.

Nagretta Smith
Volunteer Worker at
Manly Street United
Church of Christ

I really like what Mr. Wilson is doing for my son. I have never seen him so interested in anything.

Mrs. S. Hall
1008 Manly Street

The cooking session at the Waldrop Center has been a great experience for us who are receiving commodity foods. It has also been rewarding as far as getting acquainted with neighbors, exchanging recipes and learning new ideas about freezing vegetables. All in all I think it is a great program.

Mrs. Mary Primous and
Mrs. Josephine Crowder
1303 Walnut Street

WHITE OAK COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER
DIRECTOR: Mrs. Geneva Baker

Referrals for the Month of June

Scheuer	18
Employment Security Commission	10
W. W. Holding Technical Institute	10
MDTA	6
Vocational Rehabilitation	2
Job Corps	4
Boys 3 Girls 1	
NYC	3
Local employment	2

White Oak - continued

Social Security	1
Lufkin	7
PACE	1
Kerr Mills Act	1
Head Start	5
Welfare Department	1

This month we are happy to be able to report that we have some work programs underway in Apex.

Mrs. Hunter, Health Aide, has 20 girls, ages 12 to 17, who have named themselves the GGGG's (Girls Good Grooming Group). These girls are working along several lines of self-improvement. At their first meeting they elected officers and decided just what they wanted to do. At their second meeting a film from the State Health Department was shown and a registered nurse spoke to the girls. Also, a licensed beautician gave a demonstration of hair styling and answered questions about the care of their skin and hair, etc. These girls surprised us by asking for singing as an activity, so we have arranged for a music teacher to come to help them. The girls decided too, that they wanted to learn to sew. They divided themselves into two groups to meet two other days for sewing. First they are making "Tote Bags" to carry their sewing materials. These bags are simple to make, and are made from scraps, so making them is a good way for the girls to learn to use the sewing machine. Next they plan to make a dress for themselves. Thankfully today's fashions are simple enough to be within the ability of beginners, so with the help and guidance of the Home Management Aide, Mrs. Ada Farrar, the Community Organization Aide, Mrs. Mable Lawrence, and of volunteer seamstresses, we feel that each girl will have a dress which will be made well enough to wear to school. Not only will the dress be useful, but the sense of accomplishment will be very worthwhile, and the knowledge acquired will be useful all of their lives long. Mrs. Farrar has a group of women also who are working on sewing.

Social Services Aide, Mrs. Verily Laster, has a group of women who have started making quilts and comforters for next winter's cold nights. In this group two of the mothers together have 12 children, so our Volunteens are really needed to provide watchful and worthwhile activities for these children.

Mrs. Lawrence, Community Organization Aide, helps the other aides and in addition has a group of boys and girls, ages 6 to 12. These children are being encouraged to borrow books from the public library and to keep a record of the books as they read them, in an attractive booklet. This booklet was designed with the help of the public librarian.

Services Aide, Mr. William Davis, was in Chapel Hill for the Fifth Annual Summer School of Alcohol Studies from June 18 to 23. He has a program approved for teen-age boys and is busy recruiting boys for it. Just today he learned that another of the boys that he had referred to Job Corps has been accepted and sent to Kentucky.

We feel that we have taken a big step up in our usefulness in this beginning of our work with the people. Again we invite you to come to visit our center and see what we are doing.

THIS IS STILL TRUE
Today



WHEN THE COUNTRY WAS YOUNG,
A MAN'S STANDARD OF LIVING
DEPENDS IN LARGE MEASURE ON
HIS SKILL, INITIATIVE, STRENGTH
AND WISDOM.

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COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS

Mrs. Margaret G. Arline

At a recent meeting of the North Carolina Association of Community Action Directors held at the King's Inn in Greensboro Mr. James Draper was the guest speaker. He suggested that our objective for the next twelve months should be to:

1. have greater involvement of YOUTH in decisions and responsible positions.
2. try to get at the heart of "hard core" poor problems.
3. stress community organization. He also said the heart of the Neighborhood Centers was to help the poor utilize and take advantage of existing services.

RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS

It is a delightful experience to observe the Red Cross Volunteers in their crisp blue and white uniforms who are working for Wake Opportunities this summer.

Cathy Ayers has been helping in Central Office by bringing the mailing list up-to-date. Diana Hazel, Susan Riddle and Theresa Tharrington are providing many enriching experiences at the Waldrop Center for the children's and Youth Hour. Elver Lilly is working in the Chavis Heights Center as an office receptionist, Carolyn Jean Jones, Patricia Ann Morgan and Merial Page are working in the White Oak Center. They have been helping with the children while their mothers learn how to sew. They are also working with the Teen Age Group every week.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

If you have any volunteer work hours which we do not have on file, please call Wake County Opportunities, Inc. 833-2886 and we will mail you a Volun-

teer Work Record form with a self-addressed stamped envelope for your convenience. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated!

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"The one cent out of each tax dollar that OEO spends is an investment in human beings that can, in time, pay off. It can lead to greater production, higher income, increased consumption, more tax payers and fewer tax eaters, less welfare and more well being --- that is our ultimate goal."

James C. Cox