

She can't help herself. She has no place to turn. Someone has to help her first.

Mr. SCHERLE. So what do you do in a situation like this?

Mrs. DUNN. We find out first why she has no income, and it so happened that she had moved from another county. Her home had burned, and she had come back to a place that her husband had owned before his death. We took her off that mountain, and we found a place for her to live, and we made up enough money to get her food stamps, and she charged her first month's rent.

We took the children to a doctor, and we picked up pop bottles, and sold them, and paid that bill, and after she was able to get a check, she paid her rent, and she paid for her food stamps herself.

Mr. SCHERLE. Pardon me. A check from where?

Mrs. DUNN. Public assistance. Aid to dependent children.

Mr. SCHERLE. ADC?

Mrs. DUNN. Yes.

Mr. SCHERLE. How many of these different situations are you involved in, say, in your home county? I presume that is an isolated case? Is that true?

Mrs. DUNN. Well—

Mr. SCHERLE. I mean, this is not the normal situation, snakes running around the front yard, and things like that.

Mrs. DUNN. I could quote you several cases like this, but this is not a high percentage. But I gave you this instance to show you that this woman must have some help before she can help herself.

Mr. SCHERLE. In this position, and this responsibility under your jurisdiction, where are the local public health and welfare people, and the Good Will, the Salvation Army? Do these people care? Do these agencies care?

Mrs. DUNN. Oh, yes; they care.

Mr. SCHERLE. Well is there a possibility you might be overlapping or duplicating them?

Mrs. DUNN. No, I would not.

Mr. SCHERLE. How do you separate them?

Mrs. DUNN. I would like to explain how we avoid that. When our program began, we had an inservice training. I had the heads of all departments come in and talk to our people about their rules and regulations. When we find a case like that, we wait, we go immediately and see if anything has been done, so that we don't go and take steps that have already been taken. Then when we bring it to the attention of these public assistance people, they are very cooperative.

They go out very often, the very same day we bring it to them, and this woman lives so far back, I don't know when it would have come to their attention. They don't have the staff to go out and look for these things.

Mr. SCHERLE. Well, how did you find out?

Mrs. DUNN. The school superintendent called me and said the children were coming to school with their shoes tied on their feet with over-all straps, and would I look into it.

Mr. SCHERLE. And they turned to you rather than the welfare, or—

Mrs. DUNN. Well, they know that we visit all over the county from home to home, and they know that we will do it immediately. We don't shelve any requests and we do it right then, if at all possible.