

# CAP NEWS

WASHINGTON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION, INC.  
558 S.E. 10th  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123

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Dr. Donald C. Jones, Chairman, Board of Directors  
Hugh C. Rosenberg, Executive Director  
Peter M. Cullen, Program Director, Editor  
John R. Moses, Program Developer

The North Plains Community Center is one of three Centers in the County that are sponsored by Washington County Community Action Organization. Washington County Community Action Organization is a non-profit private organization that is incorporated in the State of Oregon. It has a contract with the Federal Government to put into effect programs that will eliminate poverty in the county. The Community Center Program is part of this effort. Each Center is controlled by an Advisory Council of eleven local citizens, who are elected at an open meeting. It was they who interviewed and hired the staff. The group is listed at the end of this report, which is an attempt to inform you of what has been happening in the Center over the past several months.

Peter M. Cullen, Editor

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE COMES TO NORTH PLAINS: Since the end of last October the Oregon State Employment Service in cooperation with the Community Action Organization has stationed one of it's personnel at the Center in North Plains. Mr. Walt Jaross is at the Center every Monday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.. This is an effort to bring the services of the Employment Office to the areas where the need for it is most. It is also an effort to make job hunting a more personal kind of operation where the people could get to know Walt on a personal basis. Mr. Jaross has counselled people who dropped by to see him as well as signing up some of the high school drop-outs for the Job Corps Program. However the lack of any local job openings has been a problem. The situation should get better with the coming of spring. Then it is hoped that the local employers will use the facility of the Center to line up job seekers with jobs.

NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORP PROGRAM: This program is a job program for kids 16 - 20, who are of low income families and want to work. During the summer the program enrolled 16 in-school kids as well as drop-outs. But since the beginning of school the program has enrolled drop-outs mainly. In the past three months the quota of positions for the County was easily filled, the majority of them coming from the North Plains area. The salary is \$1.25/hr, for a 32 hour week.

The twenty-four enrollees, are working in various public supported agencies where they develop job habits and learn job skills such as the Forest Service, Tigard City Hall, Extension Service, Employment Office, Forest Grove Day Care Center, CAP Centers and Valley Migrant League. Since most enrollees are school drop-outs high school completion classes are required, six hours class room work is a must. These classes are sponsored through Valley Migrant League and Community Action Program. All enrollees in Washington County are attending or have completed their high school requirements.

Interest of the young people is commendable except for a small group who require special supervision and contacts. Also the payment system for N.Y.C. is inadequate and slow. This creates problems for the enrollee. Good workers quit N.Y.C. and seek employment for immediate payment although the jobs may be only temporary. A solution to this is being sought.

CAP and VML have been necessary for the success of the NYC program by providing jobs as well as other services to the enrollee.

Gretchen McIntire  
NYC Field Supervisor

INDIVIDUAL JOBS: The staff at the Center has made a strong effort to supplement the work of Mr. Jaross, by trying to line up some jobs for the unemployed during the days that Walt has not been at the Center. Again the almost total lack of local available jobs has been a problem. However some out of town jobs have been lined up such as maintenance, nursing home, Sawyers, nursery, Tektronix, and Utility Companies.

Several people were referred to advertised State Civil Service openings. Four people have been referred to M.D.T.A.. One is in training on the Clerical program, and three are being processed for Dental Technician and Clerical.

An effort is continually being made to ask employers to waive if possible the experience requirement and give an employee experience by simply being on the job.

TUTORING PROGRAM: In conjunction with the VML, the Community Center has now a tutoring program for high school drop-outs. These kids dropped out of school for many and various reasons, and the Center feels that it cannot go on pretending that they do not exist, so they are trying to do something in a constructive way. Sister Mary Guadalupe of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters, is the tutor. Sister has been teaching remedial reading and counseling drop-outs with C-CAP in the Albina District since last March. Like many of the "new" Nuns, Sister does not wear the traditional habit. A gold cross hanging from her neck is her only spiritual emblem. Most of the students are also on the N.Y.C. program. They come to "school" on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 P.M.. The approach of Sister is very definitely not the structured classroom type. It is flexible and unstructured with the needs of the individual student the prime consideration. The aim of the program is to help the student win a G.E.D. diploma. All involved are looking forward to great things from the students.

HOME ECONOMICS CLASSES: In conjunction with the Head Start Mothers Group a Basic Sewing class has been offered in the Center on Wednesday morning beginning at 9:00 A.M.. The class is conducted by Linda Bothell, Head Start Parent Coordinator. A very beautiful sewing machine was donated by Singer Sewing Co., Hillsboro, to the Center for the program. The gals have been working on cobbler aprons and children's garments. Special interest topics such as working with knits, new ways to apply zippers, pattern alterations, line and design are planned for the future.

A Knitting Class has been in full swing since last summer. Twelve ladies have signed up for the New Year's session. Mrs. Mays of North Plains is the efficient and patient teacher. Class begins every Tuesday at 9:30 AM at the Center.

FAMILY HEALTH SERIES: Beginning last September, the Center had its first of a series of three "film-discussions" on Family Problems. "Phoebe", "Meeting the Needs of Adolescence", "Parent to Child about Sex" were the films reviewed and discussed. Mrs. Helen Running, Home Economist, who works with girls who have become pregnant out of wedlock in the Portland School District, led the discussions. She was ably assisted by Mrs. Emelda Jones, and Mrs. Maxine Sweetman.

WELL BABY CLINICS: Thanks to Dr. James Stewart, County Public Health Officer, the Center has conducted two Well-Baby Clinics - one last August and one in December. Dr. Thomas Roe and Dr. James E. O'Dea, University of Oregon Medical School, conducted the Clinics and were assisted by the Public Health Nurse from the Washington County Health Department. Some 35 pre-schoolers were lined up. According to the doctors the children were, for the most part, very healthy. The nurses gave immunization shots to the children who needed them.

More such clinics are scheduled for the future.

Over the past few months an average of three trips each week have been made to the Oregon Medical School transporting patients, who did not have a car to get there. The center is very grateful to the volunteer drivers who have helped.

Five trips were made to the Eye Clinic at Pacific University, Forest Grove.

The staff are now waiting to receive the application forms for the Dental Clinic that is scheduled to open at St. Mary's Home for Boys, Aloha next month. They will forward the applications to the Clinic's Board of Directors who will screen the applicants and give them their appointments.

**MEDICARE INFORMATION DAY:** Last July Mr. Dale Toll from the Social Security Office in Portland showed a movie and held a question and answer period on the Medicare Program. There was an afternoon and an evening session. The turn-out for both sessions was less than hoped for but those present enjoyed the movie and their many questions were well answered by Mr. Toll.

#### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**YOUTH CLUB:** Eight kids walked into the Community Center the last week of July and asked Jim about the possibility of starting a Youth Club in town. A meeting was called for August 3, and 26 kids showed up. Since then their ranks have swelled to 45. Their first order of business was to appoint their own police force to supervise activities. They invited the Mayor and the City Council to the Center and were honored shortly afterwards by the Council attending their meeting. They got permission from the Council to hold a Monthly Dance in the Community Hall, which has been well attended and enjoyed by all. The kids lined up the chaperones. On August 19, they had a very enjoyable day on the beach at Seaside, Oregon.

Recently they have formed a Gun Club. On the 1st and 3rd Monday of this month they are being taught at the Center how to handle a gun and the safety rules that must be observed. Then next month they will move their meeting to the Hillsboro Gun Club's Range where they will do some firing practice.

Recently a Leathercraft Class was organized by Jim for Saturday mornings. A large donation of leather was received from Frontier Leather Co., Sherwood, O.R. Kids lets see those pocketbooks and fancy handbags come off the assembly line.

Miss Linda Bothell, Head Start Parent Coordinator is planning to teach a Charm Class to one of the Mothers, who in turn will pass in all those useful tidbits to the kids.

Present officers are: President: Ken Norwood, Treasurer, Rocky Luttrell, Secretary: Patty Luttrell, Advisors: Linda Clark, Frank Holgate and Dean Wright. The Youth Club meets every Monday at the Center at 6 P.M.

DRUGS: On October 9th last Detective John Pyle from the Washington County Sheriff's office gave a lecture on Narcotics and other Dangerous Drugs. A lively question and answer period followed.

"THE WASTE AWAYS": That is the Title the gals chose for their unit of a T.O.P.S. Club that was organized at the Center in October. They meet at the Center on Thursday from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM. The gals are still working away at Taking Off the Pounds Sensibly. Yes Sir, Keep 'em coming!

HOUSING NEED: Many of the twenty-three Daily Visitors to the Center on a average day, come looking for a house in the North Plains area. Because of the desperate shortage of low rent housing, or any housing for that matter, this is perhaps the most frustrating of all requests. The staff have searched high up and low down and the houses are just not there, and too many more of them that are inhabited need alot of work. Somehow, someday, this housing problem must be solved.

#### NOT INCLUDED

Due to the fact that much of the work of the staff is of a confidential nature - such as the identification and solution of very personal problems, this report must of necessity be incomplete. We are happy to report that the people of the North Plains area have come to trust the staff with their confidences and are sure they will not be betrayed. Consequently, more and more the staff must give their time to individual problems - some of which they have helped solve, and others they have been unable to solve. It is just not possible to reduce this kind of real social work to a statistic in any report.

#### NORTH PLAINS AREA DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Chairman: Herschell Plummer

Vice-Chairman: Louise Rice

Secretary: Mildred Sheets

Linda Clark

Frank Holgate

Rev. Howard Hutchins

Ken Lukens

Rev. William Delplanche

Don Murphy

Norman Norwood

Ken Norwood - Youth Representative

NORTH PLAINS ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVE ON CAP COUNTY BOARD

Louise Rice, Board Vice-Chairman

CAP COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Elvin Shaw, Ex-officio  
Lucille Shaw

NORTH PLAINS CENTER STAFF

Center Coordinator  
Jim Carte

Center Aide  
Florine Sepulveda

UPWARD BOUND ADVISORY BOARD

Phyllis Murphy

ANNOUNCEMENT: On Monday, January 29 at 8 PM in the North Plains Community Hall the above report will be the subject for discussion at a Public Meeting to which the general public is invited to attend. That means YOU! The Center would like to hear your comments and criticisms and answer your questions. But even more we would like to get to know you and meet and invite you to become part of what we are trying to do.

See you on Monday 29th!