

humble view, the concepts enunciated in this law make it possible to meet and solve the great challenge of this decade. The Economic Opportunity Act is an instrumentality for good, its precepts enhance the dignity of man and in our struggle for fulfillment of its ideals is reflective of the broad strength in American Life. It can survive and it must survive!

The United Community Corporation was organized in September, 1964. At the call of Mayor Addonizio, representative citizens of our community met and established our corporation as the community action agency for the City of Newark. This group included representatives of the poor, the business community, social agencies, the clergy (representing the three major faiths), organized labor and elected officials of the City of Newark.

At the outset, we devoted ourselves to the task of organizing the poverty community in our city to enable them to share in the total development of the attack upon poverty in the city. We accepted with utmost seriousness the touchstone of the statute to assure "maximum feasible participation of the poor."

The problems of our city were considered from the point of view of the city as a whole and it was, and is, our intent to involve the entire community to combat the evils of poverty. Naturally, this includes men and women from all stations and walks of life. The city was divided into various areas and local neighborhood groups were established which we called "area boards".

Our corporation simultaneously proceeded to design and develop a series of proposals to bring meaningful programs into the community to assure maximum utilization of the Economic Opportunity Act for our city's poor. This included the cooperation of and reliance upon existing agencies and institutions and the development of innovative concepts which led to the formation of new corporate structures to meet the previously unmet needs of the poor. Through this medium, we sought to effectuate the Congressional intent expressed in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Through the direction given by our corporation, more than 10,000 people of diverse backgrounds and interests who live or work in Newark have become members of the UCC. We have organized and now have functioning eight area boards which, except for one area, encompass the entire city. Since 1965, programs have been developed and have been operational on a city-wide basis to bring into reality the development of new and expanded educational, employment and social opportunities in our city.

We developed a full-year pre-school program on a city-wide basis. This was the first such program in the history of our country. The purpose of this program is to provide children with an introduction to the educational process and give them an experience in group activities to aid in preparing them for entry into the school system. The most significant feature of this program is the fact that it was designed, organized, and has been and is currently being administered by community people. Most of the staff including teachers, teachers-in-training, and teacher assistants, have come from the community. This program has three primary tasks: (1) community involvement; (2) training opportunities for prospective new teachers who are desperately needed; and (3) direct services to the children. This program supplements and complements the summer Head Start Program operated by the Newark Board of Education. We also have established specialized pre-school programs through the Fuld Neighborhood House, the Hilary School, and the Child Services Association. The total number of enrollees served in our community to date by the pre-school and head start programs is approximately 15,000.

The foregoing operational projects are in the nature of pre-school development which is geared to a "head start". We have also sponsored educational projects designed to assist in the development of youth in the school systems such as Upward Bound, College Work Study, High School Head Start, and Queen of Angels tutorial programs which include remedial education. In attempting to ameliorate some of the social pathology in our community, we have sponsored programs conducted by the Urban League and the Family Service Bureau such as Project Enable which deals with family structure, and FOCUS which is directed specifically to the Hispanic community and is operated by said community. The leaguers, a long established interracial, volunteer agency, working with Negro youth in our community has been funded through UCC for a program which is designed