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COMMISSION ON AGING

This Report is submitted to the Governor and the
Legislature in compliance with Section 6, Chapter 55,
Laws of 1969 creating the Commission on Aging
(13-1-58, NMSA 1953)

A N N U A L R E P O R T

COMMISSION ON AGING

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

59TH FISCAL YEAR

JULY 1, 1970--JUNE 30, 1971

ANNUAL REPORT

NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON AGING
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

JULY 1, 1970--JUNE 30, 1971

Implementing the 1969 Amendments to Title III of the Older Americans Act in the period from July 1, 1970 through June 30, 1971.

I. OBJECTIVES --

1. Community organization for local, District and State preparations for the 1971 White House Conference on Aging.
2. Publication of a comprehensive report on State activities leading to proposals and recommendations toward a National policy on Aging.
3. Reorganization and fuller use of the Advisory Committees on Aging.
4. Completion of a training program in Gerontology with Eastern New Mexico University at Roswell in May 1971.
5. Promotion of social Legislation to benefit the elderly.

Specific legislation is needed for (1) certification of boarding homes for older adults; (2) tax relief for persons aged 65 and over and in low income groups; (3) adequate appropriation to the Health and Social Services Department for Old Age Assistance, Medicaid and protective services for the elderly; (4) assurance that facilities for the elderly would be made available from county and municipal recreation funds produced from cigarette and tobacco taxes; and (5) provisions to enable public school districts to assist in developing meals services for older people in local communities.

6. Participation in joint action with other interested public and voluntary organizations for needed legislation to benefit the elderly.

7. Completion of the University of New Mexico Report of the Survey of the Characteristics of the Older Population and Facilities for Meeting Some of Their Needs.
8. Completion of directory of State agency facilities, programs and services available to older people.
9. Completion of required audits of Title III projects continuing into another project year or upon termination of project grant funds.
10. Continued administration of six Title III community projects with emphasis on development of local support of established programs after termination of project grant funds.
11. Expansion of public information services in cooperation with the University of New Mexico's education television program (KNME-TV, Channel 5) and other mass media.
12. Completion of plans for the State White House Conference on Aging. On December 18 a meeting was held in State Office for chairmen and co-chairmen of District White House Conferences to be held in the six State planning districts. It was decided to hold district rather than county or community conferences to obtain more uniform planning and coordination and to gain more effective delegate participation at both district and State levels. The State Conference was planned for May 21, 1971 at the College of Santa Fe, and it was planned that 500 delegates be involved. Kits of materials were provided to district chairmen and district planning committees made up of chairmen of community or Mayors' Committees on Aging.

II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS --

1. The major accomplishment in 1971 was community organization for local, district and State preparations for the 1971 White House Conference on Aging. State Task Forces were organized and used; community study groups were highly activated; press coverage was excellent. Some 500 delegates participated fully in the State Conference in May. During June a 268 page REPORT was compiled for printing and 99 nominations for the State's quota of 14 delegates to the WHCA were sent to the Governor's Selection Committee for appointments.

2. The State Advisory Council on Aging composed of 12 members was established. This replaces the Inter-Departmental Committee and the Citizens' Advisory Council on Aging set up in 1968-1969, and provides a smaller, more viable working unit made up of equal representation of providers of services and senior citizens.
3. Facilities, Programs and Services Available to Older New Mexicans are detailed in a directory of resources offered by public agencies. Data was compiled from reports provided by 20 cooperating State agencies. The publication was made available to Community Committees on Aging and other interested cooperating groups and individuals.
4. Expansion of Public Information Services - Due to the success of a TV program, THE AGELESS, produced by the Commission, the education television station KNME-UNM Albuquerque requested that a new series to last 39 weeks be produced. This program is in production and is successful. It would have been impossible for the Commission to purchase these services, but the Information Representative on staff has used creative and resourceful means to obtain them at no cost to the Agency, aside from costs for salary, travel and telephone expenses.
5. Involvement of college and university officials and faculty in the Workshop on Gerontology is a small step toward development of a State Center in Gerontology.
6. Inter-agency cooperative efforts developed with the U. S. Senate Special Committee on Aging on a study of elderly Indians, with the State Office, Farmers Home Administration on Housing and with the Four Corners Regional Commission for a possible sub-Committee on Aging within its framework for planned cooperation in Aging in the four states in the Region--New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado.

III. TITLE III PROJECTS IN OPERATION DURING 1970-1971.

1. Senior Centers of Quay County completed its third year in March 1971. The grantee organization requested financial support from the City and County Commissioners for continuation of the program. Funding was approved and the Program will be continued.
2. Senior Citizens Project "FIND" - Mora is completing its third

year in July 1971.

The project has accomplished its goal to encourage and organize the elderly to get involved in social action programs. A survey located the elderly living in the county and identified some of their needs and problems. The older population is aware of services of other agencies which has been accomplished through information and referral services. Unable to gain sufficient local resources to continue, program continued by volunteers.

3. Gallup Senior Citizens Centers will complete its third year in October 1971. The City of Gallup has created a Senior Citizens Advisory Committee as a part of City government. The program is considered in City government as a community service for older persons.
4. Senior Centers of Taos County will complete a second year in July 1971. This project is making an effort to coordinate programs for older people. They have arranged with the Junior High School a hot lunch for senior citizens at 35¢ five days a week. Transportation has been provided for senior citizens to doctors' offices, drug stores and Food Stamp Centers. Many problems of the elderly have been identified. There are no resources available in this poor county to help alleviate the problems of the elderly poor.
5. Albuquerque Model Neighborhood Area, Office on Aging will begin its third year in August 1971. The Office on Aging has endeavored to identify the problems of the Aging in the Model Neighborhood Area. The problems so far have been identified as inadequate income, poor health, inadequate transportation, inadequate housing, low educational attainment, inadequate communication channels, language barriers and community apathy.

The elderly constitute the majority of the "invisible poor" in the Model Neighborhood Area.

6. Santa Fe Senior Center has had a successful program. A hot meal program was coordinated through cooperation with the Santa Fe Public Schools. A transportation system with mini-buses was initiated in order to help meet the problem of transportation for the elderly. The project has had a great impact on the community and other agencies.

The second year began as a counterpart of the Santa Fe Model Cities Program, therefore increasing the operating budget. The project staff is constantly working to reach the minority groups, the aged in low income areas and the isolated, homebound. Two additional services have been initiated: Meals-on-wheels designed to provide daily one balanced meal to those persons who are either shut-ins or who, for whatever other reasons, cannot go to or be taken to the existing meal dispensing center.

The Pharmaceutical program offers help in purchasing drugs for those senior citizens who are not on public assistance, but who are unable with their present income to buy drugs that are prescribed by a physician or dentist.

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Personnel
1970--1971

Commissioners:

Clifford Whiting, Chairman, Albuquerque
Miss Alice G. Converse, Secretary, Clovis
Troy A. Newcome, Member, White Rock
Jacobo Bernal, Member, Ranchos de Taos
Joe D. Luna, Member, Santa Fe

Agency Staff:

Mrs. K. Rose Wood, Director
Mrs. Gertrude G. Dodds, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Edythe Pierson, Field Representative
William S. Vigil, Planning Specialist
Neil Ames, Information Representative
Jerry Wood, Acting Research Analyst
Mrs. Rosalie Sisneros, Secretary
Mrs. Emma Hightower, Typist
Mrs. Jacqueline Marlin, Typist

FINANCIAL REPORT

Summary of Expenditures, July 1970 - June 1971

Personal Services - - - - -	\$ 67,485
Operating Expenses - - - - -	32,910
Community Project Grants - - - - -	193,970
TOTAL: - - - - -	\$294,365

Source of Funds:

State Appropriation - - - - -	\$ 25,000
Federal Funds, Administration and Operating Expenses (1) - - - - -	75,000
American Assoc. of Retired Persons (2) - - - - -	1,000
Federal Funds-Community Project Grants (3) - - - - -	102,637
Local Community Projects (4) - - - - -	91,333
TOTAL: - - - - -	\$294,970

- (1) Federal Funds allotted to the State from the Administration on Aging under Title III of the Older Americans Act, SRS/HEW, Wash., D. C.
- (2) A gift of cash to the Commission for White House Conferences
- (3) Federal Funds allotted for Title III Community Projects
- (4) Local Matching Monies, Cash and In-Kind resources

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408 Galisteo Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Sub-office
120 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

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