



Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provided for Federal grants to establish innovative educational centers. The Buffalo Public Schools applied for a grant to create a Demonstration Center for Teachers of the Mentally Retarded.

Buffalo has an extensive educational program for mentally retarded children. Classes for the educable are offered in many elementary and secondary school buildings. A special school for the children who are classified as trainable is in operation. In recent years extensive curricular work has been carried on to develop programs related to the vocational needs of MR children

and an experimental work-study program has been developed in one high school.

The administrative staff of the department of education for the Mentally Retarded cooperated with representatives of the New York State Education Department, representatives of subur-

DEMONSTRATION CENTER FOR TEACHERS OF MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

ban school systems and local college personnel in developing the proposal for a Demonstration Center.

Seventy children will be selected on the basis of results of psychological and physical examinations to attend this school. Consideration will be given to the racial, social, and economic backgrounds of the children in order to maintain a balanced cross-section of educational needs. The children will be organized into classes taught by skilled demonstration teachers.

Starting in September 1966 all newly appointed teachers of MR classes and other teachers needing assistance will spend up to

a week in the Center observing and teaching under competent direction. A pool of trained substitutes is to provide the teacher time needed to release the teacher trainees.

In addition to classrooms, the Demonstration Center facilities will include a psychological clinic, a speech and hearing laboratory,