

been geared to these objectives which will help re-create in Kentucky the job opportunities and levels of living all our citizens need.

We have taken many steps in formulating our current programs without waiting for Federal money or leadership. At the same time, we have come forward aggressively and repeatedly from Kentucky to suggest and to advocate the Federal policies allow the use of Federal programs in careful concert with our special area development approach in Kentucky.

We have been most pleased at the response of the Federal agencies operating in Kentucky in their willingness to work closely with us and in trying to play a realistic and effective role in our overall program. We have made special arrangements for close coordination to allow Federal, State, and local agencies to combine and focus their actions and to work directly with responsible local area leadership. Our entire program rests on a basis of citizen organizations which we think may be unique in the Nation.

We have not achieved our overall development coordination by accident. Concerned with the end for development as the keynote of policy for all our programs, we have established special mechanisms to facilitate the development emphasis and coordination.

In anticipation of the need for coordination and developmental programing, I have established the Kentucky Area Program Office as a special unit attached to my office. Its administrator is also my special assistant for area development, Mr. John Whisman, and he is here with me today. This office will be designated to carry out the overall coordination of the economic opportunity program in Kentucky. The function of this office is to seek the best use of all programs, State and Federal, to meet the particular needs of our differing areas in Kentucky, with a special emphasis on the most severe problems of development in low-income and less-developed areas.

The area program office is, in fact, similar to the Economic Opportunity Office to be established in the Federal structure and it may be that Kentucky is the only State with such an office now established.

Mr. Whisman has been working with Federal officials on the economic opportunity program and he has already begun briefing our State officials so that they may be prepared for the best use of the program.

Also, for overall coordination, we have made great progress in the organization of the Kentucky Development Committee. As you know, one of the real problems of our times is the need for cooperation between many agencies. Now, in Kentucky, we have virtually every State and Federal as well as private agency, concerned with development, represented and working together through this committee. Where, in the past, new committees used to arise for each program, we now are able to consider all programs together in this one unit. For instance, both the ARA and rural development programs, as well as the individual programs like manpower training or timber development programs are given overall consideration through this committee. I am directly represented on the committee by Mr. Whisman, who is vice chairman. The State committee works directly with the local area and community organizations who will play the key roles in preparing and carrying out the community action plans provided for in the economic opportunity program.