

grams, published by the Office of Economic Opportunity on June 1, 1967, lists 459 different "domestic programs to assist the American people in furthering their social and economic progress."

With such a vast array of programs and the complicated and variable procedures and requirements for obtaining assistance under them, it is no wonder that rural communities not only lag behind but also suffer untold frustration in trying to take advantage of these programs. In my own state of Colorado one of the few successful rural community proposals has been the direct result of one individual who was willing to work almost full-time in studying various programs and in seeking guidance in proposal development. This individual has suggested that programs provide staff assistance to rural communities to assist local leadership in understanding required procedures and proposal requirements.

#### PROGRAM OVERLAP

The charts attached as Appendix A are illustrative of another type of problem—program overlap. Figure 1 shows Colorado counties involved in the Southern Colorado Economic Development District. Two of the same counties have been designated as redevelopment counties. Figure 2 outlines the area served by an OEO sponsored development project. Figure 3 shows area Economic Development Regions established by a division of state government. The counties previously shown are included. These regions have now been consolidated into a statewide group for compliance with statewide planning under the Federal Planning Assistance Program. Figure 4 indicates counties in the Four Corners Economic Development Region for assistance under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. And finally we note the same rural counties embraced within a newly designated Federation of Rocky Mountain States under a Department of Commerce grant. It is small wonder that local residents are confused—and these are only selected illustrations, certainly not a complete roster of available programs.

#### NEED FOR COORDINATED DEVELOPMENT OF ALL RESOURCES

As important as federal assistance programs are, they are but a resource and not the total answer to the problems of rural areas. Until local people are with, the limitations of these resources, and how they can best develop them, rural development fostered by government assistance programs will at best be only on a piece-meal basis and at worst will build antagonism between the federal agencies and local governments.

Local people must know the causes as well as the cures for their own unique situation. This requires knowledge and understanding of social and economic forces, knowledge of the close association between educational levels and economic well-being, knowledge of structural imbalances within their area, knowledge of the human, economic, and natural resources of their area, and—most of all—it requires the will and ability to do something about their situation.

Once the leaders of rural areas are motivated and trained to carefully analyze their situation, they are then—and only then—in position to study the various alternatives for development including the use of government assistance programs.

We spoke earlier of the need for educational programs if development efforts are to be successful. As I personally see it, there has been heavy emphasis on action phases of a myriad of new programs, but too little thought and almost no financial support to educational efforts to make the action phases fully effective. Cooperative Extension has attempted to modify its programs to assist. A few examples may illustrate. In reviewing them, please keep in mind the fact that only \$700,000 has been appropriated nationally to support state programs of Community and Resource Development in the last several years.

#### ROLE OF THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Extension resource development work is directed at developing and marshaling the leadership of rural communities in a concerted development effort. Through systematic analysis of needs and opportunities, community leaders are