

schools from which poor children drop out early, get low paying jobs, form poor families, and in turn become parents of another generation of poor children. Thus, compensatory education for all ages of poor, for preschool and inschool children and youths, and for adults and out-of-school youths, is of especial importance. Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration has indicated that "the Nation's children sustain a risk of poverty second only to that of the aged." In the nonwhite population, children have a higher incidence of poverty than even those aged 65 or older. There are almost 17 million children and youths in poverty, including those in urban and rural settings and the children of migrant workers. They constitute nearly one quarter of all those 21 years and younger living within the United States.

For each group of children and youth, OEO programs and those of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare must be tailored to meet the special needs of the poor. Each year, there are 2 million poor preschool children, age 3 to 5, whose deficiencies include homes that lack books and parents who lack the insight, time, and skill to create a readiness for learning. The Headstart program (OEO) and the programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (HEW) will help counteract these problems.

There are nearly 2 million children of the poor, age 6 to 15, who in their school studies are achieving at a rate well below that of their nonpoor counterparts. If untreated, the problems of these children will become compounded in later years, presenting a situation which is extremely difficult to overcome and is a prime incentive to drop out of school. The CAP remedial and tutorial program and the programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (HEW) will assist these children.

There are some 125,000 high school students from poor families who have the ability to become good college students, but who have mediocre school records which would prohibit their entrance into college. In fiscal year 1967, the CAP upward bound program will help 30,000 of them qualify for college.

There are over 1 million high school youth in need of NYC inschool program employment and counseling assistance to stay in school.

Also, there are a large potential number of poor youth, perhaps 500,000, who have the basic educational and aptitude requisites for college, but need the loan and employment assistance provided by the National Defense Education and the Higher Education Acts to pursue that goal.

In addition to these children and youth, there are some 11 million poor adults between the ages of 18 and 64 who have less than an eighth grade education. They generally lack the simple reading and writing skills necessary to get and hold a meaningful job or to participate in the mainstream of community activities. The adult basic education program (OEO) and remedial education programs under the work experience and other programs help over a quarter of a million poor adults learn these skills.

B. Health

Family income is related to illness in at least three major ways. First, among those who are hospitalized, particularly those 45 or older, low-income people are more likely to have longer hospital stays than