

There are 18 of those children involved in the program. We are very proud and sorry that we cannot do this more because of the lack of money.

We have a program in the same county, countywide, called the socioeconomic program. It has been in operation for 1 year and we can prove that it has affected approximately 80 percent of the total population of the county.

In another county we have what is called the commodity food distribution program, which the fiscal court turned over to us to operate. We included in this program a home management part of this program. We are feeding in this program in excess of 2,000 people, men, women, and children. We are finding a lot of things coming out of this where we have been able to bring a lot of people who were poor. When the program first started our people could not even get inside the house. Now they are teaching them how to prepare the food properly.

They are teaching them home management. They are seeing that they get to the health departments if there is something physically wrong. They are helping the children to get back in school.

We are trying, through the assistance of public assistance, to get clothing for the children who do not have adequate clothing to go to school. Also we have been able through this to start bringing them in group sessions. Now we are even bringing them in on a countywide program for further training by the home demonstration agency and many others.

I think that one of the best programs—surely all of them are good but they have their weaknesses as well as their good points—one of the best programs we are operating is what we call the home repair for the senior citizens. I would like to point this out that where other agencies have cooperated to make this program a success, and we could mention other things too, other programs where additional agencies are cooperating, but to make this home repair program as successful as it is it has taken the cooperation of the public assistance which operates title V of the Economic Act. This is the work experience and training unemployed fathers. They do the labor, we supply the work supervisors, the know-hows, to teach them while they are doing the work.

This program was in operation three months during which we were able to take nine with a crew of 25 working fathers and develop jobs with legitimate contractors in the area.

So this is not only to assist and repair senior citizens home who cannot afford it, but it also is a training program for the unemployed fathers under title V. With this the senior citizens of those two counties, with their senior citizens clubs and the county organization of senior citizens, they assist in the selection of the personnel who are working in the program such as the work supervisors and also they are the ones that have priority on the homes to be repaired.

I am very sorry to say that in our six counties we do not have enough going for senior citizens because we have far too heavy a population of senior citizens in that area. We are hoping we can get more things going for senior citizens. We surely need it. There are many other programs we have. I will stop with that, Mr. Chairman.