



CENTRAL AREA MOTIVATION PROGRAM .. IS BLACK HISTORY

BACKGROUND

The Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) is the oldest social agency exclusively serving Seattle's Central Community. It was conceived in 1965 by the Central Area Citizen's Committee (CACC) in direct response to the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Over the years CAMP has served Central Area residents with a variety of programs as well as having provided Employment and Training for well over 1,000 individuals.

DIRECTORS

The Administration of the program has been in the capable hands of Lonnie Williams, Walter Hundley, Harold Whitehead, Charles W. Hodges, Frank Waynewood and, the current Executive Director, Mrs. R.Y. Woodhouse.

FORMER PROGRAMS

One of the initial thrusts of CAMP was to improve educational opportunities for the Area's Youngsters. Therefore, many of the first community programs were academically oriented. CAMP did not stop there, however, and has always changed and adapted in order to meet an entire range of community needs in the most effective manner possible. How many of these programs do you recall?

Job Counseling and Development
Youth Department
Junior Teen Council
Senior Teen Council
Jobline
Tutoring

SCORE

VISTA - Parent Outreach
Detached Workers
"The Trumpet Newspaper"
Family Counseling
Planned Parenthood
Model Neighborhood Beautification
Tot Lot Program
Central Area Federal Credit Union
Model Cities Community Survey
Tenant Organization
ADC Motivated Mothers

CURRENT PROGRAMS

As the Community has changed, developed and become more sophisticated in terms of expressing and meeting its needs, so has CAMP. Today our emphasis is on providing social support to individuals and families in the area. Our current program components are:

Operation Improvement
Afro-American Arts
Black Arts/West Theater
Dance
Education Talent Search
Headstart/ Day Care
Home Repair Service
Community Organization
Food Bank (Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church)
Sickle Cell Anemia
Drug Abuse
Environment
Housing
Employment
Referral
Youth Activities
Arts and Culture



Executive Director, Mrs. R. Y. Woodhouse explains that the future of CAMP is the future of the Central Area. The agency has already spawned many successful independent programs and been the starting point of many a successful career. She says "In spite of constant internal program modifications, we intend to stick around as the only agency committed to the Central Area alone. Our approach will undoubtedly continue to vary, but our commitment to Central Area residents and their needs will not."

HEAD START

C.A.M.P. Head Start grew out of an overwhelming need for day care in the Central Area of Seattle. Hundreds of mothers who needed and wanted employment were prevented from seeking it by the dearth of qualified day care facilities.

In April 1966, a disastrous fire in a house being as a result, funds were utilized by the Central Area Motivation Program, (the agency designated by the Office of Economic Opportunity to fight the War on Poverty in the Central District of Seattle,) open a Day Care Center at Grace Methodist Church. As the demand grew, three more centers were developed at Temple Dellirsch, University Presbyterian Church, and First Baptist Church, under the same auspices.

In October of 1967, additional funding from Head Start allowed C.A.M.P. Head Start to upgrade its standards in program services for the children and their families, and training for its employees. The Summer of 1968 brought another center at St. Peter's, which receives its funding from the Department of Labor under the Concentrated Employment Program. In 1970, the C.A.M.P. Head Start serves approximately 120 children between the ages of

3 and 6, and their families, with a staff of 35 including 24 classroom personnel.

The individual center is divided into two classrooms, each staffed with a teacher, an aide and volunteers. There is a structured program alternating individual and group activities, the core of which is the Human Development Program; this is a daily activity in which each child participates, building his mastery of skills and his awareness of himself as well as others.

In the Medical Department, the Nurse with the aid of an assistant and volunteers, is able to locate present and potential health problems, to institute a program of immunization, and to refer the family for the proper medical assistance when needed.

The Nutrition Department which is located at Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, dispenses a full lunch and morning and afternoon snacks to all centers, as well as information relating to the importance of good nutrition to healthy growth and development.

Volunteers are valuable to all departments of C.A.M.P. Head Start and can be assigned to the duty where they feel they will contribute most to the program.

