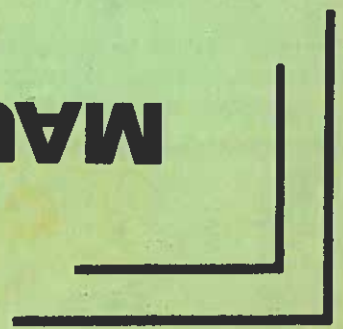


BIENNium
REPORT
FISCAL YEARS
1981-1982
1982-1983



OPPORTUNITY INC.

MAUI ECONOMIC





Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
789 Kaahumanu Avenue
Kahului, Hawaii 96732
Telephone 871-9591

September 1, 1983

Mr. Alfred Oshiro, Chairman
Board of Directors
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are submitting for your review the Biennium Report for fiscal year 1981-82 and 1982-83.

We are pleased to report that the activities of the Maui Economic Opportunity Inc. programs are on target in meeting the majority of the program goals, and that Maui Economic Opportunity Inc. is continuing to service and impact the communities served.

The major actions for the two years is the increased funding from the County of Maui to continue the same level of transportation services, and the transition of the agency to operate under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) grant. The State of Hawaii (HOEO) now has the major role in guiding all Community Action Agencies in their work against poverty.

As an agency we have terminated and adjusted programs because vigilance ameliorating the conditions of the poor is an on-going concern. Hence, the agency has much to do in the future.

Sincerely,

Paul Pladera
Executive Director

MEO BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1982 - 1983

OFFICERS

Richard Kibe, Board Chairman
Louis Hao, Board Vice-Chairman
Leinaala Cockett, Board Secretary-Treasurer

RESIDENT SECTOR

1. Louis Hao - Molokai Community Action Council
2. Francis DeMello - Maui Senior Citizens Planning & Coordination Council
3. Marjorie Kaea - Head Start Policy Council
4. Roy Ito - Lanai Area Council
5. Bernice Nitta - Lahaina Area Council
6. Alfred Oshiro Molokai Community Action Council
7. Patricia Perry - Haiku Area Council
8. Kenzo Takumi - Maui Senior Citizens Planning & Coordination Council

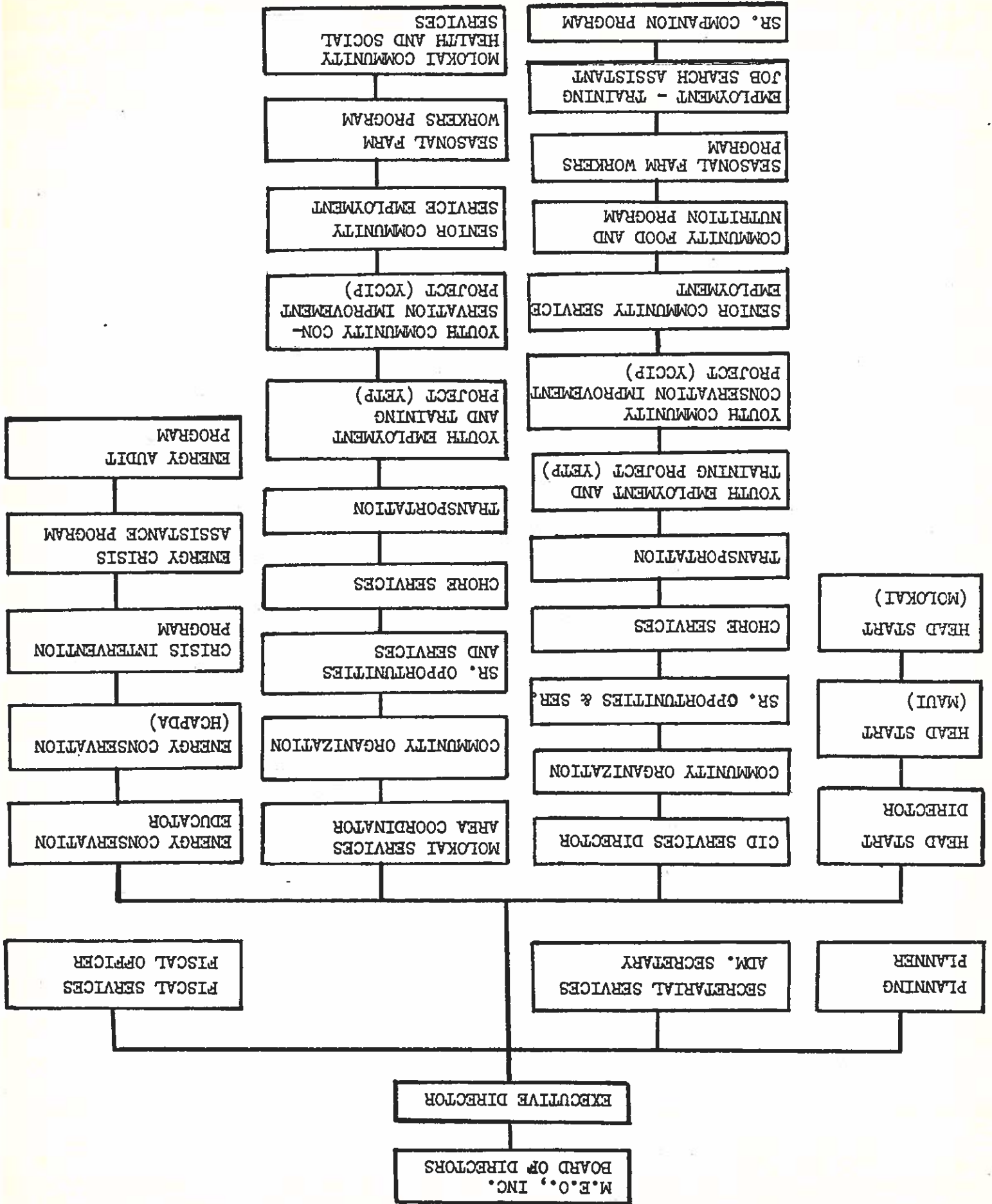
PRIVATE SECTOR

1. Richard Kibe - Maui Japanese Community Association
2. Artemio Baxa - Maui Filipino Community Council
3. Robert Bird - Maui Medical Society
4. Clarence Kamai - Maui Christian Minister's Association
5. Roger Knox - Maui Chamber of Commerce
6. Laura Kimura - Maui Korean International Club
7. Kealoha Lake - Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club
8. Roman Piano - I. L. W. U.

PUBLIC SECTOR

1. Leinaala Cockett - Representative of Rick Medina
2. Vince Bagoyo - Representative of Mayor Hannibal Tavares
3. Riki Hokama - Representative of Goro Hokama
4. Myles Inokuma - Representative of Howard Kihune
5. Wayne Nishiki - Councilman
6. Lee Liu - Councilwoman
7. Velma Santos - Councilwoman
8. Gwen Ohashi - Representative of Charles Ota

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Primarily aimed at Maui County's low-income, elderly and the handicapped, many of whom are on fixed incomes and most seriously affected by the spiraling utility prices, the MEO energy program offers education on energy-saving techniques and devices with the special incentives that create sufficient interest and stimulate participation. The efforts are aimed at minimizing waste and maximizing efficient use of energy.

MEO continued to attack the problem of increasing energy costs and its severe burden upon the pocketbooks of the poor by: (1) Maintaining staff capability to coordinate and undertake activities that mobilize and gain support from the low-income families and other community resources; (2) Continuing energy by means of education and energy-saving devices; (3) Holding energy rates at reasonable levels.

In the area of community education, the major area of activity was energy conservation education and access to energy-saving devices in order to insure that the low-income households attain an average reduction of 15% of their electric bills.

The activities included 27 educational workshops on no-cost and low-cost energy conservation techniques. Twenty workshops consisted of senior citizen Ki clubs with 1,207 in attendance, two workshops for University Extension club presidents, two workshops for area councils, and a workshop each for the County's senior citizens nutrition program workers, Headstart parents, and Iao School faculty.

Energy saving devices were installed in 755 qualified low-income households at no cost to the applicants. (30 LIHEAP, 612 WAP, 113 ECIP). The devices consisted of water heater insulation blankets, pipe insulation, electric timers and shower restrictors.

In order to lessen the impact of the spiraling cost of electricity, 1,870 welfare, 449 SSI and 25 other low-income households were provided with a one-time payment check averaging \$80.00 per household. Additionally, MEO responded to 75 households with an emergency payment of up to \$200 of their delinquent electric bill in order to reconnect their electricity or prevent a disconnection.

Measurable impact calculations are as follows: (1) Energy-saving devices installed in 755 residences x average electric bill of \$70 monthly = \$52,850 x 15% savings = \$7,928/month x 2 years = \$190,260. (2) One-time payment check averaging \$80 per household x 2,344 households = \$187,520. (3) Emergency rate increase intervention; based on 7,100 Maui households that fall within the poor and near poor income guidelines x \$70 average monthly bill = \$497,000 x 9.4% savings = a total savings of \$46,718 monthly or \$1,121,232 in two years. (5) Molokai Electric rate increase intervention - based on 600 low-income Molokai household x \$84.80 average monthly bill = \$50,880 x 12.9% saving = \$6,564 monthly x two years = \$157,536.

MEO's energy program saved Maui County's low-income, senior citizens and handicapped over \$1,670,148 within the past two years. Though not readily measurable, the 27 energy conservation workshops did have an impact on saving energy and dollars.

HEAD START PROGRAM

The Head Start program was designed to provide pre-school children from economically disadvantaged families with a head start on education. It is a comprehensive program that serves children between the ages of three and five years whose families fall within an income criteria. Ninety-percent of the children must be from low income and ten percent must be handicapped.

There are eight Head Start classrooms (four on Maui, four on Molokai) with a funded enrollment of 122. There are sixteen teaching staff and five support staff.

Head Start components are (1) EDUCATION: This component provides varied small and large group experiences, as well as meet the needs of the individual child. It also strives to meet the ethnic and cultural characteristics of the child. (2) HEALTH: Head Start provides every child with a comprehensive health care program including medical, dental, mental health, and nutritional services. Children received physical exams, immunizations, vision/hearing exams, and identification of handicapping conditions. Children are served hot lunches and snacks daily. The Nutritionist assists staff in identifying the nutritional needs of the children and supervises the nutrition activities. (3) PARENT INVOLVEMENT: A great emphasis in Head Start is the involvement of parents. Parents are involved in program planning, parent education, and operating activities. They have a voice on administrative and managerial decisions as members of the Policy Council and Parent clubs. Parents participate in workshops and through staff home visits, they learn about educational activities that can be carried on at home. Parents also volunteer in the classrooms where child-rearing practices are learned. (4) SOCIAL SERVICES: The purpose of this component is to meet the needs of the Head Start families through information, referrals, and direct services to community and governmental agencies. (5) CAREER DEVELOPMENT: This component addresses the needs of staff members by giving on-the-job training and workshops. This training improves job performance and career advancement.

This program did have an impact on the children and families. In the two years, 284 children were enrolled in the program. 27 were handicapped children, 238 completed physical exams and immunizations. 150 completed dental services. 112 families received direct services and 27 were referred to agencies. There were 2,200 parent activities through the centers and 386 parents volunteered in the program.

COMMUNITY FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

NUTRITION EDUCATION

The program goal is to upgrade the health of the senior citizens by providing nutritional information relevant to their needs. The objective is to provide once a month session on nutritional education to twenty-two senior citizen lunch sites throughout Maui.

To prevent and control health problems common among the elderly (high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, gout, etc.) good nutrition was stressed, using visual aids, cooking demonstrations, handouts, and verbal presentations.

This program had a definite impact on the clients served because it developed better awareness of good eating habits. It gave senior citizens alternative food choices within their own ethnic cultures and taught them how to cook simple, inexpensive meals without sacrificing nutritional values. (1,200 clients were served).

GROCERY BASKET

This program provides the low-income community and elderly persons of set income with nutritious food products priced below retail store prices. The Grocery Basket uses two vans to transport food products to various locations on Maui in order that low-income/elderly citizens are able to purchase products without traveling a great distance.

This program had an impact on the low-income and elderly participants because the lower prices stretched the participants food dollars. Marketing was made easier because the markets were brought to the participants and the elderly/low-income could earn extra money by selling their produce to the Grocery Basket. (1,900 clients were served in this program).

CHORE SERVICES PROGRAM

The chore Service Program has enabled the sickly, disabled, and aged (over sixty) to remain in their own homes in independent living arrangements (as long as possible), rather than be institutionalized. It is a program designed to achieve and maintain maximum personal independence, self-determination, and dignity in their own homes.

Chore services includes light housekeeping, simple household repairs, laundry, light yardwork, shopping, marketing, emergency transportation, and transportation to doctors, dentist, social workers, etc. for those unable to perform these tasks.

This program has a great impact for the elderly, disabled, and handicapped for with the services offered, clients are able to remain in their own home and enjoy frequent visitations by their friends and people around them. It relieves the anxiety of "being taken away" from friends and familiar surroundings.

During the two years, 386 clients were serviced. 166 individuals remained in their homes and only 8 were institutionalized.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SCSEF)

This program gives employment to low-income elderly persons (fifty-five years and over) who have inadequate set income and poor prospects of employment. The objectives are: (1) Provide work experiences in community services for low income persons. (2) Provide supplemental income to enable the elderly to afford a more reasonable life style. (3) Provide counseling services. (4) Build self-esteem of participants who are being involved in community service. (5) Assists with public awareness of the contributions and needs of the elderly.

SCSEF is designed to serve the low-income elderly through creation of community service positions. Through SCSEF, direct services to the elderly and the community-at-large are increased by the stationing of SCSEF enrollees at needed work sites. This provides employment opportunities for the low-income elderly.

The elderly were involved in the following: (1) Education: Provided custodians, janitors, groundskeepers, and aides to upgrade services at public schools to meet staffing requirements. (2) Environmental: Provided positions in the County's refuse department to aid in environmental control. (3) Parks, Recreation, Senior Centers: Provided groundskeepers and janitors at the various parks and centers. (4) Health-Social Services: Provided outreach and referral workers. (5) Others: Provided clerical workers to non-profit agencies.

This program had an impact on the elderly citizens for it gave them needed wages, enhanced their self-image as contributors to community service, improved their life style, and made them independent of family support (when they are unable to live within their set income). 56 clients were employed and seven were placed in unsubsidized employment.

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

The program goal is to provide supportive companionship to those with physical, emotional and mental disabilities so they could achieve and maintain their highest level of independent living.

The senior companions helped to revitalize family ties, arranged social contacts with other people, read and wrote letters, encouraged personal grooming and hygiene, helped with prescribed physical therapy, assisted with home planning and preparation, shopped for groceries and other household and personal items, and assisted with account management.

This program had an impact on participants because they were able to continue living in familiar surroundings, in their own communities, with supportive help from the senior companions. Also, those who were institutionalized could return to the communities, with the guidance and help of the Senior Companions. (31 clients served by 3 companions).

SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES AND SERVICES

This program provides assistance and services to the elderly to become advocates in securing and developing programs and services to improve their status and to gain knowledge which will make it possible to stretch their limited dollars.

SOS served senior citizens enrolled in twenty-two Ku clubs. At the monthly Ku club meeting, resource speakers from different agencies are utilized to familiarize the elderly with all the resources that are available in the community. Also, shopping trips to help stretch their dollars are covered extensively.

Energy conservation tips were given regularly at the meeting to help the elderly save on energy. For the low-income elderly, timers, shower restrictors, and insulation jackets were installed to cut down energy consumption. The Planning and Coordination Council, composed of twenty-one presidents from the Ku Clubs, have become advocates for the senior citizens. They were able to lobby for funds from the County and State to expand or maintain programs that are beneficial to the elderly. They are also active participants at public hearings on issues concerning the elderly, and have proven that the elderly citizens do have "Senior Power."

The "Plunkett's Plunkers" composed of thirty-two senior citizens from the various Ku clubs, brought laughter and entertainment to the elderly citizens at Kula hospital, Maui Day Care Center, and Hale Makuu. They also are responsible for having other entertainers entertain "shut-ins" in institutions.

This program had a great impact on senior citizens. Through their efforts 117 department stores, supermarkets, and other businesses have offered discount services. 812 were referred to appropriate social services agencies. Senior Citizens have also become knowledgeable about existing services, become more independent, and are now able to get needed services from local and State officials. (7,601 clients received services).

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

This program assists area councils to prioritize problems and issues affecting the disadvantaged and low-income people. Staff have conducted surveys to ascertain community needs and problems. Residents are assisted, through referrals and outreach, in procuring living arrangements they are financially able to pay. Families are given guidance in areas such as child care, marital problems, family/child relation-ships, employment and education. Interested young women were enrolled into the Job Corps.

Staff provided outreach to make the low-income disadvantaged community be aware of government and local services available and to increase opportunities to better themselves. The participants have learned about medical, food stamps, or shelter from the Department of Social Services and Housing, rental subsidies from the County of Maui, community education programs from the Department of Education and Maui Community College, legal services from the Legal Aid Society, and discount prices from the Grocery Basket.

The Molokai Community Health and Social Services program does similar work on Molokai. It assists with health, economic, and social problems causing hardships to the disadvantaged. The program continues to identify the needs of the low-income and provide referrals or direct assistance in dealing with these needs.

The program had an impact on the low-income community because direct services were given to 7,816 clients. 599 participants were referred to the energy program. Staff also assisted with the distribution of 28,830 pounds of cheese and 16,700 pounds of butter.

TRANSPORTATION

MEO operates the only mass transit system in the County of Maui, operating buses and vans on the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai, specifically for senior citizens, economically disadvantaged, and handicapped. This transportation system goals are to achieve and maintain maximum self-sufficiency and independence, thus eliminating dependency on others.

On a daily basis, target groups are taken on scheduled fixed routes to destinations such as shopping centers, financial institutions, medical and dental facilities, government and social agencies, social/educational/recreational facilities, lunch sites, day/work activity, and therapy centers. The program also provided off-schedules requests of target and other community organizations.

The transportation system has a great impact on its elderly and handicapped. It provided mobility needed for people who need life sustaining services. It also benefits three to five year old children of economically disadvantaged families and handicapped children, by providing transportation to and from Head Start centers. (1,200 were served monthly and 831,470 passenger trips were recorded.)

YOUTH COMMUNITY CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (YCCIP)

The YCCIP program provided youths, sixteen to nineteen years of age from seasonal farmworkers families with job training, employment opportunities, and manpower services.

The program offers in-school youths with work experiences and transitional services, including career information and job search workshops.

The training for out-of-school youths, with preference for drop-outs, is designed to develop good work habits and skills, including regular attendance, job responsibilities, use of tools, and knowledge of planting and landscaping.

Worksite placements included forest nursery, propagation work on Molokai, County parks and highway beautification, and the cultivation and preparation of fruits, vegetables, and fruits.

The YCCIP program had an impact on 13 seasonal farmworker youths, most of them unemployed high school dropouts, because it gave them work experience and marketable skills in fields that have reasonable prospects for future employment. (This program was not funded in 1983).

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM (YETP)

The YETP program assisted youths from sixteen to twenty-one, who are seasonal farmworkers or members of seasonal farmworkers. These youths were provided with career alternatives through training and employment.

YETP provided the following services: (1) Training in educational

community institutions to meet the enrollees needs to secure a related job.

(2) Work training to enrollees who have only minimal exposure to work or

employment in non-agriculture jobs. (3) Employment and transitional service

which included career counseling, guidance, placement assistance, and enrollment in secondary schools.

There was a beneficial impact on participants lives because preference

for participation was given to high risk youths, such as drop-outs and

offenders. Twenty-one clients were served and five were placed in unsubsidized employment. (This program was not funded in 1983).

SEASONAL FARMWORKERS PROGRAM

The overall goal of the Seasonal Farmworkers Program is to enable participants to be economically self-sufficient throughout the year. The objectives are: (1) To provide opportunities for seasonal farmworkers and their families who desire alternative work so they would be able to compete in non-agricultural markets. (2) To upgrade the skills or develop new skills for those workers and families who desire to remain in agricultural work but wish to work in non-agricultural work during off-season.

There are five components of the Seasonal Farmworkers Program: (1) Work Experience - To provide training to participants in non-agricultural work. (2) On-the-Job Training (OJT) - Reimbursement is offered to employers to motivate them to hire enrollees and to offset the costs of training. (3) Classroom Training - The purpose is to provide enrollees with occupational skill training in educational institutions, in less-than class basis. (4) Manpower Services - The purpose is to provide job orientation, counseling, development, referrals, search, placement, and follow-up services. (5) Supportive Services - The purpose is to provide pre-employment exams for enrollees.

There was a definite impact on all enrollees because it gave needed income, skills, and training to the economically disadvantaged, which the program is geared to assist. In the past two years, eighty-two applicants were served. Twenty were placed in unsubsidized employment and five returned to school.

JOB SEARCH PROGRAM

This program is a newly funded program whose program goals are to provide counseling services and promote job opportunities for low income persons of the community. The program objective is to serve and make placements into private jobs or into the employment and training program. The supportive services that are provided are counseling, job development, job referrals, job placements, and follow-up. Job contacts are maintained daily.

As this is a new program, funded in June, 1983, the impact to participants are not measurable at this time.

NEW PROGRAMS AND FUNDING SOURCES

	FEDERAL	STATE	IN-KIND		COUNTY		TOTAL BUDGET			
			81-82	82-83	81-82	82-83	81-82	82-83		
ENERGY (LIHEAP)	2,469									
ENERGY CRISIS (WAP)	612	72,794	85,723	42,684	9,425			115,478	95,148	19,380
ENERGY CONSERVATION	1,462	20,232	28,163					20,232	28,163	
URBAN HOUSING	7,700	36,120	7,421					6,465	7,421	
HEAD START	136	320,280	331,376	10,000	18,000	109,572	109,632	36,120	419,852	459,008
UTRITION	1,200								13,264	11,451
RECOVERY ASKET	1,900								13,264	11,451
COUNTY CHORE SERVICE	52							9,500	9,500	9,500

