

# NOW

NEWS FROM

THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL  
ON YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

VICE PRESIDENT SPIRO T. AGNEW, CHAIRMAN

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## 36 VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN CLEVELAND PROVIDE JOBS FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

For the second consecutive year, member voluntary agencies of Cleveland's Welfare Federation participated during 1969 in a summer jobs program for nearly 500 disadvantaged youth.

The 36 participating agencies provided work stations and supervision for youth who worked as day and music camp aides, physical therapy assistants, and outreach workers.

One hundred and thirty-eight of the jobs were financed directly from agency budgets, an increase of nearly 100 per cent from 1968.

The program was coordinated by Cleveland's Manpower Planning and Development Commission. Additional information is available from the Welfare Federation, 1001 Huron Road, Cleveland, Ohio, 44115.

## 31 DETROIT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PROVIDED PUBLIC RELATIONS TRAINING

Thirty-one Detroit high school students participated this spring in a four-week training program in public relations. Held at Wayne State University, the project was designed to train youth for summer jobs as communication aides at 17 neighborhood centers.

Students received instruction in news release writing, interviewing, poster and handbill design, and lettering. To supplement classroom sessions, field trips were made to a newspaper, radio and television stations, an advertising firm, and a printing company.

Professional public relations persons worked with each student in an advisory capacity during the training program and made periodic visits to the job sites during the summer.

The project was funded by the Detroit Public Schools In-School Neighborhood Youth Project and United Community Services.

### CITY BRIEFS

-- Alfred Collins, a second-year participant in a photographic workshop sponsored by the Chicago Committee on Urban Opportunity in conjunction with the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, recently received an award for being one of the winners in a national photography contest.

-- A group of inner-city students in Washington, D.C., has organized a "Teen Corps" which will sponsor employment clinics to help youth learn how to obtain and hold a job.

POST OFFICE 'BIG BROTHER'  
PROJECT CUTS JOB DROPOUT RATE

A "big brother" program to help young employees in the summer jobs program of the U.S. Post Office Department cut the job dropout rate from more than 20 per cent in 1968 to less than 10 per cent nationwide this past summer. More than 1,800 full-time employees volunteered to act as counselors to the approximately 7,900 disadvantaged youth hired this summer, a ratio of almost one to five.

In Washington, 53 volunteers worked with 253 youth and kept all but nine on the job from June to September -- a loss of about 3.5 per cent.

Encouraged to solicit potential summer employees from disadvantaged communities, volunteers helped youth through the certification process and arranged for advance vouchers for those youth who needed money for carfare, lunches, and clothes for work. Counselors also organized after-work activities and helped youth deal with personal difficulties as necessary.

The Post Office relaxed work pressures upon counselors so they could spend more time with the four or five youth working alongside them.

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AIDED  
BY DES MOINES 'NEW HORIZON' PROGRAM

A work program designed to encourage 14 and 15-year-old youth to remain in school has been developed in Des Moines by Community Improvement, Inc., in cooperation with the public schools. The "New Horizons" work-study program began as a three-year demonstration project with youth enrolled from the seventh through the ninth grade in two target area junior high schools. The program now operates in three high schools and serves more than 400 youth.

Students enrolled in "New Horizons" attend school in the mornings and hold part-time jobs in the afternoon for up to three hours a day. Northwestern Bell Telephone, Equitable Life Insurance Company, and several city offices provide work sites, supervision, and salaries for the youth.

51 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN  
MINNEAPOLIS URBAN CORPS

During the summer of 1969, 51 student interns representing 23 colleges and universities in nine states, participated in the Minneapolis Urban Corps program.

Students performed a variety of tasks during the summer including writing technical articles for the Water Works Department, researching robbery trends for the Police Department, and surveying all Minneapolis boarding homes in an effort to help revise ordinances governing them.

In addition to their regular duties, students also attended a weekly "Symposium on Urban Affairs" which focused on critical urban problems.

A report on the Minneapolis project, including an evaluation by interns and city personnel, is available from Michael B. Goldstein, Director, Urban Corps National Development Office, 250 Broadway, New York, New York, 10007.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS  
ENCOURAGE VOCATIONAL TRAINING

An educational assistance program to encourage and help students with interests and talents in non-academic fields is entering its second year in Princeton, N.J.

The Career Development Awards Program (CDA) is designed to provide scholarships for talented youth who require financial assistance for further vocational training. It is also concerned with the student who plans to attend college and has the resources to do so, but whose career goals might best be served by technical-vocational training after secondary school.

Launched by an advisory committee from the Princeton area, the program is sponsored by the Educational Testing Service, and is privately financed through local fund-raising.

Students interested in the awards program were required to submit applications and be interviewed by an eight-member selection committee made up of local business people.

During the first year of the project, 15 students received the career awards and their plans ranged from two-year secretarial courses to a six-month computer programming course.

Additional information on the Career Development Awards Program is available from the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, N. J., 08540.

TITLE ONE TASK FORCE LAUNCHED  
BY U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION

A 15-member intradepartmental task force to look into the operations of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act has been named by Dr. James E. Allen, Jr., Commissioner of Education in the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Among the issues the task force will examine are internal management of Title I in the U.S. Office of Education, criteria and guidelines, technical assistance and evaluation, and Title I relationships with other U.S. Office of Education programs and how they can work together to serve disadvantaged children.

Title I, ESEA, is the largest Federal aid-to-education program. It is specifically designed for educationally disadvantaged children. During the last school year, Title I served nearly eight million children in about 16,000 school districts across the Nation.

NOW -- AND THEN

.... "Strengthening the Neighborhood Youth Corps," a report on a study of special services provided NYC enrollees, is available from the United Neighborhood Houses, 114 East 32nd Street, New York, N. Y., 10016 (75¢).

SUMMER HIGHWAY JOBS FOR GHETTO  
YOUTH REACH NEW HIGH IN 1969

A 127.4 per cent increase over 1968 in the number of disadvantaged youth hired to work on the Federal-State highway program has been reported for the 1969 Summer Youth Opportunity Campaign of the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration.

Now in its fourth year, the Federal Highway Administration program is designed to obtain summer employment for youth with both private contractors and State highway departments.

A total of 44,596 youth were reported hired across the Nation last summer, a 45 per cent increase over the 30,573 hired in 1968. Of these, 27,260 were disadvantaged youth.

The District of Columbia ranked first in providing jobs to the disadvantaged, hiring 4,700 youth. Other states in the top five were Illinois, 2,151; Texas, 1,845; Ohio, 1,603; and Kansas, 1,548.

In most instances, the youth were hired as laborers. However, a wide range of jobs was provided. Among the developments in the program were:

\* The New Mexico State Highway Commission assigned youth to materials and testing jobs, photogrammetry, bridge design, and special services.

\* In Wyoming, various unions waived initiation fees as inducement to youth who wanted to work in highway construction.

\* In Tennessee, disadvantaged youth worked on landscaping and maintaining the trees and shrubs planted along the highway. They received training and close supervision in tree-trimming, mulching, planting, fertilizing, and pest control.

\* New Jersey carried on a recruitment campaign in the ghetto areas of Newark and Trenton. For most of the youth recruited, it was the first job they had ever had.

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