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ATLANTA FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROJECT
QUARTERLY REPORT

July, August, September, 1969

TO: Mr. M. Gene Handelsman, Director
Foster Grandparent Project

FROM: Mrs. Georgie O. Miller
Project Director

I. DESCRIPTION

The Atlanta Foster Grandparent is directed locally by Senior Citizen Services of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc., through a contract with Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc., the Grantee, and was started in January, 1966.

Thirty six foster grandparents are employed at three institutions: Carrie Steele-Pitts Home for neglected children (2), Georgia Regional Hospital at Atlanta, Retardation Unit (4), and Grady Memorial Hospital (30).

In February, 1969 one foster grandparent was employed at Grady Memorial Hospital with funds from a private Foundation, and in June funds were recieved from another Foundation to finance four additional grandparents at the Georgia Regional Hospital, making a total of 41.

II. PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS

Statistics:

- 1 resignation, due to ill health
- 1 replacement employed in September
- 15 applications have been received, but have not been processed. Screening and training orientation classes are planned for October.
- 40 days absence due to illness
- 32 clinic visits were made by grandparents
- At Grady Memorial Hospital 31 grandparents were assigned to 20 teenage patients and 315 pediatric patients.
- At Georgia Regional Hospital 8 grandparents were assigned to 16 retarded children.
- Six children were assigned to two grandparent at Carrie Steele-Pitts Home.

The large number of children is due to the rapid turn over at Grady Hospital. Most of this year the census has been low and many times "good" assignments (long term, chronically ill) were not available. If this situation persists, a change in placement of grandparents will be recommended.

One of the two grandparents at Carrie Steele-Pitts has resigned due to extended illness. We are not planning to replace her since we were advised that it is impractical to place less than four in an institution. We plan to transfer the other one in January.

The major problem has been transportation for the eight grandparents at Georgia Regional Hospital. There is one morning bus which goes to the hospital, and no other bus until four-thirty. The Hospital pays taxi fares back to city bus lines, however, these buses are irregular, and there is no place for them to wait out of the weather. The Advisory Committee and the Hospital are trying to assist us, hoping to find a solution before winter.

On the brighter side we have enjoyed a very good summer. Three grandparents went to California to visit their families (who paid their fares) and our oldest grandmama, age 85, flew to New York to visit her granddaughter. Many of the others went on shorter trips, and all of them expressed gratitude for the "paid vacation", but said they were glad to be back on the job.

The grandparents enjoyed "Senior Citizens Day" at the Southeastern Fair in September. The Foster Grandparent Club members made fancy aprons which they sold at the Fair; the money will go to the Club treasury.

The Atlanta Project was highly honored to have the Commissioner on Aging, Mr. John Martin visit us on July 10th. He talked with the grandparents working with their children and commended them for their contribution. He stated that this was the first project he had seen in action and that he was very impressed with what he saw. He promised to work for an extended program in 1970.

The Policy Advisory Committee heard a report from Chaplain Keith, Program Director for the Retardation Cottage at Georgia Regional Hospital. He described the 16 severely or profoundly retarded children assigned to grandparents, and told of the dramatic progress made by many of them since the grandparents started there in April. He said that the hospital is very anxious to get

more grandparents, and that funds have been requested from the Georgia State Director of Mental Health.

Letters requesting foster grandparents have been received from two local institutions, the Southern Christian Home for children (a private home 50 - 60 children 4 - 5 years) and the Atlanta Association for Retarded Children, which sponsors day school programs, training schools, etc. This group has given us much support in the past, and has volunteered a full week orientation and training to all future classes by their staff to supplement our orientation program. This was particularly needed since we are affiliated with the Retardation program at Georgia Regional Hospital. These requests will be considered for 1970 and referred to the Advisory Committee.

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS - JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1969

STATISTICAL REPORT

Foster Grandparents (Program Account Number 14)

A. PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

1. <u>Age Range</u>		<u>42</u>
0 - 5	<u> </u>	
6 - 15	<u> </u>	
16 - 21	<u> </u>	
22 - 44	<u> </u>	
45 - 64	<u> 10</u>	
Over 65	<u> 32</u>	
2. <u>Family Income</u>		<u> </u>
Above Poverty Line	<u> </u>	
Below Poverty Line	<u> </u>	
\$1 - 499	<u> 6</u>	
\$500 - 1,499	<u> 36</u>	
\$1,500 or more	<u> 0</u>	
3. <u>Sex</u>		<u> </u>
Male	<u> 2</u>	
Female	<u> 40</u>	
4. <u>Ethnic Grouping</u>		<u> </u>
Caucasian	<u> 21</u>	
Spanish Speaking	<u> 0</u>	
Negro	<u> 21</u>	
American Indian	<u> 0</u>	
Oriental	<u> 0</u>	
Other	<u> 0</u>	
5. Families Receiving Welfare		<u> 5</u>
6. Heads of Household		<u> </u>
7. Referrals to CAA's Neighborhood Service Centr.		<u> 6</u>

Statistical Report ContinuedB. PARTICIPANTS

Planned Participants (for reporting period)		<u>38</u>
Actual Participants (for reporting period)		<u>42</u>
Enrolled at end period	<u>41</u>	
Drop Outs during period	<u>1</u>	
Participants Completing Project-FGP Employed		<u>41</u>

C. RESULTS FOR PARTICIPANTSNumber obtaining jobs directly from Program

Planned	<u>0</u>
Actual	<u>0</u>

Number obtaining jobs through other placement service

Planned	<u>0</u>
Actual	<u>4</u>

Average Income Gain (from actual placement)	<u>\$32.00 per wk.</u>
Referred to Vocational or Prevocational Training	<u>6</u>
Number Not Placed/Placement Pending	<u>1</u>