

(1) to provide remedial and tutorial services; (2) to provide special training in self-improvement such as grooming, speech, etc., and cultural advancement through such things as minority history and other structured activities.

Our corporation has also been concerned with the problems of senior citizens among the poor. The city originally submitted a program proposal which contemplated a budget of \$75,000. Upon study and review by our staff, it was felt that such a limited proposal could not begin to meet the needs of our older citizens. A new proposal (Senior Citizens Commission "Golden Age Plan") was prepared with the assistance and guidance of the United Community Corporation staff which program has been funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity for approximately \$1 million for its nine months of operation. This program is designed to do several things: (1) provide employment opportunities for our older poor; (2) to serve the special needs of the elderly through food distribution centers, health services, social services, planned recreational activities, and under a special grant for Operation Medicare Alert, with the assistance of the staff of the Golden Age Plan (Senior Citizens Commission), over 26,000 elderly citizens have been enrolled in Medicare. The Senior Citizens Commission which is established by law is complemented by 45 representatives from the area boards who play a role in formulating the policy and guiding the administrators of this important project. It should be noted that this program is administered by the City of Newark through the Senior Citizens Commission.

In bringing employment opportunities to the poor, several work training programs have been sponsored by the United Community Corporation: The Blazer Work Training Program is designed by community people, is run by community people, and has served many hundreds of the poor and prepared them for employment in the open labor market. COPE (Career Orientation Preparation for Employment) has served over 1,200 of our youth as a combined Neighborhood Youth Corps and OEO project. The On-the-Job Training project directed and administered by the United Community Corporation has to date consummated 132 training contracts with different employers of varying size throughout the city. In addition, the United Community Corporation is a co-sponsor with the City of Newark in the Concentrated Employment Project. It is anticipated this program will serve approximately 2,000 people through its first year of operation. We have also cooperated on a functional basis with the Business and Industrial Coordinating Council, State Employment Service, Youth Opportunity Center, Urban League, Project Head Start, Job Corps, the City of Newark, and other agencies in providing new employment opportunities for many thousands of youth and adults of our city.

Our city was one of the first in the country to establish a legal services project. This agency, created by our corporation, has brought a sense of reassurance to the impoverished community of Newark that the law as a process is available to help and not to hinder the people of the community. Our Newark Legal Services Project has established community offices in six of the local area boards which are staffed by practicing lawyers working on a full-time basis to serve the previously unmet legal needs of the poor in our community. It should be noted that on the board of trustees of our legal services project we have representatives of the local Bar Association, the Legal Aid Society, other professionals, as well as substantial representation of the poor of the community. In point of fact, one-third of the board of trustees of our legal services project is composed of the poor, one-third is composed of community people who are serving for the entire community and one-third are representatives of the legal profession.

The foregoing are but some of the positive accomplishments of our corporation which have been made possible by our effectuation and implementation of the purposes and objectives of the Economic Opportunity Act.

It is my firm conviction that the productive efforts of the United Community Corporation has helped to organize the poor of our community and to give our entire community a sense of hope for the future. This is not to suggest that our efforts have overcome all of the problems within our community. To the contrary, because of the enormity of the problems, this is but a mere beginning of what must be done. The root causes of discontent and disillusionment that have evolved over decades and have plagued the poor cannot be eradicated in a comparatively short period of time.

The basic problems of unemployment, inadequate housing, inferior educational facilities, discrimination (in all its aspects), the exploitation of the poor, the