

The Rural Tribune

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Published Monthly

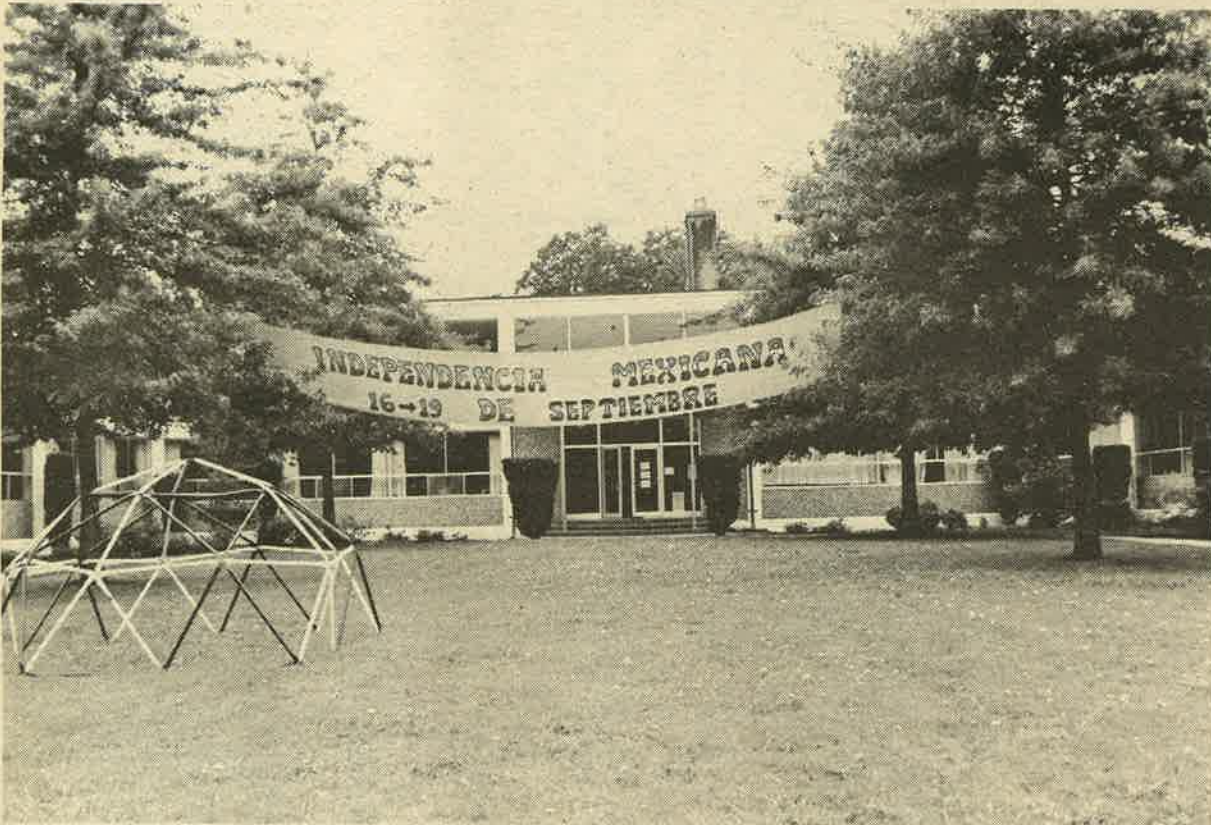
September 1976

HUD Orders Colegio Cesar Chavez To Vacate

Save the COLEGIO!!!!

In the midst of National Hispanic Heritage Week (proclaimed by President Ford in recognition of this country's rich Hispanic heritage) it is ironic that the faculty and students at Colegio Cesar Chavez, the nation's only totally Chicano administered institute of higher learning, is struggling to maintain its existence.

In March of this year, the Colegio submitted a proposal to HUD, at HUD's request, concerning the financial future of the college. It was rejected by HUD, with no specific explanations. The Colegio had proposed that either 1) the two parties work out a long-term lease agreement; 2) HUD Secretary Carla Hills use her discretionary powers to declare the



While the nation was celebrating National Hispanic Week and the 155th anniversary of Mexico's independence from Spain, Colegio Cesar Chavez in Mt. Angel, Oregon was facing orders to close its doors by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Colegio has been in operation since December of 1973. During the past 3 years, it has become the center of numerous educational and cultural activities. The Colegio has operated an adult basic education program, a GED component, a College Without Walls Program, a migrant summer school, numerous community functions and several large regional conferences. They receive funds from public and private agencies and from tuition.

In June of 1975 the Colegio regained candidacy status towards full accreditation from the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. Since that time Colegio Cesar Chavez has had several encounters with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a federal agency who has held a one-million dollar debt against the Colegio, a debt inherited by the college from its former occupants.

An agreement had been made between the Colegio and HUD in 1974 that the Colegio was to make three \$10,000 payments per year toward the million dollar debt, incurred by construction of buildings on the campus during Mt. Angel College's occupancy. The first payment was made, but the Colegio defaulted on the others - they couldn't get other funding because they had no accreditation. In order to get accreditation, they needed funding to keep them operating, in addition to the money to pay off the debt. HUD waited for the money, pending the Colegio's being awarded candidacy status, which would allow them to award degrees.

In June of 1975, the Colegio was granted their candidacy status. Two months later, the college was sold in a sheriff's sale to HUD, giving the Colegio one year's time to redeem the campus by paying the debt.

campus surplus property and give it to the Colegio; or 3) private monies be found to pay off the debt. HUD's response was that the proposal was "reviewed and found financially and legally unacceptable."

The Colegio was notified by HUD August 31, 1976 that they were to vacate the premises effective fall term. But the Colegio doesn't plan to vacate, and has begun fall classes for the more than 100 full-time students enrolled.

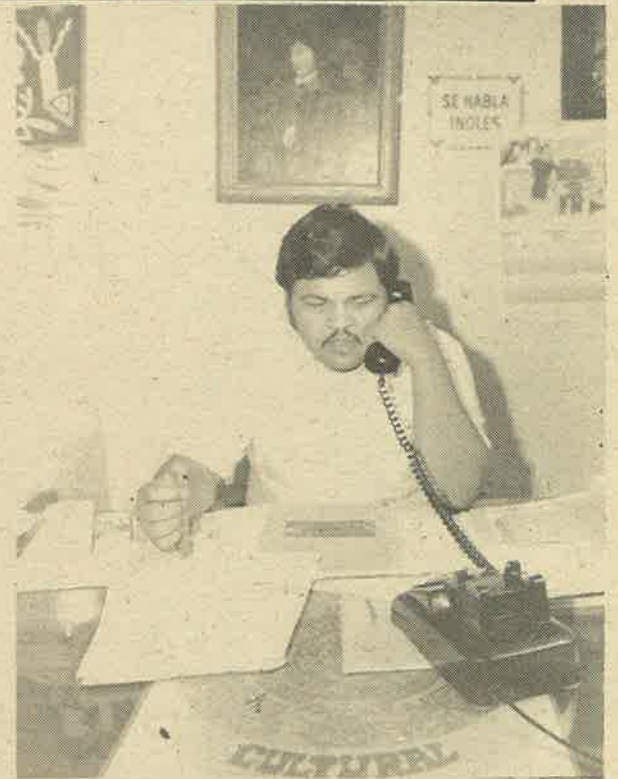
According to Colegio spokesman Sonny Montes, closing the school would be "a disservice to the students enrolled." Montes and others met with the students, explained the situation, and gave them choice to stay or leave the campus. The students unanimously agreed to stay. However, HUD feels it is a disservice to have them stay, caught in a tenuous situation.

Montes and others believe that HUD Secretary Carla Hills does have the power to declare the property surplus, and that there really are no HUD regulations applying to the Colegio's particular situation, anyway. They have asked to see the written regulations that would apply, but so far have been shown none.

The Colegio has received much support from Senators Hatfield and Ullman, who are backing the Colegio's position: that the need for the college has been proven, that the Colegio has saved and will continue to save taxpayers money by maintaining the property, that it is able to remain financially solvent, and that it should continue to operate as a valuable resource in an education system which has excluded Chicanos from higher learning in the past.

So why is HUD putting pressure on the Colegio, when in fact in May of this year, HUD offered to sell the property to the State for \$1? Much press coverage has implied that the Colegio has made no attempt to pay the outstanding debt. According to Sonny Montes, this is not true. The Colegio has made several attempts at working out payments, but so far none have been acceptable to HUD.

At present, says Montes, the Colegio doesn't owe HUD any money at all. The Colegio defaulted on its debt, and the college is now government property. HUD says it will sell the property within 90 days. Montes says, "We're not going to give it up. Too many people worked too hard for it. If we walked out now, this place would be a total mess."



Sonny Montes

The Colegio is in line for funding from several sources, public and private. They have existed long enough now to prove to even the most skeptical that it is a success, and that it can run its own affairs.

Support needs to be given to the Colegio nationwide. As a college run primarily by former farmworkers, its demise can only point out once again that minority people's struggles to assert themselves need more than lip service, for even though the government gives, it also takes away.

You can show support for the Colegio by writing to any or preferably all of the following:

Carla Anderson Hills, Secretary
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Room 10,000 451 Seventh St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

President Gerald Ford
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Senator Mark Hatfield
463 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Bob Packwood
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman Al Ullman
2207 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Les Aucoin
329 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Governor Bob Straub
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310

Letters should include the following:
1. Secretary Hills should use her discretionary powers to have Colegio property declared surplus and free title be granted to the Colegio corporation.

a. Ask Secretary Hills to send a copy of the government regulations covering surplus property transfer.

b. Ask Secretary Hills to send a copy of the regulations which cover HUD's demand that the Colegio vacate premises by 9/20/76 (less than three weeks since HUD sent notice to vacate).

2. Secretary Hills should stop the HUD action regarding the sale of the Colegio property until all alternatives are explored with authorized Colegio personnel. Recommend that a committee be formed with HUD, Colegio, State, and Congressional representatives so that a settlement equitable to all be reached.

3. The proposal submitted to HUD by the Colegio on 3/22/76 should be reconsidered rather than rejected without cause and a written explanation for its rejection should be made available to the Colegio.

Judy Schilling

THE RURAL TRIBUNE
Washington County Community
Action Organization
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Hillsboro, Oregon 97123

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FACTS AND DATES



COUNTRY ENERGY FAIR

Come to the Country Energy Fair! It will be held Monday, September 27, noon to 1 p.m. outside at Pacific University, southwest of the gymnasium. Meet representatives from Hope Co-op, Community Action, OSPIRG, Valley Art, Pacific Review, Toastmasters, Nuclear Safeguards and others from the university campus and surrounding community.

Sample natural foods from Pear Tree, Vital Vittles, Hope Co-op. Donate to mobilize energy for the Arts of Mexico scholarship, stained glass in Marsh Hall, Utopia poll and rebuilding the geodesic dome at the campus.

Boothmaking projects will be at Pacific's field house, Saturday, September 25, 9 a.m. to noon for all involved and those interested.

NEW CLINIC HOURS

The Virginia Garcia Health Center has new winter hours, beginning October 1st. The clinic will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, with patient hours from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Medicek physicals will be given by appointment Monday through Friday, and women's health care will be every Wednesday.

BOOK CATALOG READY

Washington County Cooperative Library Services announces that the fall catalog for Books By Mail is soon to be off the press and on its way to rural route boxholders in Washington County. Books By Mail is one of the programs supported by the three year serial levy which voters approved in May.

The catalog features a current selection of titles aimed at a variety of readers' interests. It is automatically delivered to all rural route boxholders in the county. Others who may receive the service, upon request, include handicapped and shut-in residents throughout the county. A call to the Cooperative Library Services at 645-5112 to request the catalog is all that is necessary.

Staggered mailings will be delivered over a period of one month: 1st mailing, Forest Grove, North Plains, Banks and Tigard; 2nd mailing, Buxton, Beaverton, Aloha, Manning and Hillsboro; 3rd mailing, Cornelius and Tualatin; 4th mailing, Sherwood and Gaston.

HOPE CO-OP PLANS MOVE TO FOREST GROVE

The Hope Neighborhood Food Co-op of Buxton is considering moving to Forest Grove so that it can better serve the community of western Washington County. The new location would be in the old Forest Grove Creamery building at 21st and College.

The co-op is a non-profit store owned and operated by its members, to provide low-cost quality foods. It offers basic foods such as flours, grains, nuts, dried fruits, oils, cheeses, spices, herbs, breads and produce, generally sold in bulk form with the emphasis on nutrition and low cost.

A co-op is a community store and Hope's members need to know if there is support from the people in the Forest Grove area. Come to a community meeting Tuesday, September 28, 7:30 p.m. in the Forest Grove Senior Center (basement UCC Church) at 21st and College, if you would like to see a food co-op in this area, and if you would like to say what you want the store to be. Transportation for senior citizens will be provided. Call 357-4115.

CONFERENCE ON HOUSEHOLD VIOLENCE

Saturday, October 23rd, a conference on household violence will be held at the YWCA in Portland, 1111 S.W. 10th. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Main speaker will be Del Martin, chairperson of the National Organization of Women's Task Force on battered women. Martin is also author of the book, "Battered Women".

Workshops will be held on Police and Court Procedures and Alternatives; Psychological Patterns of Abuse; Establishing and Operating Shelter Houses for Women; and Sharing Groups for Abused Women and Friends of Abused Women.

Further information may be obtained by calling the Bradley-Angle House, 281-2442.

BUS SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE FOR RURAL AREAS

Bus service is now available to anyone, any age in western Washington County. The Rural Transportation Project is operated from the Forest Grove Senior Center and funded by the federal government (70%) and Tri-Met. There will be scheduled routes for employed people and schedules are being developed according to needs.

These pick-up places may be developed: Gales Creek store, Gaston Community Hall, Glenwood junction, Sunset Park (Banks), and the Timber Post Office. Suggested donations for bus rides are 35 cents a ride or \$10 per month.

The Rural Transportation Dispatch phone is 357-7911. Call them if you need bus service.

Handicapped and elderly persons can be picked up at home, by calling Dial-A-Bus at 357-4115.

SHELTER HOUSE SAYS THANKS

Rachel Roa, coordinator of the Emergency Shelter House in Hillsboro, would like to thank the community for their great response to last month's article requesting donations for the Shelter House. They received a great number of needed items from groups and individuals, and cooperation from many agencies in the county.

WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD

The Welfare Advisory Board welcome participation from people concerned about or having problems with Welfare or food stamps, or those who are simply interested in what these programs do. Their next meeting will be held October 28, noon to 2 p.m. in room 103 of the County Administration Building in Hillsboro.

NEW CO-OP DIRECTORS & STORE HOURS

Vital Vittles Food Co-op in Hillsboro elected a new Board of Directors at their monthly potluck and general meeting. New officers on the Board are:

Doug Longhurst, Chairperson

Gary Hansen, Treasurer

Hilda Ely, Secretary

Jude Van Socter, Inventory Coordinator

Members of the co-op also decided to reduce the hours the store is open. Beginning October 1st, new store hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vital Vittles will be closed on Sundays and Mondays.

COUNCIL ON AGING NEEDS VOLUNTEER HELPERS

The needs of the county's elderly citizens have greatly increased this year in the areas of home care and home repair. The social service agency with whom the Council has contracted for homemaker assistance to our senior has had a "backlog" of up to 3 and 4 weeks waiting period before the clients can be visited.

This predicament is leaving many seniors unserved. It is a hardship to wait for shopping trips, transportation, relief in helping to care for an incapacitated partner, or even with nail clipping and bathing.

The Council on Aging is hoping for volunteers to enter the picture, so the program may remain in operation. Some of our people are able to pay a wage; however, others simply cannot.

If you have spare time, or can make spare time, and possess a genuine interest in the welfare of our elderly, please indicate your concern by phone to 640-3489, Washington County Council on Aging.

CAP BOARD VACANCIES

Community Action will be holding its annual meeting November 3rd, with elections of 10 new Board members. Vacancies exist for representatives of low income groups. If you would like your group represented on Community Action's Board, start the process by writing to CAP at 546 E. Baseline, Hillsboro, 97123. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Hillsboro High School cafeteria.

Vol. 4, No. 10 of The Rural Tribune. This newsletter is published monthly by the Washington County Community Action Organization and is funded by the Community Services Administration of the U.S. government. There is no charge for the newsletter. We will publish articles and announcements of particular interest to the low-income people of rural Washington County. For additional copies, or to be added to our mailing list, write to The Rural Tribune, 546 E. Baseline, Hillsboro, Oregon, 97123. Opinions expressed in these articles are those of the authors and not the opinions of either Washington County Community Action or the Community Services Administration. The Rural Tribune welcomes letters to the editor. We ask letter-writers to identify themselves by name and address.
Project Director Don Patch
Editor Judy Schilling
Staff Bud Schmidt, Chris Villarreal
Rose Belcher
Contributors. . . Jeanne Leeson, Elizabeth Norris
Joan Walker, Community Action staff
Translators. Ramona Landeros
Alma Rosa Perez
Photos. Don Patch, Judy Schilling
Rosa Perez, Jim Long

What's the IED ?

Few people understand what the Intermediate Education District is. Twenty years ago it was called the County Schools and that name more nearly fits what it does.

The Washington County Intermediate Education District (IED) furnishes services to the county's 105 public schools and 13 private schools. If these services were done at each school it would cost much more.

For instance, the IED manages the Outdoor School Program in which each sixth grader in the county has a week away from school, learning environmental ideas and learning to live with others on a 24-hour-a-day basis. It would be exceedingly expensive for each school to do this, but the IED can run the camp with less cost and a better program.

When the federal government makes grants of money, it needs a local office to administer those services. The Washington County IED does this for the Tital I-M Program and for other programs like it for disabled children, those with speech, hearing and learning problems.

Let's take the Title I-M program.

In this county Jose Garcia headed the program since it began, until this summer, when Garcia was promoted to become state coordinator of the program.

The new area director is Paula Alvarez, so we asked her what she would be doing in the program this school year.

"In the Spanish culture, education means to learn excellent behavior, and how to get along with adults and the family. Really it is a more comprehensive understanding of education than in most American schools," she says. Then she adds most schools stress only the skills to get a job.

"So our home counselors do lots of things. They explain report cards, they interpret the difference in the cultures, they find a variety of activities for children outside school, such as 4-H clubs."

Paula's department has 18 staff members. Five are the home counselors.

Arturo Cortez is the coordinator. Counselors are Noemy C. Brener-Morva, Alicia Arguello, Janet Freeman and Glenda Jones. Gonzala Lira is working half-time in counseling and half-time in another area.

Paula works with a budget of \$209,285 and in the 1975-76 period people in her department have worked in 19 Yamhill and 33 Washington County schools, working with 886 children.

The home-school consultant's role is not only to represent the school to the students and parents, but even more importantly, to represent the student and his parents to the school.

For this reason, Paula says, it is necessary the consultant be given freedom to function as he or she feels will best serve the needs and interest of students.

Twenty years ago the IED was given a tax base which provides the money for it to operate. During these 20 years the county population has grown and the requests for services has increased. New federal programs require more office space and materials.

On November 2, the new tax base will be put to a vote. Everyone should study the work of the IED before they vote.

Jeanne Leeson

community action's program

September 1st of each year marks the beginning of a new program year for Community Action. New projects are started and new directions are taken towards new goals. Because we are an agency of people, changes can occur daily; but on paper and in planning we look forward to each September as a time when we can apply what we have learned the past twelve months. The way we learn is through our contact with people in the community: people who have needs and problems, interests and ideas; people who come into the office, who send us mail, who tell us about what they are doing and what they would like us to do.

For this issue of The Rural Tribune, we asked each program to describe its plans for the next twelve months. Each program has its own character and direction, and welcomes your suggestions and participation.



Dian Elliot, Administrative Secretary

Administration and Self-help



Claudia Johnston, Executive Director WCCAO

At the core of Community Action is an administrative team who handles much of the day-to-day reporting and accounting which provides the base for operating other programs. A responsibility of the administration is to ensure that communication and coordination continues with other social service agencies, public officials and most importantly, low-income and minority peoples.

The administration of Washington County Community Action is committed to providing training and technical assistance to client and community groups. In the current program year, Community Action will be active in establishing more client participation in the decision-making on the committees and boards which influence their lives.

A new component this year is Self-Help. The goal of this program is to increase low-income and minority peoples' ability to control their own lives. This program requests input and suggestions from the community for projects and ideas which can help accomplish this.

Areas which have been specified to receive attention thus far are:

- * the research and development of alternative methods for better use of energy and the environment;
- * development of a video access center available for community use;
- * seek funding for a non-profit mechanics' group;
- * research the possibilities of establishing a credit union especially aware of low-income and minority people.

If you have an interest in any of these areas, please contact the Community Action office.



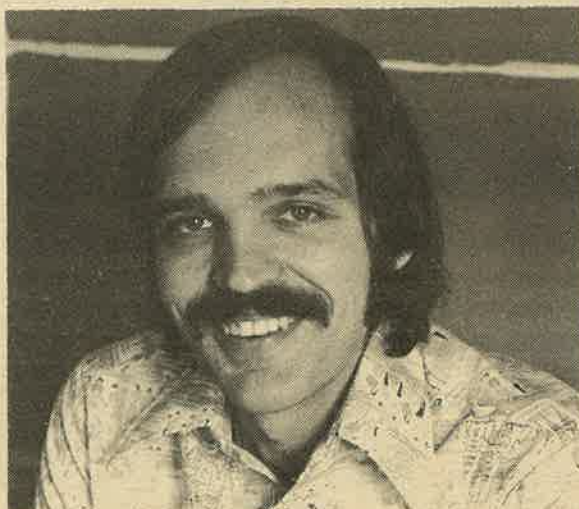
Bud Schmidt, Administrative Assistant



Carolina Caballero, Secretary and Receptionist



Betty Lou Sanders, Bookkeeper



Jorge Santaularia, Comptroller WCCAO



Isabel Romero, Secretary and Receptionist

for the next 12 months

MORE ON
→
NEXT PAGE

... more on programs



Rachel Roa, Emergency Shelter House Coordinator,
Eloy Laredo & Lenore Perez, advocate assistants



Jose Garcia Jr., Emergency Services Specialist

Community Advocate Program

The Community Advocate Program is the part of Community Action which responds to the variety of problems and needs that low income and minority people in Washington County face daily. People coming into our office needing help are referred to an advocate. We see our role broken up into the following areas:

1) Responding to the emergency needs of our clients by obtaining food, clothing, shelter, and providing information and making referrals.

2) Acting as an advocate for our clients who are having problems with other agencies, landlords, utility companies, and so on, through negotiating on behalf of our clients, clarifying situations, policies and procedures, or by representing our clients at fair hearings (such as with Welfare, Food Stamps, SSI, CSD, and the Employment Division). We also have a commitment to teaching people how they can become their own advocate, so that they need not depend upon agencies for certain kinds of help.

3) Identifying areas where needed resources do not exist for our clients and working to develop such resources, such as the Emergency Shelter House.

4) Identifying the roots of problems that are brought to us and when appropriate, organizing larger scale efforts to create positive, long-term changes. We feel that by only providing for people's emergencies without assessing the cause of the problem and then acting to alleviate it, that we are just "band-aiding" the problem, rather than working to cure it. For example, if a person cannot purchase their food stamps and we are able to give them a loan, we have helped them for that month, but have not necessarily changed their situation for the next month. Through helping people to purchase their food stamps we are able to gather information on areas of the food stamp program that are not responsive to people's needs. With this information we can begin to organize those concerned in order to provide input at the state and federal levels on how the Food Stamp Program can better meet the needs.

Last year the Advocate Program responded to approximately 2,000 various client problems. In addition, we operated our Emergency Shelter House

which on the average served about 30 people per month. Our House provides a two-week emergency shelter for low income people temporarily in need of a place to stay.

Another goal of the Advocate Program is to work towards coordinating emergency services in the county. With this we have a commitment to assist in developing new resources that are needed. (See article on Coordinated Emergency Services Council)

Currently our Advocate Program consists of ten people: Mary Lou Rivera and Jose Garcia, Emergency Services Specialists; Rachel Roa, Coordinator of the Emergency Shelter House; Elisabeth Linder, Welfare Advocate; Dianne Elia, Youth Specialist; Yolanda Landeros, Youth Advocate; Eloy Laredo and Miguel Caballero, Advocate Assistants; Annette Bromberg, Community Organizer, and Jerralynn Ness, Supervisor.

Our major goals for this year are:

1) to continue to respond to the problems of low income people and act on their behalf when necessary;

2) to assist in developing needed resources;

3) to open and operate a Welfare Advocate Center (see article in this issue);

4) to seek adequate funding for our Shelter House in order that we may operate it in a quality manner and also assure its permanence as a resource to the community;

5) to help develop needed resources for youth and to respond to youth-related problems that are brought to us;

6) to actively support the concept of coordinated emergency services and to work closely with the newly formed Council;

7) to actively support the involvement of low income and minority representation on Boards and committees that affect their lives.

We welcome any ideas and suggestions you might offer to our program. Anyone wishing to become more involved with what we are doing, either as a volunteer or through donations, please feel free to contact Jerralynn Ness at Community Action, 648-6646. Your involvement is encouraged!



Carol Woods, VISTA Volunteer



Elisabeth Linder, Welfare Advocate



Jerralynn Ness, Director of the Advocate Program



Mary Lou Rivera, Emergency Services Specialist

Rural Awareness Project

The Rural Awareness Project is made up of three parts: The Rural Tribune, Community Education, and the Translators Bureau. Each of these parts fits together under the broad definition of Communication, or more aptly, increasing awareness, but have their own specific goals.

WCCAO's program emphasis on communication comes from an expressed need of low-income and minority people to speak to and about the problems facing them as well as be informed of services available to them.

In October of this year, the Rural Awareness Project will celebrate its fifth year of publishing The Rural Tribune. Since its first issue in October 1972, The Rural Tribune has greatly expanded its production capabilities (such as typesetting, layout, pasteup and photo and graphic work) so that we are becoming more and more self-sufficient in our publication efforts.

10,000 copies of The Rural Tribune are published each month, and each month we add 10-20 new names to our mailing list. As we reach more and more people, we find more needs to fill.



*Alma Rosa Perez, Coordinator of the
Community Education Project*

During the past year, the Rural Awareness Project and The Rural Tribune offered its expertise to a variety of individuals and non-profit groups, helping them produce brochures, newsletters, flyers, posters, public service announcements and arrange press conferences.

We also ventured into the world of video production with the help of Carol Woods, a VISTA volunteer assigned to our project. We have recently acquired our own video porta-pak system which will enable us to produce videotapes for community viewing. We hope to involve more and more people in this aspect, as video is an effective method of gathering and relaying information that is timely and vital to the community interest. With three people now trained in its use, the Rural Awareness Project will begin incorporating video work in its activities.



Judy Schilling, Editor Rural Tribune

Translator's Bureau

During the three years that the Washington County Translator's Bureau has operated, it has grown from a small service providing translators through a part-time staff person and a few volunteers to a translation service encompassing 13 languages, 2 full-time staff people, a list of 15 volunteers, and agreements with a few public service agencies in the area.

The need for translation services is becoming more and more apparent in Oregon, and one of the major concerns of the Translator's Bureau is that so few agencies are responding to that need.

The Translator's Bureau was founded, and continues to operate from the basic philosophy that a person has the right, not just the privilege of dealing with public service agencies in his/her primary language. This is especially true when speaking of the native languages of this country, Spanish and Indian dialects.

Most of the requests that the Translator's Bureau receives for services are from public service agencies in the area. Most of these agencies are well aware of the need for translators, but remain unwilling to respond to that need by payment or by the hiring of more bilingual staff.

Seeing this situation as either a lack of awareness, an unwillingness to respond, or many times, blatant racism, the Translator's Bureau has initiated a bill that will be coming before the 1977 legislature to help alleviate the problem. The bill, LC 159, would require public service agencies to provide translators for persons who don't speak English as a primary language when that person is dealing with the agency. The two languages that would be affected in Oregon are Spanish and Russian. As it now stands, Representative Pat Whiting, the sponsor of the bill, and the Translator's Bureau are both very encouraged by the general response to the proposed legislation.



Ann Barbour, Director of the Translators Bureau

While recognizing the need for agencies to hire translators, the Translator's Bureau also realizes that the translators that are hired have to be trained. A training program has been planned that hopefully will end with certification of translators. Two training sessions have already been held, with three more scheduled in 1976. The program was put aside for the summer months because of the large number of translating requests, but will be resumed some time in October.

The Bureau has run into a number of problems in the process of developing its program. Lack of funds, refusal of agencies to respond, and such a small staff have all been factors in holding the Bureau back. Another major problem is finding enough bilingual volunteers, especially Spanish-speaking, to have a translator on call 24 hours a day.

Apart from these problems, however, the Translator's Bureau feels very positive about the progress the Bureau has made and the direction it is now taking. Much of the future of the Bureau seems to

During the coming months, The Rural Tribune hopes to have more and more involvement from our readers. We welcome articles and ideas for articles, and are able to provide some training for people interested in newspaper production work, and help in writing and researching articles. We also welcome ideas for use of our video equipment and hope to soon be able to offer training in that area for people wishing to produce videotapes for community use.

In addition to production of The Rural Tribune, RAP has a Community Education component. One staff person, Alma Rosa Perez, and one VISTA volunteer, Robin Davis, will be working full time this year on community education projects. Their main task will be to work with school districts in establishing bilingual education programs and classes where they are needed in the county, following federal guidelines mandated by a recent Supreme Court decision (Lau vs. Nichols).

The Community Education component will also work towards increasing the cultural and social awareness of people in the community by exposing them to a variety of needs and issues that face low-income and minority people. This can be done through workshops and videotapes, and by bringing people into contact with each other to share information. We hope to involve more and more low income and minority groups in various aspects of the media, working closely with The Rural Tribune.



Don Patch, Director of the Rural Awareness Project

hinge on the 1977 legislation, but whether or not the agencies ever come around and shoulder what we feel are their responsibilities, the obvious need for and right to a translator when dealing with public service agencies will always be there, and the Translator's Bureau has no intention of giving up.



*Ramona Landeros, Coordinator
of the Translators Bureau*



Weatherization

Last year's Home Weatherization Program was extremely successful in helping low income families and senior citizens reduce heating costs and improve the general repair of their home.

This year's Weatherization Program will include attic insulation, construction and installation of semi-permanent storm windows, and wrapping of exposed pipes. We feel that by doing these three things we can effectively cut a household's heating costs. The program plans to winterize approximately 80 homes of low income families and senior citizens.

The storm windows that are being constructed will last about 3 winters. In past years the storm windows we used would last for only one winter.



James Hynson, Robb Sansum,
Weatherization Program

This year we are putting more money into a higher quality material and are more dependent upon volunteer labor. At this time, we have no volunteers and are backlogged with projects. In particular we need people who can work on roofs. This would only require a small amount of time on someone's part and would help us catch up on our backlog of jobs.

If you are skilled or know anyone who is interested in doing volunteer work, please call James Hynson or Robb Sansum at 648-6646. The Weatherization Program is a community effort and its success will depend upon you and your neighbors getting involved. Please help.

RSVP

The Washington County Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has as its goal to seek out the lonely, or physically or mentally handicapped older person who is suffering from "retirement blues". Last year RSVP signed up five new volunteer stations and recruited fifty new volunteers to serve at the already existing volunteer stations in Washington County.

Changes during the year have come through decrease in staff, a new grantee and new volunteers.

The goal for this coming year is to seek out more lonely senior adults who need to get back into the mainstream of life and be accepted by society once again. The need to get up in the morning and have people care about you seems to be the root of most senior's problems. RSVP fulfills this by making them accepted again.

One of the biggest goals is to get local support for the out-of-pocket expense volunteers would have to use in order to volunteer. Meals and mileage are the biggest costs, but necessary, because these older people are put on a fixed income when they retire. Each year RSVP must get 30% of the total budget to repay the volunteers and this is done through local contributions and foundation monies. The total amount the program must generate this fiscal year is

Gleaning Project

This summer saw Community Action's Gleaning Project, which has operated for four years in Washington County, be used as a model for three other counties, involving five separate agencies working together under the title The Metro-Area Gleaning Cooperative.

The project makes use of the food that is left to rot or to be plowed under in the farmers' fields. Once the canneries and other food processors fill their quotas and when it no longer becomes economically feasible to continue harvesting, food is left to rot in the fields.

Many people who are poor are able to pick the crops, which have been donated by the growers. These same people "adopt" an elderly, frail or handicapped person and, in turn, pick extra food

Information and Referral

Community Action is responsible for keeping Washington County's *Directory of Human Services (Medical and Social)* up-to-date. This Directory comprehensively lists all services provided by over 200 facilities in the county, and includes information about more than 100 social organizations (Kiwans, Granges, etc.)

The need for current information about health and social services will continue and will grow. Up to date information packets have been distributed to all 340 Directory owners four times since the resource manual was published in March 1975, and the fifth update will be mailed soon. The success of the Directory in meeting the need for current information depends upon community participation in information sharing to help keep it up-to-date.

Over 1200 persons (mostly from schools, health, social, governmental and law enforcement agencies) have attended workshops training them how to provide information and referral services and use the Directory as an information source. Training workshops will continue to be provided, and, hopefully a "community information" video tape will be produced which could be used by schools and human service agencies. The Directory has served as the primary resource file for the new Information and Referral Center, and further technical assistance will continue to be provided to the I & R Center.

An evaluation of the Directory is being conducted presently, and of the responses received so far (about 25% of all owners), over 90% of the Directory owners feel that the project should be continued. Letters of support for further development of the Directory project (i.e., computerization of the inventory system to make compilation and up-dating easier) have been received from Governor Straub and Dick Davis, Director of the Department of Human Resources. The State of Oregon is looking to the Directory as a possible model for providing information about services provided to meet individual needs in communities throughout the state.



Jim Long, Information Specialist
and Workshop Coordinator

Food

Preservation Project

The goal of the Natural Food Preservation Project is to make food preservation equipment available to persons who otherwise might not have access to this kind of equipment for use with their own produce. In July 1976, six large food dehydrators, six smaller food dehydrators, six pressure cooker/canners, and five steam juicers were given to 7 community centers (senior centers, food co-ops, etc.) located in six communities, and to the county-wide Gleaning Project.

This project can continue for as long as the equipment still works. Senior Centers and food co-ops have been given this equipment, and should maintain it for loan and use by their members and other community residents.

Over 160 persons have already used the food preservation equipment in the first two months the food dryers, juicers, and pressure cooker/canners have been available. An evaluation will be compiled late this fall to show how great a success this project is, and to see if there is need for more equipment during next year's harvest season.

If you are in need of this equipment contact Jim Long at 648-6646.



Gerry Nutt, Director of RSVP

\$8,500. This cost of one volunteer for one year is estimated to be around \$50.

Volunteers are covered by an insurance plan while volunteering and are also covered to and from their place of volunteering. An Advisory Council sees that the program functions well and gives the Director Gerry Nutt advice on daily matters that may come up.



Dee Dee Olsen, Secretary for RSVP

for them. This same self-help program can organize canning groups and other means of preserving food where there is a considerable surplus of crops to ensure a continuing supply of food the year round.

The Washington County Gleaning Project has demonstrated that such a program is feasible and can be effective and efficiently run. It has shown how a community can provide a needed service to its citizens within its available resources.

This past success of the project in Washington County was the impetus for the expansion of the gleaning concept. This next year will see concentrated efforts by the members of the Metro-Area Gleaning Cooperative to secure ongoing funding, possibly through state legislation and hopefully expand to a statewide project.



Monica Belcher, Coordinator of the
Metro-Area Gleaning Cooperative

Head Start

Head Start is a comprehensive program for sixty low income four or five year old children and their families. High priority is given to children and families with special needs.



Nancy Gann, Director of the Head Start Program

Through a combination of services designed to meet the health, social, intellectual, and physical needs of the child and parents we hope to facilitate the develop-

ment of individual and family strength and growth. A pre-school center, home-based learning and parent groups, are some of the vehicles used to develop and expand our commitment to parents as the most important teachers of children.

After volunteering in the center, several parents have been placed in the program as bus drivers, aides, teachers, or parent coordinators.

Last year was the first year in the new central facility at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 17625 NW Cornell Rd. Many Volunteer hours were put into converting a bare basement into a beautiful child and parent development center.

The program will continue its focus on working with parents by having children in the center for two weeks and out for a week during which a home visit and a field trip will take place.

The Parent Advocate program, which is designed to increase involvement of parents in the home, Community, and Head Start Center, to develop leadership within the parent population, and to help develop support among families will begin this year. Fifteen to eighteen parents (who wish to receive special training) will serve as facilitators for the rest of the parents. It is expected that groups which develop will become autonomous and their own self-help group.

Head start can always use volunteers either regularly or for special occasions. Musicians, crafts people, and others with skills to share are encouraged to volunteer too. Donations for specific purposes or general program are accepted and are tax deductible.



Pilar Klier, Head Start Secretary

CESC

Throughout Washington County, there are many groups and agencies which provide emergency services. These groups are involved in similar activities and yet often they don't communicate with each other.

Where can FISH learn what St. Vincent de Paul or the County Extension are involved in? Until recently, communication occurred by chance, and coordination between these groups was difficult or non-existent.

Now the Coordinated Emergency Services Council (CESC) provides a place for communication and coordination to happen.

How did CESC come about? In December of 1974 the NEEDS Council was formed to deal with emergency food needs in the county. This Council realized how interagency communication and coordination improved efficiency and helped solve common problems related to emergency food availability and delivery.

The NEEDS Council came to realize there is a lack of coordination in other areas of emergency services besides food needs. It was clear that there were many advantages to expanding coordination to include such areas as fuel and utilities, shelter, etc.

To achieve this needed coordination, the Coordinated Emergency Services Council was formed as an umbrella group.



Annette Bromberg, Community Organizer

GOALS AND PURPOSES

This umbrella group, CESC, has two main purposes: 1) to see that emergency needs in the county are met, and 2) to improve communication between agencies and groups involved in similar activities.

What happens when groups and agencies start communicating and coordinating their activities?

- * Each individual group is strengthened through mutual support of every other group.

- * Through coordination, better systems can be developed to meet emergency needs more efficiently.

- * New resources can be explored and developed; and where possible, resources can be shared.

- * Through communication, duplication of services is less likely to happen.

But the Coordinated Emergency Services Council doesn't just talk. Its primary activities are to develop and coordinate "Task Forces" - working bodies, each one specialized to deal with a specific area of need. So now, in addition to the NEEDS Council (which has become the Food Task Force) a Fuel/Utility Task Force and a Shelter Task Force are being formed to deal with those areas of need.

Each Task Force decides on its own projects and plans based on what they see as areas of greatest need.

The CESC keeps the Task Forces in communication with each other, and offers them assistance and support where necessary.

YOU CAN HELP

Any person or group of people interested in taking part in solving countywide problems in the areas of food, fuel or shelter, are welcome to participate in a Task Force. The Task Forces are looking for energy from the community, and now is the time to help, when they are in the formative stages.

If you would like to take part in any of these groups, contact Annette Bromberg at 648-6646.

Hispanic Heritage Celebrated

President Ford has proclaimed the week of September 12 - 18th as National Hispanic Heritage week in recognition of this nation's rich Hispanic heritage, a history of more than four centuries.

Throughout this history Hispanic people have made many contributions to the cultural and economic growth of the United States, enriching the lives of all Americans.

One hundred and fifty-five years ago on September the 27th of 1821, Mexico won its independence from Spain. Residents of the Southwest, which became Mexican land, became Mexican citizens. The recognition of Mexico's independence from Spain, the 16th of September, is celebrated each year throughout Mexico and where areas are populated by Spanish-speaking persons.

On September the 14th, the Portland Federal Executive Board conducted a film festival at the Bonneville Power Administration in which Salvador Ramirez, a Colegio Cesar Chavez spokesman spoke to an audience of about 100 people. There was also Mexican folk dancing along with El Trio Los Tres, from Portland who sang.

The Spanish Speaking Sub-Committee of the Portland Federal Executive board called upon all Federal employees to participate in the celebration of that week. The Executive Board also took the occasion to promote the principle of equal opportunity and the goal of the Spanish Speaking Program in seeking the full utilization of the talents and skills of the more than 10 million Hispanic people in the U.S. today.

Alma Rosa Perez

El Presidente Ford ha proclamado la semana del día 12-18 de Septiembre como semana nacional de herencia hispana en reconocimiento de la rica herencia hispana de esta nación, una historia de más de cuatro siglos.

Por toda esta historia jente Hispana han hecho bastantes contribuciones a la cultura y el crecimiento economico de los Estados Unidos enriqueciendo las vidas de todos los Americanos.

Hace cien cincuenta y cinco años (155) en Septiembre 27 año 1821, Mexico gano su independencia de España, residentes del sudoeste llevo a ser tierra Mexicana, se hicieron ciudadanos Mexicanos.

El 16 de Septiembre es celebrado cada año por todo Mexico y en otras areas que son popularizadas por jente de habla hispana.

El 14 de Septiembre, el Portland Federal Executive Board, la mesa ejecutiva Federal de Portland conducto un festival en el Bonneville Power Administration, donde Salvador Ramirez, un interlocutor del Colegio Cesar Chavez le habló a una audiencia de como cien personas. Tambien hubo bailes y musica folklorica. El Trio los Tres de Portland tambien cantaron allí.

El Spanish Speaking Sub-Committee de la mesa ejecutiva federal de Portland habló sobre todos los empleados federales para que participaran en la celebración de esa semana.

La mesa ejecutiva federal tambien tomó la ocasion para promover el principal de oportunidad igual y el gol de el programa de habla hispana en buscando la utilización completa de los talentos destrezos de mas de diez millones de jente de habla Español en los Estados Unidos, ahora.

Alma Rosa Perez

Farmer's Market

The first annual Tualatin Farmers Market is underway, after a crowded opening day September 11. The sky was overcast and the wind threatened to blow booths away, but hundreds of shoppers came to buy fresh local produce and homemade crafts.

The market is being held in a field behind Milk and Honey Non-profit Food Store in Tualatin. Members of the co-op felt that there was a need for an outlet for small farm or large garden produce - the open-air Saturday market idea would be inexpensive, eliminate handlers, provide fresh produce, and be a lot of fun as well.

And so after months of research and correspondence and advertising and just plain hard work, the market is here. Colorful tables of crafts and truckloads of produce surround a parachute-sheltered "big top" for musicians and entertainers. Shoppers can view demonstrations in drying fruit, honey extraction, and cider pressing as they stroll from squash to macrame, sipping hot mint tea while browsing through corn and peaches and pumpkins and candles. Helpers in Farmers Market t-shirts, with the green corn insignia, rush about putting up signs, finding parking spaces, and repairing torn shelters.

The Farmers Market Committee invites you to attend the market on September 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. behind Milk and Honey Food Store in Tualatin. There is still room for produce too - call us at 648-6227, or stop by the store at 18930 SW Boones Ferry Road.

Elizabeth Norris

STATE SURVEY OF HUMAN NEEDS LISTS LOCAL PRIORITIES

One of the strongest attitudes expressed in a survey conducted for the City of Forest Grove (November 1973 - March 1974) showed over 81 per cent of the total respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with this opinion statement: "The more people are aware of human problems, the more they can participate."

Our awareness of human problems (i.e. health, social, law enforcement, fire protection, roads, etc.) has been steadily increasing as inflation and limited resources have put an extra burden on governmental, non-profit, and volunteer services to meet these problems.

During the first half of this year, Oregon's Department of Human Resources (DHR) asked all of the state's 36 counties what their needs are, via this question: "How can we best meet social service demands with the limited resources at hand?" Each county was asked to compile statistics on 52 sub-populations vulnerable to one or more of fourteen problems common to all social services; and also, on the number of persons in each of 70 specific problem areas served by all service agencies in 1975.

According to DHR, this Needs Assessment is the first statewide study of social problems in the country. DHR has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) to evaluate the effect of the Needs Assessment.

To compile the Needs Assessment for Washington County, three volunteer committees were formed. The committees were headed by the following persons: Marietta Sorenson (health and related problems), Steve Willard (mental health and related problems) and Jim Long (all other problems). Information was collected from over 120 service agencies within the county about the number of people served in each of the 70 specific problem areas, such as housing, isolation, income related problems, etc. After this objective information was compiled, the County's Human Resources Advisory Committee reviewed the data and set priorities on the relative need for new resources to meet the problems.

On June 1st, the County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on the priorities set in the DHR Assessment. This hearing followed a land use public hearing which had lasted for many hours, and ironically, the Commissioners spent less than 10 minutes reviewing the first comprehensive study of social problems in Washington County.

The Board of Commissioners did not approve the survey itself, but they did authorize its transmittal of the document. The Board acknowledged the effort which went into the survey with emphasis on the time and money constraints those involved in the survey were working under. This decision was different than County Administrative Officer Dan Potter's recommendation for approval.

The rankings of problem areas in the County Priority Reports are based upon adjusted populations-at-risk, number of individuals served, additional persons in need, dollar priority, and probably most important, the relative need for new resources. Copies of these reports are available for use at the County Administrative Office and the Community Action Organization office.

LOCAL PRIORITIES

Washington County's highest ranking priorities based on the relative need for new resources are those persons whose income is below the poverty level who experience income-related problems and/or nutritional problems.

The next priorities are problems incurred due to unemployment, and money management problems. Other high ranking needs populations include: those individuals committing or attempting suicide, infants with nutritional problems, deaf, blind, or crippled children having learning problems, and persons in need of child care having problems gaining or maintaining employment.

Oregon's top priority statewide is: *those persons age 65 and over who, permanently or temporarily, are unable to provide for their self-care needs and for whom in-home care would be best.* This same sub-population ranked 16th of 70 in Washington County.



"The more people are aware of human problems, the more they can participate."

A few selected statistics about social problems in Washington County show that:

There are approximately 28,000 persons with incomes below the poverty level.

There are over 1,500 substandard housing units.

2417 persons were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol in 1975.

735 persons returned to the community following residency in mental health or correctional institutions in 1975.

Over 95,000 persons received public health, nutrition, hygiene, home management or consumer information in 1975.

These statistics are just a small portion of information which has been collected using file records, estimates of social workers, and expert judgement.

A few times inconsistent statistics were received from agencies, such as the opposing views on transportation needs in western Washington County. Statistics from the Forest Grove Senior Transportation study for western Washington County (excluding cities) shows that:

23,406 persons are not owners of private cars, passengers in cars, or bus passengers; and

31,214 persons live more than 1 1/2 miles from Tri-Met buslines.

Meanwhile, Tri-Met calculations based on the Countywide rural non-service area (1 1/2 miles from buslines) indicate that only half as many (15,612) persons don't have access to transportation.

We used the Forest Grove Senior Transportation statistics because they were more recent, compiled locally, and seemed to better represent the need.

Washington County was one of the last counties in the state to complete the Needs Assessment questionnaire. The primary reason for the delay was because the volunteer committees and the Human Resources Advisory Committee felt uncomfortable with the design and interpretation of the state questionnaire. Some reasons for this concern are:

1. Lack of uniform record-keeping by agencies serving the county, making data retrieval difficult;
2. Ambiguities and loosely-defined terms.
3. Strong inter-relationships between social problems making it difficult to determine causal relationship;
4. Lack of inclusion of preventive services; and
5. The degree of subjective analysis involved in prioritizing the problem areas.

The state recognized that the questionnaire needs improvement, and proposes to improve it in future years. Despite the above concerns, the committees do see great value in the information which has been compiled for Washington County.

Robb Muse, researcher for DHR, feels that this Needs Assessment has "initiated a process of communication between the state and counties (governments) which can develop into a process that allows decision-making to be made on local need."

The current budget for the Department of Human Resources is over \$1.2 billion. This is nearly one-fourth (23.5%) of the budget for the entire state.

DHR administers more than 250 kinds of programs, providing services for more than 500,000 clients. Unfortunately, at this time, there is no way to figure out how much money DHR spends in each county because it has so many programs. This overlap is a natural occurrence among DHR divisions, which provide related services to serve a client's problems, and because some of these services extend over county lines.

Though DHR's Needs Assessment is the first of its kind and has some weaknesses, it has and can serve to improve our understanding of the extent of specific social problems. It has also helped start some communications links between agencies serving the same client groups. It seems apparent that uniformity in record keeping could lead to better assessments of problems, and that joint case planning between agencies might better serve clients.

As tax-oriented consumers, we cannot expect accountability from DHR to better serve our social problems for at least a few years. State legislators can be encouraged to advocate for county residents' needs as shown in the Needs Assessment, and improving the design of social programs to meet the changing needs.

This article is simply a report on DHR's Title XX Needs Assessment, and is not meant to be a complete analysis, summary or critique. The 320-page County Priority Report is available for review at both the County Administrative Office and at Community Action. A copy of the statewide summary is also at the Community Action office.

I encourage everyone who is interested to review, make comments, and help improve this Needs Assessment. As was shown in the attitude survey in Forest Grove a few years ago, the more people are aware and understand social problems, the more they can participate in the solutions.

Jim Long

New DROP-IN CENTER To Open

A Welfare Hotline and Drop-In Center will open early in October in Hillsboro to provide information and advocacy to residents of Washington County who participate in Welfare and/or Food Stamp programs.

Persons having problems with Welfare or Food Stamps can obtain information, advice, and representation at fair hearings or other types of negotiation. The Center will also be a drop-in center where persons can come to discuss their problems, needs and concerns with each other and plan joint actions in order to affect necessary change in the programs.

The Center will be located at 276 E. Main St., in Hillsboro, and will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For further information call Elisabeth Linder at 648-6646.