

Study Proposal, the City Administration's Neighborhood Youth Corp Proposal, the Welfare Title V Work Experience Proposal and the Bureau of Employment Service Youth Opportunity Center Proposal.

RESTRUCTURING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Third process going on simultaneously was the restructuring of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation. As you are aware, the United Community Corporation is an open membership organization. Anyone living, working or having a major interest in Newark can become a member of the Corporation by simply filling out a membership blank. It is the membership that elects the Board of Trustees.

At the first annual meeting the membership expressed their desire to allow for voting at large for some members of the Board of Trustees, along with the approval or disapproval of a slate of Board Members arrived at through open meetings provided by the Nominating Committee as a vehicle for expansion of Board Membership. As indicated earlier, the Corporation is presently considering recommendations to the membership that will further expand the Board to provide specific representation from all area boards and increased representation from city agencies, commissions and departments. It seems quite clear to me that as the Corporation organizes the poor on a city-wide basis to attack poverty, that the membership of the Board of Trustees must reflect this larger commitment. Therefore the need for systematic representation by the area boards and the city on the Board of Trustees.

It was also recognized that many of the programs would touch on the lives of youth under twenty-one and the Corporation thought that young people of high school age should have the opportunity to be involved in the decision making process concerning programs that affect the city in which they live. In addition, it would provide the basis for participating in the democratic process while exposing the adults to insights on the needs of youth. To meet this objective, the age for membership in the Corporation was lowered from twenty-one to fifteen.

THE DELINEATION OF PRIORITIES

Finally, the Corporation perceived that the *real* challenge was in utilizing the funds available in a creative way. This required an over-all plan, and priorities that related to the amount of monies available and the needs of the City.

The beginning approach utilized by the Corporation recognized the need for as many *Neighborhood Youth Corp Programs* as possible as long as they were not conflicting with one another. The City Administration had taken the initiative, and received the first Neighborhood Youth Corp grant in the country. The Housing Authority has a similar grant training youth in their facilities and Mount Carmel Guild will be training youth under this program in affiliated institutions. The Jewish Vocational Service Program in this area will provide training in social work and recreational agencies. However, plans had to be made to create the additional steps needed to make the under twenty-one youth employable. Where would he go after the training program ended? The present plan is to move to expand the social service programs of various agencies in Newark with pre-professional and sub-professional jobs allocated in the expanded budget. In addition, the Corporation will move for expanded On-Job-Training Programs. Both of these approaches allow for the involvement of Neighborhood Youth Corp individuals after graduation or at any time that the Counsellors shall determine a youth has the aptitude for such areas of employment. Of course, the regular labor market is available but has not been adequate for the needs of Newark especially for minority group youth which constitute a clear majority of the youth unemployed.

The second priority was in the area of preventative programming. The Corporation allocated in the first fiscal year its Title II funds to Education. We have set in motion year round pre-school education, which has since been recommended to all communities by the Federal Government. We are also working closely with the Board of Education to link the anti-poverty act with the Education Act for the benefit of the City.

We have now moved to the third priority level, the Expansion of Social Agency Services. In our first meeting with representatives of all the agencies in Newark, the Corporation outlined aims and goals. Of course, some of the organizations are represented on our Board of Trustees and most of them are affiliated with Welfare Federation which is represented on our Board of Trus-