

COMMUNITY

A Publication of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

Atlantic Human Resources, the antipoverty agency serving Atlantic and Cape May Counties, has commended Governor Richard J. Hughes, Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker and other State officials for helping cool racial tensions in Atlantic City last summer.

In a letter to Ylvisaker, Paul G. Tuerff, the agency's executive director, said:

"As we all know, an impasse has developed in the cities across our nation. Atlantic City has hopefully found a reasonable and responsible way out of that impasse — and that way is to talk first and make known long-held grievances. By stepping in to help in the situation down here, you were, as it were, going out on a limb; perhaps you have received more criticism than support for your action. Our Board of Trustees wanted you to know that there are people who recognize and commend the assistance you gave."

Department Seeks \$591,433 From HUD To Expand Aid To Smaller Communities

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has applied for \$591,433 in federal funds to expand its technical assistance to municipalities with populations of 100,000 or less.

Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker said the Department is seeking the federal grant under Title IX of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966. The application was submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"What we propose to do in our application to HUD is part of an overall effort to increase and improve technical assistance and the flow of urban information to the State's smaller communities," Commissioner Ylvisaker said. "This effort also includes upgrading the skills of local administrators and expanded research on local problems. In short, we would use the funds to make local government in New Jersey more professional."

The application proposes 12 pro-

grams in which the Department would hire specialists in areas of municipal government to advise and assist New Jersey communities; establish systems to collect and disseminate information; and encourage municipalities which have not yet applied for federal funds as Model Cities to do so by making available more personnel to help them draft applications.

The proposal also provides for an interchange of municipal and county officials whose expertise may answer a specific need of another county or municipality. The Department would reimburse the lending community for the time the official spends in another locality.

Specialists to be added to the Department would include experts in such areas as housing rehabilitation, code assistance and information, debt management and automatic data processing. These specialists and their units would give technical assistance to localities in

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Camden & Hoboken Get 1st Two Housing Fund Rehab Grants

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has awarded \$100,000 in State grants and loans to two local non-profit housing groups to rehabilitate dilapidated housing units in Camden and Hoboken.

One is a \$70,000 combination grant and loan to the Interfaith-Interracial Council of the Clergy of Camden (IICC). The other is a \$30,000 loan to the 60 Garden Street Association of Hoboken.

The grants and loans are the first to be awarded through the Department's Demonstration Housing Grant Fund, which consists of \$1 million in State money. The fund was set up by the Demonstration Grant Law of 1967 — one of six new Community Affairs laws successfully proposed by Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker last Spring.

The act permits Commissioner Ylvisaker to use the fund — on a revolving basis — to make non-interest bearing loans or grants to non-profit and limited profit associations interested in building and rehabilitating housing for low and middle income families.

The Camden grant is for a demonstration housing program designed to rehabilitate 50 single-family homes within six months and make them available for purchase by families earning less than \$5,000 a year. Also participating in this project is the Camden Housing Improvement Project (CHIP), a non-profit housing corporation formed in July to assist in purchasing and rehabilitating some of the 50 houses.

The Hoboken loan will be used by the neighborhood housing corporation to rehabilitate a deteriorated,

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E. Brunswick Loans Business Manager To Nearby Marlboro

Kennedy Shaw, business manager of East Brunswick, has been named a temporary administrative consultant to Marlboro Township, Monmouth County, through an interchange program sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Aided by staff technical assistance from the Department's Office of Community Services, Shaw is advising Marlboro's newly hired business administrator, surveying the organizational structure of the municipality and making recommendations on future staff and procedures.

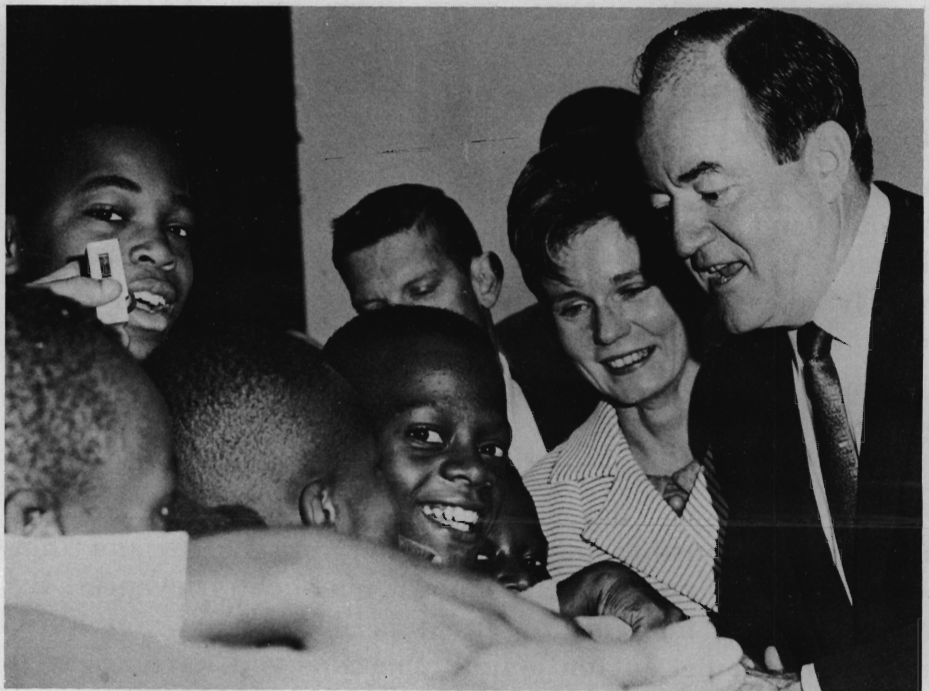
"The Department will reimburse East Brunswick for Shaw's time in Marlboro," said John W. Gleeson, director of the Office of Community Services, in announcing the agreement.

Gleeson said the Department received a joint request for assistance in September from Marlboro's Mayor Walter Grubb and City Council President George Creevy after the township lost its business administrator to another community. In addition, Marlboro wanted help in implementing a newly-adopted strong mayor-council form of government.

Between the time of the request and the start of Shaw's service this week, Marlboro hired a business administrator whom Shaw will advise.

"Shaw is ideally suited to properly prepare Marlboro administratively for any future growth since East Brunswick also has a strong mayor-council government," Gleeson said. "We hope to make Marlboro a model for municipalities feeling the pressures of growth."

Marlboro is the third community to benefit under the Department's interchange program. The others were Passaic and New Brunswick which were provided with experts in municipal operation loaned by the Department from Rutgers University and Woodbridge, respectively.



ARMORY DEDICATION — Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey joins New Brunswick Mayor Patricia Sheehan in greeting several neighborhood youngsters on hand for mid-September ceremonies dedicating the city's converted National Guard armory recreation center. The city acquired the armory through the assistance of the Office of Community Services of the Department of Community Affairs. It was the first New Jersey municipality to implement a Humphrey memorandum urging American communities to use abandoned armories for civic purposes.

Community Affairs Monthly Newsletter Begins With This Issue of COMMUNITY

With the publication of this issue, OPPORTUNITY, the monthly newsletter of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity, becomes COMMUNITY, the new monthly newsletter of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

The name change reflects a broadening in the publication's coverage to news about all programs and operations of the entire Department. OPPORTUNITY, which began publishing in March of 1966, had carried news primarily about New Jersey's war on poverty.

COMMUNITY, prepared by the Department's Office of Public Information, features articles about the Department, including news about the antipoverty effort, housing and urban renewal, state and regional planning, local finance and community services. It remains a free monthly journal.

As a departmental-based publication, COMMUNITY will be mailed to all segments of the community — both public and private.

The new newsletter supplements other existing publications of the Department, which include:

► **Jersey Plans**—the Department's quarterly magazine dealing with all phases of physical and human resource planning throughout New Jersey. Subscriptions cost \$2.00 a year.

► **Added Years**—the free monthly newsletter of the Division on Aging, dealing with the programs and problems of the elderly.

► **Local Finance**—the monthly newsletter of the Department's Division of Local Finance. The publication, distributed on a subscription basis for \$3.00 a year, provides statistical information and other items of interest to local officials and accountants.

► **Planning Newsletter**—the free, bi-monthly journal of the Department's Division of State and Regional Planning. This journal provides technical information on new trends and happenings in all phases of planning.

Award - Winning Documentary Contrasts 'Different Childhood' Of Both Rich and Poor Children

George is a shy, 3½-year-old child of poverty.

He lives in a dark, dilapidated house in one of Trenton's low-income neighborhoods. He plays in the shadow of his pregnant mother and the cacophony of shrill cries by his hungry baby brother. He speaks only when spoken to and reflects the somber despair of this mother's every movement.

This is the childhood George has faced since birth. It is an isolated childhood different from the warm, happy pre-school experiences enjoyed by most well-fed, well-loved, well-clothed children. It is a childhood that is never memorialized in proud family picture albums.

It is a childhood that forms the basis for a newly-released half-hour documentary film sponsored by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). The 16mm. film, aptly titled "A Different Childhood," was produced by Hugh and Suzanne Johnston, a husband and wife team from Princeton, who conceived the idea for such a film two years ago.

According to the Johnstons, the film is designed to "orient those who are not poor to the emotional and psychological effects of an impoverished environment on the pre-school age child." They said the film, which is available on a free-loan basis at the State Museum in Trenton, was intended as a training tool for teachers and volunteers who work in urban schools and Head Start programs.

The film was financed by a \$7,500 grant from the U.S. OEO, an \$8,000 contribution from the Department of Community Affairs and \$2,000 from NJEA. It is a true account contrasting the experiences of a white, low-income family with the good-life portrayed in family albums. The central characters are George and his mother. The setting — almost exclusively — is the dreary interior of their overcrowded home.

"Every day the child is confronted with peeling paint, worn linoleum, a dripping faucet and the fretful whines of his hungry younger brother," wrote Alice Olick, education writer for the *Bergen Record*, in a review of the film. "His father is sickly and must work outdoors. He is a gravedigger."

Miss Olick said the film's total effect "is the realization that the term culturally deprived implies so much more than the lack of books or music. It is a whole way of life totally foreign to those who do not have to live it."

At its first competition in a film festival, "A Different Childhood" was awarded a certificate of honor in the social documentary category from the Columbus (Ohio) Film Festival. Mrs. Johnston said she also plans to enter it in film festivals in San Francisco and Chicago.



NEW FILM — Above, scenes from "A Different Childhood," new half-hour social documentary produced for the Department of Community Affairs, U.S. OEO and N.J.E.A. by Hugh and Suzanne Johnston of Princeton.

120 Foster Grandparents To Aid 240 Mentally-Deficient Youths In Four Child-Care Institutions

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs will sponsor a \$275,300 Foster Grandparents program for 240 children at four state institutions in Burlington, Cumberland, Middlesex and Passaic Counties.

Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker said the program would be financed through a \$250,500 grant from the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) and about \$24,800 in local in-kind contributions. He said the Department of Community Affairs would contribute \$12,000 while other participating institutions would provide facilities and services.

Ylvisaker said the program would employ 120 senior citizens, 60 years old or over, as "foster grandparents" for 240 children at four state institutions for mentally deficient or retarded children: the State Colony at New Lisbon (Burlington); the Vineland State School (Cumberland); the Woodbridge State School (Middlesex); and the North Jersey Training School in Totowa (Passaic).

He said the program was scheduled to begin by mid-November.

Under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1966, the Foster Grandparents program gives elderly men and women with low incomes an opportunity to earn extra money by working part-time as substitute parents for neglected and deprived children.

Ylvisaker said each "grandparent" would work two hours a day with each of two children at the institutions — a total of 20 hours a week at a rate of \$1.40 an hour. In addition, each "grandparent" will receive \$5 a week to cover transportation expenses.

"Each grandparent will furnish the kind of individual attention the children otherwise might not receive while in an institution," the Commissioner explained.

Ylvisaker said the new program will be administered by the Division of Mental Retardation of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies in cooperation with the Division on Aging of the Department of Community Affairs and four county antipoverty agencies. Sidney Schweber of Ewing Township, former community director of Atlantic Human Resources, the Atlantic-Cape May antipoverty agency, will serve as project director.

Schweber said the four participating state institutions will furnish facilities, personnel and services, while the Division on Aging will provide a consultant to help train field supervisors and selected "grandparents" for their jobs. The four antipoverty agencies will help the institutions in their counties recruit and transport elderly persons, and will organize local advisory councils to arrange on-the-grounds outings for the "grandparents" and children.

Interested senior citizens 60 years old or over should apply to: Foster Grandparents Program, Department of Community Affairs, Box 2768, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

Municipal Spending Rises

New Jersey municipal expenditures in 1966 totaled \$621 million—an increase of \$33 million over the 1965 municipal spending total of \$588 million. The figures were disclosed recently in the 29th annual report of the Division of Local Finance of the Department of Community Affairs. The report, which covers the fiscal year from January 1 to December 31, 1966, lists the financial condition of every municipality and county in New Jersey. County expenditures increased \$29 million during 1966—from \$282 million to \$311 million, the report said.

Department & Sears-Roebuck Form Pilot Faculty Intern Plan To Help City Planning Teachers

An experimental internship program for faculty members from selected schools of city planning has been announced by the Department of Community Affairs and The Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

The pilot program, to be conducted in 1968, will provide up to three interns with practical work experience in city planning and related areas at the state level in an effort to enhance the teaching of planning in the participating schools. Each intern must complete a minimum of six months of full-time work at the Department, beginning sometime during the 1968 calendar year.

In announcing the program, Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker and William F. McCurdy, foundation president, said its purpose is to "provide faculty members with work experience in community problem solving which may be useful in developing new or modified approaches to the teaching of city planning."

Ylvisaker and McCurdy said the interns could specialize in Department programs in local finance, housing and urban renewal, community services, state and regional planning and antipoverty efforts.

Faculty member from 25 selected graduate schools of planning are eligible for selection as interns. The eligible schools are those that have been admitted to the 1968 and 1969 Sears Foundation city planning fellowship program. They include major state and private universities and institutes of technology that have departments of city planning.

Interns for 1968 will be chosen in March by the Sears Foundation City Planning Selection Committee, subject to Ylvisaker's approval. Each will receive his regular academic salary, paid for by three \$7,500 Sears grants and by Department funds. The Foundation also will provide a maximum of \$3,000 for each intern's travel and moving expenses for the entire period.

Within three months after completing the program, the interns must give Commissioner Ylvisaker a written evaluation of their experiences and probable impact on their approach to the teaching of city planning.

East Orange Youths Leave Street Corners For Neighborhood Church Recreation Hall

Johnny, a 19-year-old unemployed high school dropout, once spent idle days and nights on the street corners of an East Orange ghetto.

With several fellow teen-agers, he would pass the time as best he could—a card game on somebody's porch, a rough basketball game in the street, an occasional skirmish with other gangs or a confrontation with the police.

Today, however, Johnny and many of his friends are off the street corners and largely out of trouble. Since June, they have reported nightly to nearby Park Avenue Christian Church Center, where a full range of recreational activities are available at no cost.

The church project is part of a special \$18,498 Youth Exploration and Development Program sponsored by the East Orange Community Action Program, the city's official antipoverty agency.

The program, operating through four neighborhood churches, is designed to help disadvantaged teen-agers develop positive self images by seeking and obtaining opportunities in education, employment and recreation.

"The idea is to bring these problem kids in off the street," said John Pinkard, the young Negro project director, who spent his teenage years in the same neighborhood. "To do this, we have had to gain their confidence and meet them where they are, on their own terms in their own language."

By gaining Johnny's confidence, Pinkard was able to attract many of his colleagues to the recreation center as well. In time, he appointed Johnny as a salaried, part-time member of the recreation staff, a move which helped recruiting immeasurably.

"After learning that Johnny had joined our staff," Pinkard added, "more teen-agers came to the meetings and said: 'We want to come in and work with you, too, because we dig what's happening.' Through this type of communication we have been able to move."

Today, some 35 to 60 teen-agers a night come to the center, he explained, and "sometimes it zooms to 100."

At the center, the youths participate in a variety of recreational and sports activities, ranging from basketball, shuffleboard and pool to weightlifting, chess and social dancing. At each session, however, the teen-agers also participate in group bull sessions, moderated by Pinkard and other professional staff members, designed to allow the youths to freely and openly talk about any problems they wish.

"These sessions are very valuable because they give us an insight into the problems faced by the youngsters," Pinkard explained. "With this in mind, we are better able to offer guidance and training to help them overcome them."

In addition to such group work activities, special Sensitivity Weekends are held for socially deprived youngsters. The weekends, held at a YMCA resident camp center, expose the youths to a minimum of 22 hours of group therapy sessions, 10 hours of recreation and 10 hours of sleep.

"These sensitivity training sessions are designed to make very radical attitude changes and to develop empathy and motivation in hard-to-reach teenagers by helping them expose problems, break down hostilities and develop new trust patterns," said Ralph Sims, East Orange CAP director. "Of course, youths with very serious problems are referred to appropriate social agencies."

During the summer months, the program also offered late evening cultural and social activities at a Teen Evening Camp, operating from 6 p.m. until midnight, four nights a week.

"During the crucial evening hours when 'nothing is happening' the youngsters were taken by the YMCA of Maplewood and the Oranges to a different undisclosed location each night," Simms explained. "They visited such places as the

Metropolitan Museum, Greenwich Village, a swimming pool, a camp, and many others. These mystery rides gave the youngsters a variety of cultural exposures and provided us with opportunities for personal counseling."

After individual needs are determined, the youths are referred to educational job and training programs and leisure time activities.

Although the program is still new, many of the youngsters seem to have accepted it.

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the latest methods and procedures in their fields.

The application also proposes to hire a technological coordinator and staff to find technical solutions to municipal problems such as refuse disposal, transportation, construction and maintenance of municipal facilities, etc. It also would establish an urban library to collect, file and make available to specialists and municipalities up-to-date urban information.

Other information systems would include a clearing house for urban studies by all levels of government; an urban research bulletin and newsletter; and a housing information system under a systems analyst who will design procedures for collection and analysis of housing data.

The application also proposes the expansion of the Community Service Officer Program to include specialists in public works, recreation, municipal law, public safety, fiscal and bond matters, public transportation, traffic design and civil service. A community service officer works directly with municipal officials, coordinating his activities with relevant agencies.

The application, according to Commissioner Ylvisaker, dovetails with an application for federal funds under Title VIII of the Housing Act of 1965. The Title VIII proposal, now in preparation, would help train municipal officials to upgrade their ability to dispense services more efficiently.

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vacant tenement as the first step by local residents in a program to upgrade one of the worst blocks in Hoboken.

"Both of these projects indicate how private enterprise and non-profit groups can join with the government in redeveloping our communities," said Governor Richard J. Hughes in announcing the grants and loans. "Both are aimed at the people who need adequate housing the most and at communities that need the stability and pride that accompany home ownership."

While noting that the project was experimental, the Governor said he and Ylvisaker were confident that it held "great hope for the future."

"In New Jersey, we view this kind of cooperation as just the beginning of a partnership that will produce new and rehabilitated housing for many of our State's disadvantaged residents . . .," Hughes said. "It is our hope successful results from the Camden and Hoboken programs will touch off similar public-private efforts in other communities."

In Camden, the Interfaith-Inter-racial Council of the Clergy (IICC) received a \$35,000 revolving loan from the State to purchase and rehabilitate the 50 single-family dwellings. The IICC is a community group of about 60 members representing local churches of different denominations.

According to Ylvisaker, most of

the initial dwellings selected will be vacant, deteriorated houses in the North Camden area. Work has already begun at 320 State Street — the first building to be renovated under the plan.

As soon as five or more buildings are rehabilitated, the IICC will sell the buildings to qualified low income families and arrange for them to obtain long-term, low-interest mortgages from the Federal Housing Administration. Then, the IICC will use the proceeds from the sale to purchase and rehabilitate other buildings, thereby revolving the state loan.

Assisting the IICC in its task is the Camden Housing Improvement Project (CHIP), which is following a similar procedure. Instead of receiving a State grant, however, CHIP is utilizing a \$100,000 revolving fund established through \$20,000 pledges from five local industries: the Campbell Soup Company, the Radio Corporation of America (RCA), the Dorrance Foundation, the First Camden National Bank and Trust Company and the Camden Trust Company.

In addition to the \$35,000 loan, the IICC received a State grant of \$35,000 — also from the Demonstration Housing Grant Fund — to assist in establishing a community services program to aid both its own and CHIP's program. This grant calls on the IICC to conduct an owner selection and education

program, as well as a community support service for both projects.

"This program also calls for employment of local residents, hopefully from the immediate area being rehabilitated, in the construction jobs," Ylvisaker explained. "A training program for unskilled workers will be conducted during the rehabilitation."

According to Ylvisaker, the owner of one of the rehabilitated homes would pay interest and equity charges of \$47.50 a month under the low-interest FHA mortgage. Taxes, heat, electricity, water and maintenance would add an additional \$30 a month, bringing the total for most of the homes to approximately \$75 to \$80 a month.

"This is substantially less than what many low income families are now paying in rent for deteriorated housing," the Commissioner added.

In Hoboken, the \$30,000 Demonstration Housing Grant Fund loan is being used to convert the rotted interior of a vacant tenement at 69 Park Avenue into 10 modern two-bedroom apartments that will rent for about \$65 a month. Its basement will be rehabilitated for a neighborhood meeting room.

"After the first building is completed, the 60 Garden Street Association will try to get a full mortgage to free the State's \$30,000 loan for use in acquiring and rehabilitating other deteriorating buildings on the same block, thus revolving the loan for maximum use," Ylvisaker said.

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