

COMMUNITY

A Publication of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs



(Left to right) Junius Williams, executive director, Newark Community Development Administration, Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson, and Community Affairs Commissioner Edmund T. Hume visit a mini-park on their tour of neighborhoods where hazardous structures are being demolished by the city with the assistance of federal funds and a Department grant.

Photo by New Jersey Newsphotos

Department Awards \$375,000 to Newark To Help Clear 600 Hazardous Dwellings

Community Affairs Commissioner Edmund T. Hume last month announced approval of a \$375,000 State urban renewal grant to help the City of Newark finance the cost of demolishing up to 600 unsafe and dilapidated dwellings throughout the city.

Hume made the announcement shortly before joining Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson and officials from both staffs for a walking tour of the city's demolition area to inspect some of the housing to be razed. The area comprises the entire Central Ward and sections of the North, West and South Wards.

Hume said the State grant will enable Newark to receive more than \$1.3 million in federal funds under two separate programs — demolition and interim assistance — from the U.S. Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD). Under the federal programs, the locality must contribute one-third of the total project cost.

The State grant, which will help defray the city's local share costs, was made from an \$800,000 State-aid appropriation for urban renewal in the Community Affairs Department's 1972 fiscal year budget.

Under the demolition program, the city will raze approximately 500 to 600 hazardous abandoned dwellings in scattered locations throughout the city, including the Model City neighborhood. Under the interim assistance program, the city will provide for minor temporary improvements on properties that have been cleared, including the conversion of vacant lots into mini-parks and playgrounds.

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State Offers Training To Improve Skills Of Public Employees

The Department has received a \$145,000 federal training grant to help improve the management and technical skills of some 6,500 local and State government employees and community workers involved in community development activities.

Community Affairs Commissioner Edmund T. Hume, who announced approval of the grant last month, said it was awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title VIII of the federal Housing Act of 1964. It will enable the Community Affairs Department to continue its Community Development Training Program for fiscal year 1971-72.

The federal grant will be matched by part of a \$250,000 State-aid training appropriation in the Department's 1972 fiscal year budget.

The program, which began its fourth year of operation on July 1, offers more than 130 different educational and training activities through 12 major projects. The training ranges from one-day conferences and seminars to college level courses in many different subject areas, including government administration and management, budgeting and finance, housing and code enforcement, urban planning, employment and community development.

"Through our involvement with local and State government, we have become aware of the demand for training activities tailored to the special needs of public employees," Hume said.

"We have developed a number of training programs in response to these special needs."

Hume said that three new projects have been included in this year's program.

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Varied activities, such as self-defense, marching and swimming, form an integral part of Trooper Youth Week. The 12th such program was held at Trenton State College in July, under the co-sponsorship of the New Jersey State Police and the Community Affairs Department.

Youths Get Simulated View of Police Work

Fifty-nine high school boys from six urban communities last month completed a rigorous week of simulated police training through a special community relations program co-sponsored by the New Jersey State Police and the Department of Community Affairs.

The program, known as Trooper Youth Week, is designed to give youths a better understanding of law enforcement functions and the role of discipline in achieving life goals.

Last month's class was the twelfth to be held since the program began in the summer of 1965 and the first to be conducted outside the State Police Training Center in Sea Girt. It was held during the week of July 11 on the campus of Trenton State College in Ewing Township, culminating in graduation ceremonies on July 17.

The program was originally developed by the State Police for academically sound high school juniors mainly from suburban and rural areas. It has been expanded since 1968 to include young men from urban areas who have experienced misgivings about or outright hostility or

defiance towards law enforcement authorities.

Of the 12 classes held to date, five were specifically designed for such inner-city youth, with the Department as a co-sponsor. The State Police sponsored the remainder.

This summer, the Department has provided a total of \$15,500 in State-aid training funds to help finance two classes — one during the week of June 13-19 at Sea Girt and the recent one in July. The funds were used to purchase tan chino trousers, golf T-shirts with State Police Youth emblems and caps, which the boys wear as uniforms, and to meet other administrative costs, including transportation for the youths and their families, food, quarters and athletic equipment.

The Department also has provided assistance in the recruitment phase of the program, under the direction of Walter Qualls of the Department's Division of Human Resources.

The recent July class included 59 young men from Camden, Elizabeth, Newark, New Brunswick, Union Township and Vineland. They were

selected through police community relations bureaus and local school systems.

According to Qualls, the program is open to high school students between the ages of 15 and 17 from inner-cities "who have difficulty in adjusting to established social authorities." The only other requirement is a signed letter of approval from the youths' parents.

"It should be emphasized that this program is not trying to make State Police or law enforcement officers out of these youngsters," said Qualls. "It tries to relieve the polarization that is growing between young people, particularly those of large urban areas, and help them relate to police officials and other agencies with social authority."

Qualls said, "There is such misunderstanding and, in many cases, much hostility between young people and law enforcement officials today. This program is trying to resolve these feelings by giving each side a chance to learn about each other."

Each class features a program of lectures, films, demonstrations and practical exercises which parallel the required police training given to State and municipal police trainees. It involves a rigorous schedule of physical exercises and body building demonstrations, marching and military drill, and lectures.

On a typical day, for example, participants rise to the sound of reveille at 6 a.m., answer roll call and perform calisthenics at 6:15, eat breakfast at 7 and maintain their quarters and participate in flag detail in the time remaining. Beginning at 8 a.m., they attend a morning of lectures in first aid, police and public relations, and human relations, then break for an hour's lunch.

The afternoon includes exercises and demonstrations in self-defense, fingerprinting, military drill and firearms safety. From 4-5 p.m., the youths participate in physical exercises, followed by supper, flag detail, organized sports and a guest lecture or film.

The long day ends with "lights out" at 10 p.m. — 16 hours after it began.



Long Branch Mayor Henry R. Cioffi (left) and outgoing City Council President Wilbert C. Russell (center) present a plaque to Community Affairs Commissioner Edmund T. Hume in appreciation for the cooperation the city has received from the Department for its Community Development Program.

Photo by Red Bank Daily Register

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Accompanying Hume and Gibson on the tour were Harold Hodes, administrator, State Model Cities — Community Development Program; Deputy Mayor Joseph Frisina; Junius Williams, executive director, Newark Community Development Administration; Alfred Shapiro, city planning officer; and Samuel Friscia, director, City Public Works Department.

"I am truly pleased to be able to authorize this State urban renewal grant to assist the City of Newark in its efforts to renew many old and decaying neighborhoods through vigorous code enforcement and new construction," said Commissioner Hume. "The demolition program is a vital part of that effort, for it eliminates unsafe, dilapidated and structurally unsound housing that threatens the health, safety and welfare of neighborhood residents."

Hume said the demolition of such structures "will go a long way towards speeding the redevelopment of the area, including provisions for decent and affordable housing."

"In addition, the interim assistance program will make it possible to turn idle and dangerous vacant lots into practical vestpocket parks and playgrounds on a temporary basis, providing desperately needed recreational facilities for the residents."

Hume Inspects Progress Of Community Development Projects In Four Towns

Community Affairs Commissioner Edmund T. Hume recently visited four New Jersey communities engaged in community renewal endeavors in order to gauge the progress of improvement programs partially financed through Department funds.

In July, the Commissioner toured several neighborhoods of Newark, where demolition activities have been scheduled to begin.

Prior to that, he helped launch community improvement projects in Orange and Asbury Park.

And in a visit to Long Branch in June, he received a plaque from local officials in appreciation for the Department's assistance with their Community Development Program.

In Newark, Hume joined Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson on a walking tour of neighborhoods where 600 substandard dwellings will be removed by the city with the assistance of federal funds and a \$375,000 urban renewal grant from the Community Affairs Department. The grant was made from a \$800,000 State-aid appropriation for urban renewal in the Department's fiscal 1972 budget. (See story on page 1 for additional information.)

The other three communities have received funds under the Department's Community Development Program, which provides assistance to non-federally designated Model City communities to help them improve social, economic and physical conditions in selected neighborhoods.

The communities have received Department funds as follows: Asbury Park, \$133,301; Long Branch, \$179,911; and Orange, \$188,781. The funds were provided from a \$2.5 million State-aid appropriation for Model Cities — Community Development in the Department's fiscal 1971 budget.

In Orange, the Commissioner toured the city's Community Development neighborhood with Orange Mayor Joel L. Shain and took part in a beautification and cleanup project for the area.

In his visit to Asbury Park, Hume participated in groundbreaking ceremonies for the construction of a neighborhood swimming pool. The pool is one part of the recreational program being financed, in part, with the Department grant.

And in Long Branch, Hume was honored at a luncheon, where he received a plaque from Mayor Henry R. Cioffi and outgoing City Council President Wilbert C. Russell in appreciation for the cooperation the city has received from the Department for its Community Development Program.



State-Financed Housing Opens in Paterson Developments in 3 Other Towns Approved

PATERSON — Commissioner Hume (left), William Shepherd, Asbury Park's coordinator of inspections, and H. Shepherd, director of the city's Model Cities Program, participate in groundbreaking ceremonies for a new swimming pool. The construction is being paid for, with Community Affairs funds.

Photo by Asbury Park Press



Commissioner Hume receives a plaque from Orange County L. Shain in appreciation for the technical assistance the Department has provided to the city's Community Development Program. At left, the two men join neighborhood youth at one of the program's beautification sites.



The State-financed Wrigley Park cooperative housing venture in Paterson was completed last month when all 54 units of the rehabilitation project were occupied.

The housing is being financed through a \$1.6 million mortgage loan from the New Jersey Housing Finance Agency (NJHFA).

Also in July, the Agency held a final closing on a \$2.7 million mortgage loan to finance the construction of senior citizens housing in Union Township (Union County) and authorized \$6,276,000 in mortgage loan commitments to finance the construction of 96 units of housing in Perth Amboy and 200 units in Lindenwold (Camden County).

The Wrigley Park development contains 20 five-bedroom, 16 four-bedroom, 3 three-bedroom, 11 two-bedroom and 4 one-bedroom units.

John P. Renna, Jr., executive director of NJHFA, said, "I am pleased this cooperative development has been completed with all the units being owned by individual tenants. It is another example of cooperation between municipal, State and federal governments with the civic sector to provide much needed housing for large families."

Tenants of the cooperative are being aided through federal subsidies. The local sponsor is UNITED (United Neighborhood for Industrial Training and Economic Development), a local parents' group.

The Union Township development will include a three-story colonial style building to house 158 one-bedroom apartment units for senior citizens. The sponsor is the Union Senior Residents Housing Corporation.

Renna said the project includes the use of federal rent subsidies for qualifying tenants, who would pay between \$96 and \$112 in monthly rents.

The Perth Amboy development, to be financed with a \$2,386,000 loan, will consist of 96 units in a nine-story apartment building for senior citizens. It will include 48 efficiency apartments and 48 one-

bedroom apartments. The loan represents 100 per cent of the total costs.

The development is being sponsored by the New Jersey Community Union Housing Corporation Inc., the non-profit housing arm of the United Auto Workers Union of New Jersey.

A \$3,890,000 mortgage loan to Lindenwold Associates, a limited partnership, will be used for the construction of a 200-unit moderate-income garden apartment development in Lindenwold. It will contain 152 one-bedroom apartments and 48 two-bedroom apartments housed in 20 buildings.

The mortgage represents 90 per cent of the project costs.

Housing Authorities Directory Released

The 1971 Directory of Local Housing Authorities and Redevelopment Agencies has been issued by the Department's Division of Housing and Urban Renewal.

The 63-page directory, prepared annually by the Division, lists the 81 local housing authorities, 21 redevelopment agencies and 21 other local public (urban development) agencies in New Jersey. Each entry includes the agency's address, date of creation, executive director and counsel, along with the name, occupation, and term of office of State and locally appointed members.

Local housing authorities are created by municipalities to administer their federally funded, low-income public housing programs; redevelopment agencies work to clear blighted areas.

Under State law the Community Affairs Commissioner appoints one member to each housing authority and redevelopment agency. Other members are appointed by local office.

Copies of the 1971 directory are available free of charge from the Division of Housing and Urban Renewal, Department of Community Affairs, P.O. Box 2768, Trenton, N.J. 08625.

Special Prisoner Rehabilitation Project Refunded for 6th Year

An innovative prisoner rehabilitation program that has assisted more than 5,000 inmates of the Mercer and Middlesex County jails and workhouses since 1966 has received federal funds and a Community Affairs Department grant to continue its work for another year.

In a recent announcement, the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) approved a \$119,516 grant to the program, which is administered by the Morrow Association on Correction, a New Brunswick-based non-profit organization that works to prevent crime and rehabilitate offenders. The project seeks to rehabilitate inmates of county jails and workhouses to prepare them for re-entry into society and, in that way, curb and eliminate the recidivist (repeater) rate.

The Community Affairs Department, which oversees the federal grant administration, also is providing a \$5,000 economic opportunity grant to help the group meet the local share costs of the program. The remainder of the local contribution is being provided by the two counties and the Association.

Under the program, the Morrow Association provides special educational, employment and personal services to inmates of both county jails through project offices within the Mercer and Middlesex workhouses (correctional institutions for minor offenders) and through Clinton House, a Trenton-based halfway house where released inmates in the program can live while they attempt to locate permanent housing and a job.

Guide Issued to Aid Localities In Joint Services Agreements

A guide book designed to assist communities in reaching joint services agreements has been released by the Department.

The 87-page publication, entitled, "Practical Guide to Reaching Joint Services Agreements," was prepared jointly by the Department and the New Jersey County and Municipal Government Study Commission, a legislative agency known commonly as the Musto Commission.

The Commission, created by the State Legislature in 1966, has been exploring county and local governments throughout the State, with an eye towards encouraging, where practical, merging of services by municipalities.

The handbook is designed for use by local governments interested in implementing all or some of the recommendations contained in a formal report of the Musto Commission presented in September, 1970. That report, entitled, "Joint Services — A Local Response to Area Wide Problems," proposed a State-aid incentive program to encourage joint services agreements among municipalities and counties.

The "practical guide" is yet another step to aid towns and counties wanting to merge police departments, building enforcement codes, solid waste disposal methods, sewer lines, health services, purchasing, tax collection and data processing.

The advantages and disadvantages of merging services are reported in the handbook by Highland Park Mayor Samuel Kronman; Princeton Township Mayor John D. Wallace; Dana A. Miller, East Windsor Township manager; J. Peter Braun, Sparta Township manager; and Barry R. Evans, Lawrence Township manager.

William J. Kearns Jr., a Willingboro attorney, discusses the legal language that should be included in any joint services contract or agreement.

The handbook also contains a 32-page handy reference to all existing laws on mergers or consolidations of services.

Copies of the handbook are available at no cost from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, P.O. Box 2768, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

Individual and group counseling, remedial education and a comprehensive vocational training and job development program are offered to inmates who wish to participate in the project. Once they are released, they may stay at Clinton House, if they have no other place to live.

"Clinton House attempts to help the releasee make a successful transition to normal community living," explained Mrs. Kate R. Silver, director of the special project. "The House gives him an opportunity to assume work responsibilities and live in a family-type atmosphere where he can develop friendships and a sense of belonging and begin to value himself as an individual."

Mrs. Silver said residents are encouraged to leave the House as soon as possible and return to normal community life. She also noted that the House provides counseling and educational services to releasees who are referred there by other agencies but do not stay at the House.

Mrs. Silver said that of 278 men admitted to the project's full program, which includes residence at Clinton House, all but 70 remained arrest free as of January 1, 1971.

Lewis Named to Sports Agency

Governor William T. Cahill has named Aubrey C. Lewis of Montclair, a former all-American football player, to a one-year term as the seventh and final member of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. The nomination now goes to the State Senate, which reconvenes in November, for confirmation.

The Authority, which is located within the Department of Community Affairs, is responsible for the development of a sports complex in a small portion of the 20,000-acre Hackensack Meadowlands district, in Bergen and Hudson Counties.

Lewis, 36, is currently assistant vice president in charge of career development for the F. W. Woolworth Company. Prior to that, he served as an agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has also worked as a teacher and head football and track coach at Paterson's Central High School.

Lewis attended Notre Dame University, where he was selected as an All-American in football and was captain of the track team. He later played for the Chicago Bears.

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One will provide special training for local management personnel in urban centers so that they can deal more effectively with the problems of the city.

Another will offer technical assistance to local officials in analyzing municipal personnel training needs and developing a program to meet these needs.

And the third will enable local administrators handling labor matters to receive labor relations training.

The first new project, geared to the needs of urban management personnel with varying degrees of work and educational experience, consists of three separate training components:

► A college level "refresher" course aimed at updating the skills of 125 high-level management and supervisory employees involved in urban affairs. The training will consist of regular classwork and home study.

► Courses and special job training at Rutgers University's Livingston College in Piscataway to enable 25 experienced local government administrative employees to earn up to 34 credits towards a bachelor's degree. This effort, designed to prepare them for higher level jobs, will combine regular academic course work and special job training.

► Graduate study on a full-time basis for 12 months for urban management employees with from two to fifteen years' experience. They would study at a university or college of



Joseph N. Ebert, Jr. (second from left), director of the Department's Division of Local Government Services, greets (left to right) John L. Dashuta, vice president of the Municipal Accountants Association of New Jersey, John F. Laezza, assistant director of the Division, and Fred Christensen, Association president, at an annual conference of the Association's Committee on Cooperation in Jamesburg. The conference enables State and municipal officials to discuss municipal accounting, auditing, and budgeting matters.

their choice.

Under the second new project, Department training representatives will help municipal officials determine the training needs of municipal employees and develop and implement a comprehensive training program designed to meet those needs.

The third project, developed by the New Jersey Department of Civil Service, will offer instruction on State bargaining law, responsibilities and regulations of the State Public Employment Relations Commission, and the negotiation and administration of labor contracts.

The training program will continue a number of last year's projects, including tuition remission and a special training program for the staffs and citizen participants of New Jersey's eight federal Model Cities and seven Community Development cities.

Free Eye Check-Up Offered at Hospitals

A free eye screening program, designed to check for such sight defects as glaucoma and cataracts, will be conducted by more than 80 hospitals throughout the State from September 12-18.

The program, to be conducted by the Medical Society of New Jersey, is held annually during "Eye Health Week" and co-sponsored by the New Jersey Commission for the Blind. Newspapers and radio stations will carry the days and times of local screening tests.

The Department's Office on Aging has cooperated with the Medical Society in publicizing this program for over 10 years. County and municipal Offices on Aging will have complete examination schedules.

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