

"WE ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE"

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Superintendent of Schools

"It is recognized that the child who has the misfortune to grow up in a disadvantaged neighborhood of a great city has little chance of taking his normal place in the mainstream of American life."

This statement, which I made before the Senate Subcommittee on Education in April 1966, epitomizes the challenge faced by the schools in the great cities of the United States today. The way must be found to give every child, irrespective of race or socio-economic background, his full opportunity to learn and prepare himself for the challenges of life.

The Buffalo Public Schools sought for years to distribute its resources to provide for the needs of all children with special concern for the additional needs of the inner-city child. Available resources, however, were not adequate to the task. Passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provided a new source of financial support. This support was quickly translated into new services and new opportunities for children.

During 1965-66 sixteen programs were developed and made operational in the schools. They provided remedial instruction, enrichment experiences, and encouragement for thousands of children. These programs are described in this booklet. They represent one way in which Buffalo is meeting the challenge and is helping each child to prepare to take his rightful place in the mainstream of American life.

Many persons contributed to the success of these ESEA programs. I wish to thank the Board of Education for its encouragement and support. I also wish to express thanks to the teachers, principals and staff members who spent many hours in planning and implementing these programs, and to the community representatives, who gave freely of their time and advice.

