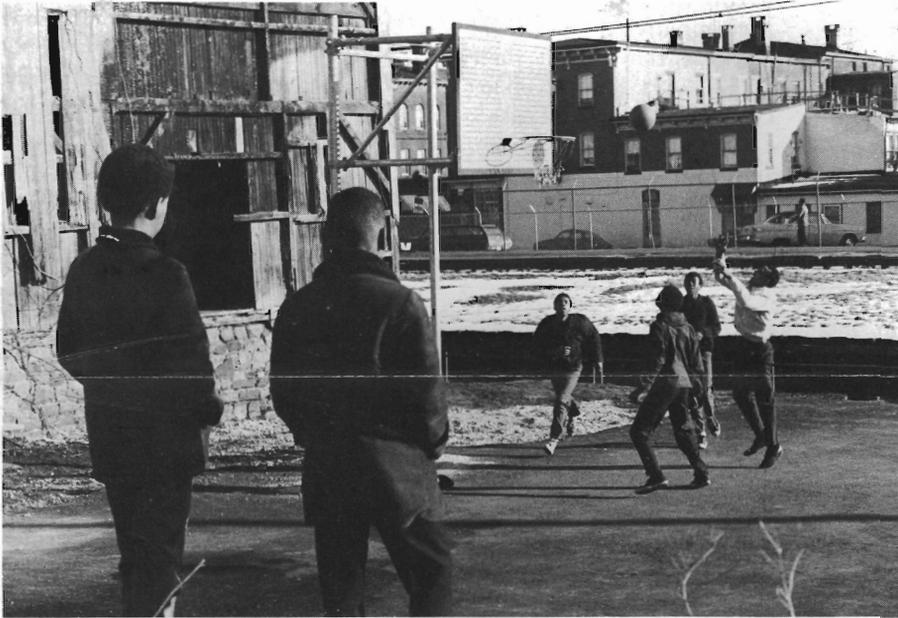


COMMUNITY

A Publication of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs



UP AND IN — Youngsters from Trenton's Model Cities neighborhood are making constant use of blacktop basketball court newly installed along the Delaware and Raritan Canal. A section of the canal was made into a neighborhood park last summer by youths living in the area, with funds and supervision provided by the Department in cooperation with other state and city agencies. A panel of citizens has identified recreational facilities for young people as one of the main needs of the Model Cities neighborhood.

Model Cities Grants Go to 4 Communities

The Department has announced State Model Cities grants totaling \$109,500 to Hoboken, Orange, Newark and Perth Amboy.

James W. Shue, State Model Cities director, said the funds would assist the cities in developing urgently needed projects in their Model City neighborhoods. He said Hoboken and Orange each would receive \$30,000, while Newark would get \$28,500 and Perth Amboy would receive \$21,000.

Hoboken, Newark and Perth Amboy are among nine New Jersey cities selected to participate in the federal Model Cities program, which provides funds to help selected cities plan massive, coordinated attacks on the problems of specified disadvantaged neighborhoods.

These three communities — plus Orange and nine others — also have received previous financial and technical aid through the Department's

State Model Cities program. The state program complements the federal one by assisting communities of all sizes in preparing federal applications and in implementing local Model City or neighborhood renewal projects.

Hoboken's grant will help finance a recently completed attitude survey of its Model City residents. The survey, designed and conducted by the Opinion Research Corporation of Princeton, is expected to be released shortly.

Hoboken also will use part of the grant to cover the salary of its Model City director and to finance consultant services for its all-citizen Neighborhood Council.

Orange will use its grant to meet salary costs of its Model City director and for a specialist in Human Resources Development. It also will use part of the funds to expand muni-

(CONTINUED on page 6)

Governors' Aides Seeking Strategy For Urban Action

An advisory task force of state community affairs agency heads, chaired by Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker, is studying ways in which the states and the federal government can work together more effectively to solve urban development problems.

The task force is under the direction of the National Governors' Conference Committee on Community Development and Urban Relations. Governor Richard J. Hughes is chairman of that committee, which includes the governors of nine states. It is one of seven committees of the Governors' Conference.

At the mid-year meeting of the governors in Washington last month, members of the task force met with Secretary George Romney of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Romney asked the task force and the governors for advice on strengthening the role of the states in Model Cities, urban renewal and other housing programs.

Members of the task force and their staffs are presently preparing papers on these topics, as well as on rural development, state urban development planning, and issues of federal-state relations in general. The task force will meet later this month in Princeton to discuss the papers and to shape them into policy statements for adoption by the Governors' Conference at its annual meeting at the end of August in Denver.

Fourteen states are represented on the task force, including Joseph W. Barr, Jr., Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs; LeRoy Jones, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Community Affairs, and Douglas G. Weiford, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Local Affairs and Development.

High School Students Get 'Head Start' on Legal Profession

Fourteen Hudson County high school students, all from disadvantaged families, will work this summer as aides to county legal services lawyers under a novel Legal Head Start program partially financed by the Department of Community Affairs.

The program, which was launched last summer, is designed to encourage minority group students to pursue legal careers. This summer's project will be financed through a \$23,039 Department grant.

The program, which will run for 12 weeks this summer, is sponsored by the Hudson County Legal Services project in cooperation with the Hudson County Bar Association. It combines seminars and field trips with actual court room and law office experience.

Students selected will work a regular 35-hour, five-day week, earning \$1.60 an hour. A 10-hour-a-week continuation program is planned for the academic year.

Assistant Community Affairs Commissioner Gregory R. Farrell described the program as "a double-edged innovative experiment." He said, "This project puts young men and women to work in responsible jobs to expose them to the legal pro-

fession. The ultimate aim is to attract them to seek legal careers."

Farrell said the students would spend about two weeks as "attorney shadows," accompanying the legal service lawyers as they fulfill their daily office and court room responsibilities. They will research cases, set times for cases coming up in court, prepare briefs and sit in on client interviews, participating on occasion, he said.

"Last summer's legal head start students were particularly effective in interviewing juvenile offenders," Farrell explained, "As a result, this aspect will be continued again this year, supplemented by extensive training in interviewing skills."

Students also will work in private law offices, serving as aides to volunteer lawyers from the county bar association. The lawyers are responsible for supervising the students' work experience and for providing continuous guidance to their "adopted students" in the choice of courses leading towards the legal profession.

In addition, the students will research projects in the bar association law library, attend special seminars on the legal profession and go on field trips.

Students will be selected and trained

by four teenage "trainers", who are high school seniors and alumni of last summer's Legal Head Start program. To be eligible, applicants must have completed their junior or senior years in a Hudson County high school, come from low-income families and demonstrate an academic capability to complete their education and pursue a legal career.

The young "trainers" also will help conduct orientation and training sessions for the 14 enrollees, in cooperation with the Rutgers Law School and Hudson County's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The "head starters" will be taught elementary legal research, interviewing and the history of the juvenile court system.

In order to expose more minority group students to the legal profession, the county legal services project and bar association also plan to enlist the support of school officials in the county to introduce lectures and discussions of legal issues as part of the regular high school social studies curriculum. The lawyers would offer materials and assistance to teachers, in addition to serving as lecturers.

The head start student trainers will also conduct seminars in the schools.

Department Offers Free Computer Training for Local Officials

The Department will offer a series of orientation sessions designed to acquaint local officials with the latest information on computers and automatic data processing equipment.

The sessions, sponsored by the Department's Division of Local Finance, will be held in various locations throughout the State beginning on Saturday, April 26, and continuing for the remainder of the year. The dates and locations of the remaining sessions will be announced in May.

The first sessions will be held at community colleges in Essex, Middlesex, Mercer and Camden Counties. They are open to any municipal and county employees and officials, especially those with little or no experience in the use of computers or electronic data processing (EDP)

equipment.

"With the constantly increasing daily burdens the local governments are facing, it is impossible for local officials to keep abreast of the complexities of the computer field without periodic updating," said James A. Alloway, director of local finance. "Communities often must decide whether to purchase expensive, sophisticated technical equipment which their personnel may not be equipped to operate."

Alloway said the orientation sessions would "try to provide these local officials with a basic understanding of computers and EDP equipment and terminology, and offer some guidelines about how to assess their value to a local government operation."

The training sessions will be of-

tered at no cost to participating municipalities or individuals.

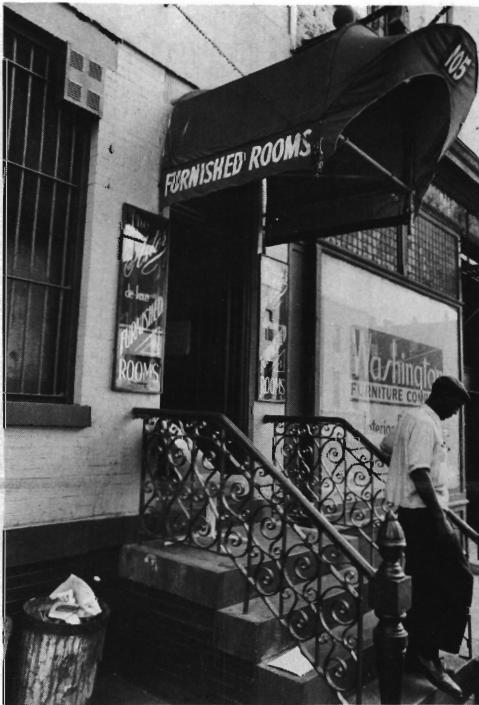
Alloway said the sessions would be held every Saturday and, possibly one night each week, for three weeks. Each session would accommodate about 25 enrollees.

Applications for the sessions will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants who cannot be accommodated in the first sessions will be given advance reservations for future sessions.

Interested local officials should send letters of application immediately to: Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Finance, P.O. Box 1959, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. The letters should include the applicant's name and title, the community he represents and the preference of meeting sites.



Newark



Hoboken



Jersey's Housing Need: 421,000 Units

Last year, the Department's Human Resources Planning Unit issued a study of housing need in New Jersey which concluded that 421,000 housing units in the State—one out of every five homes and apartments—were in need of replacement or repair. While the study was in preparation, a photographer was assigned to survey and photograph rundown dwellings in cities and rural communities throughout the State. His pictures show what the housing need statistics mean in human terms. The Department and the New Jersey Housing Finance Agency are working with sponsoring organizations in many communities to provide decent housing for people living under conditions such as these.



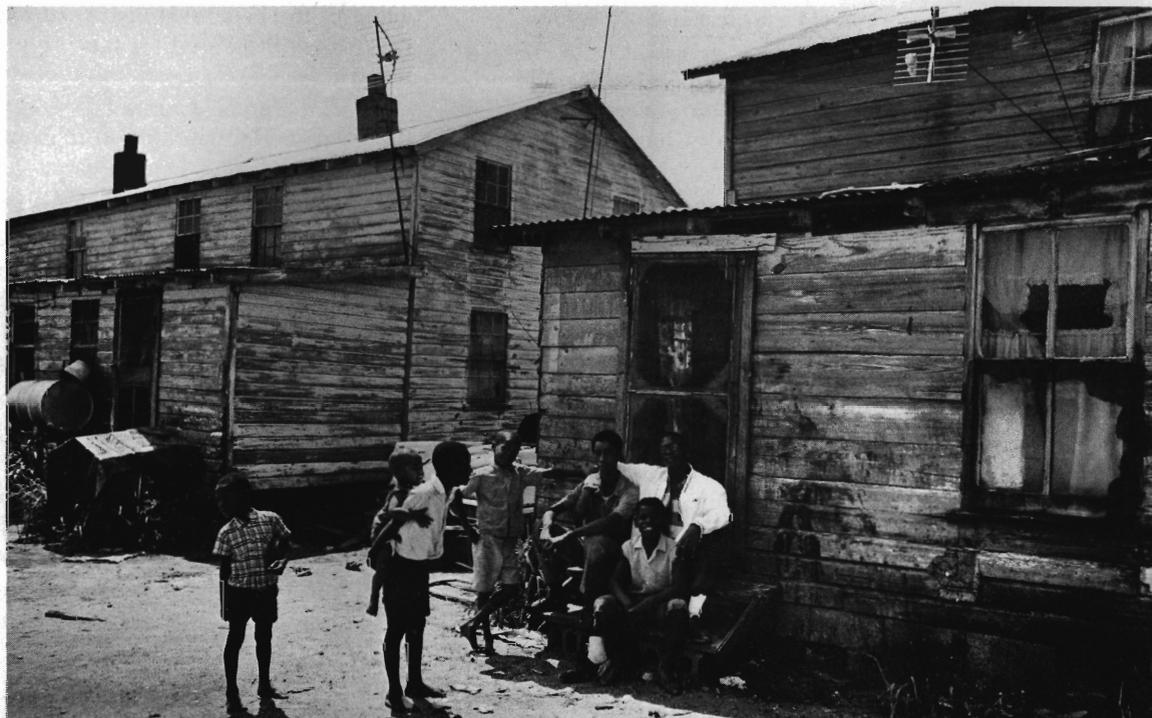
Newark

-Photos by Michel de Goyon.



Bayonne

Shell Pile (Cumberland County)



Camden



HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY — This 10-story, 129 unit apartment building in East Orange was built with the help of a \$20,000 "seed money" loan from the Department to the East Orange Senior Citizens Housing Association, which enabled the sponsor to obtain a federal loan. The building is scheduled for occupancy this spring.

Mercer Units Vote on Merger

Voters of the Borough of Hightstown and the surrounding Township of East Windsor in Mercer County will decide in an April 17 referendum whether the two municipalities should consolidate.

If a majority of voters in both communities approve the referendum, the merger of the two communities would take place on January 1, 1970. It would be the first municipal merger in New Jersey in 17 years.

The plan is considered feasible by the Local Finance Board of the Department's Division of Local Finance. Under state law, the board is required to review all consolidation proposals to ensure that they conform to New Jersey statutory requirements and are fiscally sound.

According to the consolidation proposal, the merged municipality would be named Hightstown and would utilize a Council-Manager form of town government under Plan E of the Optional Municipal Charter Act.

Youth Sessions Point to Need for Programs for Handicapped

A workshop emphasizing the need for physical education activities for mentally and physically handicapped children was conducted by the Department's Division of Youth in February.

A similar workshop has been scheduled for April 19.

Division Director Hubert C. Strayhorn said the sessions seek to demonstrate the kinds and uses of special physical education programs for children who are physically or mentally handicapped, convalescing from sickness, accidents or operations, or physically limited for any reason.

Strayhorn said such physical activities are not now available in all New Jersey high schools. As a result, many of these children are unable to receive the physical training and exercises they need to develop properly.

DCA Grant Tests Feasibility Of Uniting Schools, Housing

The Department has awarded a \$12,000 grant to the Passaic Board of Education for a study to determine the feasibility of combining moderate-income housing and schools at a single location.

The grant was made from the \$2.25 million Community Affairs Revolving Housing Development and Demonstration Grant Fund, administered by the New Jersey Housing Finance Agency (HFA).

The study will involve planning for two separate complexes — one combining apartments and an elementary school, and the other combining apartments and a high school.

The grant, which was announced at a meeting of the Passaic Board of Education, is the first use of the Department's fund for study of school-housing combinations and the use of air rights.

The apartments and schools would be built by a non-profit or limited-dividend sponsor, with mortgage financing provided by the HFA. The Board of Education would then lease the school from the sponsor. The money paid by the Board of Education would be used to repay the mortgage loan from the HFA.

In both cases, the schools would be located at ground level, with the housing over the schools. Air rights over the schools would be used for development of high-rise moderate-income housing.

The study will include detailed analysis of cost factors, possible sources of financing for the projects, detailed physical planning, and architectural renderings.

The Department also made an interest-free loan of \$7,700 to Pilgrim Baptist Homes, Inc. of Newark, to plan for rehabilitation of 20 apartments for rental to low-income families.

Mortgage financing for the development, located at 314-320 Bergen Street, Newark, is expected to be provided by the Federal Housing Administration. The interest-free loan will be used for land acquisition, legal and architectural fees, and organization costs.

Pilgrim Baptist Homes is a non-profit group formed by the Pilgrim Baptist Church in Newark.

At the morning session of the February workshop, the need for establishing such programs was discussed by teachers, administrators and school doctors and nurses. In a later session, workshop leaders demonstrated the uses of equipment needed for these programs.

The April workshop will follow the same format.

In another conference on March 22, the Division urged mayors and municipal officials from several New Jersey communities to consider establishing Municipal Youth Guidance Councils in their localities. The councils, consisting of adult representatives of local youth groups, focus on the problems of children and teenagers. Council members are appointed by the mayors of the respective communities.

Housing Inspectors Finish Training

Thirty-four state building inspectors and one municipal inspector received certificates of achievement March 10 upon successful completion of a 16-week basic training course in building construction and maintenance regulations.

Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker presented the certificates to the housing inspectors at graduation ceremonies.

The course, the first in a series of in-service training sessions planned by the Department, was conducted by Edgar O'Neil, a professional engineer employed by the Department, on a one-day-a-week basis from Sept. 4 — Dec. 18, 1968. It involved a total of 120 hours of classroom lectures, discussions and field trips.

Ylvisaker said the course was designed to upgrade and improve the skills of the inspectors in enforcing provisions of the State's new Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Construction and Maintenance regulations. The revised regulations, promulgated by Commissioner Ylvisaker last July 19, represented the first comprehensive revision of New Jersey's hotel and multiple dwelling laws in more than half a century.

Under a 1967 state law, the Department's Bureau of Housing Inspection is responsible for registering and inspecting the State's estimated 115,000 hotels, motels and multiple dwellings of three or more units. The Bureau does this through its own staff of inspectors and through the use of local housing inspectors

under its novel State-Local Cooperative Housing Inspection program.

Through this partnership program, the Bureau reserves a \$10 credit for every hotel, motel or apartment building which local inspectors help to register or secure information on. Later, the municipality is credited with additional funds to cover the cost of each building inspection it makes for the State.

Wallace Fiore, chief of the bureau, said the preliminary training course "sought to provide the inspectors with the information and techniques they will need to enforce the regulations properly." He said subsequent training programs on the intermediate and advanced levels have been scheduled for mid-March.

MODEL from page 1

cipal library facilities to residents of the target neighborhood.

The Newark grant will be used to publish a Model City newsletter for general neighborhood distribution, and to provide technical assistance to the 52-member Model Neighborhood Council. The newsletter, to include pertinent information of interest to Model City residents, will be produced by the local neighborhood council and the city's Community Development Administration, which administers the program.

Perth Amboy's grant will help the city accelerate planning and project activities in the Model City neighborhood, while it awaits federal funds.

Education Centers Funded in Bergen

The Department has awarded a \$95,388 grant to continue for another year the basic education program of the Bergen County Community Action Program.

The grant was announced by Mrs. Catherine Havrilesky, chief of the Department's Bureau of Basic Education. It will enable 560 high school dropouts—including teenagers and adults—to take eight-week courses leading toward high school equivalency diplomas.

The courses will be given at two storefront education centers—one in Hackensack and another scheduled to open soon in Palisades Park. The students are recruited through the Bergen County CAP, which launched the program about a year ago.

Last year's program, financed through a \$48,825 Community Affairs grant, trained some 200 students for equivalency certificates. Of these, 25 gained acceptance to college.

"This program makes it possible for recent high school dropouts, as well as adults who failed to complete their secondary education, to gain employment and educational opportunities that once were beyond their grasp," said Mrs. Havrilesky.

The grant was made from a \$900,000 state aid appropriation for adult basic education in the Department's 1968-69 budget.

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