

## PROGRAM DIRECTION

This program plan outlines the direction which this year's program will hopefully take. No plan, however great, can succeed without the sincere effort of us all.

### PRIORITIES FOR 1968

#### A. Program Priorities

1. Youth employment 14-21 years of age.
2. Programs that will act positively and affirmatively to deter civil disorder, social conflict, and general delinquency.
3. Remedial Educational Programs in poverty schools, low cost transportation to jobs, recreation, and education.
4. Recreational programs for older youth during evening hours.
5. Make-up programs for children attending half-day classes.
6. Opportunities to work in useful community services, leadership and citizenship activities.
7. Tutorial and study help programs.
8. Programs that will provide individualized guidance and social services to youth so that youth may make better life adjustments.
9. Educational and cultural enrichment programs.
10. Organized athletic activities for inner-city youth.

#### B. Age Priorities

1. Unemployed poor youth 16-21 years of age.
2. Social and academically retarded youth 6-18 years of age.
3. Delinquent and potentially delinquent youth 14-21 years of age.
4. Culturally deprived youth of all ages.
5. Community services and leadership development among youth 14-21 years of age.

6. Children age 6-13.
7. Children and youth exhibiting special individual, personality and health problems.

The 1968 Youth Opportunity Program is coordinated by the Atlanta Children and Youth Services Council. The Council is serving as staff to the Metropolitan Youth Opportunity Council. The council is composed of approximately 85 agencies and organizations.

The Mayor of the City of Atlanta serves as General Chairman of the Youth Opportunity Program. The Board of Directors of the Atlanta Children and Youth Services Council serves as Executive Committee of the Youth Opportunity Program. The representatives of the various participating organizations serve as the membership of the Youth Opportunity Program.

#### Planning Process

Several community-wide exploratory meetings were held early in 1968. These meetings included youth and adult residents of the prospective target areas as well representatives from government, business, civic, religious, and educational organizations.

Every community organization, social agency, Neighborhood Service Center, youth club, and other private non-profit groups were invited to submit programs and alternatives which could be operated with or without federal funding. A narrative summary of these proposals is contained herein.

#### Education

In the educational aspect of the YOP, efforts will be made to (1) provide needed remedial and tutorial programs for poor youth; (2) provide vocational information and educational activities needed by youth to enter into the labor force; (3) allow creative and innovative educational programs not possible during winter months; (4) allow coupling of educational, employment cultural enrichment and recreational programs; and (5) offer programs and courses not generally available to poor youth during regular school year.

The major operating programs will be summer schools operated by the Atlanta, Decatur, Fulton and DeKalb Counties School Systems. A fee is charged for these schools, however, the Atlanta Public School System has indicated that no needy child will be denied admission to summer school because of money. PTA's and other community groups are promoting attendance of summer school for children needing remedial work.

In addition to the regular summer program, several special programs will be provided under Title I and III EASA by the Atlanta and DeKalb County Boards of Education.

Because of the serious academic retardation found in the target areas, six tutorial and/or study-help programs will be planned and implemented. Art education will be developed in several of the target areas. The Arts Council and its Associate members are spearheading the art education aspect of the educational program.

A. Specific Goals

The goals of the educational aspect of the Yop are:

1. To provide summer remedial programs for 2,024 students.
2. To provide tutorial services for 1,362 students.
3. To provide vocational, technical, and occupational information for 2,185 students.
4. To provide enrichment and advance programs for 1,000 students.
5. To provide creative and experimental programs combining employment, enrichment, recreational and occupational information for needy students.
6. To launch an intensive back-to-school effort to get 2,500 students to return to school in the fall.
7. To assist needy high school graduates to obtain scholarship and tuition aid to continue their education, giving special attention to "high risk" graduates.
8. To assist the school and community in meeting the special needs of students with the special personal, social and economic problems.

B. Planned Programs to Obtain Goals

1. Summer School. Summer schools will be conducted by Atlanta, Fulton and DeKalb Schools.
2. Tutorial and Study-Help Program. Several agencies plan to and will offer tutorial and study-help programs. Presently, 6 such programs are planned involving a total of 1362 students. The tutorial and study-help programs are:
  - a. Cabbage Town Recreation
  - b. Central YWCA Program
  - c. Butler Street YMCA
  - d. Sun-Mec EOA Service Center
  - e. H. R. Butler School
  - f. John Hope School

3. Vocational-Technical, Educational and Occupational Information Program. Some plans are being developed along this line with Atlanta Area Technical School. Many groups are planning to offer cultural enrichment and advanced programs.
4. Back-to-School Effort. The Atlanta Area Schools, Youth Council, EOA, and Chest agencies will again launch an effort to get youth to return to school. This effort will take place beginning August.
5. "High Risk", Low-Income. In late May, a committee will be formed to develop a project to explore and deal with the problem of high risk, poor student wanting to go to college.
6. Special Problem Students. The Youth Council, various Boards of Education and other community groups will and are working on projects that will help schools deal with such problems as absenteeism, incorrigibility, over age promotion, dropouts, pregnancies, emotional disturbances, mental health, and teacher-pupil relationships. Presently, the Youth Council is cooperating with Atlanta University, EOA, Family Counseling Center, the County Welfare, The Atlanta Board of Education and several other groups in a pilot absenteeism project. The Atlanta Board of Education is planning several projects with various groups that will have a significant impact on their problems.
7. Education Sub-Committee. The Mayor's Council on Youth Opportunity has organized a sub-committee on education. This committee is chaired by Mrs. Betty Canton.

## Recreation, Social and Cultural Programs

### A. Introduction

There are approximately 500,000 children and youth in Greater Atlanta. Most of these will be seeking ways to spend their summer leisure time. Unfortunately, the lack of recreational and informal educational programs are most acute in the poverty communities. Realizing the great need and shortage of wholesome recreational activities year-round, the various Parks and Recreation Department, The public schools and libraries, the arts group, the EOA Neighborhood Service Centers, the Chest agencies and several youth groups have planned approximately 68 projects. These projects combine recreation, education and employment. Many of these will be youth managed and operated.

### Objectives

1. To provide meaningful recreational leisure time and cultural activities for needy children and youth.
2. To provide such activities at hours and places suitable to the needs, interest, and convenient to the youth to be served.
3. To provide a well rounded, well organized, and very inclusive recreational program.
4. To provide programs that significantly involve youth in planning, operation and evaluation processes.

### Goals

The goal is to provide available recreational and/or leisure time activities in amount of frequency and distance.

It would be interesting to briefly summarize the recreational aspects of the Youth Opportunity Program. A total of 35 proposals will be proposed. The federal budget request on these proposals total \$600,000.

An integral part of the recreational-cultural aspect of the program will be resident and day camping programs. Effort was made to increase the number of day and resident camp slots available to poor children and youth. Presently slots are available for 2,538 youth in resident and day camp activities in this program. Many agencies are making many of their regular summer camp slots available to poor youth. These include the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, YMCA and YWCA, Bethlehem Centers, etc. These organizations will provide day and resident camp for non-members. In addition the City of Atlanta Recreation Department will operate a camping program. The Jewish Community Center will make its day camp facilities available to groups of poor youth throughout the summer.

Many youth will spend weekend camping trips at the State and National Parks.

Equally as important is the fact that these projects will employ approximately 1,000 poor teenagers and young adults.

### B. Operational Organizations

The City of Atlanta Parks, Recreation and School Departments will carry the major responsibility for the recreational program. In addition, the cities of East Point, and Roswell will provide special recreational programs.

The United Appeal Agencies, the EOA Neighborhood Service Centers, and several community based youth and young adult groups will provide special programs.

The members and associate members of the Arts Council will provide meaningful art and cultural programs. In order to supplement these programs, several businessmen and women as well as several club groups will provide special programs of recreation for needed children and youth.

C. Geographic Spread

In addition to planning creative and innovative programs, every effort will be made to spread the projects geographically. Projects are being planned to be distributed as follows throughout the target areas:

Neighborhood Service Centers:

Central City Center

East Central Center

Area Block "E"

Cabbage Town

Youth Development Center

Edgewood Center

Mobile Day Camp

Mentally Retarded

DeKalb "Y"

Nash-Washington Center

North Fulton Center

Pittsburg Center

Price Center

United Appeal:

Central YMCA

Boy Scouts

Metropolitan Boys' Club

Wesley Community Centers

Girl Scouts

South Fulton

East Point Recreation

College Park Recreation

Sum-Mec Center

Young Men's Civic League

Mechanicsville Project

Northwest Perry Homes Center

Young Men's Civic Association

West Central Center

West End Center

Gwinnett County

Rockdale County

Salvation Army (See Central City)

Butler Street "Y"

Atlanta Girls' Club

Grady Homes Girls' Club

Atlanta Urban League