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Housing for All:

A Middlesex County Dilemma

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HOUSING FOR ALL:
A MIDDLESEX COUNTY DILEMMA

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New Brunswick, New Jersey

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PREFACE

The Middlesex County Community Network of Social Service Agencies is a group of social service administrators in the County. This group, which meets to provide coordinated service delivery to their clients, was consistently being confronted with the issue of insufficient housing.

At the Network's October 1982 meeting, a sub-group, the Housing Education Committee was formed. The Housing Coalition of Middlesex County was appointed to coordinate the group's efforts to document the problem and to provide recommendations to ease the effects of a generally tight housing market on low income clients.

During the course of the Committee's work the extent of the housing problem faced by low income families became staggeringly clear.

- * There are 2,488 homeless individuals, most of these members of families.
- * Over one million dollars are spent on providing only 1,404 or 56% of these people with temporary shelter.
- * There are only 154 barrier free units accessible to physically handicapped persons.
- * There have been only 206 subsidized rental units constructed for families since 1974.
- * The Fair Market Rate ceiling for Section 8 Rental Assistance was too low for all 75 of privately owned apartment complexes surveyed.

Many of the estimates are conservative. Due to limitation of time and other resources the Committee did not survey every social service agency whose clients have housing problems. In addition, some agencies do not keep records of clients' housing related problems.

In light of the findings, the Committee urges that every resource at every level of government be brought to bear on the creation of more housing for low income and disabled residents of Middlesex County.

The following representatives comprised the Housing Education Committee:

Elizabeth McGovern, Resource Development Supervisor
Division of Youth and Family Services, Middlesex County
(New Brunswick & South County District Offices)

Judith Champion, Supervising Principal Planner
M.C. Department of Human Services

Barbara Parenti, Social Worker
M.C. Board of Social Services

Jeanne Stephens, Emergency Services Coordinator
Catholic Charities

Judith D. Levay, Director of Planning and Program Development
United Way of Central Jersey

Eunice O. Hirya, Director of Programs
Urban League of Greater New Brunswick

Dave Blevins, Human Services Coordinator
New Brunswick Tomorrow

Frayda Topolowsky
formerly of M.C. Mental Health Administration

Patricia Harris, Executive Director
Housing Coalition of Middlesex County

Fran Stromsland, Community Education and Housing Coordinator
Association for Retarded Citizens, Raritan Valley Unit

Jewel N. Daney, Coordinator for the Housing Education Committee
Housing Coalition of Middlesex County

THE GENERAL NEED FOR HOUSING

Introduction

According to the 1980 Census, the County's total population is 595,893 persons. Middlesex County is the third most heavily populated county in New Jersey. Population distribution, according to the County Planning Board, indicates two-thirds of the population is concentrated in eight of the County's twenty-five municipalities (Woodbridge, Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, New Brunswick, Perth Amboy, East Brunswick, and Sayreville).

The total number of households in the County is 195,181, increasing by 17 percent over the past ten years. The population in need of housing is changing as a result of more elderly individuals living alone, an increased divorce rate, a greater prevalence of single parent households, and the State's deinstitutionalization policy.

The median income in Middlesex County increased 90 percent from \$11,981 in 1970 to \$22,826 in 1980. In 1980, there were 77,596 households with incomes at 80 percent of the median income or below, that is at \$18,260 per year or less. In Middlesex County, 234,136 persons or 39 percent of the total population are in this category. Within just a three year period, between 1978 and 1980, the number of households at or below 80 percent of the median income rose 5.4 percent. According to the 1980 Economic Census data, there are 19,275 households in Middlesex County with incomes less than 125 percent of the Federal poverty level of \$11,626. This accounts for approximately 25 percent of the population.

Supply

The problem of locating suitable affordable living arrangements for low and middle income individuals and families remains governed primarily by the shortage of existing housing stock. Over the past two decades, the average number of new dwelling units produced per year in Middlesex

County has declined by forty-two percent. Within the existing housing stock, there has been a twenty percent increase in the number of unsound housing units with a 1980 estimate of 10,800 substandard units. Between 1970 and 1980, 1,412 unsound units were rehabilitated and occupied by low income families. The limited new housing development that has taken place has been in the production of single family units for upper income and upper middle income residents. High interest rates have greatly decreased the profit margins associated with housing production of any type; therefore, few capital investments are being made in this area.

Presently, the vacancy rate for rental units in Middlesex County is less than one percent. Movement out of the existing rental market has been slowed because middle income individuals can no longer afford the prohibitive cost of purchasing a home. This has the effect of severely restricting the filtering down of affordable housing units to moderate and low income families.

The number of new multi-family dwelling units in 1980, is 42 percent less than the number in 1960. During the same period of time, a similar decrease in new single family units also occurred.

According to County Planning Board data, 65 percent of all existing housing units in the County are single family units, whereas 35 percent are categorized as multi-family units. This pattern seems present among the new dwelling permits authorized by the County in 1980. Of a total of 1,918 permits authorized, 1,199 were for single family units. Only 104 of the total authorized permits were for families with household sizes between two and four, and 615 permits were authorized for families of five or more.

The development of housing units has followed a pattern manifested by single family units and by construction in the most economically stable sub-areas of the County where per capita income is higher and unemployment rates are lower. The need for housing for moderate and low income families remains high as housing is not being developed for them. Low income households are relegated to rental housing.

The situation is exacerbated by the County's changing demographic trends. The last decade has shown a decrease in the mean household size from 3.40 to 2.93, increasing the number of households by seventeen percent. Since 1970, the number of households has grown from 168,076 to 195,181.

According to HUD guidelines, 77,596 households in Middlesex County are eligible for subsidized rental housing. The Housing Assistance Plan prepared by the County's Housing and Community Development Department anticipated that 2,408 low income rental units would be built by 1982. By 1980, however, only 747 households were provided with the necessary subsidized rental housing.

The HUD Section 8 Existing was introduced in 1978 to assist low and moderate income families secure adequate rental housing. From 1978 to 1981, only 907 Section 8 certificates were issued in the county. Currently, HUD is planning changes that will further decrease the program's effectiveness.

Need

The growing number of households in need of housing coupled with the proportionate decline in the number of housing units being constructed creates a housing crisis. Many of these individuals and families, unable to afford adequate shelter often are forced to reside in dilapidated, unsafe housing conditions. In 1980, the County Board estimated that sixty percent of Middlesex County's residents could not afford to rent a new apartment.

Costs

The median household income in the County is \$22,826. The median cost of a new single, detached family unit is \$116,000 requiring an income of \$61,021 to maintain. The median cost of a new single attached family unit is \$81,000 which requires a \$43,789 income. The 77,596 households earning 80% or less than the median income are unable to consider the purchase of a home. The emphasis for this population is, therefore, rental housing.

PERMANENT HOUSING

Introduction

Permanent housing is defined as any suitable, affordable, lasting living arrangement which meets the specific needs of the individual or family. In most situations where a family or individual needs some form of temporary shelter or housing, the long range need is for a permanent living arrangement. Therefore, the data showing the need for emergency placement for the homeless, also indicates the need for some form of permanent housing as well.

The populations most affected by the shortage of adequate affordable housing are low income families and individuals, and persons with special needs, such as the physically, mentally, and psychiatrically disabled.

Supply

As seen in the table below, vacancy rates of public housing units are extremely low, with most towns having few or no vacancies and very long waiting lists. For example, Old Bridge has not accepted any new applications since November 1981, because of their long waiting list; New Brunswick also accepts no new applications.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Total Units</u>	<u>Family Units</u>	<u>Sr. Citizens</u>	<u>Vacancy</u>
Carteret	252	112	140	Average 10 per yr
Edison	160	112	48	None; 4-5 yr. wait
Highland Park	124	24	100	None; 3 yr. wait
New Brunswick	565	506	59	5 presently; long waiting list
Old Bridge	74	60	14	None
Perth Amboy	754	606	148	None; 2 yr. wait. sr.; 1½ yr., fam
Woodbridge	495	150	345	None; few yrs. wait
Total	2,424	1,570	854	

Telephone survey conducted in January, 1983.

The table below shows that the vacancy rate for privately owned apartment complexes where rents include utilities is 0.0026% (46 vacancies out of 17,584 units). For those apartments where rents exclude utilities the vacancy rate is 0.0048% (16 vacancies out of 3,292 units).

Sample of Rents/ Privately owned Complexes (Survey, January, 1983)

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Complex</u>	<u>1BR</u>	<u>2BR</u>	<u>Vacancy</u>
East Brunswick	Colonial Village	\$417	\$500	1
East Brunswick	Royal Apts.	485	599	1
Edison	Hilltop Estates	370	470	1
Edison	Evergreen Mdws.	485	585	0
Edison	River Heights	395	485	0
Highland Park	Cedar Arms	465	565	0
Highland Park	Magnolia Gdns.	435	535	0
Highland Park	Orchard Gdns.	326	391	0 6-8 mo. wai
Metuchen	Metuchen Plaza	435	535	0
New Brunswick	Park Lane	460	575	1
New Brunswick	Joyce Kilmer Apt.	420	490	1
New Brunswick	Univ. Towers	352	415	0 2 yr. wait
No. Brunswick	No. Village Apt.	500	600	2
No. Brunswick	Oak Leaf Village	399	499	1
No. Brunswick	Colony Oaks	525	640	1
Old Bridge	Pine Tree Apt.	375	425	2
Old Bridge	Madison Gdn.	380	450	0
Perth Amboy	Convery Gdns.	340	390	0
Piscataway	Carlton Club	395	460	0
Piscataway	Ridgedale Gdns.	470	550	0
Sayreville	Skytop	370	470	1
Sayreville	Winding Wood	410	485	2
Plainsboro	Deer Creek	430	425	2
Plainsboro	Pheasant Hollow	365	460	2
South River	Village Green	365	---	0
Spotswood	Brookview Terr.	370	435	0
Woodbridge	Queens Gdn.	475	575	0
Woodbridge	Clover Leaf	395	480	0
Woodbridge	Kensington Gdn.	420	520	0

Survey of 75 Privately Owned Complexes

	<u>Units</u>	<u>Vacancies</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Rent includes utilities(except elec.)	17,584	46	.0026%
Rent excludes utilities	3,292	16	.0048%
Totals	20,876	62	.0030%

Need

Long waiting lists and extremely low turnover rates make public housing virtually inaccessible to low income families and individuals. Many municipalities elect to construct senior citizen housing instead of family units, therefore making it harder for families to find subsidized housing. Since 1975 only 206 subsidized rental units have been built for families, as compared to over 1,300 units for senior citizens.

During a telephone survey in January 1983, three municipal housing authorities (New Brunswick, Carteret, Perth Amboy) indicated that they were not accepting families on public assistance. Because they are trying to achieve an income mix, higher income tenants usually get preference. For example, New Brunswick indicated that new tenants accepted must have at least a yearly income of \$9,360.

Costs

The following figures show that rent prices^{*} have skyrocketed to a level far above the Fair Market Rates established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

	<u>0 BR</u>	<u>1 BR</u>	<u>2 BR</u>	<u>3 BR</u>
Fair Market Rates	\$261	\$320	\$378	\$437
Average rent (including utilities)	n/a	398	506	n/a
Average rent (excluding utilities)	n/a	415	530	n/a

* from January, 1983 survey of 75 privately owned apartment complexes

AFDC Grants

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Amount	\$137	\$273	\$360	\$414	\$468	\$522	\$576	\$630	\$684	\$738

THE HOMELESS

Introduction

For the purpose of this assessment, the homeless are defined as families or individuals who have no permanent place to live or are presenting housing problems so critical that they are facing homelessness. The numbers include persons who are deinstitutionalized (from psychiatric, medical and substance abuse facilities, prisons, halfway houses), the longterm unemployed, and evicted tenants. Our sampling of agencies and organizations who have contacts with homeless persons has produced what we believe to be a conservative estimate of the number of homeless persons

Supply

An 8-12 bed evangelical rescue mission has been opened in New Brunswick. This facility will remain for ninety days; unless a use variance is obtained and costly repairs are made, the shelter will close in early spring. Homeless individuals have been referred to shelters in Trenton, Newark, and Jersey City, which are often already filled to capacity. These cities have their own problems with homeless persons and are understandably reluctant to accept Middlesex County referrals.

Assistance for the homeless has come in the form of motel placement by a variety of public and private agencies, and clergy-affiliated groups. In certain case situations where alternative solutions to

housing problems cannot be made (motels, shelters, emergency funds to prevent evictions), DYFS has been forced to separate children from their parents with foster care placements. Although this is an expensive and detrimental solution, sometimes it is the only answer.

Need

Our survey indicates that 2,488 individuals (this includes entire families) were homeless during 1982. Of this number, 1,404 (56%) were placed in motels or foster care. The remaining number, 1,084, were not assisted due to lack of funds, policies which prohibit assistance, lack of a temporary shelter, and a shortage of affordable permanent housing.

Due to policies of privacy and anonymity, and undocumented assistance (cash assistance, or statistics that combine categories of food, fuel, rent, and housing), many of the churches contacted did not submit statistics. Still, a substantial number of church leaders expressed the need for temporary and permanent housing for low income persons.

Costs

In 1982, 1,404 homeless persons were assisted at a total cost of \$1,086,718 (\$774 per person). The two agencies with the greatest costs were those dealing exclusively with families or children:

Division of Youth and Family Services: \$3,434/person
M.C. Board of Social Services: \$345/person

As with all providers of relief for the homeless, placement varied from one night to several months. In the case of DYFS, costs are incredibly high because foster care placement is an expensive solution to a housing problem. DYFS emergency fund allocation is limited, but over \$7,000 was spent last year to keep families together in their present housing.

If a homeless individual is assisted by motel placement for one week at a cost of \$35 per night, the final bill is \$245. A shelter can house the individual for approximately one-third that amount. *

* from The Guild, Social Service Center, 1982, "Estimated cost per person perday/week." \$11.00 per day.

In our analysis of financial data, we have not included the cost of human resources -- that is, what we pay our human service professionals to attempt to solve the problems of the homeless. We have also not included the value of volunteer hours.

The final cost, and the most important, is the most difficult to measure. The suffering of families who are separated, staying with relatives in overcrowded conditions, or living in cars or the streets.

HOUSING FOR THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Introduction

According to Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a handicapped individual is defined a "any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment."

The estimated number of physically handicapped people (including physically handicapped elderly) is 10,463.* This figure includes only people using crutches, walkers, wheelchairs and canes because their physical limitations affect the physical plant of their housing.

Supply

In Middlesex County there are only 154 housing units accessible to

* Actual population of the handicapped are not available for Middlesex County. The Department of Social Services Plan for FY '83 and '84 relies on estimates which are based on prevalence rates from State and Federal agencies.

physically handicapped persons. The units are all located within senior citizen housing complexes as a result of a federal requirement of the HUD 202 program which provided that 10% of units built with 202 funding be accessible to the handicapped. Federal regulations for HUD 202 funding have now dropped this 10% requirement providing no incentive for barrier free units to be included in future building.

Need

Given the 10,463 handicapped persons and the lack of federal assistance for housing in general and housing for the handicapped in particular there is little probability that persons with physical limitations will be adequately housed in Middlesex County. Even given 100% vacancy in these 154 existing units, only 154 of the potentially 10,463 would be housed.

HOUSING FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

Introduction

According to 1980 Census figures, there are approximately 18,000¹ individuals with mental retardation in Middlesex County. Through full utilization of early intervention programs and skills training, 85% of persons with mental retardation can be part of the mainstream of community life.

Chapter 159 P.L. 1978 (Senate Bill #210) states "community residences for the developmentally disabled shall be a permitted use in all residential districts of a municipality, and the requirements therefore shall be the same as for single family dwelling units located within

¹ Derived by applying the 3% prevalence rate of mental retardation (as recently reaffirmed by the Association for Retarded Citizens of the United States) to the total population, which is 595,893.

within such districts." However, the process for placement in some type of alternative living program is slow due to local resident resistance and apprehension on the part of municipal government officials.

Supply *

<u>HOUSING SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION (1981-82)</u>		
<u>Type</u>	<u>Number served</u>	<u>Average Cost/person/year</u>
Family Care Homes	13	\$5,162
Boarding Homes	17	\$5,162
Skill Development Homes	13	\$9,468
Group Homes and Supervised Apartments	51	\$15,000
Unsupervised Apartments	4	- 1
Own/Parents/Guardian Home	17,209	- 2
Private Residential School Placement	63	\$15,695 ³
Institutional Placement	630	\$24,820 ⁴
Total	18,000	

** The figures given are approximations of county placements; actual county figures were unavailable.

^{1,2} Costs vary. May include client, family support, Sec. 8 rental assistance, other support services.

³ 885 clients pay an additional \$3,600 from SSI benefits for a total of \$19,295/person. Home school districts pay \$7,000 for 166 clients under age 21 for a total of \$22,695/person.

⁴ Projected cost for FY 1983 is \$29,340.

HOUSING FOR THE PSYCHIATRICALY DISABLED

Introduction

The Middlesex County Mental Health Plan (1981-1983) indicates that residential care is the most critical unmet need in the County, especially with respect to serving psychiatrically disabled adults. Not only does this include the actual physical need for a continuum of adequate and affordable living arrangements, but the need for supervision and/or appropriate support services as well.

SERV Centers of New Jersey, Inc. a private non-profit corporation, is under contract with the Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Hospitals, to provide residential services for the psychiatrically disabled in Middlesex County. The primary focus of the SERV program is to develop, operate and/or expand housing services for the designated target population being discharged from Marlboro Psychiatric Hospital.

Supply

SERV Centers of New Jersey, Middlesex County Unit, administers 92 residential slots county-wide. These slots are broken down into supervised and semi-independent apartments and are allocated accordingly within the different catchment areas in the county.

Need

During the month of December 1982, there were approximately 85 Middlesex County clients in Marlboro Psychiatric Hospital. Discharge planning for these individuals begins almost upon admission and the housing needs of the client is an integral part of the discharge plan.

Many of these clients return to their former residence upon discharge. The chronic, more severely disturbed client, who no longer has the option of "returning home", is dependent upon having his/her housing needs provided for community resources and other support networks.

Once a client is ready for discharge and has met the established criteria for admission into a SERV apartment, placement is then contingent on the availability of the type of apartment required in a particular service area.

When a SERV apartment is not available to coincide with the recommended date of discharge, a client may have to remain in the hospital unnecessarily until housing becomes available.

At Marlboro Psychiatric Hospital, there are 20 persons each month, who, if alternative housing were available (i.e. group homes, home care), could potentially be discharged to the community.

Cost

The cost of maintaining a client in a state psychiatric facility is approximately \$37,000 per year. These costs, exclusive of any third party reimbursement, represents a considerable burden to the taxpayer. Furthermore, for each individual designated a county charge (indigent), Middlesex County must reimburse the Division of Mental Health and Hospitals, one-half the per diem rate, or \$50.53 per day per client. For the month of September, the County was billed \$187,891 for 124 individuals. The cost of maintaining that same individual is approximately \$11,000 annually for a group home and \$9,000 for home care.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

The recommendations which follow are often broad in scope. They reflect the bias of the Committee's membership, agencies and organizations that struggle daily to assist those families most limited in terms of physical or financial resources. The recommendations often call for changes in federal and state legislation and appropriations as well as changes in local zoning and ordinances.

Emergency shelters should be established in Middlesex County. Presently, families from Middlesex County have to be sent to Newark, Trenton and Jersey City. Not only is transportation difficult but these shelters are often filled to capacity. Only two of the existing shelters in the state accept women with children.

Increase AFDC grants to more realistically meet the demands of today's cost of living.

Allow the Division of Youth and Family Services more flexibility in the use of monies for housing crises, particularly to avoid foster placement.

When a child is already in foster placement and ready to return home, families who are on AFDC find it difficult to secure an apartment because of lack of money. They receive no money from AFDC for the time that the child is not in the home. We recommend a policy change to the effect that a family will receive either one full monthly grant or the necessary funds to establish an adequate living situation in preparation for their child's return to them from foster care.

Demand that the Section 8 program be expanded and that eligibility be extended. FMR ceilings need to be linked to a realistic assessment of average rents in the county and be adjusted regularly. Any current plans for changes in the percentage (from 25% to 30%) of income that a person

must pay toward rent would pose a further hardship on the county's low income families, especially large families.

Suitable longterm residential care (group homes and home care) should be expanded in order to more effectively and efficiently provide for psychiatrically disabled residents.

Funds for 1983 have not been designated under HUD Section 8, 202 for the housing needs of the elderly and disabled. The authorization portion of this legislation for homes and other community placements has passed, but Congress has not yet appropriated funds to establish these residences.

Barrier-free housing need not only exist in senior citizen complexes or in group homes. To broaden the housing choice for the physically handicapped three recommendations are made here:

- Municipalities should provide density bonuses to developers who include a percentage of barrier free units.
- Municipalities which offer loan and grants programs to homeowners should broaden their programs to include renovation for accessibility in multi-family residences as well as single family home renovation. Single family home renovation including interior circulation, site work, kitchen and bathroom alteration can be done for approximately \$4,950.00 based on HUD Estimated Cost of Accessible Buildings. (Estimate was increased by 70% to reflect 1982-83 construction costs.)
- The federal regulation requiring that 10% of the units in HUD funded 202 projects be for handicapped people be reinstated and the percentage increased.
- Advocacy and housing counseling services should be available to assist handicapped persons in searching for housing and detecting discrimination.

A research survey should be conducted to determine the various types of community residential programs, the overall number of persons served, the costs per program, the existing and potential funding sources for the purpose providing creative alternatives to institutional care.

Insure that public housing is a viable resource for the low income families by educating the Public Housing Authorities on the change in regulations away from an "income mix" to a low income population. If educating does not work, legal measures should be broken to ensure their compliance.

Encourage "adaptive reuse", or transforming old schools, factories and loft spaces into affordable housing for low and moderate income individuals and families. For private investors to consider this a serious alternative, they may need an extra incentive from government. Part of that incentive can come in the form of public subsidy, i.e., some allocation of CDBG funds, or a specially structured Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG).

Middlesex County Public Housing Agency should sponsor, construct and manage a subsidized family complex.

The state of New Jersey has been committed, since 1977, to establishing community residences for the mentally retarded. However, the priority for these placements have been assigned to those persons in State School (75% of all placements), with less emphasis on persons residing in the community with family (25% of all placements). We recommend a more equitable base for service delivery to all persons.

Tax relief should also be permitted for Home Sharing, and the construction of housing for low income families and the handicapped.

Special incentives should go to the developer via density bonus provisions and/or using I.R.S. regulations that offer tax reductions and tax shelters for corporations involved in subsidized housing.

Municipalities should solicit the interest of limited dividend or non-profit sponsors to serve as developers.

Buy land that has zoning in place and "bank the land until a sponsor or a developer is found.

Municipalities could encourage construction through flexibility in applying building codes to rehabilitation; expeditious processing; help in market surveys; and outreach to avert neighborhood opposition.

Private voluntary organizations have been a major factor in promoting equal and fair housing opportunities throughout the Tri-State region. Support of these local voluntary organizations should be made more stable through consistent joint funding efforts among state and county, public and private sources.

HOMELESS IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY (1982)

20

<u>Agency/Organization</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Placed</u>	<u>Cost</u>
St. John the Evangelist Church New Brunswick	30	motels	\$600
FISH (Church Emergency Service)	125	motels	\$1,800
Edison/Metuchen Clergy Assoc.	56	motels	\$1,736
Catholic Charities, Perth Amboy (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	31 (70)	motels 0	\$950 ---
God Squad, New Brunswick	15	motels	\$390
New Brunswick Council of Churches	25	motels	\$300
COPSA (Rutgers Mental Health) (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	(12)	0	---
Urban League (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	(66)	0	---
Salvation Army, New Brunswick	28	motel/gas voucher	\$840
Housing Coalition of Middlesex Cty. (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	(441)	0	---
Division of Youth & Family Services	235	foster care & emergency funds	\$807,000
Middlesex Cty. Bd. of Soc. Services (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	774 (156)	motels 0	\$267,102 ---
Outreach Center (Rutgers Mental Health) (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	(71)	0	---
Red Cross (Disaster Housing Assist.) (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	70 (110) *	motels 0	\$6,000 ---
Municipal Welfare Offices ** (UNABLE TO ASSIST)	15 (158)	motels or other 0	n/a ---
TOTALS	2,488	1,404 (56%)	\$1,086,718
UNABLE TO BE ASSISTED: 1,084 (44%)			

* Total of 180 persons requesting disaster assistance, including emergency housing.

** See attached sheet for breakdown by municipality

<u>Municipal Welfare</u> ¹	<u>Total Clients</u>	<u>Number of Homeless</u>	<u>Number Placed</u>
Carteret	60	20	10
East Brunswick	329	1	1
Highland Park	49	3	0
Metuchen	30	0	--
Middlesex	44	1	0
New Brunswick	400	40	0
Perth Amboy	600	45 ²	n/a
Plainsboro	2	0	--
South Amboy	29	4	1
South Brunswick	n/a	12	0
South Plainfield	45	7	0
Spotswood	n/a	0	--
Woodbridge	404	40	3
TOTALS	1,992	173	15

Note: "n/a"= data not available or not submitted by respondent

¹ Other municipalities not reporting

² Estimate-based on 450 clients reporting housing problems in general

The Committee would like to thank the following agencies for their contribution to this project:

Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County

Morrow Projects

Middlesex County Planning Board

Middlesex County Legal Services

Middlesex County Municipal Welfare Directors Association

Red Cross

COPSA (Rutgers Mental Health)

FISH (Church Emergency Service)

Catholic Charities, Perth Amboy

Community Outreach Center (Rutgers Mental Health)

Middlesex County Board of Social Services

Salvation Army, New Brunswick

New Brunswick Council of Churches

God Squad

Edison/Metuchen Clergy Association

St. John the Evangelist Church