

P U B L I C H E A R I N G

before the

ASSEMBLY INSTITUTIONS, HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

on

DAY CARE PROGRAMS AND PROBLEMS IN NEW JERSEY

Held:
Assembly Chamber
State House
February 18, 1975

Committee Members Present:

Assemblyperson Betty Wilson (Acting Chairperson)

Assemblyperson Gertrude Berman

Assemblyman Ernest F. Schuck

Assemblyman Clifford W. Snedeker

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ASSEMBLYPERSON BETTY WILSON (Acting Chairperson): Good morning. The New Jersey General Assembly Institutions, Health and Welfare public hearings on Day Care for Children are called into session. At the outset, allow me to state the purpose of our calling these hearings.

Needs assessment studies all over the country consistently show that the need for adequate day care is not even close to being met nationally. Forty-five per cent of women in the United States over age 16 hold jobs and these working mothers need care for their children.

For many of the working mothers, failure to find child care means resort to welfare. If all women came off the labor market, the number of families in official poverty would double.

The picture in New Jersey is no exception and in light of our especially hard-hit economy, we are probably worse off than the country as a whole.

The history of child care services in New Jersey has been marked by fragmentation, disparity, lack of communication and coordination, and an overall lack of financial and supportive resources in both the public and private sector. Recently, however, several trends - including a dramatic increase in the number of working mothers and the growing recognition that a child's pre-school years are the most formative years of his life - have led to increased public attention to child care needs and services.

In response, there has been increasing activity in both the public and private sector, and there has been a focus on diverting available means of support - both financial and other resources - towards meeting the need for adequate child care service. Particular attention has been paid to various funding opportunities which draw federal support, particularly Title IV-A of the Social Security Act.

The State has created the Division of Youth and Family Services, with the Bureau of Day Care and the Bureau of Resource Development, including the Purchase of Services Unit, as key components. In the private sector, the involvement of United Ways and private foundations has increased dramatically. Plans for more and better services for children became realities through cooperation between the private and public sectors and through development of opportunities for attracting federal dollars by using local private contributions for the non-federal portion of funding.

Over the course of the past year it has become evident that the Division of Youth and Family Services places a high priority on Day Care for Children through expansion in the number of spaces available and through administrative changes and laudable efforts at cutting bureaucratic red tape to meet the needs of children, mothers and families. The Legislature in the 1975 budget expressed strong support for Day Care by restoration of Day Care funds which earlier had been cut from the budget.

However, and perhaps because of the expansion of service and the high priority placed on Day Care, it has become apparent that the Legislature has a responsibility to arrive at a consistent, comprehensive and forward-looking policy concerning child care services in our State through an exploration of:

- Needs and priorities
- Goals and objectives
- Present practices and policies for funding spaces and for support services
- Costs of child care and sources of funds
- Scope and quality of services, whether public or private
- An answer to the question "Do we get what we pay for?"

- Exploration of alternative funding strategies
- Development of an attitude of advocacy for children among us all.

I would like to introduce to you Assemblyman Snedeker who is a member of the Institutions, Health and Welfare Committee; and I am Assemblywoman Betty Wilson, Vice Chairperson of the Institutions, Health and Welfare Committee. Other members of the Committee may be here later. People will be coming and going as they can adjust to their own schedules. I will be here for the entire two days.

We will take testimony in the order that persons have been scheduled. If you have need of being taken out of order, please so indicate to Mrs. Salayi who is sitting here in the front at Assemblyman Hurley's desk, and we will try to work around your needs.

If you are here and want to testify and for some reason did not get on our schedule, please also indicate that fact to Mrs. Salayi and we will work you into our schedule.

We will try to limit each person to fifteen minutes, if that is possible; and if you have a written statement, would you present that at the beginning of your testimony.

We will get started right now by calling on Mr. James Kagen, who is the Director of the Division of Youth and Family Services.

J A M E S G. K A G E N: Thank you.

Vice Chairperson Wilson and Assemblyman Snedeker, I would like to just introduce, if I may, Robert Trobe, who is Assistant Director of the Division of Youth and Family Services for Purchase of Service in Day Care; and Miss Mary Agnes Jennings, who is Chief of the Bureau of Day Care.

We elected, if it is all right with the Committee, to present a statement together and I will do, I guess, the majority of the talking, if I may, to present our statement. Then if there are questions, the three of us would like to be able to field them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for taking this interest in the program. This morning, I guess, I will be representing Commissioner Klein, who was not available to attend. She is taking a much-needed vacation, long scheduled in advance of the hearings.

Secondarily, the statement that I have prepared includes a number of charts which I believe you have. I will be referring to them, I think, from time to time. We have tried to distribute copies to those who are here this morning, and more copies are coming. I would only say that we have not had a very long time to prepare and, if I am a little fragmented - if that's the word - I hope you will understand.

I would like to begin, if I can, with some background. The State's support for day care has grown rapidly since 1969 when a child care component to the Work Incentive Program (WIN) was established in the Department of Institutions and Agencies. In the same year, the Department of Community Affairs began contracting with community groups for the establishment of pre-school day care centers, known as the Day Care 100 Program. Since the licensing of child care facilities was the responsibility of the Department of Education, these three major State Departments were initially involved in day care. As a result of a staff study under Governor Cahill, all day care activities were transferred in January 1973 to the newly-created Division of Youth and Family Services.

With respect to the purpose of day care, the rapid expansion of the State's day care program since its creation has derived from a recognition of the importance of day care in improving employment opportunities for New Jersey residents and in enhancing the development of children. DYFS has assessed the impact of the day care program in employment and will be conducting evaluations of the impact on child development.

So first I would like to talk to you about what we see as the impact upon the employment situation of day care.

First, with respect to the creation of job opportunities, DYFS' day care program offers a unique opportunity to provide jobs while reducing the cost of the State's public assistance program. The implementation of a program of child care as recommended in the Governor's Budget Message will do a number of things:

It will free participant families to seek other employment. By freeing participant families from child care responsibilities during working hours, a total of at least 12,680 mothers and other child care family people in both the community and DYFS operated programs will be able to find employment outside the day care labor market itself, that is, not having day care jobs. At an average annual salary of \$5200 per year, a total of \$65.9 million in income for previously unemployed or under-employed families is generated. In addition, associated social and economic benefits are derived including increased family stability, payment of taxes and the multiplier effect of wages being spent in New Jersey, which is in the neighborhood, I believe, of something near five times the wage figure.

Number two, provide jobs for at least 5,540 women or other parenting persons. The Division-sponsored day care programs are provided through a number of child care

settings, including day care centers, family day care homes and the child's own home. The day care centers are staffed primarily with teachers, aides, trainees, and technicians according to federally mandated staffing ratios. Family and in-home care require paraprofessional child caretakers as well. By providing day care services to over 33 thousand children in fiscal '76, a total of approximately 5,540 jobs will be created, generating additional income of nearly \$23 million.

It will reduce the cost to the State of its Public Assistance Program. Of the total 26,717 families receiving day care services, approximately 15,783 are currently receiving public assistance. Of the total of 18,220 job opportunities, which I mentioned before, made possible by the program, nearly 11,000 or two-thirds of these AFDC family members are or will be able to be employed. As a result, \$19.4 million less in welfare payments will have to be made. Since the State contributes 50 per cent of the AFDC program cost, approximately \$9.7 million in net State funds are saved. Against a net State cost of \$4.3 million to administer the day care program, a net savings in State expenditures of \$5.4 million is obtained.

To look at it sort of on the other side, if we didn't have the day care program, it would cost the State just in State appropriations an additional, \$5.4 million plus the loss of nearly \$90 million of income.

Therefore, in creating a total of 18,220 job opportunities, generating an aggregate income of nearly \$90 million to previously unemployed or under-employed families, and yield a net State savings of \$5.4 million, the DYFS program of day care services represents a most economical and desirable program of public employment and quality child care services.

DYFS conducted a study of day care families, which you can see summarized in Chart I, to determine the status of the adult members of these families. Let me just summarize for you the major findings of this study:

- Of the 587 families sampled, over two-thirds, 68.2 per cent, had all adult family members either working or training for employment. A few of this number were either handicapped or incapacitated.

- Of the remaining 32 per cent in the total sample, a majority had a problem situation in the home, including alcoholism, mental retardation, child abuse and neglect, epilepsy, mental illness, physical illness or major family conflict.

To break this down a little bit for you, there were 326 single-parent families in the sample. Over 80 per cent of these families were headed by an adult who was working, in education or training, handicapped or incapacitated. A majority of the remaining 20 per cent who were not working had a major problem situation in the home, for which day care was an appropriate social plan.

- Of the 204 two-parent families in the study, over 62 per cent had an adult who was working, in education or training, handicapped or incapacitated. And a majority of the 38 per cent not working had some problem situation

So I think it is fair to say just on this sample, an overwhelming number, over two-thirds, of the adults in the families involved were freed to work by virtue of having day care for their children during working hours.

With respect to child development, the programs in the pre-school day care centers are designed to serve the total child. In addition to providing a protective environment, day care programs are geared toward assisting the child in developing physical skills and coordination, sensory perception, cognitive and language skills. Unlike the more formalized educational methods used in the elementary grades, pre-school centers provide these learning

experiences to children through the example of staff, visits to the community, play situations, arts and crafts, observation of plants and animals, and other similar techniques.

An equally important aspect of the developmental program is the socialization process that goes on in a center, helping a child to learn how to develop relationships with others. The provision of properly balanced meals planned to meet the nutritional needs of growing children is also an important part of a center's program.

Early medical evaluations frequently uncover physical problems that can be corrected before a child enters school. If not discovered until later, many of these problems interfere with learning in the school system and take longer to reverse. As you know, the child from zero until six when he or she goes into kindergarten education is the child who most often does not come in contact with our institutional systems, medical and otherwise. So this day care is a unique way to encounter these children early.

Programs designed to meet the specialized needs of abused and neglected, mentally retarded, handicapped, brain-damaged or emotionally disturbed children can save some from institutionalization and can enable others to eventually enter and succeed in the school system.

The lack of data substantiating the impact of day care in New Jersey on child development is of concern to us. We hope to generate studies which will measure the impact of day care on educational achievement and social adjustment.

I just want to say here, it is true, I think, throughout the educational system and it is not just true in New Jersey that day care, Head Start programs and other programs in the educational system really have not been evaluated over the long term, to determine what the impact

on child development is. We accept that its impact is positive. I think we are right to. I think our gut tells us it is the right thing to do. But very little careful work has been done and I think we are going to have to see it happen. It is very tough for us, as an operating agency, to do adequate research in these areas, and adequate research costs money.

With respect to our program, DYFS supports three major types of day care:

1. Family day care is a service which provides, within a family other than the child's own, essential care and protection for a major part of the day on a regular basis.

2. In-Home care is care for children by someone other than the mother, in the child's own home. Often, this service will be on a temporary basis. There are certain situations when long-range needs are best met by use of this type of child care.

3. Center day care provides care away from home in a facility especially equipped and staffed to promote development of the child. The Division purchases care in centers on an individual basis and through contracts. In addition, the Division operates directly 22 centers.

There are five types of day care program components operated or contracted by DYFS.

1. Infant day care for children from 0 to 2 years
2. Pre-school day care for children from 2 to 6 years.
3. After-school day care for children from 6 to 14.
4. Summer day care for children primarily from 6 to 14 years of age.
5. Special needs day care for children from 0 to 14 years of age who require special attention.

The data is summarized in Chart II in the attachment.

With respect to expenditures and number of children served in each program, the number of children served in DYFS supported day care has nearly tripled since 1972 (from 12,364 to 33,396) while expenditures have grown from \$8.9 million to \$37.1 million. As Chart III indicates, the growth has been substantial in each of the last three years, and has occurred in all types of programs.

Center day care serves the overwhelming number, over 80 per cent of children, while family day care serves 15 per cent, and in-home care accounts for nearly 4 per cent of the children served.

With respect to sources of funds, there are two primary sources of funds, as Chart IV indicates: the Work Incentive Program (WIN) and the Title IV-A amendment to the Social Security Act. WIN programs are open to persons receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) with the goal that social services provided through WIN will help persons become self-supporting. The federal programs under Title IV-A have the same goal as WIN programs, but open service to a wider base of eligible clients. Under Title IV-A, present, former and potential AFDC recipients are eligible for services.

WIN funds require \$1 of non-federal match for \$9 of federal reimbursement. All money utilized to match WIN day care funds are State appropriations and total for this year nearly a million dollars with carryover. These State funds make possible a total WIN day care program this year of over \$8 million.

Title IV-A requires \$1 in non-federal funds for every \$3 in federal funds. The non-federal funds may be State appropriated, local government appropriated, or unrestricted

private donations made to the State. I think the picture primarily in the community day care program of how we have gotten money to draw down federal money is a particularly interesting one. Only half the local share in the Title IV-A program has been provided by the State. That is approximately \$3.8 million. \$2.6 million has come from private funds, United Ways and other private donations. And \$1.3 million in local government funds also go to support the program. These matching funds together generated nearly \$23 million in federal reimbursement. The total IV-A program for day care (federal plus State and local funds) this year is \$29 million.

I want to emphasize the point that in many states the entire local share of Title IV-A funds, not just for day care but for all areas, has been appropriated by the state and local governments. In New Jersey the burden has been carried, particularly in the community day care program, by the community. While we all have different feelings on how that ought to be, it is very clear that that process in New Jersey has slowed down the growth of the program and has made it difficult for the State to plan rationally for program growth because you sort of have to take the dough where you can find it; and where you can find it sometimes dictates which programs in which areas are going to be open. So it is very significant that just about half the local share of the Title IV-A day care program has been provided by the State.

Therefore, total support for all day care programs funded through DYFS to serve more than 33,000 children is a little over \$37 million for fiscal year 1975.

I just want to point out the DYFS has begun this year to utilize an additional fiscal mechanism for receiving financial support of local governments to finance locally-operated day care centers. In the past, we required that

local government budget support of centers be in the form of cash which is sent to the Division. We now realize that what we can do is to take the current cash expenditures of local governments that have not been matched by federal funds and match them with IV-A dollars. We have a new program with the Union City Board of Education, which is going to serve over a thousand children, funded on this basis. When we talk a little bit later about the budget for '76, I think it will be apparent that this may be one of the few areas where we can have growth next year.

As to the role of the division, DYFS operates 22 day care centers, 9 of which are funded through Title IV-A and the other 13 through WIN. These centers will serve 1,359 children during fiscal '75. We also identify family day care and in-home care providers for individual children and evaluate and supervise the placements. In addition, the Division evaluates and approves centers and summer camps for individual purchase of day care slots.

Contract Development -- DYFS negotiates Title IV-A contracts with community groups. This involves the selection of good provider agencies, and technical assistance to community groups in organization, administration, program design, proposal and budget preparation and explanation of State and federal regulations, policies and procedures.

We also provide technical assistance and monitoring. Day care programs are monitored by DYFS for contract compliance, including eligibility of children served, attendance records, staff-child ratios and nutritional, health and developmental activities. DYFS also monitors the expenditure of funds and reviews requests for budget revisions.

Development of Local Funds -- We meet with municipal and county officials, United Ways, foundations, service clubs, religious organizations, businesses, and other

groups or individuals that might become donors of funds that can be used as part of the non-federal local share of 25 per cent.

With respect to research and evaluation, the major research emphasis has been on the employment side and on the use of day care in the treatment of child abuse and neglect. Day care serves to protect the child; it enables the parent to improve parenting skills and provides a place for social involvement of the often isolated parents.

DYFS has funded local 4-C planning agencies and worked with other local groups in needs assessment.

Research and planning staff have performed literature surveys so as to keep informed on the state-of-the-art and developments in other states. These surveys have led to the development of various innovative day care mechanisms, including the family day care satellite program and the use of day care in protective services.

Licensing -- The Child Care Licensing Section of the Division is responsible for licensing and regulating privately-operated child care centers serving more than 5 children between the ages of 2 and 5 and which charge a fee, board or other form of compensation, pursuant to New Jersey law. I would just like to say at this point, as most of you know, we have had for the past two years a task force composed of people in this field to look at existing law and regulations in the licensing of child care centers, which, I guess, was last revised in 1946. We are hoping -- we had a series of three statewide public hearings during the summer and the task force is wrapping up its second draft of the new proposed child care licensing law and regulations, which will be distributed to some two thousand members of New Jersey's child care constituency in early March.

In order to gain further comments and reactions, a second round of statewide public hearings will be held during the weeks of April 13 and 20 - at least that is

our plan right now - after which we will recommend to the Commissioner a new draft law and regulations.

With respect to need for expanded services, under Title IV-A, New Jersey has committed itself to provide day care to low income families. This includes families of any size with incomes under \$9,840 per year. County-by-county estimates of the unmet need for pre-school and after-school day care are shown in Charts V and VI. It is simply appalling at the distance we have to go to meet the need. As you can see on Chart V, approximately 89 per cent of the estimated need for pre-school day care is unmet in the State. With respect to after-school care, 99 per cent of the need is unmet, as you can see in Chart VI.

If our estimates are not completely accurate, if they aren't exactly right - and I am sure one can do better, but I am also sure they are in the ballpark - and if it isn't 99 per cent, it is very, very high. So while we can be proud of ourselves that we have gone this far, it strikes me we have a long, long way to go.

DYFS has attempted to expand programs in those counties with the greatest unmet need. These efforts are limited, however, very much by the availability of local match. I just want to say that we had an expansion goal in the community day care program this year of 5,500 slots. As of a week ago, we had exceeded that number, although we are barely not more than half way through the year. We have over 6,000 slots contracted for, signed for, this year. And we expect to go to 7,000 or 7,500. So we will have exceeded in the community day care program by a couple of thousand our anticipation of the number of slots we planned to do this year. Again when we get to the budget section, I think it may be clear we may not be going a lot farther in fiscal

'76.

New Program Directions -- First I want to talk about protective services. DYFS has the statutory responsibility for the investigation and treatment of child abuse and neglect in New Jersey. The main objective is to treat the problems of both the parent and the child involved so that the family can stay together and function as a family. These children can suffer from ill health, malnutrition, a lack of intellectual stimulation, inappropriate emotional and social development, fear of adults, etc. A day care program which can identify the special needs of such children and then provide an appropriate treatment program while the parent is also receiving assistance with his or her problems, can be very successful in preventing the removal of the child and helping the family to remain together.

An estimate of the need for day care for these children in each DYFS district office is shown in Chart VII.

I just want to say that one of the first things I did when I came into this job last July was focus on the need for treatment in the area of abuse and neglect. As of now, we are in the process of negotiating 21 contracts with private providers around the State to treat parents who abuse and neglect their children. We are also trying to identify slots in day care programs where we can do the same thing. The Governor has supported a million dollars in a program called Children in Crisis for next year. I just regard it as the most critical thing the Division can do is to provide treatment for these parents, who are not psychotic for the most part, who are not crazy, and try to keep these families together. The unmet need in that area is staggering. We think there are some 60 thousand children by the most conservative estimate, including 220 who died as a result of abuse and neglect, and we are just not doing enough to treat either the parents or the children. The day care component of that

treatment program is very critical so that we can provide effective treatment rather than just prosecute parents and separate families.

With respect to bi-lingual service, day care programs designed to meet the needs of bi-lingual, bi-cultural children are more successful in assisting such children in learning English, feeling comfortable in the community and maximizing their development so they are better prepared to cope in the school system. DYFS is working actively with the Puerto Rican Coalition for Child Development, the Puerto Rican Congress and a number of active local groups to help establish bi-lingual, bi-cultural programs. With the help of funds from the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Institutions and Agencies, and local communities, we plan to establish five programs right now. If other funds can be obtained, another 5 or 6 programs could be set up in the near future.

Children With Other Special Needs -- In addition to the above, there are children with special needs, such as, emotional disturbance, mental retardation, minimal brain damage, orthopedic handicaps and cerebral palsy. These children need special services which, when given at an early age, can help them to improve their adjustment at home and in the community and can enable some to eventually attend the regular school system. The care demanded by such a child can be an impossible burden to the family unless some relief is provided for part of the day. Appropriately planned day care programs can provide the required relief for a number of such children. The provisions of these programs at an early age can prevent the need for more expensive programs at a later age. DYFS presently serves approximately 500 such children through contracts with community groups and would like to double that number in the next year if adequate funds can be obtained.

Family Day Care -- We are currently studying how the family day care program which serves approximately one-fifth of the children in day care can be more closely tied to the existing network of group day care centers. The purpose of establishing this affiliation would be to improve the selection and training of provider families, and to increase the services provided through joint activities between family day care homes and group day care centers, like having nutritionists and teachers come into family day care homes. It can be done very economically and is a systematic concept that has been tried a number of places. We are doing it on an experimental basis here in New Jersey up in Newark.

Family day care is an important alternative service for children particularly in inaccessible areas and in protective services situations where there is likely to be a reluctance on the part of the parents to enter the child in center day care.

I just think it is very important to understand where a center can't be built - and for many children it is not necessarily the place to be - what we have to recognize is that the alternative should not be bad child care and we should provide what the center can give through its expertise and spread it around, so there can be satellite family day-care homes associated with centers. There are many centers that are interested in doing this program and the incremental cost of doing it is relatively meager.

With respect to the Governor's budget (Chart VIII), state appropriations for WIN-supported day care, for day care individually purchased by District Offices of DYFS, and for the Early Childhood Demonstration Project remain substantially at the same level in '76 as in '75.

The Governor's budget also provides a lump sum

appropriation covering three programs: Day Care 100, Division-operated centers, and contracted community day care. This budget reduces slightly the lump sum for these programs. All three programs match federal funds under Title IV-A on a 3 to 1 basis with non-federal money.

I want to point out that the Governor's budget for this year - and I think we all know the choices that he had to make in coming up with a budget - is basically the same as it was last year, which means that any expansion we would hope to see in this program next year is going to come for the most part from finding current cash expenditures of local government and private or other non-state appropriations of local government. Because it is a tight year for everybody, the most realistic course I see is in finding money by taking current cash expenditures of government and matching them with federal dollars. So the picture for expansion and the picture for a lot of the things we want to do is more limited than many of us would like to see. Thank you.

(Charts submitted by Mr. Kagen can be found beginning on page X-1.)

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Snedeker, do you have any questions?

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: No.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to ask some general questions and then I have some specific questions too that I noted as you were presenting your testimony, Mr. Kagan.

You have documented very well the current need with some very shocking data showing that we have 89 per cent unmet needs. If we had 89 per cent unmet needs in highway building, I could bet you I would know what would happen. I think the interest that has been shown in these hearings this morning is eloquent testimony to that 89%.

In terms of such a great need, can you outline for us or summarize for us some of what you have said in terms of your over-all objectives? If the money were there to do what needed to be done, what would you do?

MR. KAGEN: Well, the first thing I just want to say is that I think the money is there, in the sense that the federal funds are not yet spent, as you know. The \$87.7 million social service allocation under Title IV for the State of New Jersey has never been spent. Our plan is to move much closer to spending it by next fiscal year. The Governor and the Commissioner recognized that immediately a year ago and started planning for that event. So at least the federal dollars are there. The issue of the local dollars, which are, of course, peanuts in comparison, is something we have to do something about.

The other thing I would point out is that the money isn't there to meet the unmet need, but the money is there to go a little bit further. And when you ask how we would spend it if we had it, it has always been a problem for us to respond because, having never had it except by going and begging for it, we have had to get it where we could and we have had to build programs where the match was available. But I think, as long as you have asked, I should say that we would try and reduce unmet need, period. That means we would go in every county and try and open pre-school and after-school centers. We would focus on the areas that I pointed out in testimony in terms of special problems - first, protective services.

There is nothing more important to the Division's work than to provide the kind of situation, a helping situation, a treatment situation, for parents so that families don't have to be split up. Day care is an integral part of that situation.

Secondly, I think we would focus very heavily on

special needs. Children with brain damage and emotional disturbance, children who are going to pop up in everybody's system whenever they do something wrong, children who if helped now and families who if helped now at this age wouldn't pop up later, and would in a sense save everybody some money in the long run, would be children we would reach out to help. The expansion of bi-lingual services, which has been the group in our State that has been dealt with least, the Hispanic group, would be a high priority.

So it is a little mind-boggling to respond to a question that really is very broad and the need is really so very big that, for me, it is impossible to say what I would do first. But I think these priorities try and outline some of the things that we would do.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: The point you have made then is that we are losing all of this federal money because we are not able to put up our local match.

MR. KAGEN: Exactly.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: We don't get the local money and the local match means State funds, county funds, local government funds and private funds. And we are placed in the position of having to scratch around for private funds to do any kind of development because we are providing such an inadequate amount of funds as far as government support is concerned.

MR. KAGEN: That is correct.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: When you say these are the children who pop up in everybody's system, would you clarify that a little bit?

MR. KAGEN: I think, while the studies aren't necessarily good, it is no surprise that abused and neglected children, emotionally-disturbed children, become very often children who need special care when they get into the educational system because they don't function well.

In many cases they have to come out of the educational system because they become JINS children or delinquent children; they become children who go into the Division of Mental Health institutions. We are talking about retarded kids who are going to wind up in the Division of Mental Retardation unless we can make them self-supporting, unless we can help them early on. And we are talking about finding problems, medical problems as well as emotional problems, really early at a time when nobody looks unless you are in a day care program or unless you happen to be lucky enough to get to adequate medical care. Many kids, as you know, who enter kindergarten have not been inoculated, have not had their baby shots. So it is kind of too late to start finding this all out at the age of six; we ought to find it out before. Day care provides that opportunity.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Would you tell me what success you have had in developing plans for the satellite centers, the family day-care centers connected to a center program?

MR. KAGEN: The first thing I should tell you about is that we have sort of an experiment underway -- rather a controlled experiment underway with Babyland in Newark. I think perhaps Miss Jennings could describe better than I how that is working and what we intend to do.

MARY AGNES JENNINGS: The project with Babyland in Newark is fundamentally to test out and develop some training techniques for family day care parents, to see if by giving various levels of supervision and training we can help them to be better family day care providers.

What has been done is, 80 women who are working with the Division, either through our Orange or our Newark District Offices, and have children actively in family day care, are going through the project. Every one of

them will have a test in the beginning on their mothering capacities, attitudes and this kind of thing.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Something maybe all of us could use.

MISS JENNINGS: You are right. Then 20 of them will get nothing except the manual, the written material that is developed, and have access to a telephone number where they can call if they have problems or want some particular advice.

Another 20 will get a certain number of visits in the home.

Another 20 will get more visits and have some classes.

Another 20 will come into Babyland every single week and have a day in there with the children and with the day care staff in Babyland.

They will get different levels of help. Then at the end we will do an evaluation of their mothering skills and, hopefully, the ones who have gotten more help will have better mothering skills. This is being done in relation to staff members from Kean College. They are very involved in Babyland.

For this particular program, we were fortunately able to get the 25 percent money from the State Department of Education because they were interested in this also for their learning center money, and then we match it with the 75 percent.

We are hoping with this when they develop training materials for us, we will then be able to use them in in other areas of the State; then, having developed many of these materials, hopefully, some future programs that we go into will not be as expensive and we will also have materials that we can use with other centers as we try to work up some policies and procedures for contracting.

MR. KAGEN: Let me just say that the projected

date for the completion of the study is July, I believe.

MISS JENNINGS: No, August.

MR. KAGEN: So we will know very early in the next fiscal year. As you may have seen in our budget, we asked for money to try with a thousand kids to do the satellite experiment. We had a very sort of closely coordinated scheme and it is going to be tough to actually do that because of the budget situation. But that was our plan and we are just going to have to now figure out how we are going to be able to carry it out.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: If I read the budget correctly, that was not in the final request. Is that correct?

MR. KAGEN: That is correct.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: This was a million dollars, is that correct?

MR. KAGEN: In gross, yes; it would be a quarter of a million in State dollars.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: That money then is not in the current request, although it is a program for which you have a pilot study underway, the data will be available in August, and, assuming it proves to be a good program, we could proceed if we were to restore that money to the budget.

MR. KAGEN: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I am sure you gave this in your testimony, but what is the comparative cost of family day care to center day care?

MR. KAGEN: Let me just answer generally and ask for some help on some of the figures. In this State we have spent less on family day care than we have on center day care. A lot of places that think they are doing a good job spend almost the same. There are some economies, there is no question about it, with respect to

facilities in family day care programs. But the problem is "cheaper is not necessarily better." Cheaper is cheaper and it causes problems. We don't know what the final cost of what we would consider the best family day care program ought to be. It would be more than it is now and perhaps less than center care. But in any event it it has cost us less to run it.

ROBERT TROBE: I would add one point. It depends to what level you wish to bring the family day care program. If you attempt to have a reasonably high level of technical assistance and training and some of the things that Miss Jennings talked about earlier, you find that the cost will approach, if not equal, the cost of center day care. So it really depends on the level of services that you want to provide.

MISS JENNINGS: May I add you probably have heard some figures that it only costs like \$4 a day or \$20 a week to keep a child in family day care, where for pre-school day care for a whole day we can pay up to \$50 a week. However, there is no recognition given when that figure is discussed to any support services that come out of the District Office - in other words, the caseworker's time who goes into that home and tries to help that family day care mother with problems. In the WIN program we have an Activities Director to try and plan certain kinds of activities for these children in the program who aren't in centers so they can get some of the same kinds of developmental things that they aren't getting in the family day care home, and try and help some of these women, showing them just how you can use some of the ordinary junk around the house very constructively with children. We have done a few of these very small things with family day care mothers and have found them

most eager. This is the kind of thing that really is not given recognition or counted at all when people talk about the cost of family day care. So it really isn't the "cheap" thing that everyone says it is.

I think if it were tied into a satellite system to a day care center, then you could get certain support services. Maybe you would have to add one or two more staff, but you have basic health services and other services coming out of the center, and you may be able to reduce the cost across the board for those children in the center and in the family day care. It would raise that and reduce the cost in the center very possibly.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: On this question of support services, are you generally satisfied with the level of support services that you offer to the centers and to the family day care?

MISS JENNINGS: To the family day care homes, I don't think so. I think the caseworkers have such high caseloads that I really don't think they get in as often as they feel necessary to a family day care situation.

As far as day care centers are concerned, I guess I am in a unique position because I started the whole process of contracting and have been with it from the very beginning. Since we literally were beggars, I was told, yes, I could do it if I could find the money to do it, because there was no State money. We did not have a staff and then we had only a couple of people. So until Mr. Kagen came in this fall when we did get new staff with the moneys administratively that we must reduce from the community donations, he has made it possible for us now to give the kinds of help to the centers they want and really need and should have. But in the past, I don't think we did.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to introduce two other members of the Committee who have come in during this testimony: Assemblyman Schuck on my left and Assemblywoman Berman at the end of the table on my right.

Are there any questions by the members of the Committee?

MR. TROBE: We have one addition to that statement. We made some calculations on the amount of funds that were generated by 3 percent share of the community day care programs that goes to Central Division administrative costs. A number of questions have been asked of us about that and we have taken a close look at it.

This is exclusive of the Day Care 100 program where there is a separate allocation. \$640 thousand has been generated by the 3 percent, of which \$307 thousand was generated as a result of private contributions, \$147 thousand as a result of non-State public contributions, and \$185 thousand as a result of the State contributions to that non-federal share. It is a total of \$640 thousand. Currently the Division is spending in behalf of community day care programs, the ones that generated that \$640 thousand, a total of \$721 thousand this year. We are able to do that as a result of some leftover funds from previous years. But we are actually spending \$80 thousand more in support of services for the community day care programs than has been generated by that 3 percent.

MR. KAGEN: I would just like to add that running a \$30 million program with 3 percent overhead is tight and it makes it very difficult to provide the kind of service you would want to provide. So most programs I am familiar with are not being run, even in government, at such a low level, and the dollars are very dear.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Can you give us a breakdown

in cost among the WIN centers, the nonWIN State centers and the private centers in terms of how much it costs per week per child?

MR. KAGEN: Per child?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Yes.

MR. KAGEN: Center care is pretty much the same. We budget, whether it is WIN supported, community day care supported or non-WIN State operated, pretty much the same at \$50 a week. What has happened in some cases is that there are what are known as deficit-funded center; that is to say, community day care centers where the local match has not been able to be raised to the extent that would bring them to the full \$50. But at least for budget purposes, the maximum is the same.

If you are asking, what is the actual expenditure, I think I can do that calculation, given a minute or two to do it, and see if there is a difference. Would you like me to do that?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Yes, will you please.

While you are doing that, maybe I can raise another question that I have about the WIN program. The WIN match is a 9 to 1 match, right?

MR. KAGEN: That's correct.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Nine to one - nine plus one. That means that we are getting, I think, about \$10 million for WIN day care. Do you have a breakdown between center care and family care under the WIN program?

MR. KAGEN: Yes. Chart III sort of breaks down family in-home and center day care and then by funding source within. So you can sort of see that.

MR. TROBE: Look at the last column for the year '75.

MR. KAGEN: I think the last two sets of columns on the right are the expenditures and the number of kids.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: We have about the same number, if I am reading this correctly -- we have a few more in family day care under WIN than in center day care under WIN. Is that correct?

MR. KAGEN: Yes. It is about 3,942 versus 3,088.

MISS JENNINGS: May I clarify one thing? That figure under WIN for individual purchase from day care centers does not include the children that would be in any centers operated by the Division. This is individual purchase from centers that exist out in the community that we have evaluated and approved a fee for individual purchase.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: But there is DYFS here, also WIN; 709 in DYFS centers and 3000 in individual. So we have about 37 hundred versus family day care of 39 hundred under the WIN program.

Since we have \$10 million and about half of that is being used for family day care, is there anything being done to develop a satellite program at least with those family day care centers to improve that quality of family day care, and a focus on the WIN program since we are getting such a good federal match there?

MISS JENNINGS: That is a problem in terms of the federal match now as to how long a child will remain WIN and we can get the 90 per cent, as far as this is concerned. We do make special arrangements many times with groups for WIN children, with a center that we don't have another kind of a contract with. We could contract for a family day care with a program for WIN children. But what we would have to do then is really finish the kinds of things we are doing right now to decide: What should our rules and regulations be? In other words, if we are going to contract for family day care, what fees should be paid for family day care? You can't contract in a community for a fee that is going to scuttle the district offices'

family day care programs so that they are not going to be able to obtain any providers. And there is much feeling about the adequacy of this \$4 a day. We have asked for this to be updated and looked at again.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Would you explain what you mean when you say you can't develop a program that would scuttle the district offices?

MISS JENNINGS: Suppose we contracted with a community group to set up family day care homes and paid a woman either \$5 a day per child or gave her a \$5,000-a-year salary that many private groups would prefer to do. Then if the district office is only able to pay on the basis of \$4 a day per child, there is a competition that is set up here and they are not able to get as many family day care homes.

It seems to me what we have to do is treat this equally across ---

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: These district offices are your district offices?

MISS JENNINGS: The Division's district offices, because the WIN program and the placements are arranged through the local district office. In other words, if I am a caseworker in the Atlantic City District Office and I am in the WIN unit, it is my responsibility to plan a day care placement for the children referred to me. Now if one of the two centers that the division runs under my bureau in Atlantic City has a vacancy, this may be one of the very first places I will turn. We may not have a vacancy. We have contracts in other centers down there and they may go to those contracts. We have also approved some where we have no contracts where they can go into individual purchase. On the other hand, maybe the child lives in an area and maybe the mother wants a family day care placement. Then they will have to look for a family day care placement for this particular child. Now if we

have contracted with a group in the community to come up with family day care homes at a rate that is higher than the district office can pay, I think we have a problem.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: That seems to be an internal problem.

MISS JENNINGS: This is one of the things we are working on. I think it has to be resolved. We had started thinking about this system and then it was taken out of the budget. So at this point I think we still have to try and come up with rules and regulations and see where we can do the contracting.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: It does seem to me though that we ought to keep in front of us that it is children we are serving, not district offices.

MISS JENNINGS: That is right. But if a district office can't find a placement for a child, then it is the child who is being hurt.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I don't think that this needs to be pursued, except that I don't think through our administrative procedures we ought to be undermining our own operation. We ought to keep out in front what we are there for.

Did you finish your calculations?

MR. KAGEN: Yes. Well, yes and no. The problem is the way I have the figures in front of me, the community day care program is sort of all lumped together. The average expenditures are low. I just haven't broken out the center expenditures. What I would like to do, if I can, is try and provide you with that figure a little later. It should be very close to the same. At least that is the intent. Whether it actually is because of this deficit funding, as I mentioned before -- In fact, I am sure it is lower in the community day care program, and that is an unfortunate situation that we would like to

do something about. But let me see if we can provide later in the day or tomorrow the actual figure.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Fine. Thank you very much.

Assemblyman Snedeker said he has some questions he would like to ask.

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: I have a question with regard to your protection service, Mr. Kagen. I think I have been in touch with you before with regard to this. Can you explain to us exactly what the procedure is with regard to complaints on neglected children? Where does someone go? Do they go to the local police authorities? Do you have a division? Or what is the procedure?

MR. KAGEN: There are any number of ways complaints can, in fact, come in. We have, as you probably know, a statewide hot line procedure. People can call up and report that way. We also find out through any number of workers - people who work in hospitals who see children who are injured; police who investigate complaints; workers, themselves, in the course of dealing with families; other social workers in agencies who are dealing with families. So for the most part, private citizens can either call the local office or, in fact, in the case we had discussed before where that failed, apparently, and shouldn't have -- so calling the local office or calling the hot line should immediately generate an investigation of this situation.

We carry the prime responsibility for that. Sometimes the county welfare board social service workers and other people are working on a particular case. So we decide either to drop out or not. In fact, we must get notified by law and there are any number of routes for that happening.

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: With regard to licensing, there is a bill now in the Senate to revise the licensing. Does anyone now inspect or investigate those facilities

that have the 6 to 14-year-olds?

MR. KAGEN: Yes. I am sorry. You said for those children aged 6 to 14?

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: Right.

MR. KAGEN: We have a very active licensing function, primarily for kids 2 to 5. And we want to expand that function in a number of areas, this being one of them. The legislation which would do that, at least the legislation we would propose, will be forthcoming in the spring, I anticipate. Right now, we have licensed about a thousand private centers, mostly for the younger children. We want to expand not only to older kids in day programs, but to 24-hour care and kids who are away at schools and in other kinds of placements.

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: Who inspects these facilities for the 6- to 14-year-olds now? You don't license them now so do you inspect them now or does anybody inspect them now?

MISS JENNINGS: The only certification process that goes on is when we wish to contract for after-school day care with an organization. Since there was not any licensing standards for this age child in New Jersey, in order to use the federal money, we had to adopt official standards that the feds saw and approved for both under 2 and over 5. This we did. We use these for our contracting. What happens then is that staff of the licensing goes out and applies the same kind of physical and health and fire standards, etc., as they would in a pre-school program for us when we are going to contract.

If you have a program that runs one and doesn't get any federal money at the moment other than whatever local licensing there might be in a local fire department or department of health, there really isn't any.

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: You don't inspect them then?

You only inspect when federal funds are involved?

MR. KAGAN: When we are involved, which usually means federal funds.

ASSEMBLYMAN SNEDEKER: If the group goes directly to the federal government and applies for federal funds through a county program ---

MR. KAGAN: That doesn't happen very often. If it were to happen, the feds would usually stipulate standards. But there is nobody who would go, and for us to find out about it and then go and look, it really won't happen. That is why we are seeking legislation to expand because the number that we deal with compared to the number that are out there, just to give you a sense of the proportion of it for the younger kids, we are licensing about a thousand places right now. We deal with about 200. If the number is anything like that for the older children, there is really a lot of places out there that are operating without being carefully watched, except by again the local fire, health people, etc. That may be adequate in a number of respects. But the State isn't looking and we should be.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to get back to the abused child. I believe that the State in placing abused children in day care pays 40 per cent of the local match and the rest of the local match has to be generated by whoever does that. Do you have an objective of going to 100 per cent of the local match for children who are abused for day care?

MR. KAGEN: Let me say just a couple of things. We haven't done a great deal in specific programs pointed towards abused and neglected children at all yet. The new law, Title 20 of the Social Security Act, that the President did sign says that we can use federal financial participation for abused and neglected kids and their

families, regardless of income level. And we have taken that approach in general; that is to say, we do not apply the same income restrictions. We may seek to collect money back from a family who can afford it if we go ahead and pay for a service that they can afford in treating a child or a family where abuse and neglect exist.

What we have been wrestling with in the Children in Crisis Program is: How can we, in a sense, provide an incentive? It is very tough to go out to community groups that run day care programs and say, "We want you to take these abused and neglected kids." It means extra services, tougher to handle, more expensive. "Only we are not going to pay for it." So we have been wrestling with that proposition. I don't know that we have signed any agreement yet that would pay a higher percentage. Is that correct?

MISS JENNINGS: No. We are working on one actively in Union County, but we haven't signed it yet.

MR. KAGEN: We haven't yet, but we would like to.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You mentioned Title 20. I have a question relative to in-kind expenditures being used for the local match. I believe that some states interpret that to mean that the in-kind expenditure can be made by any user, any center, and that can then be part of the local match to generate federal funds. However, I think that the interpretation in our State has been it has to be a public grantee, a division center, for instance, in order to use in-kind as part of a local match. Is that a correct statement?

MR. KAGAN: I think if there is any state that is doing it, it is clearly wrong, at least as the regulations have been interpreted to us by the feds and just what the English language in the regulations of HEW says. We have not been able to use private donations, non-public money, in a restricted way to a particular center. It can be

restricted in terms of geographical area and in terms of the type of program to which the money is to go, but not in terms of the specific program. I don't know of any state that does it. If they are doing it, it will be disallowed, I am sure. So I don't think we are any more restrictive than we have been. We are not as aggressive as we have been in using in-kind. That term is really, I think, misleading. It is actual cash spent. And we haven't been completely inventive about finding with local governments the cash that is spent on day care operations.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: But you are absolutely certain that it has to be a public grantee in order to use in-kind?

MR. KAGAN: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are you familiar with what Michigan is doing? I am not a whole lot, except that I have the impression that they are doing something in the area of using private in-kind or cash expenditures for generating federal money.

MISS JENNINGS: Maybe the distinction is this: A public body could put up -- for instance, they could pay the rent for a private group to use a building. Then since it was publicly-appropriated money given by the public and is a cash flow that they are actually expending on this, that could be used because public money may be specified.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: It seems to me that we have to really make an effort in this area because we are having difficulty getting all the federal money that is available and we ought to be exploring every avenue.

MR. KAGEN: Let me just say in all areas of purchase we are doing, we wholly agree. The Union City program that we have just signed is a very large program. There are 800 after-school slots in that program and a large number of summer slots. I believe it is 800 as well. So we are

talking about 1600 additional slots wholly funded with current cash expenditures of the Union City Board of Education. The possibilities are clearly unlimited. What, of course, it doesn't do: it doesn't help community groups that don't have services provided or can't get services provided by local government.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: What are we doing as a State to generate more of that? I mean, there is nothing that stops a local government from putting up a hundred thousand or whatever for day care. But I don't believe many of them are doing that.

MR. KAGAN: I think you are right and I think it is partially our fault and we are trying to redress that by having information out there. Commissioner Klein sent a letter out to every mayor, every freeholder, in the State in the fall. We have met with a large number of local officials, and continue to do that, to explain to them what this process is and to work through the actual tough chore of finding in their budget money current cash expenditures that can be met. Of course, we needed some additional staff to do that. In the day care area we added nine field people since July, we have built an entire purchase unit and we have almost trebled the staff in the purchase unit to do that. It is really a matter of getting out there and digging it out. And that is what we are starting to do.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you find the 4-C's generally are successful in this area of developing day care by doing this sort of thing you are talking about? And is it possible that that function should be theirs rather than the division's?

MR. KAGAN: Four-C organizations have been very helpful. But I think you have to recognize that they are small organizations. We haven't put more money into them just because the money has been so tight. I don't think

it is realistic to ask them to carry a major technical burden of trying to negotiate complicated deals with a staff of two or three people. The point is that we work together. They find the folks and the willing and interested local officials. They help us find them and then we sit down and talk. So I think they have been very helpful in ~~that~~ respect and can do more. But it would be tough to ask them to take over that job.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In the legislation that created the Division of Youth and Family Services, there was a Day Care Advisory Committee set up. Is that group functioning?

MR. KAGEN: I guess the fairest answer would be, not really, no. There was an Advisory Committee in general for the Division that I found when I came in. It was an unwieldy group in the sense that it was large and people weren't coming to meetings, etc. So what we tried to do was to break it down into individual topics that were of particular interest to people. It has still been tough. So the fairest answer is no.

On the other hand, I would cite to you that we have been going ahead anyhow. Many of the people who will come and speak at these hearings will be people that we deal with on a daily basis. So I am not saying there is no need for that function. I think you are right to say that there is.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In Title 20, actually we are required to come up with a day care plan for the State by July 1st. Would you consider this an appropriate time to involve the Committee in perhaps developing this State plan?

MR. KAGEN: We are required to have public hearings. We are required to do a whole lot of things which it is going to be tough to get done on a schedule as tight as

this one. The bill has been kicking around for three years and then it plunks out and you have to have everything done in twenty minutes;and involve everybody. It doesn't make a lot of sense. But, yes, of course, not just a Day Care Advisory Committee, but we have to have public hearings throughout the State.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In just looking around the room, I imagine you could whip up a pretty good committee right here.

I don't have any further questions. Do any of the other committee members have any questions? (No response.) Thank you very much.

MR. KAGEN: Thank you.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to call Commissioner Patricia Sheehan and Kitty McGrath. Commissioner Sheehan is Director of the Division on Women and Miss McGrath is Deputy Director.

Good morning. Do you have a statement that you would like to make first?

P A T R I C I A A. S H E E H A N: I will be very brief, but I thought it was important that I be here for several reasons: one, to give support for what I understand is the mandate of this Committee in reviewing the entire situation with regard to day care; and also because of the Department of Community Affairs' interest in the subject to lend support to the information and programs as presented by Institutions and Agencies. Particularly I think we share a common concern and I appreciate the opportunity myself to have heard some of the testimony earlier.

What I would like, if I may, is to put it in a different perspective. I think that the needs of our children were well documented and the special advantages in terms of day care with regard to early warning signals of medical

problems and socialization problems in terms of getting youngsters geared up to participate in school situations, etc., were pointed up.

The point I would like to make and see this Committee include as part of its deliberations is really an explosion of an old-time myth, if I may, in terms of the fact that many of our women are working not as a way to fill their idle hours, but rather out of economic necessity, and that the need for day care is not the primary step required in the breakup of the home as we know it, but rather a facility that, in fact, is needed not only for the well-being of our children who certainly are a resource that is of great concern to us all, but also in terms of preserving the economic well-being and the family situation.

Most of the women who work today who are widowed or divorced or separated are working because they need to work. In addition to that, there are many women who become the second job-holder within a family because the first income is inadequate to meet the needs of that family.

I think when we are talking about day care and facilities that can and should be provided for our children, we have to recognize this additional dimension in terms of a need that is being met. Because there is obviously a shortage of day care facilities in general, and particularly those within reach of the greater portion of our citizens, we do have a very real problem. Again I appreciate the thrust of this Committee in studying the dimension of the problem and add this additional dimension, if I may.

We know that there are nearly a million women in New Jersey with children under the age of 18 and almost half of that million have children under 6. Of the 200 thousand families in New Jersey which are headed by women, nearly 50 thousand exist below the poverty level.

In addition to that, we have some 20 per cent of our women in the work force whose husbands are unemployed or unable to work or in income brackets below \$7000 per year. So in any and all of those instances, the addition of the income of a working mother might well make the difference between well-being and stability and economic needs being met - and they are not being met.

Obviously I don't have the numbers and the detail or the specifics of the programs as outlined by Institutions and Agencies. But I think that it is important, one, that there be adequate facilities because the value and dimension in terms of the future citizens of our State are very clear; and, secondly, in terms of meeting the needs of women and these families, this area has to be given particular consideration. As I say, in some areas we find much of our society overcome by the myth that this is idle time.

The final point that I would want to make is that I think even now in an area of particularly high unemployment where we see jeopardized much of the gains that women have made in the employment area, we also see in areas where for many years women had particular expertise in many of our clerical and health skills, there are vacancies and a demand for these types of skills. Where women would be free to take up this employment with peace of mind in the assurance that their children were being adequately cared for, we would have an entirely better situation, not only in terms of the needs that this employment calls for, but in the well-being of the family.

For many of our women, the availability of low-cost or reasonably priced day care centers makes the difference between the dignity of being self-supporting and dependence upon some form of public assistance. So I don't think that we can consider, and I am not suggesting

that this Committee is considering, that day care is a luxury. It is, in fact, a necessity. As I say, beyond the day-to-day benefits, per se, per center, per child, it extends also to the women who very much need and want to avail themselves of this kind of service. I thought it was important that I get that point on the record. (Applause.)

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Commissioner, you have indicated there is a drastic shortage of day care centers. In your professional opinion as a former mayor and head of the Department of Community Affairs, would you indicate to us some ideas you possibly may have so that we could increase day care centers or what problems the State could overcome to encourage more day care centers?

COMM'R SHEEHAN: Well, I think, Assemblyman, that this area is one of several where we have begun to appreciate the realization that the State can't do everything or that private community groups can't do everything. As we see our economic problems at the moment, this is exaggerated in terms of the kinds of problems that are being unmet. It seems to me that in this area as well as in several others, what we have to continue to explore and expand upon are the kinds of cooperative efforts where the State, as was indicated in some of the earlier testimony, is working with local government groups and local social service agencies, so that in effect we are parleying our resources to, one, capture the federal dollars; and, two, provide facilities that neither the public nor the private agencies can provide on their own. We have seen a little of that, particularly in the day care 100 program. We see it now in some of the bi-lingual programs through what used to be known as the OEO agencies, CAP agencies in the communities.

I think we are finding as we look around the State that they are beginning to get away from the "we" versus "they" kind of situation. Instead we see local groups organizing to provide a service or attempt to provide a service that is necessary and calling upon government, both State and local, to mesh in a partnership, as opposed to saying, "You can't do it" or "You've got to do it; we won't do it," etc. I am not suggesting perfection, but we are moving in that direction and I find that effective.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Thank you.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: I was wondering whether you might want to comment about the State's policies and present provisions for day care as they might affect those just above the levels at which we presently gear day care. I am talking ---

COMM'R SHEEHAN: --- in terms of economics. This would be a personal observation really. But I think both in my experience as mayor of a center-city and also in my personal experiences, as to the adequacy of day care even for those who can afford an expensive kind of service, that there just aren't enough facilities and places or slots around. Where we can - and often the federal regulations don't permit this -- but where we can go in the direction of the sliding scale and fees based on ability to pay, I think that that is the way we have to try to go. As I say, I am not familiar at the current level with the federal regulations and often they prohibit this kind of thing.

If I can shift back to the needs of our children as opposed to the earlier emphasis I was giving, the children of a widow or a woman who is separated or divorced who perhaps has an adequate income have needs which are just as great. The woman is in a position perhaps to pay for services and still finds that they are not available.

So the need is there whether you can pay or cannot pay. I would opt if it is possible or to the degree that it is possible for sliding scale and payments based on ability to pay.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: You are indicating though that perhaps the federal programs preclude assisting persons just above that minimal level.

COMM'R SHEEHAN: I have to admit that I am honestly not up to date on the most current federal aid regulations in this area, so I wouldn't be sure.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Commissioner, I am going to address you as not only the Director of the Division on Women, but as Commissioner of Community Affairs. To what extent has your department developed liaison and cooperation with the Division of Youth and Family Services toward the goal of developing day care through grants that you might provide that can then be used by an agency as their local match to generate either 3 plus 1 or 9 plus 1 or whatever. It is all mathematics, I have decided. In local government it was all sewers. To what extent have you developed the kind of cooperation that I think is necessary between the two agencies?

COMM'R SHEEHAN: I think that follows along Assemblyman Schuck's point as well, and we are moving in what I think is a rather vigorous way with Institutions and Agencies specifically to capture those federal dollars for programs that we all see are necessary in the State of New Jersey. We have already signed a couple of purchase of service agreements, particularly in the Legal Services area and also in the area of aging. We are pursuing with Institutions and Agencies - and I think I can fairly report to you that we do have a foundation of cooperative effort there - in order to sign these purchase of service agreements and, in fact, provide a variety of facilities.

Specifically on day care, we don't have one in hand, but we are looking into all of the areas. As I say, we have two signed already. In this way, we are able through some of our own funding and also through local funding to provide the State match to the federal dollars.

The other area that shows some possibility in this regard is the over-all new Federal Housing and Community Development Act which is a form of special revenue sharing with local governments. Again, it is more of a hardware than a software program or a service-oriented program. But it does provide the vehicle for the local government to look at the whole area of community development. I think what they are finding when they sit down to develop their program is that they must give some attention to the social needs. The federal program is more heavily weighted in terms of the hardware programs and so through the local CAP agencies and the various Hispanic organization, as well as in aging and legal services, etc., the gamut in terms of social services necessary within the community is something they have to look at in developing their community development plan, which doesn't provide them necessarily with the funds to make the whole local match themselves, but at least brings the question to the fore. In determining their priorities, there is an opportunity for the citizens' needs to be heard because of the requirement of public hearings in each of these areas.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In your Office of Hispanic Affairs -- Let me rephrase the question. Are you planning in the area of bilingual day care - bicultural day care to have those programs managed with funds distributed somehow through your Office of Hispanic Affairs?

COMM'R SHEEHAN: We have some program development

money which has generally been allocated in the area of Hispanic Affairs. Generally how that moves from a lump sum to an actual something is with the various agencies that are established throughout the State. They sit down with the personnel within the Hispanic Office and prepare and present a program. We then work with them to see if it is feasible and how much money it will cost and how much they have in terms of resources locally that we can match with or support. Presupposing that that can be worked out, we then reach a regular contract stage where we formally and physically contract with that agency to provide a particular program. In fact, it could be bilingual day care.

I don't know right off the top of my head how many of these organizations are going in the direction of day care as one of their top priorities this particular year, but it could be.--

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I think there are about five or six bilingual day care centers that are either established now or are in the process of being established and approved. There have been some problems frankly that some of them have had in trying to maximize the funds that they would get from DCA. At the suggestion of DCA people, wisely, there has been application for what I described before as the DCA money being used as a local match and then going to I and A. We get a couple of departments involved and there seemed to have been some problems in facilitating approval. It might be something you would like to look into in terms of improving a procedure that is basically a good procedure, that does generate the federal money that we desire, and perhaps an administrative oiling is necessary.

COMM'R SHEEHAN: As a matter of fact, I am scheduled

to meet with them on Friday and may well have some more up-to-day information at that time. In the meantime, I suppose it is repetitive, but that is exactly the kind of process we went through in reaching the purchase of service agreement with I and A on the legal services, which is one that I happen to have been personally familiar with. It calls for a great deal of cooperation on the part of not only two State departments, but fourteen or eighteen centers around the State. It involves compromise and negotiation and articulation of goals, etc. I think the end result is not only a good product, but also a capturing of federal funds for New Jersey in an area in which we do, in fact, have need.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Commissioner, I would like to go back to one of the central themes of your statement; and that was, a desire to dispel the myth that families who need day care or women who seek day care are merely trying to occupy their idle hours, but rather to give recognition to the reality which is that women who look for day care are really doing so out of necessity, and address this whole question of day care development which has been charged by some as being an attempt to break down the family. Would you tell me from your experience as a mayor and as Director of this Division, what happens in a family where day care is needed because the mother must go to work? What is the effect there upon the family? And is, in fact, the outcome of lack of day care more destructive to families than the presence of it?

COMM'R SHEEHAN: The answer is so obvious to me that I am groping in some other area. But I think by extension it is very easy to figure out what happens. In one instance if the woman goes to work anyway because she must, the children are in some kind of haphazard, fend-for-themselves kind of situation at an age when they are unable

to adequately do so. There are several alternatives and I, personally, had occasion to have to explore several of them, so I suppose I have more experience in this regard than many. But there are housekeepers that can be hired or baby-sitters that can be hired, etc., where you then reach the stage that you are really paying more to have your children cared for than you are earning, which makes a very self-defeating kind of cycle. Baby-sitters, neighbors, and so on, are other alternatives - all less than adequate in terms of meeting the needs and the well-being of the child and also the peace of mind of the mother. And many of us are in situations where we must work.

Failing that, where the woman does not go to work, often public assistance is the only alternative. Again, this is from the peace-of-mind situation a less than adequate resource. I don't happen to subscribe to the theory that there are hundreds or thousands of citizens out there on public assistance by choice. I think the facts are very much the reverse.

So when you consider a family who is now less than the family that we know in terms of being headed by a woman and perhaps without the stability or extra income or fatherly touch or whatever we subscribe to the other half of the family as a unit as we know it, you are faced with children who are already missing something. When you add to that a kind of hit-or-miss situation in terms of where or how they get lunch or to school or their homework done, you set up a kind of social-chaos situation by default as opposed to a socially-productive kind of situation.

I am not sure that you could ever measure adequately the lack of adequate day care on a particular child. "Would have's" and "should have's", how do we ever know

what that would have meant? But I think if you take as a given that being fed and being dry and getting to school and having the appropriate pencil or whatever is required and doing homework and perhaps having some social activities for a youngster are important and if a youngster doesn't have them and is deprived of the services of both a father and a mother as well, obviously we have potential for the very worst in terms of an adult failing to contribute to society, as opposed to potential for the very best in terms of providing adequately for the needs of our youngsters so that they, in turn, can become productive citizens. I think that is our goal.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much.
Are there any questions? (No response.)

Miss McGrath, do you want to give separate testimony?

K I T T Y M C G R A T H: Not really. There wasn't anything I had to say other than what the Commissioner said, except to mention that I think one area we can look into, and the Division can take upon itself as a responsibility, in analyzing the needs of women across the State, which we are trying to do, and setting up and helping the women's centers that are already there and tagging the needs in career development alternative education and those things geared towards jobs, is the adequacy of child care facilities. It is not going to do a woman any good to be able to be trained or retrained for a job if she can't become self-supporting because she has no place to put her children. Millions of dollars have been given out by the Department of Labor and also federal grants for training. Even in the WIN program historically they get a 52-week project and they provide day care and they support the children and retrain the woman. At the end of the project she is left unable to support herself if there are no day care facilities available to her.

I think it is an area where we can help even the federal people identify the needs of grants and funding maybe as an attachment to.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Is there any expectation on your part that you are going to try to coordinate your work with the Department of Labor and Industry in terms of job development and day care? I would expect you will be reaching out to them for job development. Are you considering making a part of that day care development and perhaps getting the three departments involved - and then we will have total confusion?

MISS MC GRATH: I think it is necessary. We have already reached out to the Department of Labor and Industry, which is a lot easier for me because that is my background. I have reached out to I and A too. I think it is a very important aspect of training and labor and industry and jobs and revenue-sharing and WIN, and all the money is being poured in - and it is being poured into training. That is fine and that is necessary. But once you are trained, how are you going to become self-supporting unless you have a facility in which to put your children. I think that is an area where we are definitely committed to trying to help, not monetarily, but by identifying those needs and lobbying, if necessary, and working together. I am committed to doing that.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Because whether we like it or not, day care becomes the woman's problem in the family.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

We will take a five-minute break, but we do have three more people we have scheduled for this morning and I would like to try to keep as much on schedule as we can.

(Short Recess)

AFTER RECESS

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I'd like to call the hearing back into session, please.

Dr. Robert A. Lowenstein, Director of Children's Community Mental Health Center, Jersey City Medical Center, please. Is he here? Is Dr. Lowenstein here?

(not present)

Well, we will go on, then, to Trish Morris, Director of the CHEN Day Care Center, Council for Higher Education in Newark.

TRISH MORRIS: I am Trish Morris, Director of the CHEN Day Care Center in Newark. We run an integrated day care program, meaning that we have a special component in our program for children with learning disabilities.

Most of the questions that I had to ask here, Mr. Kagen and his colleagues answered earlier. I had two specific questions. One was, where was the Citizens' Advisory Committee? I know we had heard about that earlier and hadn't heard anything else about it. I wanted to know whether they were functional, whether they were in the process of being set up, or what was going to happen to that committee.

Mr. Kagen did answer that. The second question was, what happens to the 3% of the monies that are taken off the top of private donations? And for the benefit of those that came in late, I'd like Mr. Kagen, or one of his colleagues to go over that again, just as a point of clarity. I had someone ask me if I would ask him to do that again. Is anyone here from Mr. Kagen's group?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Well, we will take the question and once we get through all the witnesses, then we will have to go back. But I don't think it would be very good procedure to start engaging in a dialogue. We

will, perhaps at the end of the day tomorrow, try to come back to the Division people again, if they are agreeable to that, and raise some of the questions that have been raised here today and throughout the rest of the hearings.

That might be desirable, but I don't think we should start engaging in that sort of thing right now.

MS. MORRIS: Okay. I just had someone ask me would I ask him that and that was one of my questions.

I also wanted to mention how great the need for day care is, but, of course, it would be somewhat redundant to go into that again. We have had previous speakers who have stated how great the need for day care is. I just want to say that there is a need not just for day care but for running a program with the special components for learning disabled children; there is even a greater need for integrated programs. We have found that you have a regular day care program and they are pre-school, set up with children with a learning deficit, either physical or mental. We run a demonstration program which is in its second year.

We have found that there is a greater learning rate for children in a combined setting because they have an opportunity to pattern after more positive behavior. So, I'd like to sort of state that there is a need for expansion of day care programs, moving it not only from normal day care programs but into specialized areas.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Does anyone have any questions?

(no questions)

Thank you very much, Ms. Morris.

We will now hear from Diane Kornse, New Jersey Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

I would like to announce that if you are not on our list of witnesses, but would like to be, please give your name to Mrs. Salayi. She is sitting here at Assemblyman

Hurley's desk and we will try to work you into our list.
D I A N E K O R N S E: I am Mrs. Diane Kornse. I am the Director of the New Jersey Association for Children with Learning Disabilities, Camden County section. Mrs. Bernadine Johnson, who is program coordinator of our Title 4A day care component of our school program, is here with me.

Our concerns, mainly, are in the area of the proposed licensing and even though I am now aware that the purpose of this hearing is a more general one, we would like to raise them in order to make members of the committee aware of some of the specific needs in this area.

If I may, I'd like to pose the statement in the form of three questions, not expecting an answer but, rather, that these be some of the considerations, and follow that up by requesting inclusion of members of the task force committee of some of our constituents.

The questions would be thus: In view of the fact that the licensing proposal is including recommendations for programs that serve the pre-school handicapped children, what agencies, resource persons, and established services were consulted to provide input on the special needs of such children?

In addition, how does the licensing proposal intend to correlate with Bill S-180, which has already been established, and the proposed S-441, which is provision legislation to provide programs for services to handicapped children between the ages of 3 and 5? This is the Beadleston extension.

Finally, if indeed there has not been ample time and appropriate consultation regarding these factors, it is requested that those descriptions of criteria for licensing special needs programs not be approved until there is a special committee appointed as a facilitator of securing information projecting the needs of pre-school handicapped

population. The reason that the statement is proposed in the form of questions is that, as an agency serving this particular population of children, and a very viable one, it was not possible for us to become aware of the movement of the report until only about two weeks ago, and we learned of this particular hearing only last Thursday.

So, in view of the fact that there may be other agencies, such as ours, so vitally interested in concerns of licensing for quality programs for this huge population of children-- Just to reflect back to a statement made this morning in terms of these children eventually winding up in all school systems, there is now documentation from the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped that 25% to 40% of all children will require special needs in terms of learning and learning disabilities.

I think that there has to be a very, very strong thrust in this area. If we are talking about quantity of programs, we have to begin the mechanisms to include quality of licensing and certification.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I wonder if I might suggest to you that you provide a copy of your statement - the specifics that you spelled out - and we can - or you can give it directly to Mr. Kagen. He announced this morning that the second draft of the regulations is about to be published and there might still be an opportunity for some input, from your point of view, in those regulations.

So, your trip here has not at all been without good purpose.

Are there any other questions?

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Just one question. You say you are from Camden County. Where are you located?

MRS. KORNSE: We are located in Haddonfield, which is providing a private, non-profit agency service for early childhood. We are also a state approved, licensed

agency for school-aged youngsters. But we are spanning the continuum from two and one-half through nine years. The full purpose for our existence is for early identification and treatment and this is a condition that is afflicting children from all socio-economic brackets, so it is encompassing a very broad range of concerns for young children.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Is this a local program or is this countywide?

MRS. KORNSE: We are part of a state organization - statewide. We are the Camden County section.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much.

Is Dr. Lowenstein here?

(not present)

I have a request from Mrs. Ernestine Simpson. Mrs. Simpson is from the New Jersey Statewide Follow Through Council for the Total Child. She has requested to be shifted from this afternoon to this morning - which is now this afternoon.

ERNESTINE SIMPSON: Thank you. The New Jersey Statewide Council for the Total Child was formed by mandate in June of 1972. The Council is comprised of representatives of five Follow Through sites in New Jersey, which are, Atlantic City, Lakewood, Paterson, Trenton and Newark.

It serves as a conduit from the State to local sites and is set up to act as a review and advisory board for innovative, early, proposed educational proposals.

The Council is made up mainly of laymen who are knowledgeable in terms of early childhood education, parental involvement and participation.

The Follow Through Council believes by educating the total child, this will increase the life chances of participating children. Children from Head Start Programs

and other day care centers are mainstreamed into the Follow Through program.

Follow Through picks up and continues the developmental, comprehensive health care, social education, parental involvement, and the educational and emotional needs of the child. This is why there is a great need for comprehensive day care services. Linkage between day care and public schools continuity is needed. The Follow Through Program is a model of this from kindergarten through the third grade.

The pre-school child must be insured the opportunity to develop socially, educationally, physically and emotionally to produce a more useful adult. Day care services should provide health services that are more comprehensive.

Comprehensive health care provides a complete physical examination of the child. Eye, blood, and hearing screening is also done. Evaluation of tests take place and follow-up services, if needed, are completed. A quality day care center has a nutrition program. This includes a breakfast, snack, and a nutritional balance grade "A" lunch. Having a healthy child is the first step in having a child that will learn. A healthy child is a happy child. Having a happy child who feels good about himself, you have a child that learns.

Other needs day care services should provide are a developmental component for preparing the child for school, and the parental involvement is a very important at this time. By involving the parent, you complete the circle of child, home and school. If this starts at pre-school, it stimulates the parents' interest which carries on to the entire child's school life. Find an interested and involved parent, you will find a motivated student who takes a positive view of education.

It has been statistically proven that the most informative years are from birth to five years old. This is why it is so important to provide quality day care services.

If the Follow Through Program and the other school programs are to succeed, we need quality day care services. Thank you.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mrs. Simpson, does your organization provide services now through some day care centers, or are you not a service oriented group?

MRS. SIMPSON: The Follow Through Program continues the services that day care-- The day care services are pre-school and we continue that from Kindergarten on - that is, from five years on. We work in with the day care services.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You pick up the kids after they leave the day care center?

MRS. SIMPSON: After they come from day care.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. Are you a statewide organization?

MRS. SIMPSON: No, we are federally funded.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You named five cities. You have programs operating in five or six cities in the state?

MRS. SIMPSON: In this state. The Follow Through Program is throughout the fifty states.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. Do you make any effort, since your concern is with children -- you are at the other end of the tunnel. Are you making any effort, or is it one of your objectives, to see that more kids get into the tunnel in the first place?

MRS. SIMPSON: Right. We think that all children should have the opportunity that the children in Follow Through Programs have, insofar as quality day care services are concerned, because when they come into the regular

school, we find that - we are in our fourth year - the ones that do come from the day care services have already had their innocations; they have had, as I said, the screening because this is provided by day care services; they have picked up things, such as emotionally, things that, when they come into the school, you can work right on and pick that up. If you can find what is wrong with the child at an early age, you can correct it more easily than if you pick it up when they enter school. So, this is most important to pick it up early.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do we have any other questions?

(no questions)

Is it fair to say that the kids do get a head start and you are trying to make sure that they keep it by the Follow Through; is that the idea?

MRS. SIMPSON: By following through, yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much.

I think we will break for 45 minutes, only. Since most of the people here are women, that is a long one. We are used to peanut butter and jelly on the run. We will be back at 1:15 promptly.

(lunch break)

AFTERNOON SESSION

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Good afternoon. The first witness this afternoon is Caroline Cavener, a teacher at the Hoboken Day Care 100, and she has two parents with her. May I have your names, please?

MS. RUFFIN: Hattie Mae Ruffin.

MR. CANDELARIA: Carlos Candelaria.

C A R O L I N E C A V E N E R: I'd like to make this short and straight to the point, okay? I would like to start by saying I have been a teacher for the Hoboken Day Care for the past five years. I have witnessed the progress and development of the school and realize the need for day care. We have now a waiting list of more than fifty children. We are now serving sixty.

It has helped parents get off Welfare into training for better jobs, giving them a chance to improve their lifestyle, being able to support and give more to their children. It gives them a chance to become someone useful in this society.

Now, what is going to happen if there is a budget cut and these parents can't come up with this money? They are going to go back on Welfare and there is going to be a high rise of unemployment. This is supposed to be a recession, right?

It also has produced community involvement providing part time jobs for high school children, keeping them off the streets and giving them useful fulfillment in their work. It will give them the experience they may need if they choose to get into the field of early childhood.

It has developed professionals out of the staff by providing career development, workshops, and various staffed trainings. All in all, the result has been a well developed curriculum providing intellectual learning experience for our children.

When the Hoboken Day Care opened in 1970, two-thirds of our parents were on Welfare. Today, two-thirds of our families are working. If this cutback is allowed to happen, most of these people will go back on Welfare or unemployment.

That really sums it up. What are we going to do about this? We are here to talk about our needs. I should think by now you would really understand them. And it is a serious problem. We are hoping that you can do something about this.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Did you say that you have fifty children on your waiting list or 150?

MS. CAVENER: Fifty children on our waiting list.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: And you are serving sixty children now?

MS. CAVENER: Sixty. And we hope in the future to expand and maybe provide services for seventy-two children, if that's possible.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: All right. Let me ask you a question about that. At this point do you have any application for expansion?

MS. CAVENER: At this point?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Yes.

MS. CAVENER: I don't understand. We have a waiting list of children that are trying to get in. It is impossible, being that the limit is sixty. They will just have to wait, I imagine, until the other children graduate or there is a dropout. But there is a definite need. All I am trying to say to you in stressing this waiting list is to show you that there is so much and we can't fulfill the demand for it.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You mentioned expanding possibly in the future to seventy-two. Do you have any

applications now for expansion of services or any construction or any concrete plans at this point?

MS. CAVENER: In our new contract, yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Okay. You probably know that the budget as it was presented to the legislature by the Governor does not call for cuts in day care. There is no growth in the day care budget as it was presented to the legislature, but there are also not cuts anticipated, and therefore I think that that point needs to be made, since you made reference to cuts.

MS. CAVENER: We want growth. We want to maintain what we're getting now. I mean, like, if you are going to cut it, or if that's their idea, it would be impossible for us to keep on. You know, when you are just pushing these people into Welfare and all kinds of horrible things.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to reiterate a point that you made and clarify it. Did you say two-thirds of the parents of the children ---

MS. CAVENER: Right, they were on Welfare five years ago when we started.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Your program started five years ago. Two-thirds of your families were then on Welfare, and now all of those parents of families in that two-thirds are now all working?

MS. CAVENER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: They are off Welfare?

MS. CAVENER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you have any questions?

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Yes. How would you expect to maintain this, assuming that there was no increase? I assume that teachers' salaries increase and costs increase. If there was no increase per student -- I believe

it is \$50 at the present time per week?

MS. CAVENER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Do you find that you can live within that \$50?

MS. CAVENER: Are you trying to say, can we live with less? No.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Could you live with the same \$50, assuming that inflation increases 10 to 12 or 15% a year? Are you finding that \$50 adequate?

MS. CAVENER: No, it would have to be proportioned. All right. You are jamming me up now. I would just like you to speak very plainly, do you understand? Right, but we won't be able to expand.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Where, if I may ask, do you receive your 25% of your CETA money? Does that come from private funds or public funds?

MS. CAVENER: No, isn't that Federal and State? I don't have a lot of this information. I just know that I am here to speak about what we need and why. As far as numbers and facts, you can't get it from me. I don't have the information.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: All right. Thank you very much.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much.

MS. CAVENER: I would like to introduce Hattie Mae Ruffin. She is going to speak as a parent.

MS. RUFFIN: I have gone through a WIN program, and I can't get no job. I'm a nurse's aide, and they didn't give me no job yet, and I don't want to go back on Welfare. I would rather work.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you have children in the Day Care Center?

MS. RUFFIN: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: And if you don't get a job, you will have to take your children out of the Day Care Center?

MS. RUFFIN: Yes. I would like to try to keep it open for the benefit of the other colored people, too, that are out of a job.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In the WIN program, once you complete your training, is there an effort to place you in a job?

MS. RUFFIN: They say they are going to try. I talked to my case worker last week about it, because I'm ready to get off Welfare.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: How long has it been since you completed your training?

MS. RUFFIN: I was working at the hospital before, but they wanted me to go back and learn new things in nurse's aide that you have to know before you can go back.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You completed the WIN training?

MS. RUFFIN: No, I have to go back to the WIN program to go through with this again. I went before, but now I have to go back because you have to take temperatures and everything.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. When did you last finish the WIN training?

MS. RUFFIN: 1970.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: 1970. And you have not had a job since then?

MS. RUFFIN: No.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: So you were trained, and now you can't get a job. You haven't had a job in the meantime?

MS. RUFFIN: No, I have to go back.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In order to go back you have to get training again?

MS. RUFFIN: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: But there is no certainty you will get a job?

MS. RUFFIN: No. I would rather be working.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: How long has your youngster been in day care?

MS. RUFFIN: Three months.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. And during that three months, have you had any assurances that you are going to get a job?

MS. RUFFIN: Yes, I talked to my case worker, and he's trying to get me a job.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you. Did you want to have the gentleman speak?

MS. CAVENER: Yes.

MR. CANDELARIA: I am a very concerned parent of the Day Care 100 Program. If the present level of budget day care funds are cut, the burden falls on the working citizens of this State.

I am aware of the inflation that we all find ourselves in. By cutting back on the services day care provides puts me in an even more difficult situation. I will have to go out and look for a babysitter. Plus we have to put out money to pay for a babysitter. Nobody is going to stay with the kid for nothing. Besides that, the child being with another individual in an apartment is not learning nothing. He is not absorbing nothing. He looks outside. He turns to look out the window, and what does he see? He sees just what happens in the streets. What knowledge will he pick up from there? Nothing.

Maybe he will see a burglar bombing a house. Maybe he will see - heaven knows what he will see. In a day care center he has learned a lot. I feel it is going to

benefit him in the future. Now, taking this away from him before he goes to school, means he will have the street knowledge, which sometimes, yes, it is helpful, but sometimes it just doesn't pay.

Where do I get the care for my child? My budget even with both my wife and myself working is strained to its limits. Do I get the money to afford a babysitter from my already inadequate budget? Does my wife quit her job and stay home taking care of him and also taking away her income from my family? No, what happens is I get frustrated and angry --that I can't really explain.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Excuse me, sir. How many children do you have?

MR. CANDELARIA: I only have one.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: And that youngster is presently in the center where Mrs. Cavener teaches?

MR. CANDELARIA: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: How long has the child been there?

MR. CANDELARIA: He has been going for more than a year.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: He has been there for one year. Prior to that time, was your family on Welfare?

MR. CANDELARIA: No. We were just surviving with what my wife was earning.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Your wife decided that it was necessary to go to work -- well, let me ask you, why did your wife decide it was necessary to go to work?

MR. CANDELARIA: I lost my job. That left us no way to turn.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You lost your job, so your wife was able to find employment and she was able to go to work, because of the existence of the day care center?

MR. CANDELARIA: Yes. I'll tell you. Like, when I lost my job, my wife, she wasn't sure of a job immediately. She has friends and all, but we were taking the baby to a lady. She would take care of the kid. Yes, we had a tight budget, real tight. We had a real tight budget. The day care center helped us. As a matter of fact, it is helping us live a little better.

When I got a job, it was helping me get away from the bills I got backed up on. It has helped us in a lot of ways.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Having the day care center enabled you to get along through that crisis period, and then you were able to find a job. It has helped you to pull yourselves out of debt, because you were able to have that place for your child.

MR. CANDELARIA: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: What would you have done if you couldn't have found a place for the baby?

MR. CANDELARIA: Well, I'll tell you, we had this babysitter. She said that she would take care of the baby for as long as we wanted, you know. The baby wasn't getting adequate attention. It wasn't to his benefit to be there in the first place. After that lady, I wouldn't know who else to turn to.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see.

MR. CANDELARIA: Like she was helping us. As a matter of fact, I owe her money. This lady was helping us beautifully. But it wasn't benefitting the child, the conditions where he was at. The home where she lived at wasn't even fit for a kid to be around. But we had no choice.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You had no choice, so you had to go there?

MR. CANDELARIA: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Schuck, do you have any questions?

(No questions.)

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much for coming. I must say that having only once before conducted public hearings, the most moving testimony always comes from those people who have been there.

May I call Gibson Le Roy and Joe Suozzo, 4C State representatives?

G I B S O N L e R O Y: I'm Gibson Le Roy representing the 4C, which is a coordinating organization federally funded under Title IV-A, with representatives of all segments of the community and offering services in the area of child care, and utilizing volunteer support.

I have here an abstract of a survey report, and the completed report will be available by the end of March. If the committee is interested in having copies of it in its entirety ---

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I wonder if we could ask you to send that along to us?

MR. LE ROY: That will be sent to you, yes. It is a report on the child care needs in eight Mercer County municipalities. The report is from the 4C Research Committee. I would like to take a moment to list the members of the committee, so that it gives you a better idea of the cross-section involved: Mary Yates, who is chairperson and is Director of Early Childhood Education for Trenton State College; Elizabeth Holland, past president of the Mercer County Comprehensive Child Care Conference; Helen Johnson from UPI, a Head Start Director; John Christensen and Robert Kinsley from the Mercer County Planning Department; myself representing the Mercer County PTA, and a member of the 4C Policy Committee; Consuelo Mc Daniels, Mercer

County Community Action Program; Peter Mc Laughlin, Department of Administration for the City of Trenton; Janet Pearson, Director, Princeton Area Council of Community Services.

The compiling of the report was largely under the direction of Joseph Suozzo who is here with me, and he was Research Director. Members of the Mercer County Comprehensive Child Care Conference felt there was a need for information on certain aspects of child care. Therefore, they set up a research committee which prepared a questionnaire under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Mc Leod of Mc Leod Associates to be utilized by our telephone questions and responses.

With the help of volunteers from many organizations in Mercer County the survey was completed in Trenton, Hamilton Township, Ewing Township, Lawrence Township, the Hopewell Valley area, and Washington Township. The East Windsor, West Windsor, Hightstown and Princeton data were not available at this time.

Many statistics were compiled and analyzed from the respondents in each of the communities involved on present child care arrangements, pre-school and after school, preferred arrangements, ranges of income, single parent families, handicapped children, and others, of working respondents and non-working respondents. Information was also gathered on non-working respondents who might work in the next five years or so, and non-working respondents with no such intentions.

The main objective of the survey was to gather data to provide information on child care needs that exist in each of the communities surveyed. The intention is to provide broad guidelines. For to be specific would require further study.

The recommendations: from a list provided, each family in the survey was permitted to designate from one to three categories or types of child care they felt addressed their own particular family needs. In some cases this, of course, meant several citings or different categories of care mentioned in order to meet the needs of the family.

Citings do not indicate the number of children in any one type of care, but simply some of the types or categories of care the family needed.

Projection of the total of all working respondents with pre-school children in each of the communities surveyed at random - that's Trenton, Hamilton Township, Ewing Township, Lawrence Township, Hopewell Valley and Washington Township - discloses an estimated 2,800 citings for all day care; 400 estimated citings for half-day care; 630 estimated citings for evening or night care; 180 estimated citings for other types of child care.

Thus projections based upon the survey revealed that an estimated 3,200 families in all the communities combined wanted some kind of child care for pre-school children.

Projections on the total of all working respondents with school age children disclose 2,200 estimated citings for after school care; 1,700 estimated citings for summer care; 950 estimated citings for other types of care.

Thus projections based upon the survey indicate that probably about 3,100 families were interested in some kind of after school care.

Projections show that an estimated 4,900 non-working families wanted some kind of child care

for less than 25 hours a week; 2,700 non-working families wanted some kind of child care for more than 25 hours a week.

Additional projections based upon the survey indicate that an estimated 4,000 non-working respondents might go to work in the next 5 years if appropriate child care programs are available.

The survey also indicates 5 serious needs shared by the communities covered: One, the need to increase availability of quality child care services with consideration given to families' ability to pay. The report reveals an immediate need and desire for all kinds of child care services by the communities surveyed in Mercer County as reflected by the figures presented above. While the communities surveyed varied in kind and degree of child care services needed and preferred, there is an urgent need for from one to all of the following services: First, all day child care centers; nursery schools; infant centers; head start programs; after school programs; summer programs; weekend and holiday programs; and provision for evening care.

It is evident that in many programs, taking into consideration parents' or guardians' ability to pay should be provided.

Second, the need to provide flexible programming in regard to hours and types. The survey shows that a tremendous need exists to provide flexible programming in regard to hours and types. Those respondents with more than one child frequently had different or varied needs for child care because of the differences in age of children. Again there are the different needs for the working versus the non-working respondents, both of whose needs change

with the development of their children. But changes in employment hours or location may affect the needs of the working respondents. And now there are more single parent families where the respondent often needs to work. Also the working hours of the respondents were not all the same. Some respondents work a full day, 8 to 5 or 9 to 5. Others have to work some part of the day, and still others work night shifts. Consequently programs must be available to meet many varied needs as to time factors, too. Then too, some children over two years need non-group care to function well. The needs of children are different. Some quality programs must be sufficiently flexible to meet the needs of children as well as parents.

Three, the need to increase the number of licensed homes and make the list more readily available to the public. Licensed homes for child care usually fall into two main categories: family day care homes, and the homes of babysitters. Licensed family day care homes are regulated by the State and fall under the jurisdiction of local boards of health. They should be staffed by trained personnel. It is essential that more licensed family day care homes be provided. More trained babysitters within suitable homes are also needed. Increasing numbers of women are going to work at a younger age, and cannot use programs that do not exist. Therefore, the need to drastically increase the number and improve the quality of licensed family day care homes is imperative to meet the needs of these people. This need is most pronounced for children 0 to 2 years old.

Many children over 2 also need non-group care to function well. Therefore, they also need quality

family day care homes.

Four, the need to provide lists of approved babysitters. People should be encouraged to use more sitters who are trained. The need for more training might possibly be met in the schools. Regardless of where they are trained, lists of responsible people to insure quality of care must be made available. Trained babysitters would also provide an interim service for overflow where organized child care programs do not exist.

Five, the need to encourage local communities to recognize and help meet their own needs by organizing and adding their own resources to the private and public resources already available.

Advocates of child care in Mercer County must encourage the people in each local municipality to recognize that each community for a variety of reasons has unique needs of its own. It is essential that the various local units find out their own particular needs and apply local resources to help solve their own problems. Just as needs may vary, so may resources for solutions and solutions themselves. Who can better find a way to solve problems particular to a certain area than the people from the area themselves?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Suozzo, would you like to present your statement?

MR. SUOZZO: I have no prepared statement.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: All right. Mr. Le Roy, I'd like you to stay there, please, if you will. We have some questions, perhaps for you. Mr. Suozzo does not have a separate statement. I will ask Assemblywoman Berman if she has any questions.

(No questions.)

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Assemblyman Schuck?

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: How many children are in

your program? I assume you represent all of Mercer County?

MR. LE ROY: Well, we don't have a program of our own. We are a coordinating organization set up to assist all of the child care centers. The exact statistics on that are available. I don't have them and I am not -- incidentally, I ought to add this: I have no vested interest one way or another in child care programs. I am not employed by any child care group, nor do I have any children that need it. I am here merely because of my interest in PTA and the needs for children. I am vitally interested in the program. So that what I have to say and the information I can give you is primarily one of citizen interest, rather than actual experience in the field.

The exact number of children I can't give you. I don't know whether that information is here or not. I guess not. But it can be sent to you, and we will do that.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. LeRoy, on the basis of the data that you provided for us in your statement, would it be fair to conclude that people who are not now working would work if they could get day care?

MR. LEROY: In many instances this is undoubtedly true, yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. In your experience with the 4C's program, has your 4C's developed new day care spaces or do you confine yourselves to a different role?

MR. LE ROY: Well, to begin with, the 4C Organization is comparatively young. It has become well organized now. It has gotten representatives from all over the

community. There are many areas in which we are projecting activity. We have been, at the present time, so completely consumed by this very carefully prepared survey, that I would say that nothing that I know of in that area has been directly planned at this time. However, I am sure it is an area we would go into.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Suozzo?

MR. SUOZZO: 4C, although we do not operate day care or child care programs ourselves, as Mr. Le Roy has stated, we are a coordinating agency. 4C has been very active in helping locate monies, be it from the County Board of Chosen Freeholders or other local sources. We have been very active in that capacity, and generally in an advocacy role.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: How successful have you been in getting the Freeholders to loosen up some of that cash?

MR. SUOZZO: I'm sure experiences differ, you know, from county to county. Our Freeholders have in fact put some money in day care, and they are now looking at the total spectrum of human services. But, yes, they have funded at least two or three programs in part.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: What do you plan to do with your survey?

MR. LE ROY: It will be published and distributed to many interested organizations and citizens, we hope, including governmental bodies within each of the areas involved in the county.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you plan a follow-up to see whether anybody does anything about it?

MR. LE ROY: I hope we do. Incidentally, I might add, it was whispered in my ear that the staff of 4C's is offering and has offered technical advice to organizations wishing to start new child care centers, so that we have been active in that, but not to my knowledge at the time.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I'd like to ask you some questions about the after school care and the flexible hours care. We had some data from the Division of Youth and Family Services. It is staggering. We have over 99% unmet needs for after school care.

Do you know of any provision of after school care in the area? You are Mercer County, right?

MR. LE ROY: Yes. Not directly. I know that within - as a member of the board of the State PTA I have been plugging hard for that kind of a program, because we have felt, many of us in the PTA, that this area of time particularly, when the child is dismissed from school and the parents are not at home, and particularly in center cities, the temptations and the problems there multiply probably tremendously. There really should be. My personal feeling is that the schools should furnish it. However, that would be up to the local school district.

MR. SUOZZO: There are in fact several operating after school programs in Mercer County. They by no means meet the need.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are they operated in the schools?

MR. SUOZZO: I don't believe that any of them are. There are a couple of them operated in the boys' clubs and private agencies. To my knowledge, there are none operated in the schools.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In your experience in working together with the State Division of Youth and Family Services, have you found an adequacy in terms of support services for the type of thing you are attempting to do?

MR. LE ROY: No. I don't ever suppose there would be a real adequacy. But I would say that the shortcomings are rather serious in many areas.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In your experience with both publicly operated - that is, State operated day care centers and private, voluntary centers, which group provides the best service in terms of quality, quantity and the best care for the dollar? Is there a difference?

MR. LE ROY: I wouldn't feel qualified to answer that without having a more careful survey of the various areas. I would say it varies tremendously from one center to another.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: As your centers in your jurisdictions, and those that you have worked with, apply annually for the renewal of their contracts, have you found State procedures to be workable procedures? Do you have any suggestions for improvements in those procedures or changes?

MR. LE ROY: You mean primarily in the question of funding?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Yes. I don't know whether your 4C's get involved in this. Perhaps you ought to tell me if they don't. In the annual renewal of contracts for funds, do you assist your agencies in getting the funds?

MR. LE ROY: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: If you do, do you find the procedures adequate to facilitate in a normal atmosphere the renewal of their contracts and the acquisition of their new funds?

MR. LE ROY: The only way I can respond to that question is that, as we know, there has been a so-called tightening up of the monies available from all sources for obvious reasons: inadequate taxation, balanced taxation at the State level, the Federal requirements, apparently, for holding back. So I think that the problem is becoming more acute as we go along in both directions. There are more needs developing under the present economic situation, and there is more difficulty in getting even the amount of money that has been available in the past. But the 4C does, as one of its primary deeds, help any child care organization to try to get what we feel they need.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you engage in any monitoring of the funds that are granted by the State? Do you have experience with the evaluations monitoring process, if there is one, on the State level?

MR. LE ROY: I don't think so. I have not been aware of any.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much. Mrs. Berman has a question.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: Maybe I missed this, but did you tell how large a sample those findings were from?

MR. SUOZZO: The sample represented about 650 families in that portion of Mercer County which we were able to successfully survey. We did that by municipality, so that, of course, the kinds of needs existing in Trenton, for instance, might be very different from another municipality. But given that sample, we found overwhelmingly in all municipalities lots of different kinds of programs.

MR. LE ROY: Could I just add a word to that, if I may? I happen to live in Ewing Township which is supposed to be a reasonably opulent, well-to-do, middle class community, and I was suprised at the results of the survey, even to me as a resident of that community, the number of people who found a need which was not being filled in child care.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: The sample of 600, I just want to know a little bit about the approach that was used. In other words, there must have been some people who were not involved at all, and either had no children or children not of that particular age and those were dismissed?

MR. SUOZZO: Yes. We did our sampling on the basis of a sampling of the universe of families with children under 15 years of age. The survey was rigidly executed in a scientific way, random sampling, careful monitoring, that kind of thing.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: How did you get this field of children, the families with children under 15?

MR. SUOZZO: It was made on phone calls. We divvied the phone calls up randomly, and then we would make phone calls to the family. If the family, for instance, had no children under 15, they would not be counted as part of the survey. So we did 650 complete interviews with families of children under 15.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: How would you reach the people who were working? Would you call in the evening, night hours, or did you call during the day?

MR. SUOZZO: Our funding was very constrained, so that we all volunteered to do the telephones. They did it on weekends, evenings, days, that kind of thing. There were four follow-up calls to any particular household that could not be reached. After four calls

or so, we let that go.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You figured they found day care?

MR. SUOZZO: Either that or they were out working and didn't have time to answer the survey.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: Mr. Le Roy, when Assemblyperson Wilson asked you about the State support of the programs that you had, and you indicated that there were some shortcomings, I wondered whether you might want to expand on that a little bit?

MR. LE ROY: Well, only from a personal point of view, I would say that - and this is true, of course, in many areas of social needs - the State should be in a position to do better than it's doing.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: Are you talking in terms of financial need, specifically?

MR. LE ROY: Yes, with, of course, proper supervision and the upgrading of the quality of child care wherever it does exist.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much. May I call Joan Bullock, 4C Director, Somerset County?

J O A N B U L L O C K: In order to assure maximum community participation and to obtain full cooperation among county and municipal governments, public and private agencies and organizations, the mobilization of resources of the Somerset County 4C was developed to become the coordinating unit for all comprehensive social services, serving low income and middle class families in Somerset County.

The 4C stands for Community Coordinated Child Care, and speaks to the needs of children 0 to 18 years and the supportive family services necessary to insure the families that their needs will be met in the most efficient, effective way possible.

4C's assist in identifying communities' goals and objectives, and to respond to these families' needs in a timely and orderly basis in order to more effectively utilize public funds and/or the private contributor's dollars. We are a unit accountable to the community in addition to the State.

There are 10 counties who have developed 4C's throughout the State of New Jersey. The roles in each county are determined by the priorities identified in that area.

Speaking for Somerset County, we are involved in one constant research, to collect, collate, analyze and distribute statistical data. This will insure efficiency and effectiveness, and eliminate costly duplication. It will enhance the management of agencies and encourage cooperation and coordination between public and private sectors to develop and implement innovative and creative approaches toward meeting human needs.

We are involved in grantsmanship and legislative analysis to seek local, state, federal and private sources of funding to implement comprehensive programs and improve existing ones.

We offer technical assistance to assist in developing proposals and in any other way requested of us. We provide information and referral services through the development of the countywide social service directory available to residents and agencies through a monthly newsletter, and through a process of public education.

We plan and execute conferences, workshops and seminars. Just recently in December we developed a child care crisis report out of a thorough survey in Somerset County, and we sponsored an all-day conference that was

attended by over 150 agencies and just concerned individuals. We participate in county councils and boards, such as the CETA Board and Mental Health Advisory Council. Other 4C's have developed training programs and have coordinated centralized cooperative purchasing.

4C's perform a valuable service. The State needs to both encourage their development in the counties where none exist, and to make greater use of the operating programs. The passage of Title XX has created a need to develop a new state plan for social services. While the 4C's need to play an instrumental role in the development of this plan, the plan can only become successful if the same 4C's are included within its frame of operation. Thank you.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you have any questions, Mrs. Berman?

(No questions.)

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Schuck?

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Yes. Are you advocating that possibly a day care program should be administered on a county level, rather than on a state level, and that possibly all applications for day care should go through a county organization?

MS. BULLOCK: I'm not advocating that as a hard and fast rule. In some areas it might be better.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Based on your experience in Somerset County?

MS. BULLOCK: I'm saying from my experience in Somerset County, unfortunately, there are only two full-day programs in operation, in addition to one for retarded children, and then there are two after school programs and one we are forming. It is quite a rural county. We desperately need a system

of family day care homes. In the small pockets in the county, six to ten children need care, it is infeasible to open a center program, and we must do something for family day care. I think in some areas -- I know other 4C's are involved in helping with the contracting process. I don't feel it is necessary in our county.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: And you are appointed by the Board of Freeholders?

MS. BULLOCK: No. I am funded under Title IV-A. I have to scrounge up 25% local match. My local match comes from the Board of Freeholders; it comes from the United Fund; and it comes from the CAP Agency, the local anti-poverty program. We are private, non-profit, so I am hired by my board, called the Coalition For Community Development.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Where did you receive your charter, 4C's charter? Was it from the State? I'm not quite sure I understand that. Did you get together and decide that you are going to have a program as such?

MS. BULLOCK: The 4C concept originated in the late 60's, I believe, out of the Federal Government, and for a period of time they funded a National 4C Organization -- National 4C Office, and I believe it is in the Office of Child Development, so that they were supposed to be instrumental in helping to organize 4C's.

Some states have a whole State 4C Office that is funded.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: We do not.

MS. BULLOCK: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Some of our counties have the 4C's and some do not, as I understand it. We don't have 21 4C's; we only have 10.

I'd like to ask you what you do with the statistics you gather?

MS. BULLOCK: We published a document that we made available at the conference. We mailed it out to all key people within the county, people within the State.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you have a follow-up program in terms of developing responses to the needs that become apparent through your statistics?

MS. BULLOCK: Yes. Actually, one of the specific needs, of course, is more pre-school programs, more after school. The idea is to hope to generate that 25% necessary to match to run these programs.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Is that your problem, raising the local match?

MS. BULLOCK: Yes. It is a great problem, that, and unfortunately in our area finding a physical facility that meets the licensing requirements.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have you attempted to get any money from any of the local governing bodies?

MS. BULLOCK: Oh, yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have you had any success?

MS. BULLOCK: Not a great deal. We are at the present working with the Freeholders to see what they can manage to accumulate in their budget. They do give a small sum to one of the pre-school programs operating. But much more is needed and we are hoping to develop an interest with business and industry and unions in the area, to have them participate in this.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have you had any cooperation from the state colleges or the Somerset County College in terms of developing child care funds or child care services?

MS. BULLOCK: I am aware that the college is interested in this. They are -- I tried to get them interested in opening up a full day pre-school program.

At the moment they are considering it, but have just begun a part-day, part-time babysitting service for their students.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have they given you any indication that they would be willing to be involved in an after-school program using college students to staff?

MS. BULLOCK: I have not approached them on that.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: In terms of the relationship between your 4C and the state, most specifically the Division of Youth and Family Services, are there needs that you have that are not being fulfilled by the Division that you think perhaps could be, other than money?

MS. BULLOCK: Last Friday we just had a 4C Association meeting, and spoke with representatives from the Division. We expressed the desire to be more utilized by the State, so we could further enhance each other's operations, and they were very receptive to that, and I hope we will be moving forward.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You would like to see the State utilize your services to a greater extent?

MS. BULLOCK: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I don't have any further questions. Thank you very much.

The next speakers will be Robert Rosofski and Sharon Fuller of the Ironbound Children's Center.

R O B E R T R O S O F S K I: Good afternoon. My name is Robert Rosofski. I work at the Ironbound Children's Center sponsored by the Ironbound Community Corporation, a private, non-profit organization in Newark. I will generally speak about the need for child care services in the State and relate that to specifics at the Ironbound Children's Center.

A few hundred years ago, individual States recognized the need for providing public education to youngsters six years of age and older. I believe that in 1975, it is time for society to recognize the need for making available comprehensive early childhood services. The structure and function of families have gone through some changes. There are more parents working than ever before. This goes for both single-parent and two-parent families, and there are more single-parent families. Parents have less time to devote to spending time with their children, being that they are working. There is a clear need for society to provide added support to the function and purpose of families. Day care is one thing that this support should include.

In the State right now, there is need for additional day care services. The waiting list at the Ironbound Children's Center has over 50 names. This does not include the names of people who inquire about openings but do not want to put their names on the list. Nor does it include people who desire the service yet are ineligible due to maximum income guidelines set by the federal government. The waiting list has 50 names, let me repeat. Yet, our capacity is for only 60 children.

I think that if we, as a society, are to consider our children as our most valuable resource, then that consideration must be proven. I think that it must be proven by devotion, money, people, and

legislation favorable for enabling children to have the maximum amount of resources available to them for developing into socially secure and intellectually able citizens - citizens who can make good decisions about their own lives for their own happiness and well-being, citizens capable of making solid contributions to their communities.

Our day care center is one day care center that has worked toward these goals. Children have come in and learned to learn from other children, learned to relate to a variety of adult personalities in the form of many teachers and other parents who have come into the center, and some have learned the beginning parts of reading and mathematics as preparation for public school. Most important, I think the children have learned not to be afraid of the world and to be willing to take chances in using their curiosity to become independent learners. In a community of Portuguese and Hispanic residents, all children not knowing a word of English upon entrance to the Ironbound Children's Center spoke English fluently upon exit and thereby became bilingual speakers. Parents report back to us that their children are doing very well in school, and the parents feel that this is due to the benefits of the children's experience in the center.

New Jersey can make a start toward increasing the availability of comprehensive early childhood services. By simply putting up \$1, New Jersey can get back \$3 additional from the federal government for social services - almost by magic. This is an offer that I think we can't refuse. Economically, I think it makes good sense. By putting up 25 percent, the State can get 100 percent worth of jobs, buying power, and the result and rippling effect on other parts of New Jersey's economy.

As a service industry, day care centers tend to spend over three-quarters of their budgets on personnel. In simple economic terms, day care can be a worthwhile source of employment. An example of this is the way in which the Ironbound Children's Center has served as not only a day care center but also as a place of training and employment for community residents. Parents of children have become regular teachers in the center and have gone further to get college credits, certifications, and degrees. It has been a place for community residents to increase their skills. Two people who dropped out of high school became employed by the center and now are part of the regular teaching staff.

In speaking further on economic benefits, bringing in money from outside of the State in the form of federal dollars will be a definite boost to the economy of New Jersey. The Children's Center tends to use merchants indigenous to the State if not to our own community. Located in an urban setting, like most day care centers in the State, this helps towards making cities more viable places in which to do business.

I think that New Jersey should be active in making use of federal money for publicly-supported, community-sponsored social services. It is commendable for the State to be doing outreach work in an attempt to bring business and industry into the State. It is commendable for New Jersey to be working to make use of federal transportation funds recently released by President Ford. Yet, those are competitive situations requiring a lot of hard work. Getting matchable federal dollars for day care is not competitive. The maximum amount is fixed by formula. To get it requires a simple act of allocating state revenue. The need is there. The resultant human benefits of community institutions serving their citizens would be magnificent.

The economic benefits would be well worthwhile. I ask you to do this - to get the maximum for the children of the State.

Thank you.

S H A R O N F U L L E R: I am Sharon Fuller. I am here today to give my reasons, as a parent and a working mother, why I need day care.

I have two children, one in kindergarten and one in the preschool now. Judging from my experience with my daughter, who was going to day care for two years, it has really given her confidence in herself to do things on her own and not to depend on me or others. It has also taught her to count and read and so forth, which she would not have gotten if I had to leave her with a baby sitter. I feel that it is safer for them to be in the preschool than to be at someone's home for the simple reason that they have less chance of getting lead poison or having any serious accidents. In preschool, children are screened for lead poisoning, and they receive medical care.

Because of the day care center, which is the only free center in Ironbound, I am able to go to work to help my husband support my family. We are now able to buy essential things for our children that we might not have been able to buy if I was not able to work. In fact, with the little money that my husband makes, without the day care center, we would have to go, probably, on welfare.

Having the free day care center has given me not only a chance to go to work and help support my family but has also given me a sense of self-dependence and a chance to go out and meet different people. I know other people who could benefit from day care, so I ask you to do all you can so that others can benefit just as I did.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Rosofski, you have 60 children on your waiting list?

MR. ROSOFSKI: No. There are 50 on the waiting list. There are 60 in the center.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are you apt to be able to admit those 50 children on the waiting list within the next year?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Each year there is a turnover of children who have become ineligible due to age. Therefore, we can admit a large number on the waiting list provided that they are not ineligible due to age. There may be a four-year old who, next year, would be five and would not be eligible. But, as soon as people are admitted from that list to fill those openings, I am sure the list will again be just as large.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Ms. Fuller, on the basis of your experience, what do you imagine is happening with those 50 children who are on the waiting list?

MS. FULLER: I know from experience. I know a couple of parents who are on the waiting list and have been on the waiting list for two years. One child is definitely afraid of going to the babysitter. Not that the babysitter would do him any harm, but he does not like to go. Therefore, it affects the mother. She is thinking about him all the time while she is working. I think that it is not only unfair for the children but also for the mother. She probably cannot do her job because she is thinking about her child in someone else's home.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Mr. Rosofski, do you have plans for expanding or for applying for expansion?

MR. ROSOFSKI: There were some people who were working on a committee last year, and we found a

potential site in a church which had a building. We would be ready to expand if we saw that there was a likelihood that there would be provision for money for the services.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Is day care at your center free for all parents?

MR. ROSOFSKI: It is a Title IV-A center, and it is free for those who are eligible. We are completely funded by the State, so only eligible parents can use it.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: State and federal.

MR. ROSOFSKI: Right. But, we contract with the State for full funding.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: Mr. Rosofski, in terms of numbers of children within a program, what would you consider an ideal size?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Are you asking what I think is an ideal size for a particular center?

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: Yes, and are there any dangers in expanding size?

MR. ROSOFSKI: We are not thinking in terms of expanding the same facility but of having another facility in another part of the neighborhood of approximately 45 children. That is how we are thinking about it.

ASSEMBLYPERSON BERMAN: In other words, if you did expand, you would look toward satellite types of locations?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Yes, different centers which would be located in neighborhoods closer to people. Right now, there is one center in the entire Ironbound community, and we have a van service which picks up and takes children home. But, it is not really local because you have to transport them. The idea would be to have centers which are more local to the people.

They might even be within walking distance which would make it more accessible to both parents and children, and you could also use the center for other services. You might have training seminars; you might have workshops in things that parents would be interested in related to their own children.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Mr. Rosofski, how do you select the children on the waiting list to fill the openings? Is it based on the lowest income?

MR. ROSOFSKI: With the eligibility limits being equal, it is first come, first served.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: What other criteria are used?

MR. ROSOFSKI: We are moving towards setting up some policies which relate to maintaining a certain approximate level of non-English speaking children and English speaking children, which would enable some children to learn a language, whereas it would not overload staff by having a large number of non-English speaking children initially.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you have Spanish speaking and Portuguese speaking members of your staff?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: At the present time, what is the ratio of non-English speaking to English speaking children in your Center?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Right now, it has changed. It is February. In September, when we had a large number of children coming in, I would say it was about half and half, if not more non-English speaking children. At this time, the proportion has gone down. I would say, maybe, a tenth of the children do not speak English very well, whereas all the other children have learned enough English to get along pretty well.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: That is 10 percent, and that is mostly because the other children have learned a lot?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Right, and I think the 10 percent would also include children who have come in since September.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: May I ask you if you know what your total budget for your center is?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Yes. It is \$137,000.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: And you have 60 children?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Right. We are budgeted at \$44 per week per child, which is not the maximum.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Is it \$50 or \$55?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Right now it is \$50.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I want to ask you whether you get any support services from the State such as social workers, nutrition advice, counseling, training, or anything along those lines.

MR. ROSOFSKI: The only training that we have gotten through the State was through Kean College. There have been some early childhood training programs for some of the new staff members who are parents and are getting college credits towards their certification.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Parents of your children?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Parents who have become teachers - staff members.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Teachers in your school have received course credits at Kean College?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. Do you operate any after-school programs?

MR. ROSOFSKI: Not at the present time. We did have an after-school which had to be dropped due to lack of funding. It ran through August 1974.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: It seems to me that perhaps, in your location, there might be a need for flexible hours, evening hours or night hours; or is that not a need where you are?

MR. ROSOFSKI: People have discussed it, but there has been no move to change hours.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much. Yolanda Aguilar, Puerto Rican Coalition for Child Development. (No response) Don DeMaio, Center for the Analysis of Public Issues. (No response) Cecilia Green, 7-C's of Camden County.

C E C I L I A G R E E N: Good afternoon. I am Cecilia Green, and I am program director for 7-C's, Community Coordinated Child Care Council of Camden County, 318 Cooper Street, Camden, New Jersey.

My thoughts today are not just of Camden County day care services but of and for an adequate, comprehensive program servicing the needs of the child in need of service in the State of New Jersey.

Day care advocates are petitioning this State for services that should be readily available to the children. How often do we have to say that the need for quality day care in New Jersey is enormous in order to have an impact? There is no need to reiterate that the demand has surpassed the suppliers. Why show statistics when we all know that not only have these children a need of service, but their need of service has been shifted to other types of needed care. How long must we research and haggle over alternatives to quality, comprehensive programming before implementation?

I advocate for New Jersey, first, a system of day care service to service a child from infancy to after-school care if needed by the child and his family. Who are we to dictate and deny a needy child

the opportunity to develop in a healthy environment, outside of the home, that is geared to his physical, social, emotional, and psychological development?

Economically, today, for an individual to be able to secure and retain a job seems to be a privilege. Likewise, it seems to follow that services for children are in a state of recessed depression.

Let it here be clear that I am not addressing myself to just day care services for the child without a special need to be serviced. I am talking about the need for quality, comprehensive care for the child who might need a bilingual program or detailed and comprehensive social services, be they physical, mental, or psychological.

Along with the great need for services, there has to be enough individuals assigned to work with these programs who are experts in the field in which they work, such as, child development, licensing, nutrition, etc., so that they can adequately service and helpfully assist the programs assigned to them as employees representing the State of New Jersey.

My first request, therefore, is twofold: to provide a comprehensive and quality-oriented system of day care facilities, to maintain the system, and to hire and retain adequate staff competent in the area of child development necessary to maintain that level of efficiency necessary to deter wholesale ineffective programs.

Now that I have stated my needs in terms of servicing children, I state a neglected, underused, and sometimes ignored segment of this whole day care system, that is, money. New Jersey has to avail itself of all monies, be they in-kind or cash, from the federal government and/or others available to them to provide the type of comprehensive network needed for our children to

grow and develop as healthy, independent - not dependent - adults. Let us begin to use money to build individuals and not wait until we act out of crisis to attempt to mend broken minds, bodies, and spirits. Let there be a universal system of allocating monies across the State and not fragment a community by total funding in state centers and bare existence funding in community centers. Hear me well, for I am not saying, "Bring Day Care 100 down," but I am saying, "Raise us all to the level of funding where, as a consumer of your own services, you could flourish as a whole individual." Help our local match agents as they have helped us, but do not force them to withdraw because of the lack of state cooperation.

As my first request was twofold, so is my second; that is, to provide a way for New Jersey to get its children out of church basements, where needed, and into a ground-level environment of attractive, well-lit, and ventilated centers. With the most innovative and dedicated staff, a church basement is still a church basement, especially in a blighted, depressed area.

In closing, I would like to thank you for scheduling this opportunity to hear the community and hope that this is not an exercise in rhetoric but a valid attempt to improve the day care services.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Ms. Green, do you operate a day care center?

MS. GREEN: No, we coordinate services for the day care centers in Camden County. We receive funding for 11 of those centers from the county freeholders and the city of Camden.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: I am going to ask the same question I asked before. In your experience, do you feel that day care services could be better

controlled at the county level rather than at the state level with all day care centers, possibly, making application through a county coordinated 4-C's, and with, possibly, those counties interested coming up with the 25 percent monies? Your biggest problem, evidently, is getting the 25 percent for community centers, isn't it?

MS. GREEN: Not only that, but also having all centers in New Jersey operate on the same level. If what you are asking is, should we, for instance, in Camden County, operate independently, I would say, no, because just as the federal guideline has to give some direction for programming, I think we do need a state agency to give some. But, I think that there should be cooperation and input from local communities.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to ask you for some further information on a statement that you made about a lack of state cooperation and forcing your local donors out of the picture - donors that, I suppose, have been helping you put up your local match.

MS. GREEN: I am speaking of bureaucratic problems when, for instance, the county freeholders or the city council have problems communicating with some state officials, or when the bureaucracy just fails to work, or when we get information via the grapevine that something is being done one way in the north and another way in the south. That is pretty frustrating.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Can you give a specific example of that kind of an experience?

MS. GREEN: Not specific in terms of that way except that we always feel in South Jersey as if we are the last ones. For instance, today--

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Your legislators always say that too.

MS. GREEN: As an example, I understand that a number of people who came here today from Camden have had to leave because they were scheduled last. They made an effort to be here. They came from the farthest away and had to get back. In that, the north seemed to have an advantage.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Actually, the Division had the advantage. Then, it is a general impression of bureaucratic red tape in discrimination against the southern counties of the State rather than specific experiences with problems such as contract renewal or support services. Is that what you are speaking about?

MS. GREEN: I would say that there are specific instances, but I do not have validation of those, and I would not speak to them without back-up validation at this point.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You also made reference to funding which puts fully-funded state-operated centers in competition with bare existence funding of community day care centers. Would you care to expound upon that a little bit to tell us how that kind of disparity comes about?

MS. GREEN: I do not see them as in competition as much as that two groups of people are trying to service the same population, and if you have \$1 to buy milk for one group of children and \$10 for another group, the first gets less milk. Everyone is trying to do a state job. If the State cannot run a day care center at that level, then how do they expect community day care to run one?

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Then, your quarrel is with the level of funding that is provided for the

community day care programs?

MS. GREEN: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Where do community day care centers get the rest of their money since they are not 100 percent funded, obviously?

MS. GREEN: For instance, in one of our centers, parents pay as much as \$21.30, I think. That is really ridiculous if you say that you are servicing people that are in need. If they have more than one child, it might be \$5 less. It is really penalizing them.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: The difference, then, is paid by the parents through the fee schedule?

MS. GREEN: Right.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: And any contributions you might be able to scare up?

MS. GREEN: If you take contributions, it will have an effect on your contract for the next year.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are there any other questions? (No questions)

MS. GREEN: I have a statement from Berna Popowcer from the Camden County College.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Would you like to read it into the record?

MS. GREEN: This is the statement from Berna Popowcer. She is the director of the Camden County College Day Care Center in Blackwood, New Jersey.

B E R N A P O P O W C E R: (Statement read by Ms. Green)

We have been funded since June 1, 1974, for 25 eligible children under Title IV-A. We also serve almost an equal number of ineligible children of college students and staff members at a resonable cost.

I wish to endorse the statements made by Commissioner Sheehan regarding the needs of working women and add to that the needs of women - and men -

in school. My main concern is that current funding programs center around working parents, and we feel that consideration must also be given to those trying to further their education in order to secure a better job.

As a college day care center, we are unique, in that the children are from a variety of backgrounds, some being children of students and others of faculty and staff members. We work closely with the Early Childhood Departments of Camden County College and Glassboro State. It is beneficial to all our children to include both eligibles and ineligibles in our program.

It is extremely necessary to adopt a sliding scale that will enable families over the \$9840 limit to participate in day care programs. Fifty dollars per child is a prohibitive fee for most families, let alone students who must also pay college tuition. The \$9840 limit is self-defeating. A family working to maintain a livable wage cannot afford the same quality day care as those below the poverty level.

I would like to add that programs supported by colleges may be able to provide for ineligibles at less than \$50 per child. If this is the case, and all children are receiving adequate care in the eyes of the State, then it is detrimental to the children not to be able to share facilities in both the eligible and ineligible programs.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Thank you very much.

MS. GREEN: Thank you.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: The Reverend Mr. Gerald L. Tyer.

R E V E R E N D G E R A L D L . T Y E R :
Good afternoon. I am a Presbyterian pastor, and the Phoenix Day Care Center is a day care center that I am related to because I am president of their Board.

We are located in West Collingswood, New Jersey. My church is one of those churches that houses, in our basement, some of the facilities alluded to before. I think that it has been typical of the concern for children and for human services that community groups, church groups, and synagogue groups have seen the needs and have tried to work to fulfill those needs in the hope that eventually the state and federal governments will pick up the needs and fund them accordingly. I would like to speak to that at this point. I am looking at the clock, and I realize that the children in my center have been asleep for a few hours following their lunch, and I think we would all like to be in their shoes. There is some wisdom in that, I guess, for all of us.

Their need is primarily money - money in the sense that it is very difficult for most centers to find the funding they need. I sit, also, on the 7-C's Board and get a picture of the countywide needs as well. You heard earlier of a statewide lack of fulfilling the needs that reaches up to 89 or 90 percent. In Camden County we are no different and may be even further behind than that. As you know, three-fourths of our funding comes from the federal IV-A program along with state money. This requires us to come up with 25 percent from local municipalities and counties. Our problem there is that our local municipalities, particularly the cities of our State, are in terrible financial difficulties along with our state government as a whole. So, to find that local match becomes increasingly difficult, particularly whenever the city monies come from programs like Urban Aid, which gets tied up in allocation from the state level. The local municipalities are "between a rock and a hard place." They want to do it, but the State does not have the monies, so they

cannot come up with local match. What results is less than adequate care, care that misses the needs of our communities by a long shot.

One of the first questions that is asked when we apply for county money is, "What can we cut from the request?" So, we begin with requesting the fully-funded \$50 program, and move down to \$45, and move down to \$43, and hope that we can stop at a point that is still adequate. So, part of our problem is getting that funding.

As you know or may know, this is the first year that the State has come up with one-quarter of the monies needed for the local match, and it is our hope, as expressed earlier, that that is increased - that at least \$1 from local funding for our local share can be matched by \$1 from the state fund. It is my personal hope that one day we can make that a completely state-funded program because the communities that need day care the most are generally those communities which have the least reservoirs of local tax monies available. So, it would be my hope that this committee, at the appropriate time, can move the appropriations in that direction so that we can get more than just one-quarter of the local funding from the State.

I must say that, while we are talking about our present needs and our hopes for the future, we want to expand our programs to meet some of those needs, but that is the first money cut - new program development money - whenever we talk to the county freeholders or try to establish our budgets. So, for us to just maintain operations, it is difficult, and we get a closed door when we talk about trying to do more to meet the needs. We appreciate that this committee is willing to listen to some of our needs,

and we hope that we can see some action, particularly in getting more state funding for local match for our IV-A programs.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Reverend Tyer, how many students do you have in day care?

REVEREND TYER: The Phoenix Day Care Center has 45 children.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Are they all from the West Collingswood area?

REVEREND TYER: No, they come from the entire Camden area because we can provide bus service for about half of our children. The others are transported by their families, morning and afternoon.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: In the past, how have you raised the local funds?

REVEREND TYER: We have gone to the freeholders, and in the past, the freeholders have been able to include us in that along with the other 11 centers in Camden County.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Are you saying that the freeholders have come up fully with the local monies?

REVEREND TYER: No, I am saying that the freeholders' budget at this point - and that is still in negotiation - includes funding that would come from county sources to include \$43 per week per child. This is a tremendous increase because my center is one of those centers which has required parents to make up the difference, to the tune of \$20 or \$25 per week per child per family, because we would rather not run a program that is not worth running - in other words, cutting corners where they should not be cut. My question is: Can parents come up with \$21 a week for day care and still have money left over from their employment? It is a critical need.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Are all these parents at the poverty level?

REVEREND TYER: Yes, all of our 45 are eligible children. That means that the total family income is under \$9840 per year. That means that with both parents working, to be eligible, they have to have a total income of less than \$10,000. So, we are talking about people who are in need and who need as many state and federal dollars as possible to pay for this because they are suffering under the burden that they have at this point.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Are you of the opinion that anyone interested in day care centers in any way should apply to a county organization? At the present time, I understand that the 4-C's is a voluntary organization and that anyone has the right to apply directly to the State.

REVEREND TYER: Let me respond by saying this: If a church group thought that there was a need in the community and wanted to get involved with IV-A funding and could come up with 25 percent of the budget that would be required - we are talking in the area of \$25,000 for a center approximately the size of mine - they could then get the other three-quarters of the money. Our problem, though, is this: Will those voluntary dollars be available the next year? The churches and other community groups including United Fund have this problem to struggle with each year. Past experience has shown that these private, locally-funded groups then turn to their freeholders, and the freeholders say, "You know that we have a financial crunch, and we cannot pick up the additional local share." So, it becomes very difficult at that point. Then they go back to find churches or businesses that are willing to come up with private funding.

ASSEMBLYMAN SCHUCK: Are you of the opinion that this should be fully state-funded?

REVEREND TYER: I am of the opinion that we should, as a State, work in that direction because of the tax difficulties at the municipal level. The city of Camden is so dependent upon that Urban Aid money to make their local match that it makes it very difficult for them or the other municipalities in Camden County to come up, through the freeholders, with the money. As was mentioned earlier, there are locations in the State that do have the full \$50 per week per child funding, none of which is local match. If we say, as a State, that that is what we should be doing but, on the other hand, turn around and say that we are not going to supply the 25 percent, we are doing an injustice, I think.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I am not clear on something. You are not a Day Care 100 Center, are you?

REVEREND TYER: No.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Where do you get your 25 percent?

REVEREND TYER: From the freeholders of Camden County.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: All of it?

REVEREND TYER: Yes. We are one of 11.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Good for your freeholders.

REVEREND TYER: We are very pleased with the response we have had from our freeholders recently. I think that they are beginning to see the need and are moving in that direction. However, we only have 11 centers now. Our Needs Committee of 7-C's did an analysis of the needs of our entire county, and we now have over 6000 children in need of this service in Camden County. We are presently working right now in the area of providing slots for around 500; I am not sure my figures are right on the nose, but that

is a pretty great deficit. I might say that we wanted, in this year, to provide 90 more places. But, that would be "new program," and that is the first thing cut out of any budget.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I do not know whether you have seen these figures compiled by the Division of Youth and Family Services on slots--

REVEREND TYER: I saw them this morning.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: --which show that you have just under 5000 - 4836 - and the unmet need is 22,000.

REVEREND TYER: That is worse yet.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: It sure is. Your unmet need is 82 percent; the unmet need statewide is 89 percent.

REVEREND TYER: I did not realize that the countywide need is as great as those statistics indicate, but I can certainly see the grassroots need. I have seen it in families, and the statistics bear it out.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are you of the impression - and if you can document it, fine - that the people who come to your program work because they are able to have their children in your program and would not be able to work if they did not have their children in your program?

REVEREND TYER: I do not know how anyone can feel otherwise. I suppose that we could find isolated cases of people who use this as a luxury so that they do not have to care for children, but my overwhelming feeling is that this is critical. If these day care programs are not available, then mothers, generally, cannot work. Therefore, the income of the family is reduced. We have a great number of single-parent families, and in that case, we are talking about public assistance as the only alternative. I think our dollars spent in day care are much more effective than in public assistance.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Do you receive any assistance from the State Division of Youth and Family Services or other agencies for training staff or nutrition advice or counseling?

REVEREND TYER: We have assessors and people from I & A who do provide that service for us, but they have the problem of not having enough staff to meet the need. I am not that familiar with their operation, but I am sure that they would like to double or triple all efforts in that direction now. We could certainly use more of it, but we do have some assistance, and that help is greatly appreciated.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have you had any problems with the renewal of your contract on an annual basis that you feel could be improved by some changes in procedures?

REVEREND TYER: About a year ago, we had problems getting the state check when we were due the state check, after it was approved, but that has been taken care of. I would say that there are no crucial problems at this point.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Is it your impression that the question of developing new slots is handled by the State well, reasonably well, or not at all, and in your county, who does take care of the development of new day care slots?

REVEREND TYER: 7-C's tries to coordinate all of the IV-A type programs that are developing as best we can. The barrier is a barrier of dollars. If we cannot get the local funding, we cannot get the IV-A monies. If the local monies are not there through the freeholders, municipalities, church groups, or anywhere, we do not operate new centers. We are going to be going into our next year without much money at all to create a new center or those 90 slots that we referred

to earlier. They are not going to exist until we can get more money. If the State could step in at this point and say, "O.K., we will provide that money for local match," that would be the solution.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Yes, that is the solution - money. Thank you very much. Our final witness this afternoon will be Sister Mary Walter from St. Columba.

S I S T E R M A R Y W A L T E R: Good morning. St. Columba is in Newark. It is the elementary school from which Commissioner Sheehan graduated. It was interesting to me this morning that she spoke of the two things on which I wished to speak this afternoon. She referred three times, I think, to homework and social activities. It struck me, when I heard the witnesses, that most of the concerns they had were about the full-day care centers.

The after-school program has special qualities about it, though, that I think are very worthwhile to consider. Where a parent is working and the child goes home to an empty house or to another home to wait the return of mother, that is an especially difficult situation when a mother comes in and the child has already been home. I think that it is especially tiring for a parent to come home from work and attempt to cook when the children have been around, etc.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You said it; I have been there.

SISTER WALTER: Our after-school program is extremely valuable because in a situation where many of our children are Spanish speaking and many of our Black parents do not have all of the education that they would like to have, the children reach a point, at perhaps 10, or 11, or 12 years old, where the parents

feel very frustrated in not being able to help them with their homework. So, our after-school program, where we have the high school tutors and college people working with the students individually, has been a very, very valuable experience for the children. It has been especially gratifying to have the parents realize that when the children come home, they do not have to meet that frustrating battle of trying to help a child with homework when the child feels that he knows as much about this particular kind of math, or whatever, as the parent.

As far as the recreational part of the program goes, it too is extremely valuable because our neighborhood, like so many other city neighborhoods, is very bad. You never see a child or a group of children playing on our street or on the sidewalk. So, to have them in the school atmosphere, using gym equipment and playing games, is extremely valuable in helping them learn to operate as part of a group.

I just wanted to strongly endorse the after-school aspect of the program. I will answer any questions you might want to ask.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I would like to know if you get any money from the State to operate an after-school program.

SISTER WALTER: No, we do not. We are a Title IV-A. They channel the money for us, but no, we do not.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You are, then, fully funded under Title IV-A?

SISTER WALTER: Seventy-five percent.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Where does the other 25 percent come from?

SISTER WALTER: Actual solicitation of donations from other schools, businesses, and other sources.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You have the same problem. You have to come up with your 25 percent, and then you get the 75 percent from the State.

SISTER WALTER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You have high school and college students. Do they come in on a voluntary basis or are they paid?

SISTER WALTER: They are part of the funding.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: I see. How long has this center been in operation?

SISTER WALTER: We just began last June - the baby program.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are you the only one in Newark?

SISTER WALTER: I think there is one other, but I am not sure. Perhaps someone could clarify that.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Does Essex County have a 4-C's?

SISTER WALTER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have they been helpful to you in developing this?

SISTER WALTER: No; I have not approached them.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Have you received any special help or assistance from the Division or any state agency in creating your program, or are you strictly on your own?

SISTER WALTER: We get a lot of help from the office in Newark.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: The northern regional?

SISTER WALTER: Yes. We saw the need and heard about the program and worked for a long time on it and got it going.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: What kinds of help do you get from the Division office?

SISTER WALTER: We have a woman who comes to see our program - inspect it, I suppose you might say. They are more than willing to help us with any questions we have. It is more a case of when we look for assistance, we are able to find it.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: You feel, then, as if the impetus must come from yourself?

SISTER WALTER: I don't know if "must" is the right word.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: "Has"?

SISTER WALTER: Yes.

ASSEMBLYPERSON WILSON: Are there any other questions? (No questions) Thank you very much.

I want to thank all of the witnesses and all of the interested observers for attending this afternoon's session. The hearing will continue tomorrow morning at 10:00. Thank you very much.

* * * *

SUBMITTED BY JAMES G. KAGEN, DIRECTOR, DYFS

CHART I: Survey Of Family
Status Of Children Enrolled
In Community Day Care Centers

	Number	Percent of Total Sample
1. Single Adult Families	326	55.5%
a. Working full-time	179	30.5%
b. Working part-time	21	3.6%
c. Working and in training or education for employment	13	2.2%
d. In education or training for employment	40	6.8%
e. In household and handicapped or incapacitated	7	1.2%
f. In household and not handicapped or incapacitated	66	11.2%
2. Two Adult Families	204	34.8%
a. Both working or in education or training for employment	115	19.6%
b. One working or in education or training for employment; other in household and handicapped or incapacitated	9	1.5%
c. One working or in education or training for employment; other in household and not handicapped or incapacitated	68	11.6%
d. Both handicapped or incapacitated	1	0.2%
e. One handicapped or incapacitated; other in house not working or in education or training for employment	1	0.2%
f. Neither working or in education or training for employment or handicapped or incapacitated	10	1.7%
3. Other Types Of Families	57	9.7%
a. All members working, in education or training or handicapped or incapacitated	15	2.6%
b. More than one but not all members working, in education or training or handicapped	17	2.9%
c. One member is working, in education or training or handicapped	24	4.0%
d. None are working, in education or training or handicapped	1	0.2%
TOTAL ALL FAMILIES	587	100%

CHART II: ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN
SERVED BY PROGRAM COMPONENT
FOR DYFS OPERATED AND COMMUNITY
DAY CARE CENTERS, FISCAL YEARS
'74 and '75

PROGRAM COMPONENT	FISCAL YEAR 1974		FISCAL YEAR 1975 (PROJECTED)	
INFANT	208	(1.4%)	269	(1.3%)
PRE-SCHOOL	7956	(54.0%)	8725	(43.1%)
AFTER-SCHOOL	4317	(29.3%)	6191	(30.6%)
SUMMER PROGRAM	1894	(12.9%)	4591	(22.7%)
SPECIAL NEEDS	345	(2.3%)	483	(2.4%)
TOTAL	14720*	(100.0%)	20259**	(100.0%)

*excludes 10,858 children for whom day care was purchased on an individual basis.

**excludes 13,137 children for whom day care was purchased on an individual basis.

CHART III: EXPENDITURES (thousands of dollars) AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED FISCAL YEARS '72 - '75

TYPE OF PROGRAM	METHOD OF ADMINISTRATION	SOURCE OF FUNDING	FISCAL YEAR 1972		FISCAL YEAR 1973		FISCAL YEAR 1974		FISCAL YEAR 1975 (projected)	
			TOTAL EXPENDITURES	CHILDREN SERVED	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	CHILDREN SERVED	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	CHILDREN SERVED	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	CHILDREN SERVED
FAMILY DAY CARE	INDIVIDUAL PURCHASE BY D.Y.F.S.	WIN	\$2,657	3,290	\$1,729	2,835	\$2,014	3,174	\$2,780	3,942
		TITLE IV-A	209	722	234	824	274	1,016	447	1,218
IN-HOME DAY CARE	INDIVIDUAL PURCHASE BY D.Y.F.S.	WIN	INCLUDED IN FAMILY DAY CARE	INCLUDED IN FAMILY DAY CARE	601	631	695	692	927	807
		TITLE IV-A	146	209	164	238	192	293	314	352 X 3
CENTER DAY CARE	INDIVIDUAL PURCHASE BY D.Y.F.S.	WIN	INCLUDED IN FAMILY DAY CARE	1,930	1,644	1,202	2,037	2,970	2,913	3,088
		TITLE IV-A	299	2,403	335	2,448	392	2,754	640	3,630
	D.Y.F.S. OPERATED	WIN	672	275	1,071	515	1,369	658	1,500	709
		TITLE IV-A	218	105	1,113	535	1,165	560	1,859	650
	COMMUNITY DAY CARE	TITLE IV-A	4,690	3,430	10,369	8,115	15,992	13,461	25,712	19,000
TOTALS	----	----	\$8,890	12,364	\$17,262	17,343	\$24,029	25,578	\$37,091	33,396

CHART IV: SOURCE OF PROGRAM FUNDING

FISCAL YEARS '72 - '75 (thousands of dollars)

TYPE OF PROGRAM	FISCAL YEAR 1972				FISCAL YEAR 1973				FISCAL YEAR 1974				FISCAL YEAR 1975 (projected)			
	Fed	State	Local	Total	Fed	State	Local	Total	Fed	State	Local	Total	Fed	State	Local	Total
INDIVIDUAL PURCHASE BY DYFS (INCLUDES BOTH WIN & TITLE IV-A)	2,901	430	0	3,331	4,127	580	0	4,707	5,158	716	0	5,874	7,009	1,012	0	8,021
DYFS OPERATED DAY CARE CENTERS (INCLUDES BOTH WIN & TITLE IV-A)	769	121	0	890	1,799	385	0	2,184	2,106	428	0	2,534	2,724	635	0	3,359
COMMUNITY DAY CARE (TITLE IV-A)	3,517	1,080	92	4,690	7,777	1,080	1,512	10,369	11,994	1,531	<div> PUBLIC 796 1,671 PRIVATE </div>	15,992	19,284	2,651	1,209	<div> PUBLIC 2,568 PRIVATE </div>
TOTAL	7,187	1,631	92	8,911	13,703	2,045	1,512	17,260	19,258	2,675	2,467	24,400	29,017	4,298	3,777	37,092

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CHART V ESTIMATE OF NEED
FOR PRE-SCHOOL DAY CARE

(1) County	(2) No. of AFDC Children Under Six Without Mothers in The Labor Force	(3) % of Total AFDC Children Under Six Without Mothers in the Labor Force*	(4) Estimated No. Child- ren Under Six With Working AFDC Mothers or Mothers in Labor Force	(5) (2) + (4) Estimated Need Pre-School Day Care	(6) Estimated Pre-School Slots 1974	(7) (5)-(6) Unmet Need for Pre- School	(8) % Unmet Ne
ATLANTIC	3,960	4.00	7,241	11,201	2,015	5,226	47%
BERGEN	2,424	2.46	24,244	26,668	6,999	19,699	74%
BURLINGTON.	2,517	2.55	12,360	14,877	2,250	12,627	84%
CAMDEN	10,757	10.92	16,085	26,842	4,836	22,006	82%
CAPE MAY	653	.66	1,764	2,417	0	2,417	100%
CUMBERLAND.	2,606	2.65	7,298	9,904	1,234	8,670	88%
ESSEX	26,775	27.18	38,588	65,363	10,862	54,501	83%
GLOUCESTER	1,555	1.58	6,472	8,027	1,445	6,582	82%
HUDSON	11,642	11.82	22,512	34,154	2,133	32,021	94%
HUNTERDON	260	.26	2,692	2,952	818	2,134	72%
MERCER	5,053	5.13	13,100	18,153	3,788	14,365	79%
MIDDLESEX	5,167	5.24	21,365	26,532	4,984	21,548	81%
MONMOUTH	5,851	5.94	14,721	20,572	3,869	16,703	81%
MORRIS	1,122	1.14	13,127	14,249	4,272	9,977	70%
OCEAN	2,831	2.87	6,145	8,976	1,606	7,370	82%
PASSAIC	8,471	8.60	18,337	26,808	2,567	24,241	90%
SALEM	784	.80	2,862	3,646	236	3,410	94%
SOMERSET	864	.88	7,659	8,523	2,170	6,353	75%
SUSSEX	589	.60	3,071	3,660	682	2,978	81%
UNION	4,243	4.31	18,053	22,296	4,829	17,467	78%
WARREN	390	.40	2,894	3,284	379	2,905	88%
STATE TOTALS	98,514	100.00	260,590	359,104	61,974	318,065	89%

*Proportion used to calculate county estimates in Column (4)

CHART VI
ESTIMATE OF NEED FOR
AFTER SCHOOL DAY CARE

(1) County	(2) No. of AFDC Children Six to Fourteen with- out Mothers in Labor Force	(3) % of Total AFDC Children Six to Fourteen without Mothers in the Labor Force*	(4) Estimated No. of Children over Six to Fourteen with working AFDC Mothers or Mothers in the Labor Force	(5) (3)+(4) Esti- mated Need After School	(6) Estimated After School Slots 1974	(7) (5)+(6) Unmet Need After School	(8) % Unmet
ATLANTIC	6,274	5.10	11,057	17,331	490	16,841	97.0
BERGEN	3,258	2.65	59,384	62,642	110	62,532	99.8
BURLINGTON	3,382	2.75	19,439	22,821	---	22,821	100.0
CAMDEN	14,452	11.74	26,790	41,242	161	41,081	99.6
CAPE MAY	877	.71	3,029	3,906	---	3,906	100.0
CUMBERLAND	3,501	2.84	8,962	12,463	---	12,463	100.0
ESSEX	35,972	29.23	56,211	92,183	443	91,740	99.5
GLOUCESTER	2,089	1.70	10,761	12,850	---	12,850	100.0
HUDSON	15,640	12.71	37,136	52,776	---	52,776	100.0
HUNTERDON	349	.28	4,799	5,148	---	5,148	100.0
MERCER	6,790	5.52	21,127	27,917	438	27,479	98.4
MIDDLESEX	6,941	5.64	42,530	49,471	78	49,393	99.8
MONMOUTH	7,861	6.39	28,433	36,294	110	36,184	99.7
MORRIS	1,508	1.23	26,461	27,969	210	27,759	99.2
OCEAN	3,802	3.09	10,700	14,502	---	14,502	100.0
PASSAIC	1,138	.92	30,541	31,679	732	30,947	97.6
SALEM	1,053	.86	3,795	4,848	---	4,848	100.0
SOMERSET	1,160	.94	14,876	16,036	250	15,786	98.4
SUSSEX	792	.64	5,313	6,105	---	6,105	100.0
UNION	5,699	4.63	37,304	43,003	974	42,029	97.7
WARREN	524	.43	4,558	5,082	---	5,082	100.0
TOTAL	123,062	100.00	463,206	586,268	3,996	582,272	99.7

* Proportion used to calculate county estimates in Column (4)

CHART VII
NEED FOR PRE-SCHOOL AND AFTER
SCHOOL DAY CARE FOR PROTECTIVE
SERVICES CHILDREN*

<u>County/District Office</u>	<u>Pre-School</u>	<u>After School</u>
Atlantic/Cape May	556	445
Bergen	873	698
Burlington	769	615
Camden	916	733
Cumberland/Salem	533	424
Essex/Newark	1,951	1,585
Essex/Orange	500	640
Gloucester	482	386
Hudson	1,328	1,063
Hunterdon/Somerset	564	451
Mercer	654	573
Middlesex	1,070	856
Monmouth	858	686
Morris	461	368
Ocean	667	534
Passaic	1,005	804
Sussex/Warren	461	368
Union	980	768
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>14,936</u>	<u>11,947</u>

*Based on table of Fiscal Year '75 yearly and average daily Protective Services caseload
 - Estimate of Pre-School 50% of Total
 - Estimate of After School 40% of Total

CHART VIII
SUMMARY OF GOVERNOR'S DAY CARE BUDGET REQUEST FY '76
(STATE FUNDS ONLY, IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

PROGRAM FUNDING SOURCE	FY '75 APPROPRIATION	FY '76 I & A REQUEST	FY '76 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET	CHANGE BETWEEN F '75 APPROPRIATIO & GOVERNORS' BUDG
W I N	\$1,000 (200 in appropri- ation; 800 in carry over)	\$1,000	\$1,000	No Change
TITLE IV-A Individual purchase by District Offices DYFS	250	250	250	No Change
Contracts and Operations	3,005	3,904	2,967	-38
Early Childhood Demonstration Project	100	113	113	+13
TOTAL	4,355	5,267	4,330	-25

CHART IX
TOTAL STATE, LOCAL AND FEDERAL FUNDS GENERATED BY
GOVERNOR'S DAY CARE BUDGET REQUEST FY '76
(in thousands of dollars)

PROGRAM FUNDING SOURCE	GOVERNOR'S REQUEST	PROJECTED LOCAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	TOTAL
W I N	1,000	0	9,000	10,000
TITLE IV-A Individual Purchase By District Offices, DYFS	250	0	750	1,000
Contracts and Operations	2,967	3,777	20,232	26,976
Early Childhood Demonstrations Project	113	0	339	452
TOTAL	4,330	3,777	30,321	38,428

TESTIMONY TO THE STATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1975

Good morning! My Name is James Higgs. I am the Administrative Director of the B.P.U.M. Day Care Center which is located at 250 Line Street and 501 West Street in Camden, New Jersey. I am here today, as a program administrator, to testify on behalf of the many Title IV-A centers that find themselves economically unable to continue to operate viable day care programs because of the soaring rate of inflation, but who are expected to offer "high quality" programs in spite of rising cost.

There has been much talk over the past several years about upgrading social services programs in the state. We can look at the decision last year to raise the cost per child figure from \$40.00 per week to \$50.00 per week as an attempt by the state administration to at least make some initial change to make better a woefully deficient economic situation. However, although that decision was made at a time when many centers were desperately in need of additional funding, they were unable to take advantage of the increased cost per week figure because they were told that no contracts could be amended. This ultimately meant that programs that had signed contracts prior to the time that the increased cost per child figure became effective, had to wait until the next fiscal year before they could take advantage of this \$10.00 per week increase. Many programs are now looking for local matching funds from the coming fiscal year, and they are likely to be told by the city and county officials that their financial commitments to day care this year will be less than in the previous year. And, although the state will be contributing 25% of the local match, something that had at least never been done before, many programs still face the possibility of remaining at the same low funding level as the previous year because there will not be sufficient local dollars to draw down the 3-to-1 federal match. Thus, we see the need for the state to increase its share from 25% of the local share to at least 50%.

The wholesale prices for many of the commodities that each program uses has risen several-fold. A box of sugar containing 2,000 packets has risen from \$8.50 last summer

to \$14.50 presently; an increase of about 80%. We have also seen the same kind of sharp increase in other foodstuffs; a gallon of mayonnaise from \$2.95 to \$4.95 and cereal from \$5.25 a box to \$7.25. We all are aware of the sharp increases in meat. The rise in food cost generally threatens the nutritional goals each program has set for itself. Thus, we see the need for the food reimbursement figures which is presently at \$.66 per day per child being increased significantly to reflect the overall increased cost for food.

I would also like to point out something that is happening in terms of employment throughout most child care programs. That is, many employees have been trained or are presently taking courses in Early Childhood Development. However, many leave programs for other jobs because there is little money in program budgets for increases in personnel. Consequently, many employees are constantly seeking higher paying jobs, thus making staff turnover exceptionally high. This in itself almost always affects the quality of the educational program. Thus, we see the need for an 8% cost-of-living increase for all employees of child care programs.

Although there are many other concerns that we have, I have only pointed out a few. We see these as most pressing problems which demand immediate attention. We hope that you will treat them with the sanctity which they are due.

Thank you,

James Higgs

AUG 13 1985

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