# 2. Relationships With Other Organizations

The more established agencies were generally unenthusiastic about the new poverty programs at first, but cordiality grew with understanding of the purposes of the CAA and with knowledge of the group it was trying to reach. More and more community agencies are using the Centers as meeting places, and referrals have increased between the Centers and the agencies. Mothers who might profit from Center training are located by other agencies in the county and are referred to the Centers. The Centers reciprocate by making referrals to the agencies when a client has demonstrated a need for such service. The excellent relationship between the Centers and the Health Department is particularly notable. The Centers have served to demonstrate to the agencies the quality of results that are possible in working with poverty groups.

### 3. Organizational Arrangements

#### CAA Board of Directors

Membership in the CAA is open to any individual over eighteen years of age who is interested in the programs. At the present time, the membership numbers over 800. A Board of Directors of 26 persons is elected annually from this total membership. As presently constituted, six members of the Board are from the low income groups and four are from the Negro minority. It is the function of the Board of Directors to vote on policy and program suggestions originating in the corporation, from the CAA Director, or from staff members and clients.

### CAA Administration

The CAA staff is supervised by an Executive Director who is in charge of all poverty programs in the county. Directors for component program—Homemaking Centers. Head Start, and Day care Centers—work under his supervision. With the exception of the clerical employees and three aides, the CAA is staffed by professional personnel.

### Center Advisory Councils

One person from each Homemaking class has been chosen by her classmates to serve on the newly-formed Center Advisory Councils. In addition, two persons from the small groups being served by Field Homemakers are chosen by fellow clients to serve on each of these four Councils. Center Directors approve three persons representing the immediate community who are not members of the target group to serve on each of the Center Advisory Councils. Each Council elects its chairman and two members of the poor to represent them on an Advisory Committee.

### Professional Advisory Council

The Professional Council is composed of professional persons in the field of home economics who work in the area. These people are home economists employed by utilities, the university, and the public high schools. Two representatives are chosen by this group to serve as members of the Advisory Committee. The responsibilities of the Professional Council are to advise the CAA Board of Directors on training and on content of existing and future programs.

## The Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is composed of the two persons elected from each Homemaking Center Advisory Council, two persons from the Professional Advisory Council, and three members named to it from the CAA Board of Directors. The primary responsibilities of the group are to make recommendations regarding project policies and project extension. The Council functions in an advisory capacity to the CAA Board of Directors which takes final action upon the Council's recommendations.

### Administration of the Centers

Four Homemaking Centers have been established throughout the County and these are under the immediate supervision of the CAA Director of Homemaking. CAA policy is to employ as many non-professional residents as possible throughout this program. Each Homemaking Center Director supervises a staff of about eleven employees, most of whom are residents of the target area who were trained and hired as Homemaking Instructors. Each Center employs a bus driver-custodian to provide transportation for homemaking "students" to and from their homes. At the present time, 40 residents are employed on the staffs of the Homemaking Centers.