

'NO GREAT SLUMS'

Mrs. Rosalie Tryon, program director for the community action program (CAP) with offices at 82 N. Main St., said the organization now consists of 31 committee members—20 persons representing a general cross section of the county and 11 representing groups to be served by the program.

Mrs. Tryon in presenting her annual report noted that "we do have poor people" in the county, revealing that 806 families have an annual income under \$1,000 and that 3,337 families have an income under \$3,000 per year.

"Since poverty in Fond du Lac is not obviously apparent (we have no great slums or large minority groups)," she stated, "we needed to determine who the poor are and where they live. Roughly one-third of all low income families live in the City of Fond du Lac, another third live in the other cities and villages throughout the county and one-third are living on farms or in distinctly rural areas."

POVERTY OF AGED

She indicated that elderly citizens are located in similar proportion with the greatest prevalence of poverty appearing in the aged groups. Between 11 per cent and 12 per cent of the county's total population was over 65 in 1960 and the number is increasing.

"These elderly people are caught between rising costs and fixed incomes that cannot stretch to meet their needs," she said.

"Women heading households form another critical group of the poor who are destined to continuous poverty unless they 'break out' through vocational upgrading, education and guidance," she continued.

Mrs. Tryon expressed appreciation for the publicity received during the year and said CAP has "established a good working pattern with all phases of community leadership." She said more than 30 planning meetings on senior citizen programs have been held in Fond du Lac, Campbellsport and Rosendale.

"An idea for a 'multi-purpose senior center' evolved and each town will have a fully functioning center in February," she reported.

OPEN 60 HOURS

She said the Fond du Lac senior center on South Macy Street near West First Street "will be the most comprehensive" of the centers and will be open 60 hours each week. The largest portion of work in all centers will be furnished by volunteer senior citizens with a salaried director in Fond du Lac who will also plan major programming for all three.

"I'm proudest of the fact that senior citizen activities are here to stay," she commented. "I think these centers will never go away—they'll continue and continue . . . I think the time will come when there will be a senior citizen center within 12 miles of every senior citizen in the county."

Mrs. Tryon said that within two weeks "we may expect funds for a day care center at the Church of Peace" for children of underprivileged families. Total estimated cost of the program is \$52,044 under a requested federal grant of \$43,276 and a nonfederal share of \$8,768.

"Federal money is not a bag of money to use just because it's there," she stated.

"Federal money is a boost to get you started."

Two amendments to the bylaws were adopted at the meeting. The officers and staff were given an applauding vote of thanks "for achievements during 1966."

'HEAD START' PLAN OKAYED

Members of the Fond du Lac Area Economic Opportunity Committee Inc. during their first annual meeting in the supervisors' room of the Fond du Lac Courthouse Thursday night adopted a \$15,800 "head start" program for children of low income families.

The proposal was recommended during a board of directors meeting last month when Mrs. Margaret Salick, head start specialist from Madison, explained the program.

"Summer head start is for children who are starting kindergarten in the fall, show a need for preschool training and are from low income families," said Mrs. Patricia Kremer, deputy director serving under Mrs. Rosalie Tryon, director. "It is intended to help the child start kindergarten at the same level as the more advantaged child."