

CITY FINANCED SUMMER JOBS* FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTHS 16-21

Using the round figure \$100,000, the Federal minimum of \$1.60, and 17 (May 1-September 1) 40-hour weeks, a total of 100 (approximate) openings is derived.

Time has not permitted an exhaustive survey of all City departments, divisions, sections, and sites. The openings below indicate that the locating of 100 jobs is not really difficult-screening, placement, counseling and training being much more demanding.

Every effort would be made to make into permanent employees all who become eligible. Hope for success in this should be realistic (10-25%) and provision made for program continuance for those still ineligible at the end of the summer.

Placing a small number of hard core unemployables 16-22 in each City Department or division is not the most efficient way. Due to vacations individual work forces tend to be small in summer stretching experienced help even further to keep up with work demands. Consequently even less than usual time (and inclination) is available for any sort of on-the-job training and necessary counseling. Too, if the work unit adjusts pace and procedure to fit the new employee (s)

* Of the 589 summer people employed last ('67) summer, 416 were City-financed and included such as 31 lifeguards, 59 locker attendants, 27 swimming pool managers and 50 or so recreation leaders. The Parks Department plans approximately the same number of placements this year in similar programs.

another adjustment becomes necessary at the end of the summer.

A more efficient way is to put all or as many as possible temporary (summer) employees in seasonal jobs or to work with auxiliary City operations. Examples of these are "Camp Wilderness" and the Atlanta Beautification Corps, both described below.

By departments:

a. Parks

1. Plans have been submitted for the employment of 300 youths as recreation assistants (youth leaders).
2. Camp Wilderness: A program which would utilize from 25 to 100 youths-male or female- in ground cleaning, building repair, etc. at a site on Lake Allatoona. Employees could be transported back and forth each day or, as facilities become available, every five days. Part of the time could be spent in recreation.
3. Twelve (minimum) zoo aides-male or female- to replace and supplement prisoners. In summer this number could be increased. Duties to include light grounds maintenance, building custodial work, guide service, protection and care for younger children. Successful performance leads to promotion to zoo attendant.

4. Several greenhouse aides and 6-10 custodial workers (male or female) at the golf courses and parks for grounds clean up.

b. Traffic Engineering:

Six males year round to perform light labor at the Sign Shop and on the street. Two males at the Signal Shop to serve as electrician helpers and perform moderate labor duties.

Six males (well screened) to serve as traffic checkers. Two females (well screened) to provide clerical help in the engineering division.

c. Municipal Garage: Four males to learn and perform semi-skilled work.

d. Sanitation: The Atlanta Beautification Corps (ABC) now is divided into three groups with a total of about 50 workers and foremen. Because of its tight but flexible organization its growth potential-allowing adequate time-is infinite. At present it could absorb 18-24 young workers who would have the benefit of association with stable, more mature workers. EOA has promised an early increase in ABC allotment which could also increase the number of City-financed workers to 35 or more. The advent of spring brings the possibility of more diversified activities by ABC-grass, flowers, shrubs-which increases interest as well as responsibility.

- e. Streets: 12-20 expressway shoulder clean-up workers (males or younger females) to be tied in with the present operation in that area.
- f. City Wide: 5-10 counselors to screen, counsel, train and generally oversee the workers hired in this operation and those in the Neighborhood Youth Corps expansion (cf Mrs. Thompson's report).

It is obvious that if the money becomes available more than enough slots can be found to provide meaningful work to hard core unemployables. Only in several instances is any real talent or sophistication required, and all offer ladder or lateral promotional possibility in a year round program.

Edward G. Farrow

E.G.F.
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