

we found that it did not make much difference whether you were looking at one of the cities where we measured high per capita income and things looked good, when you looked at the national statistics or when you looked at country sections that were obviously rural, mountain, backward, neglected, nevertheless you found the conditions of poverty measured by any of these things you wanted to use as a measure.

In the three largest counties we found that 20 percent fell in our definition of poverty. That is not good, it is not bad; it is about what the national average is, but it amounted to 26,000 people in these 3 counties who were living in conditions of disadvantage and bringing their children up in conditions of severe disadvantage.

Then, in some of our smaller counties, it measured as high as 70 percent. The smallest county with 70 percent had about 700 people who fell into this category. So, whether it is in a rich area, an affluent area, a city booming with prosperity and new industry, as Charlotte, Winston-Salem, or whether it is back in the country, we still have the problem not only brought about by many reasons found in all places, but it was a statewide proposition and a statewide program.

We started talking with the heads of our various departments and agencies and Federal agencies. We started talking with several foundations, and we adopted this philosophy that I expressed in setting up the North Carolina fund, which is a private agency sponsored by the State government, supported by private foundation funds, that I had come to believe that charity and relief are not the best answers to human suffering; that instead of providing for people, we ought to attempt to find ways to help them work out of their situations of poverty and become self-respecting and self-supporting, contributing something not only to themselves, but contributing something to society and to all of the people.

We thought maybe the best way to do was to look at all the various services, all the programs, health and education and welfare and employment; and we came to the conclusion that written into the Economic Opportunity Act, that the program was not enough; that we needed to look beyond the fragmented programs. We needed to look at the individual and the child and family and the breadwinner and what are his particular problems, because no one solution and no one agency had the resources to get at those problems.

We set up a private foundation. We invited the communities to join with us. We received \$7 million from the Ford Foundation and an equal amount of money from the Reynolds-Babcock Foundation in North Carolina, and we started, at least we have started working, planning, and planning and organizing and designing the kind of program that will gear exactly into the President's program that is now before Congress.

I would like to comment just briefly on the provisions of this bill, because I think it is good and well designed, and I think it gets at the key to the problem and I think it has the answer wrapped up in it. And I think that answer is that we are going to concern ourselves with people more than programs, and we are going to look to people and then to how the programs might help them.

As I read it, the key to this program before you is education. It is education through special schools, and education through com-