

OPPORTUNITY BULLETIN

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS for Units of TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT INC.

Vol. 1 Issue No. 4, Oct. 1, 1968



HOMES FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES--Wallace Walker, president of the Central Area Progressive Improvement Association, outlines goals of program at a press conference following approval of the non-profit group by the Federal Housing Administration. Walker later announced that the Association "backs the Tacoma Model Cities Program one thousand percent and stands for full participation by the community in setting its goals and aspirations." Shown here, (front row, from left) are William Middleton, Bill Seline, representing Gov. Dan Evans; FHA Housing Director Andrew M. Hess; Mayor A. L. Rasmussen; Mr. Hess' assistant and Jim Stewart, KTNT-Radio. Rear row from left, City Manager David Rowlands, Don Diesy, Clay Armstrong, Robert Yamashita, CDI executive board member; Peter Harvey, Assistant City Manager and Rod Cardwell-Tac-News-Trib

HILLTOP FEDERAL HOUSING

Group To Be Sponsor for Home-Buying
TNT News Story By Rod Cardwell

The chances for low-income families--especially in the black community-- to become homeowners were broadened Friday by a formal announcement.

A Federal Housing Administration official at a press conference on South K Street--announced that the Central Area Progressive Improvement Association has been approved as a non-profit sponsor in a program for the sale of rehabilitated houses.

Andrew Hess, of Seattle, regional FHA director, said the program will involve FHA-insured loans to be repaid by the home-buyer at a 3 per cent interest rate.

Hess and Wallace Walker Sr., the association's president, said a liberal approach will be taken in considering applicants as credit risks. A prospective home-buyer will not be rejected just because he may have had financial troubles in the past, Hess explained.

"The key thing is the present, Can he make it?" Hess said. "It's no good to sell him a home if he can't afford it. But neither is it right to say he can't live today because

of yesterday."

The program is made possible by Section 221 (h) of the Federal Housing Act.

As Hess explained it, the association will buy older homes, remodel them and sell the rehabilitated properties for a price that covers the original purchase and the cost of renovation and overhead.

The buyer must make a \$200 down payment. There will be no federal money going to the Central Area Progressive Improvement Association. Mayor A. L. Rasmussen was present for the press conference in the association's headquarters of 922 S. K St., a former candy store. Other officials included City Manager David Rowlands.

The mayor, a charter member of the association, said that anyone with property to sell for the program may call his office. The association is a non-profit body aimed at developing improvement projects throughout the city.

Rasmussen emphasized that properties involved in the housing program will not be restricted to the central area or Hilltop district.

Hess made these points:

--The FHA will work closely with the association to assure that homes obtained for the program are those which can be repaired at a reasonable cost.

--The association will be asked to maintain a continuing interest in the home-buyers, providing counseling on money management, home maintenance and the like.

--The association will purchase older homes in a lot of, say, five to eight; then, after remodeling, the total costs will be spread among the houses and a fair-market sales value assigned to each.

Walker made a request for the public to join the association and offer financial help so the program may become a reality. He said the services of professional and non-professional persons are also desired.

Financial aid from the state has been requested through the office of Governor Dan Evans, Walker reported.

He said the association already has 10 older homes under consideration for the program, but has yet to acquire them.

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514 South 13th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98402
August 30, 1968

Mr. Walker, Director
Hilltop Multi-Service Center
1209 South Eye Street
Tacoma, Wash. 98405

Dear Mr. Walker:

We wish to express our appreciation to you and your staff for your tireless efforts in providing the much needed transportation that made our Youth Opportunity Center's program of obtaining summer jobs for our youth a success.

We know from previous experience, that lack of transportation has caused much confusion, disinterest and just plain drop-outs. During the Summer of 1968, through your contributions, we had our best program. It is well known that the time and monies contributed by your staff were very rewarding.

Thanks again for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Eudora L. Peters, Manager
Human Resources Development Division

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FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM HAS
GROWN IN THREE YEARS

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At the close of its third year of operation, the nationally recognized Foster Grandparents Program, begun as one of the earliest War on Poverty projects, now employs some 4,000 elderly persons in 68 projects in 40 states, it was announced today by the Office of Economic Opportunity,

The program was initiated in 1965 with 22 projects. OEO works in close coordination with the Department of Health, Education and

Welfare and its Administration on Aging to administer the program.

The Foster Grandparents Program recruits, trains, and employs persons 60 and over who fall below the poverty level of \$1600 per year to work with neglected and deprived children in various institutions. It is a double-edged program from which both the "grandparents" and the "grandchildren" gain. Healthy older persons who have understanding, maturity, and patience which only years can bring are saved from being relegated to a lonely rocking-chair. In addition, the "grandparents" are given the dignity of a much needed income and are enabled to maintain a minimum standard of living.

Recognizing the need for regular and individualized attention to children in an institutional setting, the "grandparents" spend four hours each day with their "grandchildren," establishing the type of close relationship experienced in a family setting. Some of the institutions participating are hospitals, correctional institutions, schools for the emotionally disturbed, and homes for the mentally retarded.

An early evaluation of the program, conducted by Greenleigh Associates, Inc., of New York, when the program was in its initial stages, said "the Foster Grandparents Program has demonstrated great value and should be expanded on a larger scale."

It also noted "the Foster Grandparents Program is an effective and viable instrument to reduce poverty and poverty-linked problems among the aged. It also has a positive effect on the social, emotional and physical functioning of the vast majority of institutionalized children who received this care."

A more recent evaluation, done by members of the Department of Economics and Sociology, North Texas State University, reported "the Foster Grandparents...appear to be proudly involved in meaningful work, which in turn provides them added economic resources for fuller social participation and maintenance of self-respect." The evaluation was conducted at the Denton State School, Denton, Texas.

On the impact the program has on the children, the evaluation said, "no matter how fleeting the contact or limited the carry-over, the program does enrich the lives of the children it touches and anyone who is familiar with institutions for retarded children will not judge this to be a minor success."

(Taken from:
Office of Economic OPPORTUNITY (Letter)
Released - September 1, 1968
Washington, D. C.

LEGAL AID ANSWERS
"DISCOURTESY CHARGE"

Despite what has been printed in the Tacoma News Tribune (and in Opportunity Bulletin, too), persons who come to Legal Assistance for help with legal problems can expect courteous and sympathetic treatment. Since the office at 1501 South M was opened in September, 1967, over 2900 applications have been processed, and probably half again that many persons interviewed. Only a handful of these have indicated any measure of dissatisfaction; many have gone out of their way to thank us for helping them. In percentage terms this gives us an enviable record.

Most non-lawyers do not fully understand the intricacies of the law and of legal procedures, and busy lawyers do not always take the time to explain to their clients the reasons for their opinions or advice. As a result, a particularly sensitive client may sometimes feel that he is being brushed off, whereas, in most cases the lawyer has seen the problem and quickly decided what, if anything, can be done about it.

Pierce County Legal Assistance Foundation, an ODI delegate agency, has given effective legal representation and counsel to hundreds of poor people and will continue to serve hundreds more. We hope no one will stay away because he is afraid the lawyer will be unfriendly or unsympathetic. Although the lawyer may not be able to indulge in a lot of small talk (others will be waiting to see him) he will give careful and sympathetic attention to what the client has to say about his problem, and will keep his confidence.

To make it easier for those in the valley and in the Eastside area, Ken Luce, staff attorney, now interviews clients (by appointment, preferably) on Thursday mornings at Eastside Multi-Service Center and on Thursday afternoons at MORE in Puyallup. He reports that the Eastside sessions have not been productive, but that the caseload has been heavy at Puyallup.

Selmon "Jack" Jackson has been "aboard" for about a month as full-time investigator Jan McKinley, number two legal secretary, left around the middle of September; she has not as yet been replaced full time, but Elayne Rankin is filling on a part time basis.

FRANKLIN FOGG, Director

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NEWS TRIBUNE LETTER BOX

LEGAL AID

To the Editor: Aug. 13 there was an article in your paper "ODI's Legal Service Shy Of Program Goal." There was a statement made by Mr. Crowell Beals, saying that the three attorneys of the Legal Aid "probably (were) not as receptive to welfare recipients as they would be to private clients."

I would like to say that I am a welfare recipient and one of the attorneys from the Legal Aid has been and is handling a case for me. I have never been treated without "courtesy." either over the phone or in person. I have never been "brushed off: on any of the problems I have taken to Legal Aid. Could it be that with each attorney handling approximately 57 cases a

month, that the so-called "lack of apparent courtesy" by the legal staff, is that they are trying to handle cases that they think are the most urgent first, rather than an attempt "to discourage divorce?"

Another problem could be a lack of knowledge about the Legal Aid services. If people do not know the services is there, how can they use it?

I would also like to publicly thank my Legal Aid attorney for the fine job he is doing for me.

KATHLEEN ROWELL,
4006 East Q Street

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THE MOTIVATION SEED

by Kathleen M. Doty
Buckley REO

Poverty is a state of mind.
Motivation is what you need.
Have you ever tried to plant
A motivation seed?
Find a person, down and out
Show him that you care,
Cultivate his ideas,
Point out to him where
The weeds are causing damage,
Help him pull them now.
The plant will grow in stature
Now he can guide the plough.
A kind word and a helping hand,
Are many times enough
To Activate motivation,
When the going is too rough.

EASTSIDE: GOOD NEWS FROM EASTSIDE!

The Youth Center will rise again!

ALICE DUNN WILL ANNOUNCE ALL DE/ -

TAILS IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

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CONGRATULATIONS: EASTSIDE!!!!

TRI-MART REPORTS:

A group of LINCOLN HEIGHTS residents organized by the Tri-Mart Vista Workers, interested in neighborhood clean-up and playground facilities in their area, met with members of the Metropolitan Park Board, a representative from the South Tacoma Lions Club, and 2 TNT Reporters--who were accompanied on a tour of the area by our Director, Mr. Linsey Hinand, to see the needs of the community. We are in hopes the TRI-MART area will get results on this project, which is badly needed.

TRI-MART now has a new education co-ordinator Letah Howard, a graduate of New York University and has her masters degree in Home Economics. Tri-Mart is happy to welcome her to the staff. Teres Jensen is now employed as a teacher in Gig Harbor, Jr. High. We miss her and hope she'll be happy and successful in her new job. Johnnie Berring, one of our Motivators, has moved up, she is now in New Careers and plans to become a certified teacher after her completion of college.

INSTANT-PARK PLAN OFFERED FOR HILLTOP

TNT - By Carl Lizberg

Ferry Park can be rejuvenated to serve the park-deficient Hilltop area, the Park Board was told Monday.

Mel Jackson, assistant director of the Hilltop Neighborhood Improvement Council Inc. discussed with board members the possibility of creating "vest-pocket" parks, which would serve as "glorified vacant lots" to get youngsters off the street and into safer places to play.

He presented a neighborhood survey favoring park development.

Mrs. Wilma Snyder, a teacher at Sherman School, and Ted Litzenger, a partner in the firm of Harris & Reed, architects, presented a preliminary plan which would improve Ferry Park with a surrounding wall suitable for sitting and preventing small children from dashing into surrounding busy streets.

The plan includes a "tot lot" a planted patio area with a drinking fountain at one end and a ball field for older children at the other. It would cost \$10,000 Litzenger said, unless enough residents participated to cut the cost considerably.

Presently only a grassy area with trees, Ferry Park is located on South 14th Street between Cushman and Sheridan streets.

Board members urged Mrs. Snyder to continue efforts to get local private capital help toward the project and assured the spokesmen that Model Cities help would be explored.

"This has real appeal," said board member J. Ralph Williams.

William O. Glundberg, announced approval by E. N. Eisenhower. Tacoma attorney, of a requested \$25,000 grant to speed development of Garfield Park and another \$10,00 for a 15-acre playfield at North 37th and Vassault streets. Each grant will come from Kilworth Estate funds, he said.

Williams told the board he had toured park-district administered lands in the Lincoln Heights area and said the area "deserves more attention," "I feel sorry for them," he said, referring to the lack of adequate playfields despite large amounts of avail-

able land area.

"These people need help," Williams added. Glundberg said a Lincoln Heights community action committee was expected to contact him after they had developed a proposal.

The board also:

--Hired Joe Hoots Construction, Inc. for its bid of \$12,815, to repair Fort Nisqually at Point Defiance Park.

--Decided to send Glundberg and William Innes to a National Recreation and Park Association meeting Oct. 13 to 17 in Seattle.

--Discussed progress of acquisition of property abutting Titlow Park.

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RURAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY INC.

Stella Thaden and Audrey Kirk, REO, were guests at Puyallup Fair 4-H Club, Sept. 18 Their hostess, Bev Finn, Oak Harbor, prepared a meal. Bev is a sophomore at Skagit County Community College and hopes to teach Home Economics someday. She prepared an excellent meal and was a most gracious hostess

C. Melvin McKenney, Board President of REO, and Mrs. Audrey L. Kirk, Executive Director, attended the Conference on Rural Poverty and Community Development, Sept.9-11, 1968 in Kansas City, Mo.

Blair McFarland, PLU student has been appointed Youth Director at REO.

Open House, at Woodbrook, Wed. Oct. 9th
2 - 4 P.M. 7 - 9 P.M.

PLEASE COME - NO SPEECHES

Mrs. Gloria Jacobs spoke at Laubach Literacy Society, Sept. 19. This organization has 23 new teachers trained and are looking for students in Woodbrook, Parkland, and Puyallup areas.

September Birthday: Simone Adams, Sept. 23
from Woodbrook R E O.

Joanne Larson - Sept. 24th - Buckley R E O

October Birthdays: Betty Brewer, Oct. 16
Woodbrook R E O

Charlie Dodge - Oct. 23, Roy R E O

There is somewhere in your community, someone who has almost nothing. There is something that you can give them that will cost you almost nothing.

HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS

Give them patience, they will appreciate it for the rest of their lives. Give them understanding, it is something they can use daily. Give them kindness, for it is something that will never go out of style. Give them your personal word of encouragement, it will give you courage and peace of mind.

In short give them the only thing you have to give that will really help them, YOU, your moral support.

Only by each and every member of this community working together totally, Can we make this country of ours THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

By David Thatcher, REO

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Won't each center please appoint someone like David Thatcher to send in their current news every 15 days. Or about every 12 days, so that we have time to get it in print on 1st & 15th?

CHANGE OF COMMAND ANNOUNCED AT TACOMA'S
NARCOTICS CENTER

A change of command will take place at the Narcotics Center of Tacoma, and the ODI agency is preparing for a redesigned program when federal War on Poverty funds run out in five months.

Robert G. Robertson, project director, has resigned and been appointed to direct a much larger narcotics project in New Jersey.

The announcement was made here Tuesday by Robertson and Dr. William Bicknell, of San Francisco, Western representative for the Office of Health Affairs of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity.

Appointment of Cleveland Anschell as acting director was announced by the narcotics center's executive committee. Anschell is state narcotics planner and has been the narcotics program planner at the center.

Robertson will direct an OEO program for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

The Anschell appointment becomes effective Sept. 16.

Both the Tacoma and the New Jersey projects were included in the original OEO grant of \$12 million for the establishment of narcotics centers that would later be expected to continue with other financing and modify their programs according to local conditions.

Tacoma's share was \$496,000 for 15 months. That period will end Sept. 30, but the sum has not been expended and a continuation of the program for five months, until the sum is used up, has been approved a narcotics center spokesman said.

Dr. Bicknell said Tacoma is a much different community from the other seven that received the narcotics grants. He said Tacoma was chosen "because it was a medium urban-suburban area, and the resources in the community represent a unique ability to get together and build a beneficial program after the OEO grants run out.

The difference, said Bicknell, is that Tacoma has not had a massive "hard drug"--opium derivatives such as heroin, or synthetic equivalents--problem such as those of the other communities.

The narcotics center has been criticized by Dr. J. G. Katterhagen, the Pierce County Medical Society's representative on the center's advisory committee, partly on the grounds that this area's narcotics problem is not of a magnitude to warrant the federal grant.

In rebuttal, some staff members of the center have contended that the very reason for the grant was Tacoma's freedom from a "massive" drug problem.

On Tuesday, Robertson spoke with leaders of the county medical society and commented afterward that he believes there is now good communication between physicians and the center, and that the door is open for further dialogue and greater cooperation in attacking the drug problem."

As acting director, Anschell will be responsible for developing a program to take over when the OEO bonds are snipped.

He and George Hess, chairman of the center's policy advisory committee, said they hope to continue "the effective elements of OEO program" but that some elements of it have proved not to be appropriate for this community.

They said the program will be free of the OEO requirement that 80 per cent of the funds be expended among poor people, a stipulation that Dr. Katterhagen had criticized.

Since the "hard drug" problem of large slum areas is not critical in Tacoma, the drug problem here is not primarily one of poverty, they said. Thus, they appeared to agree with Katterhagen on at least one point. They asserted that marijuana and other drugs--as well as hard drugs, to a growing extent--are a rapidly mounting problem among the non-poor.

Anschell quoted state statistics that indicate a sharp upward curve in drug usage throughout the state in the past three years.

The new acting director stressed that a primary thrust of post-OEO development will be the educational, preventative program inherited from the OEO program. He said the State Department of Public Instruction has applied for a federal grant to establish pilot narcotics programs in schools based on educational materials used in the Tacoma program.

Anschell was mayor of Mercer Island in 1966-67. Earlier he ran his own marketing research firm in Seattle, was marketing research supervisor for Boeing Company, and was a survey statistician for the U.S. Bureau of the Census, in Washington, D. C. He has a master's degree from Harvard and did further graduate work there.

SENIOR CENTERS REPORTS:

At the Senior Centers' General Meeting for Milton Center - and = Old Fire Station, participants took a hand in incorporating into the Fall Program, beginning in October, the activities which will be scheduled. These requested activities will constitute the programming. A description of the schedule will be printed in the next issue of this bulletin..

MILTON AREA SENIORS GET CAR SERVICE

A new service will be had immediately for area senior citizens lacking transportation, according to Joyce Schumacher, co-ordinator of Milton Senior Center.

The center's volunteer transportation assistant, Birdie Howell, will take seniors to the center for activities, or elsewhere, such as to the doctor. She also is available for picking up medicine and delivering it to the homes of seniors, Mrs. Schumacher said.

The coordinator also announced the election of 72 = year-old George Eastman as chairman of the center steering committee. Also elected were Vira Ryan and Barbara Kohn. Two more will be elected in the future.

Grace Ball was named the center's representative to the board of directors of Tacoma-Pierce County Senior Center, Inc.

MULTI-SERVICE CENTERS-----Please send in your news every 10 days between the 1st and 15th of the month for our news bulletin.

Laura Foltz
3710 East Spokane
Tacoma, Wash. 98404

PROBATION NEWS:



Probation Officer Russell Fairbanks, his wife, Joyce, and his son Richard recently returned from a 2000 mile loop of the Pacific Northwest and Canada. Their camping and sightseeing excursion took them through Montana, Glacier National Park and Alberta and British Columbia where they enjoyed camping at Kootenay Lake and other spots. A week of their vacation was spent at various state parks on the Oregon Coast and visiting friends. Russ dipped his fishing fly into several fishing holes, but with little success.

Probation Officer Roy Hansen and Assistant Probation Officers John Brown, Wayne Nissen and Thomas Edwards attended a 3-day annual Fall Conference for the Washington Correctional Association held at Vancouver. The conference theme for this year was "Community Bases Correctional Treatment" and those in attendance brought back valuable information for discussion.

Jack Kaas is back on the job and doing well after a short stay at Mt. View Hospital. All of us at 711 Commerce missed his light and cheerful addition to the multilith department's staff and we are glad to have him back.

NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS IN SCHOOL

Lloyd Orne, new director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps has been with the Tacoma School District since 1961. He taught at Hunt Junior High and Baker Junior High. He is currently taking his Masters Degree at Pacific Lutheran University in the area of Guidance and Counseling.

During the summer months 205 youths participated in the program. These youths worked for the School District and Metropolitan Park Board. The program was very successful, as the director received many complimentary comments and reports on the work contributed by the youths in this program.

Work was along the line of playground supervision and assistance in clerical work in schools.

I have recently returned from a Model Cities conference in Berkeley, California for CAP Directors in Cities who have received Planning Grants. The purpose of the Model Cities Program should be understood by all people. Its purpose is to achieve, through the carrying out of plans developed by local governments and their citizens, substantial improvement in the quality of life of people living in blighted neighborhoods. All projects and activities should be designed to facilitate their full participation in the economic, social and political mainstream of urban life. The program recognizes that many of the problems which it is directed are long standing, have not and cannot be solved by traditional approaches. It emphasizes experimentation with new and innovative approaches to unsolved problems.

One of the most important aspects of the Model Cities Program is citizen participation: specifically by neighborhood residents in all phases of the formation of the plan as well as its execution. The process of involving residents in decision-making during planning and program implementation should result in a plan and program that is responsive to their needs. Further, it recognizes and develops their competence as individuals and citizens. Before the end of the initial one year planning grant, a five year plan is submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This plan includes the long range and short range goals, description of the projects and activities which will be undertaken to make the area a model neighborhood. Funds which will come from all of the Federal agencies will of course, depend on the amounts appropriated for their programs by Congress.

As Advocates of and for the poor, it is our job to insure maximum participation of the poor in this program.

Officials from HUD will come to Tacoma in the near future and explain the program to the neighborhood residents. This meeting has been set for Thursday, October 3, 1968 at McCarver Junior High School, 2111 South J Street.

M O R E N E W S!.....M O R E N E W S!
M O R E N E W S!.....M O R E N E W S!

20 Units of ODI Family.....

We would like each and every one of you to send in a short newsy letter of your interesting and active offices,,, personnelactivities.....etc. before October 10th. Issue will be out October 15, 1968

Thank you, Public Affairs Secretary