

job orientation, training, and/or retraining, and job placement activities on the most efficient and economical basis to assist these citizens to become employable and thus, self-sustaining members of the state work force.

Meetings have been held periodically with the Community Action Program Directors over the state to offer guidance and to disseminate information.

On-site visits have been made to the Community Action Agencies to give technical assistance and support.

Training for the Community Action Boards has been conducted upon invitation.

The field representative and the rural development specialist of Farmers Home Administration have made visits to various communities in the state to inform them of funds for housing.

Visits have been made to an Indian Reservation and to Migrant Camps to establish better relations and to provide assistance in problem areas.

On-site visits have been made to Head Start Programs throughout the state.

Visits have been made to various communities who are interested in the development of community action programs.

Talks have been made to various civic, religious, and educational groups.

The office has developed film catalogues and other informational aids for Community Action Agencies.

The coordinator, or representative of the office, has attended meetings with the Technical Assistance Coordinators from Region VI, (Kansas, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming). The staff has attended meetings at the Regional Office in Kansas City, Missouri.

II. Health and welfare—Liaison activity

The coordinator serves as the Governor's representative to the State Board of Health and to the State Board of Social Welfare. He is in a position to articulate the basic philosophy of the Office of Economic Opportunity in conjunction with the goals and purposes of the state. The coordinator regularly attends the monthly meetings of the State Board of Health and the State Board of Social Welfare. At these meetings he enters into board discussions so he is in a position to make recommendations and suggestions as to programs in the State of Kansas.

III. Legislative program

The coordinator has been active in the formulation of legislation pertaining to the poor and to the needy. He has had specific responsibility for legislation in the area of health, education, welfare, and civil rights. In this position, he has helped to get Medicaid legislation enacted; he has helped in securing legislation setting up a comprehensive health planning agency; and he has helped in bringing about some basic changes in the welfare law so that the coverage is more liberal for the recipients.

The Technical Assistance Office helped in securing broader coverage in the Kansas Act against discrimination. The office has also done the background work in the development of a code of fair practices of employment in the State of Kansas. The coordinator helped in the securing of increased aid to elementary and secondary education in Kansas which will provide direct benefits to the educational system within the state.

IV. Trouble-shooting

The coordinator acts in the capacity of trouble-shooter for the Governor. As a trouble-shooter, he is in a position to give immediate and first-hand attention to various health and welfare problems that arise throughout the state. In this capacity, he is in a position to humanize state government. He is able to express the concern of the Office of the Governor and of the state in particular problems such as labor disputes, health matters, or disaster relief.

CONCLUSION

It is evident that this office does not operate in a vacuum. It is our feeling that for this office to be effective, it must be involved in as many of the various governmental activities taking place at the state level as possible. In this way, we are hopeful that we can promote ideas which are beneficial to all state agencies and which give special attention to some of the problems related to the poor and to the needy. This office is also concerned that we be in a position to articulate the Office of Economic Opportunity concept of innovation, coordination, and communication throughout the various departments and divisions of state government.