

tion which we have under consideration you would be able to fund only 50 additional rural CAP programs? Is the 50 a correct figure?

Mr. SHRIVER. Yes, Congressman, that is a correct figure, but what we would be able to do in addition to 50 new ones is that we would be able to take about 130, I think it is, existing rural community action agencies which have only had a program development grant, take them from that stage to the point where they are actually executing programs.

Do I make myself clear?

Mr. STEIGER. Yes, you do. The reason I asked the question is because the Governor of Wisconsin, Governor Knowles, has written to the members of the Wisconsin delegation. Let me read what he says, and then I wish you would comment on this.

As you will note from the map, we have at least nine community action agencies which have filed application for the program development grants which we cannot officially organize.

Where do those stand in relation to what you have requested for community action in the fiscal year 1968 budget?

Mr. SHRIVER. Well, our estimate is that we would try to open up 50 community action agencies like those, those 50 would cover about 300 counties because they are multicounty. To come right back to Governor Knowles' letter, it would mean that nine of the 50 would have to be in Wisconsin in order for all nine of those to be funded under our present budgetary limitation.

Mr. STEIGER. Now if I may ask, because the gentleman from Minnesota touched on this, if it is correct that 45 or 46 percent of the poor in America are in rural areas, the figures which you gave in testimony last week indicated that you were programming for 36 percent of the community action funds going to rural areas.

Mr. BERRY. That is correct, from 32 to 36.

Mr. SHRIVER. Thirty-two now and it would be 36 next year, so that the imbalance still exists.

Mr. BERRY. That is right.

Mr. STEIGER. This does disturb me quite frankly.

Mr. SHRIVER. It disturbs us all.

Mr. GIBBONS. Will the gentleman yield right there?

Mr. STEIGER. Yes, I yield.

Mr. GIBBONS. It is very hard to make work in the rural area so that we have other programs for the rural poor like the loan programs, and the migrant education programs, and things of that sort. The problem is that the community action concept works better where you have people clustered together and the rural poor are so spread out that it is hard to make these programs work.

If the gentleman has a suggestion as to how we can get more programs to these people. I know we would certainly like to have them. That has been a problem that has plagued us from the very beginning. It is very hard to get the people in the rural areas to meet together. A great deal of the VISTA work has been done in the rural areas and very effective VISTA work has been done in the rural areas trying to overcome this problem of communication and transportation.

Mr. STEIGER. If I may, also, Mr. Chairman, can you give for the record any kind of a breakdown as to how we are going to stand as