

advise workers of the services offered by their respective agencies and voice the needs of the community as they see them.

5. *Control of the Center*

Control of the Center rests with the Health and Welfare Board which determines policies and hires Center personnel. The Board is not representative of the poor at the present time and as stated above, projected plans for the future do not allow for the poor to participate in any capacity other than an advisory one. The Center program is too new to have much history, but our respondents indicated that some nepotism and political expedience may exist in the program. For example, some of the Center staff members alluded to the fact that the supervisor of all Centers is an unqualified and poorly educated Negro whose father is president of a powerful labor union in the community.

6. *Budget*

During its first year of operation, the Center was allocated a budget of approximately \$420,000 or \$35,000 per month. The Health and Welfare Board acts as the sponsoring agent for Neighborhood Service Centers in the city and monies were granted to Centers through this Board, instead of the usual procedure of channeling the funds through the CAA. As all anti-poverty activities are sponsored by established organizations and agencies, the CAA budget does not reflect monies allocated for the operation of these various programs. The annual CAA budget of about \$60,000 covers only the expenses for the salaries of the four employees who act as a coordinating body for the activities sponsored by the other agencies. A department of the city government was allocated \$295,934 in federal funds to administer the Head Start program. Small Business Development receives \$52,000 annually for its operations.

7. *Programs*

The role of the Center is threefold: (1) to provide outreach for existing services in the community, and to see that those eligible for existing services avail themselves of them; (2) to provide new services to fill the gap between existing services and the needs of the community; and (3) to encourage those people to be not only recipients of services but to help themselves. The service center is intended to be the instrument of delivery of all poverty programs and services previously existing in the community.

The Center has organized its personnel to make surveys of problems and, from this information, devise new programs and methods to cope with the problems. Programs offered at the Center run the gamut from the proposed day care nursery for working mothers to services for the aged, including recreation, crafts, home-making, referrals for medical and convalescent care, and home visits. There are available through the Center, programs designed to meet the most basic needs of food and housing, and there are programs to meet recreational and cultural needs as well. Medical referrals cover physical and mental illnesses, alcoholic problems, and retarded children. The many professionals on the Center staff offer counseling on family problems, financial problems, and vocational opportunities.

8. *Outreach*

Outreach to the community is provided by a group of thirty neighborhood aides who recruit clients, provide information to residents about Center programs and services, survey the needs of the community and make these needs known to the Center staff. These indigeneous workers provide the liaison between the professionals at the Center and the poor of the community. The liaison they provide is an important one due to the language and color barriers among people of the area. The personal contact work of the neighborhood aides is supplemented by church groups, schools, and the established service agencies.

The population in general is characterized by an attitude of apathy and lack of aspiration. The overwhelming indifference of these people was referred to by respondents in all echelons throughout the program and by agency personnel serving the area. The prevailing attitude was manifested by clients as well. Some of these people indicated that their desire to help themselves had led to alienation by their neighbors. This was indeed the case with one of our client respondents who told us that the Center had aided her in finding a job and a nursery school for her two children. Her job paid \$30.00 per week and nursery care for her children was free; her neighbors regarded her as a "rich" opportunist.