

I have looked very carefully at the Job Corps suggestions, the work-training, the work-study, and I believe all of these things from our limited experience will do the job in catching these people up and show why it is important in bringing them together.

Then we have been very gratified in our community action programs. These community action programs that we are handling through the North Carolina fund are precisely the type of community actions suggested in the bill. What it does, it seems to me, is to take a look at all the programs, all the agencies, and all the resources for helping people to help themselves, and then sets up the kind of plan and machinery which will tie together, not at the top where they are already tied together, but tied together at the bottom—all of these programs, putting the emphasis again on the individual.

We had \$14 million, but that was not a lot of money when you thought about 4½ million people across the State. But I want to show you just what the response was, because I think as we look beyond the Federal Government and to the State governments and to the local governments, and as we call on the States to do their share and take the position of leadership in that program; and as we call on local leaders to look at the problems within their communities, I think it is a legitimate question: Will this work? Will they take part? Can we have something that is effective, if it is not a massive Federal program directed, controlled, carried out totally from here? Will the people cooperate and pick it up?

We issued last fall a little red book that set up the guidelines of community action programs. We suggested that we, as a North Carolina fund, could sponsor about 10; and we suggested that community leaders get together and that they look at their problems of poverty and that they define them. We felt that, even if they didn't get a project carried out through the fund, that this would be a helpful thing and a wholesome thing; that we would have local people all across North Carolina say, "Well, why do we have this poverty, what are our shortcomings, and what do we need to do?"

We thought we would get a couple of dozen and we would have difficulty in explaining to some people, "Well, we simply can't take your project on, but you already have profited and there are things you can do without our help," which, indeed, there are. We gave them until the first week in February to get their proposals in. To our surprise, and pleasant surprise at that, we received 51 proposals covering 66 of our 100 counties, far more than 85 percent of the total population.

I think this is a good sign and a good indication that people across the country do see the problems of poverty and are concerned about them and do want to support them and define them and correct them. This has been the most rewarding single episode of our efforts, that so many people, literally thousands of leaders across the State, have understood what we were talking about and have joined it and are attempt to define it and get on and do something about it.

Now we can help some of them. We cannot help nearly all of them. Some of them can do it by themselves; but most of them will need some kind of outside assistance. Therefore, title II, which provides the urban- and rural-action programs, is designed to get at this need—this desire—and to get at the fulfillment of these efforts that I am sure are available, ready to go, all across the Nation.