

The program, therefore, has given us a chance to respond to the call of our Government for mobilization of our best resources in the war against poverty.

We were invited to come into this, we did not seek it. And we are pleased that we have accepted the invitation. So our community responds that of all the OEO programs, that has received the widest acclaim. This perhaps is due to the appeal of the 4-year-old child, but I would attribute it as well to a deeper reason: that is, that there is mounting evidence, as we learn more and more of the science of child development, that reaching a youngster with a compensatory education program at the age of 4 and following through on it, at least to the fourth grade, at which time we would like to have the child on grade level, as I explained earlier today, fairly well guarantees that the boy or girl will not be a high school dropout. Not being a high school dropout will give this youngster an opportunity, then, to move into employment in our presently affluent society.

So I heartily endorse the child development program, and hope that it will remain under the jurisdiction of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Monsignor DONOHUE. Mr. Cicco.

Mr. Cicco. Congressman Carey, we probably have a very unique situation in Pittsburgh. We are involved in summer Headstart. In fact, all of the Headstart programs conducted in Pittsburgh during the summer are conducted by private schools. Public schools do not conduct any summer Headstart.

Now the Catholic diocese last year served some 1,600 youngsters, and had been asked again this year to serve some 1,300 youngsters in the city of Pittsburgh under the summer Headstart program. We have been very happy to participate, and we feel that we have made a tremendous contribution to the community as evidenced by the evaluations that have been submitted by the community to the Mayor's Committee on Human Resources, through which we subcontract, and published. The evaluations have been excellent. I feel as Monsignor McManus that the followthrough is very important. This is only the beginning, and I also feel as Monsignor McManus that this program should stay under OEO, because in this area, we are able to do with more flexibility what we cannot do under ESEA. We can use our resources, and both physical and personal, to great advantage for the betterment of the community.

Mr. CAREY. Would I be correct, then, in assuming that if the recommendation that the Headstart program, in toto, be assigned to the Office of Education, and that all the programs, summer and year-round, be conducted through the system of public education, this would be an end and a writeoff of your records thus far?

Mr. Cicco. Well, all I can say, Congressman, is that at the present time, the public schools in Pittsburgh do not operate a summer Headstart program, so if it were to be placed under ESEA, under its present restrictions, then we, in fact, could not operate them.

Now, whether they would be taken up by the public schools, I don't know. I can only tell you what is happening at this time.

Monsignor DONOHUE. I think our position would be, Congressman, that if the Headstart program were transferred to the Office of Edu-