

AVAILABILITY AND USEFULNESS OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ELDERLY MEXICAN-AMERICANS

HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
UNITED STATES SENATE
NINETIETH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION

PART 3—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

DECEMBER 19, 1968



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¹ Five vacancies in committee membership were caused by the departure from the Senate of Senators George A. Smathers (Democrat, Florida), Wayne Morse (Democrat, Oregon), Edward V. Long (Democrat, Missouri), Frank Carlson (Republican, Kansas), and Thruston B. Morton (Republican, Kentucky). With the adjustment early in 1969 of committee party ratio from 13-7 to 11-9, one Democratic vacancy existed and was filled by Senator Hartke. Senators Murphy, Fannin, Gurney, and Saxbe were appointed to fill the remaining vacancies.

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AVAILABILITY AND USEFULNESS OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ELDERLY MEXICAN-AMERICANS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1968

U.S. SENATE,
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING,
San Antonio, Tex.

The committee met pursuant to notice at 10 a.m., in the Inman Christian Center, Senator Ralph Yarborough, presiding.

Present: Senator Yarborough.

Also present: William E. Oriol, staff director; John Guy Miller, minority staff director; and Margaret M. Fink, assistant clerk.

OPENING STATEMENT BY SENATOR RALPH YARBOROUGH, PRESIDING

Senator YARBOROUGH. These hearings on the availability and usefulness of Federal programs and services to elderly Mexican-Americans will now continue. Two days ago this Special Senate Committee took testimony in Los Angeles at its first hearing on the subject, availability and usefulness of Federal programs and services to elderly Mexican-Americans. We learned much there about the problems and programs in that great metropolis, that county of over 7,000,000 people. Yesterday in El Paso we received testimony from people who are confronted with day-to-day difficulties that arise in a large border city which has yet much to do to meet the pressing needs faced by the elderly of all groups in a community, and of course these problems vary. From State to State, city to city, they vary. We have had people in New Mexico inform us about the status of the elderly Spanish speaking in Albuquerque. In northern New Mexico and southeastern Colorado the elderly Spanish speaking are descendants of those who have been there for many generations. In El Paso, a border city, they are recent arrivals.

And here today in San Antonio we will seek knowledge of ways to serve those who are suffering from lack of service. That question of the condition of the elderly Mexican-Americans in our society today is one which has been raised and I have had complaints about it in my office and this Senate Committee on Aging for some time, and so we are here to get the true facts, both from the officials who make the programs and the people who are affected, for good or bad, by these programs; the good ones, the bad ones, the weak ones, the small ones, and we want an answer to the questions implied in the title of these hearings: that is, the availability and usefulness of Federal pro-

grams and services to elderly Mexican-Americans. These questions raise a good many questions. Among these are the following:

Are large numbers of elderly Mexican-Americans in need of these services or programs provided by Federal funds?

If so, are those services or programs appropriate for meeting the needs, and do they actually reach the people who need them? And to judge by the research that preceded our hearings, and this is 7 years of research in many fields—this committee has had hearings in many States of the Union. Yesterday and today were the first in the State of Texas. Both questions deserve lengthy discussion from people who have firsthand knowledge of the programs and those who should be served by them. And so the Committee on Aging is now in the field taking testimony that will undoubtedly serve as the basis for questioning of our Federal representatives at our final hearings in Washington, D.C., next month.

TESTIMONY AT THE GRASSROOTS

The committee, incidentally, has a long tradition of taking testimony at the grassroots. This is not a legislative committee; this is an investigating committee which has made recommendations in the past that have been enacted into law.

During the long struggle over medicare, this committee gathered overwhelming evidence of both the need for that program and the irresistible popular support for it. Until yesterday in El Paso this committee had never held a hearing in Texas, but now it has allocated this time in December and I am proud to be here today in historic San Antonio to preside at today's hearing. If what happened yesterday in El Paso was any indication in this hearing, we shall have a most informative hearing. We expect to learn a great deal today because much is happening in San Antonio, and because there are hundreds of thousands of people with Spanish surnames in San Antonio. While Los Angeles has more people of Mexican-American extraction than any other city in the Nation, San Antonio has more people with Mexican-American extraction than any other city in Texas. The model city program is already well advanced but residents are raising serious questions about certain of its goals and procedures.

FEW ELDERLY MEXICAN-AMERICANS IN HIGH-RISES

For years San Antonio has been known for its leadership in public housing and yet we have had recently a scholarly study made. We asked why so few elderly, Mexican-American elderly, apply for quarters in these high rise apartments. We found the same thing in Los Angeles and other places, that elderly Mexican-Americans, as a rule, do not like to be pulled out of their family and community situations and put in high rise apartments in some other part of town, away from the areas from where they have spent their lives. And here, as in other cities we have visited, we want to know whether those who are supposed to provide service are actually communicating with those for whom the service is designed.

Over a year ago in a hearing here in San Antonio—I had the privilege and honor of presiding at that Senate hearing—the question of whether we needed a bilingual education bill for youngsters was the

main issue. The answer was yes, and so, I obtained passage for that bill in the Senate last fall and in December, a year ago, it was signed into law by the President of the United States. What we need to know now is, whether we need some kind of legislative mechanism for increasing the number of people with bilingual skills in programs meant to give service to those most in need of it.

We found, for example, in Los Angeles and El Paso, that there are so few bilingual people that over in the field of housing, under HUD, that only one-fourth of 1 percent of the people working for HUD serving in these areas have a bilingual capability—of speaking Spanish to the people they are working with. It has been developed in this hearing—not all for bilingual purposes—it's been developed in these hearings to determine what should be done about the aging, that there is a great shortage of people, competent people with bilingual skills, to work in the Government and other fields. We have found that our bilingual education bill which we passed last year, was needed more than we knew when we passed it.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE LEVELS

We want information too, about public assistance levels. Can we really expect much change for the better until we deal with the fundamental problem, inadequate income of elderly Mexican-Americans? Let me tell you, fellow Texans and fellow Americans, that I am not here as a carping critic. I am seeking knowledge upon which to base remedial laws to present to the whole Congress, and remedial laws based upon needs. That is the only way you can pass it. As in the case of my bilingual education bill, I had the privilege of introducing it into the Congress of the United States last January, the first bilingual educational bill ever introduced into either House of the Congress in the history of this Nation.

It became law, and my cold war GI bill for which I had a long, 8-year fight, and then a 10-year fight to get the full GI bill, because I had the opposition of the Defense Department, the Veterans' Administration, and the Bureau of the Budget, I find that governmental agencies often oppose the things you need worse in this country. We have 6 million discharged veterans and the Defense Department fought that bill out for 8 years to keep them from getting an education. We find this prevails. It is not a rubber stamp Congress. I didn't have the help of the administration. We had to fight three administrations to get the cold war GI bill. We had to fight the administration to get the bilingual education bill. I want to say to my fellow Texans, we in the Senate don't take orders from the executive department, whoever the President is. We think the law is needed; we work to pass it. We are here to get the true facts. If we need legislation, pass it. If we don't need it, we don't pass it. One Congress I was in, 20,000 bills were introduced, 5,000 were passed, 15,000 failed to pass. We have a greater volume of legislation than we can possibly pass upon. We are not seeking legislation for nothing, but only where there is great need.

We are here hopeful of getting remedial information as we proceed, much remedial information in the other cities.

One conclusion we already reached in this, we are not trying to answer in advance, but one conclusion we have already reached is, the need for increase of social security payments. This was stressed in Los Angeles and El Paso. Now, that should be no problem because both of the leading candidates for the presidency promised it. Vice President Hubert Humphrey said if elected, he would recommend to double social security payments in the low brackets. President-elect Richard Nixon came out with a strong statement for marked increase, not a low increase but a large increase of social security, so that both of these candidates of the Democratic and Republican Party advocating a considerable increase in social security and that should be no problem.

NEED TO IMPROVE MEDICARE

Now we developed another thing that I think is needed. I think there is a tremendous need, too, for the medicare laws, the provision that you can make no payment unless the cost is over \$50, the prohibition against furnishing medicine which developed in El Paso and Los Angeles, that diabetes and tuberculosis are two main elements that plague the Mexican-Americans, and the doctors, medical doctors, testified in both places, from the Belvedere Hospital and from the Union Thomas Hospital in Los Angeles, that if medicine could be bought under medicare for less than \$50, or treatment received for less than \$50, that many diseases could be nipped in the bud in various cities. That under the provisions, the person without money couldn't buy medicine, could not receive care of illnesses, they had to wait till there was a massive illness to get into the hospital and charge over \$50 before they got treatment, and this is not only as result of great suffering, illness, disability, but as stated from their experience in those large hospitals, that it was costing taxpayers more money by waiting until a person was seriously ill, before treating the illness at a smaller cost in the beginning, and that would save money to the administration of the medicare program, if this could be furnished under that, and treatments costing less than \$50 be paid.

We issued special invitations to the three Congressmen who represent part of Bexar County, not intending to exclude any in Texas, but we thought they would have a special interest. Congressmen Henry Gonzalez, Clark Fisher and Chick Kazen. They indicated that they couldn't come, we had hopes that Congressman Gonzalez could come. He apparently couldn't be here. Does he have a representative here?

REPRESENTATIVE. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He said he couldn't come?

REPRESENTATIVE. He said he couldn't come because of a previous commitment.

Senator YARBOROUGH. But he has submitted a statement?

REPRESENTATIVE. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We will have that statement filed and printed in full in the record. Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVE. Thank you very much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And I assume he wants this available for the press?

REPRESENTATIVE. He has done this. Thank you very much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He has. Fine.
 REPRESENTATIVE. Thank you, sir.
 (The statement referred to follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HENRY B. GONZALEZ, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS,
 20TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Demographers tell us that the average age of the population of this country is declining. More of us are living longer, but persons under twenty-five make up a larger share of the population than ever, so the median age is in fact going down. Here in San Antonio, the median age of the Spanish surnamed population was 20.1 years back in 1950, but in 1960 the median age was down to a little over 18. Even though the population as a whole is younger than it was ten years ago, the number of older citizens is also greater. In 1950, there were about 9,890 persons of Spanish surname in San Antonio who were over the age of 60. Ten years later, Spanish surname citizens of this city over age 60 numbered about 15,611, an increase on the order of thirty per cent. In some categories, for instance, males between age 70 and 74, the increase was almost one hundred per cent, from 696 to 1,395. I am certain that in all other age brackets where aging is a factor, that is those ages over 40, the growth has been comparable. These people have problems, and they need help. A great many who need help actually need only an opportunity and a chance in life, and it has been my hope for many years that both help and opportunity can be provided these people on the scale that is needed.

An older person who is not blessed with good fortune, high skills or great education is faced with all kinds of problems, and very often these are problems that he neither created nor is capable of solving.

I often receive letters from people who say that they are forty-five or older, and that the husband or father has died, or been incapacitated and cannot work, that there are children at home, the mother is unskilled and has never worked before, and that they are desperate for help. Sometimes children will write to say that they have to help at home, and must drop out of school, and ask me to help them find work. At other times a man will write and say that he was fired from his job, and at his age he can't find another. He is capable of working and so can't draw welfare, but he is unskilled and can do little except heavy labor, and there are too many young and eager hands competing for that kind of work. Sometimes I hear from widows who are too old to work, and who are for some reason not able to get social security, and who either cannot get or cannot exist on meager welfare benefits. All of these problems are problems that the victims never made and could in all likelihood never have prevented, and lie beyond their capabilities to overcome.

Older citizens who have led honest and productive lives and suddenly find their backs to the wall seldom get in desperate situations because they are incompetent, or because they are lazy, or because they are improvident, but simply because they are unfortunate. But the laws are that too often it is assumed that people are in trouble because they *are* incompetent or improvident, and make it impossible for people who desperately need help to get it.

I have received pleas from young people to help them find some way to stay in school, because their family has no means of support other than welfare, but they have passed the age when welfare could help. That is, when these children pass the age when the law assumes that they can help support the family they are cut off. It does not matter if they are through school or not, it only matters to the blind and inflexible law that they can presumably work, school or no school. Laws such as this do not solve the problems of helpless parents, because youngsters can't earn enough to help do much more than carry their own weight if even that. Laws such as this do, however, create terrible strains in families and create new generations of undereducated, bitter and eventually helpless people.

I therefore recommend to this body and any other body responsible for legislation affecting family welfare to eliminate provisions requiring a mandatory cutoff date for aid when children reach a certain age. No one finishes school at age 16, and assistance should not be cut off at that age. I believe instead that aid should continue as long as a child is in school. At the very minimum Social Security payments and other forms of assistance ought to be available to families until children are out of high school. Ideally, however, such aid should be available as long as a child is in school regardless of the level of education, because

high school education is not always enough. I believe that every citizen of this country has a right to obtain as much education as he can usefully absorb, and to obtain the highest level of productivity and skill he is capable of. Laws which deny assistance to those who must have it simply on the basis of arbitrary age have the effect of denying fundamental human rights, and I believe such laws ought to be abolished.

There are additional welfare problems that need to be examined, both at the state and federal level. I believe that too many of our programs are unduly restrictive in scope. For example, we have laws designed to alleviate problems accruing from such specific disabilities as blindness, but this does little good for the person who has some other affliction. I think that what is required is laws providing assistance for those who are handicapped, period. If a person is handicapped and needs help he should have it; aid should not depend solely on whether he has some particular handicap. I do not believe that a person suffering from epilepsy should be denied help that he needs simply because there is no specific legal authority to help him, but this is precisely what happens when assistance is predicated on alleviating specific handicaps rather than on a general authority to help those who are handicapped.

On the state level, welfare assistance is limited by constitutional authority to a fixed amount. However, the population of this state is growing and inevitably, so is the number of those who need help. Aside from this, Federal law and decisions in various courts have worked to increase the number of persons drawing on this resource. The inevitable result is that with more and more people drawing from the same pot, each recipient gets less and less help. I believe that this should be remedied, for there are precious few on the state assistance rolls who could provide for themselves, and they ought to get at least the minimal amounts that the state deems they need. In all too many instances the minimum essential requirement is far greater than the actual assistance being paid.

With particular reference to old age assistance, I have observed in every instance that when Federal social security benefits are increased to help meet the rising cost of living, state old age assistance is reduced by the same amount as the increase. The states make a saving in this way, and the old people who depend on Social Security and OAA are not a dime better off. The cost of living may go up, but their incomes cannot as long as this practice prevails. There ought to be a remedy for this either in federal or state law, so that increases in benefits meant for older citizens actually reach them. As it is now we pay increased social security benefits but too many citizens do not find themselves any better off at all. It is a practice that is shameful at best, and one which at worst makes only an increase in the hardships already on persons who have no defense; the most helpless are made to pay the highest price of social indifference.

The older citizen of Spanish surname has special problems, and in some way special advantages; however, the advantages are small in comparison to the problems. Principally, the advantages lie in the close filial ties that are characteristic of Mexican families; it is expected that both father and mother are honored, respected and cared for. The concept of the extended family means that ties in the family are close, far closer than you find in most American homes, and the family obligations are taken seriously. This means that more commonly than most Americans expect, the Mexican-American in their homes make a greater effort to see that parents are comfortable and as well cared for as possible. But because of the generally low income of Mexican-Americans, there are too many families that simply cannot take care of parents as well as needs be done. There is plenty of need for help.

Older people who are first or second generation immigrants whatever their origin, are less likely to know what their rights are under the law. They may very well have language problems, and too many may command no reading and writing skills in any language at all. Too many are intimidated by the concept of the law itself, and simply want to avoid anyone who seems to represent authority, sensing that the law is trouble. Too many never knew that they were entitled to Social Security benefits, or how to get coverage under the Social Security Act. Too few know how and where to apply for assistance, be it welfare or any other kind of help. Too many live in poor housing and have no idea that public housing may be available; too many are in need of food but do not have any idea of what the food stamp program can do for them; and too many are in need of health care but do not know how to approach the clinics that are available. But not only is it a problem to these people that they simply do not

know what help is available, but there are too many who are afraid to ask. Worst of all, the available help is simply too little and not at all adequate.

There is need for greater education, and there is need for greater resources. Both of these are probably long range propositions. What would be of the greatest immediate help would be a complete change in the concept of public assistance, and immediate change that is possible and could be adopted in a very short time. It would result in more people being helped, and the quality of help being improved, and it could be implemented immediately. What I propose is that public assistance be changed from a passive concept to an active one. That is, I do not believe that the burden of knowing what is available, seeking it out and obtaining it should be left so completely to the recipient. Those who do not know what is available cannot seek it, and those who do not have the courage or initiative to learn what they do not know cannot get help either; I think that what is needed is a new approach, one that places agencies in a different light, and takes them to the clients, rather than simply being around for clients to show up. The passive assistance office is an antagonist to begin with; but the agency that is available on the streets is a friend and protagonist, and the difference is very great indeed. It should not be a matter of workers telling what cannot be done, but of workers showing what can be done, and how.

I have always considered older citizens as assets rather than a burden on society. These people have knowledge, they have experience, and they have energy. Most older people want to be productive and want to help themselves; they want to be needed, rather than put on the surplus pile and left to serve out their remaining days in idleness. I have therefore urged the creation of jobs that older people can fill. I supported the foster grandparents project from its inception, and believe that the results have more than justified my confidence.

The foster grandparent program is now three years old. Under this project, which is supported by OEO funds, older people work in the county hospital children's ward to provide large doses of tender love and care. Children in a hospital need attention just about as much as medicine, and obviously just the medical and nursing staffs have their hands full in providing medical services. However, a foster grandparent can provide other necessities for the small patient. He also observes the children for changes in condition. One very important fact is that sick children get to know and trust their foster grandparents, and will tell them of symptoms that they would not tell a strange doctor or nurse.

By now about 87 people have worked in San Antonio as foster grandparents, and they have provided tender love and care to ten thousand children. The results have been spectacular. Children have had markedly shorter hospital stays, have responded better in every way to treatment, and the hospital staffs have been freed to do other important tasks. The benefits are well worth the small costs of employing these people. It will interest the committee that these foster grandparents seldom miss a day of work and seldom report late; they often work overtime because they love their jobs and they know that they are needed. The money they make is important, because they need it, but the biggest dividend is that the community gets far better medical results for children in the hospital, and the grandparents know that they are making a positive contribution to the community. I can think of no finer example of what an older person can do. I have urged other hospitals to adopt the foster grandparent program, and I think that if additional federal funds for the program were available they would certainly do so. If investment potential is sought for the federal dollar I would recommend the expansion of the foster grandparent program.

The community action agency in San Antonio has started a program employing about 36 older citizens as aides of various kinds. I do not believe that the project has been in being long enough to make an assessment of it, but I do believe that when a year has passed these people will have proved their great value to their employer.

The concentrated employment program has had some experience in recruiting, training and placing workers over age 40. The results have been good; these workers are steady, they are eager to learn and they are determined to make good. I think that employers are beginning to learn that age alone is not a criterion to judge an employee's potential by, and that the CEP operation is helping prove the point.

Obviously, for all older citizens there are jobs that can be done, and would be done if there were only an opportunity. I can suggest several possible jobs that older citizens can do, given the chance—jobs like being dispatchers, or nursing

aides in general medicine and geriatrics, being teacher aides in the schools, perhaps messengers and clerks. An older worker can and will perform, and I think that many more of them should be given the chance. For the older citizen who has a language problem, all that needs to be done is to provide the necessary language training, just as one would provide the necessary arithmetic or nursing training in job conditioning programs. The chances are that for persons of Mexican descent who are old and lack adequate income, the problems are more severe than for others and hence even more study should be given to the special needs they have in finding and holding employment, or in solving whatever other problems they may have, as I have suggested earlier.

In addition to finding more effective means of providing assistance when, as and where it is needed, and providing jobs and opportunities for those who want to work and are able to do so—that is, doing everything possible to prevent older people from feeling lost and rejected, I think that we need to examine far more closely how more effective housing could be provided. Here in San Antonio the elderly have two of the finest public housing units in the country in Victoria Plaza and Villa Trancheese, and similar units are in other, terrace-type developments in the city. Nevertheless there is need for much more housing for the elderly than is now available. Programs for conversion have not been effective enough—the Granada Hotel conversion is an example of housing that could have been more effectively used for the elderly. With respect to the elderly Mexican-American population, special consideration needs to be given to their special social needs, and their special outlooks and desires. In addition more housing of a less dense nature ought to be made available since there are many people who are unaccustomed to high rise living and would feel far more comfortable in other types of housing. The Housing Authority here is designing a quadruplex unit that will have a common yard area, but will also have private yard space for each family in the unit—this is the sort of new idea that should be explored and tested.

I appreciate the interest of the Committee in coming to San Antonio. All our older citizens have problems, and all these problems should be recognized and given the attention of the Congress. Nevertheless it is good and valuable that the Committee is considering a special group of people, and I hope that I have made some contribution to your efforts.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is there any representative here of Congressman Kazen or Congressman Clark Fisher? If there is not, we will keep the record open for 30 days and I will ask the staff to notify them that it is open, if Congressman Fisher or Congressman Kazen or any other Congressman in Texas desires to make a statement. I know another Congressman who does want to make a statement who had conflicting engagements. We all have in the month of December, and he couldn't come. The next witness after the Congressmen were invited were the county commissioners, County Commissioner Albert Pena, Jr. Commissioner Pena, are you ready to proceed? Come around. We have microphones over there for you to be heard. Do you have any staff that you want to accompany you? You can bring staff members if you wish.

Commissioner PENA. No; in the commissioners court we do not have any staff.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I just came from Los Angeles where the commissioners are called county supervisors and they have staff out there that makes our Senate staff so small by comparison, but they do have 7 million people in that county and it might make a difference.

Commissioner PENA. I will talk to Commissioner Baldemar and see.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Commissioner Pena, you can present this in your own way. If you have a written statement, if you have copies we can make that available to the staff. If not, it is all being recorded, it will all be printed in the permanent record. Whether you have a written statement or not, just proceed in your own way.

STATEMENT OF ALBERT PENA, JR., COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Commissioner PENA. I thank you very much, Senator Yarborough, and first of all I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the citizens of Bexar County and San Antonio and the No. 1 County Precinct, to welcome you to San Antonio and Bexar County. Also, I want to publicly congratulate you, Senator, for the very outstanding and excellent job in passing the bilingual bill. I think this was historic, and I think it will bring about a better understanding between people when they can converse with each other. Also it will help in the educational process. I congratulate you. As I drove down here I noticed something that perhaps is symbolic of the need of remedial legislation. I noticed here on the west side that they have recently constructed a resort hotel.

I believe it is on the old urban renewal area, and it occurred to me that if an elderly person wants to return and visit his old neighborhood he or she has to do it either as a maid or a janitor. I did not—I do not have a written statement but I will reduce this into writing within the next 30 days. I understand we have 30 days. I thought I would give you my gut reactions—I remembered my law professor on constitutional law, and he used to ask us to present our cases, present the facts, and then present the ruling and after we did that he would ask us, especially in civil rights cases, to give our gut reaction and this is what I hope to do, is to give my own gut reaction on the basis of some of my experience.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Commissioner Pena, you have been county commissioner for a good many years of the county commissioner's precinct that has jurisdiction over the entire county. We had in El Paso the testimony of two county commissioners. In Los Angeles there are five county supervisors, that is what they call them. Two of their county supervisors testified. Before they did, the entire supervisory support of five called me in and commended the hearing unanimously, both Democrat and Republicans on that board of supervisors. They have both parties represented in Los Angeles. They were very commendatory of our work. So it is nothing unusual for county supervisors in California or Commissioners of Texas to testify. We have had two hearings, so we are glad you came and give us your knowledge that you are certain to have gained in years as county commissioner.

NUMBER ONE PROBLEM: POVERTY

Commissioner PENA. I think the number one problem of the elderly Mexicano is poverty. People are just poor. This Mexican-American elderly has three strikes against them. First of all, they're poor and they are hungry. Second, they are of Mexican descent, and third, they are old. This is not only double jeopardy, it is triple jeopardy. When we say that they are poor and they are hungry, we do not have too many statistics on how much these people are receiving either through Social Security and/or Old Age Assistance, but we are almost sure that more than half, more than half receive less than the poverty level of \$3,000 a year—many much less than that, but it is more than half of the elderly here in Bexar County and more than half of the elderly throughout the State of Texas. And when we talk about people being

hungry I don't want to indulge in an exercise of semantics as to what do we mean by "hunger" or "nutrition." Simply, we mean that people are hungry because they do not earn sufficient money to feed themselves. Many are not covered by the Social Security laws because many have worked on the farm where there is no Social Security, and those that do have Social Security because of long years of low wages, they don't receive a lot of money. But this is strike number one, that is the Mexican-Americans are poor and they are hungry.

Second, there was also a survey—I am sure you know Alex Mercure, who is a social worker in New Mexico, and he made a survey which is very significant. I believe that he found that one-half of the 65 years plus Mexican-Americans, that there are that many who are not receiving Social Security or Old Age Assistance because of lack of information. The second strike is that they are of Mexican descent and as result of the years of job and wage discrimination, unequal education, and injustice, they find themselves in the position that they are. And the third strike is, of course, that they are old people. We Mexican-Americans have very strong ties with our families and by and large we take care of our elderly people. They tell me that this is beginning to wane. I don't know to what extent, if at all, but the fact of the matter is that the families who take care of their elderly people are also poor as a result of all of these other things we are talking about. I believe there are certain solutions. I think you mentioned one awhile ago, Senator, and that is to raise the social security payments. I would like to see them also raise the old age assistance payments.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION : RECOMMENDATIONS

I would like to see them taken out of the State and run by the Federal Government. Now, as to hunger and people not having enough money to buy enough food, I understand—and I think this is admitted by the Secretary of Agriculture—that there is enough food in the United States to feed all of our people. The problem is in the distribution. I would recommend first that the food distribution be taken out of the hands of the Agriculture Department and placed in a new agency with only one job, to see to it that no one goes hungry in the United States. I think we ought to make the food stamps available to people, old people, whether they have money or not, and many do not. I think we ought to change the law where we can have both food stamps and also surplus commodities. I don't think there is any reason why, in this great Nation of ours, anyone should go hungry. And, Senator, I would urge an end to all job and wage discrimination. These people are receiving these low social security payments because of years of job and wage discrimination, years of low wages, and I think it would be well if we started with the Federal Government, with the Federal installations. I would recommend that you start at Kelly Field. I don't think we need any more surveys of Kelly Field.

I think what we need is a general that does not play footsie or conspires with the local power structures to maintain discrimination there. Better still, I think the civilian government should administer Kelly Field and it should be by someone who is bilingual, No. 1; and, No. 2, familiar with the long years of job discrimination there at Kelly Field. Kelly Field is just one example because this is true of

most of the Federal installations. The Government is the largest employer in the Southwest of Mexican-Americans, and—but it is also—it is also the biggest offender. Therefore, if we eliminate job and wage discrimination in the Federal Government this would set the example for the rest of the country. The other recommendation that I have is that we have to provide housing for our elderly Mexicanos. Hopefully that this be done near hospitals, near churches, near a shopping center.

They need transportation. I think we ought to start a program of adult education and also provide legal service for these people. And I don't mean just setting up an office in El Barrio, but have lawyers go door to door and affirmatively find out what their problems are and affirmatively do something about it. I agree with your position on medicare. I think the \$50 deductible should be eliminated, and—because many of these people cannot afford it. And even more important than that, with your legal services and your medical care and so forth, that there should be a consistent followup to see that the people who have gotten this information have taken advantage of it. We have many problems as you know, Senator, but the No. 1 problem is poverty. And again, I want to thank you for this opportunity of having me present these views. This is my own gut analysis of the problem here in San Antonio.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Commissioner Pena, you have made many recommendations. In fact, you have made as many recommendations as the other witnesses combined, which shows you have been thinking about this. You have pinpointed it. You have gone to the root causes of the disadvantaged state of the elderly Mexican-American in the general poverty. Of course that view, many of your recommendations on general poverty are outside of the scope of this committee, but they are not outside of the scope of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee of the Senate of which I serve, which includes the Manpower Retraining Subcommittee and the subcommittee having jurisdiction over all of the poverty programs. So I have the benefit of all of this. Now, most of the recommendations you made are the weaknesses in the treatment of these people that you pointed out have already been made at other places, except for Kelly Field. Of course, that is locally in San Antonio, but the other major recommendations have been made and, of course, we in Texas have many more persons in the poverty bracket than any other State in the Nation—California and New York have about 3 million people each, with Texas about 11 million people.

“LONG HISTORY OF LOW WAGES”

But due to a long history of low income and low wages Texas has more people in the poverty bracket than any other State, even the States with 20 million population. One reason is there is a long history of low wages. Thirty-eight States in the Union have minimum wage laws. Texas has no State minimum wage law. As a result we have had low wages, statewide, for decades, and that in turn has pulled down the social security payments because the payments are based on the amount of wage paid. Of the States without minimum wage law, Texas is the only rich State without minimum wage law. It is the only big State in

population without a minimum wage law. The State is the only large State in resources without—no, the other 11 or 12 States without a minimum wage law, all are small, weaker agrarian States, weak in population; and as you pointed out this long history of low wages, of disadvantages of the elderly in Texas, at worse in their condition, all levels, whether they be Latinos, Anglos, Negroes, all have a poor status in Texas because of the long history of low wages.

Now the Federal Minimum Wage Law of 1966 brought under this protective shield for the first time in the Federal law a Federal minimum wage law, the workers in hotels, motels, hospitals, nursing homes, cafeterias, laundries, many others of what we call a service purpose, but it will be years before those people retire and that is reflected in their social security payments, and the need is for something now. The poverty is the end product of decades of the lowest wages of any of the States in the Nation. Since Texas has no minimum wage law, this Federal minimum wage law will help more people in Texas than in any other State in the Union and it will help the aged in the future. We are dealing in the present now. This survey in New Mexico showing that one-half of the aged Mexican-Americans were not receiving any social security or old-age assistance payments. Do you know of any comparable survey made in Texas?

Commissioner PENA. No; I have not been able to find anything on that.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And does the staff know of any comparable survey in Texas? You might say that we have a staff representing this special Committee on the Aging, we have both the majority and the minority staff representing both parties in committee. We also have a staff member representing the Legislative Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. Well, I go from committee to committee. These men are specialized, they stay with that committee, permanent staffers, hired by the Senate to work on it at all times.

Commissioner PENA. Herman Brotman, I believe, who is an analyst for the Federal Government, made surveys but he excluded the Mexican American and this was the only source I could find, but it had nothing in it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I will direct the staff to prepare—hopefully, entries—I will address entries to all agencies of the Government requesting information on this and if they do not have it I will request that this survey be made as soon as possible.

Commissioner PENA. I would recommend one more thing, Senator, that as these programs develop, hopefully that the senior citizens themselves be allowed to participate and wherever possible, retain either full time or part time in any of these programs that might be affected.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Be retained full time or part time what, Commissioner?

Commissioner PENA. Helping in the program.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes?

Commissioner PENA. Contacting and communicating with people in the areas. We have here in San Antonio, for example, some very effective barrio organizations and they are becoming more and more effective and more and more local, too.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We had testimony in Los Angeles from Mexican-Americans, bilingual ladies, Mexican-American extraction, who are over 65 who have been helping greatly in this field as volunteers. Though they were handicapped by not having automobiles, by not having any funds, office, by having to handle it in their own homes, by having their own card, series of card in the homes, just volunteers, the county was beginning to help them.

We had also your recommendation that this be taken away from the State, this old age assistance, and run by the Federal Government.

STATE REDUCTIONS IN ASSISTANCE

That has been made at the former hearings also. Of course, that raises a problem. We found widespread disaffection as to how the State should run it. It raises on the other hand problems of objections on the ground that a vast Federal bureaucracy would be created. Those are conflicts that we will have to resolve. Now, unfortunately, Texas has a rule that very few States in the Union have. Suppose a person is receiving \$45 a month social security, and that is supplemented by \$40 a month old age assistance to bring them up to a subsistence level. When we raise that social security in the Congress, the State of Texas cuts down on the old age assistance and it leaves those people without any benefits, and these are—there are a handful of States in the Union that do that.

Unfortunately the Texas State government cuts down the old age assistance the minute we raise the social security. So the people who have a vast volume of mail from Texas suffer most and need help most get little benefit from the raises in Federal social security. And we must have some way where we can get the increase of social security actually felt and in the pockets and hands of the people who need it worse. That is our problem. The State and Federal Governments are working it out. You mentioned transportation. It is one of the prime problems the people had, the aged getting the food stamps, the surplus commodities. Is that what you were referring to in transportation?

Commissioner PENA. Yes, Senator; I think here in San Antonio we have one central distributing place for food stamps. I mean—

Senator YARBOROUGH. You mean that is the only place, that one place?

Commissioner PENA. I am almost sure that is true.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, in El Paso, since the population is spreading around the Rio Grande Valley they were taking steps up and down the Rio Grande Valley to open some of those areas in El Paso County, and where you would have population here of nearing three-quarters of a million in one county, it seems to me that one central agency only works a great hardship on people. How—what does it cost the people to go into that agency from the outlying areas of the city? You have a transit system here, do you not?

Commissioner PENA. Yes. Well, the poor people are scattered all over the county and some of them come from long distances, but I don't really know what it costs. But whatever it costs, it is costing them too much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Now, we have had reports—are you familiar with this report from the Administration on the Aging of the U.S. Department of Health and Education and Welfare? This was a special study made on services to the Mexican-Americans in San Antonio where—it was completed the 31st of May of 1968—it was under the direction of the Federal Government on a special grant of the American Institute of Research.

They thoroughly researched occupancy in high-rise apartments. Their studies show that the average elderly Mexican-American just didn't want to be moved away from his neighborhood into a high-rise apartment, and in fact wouldn't go. If you move—if you build housing for the aged and made it solely high rise and moved it away from the area, then it is not existing for them. It tears them away from their family, their family structure, their local region in which they have spent their lives. For them it is not—it is not a benefit unless it is brought to them. Have you had available a copy of this research, Commissioner Pena?

Commissioner PENA. I don't know, Senator. I get so many of those.

MEXICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY STRUCTURE

Senator YARBOROUGH. I agree with you that the basic problem is poverty, first in the people, and that results in an increase in poverty for the aged, their earning capacity, they are at a grave disadvantage. And you mentioned one factor that has also popped up in Los Angeles and El Paso, that the Mexican-American family is more closely knit than that of the Anglo family.

They lived together as a unit more, but under the pressures of modern society at last that is beginning to break down as parents have a choice between caring for their parents or getting their children an education. This puts tremendous pressure on the parents. Are we going to take care—better care of our own parents and thereby deprive our children of a means of an education, or are we going to educate our children and let our own parents suffer? This is a hard choice for parents to make. We will invite your comments, you have raised these points. We invite your written statement and explanations further, but I would like to say that most of these points have been raised, except for Kelly Field. I understand that the Civil Rights Commission of the U.S. Government, a Commission created by the Congress, appointed by the President of the United States, and the members confirmed by the Senate in order to get an impartial committee created to investigate complaints. I understand they have been holding hearings in El Paso.

We will await their findings and I will consider your statement and request there—we will look forward to it because that is a specially furnished staff and they have had numerous hearings all over the country and we will get the benefit of their report and then this committee will study that. Thank you, Commissioner Pena.

Commissioner PENA. Thank you, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Any questions from the staff? Thank you very much. The next witness is Rev. Ralph Ruiz, director of the Queen City's Intercity Apostolates of the Catholic Diocese of San Antonio.

**STATEMENT OF REV. LAWRENCE J. MATULA, CATHOLIC PRIEST,
ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO, REPRESENTING REV. RALPH
RUIZ, DIRECTOR, QUEEN'S CITY INTERCITY APOSTOLATES OF
THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE**

Father MATULA. Thank you, Senator. There was a statement in yesterday's Express with regard to Archbishop Robert E. Lucey sending out some skinny cats instead of the regular fat ones, so Father Ruiz is out of town and I am prepared to make a statement. My name is Lawrence Matula, and I am a Catholic priest of the Archdiocese in San Antonio, and I reside at 1122 Chihuahua here on the near west side. I do not claim to have the title of a professional social worker and hence there is a lack of knowledge with regard to the technicalities, the legalities, as stipulated by the agencies who are concerned in this hearing. My presentation will be on the grassroots realities, realities which are faced by many who work daily in the barrios of the west side and other areas where the aged Mexican-American presents the problems of unpleasant reality. I feel that it should be categorically stated that it is the obligation of society to consider and treat the aged, not as a burden but as citizens who have contributed immensely to their country, to their State, and to their city, and who now in their venerable age can expect to be cared for properly by that very same society.

A citizenry which has rendered obedience to the rules and regulations of society should have that same compliment returned by society heeding the needs stipulated by the same group of citizens who now, by reason of their age, find their sustenance very, very difficult. There are undoubtedly many who fall into the old age bracket who do not find tremendous difficulties by reason of their old age. Their incomes have them safely secure for their rainy days but there are equally as many, if not more, who find a great lack in their latter years even though they find themselves the recipients of varied and many programs. It is to this particular group that we wish to direct our remarks. The amount of money which an old-age grant provides is designated by the terms "maximum" and "minimum" and there always seems to be a lot of discursive emphasis upon the maximum, which in reality is minimum to the very existence for the aged. And since we are dealing with people, the basis for assistance can be measured by a subjective rule rather than the objective scale—which is presently used. The assistance should be based on the needs of the aged and not on impersonal, irrelevant mental concepts which are for the most part removed from the actual needs of the aged individual.

ASSISTANCE GRANT QUICKLY EXHAUSTED

I think we can safely say that something must be wrong with the present maximum grant for old-age assistance, because within 12 to 20 days after this grant is received many, many of these people come to us asking for food and for financial assistance to meet pressing bills, especially medical bills. For every aged individual that comes to us we feel certain that there are many others who suffer greatly because they seldom ask for anything. Rather, they wait patiently until someone offers or asks them if they need any kind of help. It is not until

they are asked that these needs are made known. These needs are always food and medicine. And why they do not have these basics, the inevitable answer will always be we have no money to buy them because the money we got in our grant is out. Now, we cannot equate chronic illness, for example, with old age but most of our elderly Mexican-Americans have either a cardiovascular condition, they suffer from diabetes, have arthritis, or some type of eye pressure trouble, and most have at least two of these conditions. And thus we can understand why it is almost inevitable that they find themselves in shortage of funds which are needed for this food and nutrition or medication.

Much of the grant is taken up on medical bills because medicines they need have to be paid on the spot and they cannot receive a reimbursement until the end of the year. There is another complaint which we are constantly faced with by the aged, and that complaint is that the grant of old age assistance has either been reduced or taken away, because they have moved in with relatives or friends. Now, it seems strange to me that their need for a livelihood, a basic need is lessened or taken away by the simple and natural circumstance of desiring to be with one's own. Their dignity is hurt when they are treated thus, they become victims of partial or either a total dependence upon a relative or a friend who already has pressing responsibilities. And at face value it would seem as though the system is taking advantage of the beautiful and cherished cultural trait of the Mexican-American; that is, the trait of strong family ties. And this certainly constitutes injustice. Assistance must be given regardless of whether they live alone or with others; with assistance the aged would not be a burden to a relative or friend; and above all, the aged individual would be able to maintain dignity and composure.

TOO OLD FOR WORK, TOO YOUNG FOR WELFARE

And most of all, that that individual have a feeling of self-reliance which is probably the most basic to us all. Old age constantly seems to be equated with the arbitrary figure of 65. Now, granted to reach such a number of years is merit enough for an individual to expect some recompense from society he has served. However, there are countless individuals who have not reached this venerable age of 65. This group finds itself too old for work and too young for welfare because they do not save a qualifying total disability. They can be 40, 50, 55 years old, and look 72. We feel that society has an obligation to this group of people as well, an obligation which has to take the form of assistance similar to that of the needs of the aged. In addition to the economic difficulties which are encountered by the aged Mexican-American, they find themselves in a world apart. They are for the most part a lonesome group. They get sick rather easily, they lack good neighbor relationships, and their thinking is very different. They have difficulty getting their food and medical care because of distance and ambulatory problems. They feel themselves an imposition upon relatives and friends if they ask for any kind of help.

They even have to hire someone who may be—to maybe just clean up their yards or fix up their house, and then if they can't pay rent a summons of eviction is presented to them for which they even have to pay. There is a lack of sufficient funds for proper diet after the bills

are paid, and there seems to be the ever-pressing problem of transportation. All of these realities, and others, drive these aged individuals further into their shell and into a world of their own, a world into which they pity themselves because society seemingly has no further use for them, no further use for them as human beings. How cruel can we become with our objectively regulating scales of old age assistance? Is it possible that we have become inhumane to a most humane portion of our society? In the midst of an intricately woven system of assistance this is the problem which faces the grassroot worker, and the simple fact that such realities are presented by the aged themselves demands validity to this presentation. The old-age assistance rules and regulations as now existing supposedly prevent the happening of the plight of the elderly Mexican-American as just described.

RECOMMENDATIONS

But laws or no laws, this is what the aged person is telling us that he is confronted with, and if this is what is happening to him—and it really is—then we must investigate where the fault lies and initiate the necessary machinery to remedy these ills now faced by aged Mexican-Americans. As a nonsocial worker but as one involved in the grassroots level, I would like to make the following recommendations to this hearing. The first: That the grants be made according to the subjective needs of the aged person and not according to standards which are categorized as minimum and maximum. Secondly, that old age assistance be not limited to the arbitrary figure of 65, but be extended to include those "disabled" and not covered by other programs. Thirdly, that the residential requirement of 25 years be more considerate. Ten years residency in the United States could be sufficient enough. Fourthly, that every aged individual have a telephone and a television because for the most part this is their only real means of communication with the outside world. Fifthly, that the aged be allowed to live alone or with relatives of their own choosing, without having their grant reduced or completely taken away.

Sixth, that the housing authority of San Antonio not increase rent if relative or friend moves in with the aged unless that moving individual has a job income. Seventh, that nurses visit the aged to tend to their medical assistance. And lastly, that well-constructed programs along constructive and recreational lines be initiated for the elderly, and committees should be formed to look into this area and prepare a program for this purpose. That is all I have in the prepared statement.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Father Matula, you have described a sad situation in beautiful language and you have described it in a more meaningful way than any witness we have heard, in either Los Angeles or El Paso, where we had many witnesses from Government agencies, from religious institutions, from charitable organizations, and from the general public. I want to commend you on the study you have given this question and the knowledge that goes into the statement. You have made recommendations that we have not heard before but from the information we have, we can tell you have reached the root of this problem.

Father MATULA. This is what we are faced with daily. In other words, the rules and regulations may state otherwise to avoid having

happenings such as this, but the fact is that this is really happening. Why? This is what we want to know.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you have any information as to any particular parish or have any of your parishes taken a census among their parishioners as to what percentage of the people over 65 draw either—of Mexican-American extraction—draw either Social Security or Old Age Pension?

Father MATULA. To my knowledge that is not included in any kind of a census.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That you know of—

Father MATULA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They did take one, as you probably heard here, in Houston, and a portion of New Mexico that 50 percent didn't—that has been testified to here that the Mexican-Americans are very proud people and do not want to ask for what they might consider charity. This is handed to them in some way as to cause them to think they are an object of charity. They will go to great lengths to avoid it.

Father MATULA. Very much so.

RESISTANCE TO CHARITY

Senator YARBOROUGH. And that is another attribute, in addition to the strong family ties, strong religious feeling, the feeling that they don't want to be dependent on the government, that don't want to be objects of charity. That causes many of them to fail to apply and it points up to the points that Commissioner Pena made, and you have made. The people must go to search these people out because they will sit there and they'll stay sick and starved before they will ask for anything, due to their great inner pride. Is that your feeling too?

Father MATULA. Very much, and it seems as though in many cases, in many instances the individual upon being approached by a worker of one kind or another is not completely informed of his so-called welfare rights, so that that individual remains ignorant of what he has a right to. Granted the law states otherwise, but this is something that happens.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It has been developed in the other hearings in California and in El Paso, that when the medicare first became operational—when the original instructions were sent out to every person drawing social security payments—that they were told to enroll for medicare, but that was sent out only in English except in Puerto Rico, where it went out in Spanish and later additional instructions came in Spanish. But many of the people had failed to enroll; they didn't understand English and their younger members of their family didn't understand the English instructions. They received many things through the mail and they thought it was some kind of government report and they failed to enroll and they are not being searched out, and told of the opportunities to enroll in medicare. We have developed that in these hearings. Yours is a very informative statement. The last paragraph—you say—what you basically say is that this should have a governmental and not a business approach to it?

Father MATULA. Correct.

Senator YARBOROUGH. This is not a business; this is government, of concern about caring for people and your eight points will be given

our most careful consideration. The needs for aged people, for helping them. I wish it were possible for me to lend them my telephone some days.

Father MATULA. Thank you very much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you very much for this statement. Stop the record a minute.

(Conversation off record.)

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right. The next witness is Mr. Dan Medina, Special Assistant Director of the Wesley Community Center. All right, Mr. Medina.

STATEMENT OF DAN MEDINA, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Mr. MEDINA. Thank you, Senator Yarbrough, and members of the committee. I want to thank you for the opportunity of allowing me to come and speak on behalf of the aged. I have been working with these people for approximately 24 years in three different settlement houses here in the City of San Antonio. I have been very concerned about the situation since I felt that many of the neighborhood centers and other agencies which should be helping the elderly have not been doing so. As a result of this, in 1960 when I was working on a master's degree I wrote my thesis along this line. As a matter of fact, it is entitled "The Rule of the Aged in the Settlement Houses in San Antonio." I consider that these people—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Pardon me, Mr. Medina. Do you have a copy of that available? We don't want to take yours—

Mr. MEDINA. Mr. Oriol has a copy of this, and as a matter of fact, you can ask me some questions about this later on and I can answer some of them. I also feel that it would be a whole lot better if you talked to some of these people directly yourself; so that is why you see some here with me. As a matter of fact there are about 13 more over there because they are interested in their own problems and they want to know what it is all about. One of the things that I feel very deeply in is that these people don't know their rights and they have to depend on a lot of people to speak up for them. I think probably at this point I would read this brief statement which I have presented. It is a repetition of a lot of things that have been said here this morning and I think also in El Paso, and a lot of places. But this is the one that I have—that I would like to state. The problems that I have seen and the ones that I consider are the most urgent for these people, and of course, my name is Dan Medina, and I am the area coordinator for the Colima Extension of Wesley Community Centers.

"FORGOTTEN BY MOST AGENCIES"

I have been a worker in three different settlements in the city for the past 24 years, since September 1, 1944. During this time I have noticed that the elderly people have been forgotten by most agencies that offer services to the community. One reason is that this group of citizens are the least vocal in expressing their needs. They have a real problem in communication because they don't speak English. They

have to rely on social workers or other interested individuals to speak for them when applying for any type of assistance. The elderly in San Antonio with whom I have worked suffer from isolation. At Wesley we have made an attempt to combat this by having a monthly social for some 100 people. A major problem of this group of citizens is in the area of housing. Most of their homes are substandard and in fact some of them are in such bad condition that they are not fit for anyone to live in them. I would like to see an all-out effort to eliminate these conditions. The elderly in our area would like to remain in the same neighborhood instead of being moved into public or high-rise buildings. They would like to see their present homes improved. A substantial percentage of their income is spent for rent. In our area here, it is about \$7.50 up to about \$30 each, the range of the payments that they have to make.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that per month?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes; per month, and—

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is this \$7.50 per month?

Mr. MEDINA. I was going to say that this \$7.50 rent, shack that they have, actually there is no ventilation of any type and the health conditions increase—the health problems increase because of this type of housing. I feel that their welfare grants should be increased because what they receive has not carried them through the whole month. They also have a nutrition problem because they have to watch what they purchase so that their money will last them until they receive their next allotment. Until a program where—these people could be helped in preparing adequate meals on a home visitation basis would be a valuable service for the elderly. They also have a medical problem, not because they are not covered by medicare or medicaid, but they face a transportation problem in getting to the Robert B. Green Hospital. Here again they have to depend on friends or social workers to take them there. Many of them take taxis in order to get there.

We have an example here of a man who had two operations this summer, Mr. Gonzales had to make—(Mr. Medina translating in Spanish to Mr. Gonzales)—about five trips and two of those times he had to pay a taxi and the rest of the time, either I or some of the workers took him. So—and he is not the only one. I mean there are many like him, and once they get there to the Robert B. Green, they have to wait all day to be seen and sometimes longer. I heard a lady that waited 3 days. I can't verify that, but this is what I heard. I feel that medical services in San Antonio should be decentralized and brought into the poverty areas. Many of the elderly are capable of doing some type of light work to help themselves. It would make them feel useful and at the same time combat their problems of loneliness and isolation. Some type of light industry or perhaps funds to hire some of them in existing agencies would help. Most of the ideas incorporated, and this is one of the questions which is asked of me and I am just going to mention this, that most of the ideas incorporated into the welfare component of model cities came from citizens of the Colima area.

Many meetings were held in the area where citizens participated and presented the problems they are now facing. And I am just going to read a little paragraph from a manual put out by model cities. Of particular interest was the support which Colima Council meant to

the committee. The council invited the committee to hold the meeting in their center. In addition they canvassed the area prior to the meeting and explained the objective of the welfare committee, and to extend its personal invitation. Many of the citizens were elderly people who voiced their opinions and concerns. Some of the people are present at this hearing today and will get to express themselves, if you so desire. Thank you for the opportunity of letting me speak on behalf of the elderly.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mr. Medina. What is this gentleman's name on your—

Mr. MEDINA. This is Mr. Gloria.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Gloria?

Mr. MEDINA. Mr. Gloria.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Gloria?

Mr. MEDINA. Gloria.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How do you spell it?

Mr. MEDINA. G-l-o-r-i-a.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Fine. I thought I understood you, but I wasn't certain.

Mr. MEDINA. Fine.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I want to ask Mr. Gloria, do you speak English, Mr. Gloria?

Mr. GLORIA. (In Spanish) No, I don't.

Mr. MEDINA. You can ask it in English and I can translate it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right, fine. How old are you?

Mr. GLORIA. (In Spanish) Sixty-seven years old.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you draw your social security or old-age assistance?

Mr. GLORIA. \$42.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does—

Mr. GLORIA. \$55 combined.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The combined, \$55. Where do you live, Mr. Gloria? Who do you live with, do you live alone?

Mr. GLORIA. No, I live alone.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How much house do you have, how many rooms, and what do you pay a month for?

Mr. GLORIA. Two rooms. I pay \$20 a month.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So that leave you \$35 from your \$55?

Mr. GLORIA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What do you eat?

Mr. GLORIA. Soup at noon and in the evenings, I eat whatever is cheap because I want to make my check last a long time. I have to limit myself to about \$2 or \$3 because food is very expensive.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you use the food stamps?

QUESTIONS ABOUT FOOD STAMPS

Mr. GLORIA. No, I don't have the stamps because I have heard that the stamp program is available only to those people who have families, and since I don't have a family it is not for me.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I am advised that—by the staff—that that isn't true, and I think that illustrates the misinformation given people where they don't participate; it shows the needs, dramatically shows

the need for informing people. He could as a single person buy those stamps and participate in it. Now, ask Mr. Gloria if he is ill in any way and if he has to buy medicine.

Mr. MEDINA. No, he is not taking medicines and he feels fine.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Congratulate him on his good health; I am glad to hear it. Now, what about—does he have any relatives living here?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes, he has relatives that he sees once in a while.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does he have to buy out of this other \$35 a month left when he pays his rent, does he have to buy his clothing out of that \$35?

Mr. GLORIA. Yes; once in a while I buy clothes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, Mr. Gloria, do you live in a low-cost housing project or do you live in a private home, a privately owned home?

Mr. MEDINA. He lives in an alley, on Sacatexca Street.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It is a privately owned home?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It is not a low-cost housing—

Mr. MEDINA. No.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you have to pay the water bill or is the water furnished with the house?

Mr. MEDINA. He pays only the gas and the water.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What does the gas cost him a month?

Mr. MEDINA. The light—I am sorry. He pays about \$4 or \$5 for gas and electricity.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And electricity—gas and electricity. Is water furnished?

Mr. GLORIA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You pay \$4 or \$5 a month for the gas and the electricity?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That comes out of the other \$35 a month. Mr. Gloria, does that \$4 or \$5 a month come out of the other \$35 left after you pay the \$20 rent?

Mr. GLORIA. Yes.

Mrs. ADRIANA MCKENDRICK (from audience). Senator, I would like to ask a question to Mr. Medina. As I understood this, Mr. Gloria gets \$46 from social security and \$55 from old-age assistance. I want to clarify this, that then this is a total of—what, \$46 and \$55, this is not—was not a total of \$55.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, the interpretation given us was a total of \$55.

Mrs. MCKENDRICK. Right. I want to clarify this.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is the total?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes; he gets \$42 plus the \$55.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So he gets \$97 a month?

Mr. MEDINA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, that makes a dramatic difference in \$55 and \$97. We were told it was \$55 and when we asked him if he had \$35 left, the answer was yes. So that explains why he said—I was at a loss to understand why he could spend \$2 a day on food with \$35 left.

Mr. MEDINA. No, I thought you were figuring on that.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So that explains how he managed with \$2 or \$3 a day for food—Mr. Gloria, how much do you spend per day on food?

Mr. GLORIA. \$2.50 to \$3.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I understood him to say \$2 to \$3 and I kept wondering, with \$35 left and \$4 to \$5 off for gas, how on earth he was spending \$2 or \$3 a day for food out of \$30. Thank you because that clarifies his testimony when he said—after he paid for the rent \$20 and \$5 for gas and lights, that would leave \$72, and \$2.50 a day would be \$75, so apparently after buying clothes and things he would have to spend less than \$2.50 a day on food. Let me ask you, are the food costs as high in your neighborhood as they are elsewhere? Is it cheaper or higher where you live?

Mr. MEDINA. He seems to think that food is cheaper outside of the area.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Outside of the area.

Mr. MEDINA. That's right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Gloria, do you have transportation to get to a place where food is cheaper, some cut rate supermarket, or something? Do you have transportation to go to—

Mr. GLORIA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He has transportation. What kind?

Mr. GLORIA. A '54 Dodge.

Senator YARBOROUGH. A '54 Dodge. How does he pay for that gasoline? Or does he feed that Dodge with his own \$2.50 a day?

Mr. GLORIA. I go wherever I can get it cheaper. I just—I don't use it very much, just when I visit my family. A lot of them live outside the city limits.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you take good care of that Dodge, Mr. Gloria?

Mr. GLORIA. Naturally.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Some gentleman back there wanted to ask a question of the witness.

QUESTIONS FROM THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

M. CORONADO SANCHEZ. I just wanted to make a repetition of Mr. Gloria's case. The welfare department would ask any man like him if he lived with his relatives or alone, and if he eats out in a restaurant, pays for washing his clothes, and unable to cook at home, he gets the maximum, so he is getting the maximum from welfare because he lives alone. He doesn't make his food, eats outside, pays rent, but if he wouldn't be pushing he wouldn't be getting over \$30 a month.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You say his payments are maximum. In other words, what you are saying is this is not what the average get?

Mr. SANCHEZ. No.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Then the average person gets less than that?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Yes.

Mr. MEDINA. There is a lady here getting only \$66.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is your name?

Mr. MEDINA. Manuela Perez. Manuela G. Perez.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Where do you live, do you live alone, or do you live with family?

Mr. MEDINA. (Interpreting for Mrs. Perez.) No, she lives with a daughter. Now, that explains why she gets the \$66.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you draw social security or old age pension?

Mrs. PEREZ. No, social security.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How much are your welfare payments, how much payment a month?

Mr. MEDINA. She used to get \$82 a month and they reduced it to \$66.

Senator YARBOROUGH. When did they reduce it?

Mr. MEDINA. She's got a check here that hasn't even been opened.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What was the reason for it?

Mr. MEDINA. Because she hadn't gone to see the doctor, that is why they took it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Was she getting medical payments before, medical care?

Mrs. PEREZ. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is the next lady's name, what is your name?

Mrs. VASQUEZ. Pedra Vasquez.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How old are you?

Mr. MEDINA. She doesn't know.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Ask this lady how old she is.

Mr. MEDINA. She is 69.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does she draw social security or—either social security or welfare, or both?

Mr. MEDINA. She was born so long ago she doesn't remember.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I recognize the right of the lady to refuse to state her age. Ask her how much is her total, what is her total payments a month?

Mr. MEDINA. \$51, that is all. She used to get \$41, and they increased it \$10, and she now receives \$51.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does she live with her relatives?

Mrs. PEREZ. All by myself.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And how much of the house does she have to live?

Mr. MEDINA. Two very small rooms in one of the—they call them—a lot of people here call them corrals but I don't think that. And the people themselves don't like to be—for this neighborhood to be referred to as corrals.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What does she pay per month for rent?

Mrs. PEREZ. \$25.

Senator YARBOROUGH. \$25 out of the \$51?

“EVERYTHING IS OUTSIDE”

Mr. MEDINA. Everything is outside and this is one of the things that I mentioned. The only thing she has got is the lights and the gas. She's got the water outside and the shower and the toilet. Everything is outside.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, let me ask you, \$51 is the total amount she receives per month, any more than that?

Mrs. PEREZ. That is all I have got. I have no other help besides that. Welfare was helping me and——

Mr. MEDINA. She thinks that the city welfare used to help her but they don't any more.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Now, she pays \$25 a month for rent out of \$51 and has \$26 a month left for food and clothing and everything?

Mrs. PEREZ. Yes, for medicines and clothing and food.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Just describe——

Mrs. PEREZ. And I have to pay for somebody to wash my clothes because I don't see very well.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Ask her what does she eat a day, just tell us the breakfast, dinner, supper, and lunch, whatever you call it, the comida. What does she eat?

Mrs. PEREZ. I eat very little because I don't have any teeth. I eat milk, soups, and juices, a little bit of chicken once in awhile, and things that are soft.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How much does she pay a day for food? What does she pay a day for food?

Mrs. PEREZ. I don't know. Every 3 days I go get some milk. It is so expensive. When I go to buy my food I usually spend around \$15 and every 3 days I go buy milk and juices and medicine.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does she—when she spends \$15—how long does that food last?

Mrs. PEREZ. Almost 2 weeks, if I limit myself.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You have to limit yourself with what you eat so that the food will last?

Mrs. PEREZ. That is the reason.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I have a question to this gentleman. What is your name, sir?

Mr. MEDINA. Francisco Gonzales.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How old are you?

Mr. GONZALES. Age 68, and I am almost 69.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How much do you draw, either social security or welfare payments or both, and if so, what is the total of the payments you draw per month?

Mr. MEDINA. He says he doesn't receive social security, and the reason is because he was working in about four or five different places and he never worked long enough. Apparently his problem is that he doesn't have enough quarters to be eligible for social security.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Let me ask you when you worked at these three or four different places, were they in different cities or counties?

Mr. GONZALES. Here in San Antonio and also I would go to some of these places outside of town to help in the fields.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Was it all farmwork?

Mr. GONZALES. Yes, it was labor.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Ask him if they gave him a number when they paid him.

Mr. MEDINA. He said that he took out his card in 1936 but apparently nobody asked him for it. Well, his problem is apparently he seems to think that he didn't work long enough. This is his impression of it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We ran into cases in California where one

man would have as many as 15 different social security numbers. He would go work on a farm and he wasn't interested in a social security card, he wanted a job. That was just another way to get a job, to get a social security number. Next year he'd come back and work on another farm and he wouldn't carry that card with him so they would give him another card. They didn't know anything about it and he ended up with 15 social security numbers in one case and they had great difficulty tracing the man, his identity, and finding out about him, so I just wondered if he had gotten different cards. Of course, in 1936 I don't think at that time farm laborers were covered by social security but if they gave him a number he must have been doing some kind of work where they took social security. But—well, we are running out of time. It is after—

Mr. MUNOZ. Senator, the gentleman here would like to say something. He is blind.

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. I am a heart patient, I am a disabled soldier. I draw a small pension of \$17 from the GAD. I draw \$100 from Cable Aircraft and my problem is that every time I go to the drug store to buy pills it cost me \$7, \$8 \$9 or \$10, and that don't go very far, and I have to ride cabs because I am pretty sick.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Does the veterans—you draw \$17?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Disabled. I got out in 1922.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Now, will that cover—does that VA, does that entitle you to outpatient care?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. No, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you get any medicine of any kind?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Only what I am connected for.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Not for your type of disability?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Sir?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Not for your type of disability?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I mean not for—

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Any other kind of sickness, no.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You get only that \$17?

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Well, I am disabled.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And the high price of medicine. Well, we have a Senate committee investigating that now, the high price of medicine. Thank you for bringing that up. Excuse me, what is that gentleman's name that was blind? We want to put it in the record here.

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Tom C. Guerra.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Guerra, thank you very much for volunteering that information. See, we have a permanent staff. I am on another committee, we are writing this down, we are going to take it up with the VA and others and we are going to turn it over to Senator Bill Hart's Judiciary Subcommittee investigating monopoly in medicine. Mr. Medina, we appreciate you bringing the panel of actual people who are undergoing these experiences in life. We have many questions, but I am going to have to cut the staff off. We must excuse you because we are in the afternoon, we are progressing slowly. We have many witnesses. I am going to call next—thank you very much for bringing the actual people here.

Mr. MEDINA. Thank you, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The next witness is Senator Joe J. Bernal. Senator Bernal, we welcome you to this committee. We have had county judges, county commissioners—two county judges, and I believe this is the first State senator here. We welcome you before our committee.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOE BERNAL, MEMBER OF THE TEXAS STATE SENATE, SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY

Senator BERNAL. Senator, I would like to extend my personal appreciation for your interest in coming to San Antonio for this matter concerning housing for the needy. I will stick to what I have here and I think it is preferred that way, but I do appreciate your presence here today. First of all, I would like to extend my appreciation for your committee's presence here in San Antonio. The Congress has declared as a matter of policy in the 1968 act the national goal of a decent home in a suitable living environment for every American family and it is with this in mind that I would like to make some brief statements to the committee. I am sure that many of us understand the composition of the Mexican-American family as one of close unity, where the grandparents are held in high esteem, the elders are active participants in many activities that go on in the family unit. Standard new housing, as attractive as it may seem, when it is created to provide a decent place to live or to meet local housing codes to achieve minimum standards, may be regarded by many people as the final answer to the problem.

In other words, one may think that if you pull the outside toilet into the inside of the house, replace the icebox with a first-class refrigerator, and the coal burner with a modern gas heater, that would be the final answer and that should make everybody happy. As this regards the local housing for the aged, I would like to first say that we have two excellently built high-rise structures, Victoria Plaza and Villa Tranchese. The professional staff of the housing authority has attempted in its second high rise at Villa Tranchese to meet some of their needs. The housing authority's attempt has been an honest and forthright one, to have these people moved in. Presently, out of 184 families at Victoria Plaza, there are only nine aged Mexican-Americans. At Villa Tranchese which opened recently and in which the local housing staff attempted to recruit and make personal visits to various groups such as here at Inman and invited them to make application, statistics reveal that there has been a reluctance on the part of the elderly Mexican-Americans out of a total of 200 at Villa Tranchese. In my opinion, there are several reasons why the elderly Mexican-American has not taken advantage of high-rise housing.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOUSING

This is told to me. One, it is too drastic a change from their familiar family conditions which have prevailed for years. Two, in a high rise there is always the formal front desk hotel type that the person has to go through in order to enter the building. And three, there is so little privacy left in the poor elderly family, everyone has a record of their financial conditions to ascertain social security-welfare status and the

like. Very little of their lives is theirs. My recommendation to the committee, and I state it as a nonprofessional in housing, are that we attempt: (1) to facilitate loans with FHA support to families that are willing to remodel and fix their present homes. Presently these people come under fly-by-night companies who do very little for the people, such as have them sign completion papers on remodeling before the actual completion and run out on the job leaving the elderly in a worse financial condition, owing a note for a job that has not been done. We should do everything we can to apply turnkey III procedures. When the housing authority is allowed to purchase housing units from the developer and then leases to the tenants who have an option to buy, this process provides an avenue for homeownership for persons of low income who are in dire need.

Units built under this plan are designed for individual homeownership; that is, single family units on each lot. I think that this is what the elderly Mexican-American looks for and this is what I would like. If abuelita and abuelito, grandmother and grandfather, this is what they told me and I thought I would put it in or to have a fiesta, a party for the grandchildren, and they decide that they want to keep some of their grandchildren overnight or maybe 2 or 3 nights in their little house, or for 4 or 5 nights or maybe a whole week, that they won't be reported to the housing manager that there are some children in that house and somebody comes around and knocks on the door and says that this little old lady and this little old man is keeping somebody's children and somebody is cheating down the line. Now, this is the key factor, and rather than to move out to a real nice place—and I say the high rise, they are excellent, they are excellent structures, but they would rather take a little place with outside plumbing and have something that they can call their own where no one is checking upon them as thoroughly as some of our agencies check up on some of our poor in every respect.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Senator Bernal, are there any turnkey III projects in San Antonio now?

Senator BERNAL. I talked to Mr. Dick Jones. I believe—I understand he said that nine, and then I heard from another report that we had none. Now, I don't know.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is the reason I asked. I had heard that there were none.

Senator BERNAL. Dick, do you know?

Mr. DICK JONES. We have quite a few on the drawing board.

Senator BERNAL. But none actually in practice?

Mr. DICK JONES. None completed yet.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, we will get to that later. I just decided I wanted to bring it up—

Senator BERNAL. Senator Yarborough, everything that I have said here I limited to housing for the elderly. I have very strong views on other type housing—we will not go into that unless—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, this is primarily directed to the elderly. We would like to have the other also printed in the record, Senator. Due to the limitation of time I won't ask for the other, but we will keep the record open 30 days.

NEED FOR SCATTERED HOUSING

Senator BERNAL. No, let me say this. This is on the general housing. There have been determinations made in more places than just San Antonio, because I am on the slum and slum clearance committee at the State level, I will be going to New Mexico and Colorado to find out how they are dealing with urban problems, and I am on that committee with Senator Strong from Longview, and we are going into different parts of the United States to bring back ideas. Now, my concern is that we do not have any more public housing in the poor areas of the type that we have had for the last 10, 20, or 16 years, because all we are doing, is we are overcrowding the schools, we are projecting that same cycle of people with the same problems regardless of what coloration those people may be of. You are putting all of these people and all of these problems together instead of spreading them out. The nasty politic of it is that we ought to have them all over, they belong to the community, and rather than to say you belong only in this part of town or this other part of town, and that is where we are going to have housing, I think we are wrong. I think what we really need is scattered housing throughout the entire community. The schools are very much concerned about the fact that all of a sudden here goes a housing project. Well, we have got an elementary school here with 1,400 children.

You have a housing project that can go up, say, six blocks from here, you are going to overload this school, this other one and this other one, and no one really cares about it except the ones that are suffering in this particular area, so we already have high density areas and when we put further housing into it, we not only have higher density but we have more problems that go with it, all of it together instead of spreading it out where some of these people could be escaping some of these problem areas. We seem to have the tendency to keep on having housing where we already have high density areas.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Senator, we have one problem clashing with another. We find from what we hear that most people don't want to move out of the area where they have been living. They want better housing but they don't want to move out to some other part of the city or the county or the State, so you have this problem of infringing on the public services there for the people with low density per 100 square yards, you have that clashing with the desire of people to live in their own locality where they have spent their lives. I am glad to have this recommendation. I will turn it over to the Senate Subcommittee on Housing. In general we are here to get all the information we can on all laws and I have been working with that with Senator Sparkman of Alabama, who has been the main proponent of better housing, and I will take this up with him when I get back to Washington.

Senator BERNAL. I think the key, Senator, from what I read in the latest on housing, and I think the whole answer would be to Turnkey I, II, and III, where you can start scattering throughout a community and if you have problem areas you wouldn't have them all—centered in one area where people start having attitudes about those particular areas, you know.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes.

IMPACT ON SCHOOLS

Senator BERNAL. In fact, when a school, for example, in the high density area that we have here has 1,400 children, where you have in another area of town with 500 children, you could put some housing out there and, say, move that school with 500 children to say 700 children. They could absorb 200 children under this type of housing, where a school with 1,400 children could not absorb any more except to say that we are going to create more problems and then the community has a tendency to form attitudes about that particular area of town when we have been fostering the problems ourselves through housing, through welfare, through everything, all of the agencies.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I'm going to have this typed up. It will be a part of the record but we are going to extract from the record and deliver that to the Housing Subcommittee of the Senate. Where ours is primarily—well, really, it is a special committee on the special problems of the aging. Now, any other statements or recommendations, Senator Bernal, that you have on the aging about payments of social security or anything else, health, medicare, or anything? You can supplement this in writing and we will print it in the record.

Senator BERNAL. OK, I can supplement it in writing, did you say?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes, the record is going to be open 30 days. Anything you mail us in this 30 days we will print it in the record, unless you want to go further beyond the housing now.

Senator BERNAL. No, sir. Except that I have a lot of private records. I am a social worker, caseworker between sessions, and I have a lot of very private, very confidential cases that much of what I say many times seemingly that I cannot document is because it is highly confidential to those people.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Can you excerpt—digest that and give it to us without identifying them, either by name or by their place of residence?

Senator BERNAL. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Give us the benefit of a digest?

Senator BERNAL. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I recognize and feel a little of what you say in point three, in the third or fourth paragraph of your statement. There is so little privacy left that the poor elderly family, everyone has to make a record of their financial conditions to ascertain social security-welfare status and the like. It is getting almost that bad in the Senate of the United States. We have to start filing a report on all of our income, et cetera, and out of the hundred Senators it is reputed that 47 of them are millionaires, only 20 contested they were millionaires and 47 reputed to be, and with my rather limited financial estate I am embarrassed to state just how little it is when compared with the 47. So for the Senate, I am in the poverty bracket. We will now recess for 45 minutes.

(Whereupon a short recess was taken.)

Senator YARBOROUGH. The Senate Special Committee on Aging will come to order and the hearing will be resumed on our special hearing on the availability and usefulness of Federal programs and services designed to help the elderly, specifically as they relate to the Mexican-American segment of our population. The first witnesses this after-

noon will be Mr. Alfred Rodriguez, director of the model city programs, and Mrs. Dorothy F. O'Neill, director of the Senior Community Services, Inc. Are they available? Come around. While the witnesses are getting here, for the record I would like to note for the reporter that Mrs. Carter Clopton has been representing the State Commission on the Aging here. I want to thank you, Mrs. Clopton, for sending us, as soon as it was available this year, this final report on survey of needs and resources among aged Mexican-Americans, printed by Texas Tech College at Lubbock, August 25, 1968.

Dr. Steglich, who is the head of the Commission of three, who made this in-depth study of Lubbock, one of the most comprehensive studies of any city, testified before our hearing yesterday at El Paso. We used this report that you so thoughtfully sent us and on the 14th of October we wrote to the Secretary of HEW, Wilbur Cohen, asking him how these programs applied to Mexican-Americans and why they weren't being fully applied. Under date of 15th of November he answered that with—I think there were more excuses than answers—but we put it in the record,* and I just want to tell you how much your thoughtful actions have helped us by sending this report.

Mrs. CLOPTON. Thank you.

Senator YARBOROUGH. For sending us this report.

Mrs. CLOPTON. Thank you, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And I will say this, for an example what an in-depth study shows, Lubbock is a much richer city per capita than either El Paso or San Antonio. Despite the fact that it is a much richer city the average Mexican-American in Lubbock has had 3 years of schooling, and in El Paso, with great poverty, the average Mexican-American had 6 and 8 years of schooling. So the opportunities given to the poor segment of our population doesn't depend upon the wealth of the area, it is the will of the people to be of assistance. I think that is dramatically illustrated by the education of the Mexican-Americans in El Paso and Lubbock, that contrast testified to yesterday in the record. And also, is Mr. Hal Geldin here, the regional office—

Mrs. CLOPTON. He was here, he just stepped out a minute.

Senator YARBOROUGH. But he is here, he is attending the hearings?

Mrs. CLOPTON. Yes. He stepped out to use the telephone.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right. We want that to show in the record, that he is from the Regional Office, Administration on the Aging. All right. The panel now is here?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Yes, Senator; we are here.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You have a prepared statement? Fine. Go ahead.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. All right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You can condense it if you like. We will print it all in the record if in the interest of time you care to condense it. I see it is quite comprehensive. We'll print this in full, study it there, and accept your brief oral condensation, if you do wish to do it. We are going to ask all of the witnesses to condense some because we end up at noon, we have heard only a third of the witnesses for today. We have so many—to finish on our schedule, we are going to ask our witnesses to be as brief as possible and we are going to try to refrain

(*See pt. 1, pp. 4-6. Availability and Usefulness of Federal Programs and Services to Elderly Mexican-Americans.)

from asking the questions that we would like to ask. Otherwise, we won't finish.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Fine. Senator Yarborough, the model city document is two pages in length. What is attached to it are the types of proposals, two copies of types of proposals sent to us for consideration of alleviating some of the conditions of the aged.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So you think it would expedite if you just read it to us?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Then let us print all of the exhibits * in the record?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Fine. Proceed in your own way.

STATEMENT OF ALFRED RODRIGUEZ, DIRECTOR, MODEL CITIES PROGRAM

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. We in the model city program in the 10 months that we have been in existence have very acutely become aware of the existing problems of the elderly Mexican-American in the model neighborhood area—and a brief description that will tie into the record—the model city area encompasses 5,996 acres and approximately 114,000 people. It is about the third largest model city area in the United States. St. Louis and New York are the only ones that we know of that are larger. Programs designed for alleviating the problems of the Mexican-American appear to be ineffective in certain areas, or of having little effect. In other areas of the model city area nothing at all is being done. We are working close with senior community services in order to study in more detail the problems and the needs of the elderly Mexican-American. The economic conditions in terms of income are extremely low for the model neighborhood area. The medium income per family is nearly \$2,900 per year. We suspect that for the elderly the income is significantly lower.

Those who must resort to old-age assistance find little help here. Twenty-seven percent, or 3,000 of the old-age assistance cases reside in the model neighborhood area. The average monthly grant in dollars is \$59.44. Increased assistance is not forthcoming in view of the defeat at the polls of a State constitutional amendment which would have raised State expenditures on welfare from \$60 million to \$75 million.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I think it is tragic that that amendment was defeated. In fact, grants in the State's aid to dependent children have already been slashed by \$12 as a result of the defeat of the amendment?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Because of the number of people increasing all the time?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. That is correct.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And as your population increases you have a percentage of dependent people, children are going to increase, particularly when you take the people who are disabled in industry, disabled in automobile accidents, and lives are lost, and orphans are left all of the time, and the population up to 11 million, it is inevitable that you will have more children who are orphans.

*See app. 1, p. 307.

AVERAGE GRANT: \$83.51

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. That is correct. The earnings of the elderly Mexican-American in past years is reflected by the social security payments. The average monthly grant for retired workers age 62 or over for the city as a whole is \$83.51. For the model neighborhood area the grant averages only \$69.55 which, of course, reflects that either some of the income that they earned because they might be doing domestic tasks were not reported to the social security office, or the income that they were earning on a paid basis by an employer was too low to afford them higher benefits, payments from social security. Cultural patterns have had their effects on the Mexican-American. Until recent times there were very few Mexican-Americans living in homes for the aged. It has been the tradition of the Mexican-American to take care of their own elderly. However, the pattern is now changing and more and more elderly Mexican-Americans are moving into nursing homes which offer a wide range of services. Unfortunately—it is not in the document—there are no homes for the aged on a nonprofit basis in the model city area. In San Antonio there are two fine projects, Villa Tranchese and Victoria Plaza for the elderly. What percentage in their homes come from the model city areas is not available to us. In the MNA (model neighborhood area) there is only one nursing home providing only custodial care. Now, it is a private profitmaking institution with room for about 10 or 12 people. The planning of a comprehensive program for the aged in the model neighborhood area will require exhaustive research. Our first year action program will include plans in cooperation with Community Services, Inc., for data collection, analyzing, and planning.

Though there have been many studies made of the model city area there has never been a correlation of these studies, nor a study that specifically indicates how many elderly reside in the area. We are attempting to make a 100-percent social economic survey of the model city area so that we can thus determine just how many elderly actually reside in the model city area. The need for services for the elderly has been outlined by Community Services, Inc. as follows: (1) A formalized information and referral service and a directory of services available in both English and Spanish for wide distribution to older people and those having concern for them, ministers, doctors, lawyers, social agencies, grocery stores, drugstores, neighborhood organizations, and so forth. (2) Evaluation, counseling, and supportive services (case-work) and homemaker's services. (3) Health services, including nursing, conferences, diabetes screening, nutrition classes and the home health agencies are available but are not used to the fullest extent by the elderly. Rehabilitation services such as physical therapy and followup need to be expanded. (4) Recreational services, income maintenance and volunteer opportunities. (5) Protective services; that is legal aid. (6) Transportation. The elderly suffers from a lack of mobility for two primary reasons; one is economic and the other one is the physical inability to use public transportation. Crosstown lines are virtually nonexistent, necessitating frequent transfers and long waiting periods.

RELOCATION STUDY

In a relocation study in one section of the model neighborhood area some of the elderly had not been out of their immediate neighborhood for over 4 years. (7) Adult education services presently in efforts to expand. It is to be remembered that each component of the model city program will help meet certain needs of the elderly. Manpower programs will be designed to meet the special needs of the elderly, as will programs in education, health, recreation and culture, welfare, transportation, et cetera. Miss Dorothy O'Neill of the Junior Welfare Community Services, Inc. has some documentations as to existing services being provided through the agency, the Economic Opportunity Development Corporation.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mr. Rodriguez. In addition to the statement that you have read, all of the exhibits here are ordered printed in the appendix of the record. We have about seven pages, we will hand this to the reporter at this time and order that printed. Before Miss O'Neill reads that—Miss O'Neill, this is limited, this is listed here as Miss O'Neill. I believe I heard you say Mrs. O'Neill?

Miss O'NEILL. No, it is Miss O'Neill, Senator?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Oh, thank you. The—I want to ask a question of Mr. Rodriguez. San Antonio has asked the United States for disease control—this article is out of the San Antonio Express for the 19th—it states that the health district director shows that the number of tuberculosis cases has gone up so greatly in the last year, been a dramatic increase for 10 years now. There was a jump in 1 year from 220 cases in 1966 to 298 cases in 1967. That is an increase roughly of around 30—over 30 percent, 35 percent.

(The article referred to follows:)

[From the San Antonio Express, Dec. 19, 1968]

SAN ANTONIO TO ASK U.S. AID FOR DISEASE CONTROL

The advisory board of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District has approved a request by the District director to ask the U.S. Public Health Service for a grant of \$200,000 for "comprehensive communicable disease control."

Dr. William R. Ross, health district director, said the money will be used for tuberculosis control. He noted that under new federal regulations set by Congress, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has placed all communicable diseases under one classification.

Dr. Ross said the health district is spending about \$130,000 in federal funds for tuberculosis control and \$74,800 for immunization assistance for all diseases. The district's fiscal year will end on June 30.

He said expenditures for all communicable diseases in the district in 1969 will amount to about \$300,000 with \$200,000 being used for tuberculosis control.

After a dramatic decrease in the number of TB cases in San Antonio for the last 10 years, the city experienced an increase in 1967, jumping from 220 in 1966 to 298. Some 300 cases are expected again by the end of 1968, Dr. Ross said.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Senator, I am not familiar with the article that came out in the paper. It might be that the number has increased due to the greater—how shall I say it—the bigger job that is being done in reaching people and more people are knowing about services available to them and therefore reporting in for health care.

Senator YARBOROUGH. A greater reporting in?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. A greater finding?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. I could not give any documentation to the effect that it is an increase in tuberculosis. It is possible that more people are receiving—

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is not under your jurisdiction?

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. No, sir. The health department is only one of about 150 whose activities we must coordinate in the model city area.

Senator YARBOROUGH. In the model city area. Of course, the health services is a very important part of it, that is one of the active supporters of the model city program in the Congress. I was glad to see that San Antonio was one of the first cities in the Nation to become progressive—

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Thank you, Senator. Too, I can say in the area of health that one of the first priority projects designed in the health area is an expanded educational program, an expanded health educational program.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You mentioned—briefly you mentioned El Paso. I think Commissioner Pena mentioned that we need an adult educational program in bilingual studies.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. This has also been included in the—varies—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Many people past their youngest years could hold meaningful jobs and draw good pay if they were bilingual. Miss O'Neill, will you?

STATEMENT OF MISS DOROTHY F. O'NEILL,* DIRECTOR, SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Miss O'NEILL. Thank you Senator. Senior Community Services, Inc., is responsible for the development of services and resources to meet the needs of the elderly and to coordinate existing programs and services as they affect older adults in San Antonio, Bexar County, Tex.

At the present time we coordinate the following services:

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

1. City recreation department, parks and recreation department, city recreation division.
2. San Antonio public library.
3. San Antonio metropolitan health district.
4. State department of public welfare, OAA division.
5. Social Security regional office.
6. Housing authority of the city of San Antonio.
7. San Antonio Independent School District, home and family life education program.
8. Visiting Nurse Association.
9. San Antonio literacy council.
10. Department of welfare, city of San Antonio.
11. San Antonio section, National Council of Jewish Women.

In addition to providing coordination to the above participating agencies, Senior Community Services, Inc., provides consultative as-

*See appendix 1, p. 316, for additional material.

sistance to an EODC community action program—Eastside Senior Citizen's Center.

Through working knowledge (over an 8-year period) and resource inventories available there are indications of need for the following types of services for older adults. Some of these services would not require new agencies but could logically be developed as an extension of an already existing citywide agency. Others could be incorporated as an integral part of a broad scope neighborhood type agency.

In brief let's consider the resources already available in the model neighborhood area:

Model cities agency.

Six neighborhood centers.

Social Security branch office.

Catholic Welfare Bureau.

YWCA branch.

Parks.

Swimming pools.

Various poverty programs including legal aid.

Workers for State department of public welfare, public health clinics, hospitals, high schools, colleges, housing projects.

This, to be sure, is not an exhaustive list—only included to indicate that there are physical facilities and agency services in the model neighborhood area. The extent of these services to the elderly is limited indeed.

Need

A formalized information and referral service and a directory of services available in both English and Spanish for wide distribution to older people and those having concern for them—ministers, doctors, lawyers, social agencies, grocery stores, drug stores. We would see this service as part of senior community services since it is a central agency concerned only with the needs of the elderly. Formalized implying personnel specifically employed full time at the main office and strategic locations in the MNA. Older people in the area might be employed as aides to form a network of information. Experience has shown that interpretation of services available is needed on a one-to-one basis.

Evaluation, counseling, and supportive services (casework) and homemaker services.—Casework (now available through city department of public welfare and Jewish Family and Children's Agency) and homemaker service (now available only to families of TB patients) should be a joint program. There are several ways to develop this service, if funds were available.

(a) A division of the welfare department of the city (interest already expressed by the director of the department) to explore this as a joint effort with senior community services.

(b) Catholic Welfare Bureau (United Fund agency) physically located in the MNA.

(c) Extension of services by Tuberculosis Central Board to include the elderly.

"A" appears to be the preferable choice because of the existing relationship between the city welfare department and the health district. There is historical precedence within the welfare department to serve

the elderly (served aged alien before state constitutional changes) and there is knowledge of the need as well as interest and concern already expressed by the agency director. Continuation after a demonstration period should not be difficult if developed as part of the city's existing structure. Administration is centralized but subunits could implement from the neighborhood centers and Catholic Welfare Bureau, for example.

Health services.—Health services including nursing conferences, diabetic screening, nutrition classes and the home health agency are available now but not used to the fullest by the elderly. Rehab services—physical therapy and followup need to be expanded. The health department includes the above and have long years of experience in working affectively as part of a coordinated team, 8 years concerning the elderly on a concentrated basis.

Day centers recreational services, income maintenance and volunteer opportunities.—The city parks and recreation department, churches and neighborhood centers have physical facilities located in the model neighborhood area. Some of these facilities are now being used for Golden Age Clubs or clinic services for the elderly. However, they could be used during at least 9 months of the year (children are in school) as day centers for the elderly. A variety of programs and services could be developed (a focal point in the neighborhood for the elderly). Provision would have to be made as part of the recreational services for the funding of expendable items and supplies. The use of these craft supplies would provide additional income through the sale of all types of crafts. This would be a tremendous incentive to this particular ethnic group, so rich in arts and crafts skills. To be sure an outlet or outlets would need to be developed—we could involve some of the businessmen in the area in this particular phase.

Eastside Senior Center initiated several groups in the model neighborhood area which had to be abandoned because of financial cutback—they call these decentralized groups, frequently meeting in the home of one elderly person with a few from the same block or close neighborhood participating. This method would insure greater coverage of the area. Since Westside has the experience this would be the logical agency to carry out the program. Their workers might fan out from the neighborhood centers. This is a real possibility since they have already demonstrated their interest in this area.

Another possibility for increased income or volunteer services to the elderly could be used in the existing day care centers, as well as those contemplated in the model neighborhood area—in such the same way as the foster grandparents program. This, of course, would involve employment placement and training services. The Council of Jewish Women have initiated an employment service for older workers. The Junior League or the Girl Scouts are well known for their volunteer training programs. If the Vista Citizen's Corps endures beyond the 3 months program stage, that's another possibility for the use of the elderly in community service. It would appear that in day centers for children there would be a receptive attitude toward the elderly worker, volunteer or employee if we could offer them trained help.

Protective services.—This is an area of serious responsibility since guarantees and rights of individuals is of the utmost importance.

Bexar County Legal Aid Association would be the logical vehicle for this service.

Transportation.—One of our serious concerns for the elderly is the lack of mobility for two prime reasons. One economic and the other physical inability to use public transportation. To be sure reduced bus rates would help some of the elderly if they happen to live on a busline and wish to go to a location on the same line—no crosstown service exists and the need to transfer frequently the case, involving long waiting on a street corner. In the relocation study (completed on one section of MNA) some of the elderly had not been out of their immediate neighborhood for over 4 years. When they were asked if they preferred to live in a one-story house or Victoria Plaza—of course their answer was “the house” they had never seen people live high up in the air etc, etc.

Eastside Center has developed a trip program—to the Alamo, to La Villita, to HemisFair, to fish, to the Job Corps Center and so on. This type of program is more essential than ever for persons in the model neighborhood area if we ever hope to relate them to the outside world and the outside world to them.

We also realize the need exists to transport people for groceries, to purchase their food stamps, to county hospitals, clinics, etc.—Senior Community Services might be the logical agency to develop plans and coordinate the transportation service.

Provision of prepared meals.—There would be at least two advantages to the homebound elderly person :

- (a) Provision of a nutritionally acceptable diet.
- (b) Maintain the older person in his own home without placing him in nursing home placement permanently.

This type of program would have to be coordinated with the home health agency (they can prepare a light meal once a day) and the homemaker service. Since there are a number of well recognized catering companies in the city who have mobile kitchens, this would seem to be the best route of possibility. They have already invested in the equipment, have trained personnel, etc. To develop a service with all the requirements, health standards, equipment needs, etc. would be costly.

The drawback of course, is the profit motive. If not so, someone would already be providing the service. Many of the elderly in the model neighborhood area couldn't afford even 35 cents a day for one meal, so complete subsidy would be needed. Help with “special diet” planning is already available from the health department. There may be adequate kitchen facilities at one of the settlement houses from which the food could be delivered such as the old Wesley House located right on the edge of the model neighborhood area.

Adult education services.—This program should include adult basic education (reading, writing, arithmetic). San Antonio Literacy Council logically is the agency to expand in this area.

Adult education in the area of marketing, use of food stamps, etc., sewing, homemaking and so on through the home and family life division, San Antonio Independent School District. Classes in citizenship, languages, music arts, etc.

This may seem repetitive in relation to neighborhood centers, but these agencies have been in the model neighborhood area from 25 to

45 years, and even if the people have not actually gone to the physical facility, they probably know the name of the agency. We know of a few areas of concentration of elderly population—many we would estimate are living with their families throughout the model neighborhood area and one way to reach these people would be a block concentration approach—every house in the block—determine the needs, what the people want and will accept in services.

Then provide mobile services which might include a physician, public health nurse, social worker, recreationist, etc. The State department of public welfare has assigned an OAA worker at the Barrera Street Center for the last 8 years and now has units assigned in various housing projects, therefore, there would be the utmost cooperation from the agency in further decentralizing in the model neighborhood area. The Social Security Administration has already opened a branch office in the model neighborhood area, so their service is more readily available.

Adequate housing of course, is needed, either rehab or new housing. Plans are currently in the making for some three "turnkey" projects in the model neighborhood area for the elderly. If these are built, additional community space will then be available for some of these programs.

"Mayhem" will ensue in relation to all these services—if they should all descend upon the older person. Therefore, personnel on the spot will be needed to coordinate service on the neighborhood level. Senior community services is the logical agency to perform this task since formal working relationships already exist between senior community services and a number of the agencies mentioned. However, this would require additional personnel at the Barrera Street Center as well as the neighborhood areas to insure successful implementation.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you. Thank you very much, Miss O'Neill. Next we have a panel of Mr. Mariano Aguilar, who is director of the Barrios Unidas, and Mr. Peter Tijerina, who is executive director of the Mexican-American Legal Help in Educational Funds. Gentlemen, you have heard our problem, you are familiar with legal problems, of time and statements. We request that you condense it in your own manner so as to technically get the material before us. Most of your statements consist of exhibits, doesn't it?

Mr. TIJERINA. I haven't submitted a prepared statement other than a copy of the proposal* for a hearing, Legal Assistance as a Senior Citizen.

Senator YARBOROUGH. This document is a proposal?

Mr. TIJERINA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you want to—do you have a statement, Mr. Tijerina, in addition to this proposal, or would you just rather state the proposal?

Mr. TIJERINA. Well, if I may just very briefly—I won't take but 2 or 3 minutes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right. Fine. I have been acquainted with you for years, as you know. We want the benefit of your great knowledge on this subject.

*See app: 1, p. 309.

STATEMENT OF PETER TIJERINA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MEXICAN-AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

Mr. TIJERINA. Thank you, Senator. I do want to bring you some of the problems that have come to us, have been presented to us by Mexican-American senior citizens and we feel we should have a lawyer to deal exclusively with the legal problems of the senior citizens and the problems that have been made in our proposal. Now, there are other problems that your office could help alleviate, either by legislation or maybe pressure from your office. For example, one of the problems is the lack of bilingual contact representatives in the office of social security. Now, the local office serves 11 counties, Senator, and there are seven field representatives and only one Mexican-American. Now, time and again we have found out that more than 80 percent of the interviews require bilingual—a bilingual person. Now, I don't know if this has come to your attention but in El Paso, I think it was 89 percent of the people complained about Mr. Freeman from the social security office over there, that he would not permit his bilingual workers to speak Spanish to the applicants of social security, so as a result they had to go out into the community and many times hire an interpreter at their own expense.

SOCIAL SECURITY PROBLEMS

In other words, they are sent to get an interpreter before they can qualify or apply for social security. And I think that this could be eliminated by maybe a call from your office. There are two or three matters that I will briefly mention. It won't take long—that may require legislation and the problem of the senior citizens in rural areas, many times consist—with reference to social security, that they do not have enough quarters to qualify. Now, the law requires that a farmworker must earn \$150—\$150 per year from one employer or that he work on 20 or more days a year for one employer and that he be paid by the time basis; that is, by the hour. Now, the cottonpickers, they are paid by the hundred pounds. The tomato pickers, they are paid by the bushel, so they don't qualify under the time basis. Now, another—well, another grievance or another complaint that we are confronted with presented to us, is the crew leaders, you know, the growers or crew leaders, I am sure the Senator is familiar with this, to recruit the farm laborer—so they consider the crew leader as the employer and the crew leader many, many times doesn't withhold wages, so when the man dies and the woman shows up for social security he doesn't have enough quarters.

So I think that legislation is in order to compel the grower to be the responsible man to withhold the wages under FICA and this I think is a matter—an administrative matter, a legislative matter that the Senate could propose for us. The rest of the problems tell you that our office is ready to help the senior citizens but we have a tremendously crowded docket and that is why we have submitted this proposal so that we could have a lawyer to deal 100 percent of the time exclusively to the problems of the Mexican-American in the city. Before I yield the floor to my compadre, let me brag a little about it. You know the Mexican-American legal defense fund was just founded May 1 by the

Ford Foundation and yesterday at 4:30 would be a great day for the fund because Judge Garza, the Federal judge in Brownsville, gave us our first victory, the student walkout—the court found that their suspension was clearly violating their constitutional rights.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Tijerina, thank you. The recommendations you have just made are not mentioned in this proposal here. You have added orally here.

Mr. TIJERINA. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That social security problem, don't worry, I will make that call. We ran into that either at Los Angeles or El Paso where the social security told those who came in who couldn't speak English, you have got to bring in your own interpreter with you. The people out there remedied that. They complained and it was changed. If the social security administrators aren't willing to learn some Spanish, it's a strange situation because I had a conference 2 days ago in Stockton, Calif., with people who are experts in linguistics and they say that people can learn—just people of average intelligence—you don't have to have college professors—can learn a language in 100 hours if they just study it. The problem is in the conventional teaching of foreign languages in high school and colleges, they teach grammar and syntax when the people really need a spoken language. That slows up the learning. If you start learning a spoken language, in 100 hours you can speak that language, carry on a conversation. In fact, one superior judge that I know—knew when we were in the Army in World War II—spoke Japanese then. He went to Poland 2 or 3 years ago, met a young Polish lady and fell in love with her, came back, trained himself, taught himself Polish. He then went back to Poland in the summer became engaged and married to her before he left Poland and brought her back to California as his wife. If you want to learn a language, you learn it.

So I think that a social security worker ought to have someone there that could speak Spanish. What possibility is there of training elderly people in this work that you are talking about? Can you train elderly people?

HELP FOR THE ELDERLY BY THE ELDERLY

Mr. TIJERINA. Our proposal provides for four senior citizens to be employed on part-time basis, to be committedly involved as specialists. Now they will hold meetings for the senior citizens and we will prepare the material in writing in Spanish, give them all the legal rights to medicare, medicaid, social security, all federally funded programs, and this is something that will be a special program for Mexican-American elderly.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We order this—

Mr. TIJERINA. Talking about calls, maybe a call from your office might get us this proposal.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You write us a letter on that.

Mr. TIJERINA. Thank you.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Now we order this—to the Senate committee hearing this proposal submitted, to be printed while Mr. Tijerina was talking, this proposal* was submitted by Mr. Aguilar. Mr. Aguilar,

*See app. 1, p. 309.

you proceed, and we ordered this filed in the record and portions of it printed in the record. We have two types, one, we print it all, if it's too bulky we print the proposal itself and have the exhibits attached like those accounts filed as supporting documents. Proceed, please.

Mr. AGUILAR. I have a brief outline here. The rest of the proposal—I mean statements and everything else——

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that the proposal you have just submitted to us?

Mr. AGUILAR. No. Outside the proposal, I have a prepared statement. I believe Mr. Tijerina is the one who submitted the proposal.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Who submitted this proposal?

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Tijerina did.

Senator YARBOROUGH. But your name is on it.

Mr. AGUILAR. Oh, this is not a proposal.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It is your statement?

Mr. AGUILAR. It is my statement.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Oh.

Mr. AGUILAR. I would like to read this statement and then I would like to read the recommendations.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Now, is that longer than the statement itself, the other recommendations?

Mr. AGUILAR. There are seven recommendations and it shouldn't take over 2 minutes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right.

STATEMENT OF MARIANO AGUILAR, DIRECTOR, BARRIOS UNIDOS

Mr. AGUILAR. Reasons for resistance to relocation among Mexican-Americans in the model cities areas, with special reference to the elderly members of this group.

First. A basic underlying reason for resistance to relocation among Mexican-Americans in the model cities area is based on the fact that a percentage of the people will be burdened with more expenses than they now have. The reason is that in the model cities area over 25 percent of all the housing is substandard and when these houses are sold to model cities for \$3 or \$4 thousand they are worth, not enough money will be provided to buy a home equally as large unless it also is substandard. There is housing in San Antonio comparable to the substandard housing in model cities, however, it is quite removed from the city in well known areas that are fast deteriorating.

Statistics of 1960 show that in typical Mexican-American census tracts such as Nos. 33, 34, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44, the percentage of housing that was owned by the people ranged from 16 percent to 68 percent of the homes. In this way you can actually see that there are people in the area who do own their homes and that after approximately 20 years of hard work of a self-sustaining nature the Government has decided that all of their efforts have been in vain. They feel that although the homes they live in may not be up to the standards set by regulations that they have little or no say in, the time has come for the people to decide the fate of their own lives.

BASIC UTILITIES NOT INSTALLED

If the bureaucrats that dream up these regulations had spent at least 1 year in the early years of this community as it developed, they would not be so quick to judge us. These homes were no more than a shell when the builders sold them to the people. The limits of the city had not reached this area yet. None of the basic utilities that one takes for granted had been installed—water, electricity, plumbing, sewer lines, gas lines—all of this the people of this neighborhood had to pay for out of their hard earned money. Now after schools, bus-lines, some paved streets, shopping facilities and other conveniences centrally located someone in the city decided they need the land for expansion of school grounds. The people of this neighborhood have a strong and real attachment to their barrio (neighborhood) they do not want to pull up roots and start over again. They question whether they must go out of the present city limits and start anew. Must we build another neighborhood for our children and after another 20 years have to move again. Is progress a thing that unroots people and makes them cases for more bureaucratic study and for an alien, but curious culture come to our neighborhood and study us as if we were biological specimens?

The problem here is not one of just a few trying to stop the betterment of all but a question of when is the other part of the city going to stop treating us as children and accepts us a real and equal partner in the city. Must every program that comes along be shoved down our throats because we supposedly need it? If we handle our own problems let us do it. Do not send us experts that know our problems and are going to study ways to correct them. (Put them off another 20 years by moving people out.)

If the Government wants to help to alleviate this problem let us work at the solution together. Don't assume that because we lack formal education we are stupid.

We can and will correct our problems if we are treated as adults with the capacity to reason and do what is best for our neighborhood.

The model cities staff does not have one MNA resident on the decisionmaking level. To feel the needs and wants of a neighborhood or geographical area a person must live in that area. The staff seems to be living in an unreal world, such as in a fairy tale where they play the main roles as the knight in shining armor coming to the rescue of the lady in distress. But the reality of the fact is that to the neighborhood people a crusader stays on to finish a fight. Also he makes friends and allies of the oppressed, not just rescues and imposes his own will.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION

Suggestions for helping the elderly in the model cities area:

1. Make Government guarantee loans available to pay off mortgages that are now in effect;
2. Find other available sites for development of schools and other projects that are needed;

3. Set up an information center staff by a person sympathetic and able to identify with the resident of the area. Solely for the purpose of relocation;

4. Make money available for renovation of homes first. Why tear down something that can be repaired?

5. Deal with people as individuals. Keep away from decisionmaking on the institutional level. No one institution speaks for all the people;

6. Make sure that any organization that makes a proposal for funds has at least 50 percent of resident to be serviced on their policymaking board; and

7. What's finally and most importantly needed is that the people be allowed to form themselves into a corporation that would be run, managed and owned by themselves that would build the homes in model cities. In this way they participate in determining their own destiny. Otherwise people from the outside will come in and make the people do what the outsiders want them to do. We are not children, we have the ability to do things for ourselves. Self-determination applies to the people of the barrio just like the Anglos.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Aguilar, you have stated that the model city staff does not have one model city neighborhood area on that staff resident and there is no Mexican-American on the decisionmaking level?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How many do they have in that decisionmaking level, do you know?

Mr. AGUILAR. They have the Administrator, the Assistant, and one analyst for each of the components.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How many people—were there hundreds—how many thousands of people in this area of the Model City's—

MAN FROM AUDIENCE. Too many.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They testified earlier. Do you recall what it was?

Mr. AGUILAR. 114,000.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What percentage of that population is Mexican-American?

Mr. AGUILAR. I would say about 90 percent.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Ninety percent, and there is no Mexican-American in the decisionmaking level?

Mr. AGUILAR. There are Mexican-Americans in the decisionmaking level, but they are not living in the—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Resident? He comes from some other area?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And he is out in that area telling those people what to do?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You pointed out very dramatically here that what they'll do is move out, build homes till somebody is ready to come out there and say theirs is a model and push them out again?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Keep the migrant paying on the contract. This article from the San Antonio Express-News, December 19, 1968, describes a statement from Mr. Aguilar about his current mortgage contract.

(The article referred to follows:)

[From the San Antonio Express, Thursday, Dec. 19, 1968]

BARRIOS UNIDOS TO REVEAL ETHNIC PROBLEMS

(By Bill Graham)

Mariano Aguilar, an organizer of the West Side Barrios Unidos group, hopes to bring more problems of the area into the public limelight Thursday when he appears on a panel before the U.S. Senate Special Committee hearing at 10 a.m. at the Inman Christian Center, 1214 Colima St.

U.S. Sen. Yarborough heads the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging which is holding the hearings on the "availability and usefulness of federal programs and services to elderly Mexican-Americans."

Aguilar said the invitation to present testimony said the purpose of the hearing was "to gather information on unique problems among elderly Mexican-Americans despite programs already in effect."

Aguilar feels "communication" between federal agencies and the people concerned is one of the areas in which current programs are lacking, citing the recent controversy between Barrios Unidos and the Model Cities program over proposed future relocation of some 206 families for intended school expansion.

"It was more than two weeks after the dispute was brought to the attention of the general public before the Model Cities publication "Voz Del Barrio" disseminated vital information to the concerned populace," Aguilar said.

He added, "I will have the Express and News articles published in November and the Dec. 6 issue of the 'Voz Del Barrio' with me at the hearing," said Aguilar, who added, "Model Cities should have given the people this information before their proposals were ever finalized."

"Barrios Unidos has become a link in communications between the people of the barrios and the Model Cities Program and suggestions from the people are being presented to the agency instead of the agency dictating what it intends to do," added Jesse Saucedo, another of the organizers of the Barrios Unidos.

Saucedo said, "The Senate committee has asked for suggestions for making federal policies and programs more adaptable to meet special needs, and we feel that the area covered by the nine neighborhood councils that form the Barrios Unidos certainly has special needs; and we have the suggestions."

Aguilar intends to present his parent's mortgage contract and payment book on the house they began buying in 1948.

"They have been making monthly payments for nearly 20 years on a house costing \$2,995," he said, "and they still owe more than \$2,000."

"Many of the older Mexican-American citizens in these neighborhoods who made similar purchases face the same dilemma," said Aguilar, and added, "A large percentage of them couldn't even write, much less understand the contracts which have had them paying great amounts of interests all these years with very little of their total payments going towards the principal."

He cited several other cases in a similar vein and said that they have been consulting with staff members of the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund, but said, "So far they have been powerless to help us because the contracts have been legal and binding."

"I don't know what the results of this hearing will be," said Aguilar, "but these people must be helped." He added, "The government could pay-off these un-regulated contracts and allow these older people to repay the government at a low rate of interest for a longer period of time."

"We have proven that the Barrios Unidos is a voice to be heard and reckoned with," says Aguilar R. "Individually, our neighborhood organizations don't raise many eyebrows, but united we at least have the assurance that our side of any problem will be heard."

Organizations comprising the Barrios Unidos include the Arizona Street Club, Hidalgo Street Club, Veramendi Tenants Association Casiano Tenants Association, Jean Street Club, San Patricio Street Club, Laredo Street Club, San Lino Street Club, and the Saltillo Street Club.

It was estimated at Wednesday night's strategy conference that the Barrios Unidos represent about 5,000 persons. A newly instituted voter registration drive utilizing volunteers from San Antonio College has already reached 1,156 and the Barrios Unidos has set 3,000 as their final goal.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You say there that they started paying on this 20 years ago, nearly 20 years ago, a house costing \$2,995, and they still owe more than \$2,000?

Mr. AGUILAR. That is correct, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How much was their monthly payment?

Mr. AGUILAR. \$50 a month, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. \$50 a month, they paid that each month?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. For 20 years, 12 months is 240 months at \$50 that would be paid, would be \$12,000 they would have paid on that \$2,995 home. Is that fairly typical of that area?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You feel that after they have paid \$12,000 in 20 years for a \$2,900 home, being moved out to start over, and you say this is happening, you say many of the older Mexican-American citizens in these neighborhoods made similar purchases, and face the same dilemma?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Were the people in this model city area consulted of their needs, did they have an opportunity to express themselves on this?

Mr. AGUILAR. Like I said before, the model city staff went out to exclusions such as this and others in the neighborhood. This is where they get their information. This is where they get their—people who participate in the committees, so there is no general election held to serve on—on a component basis.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You feel this is people from the outside?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Telling people what they have got to do?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do you think it is for the best interests for the 114,000 people in this area of the model city?

Mr. AGUILAR. The program, sir?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes.

“PROGRAM . . . COULD REPLACE WORKERS”

Mr. AGUILAR. The program, if it is worked right, could work wonders, but we seem to have somebody who is unsympathetic to the needs of the people who can't relate to the people.

Senator YARBOROUGH. My recollection was that this act we passed, and I am going to go back to double check this, but I thought we had that passed, unless it was struck out in a conference between the Houses, that it required the participation of the community in a model city program.

Mr. AGUILAR. It is, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is in the law, isn't it?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is the law we passed in the Senate, but of course some of these things get into conferences. Now, if this—if there was no community participation, how did they get funded?

Mr. AGUILAR. They do have community participation, but like I say, they have to depend on institutions to provide them with community participation, institutions such as these.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You have an institution located in the model city area, rather than the people themselves. Is that what you are saying?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You feel instead of picking out, selecting people in the model city area, that they ought to have an election in the model city area and let the people have a direct voice?

Mr. AGUILAR. Right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You seem to believe in democracy.

Mr. AGUILAR. Right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I would like to explore this further. We will file* this. You have really raised some important questions. We are going to look into this. Wish we could deal—go deeper, further into this right now, but we are just halfway through our panel of witnesses.

Mr. AGUILAR. This is one of the basic things. There is a copy of one of these contract form sales that people, I will say have been gypped by, and also there are also listed in this report, payments, record payments, and as you can see from studying further, how the people have been gypped.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that the photostat copy of the original you hold in your hand?

Mr. AGUILAR. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I have studied these photostats. We have that filed. He has the original. He said he would give us a full file. Thank you very much. Thank you very, very much. Next we will hear from the Reverend Henry Casso of the Urban Ministry of San Antonio.

STATEMENT OF REV. HENRY CASSO, URBAN MINISTRY OF SAN ANTONIO; ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. DOLORES CONROY, PROJECT DIRECTOR, SAN ANTONIO REHABILITATION CENTER

Reverend Casso. Senator, I would like to bring up with me Mrs. Ed Conroy, who is project director of one of the works I am going to refer to.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Fine. Thank you. Father Casso, you testified before our Special Senate Subcommittee on Bilingual Education in San Antonio on Wednesday, May 31, 1967. We had a very wonderful testimony then and we appreciated it and commented on how beneficial it was, and we wish your testimony is as beneficial this time. That was a tremendous testimony in 1967 right here in San Antonio.

Father Casso. Senator, I have with me as a consultant and adviser, Mrs. Dolores Conroy, who was project director of a study I will refer to, and is likewise with the San Antonio Rehabilitation Center. She has some recommendations of her own to make relative to the rehabilitation of the aged Mexican-American, and so forth; secondly, I was somewhat tied up with the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights hearings last week and just got out of bed to come to this particular hearing, so I have just put together my notes. And I'll see that you get a copy of this. I hope that the record doesn't reflect my sickness.

*Retained in committee files.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you. This is the problem, this flu, and 500,000 people in bed in Los Angeles alone. That is one reason we are holding this open for 30 days. Any who are not able to come or any who are ill and must abbreviate their testimony, you can send it in full in writing. Proceed in your own way.

Father CASSO. Thank you, Senator. First of all, I am personally extremely pleased to see your interest on behalf of the aged, the elderly, and especially the Mexican-American. In going over a number of reports I was somewhat interested in the remark of one of our older residents of San Antonio when he said, "No one is interested in the old folks." You have expressed interest by being here and I hope and pray that the knowledge that you have heard here and Los Angeles and in El Paso can help you to bring the woes of the elderly citizens to the Halls of Congress. The remark of the older citizen, "No one is interested in the old folks," interested me to go back and see that in urban renewal projects, Project 5, we saw 1,284 units of low-cost housing cleared, Project 3, we will see a clearing of 334 units. We will see that in Rosa Verde there are only 7 acres that will be allotted for housing.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Where were Projects 1 and 3, Father Casso?
Father CASSO. Well—

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN (from audience). We have two projects. Project 1 is the government center project; it is located adjacent to downtown San Antonio in the city hall area. You are familiar with the area that is bounded by Dolorosa Street?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. The Project 5 is the civic center project where the convention center was constructed.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The HemisFair?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, sir.

2,474 UNITS TO BE DISPLACED

Father CASSO. These 7 acres that will be dedicated, we are to understand, will be probably designated for high density. In Project 6, the Vista Verde area which is in the planning stage, we are to understand that some 856 units will be displaced. If my calculation is correct this means that there are some 2,474 low-cost or low-rent units that have been or will be displaced. We see that there are up to 750 to 1,000 units that will be built supposedly in the Vista Verde area and this will still leave us short of 1,474 houses of low-cost availability. One can assume—one can conclude that the larger percentage of this 2,474 are elderly and a good percentage of these are Mexican-American. Now, talking in terms of relocating of the dispossessed, we have a work (publication) that was presented here and is dated 1966, but the research goes back a little earlier than that. Mrs. Conroy can refer to this a little later. You have a copy of it there. In it is stated on pages 96 and 97 that relocating will intensify and strain the financial life of the elderly.

For persons who do not or cannot move into public housing, the change of residence may require an increase of \$5 to \$10 in rent and an amount which can severely strain their budget. Now, other surveys, (1) this particular document in my hand, for example; (2) a result of the analysis of an interview by some 460 individuals in the Rosa

Verde; and (3) studying the housing component of the model city area, all three of these documents—the latter two being current—agree that a larger percentage of the individuals make less than \$50 a month, which means that their low income will not allow them to fluctuate much from the amount that they are capable of paying at this particular time. From the model city area we are able to come up with this particular statistic, that there are 3,000 persons there living on old age pensions, and there are 15,000 people living on social security. That comes to some 18,000 people.

We are talking in terms now of redeveloping and relocating this particular area, but the only thing we have to go by is the record of the other projects we have thus indicated, and if we are, as stated here, short by the percentages and can expect a fooling around with some 18,000 people, it seems to me that we have a very serious situation that is developing in our community. We can likewise look at the record of what has been provided up to this particular point. You heard references here already of the two facilities, namely the Victoria Plaza and the Villa Tranchese.

In the Victoria Plaza, you have 185 apartments, only nine Mexican-Americans, elderly, are there, and in the Villa Tranchese, of the 200 apartments, 22 Mexican-American persons, five Negroes, and 73 Anglos. Now, it is interesting to note that as we go through this particular document that there are constant references to the hopes and aspirations that these 200 apartments of Villa Tranchese would be able to provide some housing for the Mexican-American elderly, and I am to understand that the recommendations of this particular book (publication) outlined the needs which would attract the Mexican-Americans. Villa Tranchese had somewhat been designed for their particular needs. I am likewise advised that the directors instructed the staff to make sure—of the Housing Authority—to make sure that the Mexican-American elderly were apprised of the availability of this new facility. Notwithstanding the three facts: No. 1, that the facility was built in an area where we had a large percentage of the elderly individuals displaced. No. 2, that somewhat of the ideas or—design to attract the Mexican-American had been implemented. And No. 3, the instructions by the board to the staff to make a concerted effort that we have only 22 Mexican-American persons that are presently utilizing these facilities. It is even more interesting to note, and I am sure that one of the speakers following me will tell you that 48 percent of the available housing units for the aged in San Antonio are for the Mexican-Americans. You are going to find that all, with the exception of these some 32—32 plus 9 individuals are located in other housing projects.

REJECTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING

The housing units are not geared for the elderly, housing projects such as surround us, around this building, and it is even more interesting to note that in this document here there is the high percentage of those that rejected this kind of building, this kind of living quarters, as the place they would choose to live. Likewise, when you read the model city's neighborhood housing report, you will again see the rejection of this kind of facility (i.e. public housing) where he is to live. When you see the result of the statistical analysis here

you are going to see that there is again the rejection of this kind of living. However, you are going to find that this is where they have been relegated, and I don't know if it is by choice. Perhaps you can ask those who follow. Sixty percent of the 240 people that were interviewed in this particular survey rejected public housing. So it seems to me if 60 percent reject a particular concept, that that particular negative reaction would have to be dealt with. And obviously it has not been up to this particular point. You have already received a number of recommendations, from what I have heard this morning. I would like to make several observations with you because of your choice spot in education as far as the Senate is concerned and as far as the community is concerned.

Notice that when you look at San Antonio, when you take a map and take a look at San Antonio, you begin to see—this is the area where we are presently located—in the western segment of the community, that we find that it is in this area here where some 3,000 of the 5,000 units of public housing such as surround us here are located. I would like to recommend that you give some very serious thought to Federal money being poured into a community, into this concept of housing which does a number of things. I am sure that you can get a copy of the model city report to see what the people think about this kind of housing. What it does, first of all, it imposes an artificial crowding for which the community is not prepared. It affects education because this kind of housing does not have the funds to be able to assist the education entities in that particular area. Secondly, it does not provide the funds—presently funds are not provided, it seems, to aid in the recreation of the crowded areas such as this. So it would seem to me a recommendation must be made that the educational and recreational facilities be augmented as to the number of families and people that are augmented in any given situation. Thirdly, I think it is very important for us to realize the complaints which we are receiving from the school districts, that facilities such as these take away the property allowed on the tax base and at the same time do not receive funds per capita for the education of the children. So this affects the child educationally.

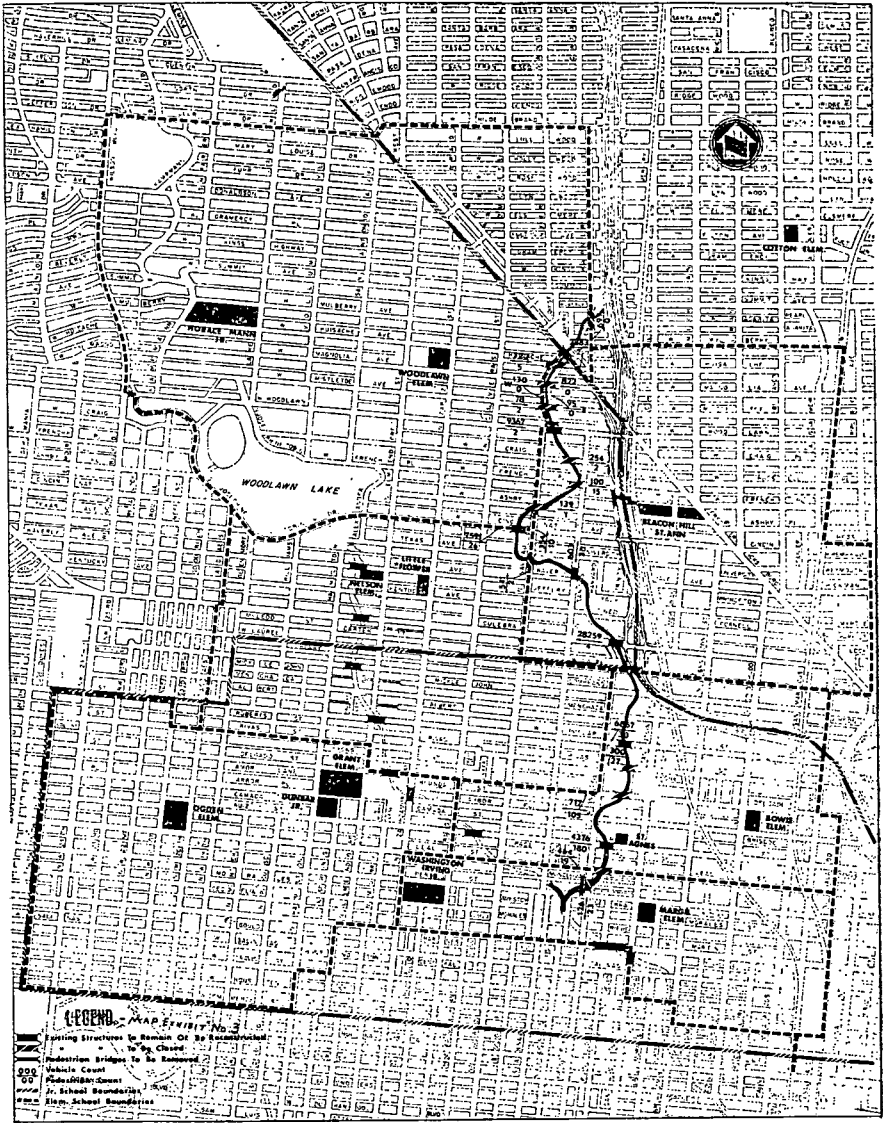
Then the next thing having to do with regard to Federal funds and the given community, recently we received notification, the community received notification that in this area on the north central part of the community, that there will be some 11 streets that are going to be closed and some eight bridges to be built.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Pardon me 1 minute, Father Casso. Do you have written copies of those maps?

Father CASSO. I will make these available to you.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We would like to have those copies and the map you have just finished testifying with relation to. The map that Father Casso holds in his hands now—that he is prepared to testify from—will be known as Map Exhibit 3. All right, go ahead.

(The map exhibit referred to follows:)



Father Casso. The point here is that the Federal dollar is assisting in one particular community problem and causing another. For example, the problem of drainage and flooding, which is a very noble gesture as far as alleviating this problem. First, in questioning the river authority, we asked them specific questions, the questions being how about the property that is running up and down the streets that are to be

closed. They said, well, the property up and down the river is going to be increased in valuation. The specific question is the valuation of the property up and down the street that is to be closed. The man could not give an answer as to whether this would be increased or decreased, and I am concerned because I know that area and know there are a number of elderly people living in these areas.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Father Casso, would you identify that area in terms of San Antonio?

Father CASSO. All right. This—

Senator YARBOROUGH. You have pointed to what—what area on the map?

Father CASSO. All right. This area, Magnolia Street, Mistletoe, Craig, Ashby, Cincinnati, all those streets in there, just the north central part of the community.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And what is the curbing line—

Father CASSO. This is the river.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is the San Antonio River?

Father CASSO. That—

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is on the west—

Father CASSO. This is the Martinez Creek.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is that line that comes in from the northwest on the map? It is a relatively straight line and then curves to the south.

Father CASSO. This?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes.

Father CASSO. This is Fredericksburg Road. This is the present expressway. So we are showing—

Senator YARBOROUGH. In other words, you are pointing to an area between—

Father CASSO. This is what I am pointing to right here. These are school boundaries. These have nothing to do with the argument here, so what I am saying is that you have Federal dollars which are improving the situation here, but they are causing a forced depreciation of an area here, especially with our elderly individuals who are not prepared in this point of their lives to have that kind of an artificial depreciation. That is my point. So somehow or another, if we are going to be concerned with housing in this area—here we have to be concerned with the responsibility of such entities as the river authority, such entities as whatever—the highway that goes through here, when it does affect the lives and property of people, relocating individuals—must make sure that people get proper housing and proper restitution for their property since the elderly people cannot under any circumstance meet these artificial factors in their ordinary expectation and planning of life. Now, what does it have to do with the area we are immediately concerned with? My judgment is that if this can happen in this more affluent area, in a little better off area, can you imagine what is going to happen when you get into this colored area where we are presently located, wherein lives a high concentration of the poor?

Senator YARBOROUGH. You are talking about the model city?

Father CASSO. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right.

Father CASSO. In that area if these people were not consulted, how much less are these people [pointing to map] going to be consulted?

So obviously, one can conclude that these kinds of projects ought definitely to consult with the people that are going to be affected. Then—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Your argument is that the will of the people who are losing their homes should be consulted before the Government takes their homes away from them?

Father CASSO. Not only should they be consulted in the fact that they must leave, but both highway and river authority must provide the same responsibility of relocating the people in decent housing such as urban renewal.

Senator YARBOROUGH. If an elderly person's home is rundown and the market value is declined, is urban renewal paid enough when they buy that to enable them to buy housing, other housing?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN (from audience). As a result of the 1968 housing bill, yes, sir—

Senator YARBOROUGH. We know if you take housing, old housing, the elderly people can live on it, some of it, not some that has been described here, but some where they can live comfortably the rest of their lives, but since they are not modern housing it doesn't sell high on the market. If parties take that land for what they can get it, the so-called fair market value, those older people can't go with a comfortable amount of money and buy any other land anywhere else.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. That is correct, and this was a weakness in the early program, the 1968 housing bill has provided for a method, however, where you can pay beyond the fair market value to make up that difference.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that the—

Mr. MUNOZ. Senator, I take—

Senator YARBOROUGH. This is Mr. Jones speaking—

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. No, sir, this is Mr. Martin.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Martin, I am sorry.

Mr. MUNOZ. I take great note there is a lot of low income families here.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Just a minute. Henry Munoz, Texas AFL-CIO.

Mr. MUNOZ. I also take great note that where the poor people used to live—the people have a little chance to visit their former homes, there is a great luxurious hotel right there at \$13 a day for a single room, the Holiday Inn.

Mr. MARTIN. That was also the the problem area of the city from the standpoint of having been the red light district and disease center and everything else. You better take note of that, to.

Mr. MUNOZ. Well, whatever you may call it, those were their homes and they were tossed out into Villa Coronado, because the fair value paid for their homes was \$2,000; you can buy a home at Villa Coronado, \$15 down, \$10 a month.

Mr. MARTIN. There was not a single family relocated from Project 1 into Villa Coronado, not one.

Mr. MUNOZ. Enter that into the record.

Father CASSO. Well, these two gentlemen are going to have the opportunity to speak, so can I finish—

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right.

LACK OF COMMUNICATION

Father Casso. Therefore, the recommendation that I make and especially in the light of this research here, to talk in terms of the lack of communication, and this was indicated earlier, that definitely there be in all of these programs, in all of these Federal programs that we mentioned, whether it be the highway, whether it be the urban renewal or the model city, that definitely that this communication system, especially those that are contacting the people, be able to communicate on a person-to-person basis with the elderly people. Many of them do not understand the intricacies of the law, the intricacies of the regulations, and so forth. It is a tedious task, but since you are dealing in terms of human life, human dignity, I definitely think that a few more moments would go an awful long way. Secondly, as to the tremendous problem that I see model city faced with, that the urban renewal is faced with; namely the tremendous amount of people, the great percentage of the people in these areas, that the elderly people that are living on \$50 a month, definitely something is going to have to be done to increase social security benefits. There is no two ways about it, the amount of public assistance that they are receiving must be increased, since it is one thing to move them into a public facility and yet not give them the revenue to be able to sustain them in that moving. Thirdly, and I feel that this is very important, that housing—all housing—be geared to the needs of the people.

I am sure that the argument in the Villa Tranchese situation can be that the people did not want this kind of housing. Obviously, from the reports that I have just read that there is all indication that this kind of housing is rejected by a good percentage, 60 percent in one survey, 50 percent in another, by the elderly Mexican-American. Definitely this is going to have to be dealt with in some way, and not by putting them into outdated housing projects. This kind of housing was rejected by 60 percent of the people. For all of what each has mentioned here, may I mention that no one here today has said anything about the rural areas and the rural housing needs, especially of the elderly. I think the record ought to stay open, Senator, and try our best to get some individual who is articulate in the needs of the rural poor. In some testimony that I prepared for the rural poor, the President's Commission on the Rural Poor, the housing need was one of the areas of maximum concern. My argument here would be if situations are rough in a community such as San Antonio, how much more difficult are they not in the rural areas? I have already touched on future public housing having to provide for recreation and educational increases. They will argue that they will need more money, so get them more money. If programs are designed for the aged, then I agree they should be designed for the aged Mexican-American needs, if we are really concerned with this problem.

I will reiterate my general recommendations that all Federal projects, whether it be the highway, the river authority, housing, model city, they each must provide for the relocating of people when they are dispossessed, especially the aged. A person that is removed from his house ought to be on a contractual basis, be guaranteed that he will get a house equal to or better than the one he is removed from. So these, Senator, are some of my observations and I would like at this

time, if you would permit Mrs. Conroy to make a couple of recommendations.

PLIGHT OF RURAL POOR

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes, but before Mrs. Conroy speaks, Father Casso, let me point out that we did have testimony yesterday on the plight of the rural poor and there they had a disastrous situation on transportation, primarily. It costs \$2 to go into El Paso to get food stamps and that statement was by Rogelio Sanchez, county commissioner of El Paso County, whose whole commissioner's precinct is outside the city limits of the city of El Paso. We had some testimony also of a volunteer who worked in Santa Cruz County, Calif., for 3 years, a rural poor. We had some testimony but that wasn't this area of Texas, so we invited him to file, or other people who have special knowledge in this field, to file additional statements with us within 30 days.

Father CASSO. Thank you, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Our testimony in these hearings early developed the need for higher social security payments, the present low social security payment, the low public assistance payments, the need for amendments to the medicare law, inadequacy of transportation for the poor, the language barrier, the need for adult bilingual education starting now, the inadequacy of housing, and the inadequacy of medical care. Many are the problems and I think you and the hearing here and others who preceded you have developed a new dimension to these hearings. There is another force that combats the poor, the Government itself; and the Government moves in through urban renewal and through model cities. This was supposed to help the poor, this was for the purposes of getting better housing for them and show that by these programs they have disadvantaged, they have taken away this little that they had and are left with such small payments that they virtually become—instead of people in poor housing—they are dispossessed. And you have added, you and the other people testifying in San Antonio, have added a new dimension to these hearings. What is the Federal Government doing for these programs? We have had many recommendations that these programs ought to be run out of Washington because there has been statements in the course of these 3 days that the local people haven't been sympathetic to the purpose. Then we have this objection of a bigger and bigger government that we all hear, so the problems that are raised have become quite difficult, some of them by efforts to improve the situation.

If the people need the homes they have, have them taken away by a payment with which they cannot obtain other housing, their situation is worsened by a law designed to help them. I appreciate these contributions. All of this is being taken up by me, not merely to turn over and mail to the Committee on Housing in the Senate. I am going to that committee to have a hearing with them to point this out. You may proceed Mrs. Conroy.

STATEMENT OF MRS. DOLORES CONROY

Mrs. CONROY. Thank you, Senator. I am very happy to have an opportunity to appear here today and I have been listening all morning and listening to what Father Casso has presented, and I have been

thinking as I listened, and in listening to what you have just remarked about the Federal Government, instead of helping to solve the problem with the legislation, support law sometimes seems to be hindrance. I think that I could make a pleading at this point for the role of the social worker in these programs, and many times I think that the social worker has been maligned nationally in having not produced services to people, because this study to which the Father referred was a study of how people feel and too often social workers are accused of being sob sisters because they are always talking about how people feel. But I think certainly you have seen evidence of how people feel today.

The earlier speakers and the man from—who opposed the model city program threatened that much of the opposition is due to the fact that their feelings, their likes, their dislikes, their customs are not listened to, and I think our studies on page 98 has 17 recommendations, and in those 17 recommendations, every one which has been made up to this point is covered. And this was done starting out—I started out as director in March of 1964. You have people here—Miss O'Neill—you have people here from urban renewal and from the housing authority, and all of us were on this project together and we attempted very vigorously to help the officials in the governmental agencies to understand this individual approach, the person's feelings, attitude, and do it on what the social worker calls a casework basis, but this really is nothing more than dealing with the person as an individual, helping him to work out a solution to his problem. And I think that the inability of the governmental agencies to understand what we are saying is based on their lack of a complete acceptance of the emotional problems that every relocation or every disadvantaged person has. I think particularly that physical planning and physical structure make much more impression on the general public than some of the intangible services that the social worker provides. I served on the project and we worked with the people in Rosa Verde. We were supposed to be able to finish the project by the time that the people were to be moved.

At the present time—the project ended. I started in March of 1964, and the project ended in April of 19—well, later than April, in the summer of 1965. There were four cities served by this project, the relocation of the elderly. There was one in—San Antonio dealt particularly with the Mexican-American elderly. I am now chief of services for the San Antonio Rehabilitation Center and I had a patient who has his business in the Rosa Verde area. Many of his present problems came from the fact that there was a long delay in the planning and the implementations of that urban renewal project. So there is much evidence that one can have an individual social worker that ties in much of the past experiences that I have had with the present, and going—I am not going to refer back to the project because I think—everything is in the book. It is too bad, really, that when it is fair that it cannot be used, discriminated, and yearly operated, renewed, repeated, because no single piece of research has any value except as it can accumulate evidence and can add to the evidence, and I think if this would have been done repeatedly by the agency involved, that they would have gained much and might have prevented some of the problems that model city is having.

PHYSICAL RESTORATION OF ELDERLY

It is all there and it is as fresh as it was at that point. I think that at the present time the only additional evidence—the statement that I would like for you to consider is to consider the problems of the aged, the physically disabled elderly Mexican-American, because there is a very high incident that struck without a Federal Government project in our center, a grant for 3 years, and as Miss O'Neill said, it was a diminishing grant because the local community is supposed to put in money but we had to terminate it, though, because of 7,000 or so patients in San Antonio, we treated approximately only 200, but as the number of Mexican elderly within that group has been approximately 50 and we have to stop now, but we have been able to demonstrate to doctors and to families and the community at large that elderly Mexican-Americans can recover from strokes and can regain a functional existence. There are many, many, many positive attributes to this but nationally you don't see much discussed about the physical restoration of the elderly, and particularly locally, diabetes, diabetic amputee, and your stroke patients are felt to be inevitable. There is not much you can do about them. They will die soon and there isn't much point. Many times they aren't even referred for physical therapy because it is thought to be a waste of physical therapy time. This is another whole aspect in the delivery of medical services that needs to be looked at.

We can't continue because in a small volunteer agency you do not have a tax base in San Antonio, as Miss O'Neill pointed out, or any type of program for voluntary help contributions for this program. I think that is all that I would take your time with today.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mrs. Conroy. If you have additional statements to file, we will welcome them. This has been a very interesting statement that you have made. This program comes under the bill we passed on—over in the Health Subcommittee on heart disease, cancer, and stroke, administered by the National Institutes of Health.

Mrs. CONROY. Right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And so we are interested in that. I am also on that subcommittee that voted that money and voted that bill, and we have this problem of the funding. You mentioned the crisis of the social worker. You didn't mention the two words with which the opponents of the programs for human progress oppose them. "Do-gooders" they call them, people who try to serve the human race, and you see much about a slurred referral to the "do-gooders" in these columns and certain radio broadcasts, not the newscasters, but certain ones, the columnists on the radio that are paid quite handsomely a year to oppose this kind of human progress. Thank you. We invite any additional statement.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN (from audience). Senator, may I make one statement?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Aren't you scheduled to testify?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, but this has to do with Father Casso. I think it would be of worthy—

Senator YARBOROUGH. We are running out of time. I am asking everybody from now on to please condense their statement.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. All right, sir. I think it was interpreted that Father Casso was criticizing the relocation that has been done with reference to urban renewal, but if I am correct, Father Casso, you have no criticism of this. What you were saying was that the displacement of rental units has not been matched with a construction of additional dwelling units to take care of those displaced.

Father CASSO. Yes, I said that.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Because the families that have been relocated have been properly handled, Senator, and I want that in the record, if I may.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You mean they have got the housing as good or better?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They are—

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, we have records to prove this fact.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Of all of the people that were moved by—

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, and I think an indication of this is that you do not have testimony contrary to this.

Senator YARBOROUGH. That is all those removed by urban renewal?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Have gotten good housing as they had before they were moved?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. And better.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And better?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, sir, within their ability to pay.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And they were not left with the payment of their old house?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. And within their ability to pay.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Pardon me?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. And within their ability to pay.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Within their ability to pay?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes, sir.

Father CASSO. Senator, I think the question centers around the great number of units that have been taken off of the market and have not been replaced.

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. Yes; that is what I want—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Where did they go, where did they find housing?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. San Antonio is different from most cities because a city of our age has a large number of older areas to match standard housing such as that Father Casso described that is to be affected by the River Authority. It made it possible for us in some instances, Senator, to relocate a family into a standard five-room house for \$30 or \$35 a month, even cheaper than public housing can be provided, and this was with inside plumbing, with screens, in standard neighborhoods with schools. And one other further thing, the answer to that area about the motel that keeps coming up. This area was an isolated situation without schools, without parks—

Senator YARBOROUGH. What motel? What are we talking about?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. This is the reconstruction of the Government Center Project where a modern motel was built in a site that was designated for industrial purposes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What is the name of the motel?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. It is the Holiday Inn, but this area was never intended for residential use because it is known as an industrial area. It is completely surrounded by expressways and by high traffic speedway. There were no schools and no parks, and in some instances 21 families were using one commode and one water hydrant. I think that should be a part of the record, too, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You mentioned the Holiday Inn. Would you testify into the record where that is in San Antonio?

Mr. M. WINSTON MARTIN. That is located on Durango Street.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Next we have Mr. Richard Jones, Executive Director of the San Antonio Housing Authority, accompanied by Mrs. Marilyn Wacker, Assistant Executive Director, Perfecto Villarreal Community Services Coordinator.

STATEMENT OF RICHARD G. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SAN ANTONIO HOUSING AUTHORITY; ACCOMPANIED BY MARILYN WACKER,* ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PERFECTO VILLARREAL, COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATOR

Mr. JONES. Senator Yarborough, members of the committee, and ladies and gentlemen, my name is Richard C. Jones, I am Executive Director of the San Antonio Housing Authority. With me are Mrs. Marilyn Wacker, Assistant Executive Director and Perfecto Villarreal Community Service Coordinator. Thank you for the invitation to appear before you to discuss the program of the San Antonio Housing Authority in serving low income elderly individuals and families in our city, and also to talk about some of the constraints—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Jones, you are a governmental expert. Can you summarize this for us?

Mr. JONES. I tell you what I will do. I will go along and summarize part of it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Then we will print it all.

Mr. JONES. Right. I will go along and skip some rather large parts of it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I will not ask you to omit parts of it, just boil it down to the sentences and then we will read this supporting document.

Mr. JONES. Fine, fine. I would like to mention by way of background the San Antonio Housing Authority now operates 5,643 apartments in 14 locations, with 511 apartments especially designed for the elderly. In addition, most of the one-bedroom apartments in all family developments are occupied by the elderly. As of September 30, 1968, 27 percent of the total apartments were occupied by older adults, 1,492 apartments accommodating over 2,000 elderly persons. Since your special concern today is the Mexican-American elderly, we have assembled data on this group in our total housing population. There are 714 elderly families with Mexican-American surnames living in San Antonio public housing. A total of 1,369 individuals. The Mexican-American elderly family has an average annual income of \$1,563. They pay an average monthly rent of \$31, which includes utilities. Many pay the minimum rent, which begins at \$22; a range, refrig-

*See p. 320 for supplemental statement of San Antonio Housing Authority.

erator, space heater, and window coverings are furnished and maintained by the housing authority. A detailed breakdown has been included with this statement showing the distribution of elderly families by project. The San Antonio Housing Authority's interest in the special problems of low-income elderly families of all social and ethnic groups began many years ago. There is no need to tell you, Senator Yarborough, of the great work of Marie McGuire when she was in San Antonio or of her continuing contribution on the national scene to seek ways to solve the problems of our elderly and handicapped population.

Her courage and foresight in the 1950's produced Victoria Plaza, the first multistory building for the elderly in this country, which provided both housing and community facilities in one structure for the elderly. We remember with pleasure the dedication ceremonies in September 1960 at which you, Senator Yarborough, made the major address. At the time that Victoria Plaza opened, there were 700 applicants on file, 24 from Mexican-American families; all of those interested were housed. We were disappointed then and continue to be that there were so few applications from families with Mexican-American surnames. We know that the Mexican-American families who have moved into the building have been very happy there. When the authority began planning additional housing in 1964 we secured as a consultant a cultural anthropologist, Dr. O. Z. Simmons of the University of Colorado. Dr. Simmons had lived in the Texas valley and had conducted special studies of the Mexican-American culture in our part of the country. He met for 3 days with housing authority staff, its architects, and prominent members of the Mexican-American community to discuss with us the characteristics of the Mexican-American families and elderly which should be taken into consideration in design of new housing. The new Villa Tranchese development at 307 Marshall Street incorporated many of the concepts developed at these discussions. As of this date there are 22 families with Spanish surnames at Villa Tranchese and nine at Victoria Plaza.

The authority has very recently acquired and remodeled the Rex Apartments with 89 apartments in two-story buildings near the San Antonio River. This project was remodeled by the owner for use by the elderly prior to our purchase. In this development, 11 of the 83 occupant families have Mexican-American surnames. We would like to invite the members and staff of your committee to visit these new developments for elderly while you are in San Antonio. The authority did immediately begin the planning of the new units in phase I. However, for two reasons it has been held back on the acquisition of existing units. First, there was a very tight housing market in San Antonio, and few offerings were made to the authority. Second, because of an administrative ruling of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Authority was unable to acquire any housing which could not be amortized for 40 years. You will recall that the Housing Act of 1965, under section 502 would have permitted the use of a flexible formula for amortizing existing structures. However, this has not been possible. In applying the administrative ruling, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has said that only masonry or semimasonry housing will be approved. This includes much of otherwise available housing. Studies have shown that a high propor-

tion of the Mexican-American elderly would prefer to live in the area of San Antonio with which they are familiar.

A DESIRE FOR THE FAMILIAR

Studies have also shown a desire for the same type of housing with which the elderly are familiar. This is true of all elderly, not just Mexican-American elderly. We have found, however, that once the break with tradition has been made, there is almost total acceptance of the new setting. Studies have shown and our experience has proved that a very high percentage of low-income elderly wish and need to be as near downtown as possible or near large shopping centers which are the equivalent of downtown. This fact immediately creates the problem of how to acquire land which is within acceptable cost limits. The only way to justify price is to increase density, and the only way to increase density to achieve an acceptable cost figure is through high rise construction. We are continuing to experiment with different types of housing for the elderly in various locations of our city. We have several slides and sketches, sketches of the new designs which we would like to show you now.*

Mr. JONES. In summary, the San Antonio Housing Authority has made some limited progress in providing housing for the elderly. We are not content with what we have done. We seek new ideas and new concepts of providing housing that will permit the individual to live independently for the longest possible time. We are handicapped in where and what we can build because of cost limit. We are particularly restricted because the Texas urban renewal law and San Antonio city charter provide that no land acquired under urban renewal may be "sold, leased, granted, conveyed, or otherwise made available for any public housing." (Article 12691-C, Texas urban renewal law, section 3.)

This rules out the best source of desirable sites at a price which the housing authority could afford. We are also concerned with the effect of a recent policy of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It is our understanding that the Federal agency is setting limits on the number of apartments which a local housing authority can build for the elderly. In our own program we have this week been told to change our HUD approved program reservation of 1,200 apartments for the elderly and 800 apartments for families. The need for housing for the elderly is great and for those of low income it is tremendous. Today public housing is the only program through which any large scale progress has been made to meet the needs. We in San Antonio hope that we can make greater progress than we have in the past. We know that the elderly have a powerful and knowledgeable champion in you, Senator Yarborough. Again, thank you for the opportunity to appear here today.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Jones—

Mr. JONES. Yes?

Senator YARBOROUGH. We are running out of time, but still I can't let this pass. I will ask you this question. Do you know why the Texas urban renewal law and San Antonio City Charter provides that no

*See app. 1, p. 812.

land acquired under urban renewal may be sold, leased, granted, conveyed, or otherwise made available for any public housing. Why does the urban renewal—why do Texas and San Antonio prohibit any of these lands that are acquired for urban renewal be used for public housing?

Mr. JONES. I think it dates back to the earlier dates of public housing programs where we had fierce opposition from homebuilding, real estate, banking interests, and this was one compromise which had to be accepted, as I understand it, in order to get the enabling legislation for urban renewal. I would hope that the day is not too far off when we can prevail upon the legislature to remove this from the law.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And also too, I hope you'll call all of your San Antonio legislators and call their attention to that. You have very able men in the legislature.

Mr. JONES. We are working on that all of the time, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. One other question, one thing that you say, you talked about the kind of places that people want to live. You say we have found, however, that once the break with tradition has been made there is almost total acceptance of the new setting. Now, in California we were told that there is almost total rejection of high rise apartments by the people of Mexican-American extraction. They have found that out, too, and also they were looking for other types of construction other than high rise apartments. They had as little acceptance of that among the people of Mexican-American descent in California as in Texas. You are saying that they put them up there and force them to go up there and break the tradition and then to accept it?

Mr. JONES. One thing I would like to point out, that there is within a 5-minute walk of where we are now that we have 325 elderly families living in one-bedroom apartments. It is this project which opened about December of 1941.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And how high is that?

Mr. JONES. In one-story buildings.

Senator YARBOROUGH. One story?

Mr. JONES. Yes, and it is working very well. Just within one block—

Senator YARBOROUGH. That wasn't a high rise—you mean in a lower story of the high rise apartment?

Mr. JONES. No, this is just in one story—

Senator YARBOROUGH. One-story apartments?

Mr. JONES. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I wanted you to know that that is what they found. They had turned to—

LADY FROM AUDIENCE. Senator, I have one question—

Mr. JONES. Senator, we have some people here from Tranchese. I thought it might be interesting to get their viewpoints. I would just like to—

Senator YARBOROUGH. We would like to—

LADY FROM AUDIENCE. I am a San Antonio born woman, I am very happy in a high rise Tranchese apartment, and I am a Mexican-American. I feel that if once they get into one, they will feel the same way I do. I have come from a very poor family, I am not ashamed to say it, but I think that our Mexican-American will be happy when once given the chance to try a high rise apartment.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Have the Mexican-Americans been excluded from the high rise apartments? Is that the reason—

LADY FROM AUDIENCE. Not to my knowledge. I don't know.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Since there is so few in there, so few families, certainly they weren't excluded.

Mr. JONES. I would like to point out that the charge of the—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Twenty-four—Victoria Plaza, 24 applications out of 700 in that high rise, one, and 22 families of Spanish surnames at the Villa Tranchese, and nine at Victoria Plaza doesn't seem to be much of an acceptance for a total of how many apartments in the two combined?

Mr. JONES. Let me see, 185.

Senator YARBOROUGH. How many?

Mr. JONES. 185, plus 200 at Tranchese, so that would be 385.

Senator YARBOROUGH. 385, and how many at Victoria Plaza? How many living at Victoria Plaza?

Mr. JONES. 185.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So you have nine there, you have about 5 percent at Victoria Plaza, and not over that at—

LOCATION A KEY FACTOR

Mr. JONES. As we serve the entire population of eligible elderly, we came up with 800 eligible families for Victoria Plaza—700, rather, and the same number for Villa Tranchese. So we are being overwhelmed with acceptance and I think location probably has something to do with the small numbers of the Mexican-Americans. Now in the future we would like to provide a wide variety of choices, both in parts of town and as to types of buildings, single family buildings, minihigh rising, but scattered generally throughout neighborhoods so that families who live in this kind of economical housing can live in the neighborhood where they grew up.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mrs. Wacker, on those slides that you were narrating there was some beautiful furniture. Is that furniture provided with the—

Mrs. WACKER. No. But actually, I believe you could almost develop that furniture from boxes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You could almost what?

Mrs. WACKER. You could almost develop that furniture from boxes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. On—

Mrs. WACKER. The stove, range, refrigerator and heater are all provided.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you for your contribution and the—

LADY FROM AUDIENCE. Senator, what I meant by giving a chance to the Mexican-American is an incident that happened to me when the Victoria Courts were being built. When they were being built I was the first Mexican to apply for a court there and I was denied because I was a Mexican, and if you will look in the record the lawyer that fought my case is now dead, but he did fight it and they allowed Mexican-Americans in the Victoria Courts.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So you say the reason that there is no—that there are so few Mexican-Americans in this building is not because

they refuse to live in a high rise apartment but they were denied their rights. We need this lady's name in the record.

LADY FROM AUDIENCE. I should have said who I was. I am Mrs. Santos S. Herrera, Herrera. The H is silent. And I have fought for the Mexican-American in San Antonio.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And we need the name of your attorney, the one who won your case.

Mrs. HERRERA. He is dead. Alonso—Alonso F. Perales.

Mr. JONES. Senator, when was that, I wonder?

Mrs. HERRERA. When the Victoria Courts were built.

Mr. JONES. The Victoria Courts were built in 1941. The courts opened in September of 1941. I was wondering when this took place. Do you recall the year?

Mrs. HERRERA. I don't recall the year but I have a witness, another woman who went with me who was denied, too. But I could get it, I could get it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you very much for your comments here and I will close this panel. We have others waiting. We have more witnesses than we have time. I am going to ask the remaining witnesses—we don't want to deny anyone a fair chance but we are running terribly behind, but any condensation of your statement will be appreciated. So many interesting situations have arisen. I am not complaining of any witness' time. We haven't explored these questions as much as we should have with each witness, but time infringes upon us. And the next witness is San Antonio Neighborhood Youth Organization, Mrs. Winnie Doria. Is Mrs. Doria here?

STATEMENT OF WINNIE DORIA, SAN ANTONIO NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH ORGANIZATION

Mrs. DORIA. I think it is rather confusing that I am placed on this panel as a member of the youth when I am going to talk about elderly. But I am going to speak—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I am glad to see the young interested in the elderly.

Mrs. DORIA. Thank you for the compliment, but I am as you can see from my bifocals—I am close nearing that stage of a Mexican-American elderly. I will testify as a member of the project staff of the research study that was conducted by the Ford Foundation, of which I think you already have a copy and as Father Casso remarked, I was at the time employed as a caseworker and did much of the person-to-person contact and interviewing. I will just read my statement because all of this will be repetitious and in order to speed testimony.

I. Strains on the traditional Mexican-American family structure caused by Federal programs including local administration of relocation programs.

A. Need for specialized relocation services offering training in home-making, health and family counseling, and home management.

B. Services of necessity should be administered by Spanish-speaking personnel trained in the particular needs of the Mexican-American elderly.

C. A characteristic of the Mexican-American family is the desire to live within close proximity to relatives. This has not been considered in the relocation processes heretofore. Recommendations:

1. Emphasis to be placed on upgrading the old established neighborhood for the elderly rather than creating new ones. Many young families have expressed a desire to move to new neighborhoods and can adjust more readily with adequate relocation and public housing services.

2. Need for an in-service training program involving members of all community agencies offering services to the aged, particularly the Mexican-American.

3. Strengthening of a follow-up procedure by post-relocation visits, and so forth.

II. Housing.

A. Many of the elderly in proposed URA projects reject public housing (when interviewed as to type housing desired, they were willing to forfeit a RAP (relocation adjustment payment) offered to them by the local agency, rather than to accept residency in public housing).

B. Of the 200 units in Villa Tranchese, an elderly highrise, located within blocks from one of the most densely populated areas with approximately 80 percent Mexican-Americans (1960 census) census tracts 33 and 42, only 20 are Mexican-American.

C. Reasons for rejection of public housing:

1. Fear of high-rise.
2. Location of public housing available to elderly.
3. Stigma of public housing with regard to admission procedures and policy enforcement.
4. Desire for single dwelling units with patio or courtyard.
5. Policy regarding nonrelated elderly occupying same unit.

III. Suggestions—Re: Communications.

A. All literature pertaining to present ongoing URA projects, as well as proposed projects, availability of services, and housing, be printed in a layman's Spanish and distributed at regular intervals.

B. Use of the Spanish-language radio and television stations to inform the general public as to the above, periodically.

C. Conducting onsite discussions in Spanish with neighborhood citizen participation with question-and-answer period to establish rapport with those actually being affected by the relocation process. (Note: This is true also in regard to the property acquisition stage, Board of Commissioners, which is your policymaking body and administrative officials.) This could be in the form of a Spanish speaking public relations person.

D. One of the most effective means of communicating with the community by URA has been the use of narrative film. Why not do one in Spanish?

E. Use of neighborhood centers throughout the city.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mrs. Doria. I think San Antonio is fortunate in one respect, that beyond some cities we have been in and heard about, that with respect to the Mexican-American population in that you do have a Spanish language television and Spanish language radio station here. It was developed in Los Angeles and El Paso that many of the elderly Mexican-Americans are illiterate, not only in English but in Spanish too. They don't understand the Government regulation, though they might read and write some. And at

the Spanish language television station, they are trying to remedy that by putting on some programs in Spanish, to advise them of their rights under social security, and welfare payments, et cetera, and I think that you have mass media that are particularly adapted here to informing the elderly Mexican-American who may not have an updated neighbor but would probably either through television or radio here hear of those projects. I notice this study, this fine study on relocating the dispossessed elderly, the Mexican-American here in San Antonio, where they are dispossessed through these developments. Mrs. Conroy previously testified that she was the project director among the acknowledgments. Mrs. Doria, my tribute is paid to you for your dedication and devotion to the goals of the project, and a special tribute was paid to the interviewers for working under an August sun, sparing no personal effort to complete the necessary end of the—

Mrs. DORIA. Yes, it gets pretty hot in August. I might add that I have worked with urban renewal agencies also in relocation, at which time I interviewed some 500 to 700 families for the Rosa Verde and the HemisFair projects.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you.

Mrs. DORIA. So I do know the problems of the people personally.

Senator YARBOROUGH. From 500 to 700 families that you have visited or talked to, I feel that should give you a real knowledge.

Mrs. DORIA. Thank you, Senator. Thank you very much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you very much. Next is the San Antonio Urban Renewal Agency, Mr. Martin, come around.

STATEMENT OF M. WINSTON MARTIN,¹ DIRECTOR, SAN ANTONIO URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Mr. MARTIN. Thank you, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Martin, you are the director and have been for how long?

Mr. MARTIN. Ever since the program began in 1959, Senator.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You are a governmental expert and know how to condense a brief.

Mr. MARTIN. I'm afraid in this program there is no such thing as an expert.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You may not want to condense it because of a number of statements that have been made, and maybe you will try to answer some of them that have been made, but insofar as you can condense it and answer what you feel should be answered, we would appreciate your cooperation since we are fighting deadlines in Austin as well as here.

Mr. MARTIN. I will make it as brief as possible.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you.

Mr. MARTIN. Basically we are concerned today with the problems of our elderly citizens, this being brought about by society and social structures, but San Antonio actually is possibly more sensitive to need than most cities. Our staff helped in the preparation of this article,² the

¹ See p. 319 for additional material.

² Retained in committee files.

copy of which you were given tells the kind of report it is, and since the questions that were sent to me were directed to this study, I will state briefly if I may—

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right.

Mr. MARTIN. Actually, this study of the relocation of dispossessed elderly Mexican-Americans is formed by different people. We weren't hampered by staff trained psychologists or sociologists, textbook theology, or anything of this kind, because it was prepared by people who have actually been there. Miss Minnie Doria actually was a member of the urban agency in the early part of the program, helped relocate families, and helped solve problems. Miss Minnie Garcia is another person who is mentioned in the book, and as result of this we feel the book had a great deal of validity, not only from the standpoint of statistics but it gave us a scale that we could use in evaluating the services that we can offer to the elderly here. There are nine points. I will not take time to cover these, but we did cover them in the printed material. You have a copy of this—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yes, and that was referred to you and you were invited to put them in order and you have copies.

Mr. MARTIN. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And we are interested in this report and we are studying of course your answer to this and we will carefully study it.

Mr. MARTIN. All right, sir. Fine. We have naturally instigated the suggestions made in the report for the most part, such things as—well, one of the things that was mentioned rather than send out mailings to people, that will be affected by the relocation, that we make personal contact. Each family is assigned to a caseworker and our caseworkers are people trained in the field of social welfare and this type of thing. Our relocation counselors visit with each person who is to be relocated and give in both Spanish and English, all the information regarding the benefits available to them through relocation.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Your caseworkers that go out are bilingual?

Mr. MARTIN. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. If they are not bilingual; they speak Spanish?

Mr. MARTIN. All of them are bilingual.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You don't follow the rules that have been stated here of social security here in California to bring your own translator along?

FEDERAL LAW CAUSES PROBLEMS

Mr. MARTIN. I'm afraid we couldn't carry out our work if we did that. For one thing, it wouldn't do because we are dealing primarily with Mexican-American family areas, and also in our Negro areas and model city areas, of which we are concerned with. We began our program in 1959 and of course we were very frustrated with what the Federal law gave us in the way of tools to do something about the problem of social areas. We were told that our program is one concerned with providing sites for housing and not to concern ourselves with the problems of the people. As a result of this, we had to locally develop programs to meet this need. One of the things that

was mentioned in this study was a seminar that was held during the preparation of this report, that brought all of the agencies together and had a better understanding as a result of this as to what Urban Renewal was trying to do. And I think this is one basic thing that helped us because we were a new program as far as San Antonio was concerned, and of course in our program dealing with people—there were problems that were being brought up because we found out that it isn't substandard housing that created problem people, but people's problems created substandard housing. And as a result of this finding we have been trying to concern ourselves with the basic problems of the slums, not the housing itself, and this began as a result of a focus of attention about this report and things that we found in our personal relationship with families and problems of the elderly, specifically their lack of income, their problems with reference to special housing needs.

All of these things have been mentioned earlier in our written report and I will not take time to go through them again. But I do think that one thing that resulted was that we became a part—and when I say we, I am speaking about the Urban Renewal Agency became a part of the social service in San Antonio. It has become necessary that we do this, because we cannot solve people's housing problems without being a source of solving their other problems as well. And the 1968 housing bill is the first indication upon the part of the Federal Government that this is a necessity. We could not get any interest, we couldn't hire staff members, for instance, that were socially trained for dealing with this problem. Now we have on our staff several people who can direct their attention to working with these families, and not only find them legal assistance but find them welfare assistance and informing them of their rights, providing them with job training where possible and placement where possible. And I think that one of the questions that was asked dealt with the status of the Rosa Verde project and the Vista Verde project which were the subjects of this study. We are now into execution on the Rosa Verde project, and this is the relocation that has been given in the written material that you have. More significant than this is a first as far as our program is concerned, which is what we call HELP House (Housing, Education, Livelihood, Progress). This is a building that has been leased in the project area and it hopefully will be typical of what will be done in other areas.

CONCERN ABOUT SOCIAL PROBLEMS

As project areas such as model city progresses further, the staff of Urban Renewal and other personnel will begin to concern themselves with the social problems of the elderly and the people involved in the project area. We are offering classes in citizenship, we are offering classes in homemaking, we are offering classes in language, we are offering classes in fundamental math. All of these things are being done on a voluntary basis at no cost to the residents of the area throughout the entire program. We are also making space available in the HELP House and this will be a cooperative effort with other agencies in San Antonio whereby you will have health clinics operating in that area and very possibly one of the suggestions that I thought

was an excellent one was the idea of taking the food stamps area to the area of the needy. We have mobile libraries, why shouldn't we have mobile office facilities for the stamp program? We would like to make space available in our HELP House to carry out such programs. I think another thing that might be of interest to you, Senator, knowing of your interest in the construction part of our program, one of the statements mentioned earlier was that there had been a displacement of so many housing units and yet through urban renewal there had been no creation of new housing. One reason that this has not been a bigger problem in relocation thus far, as I said earlier, is that San Antonio is fortunate in having a backlog of older housing that we can locate these individuals and elderly into.

We have an open file, by the way, of before and after photographs to anyone in the group that would avail themselves of this. I think it is something that you would find quite interesting, to verify the fact that there has not been a problem of finding housing but that it has worked and has been successful. Along that line, there was an article introduced and will be introduced to you from the local press which stated that one of our concerns was the displacement of people from urban renewal projects into the county in substandard areas. There were five people given as sources of information for this article. The agency was concerned about this because our agency records indicated that no relocation had taken place from any of the two urban renewal projects into the county, but all within the city of San Antonio with the exception of three families that moved out of the city of San Antonio to another State to be situated with their family. We approached the people who were given as sources of information for the article that you have in front of you. Mr. Albert Pena denied that he knew of any instance of any family that was relocated from an urban renewal area into the county slum areas. There is a teacher quoted in the article that stated in the article that there was some 30-odd families that were moved from the urban renewal project into the county.

The teacher has given us a statement to the effect that she did not say anything about urban renewal because she didn't know anything about it. What she did say was that in working with the students from the Villa Coronado area, which is a slum area, that it was obvious that these children were from an urban rather than a rural area. The young reporter who had been on the staff of the newspaper for less than 2 weeks stated this as saying that these poor people were from urban renewal. My point in bringing this out is that we have in essence a statement saying that none of the statements that were used could be verified and therefore it did not have grounds. And the reason we checked the article was that we were not trying to disprove the article, but we were trying to find out if it were true, what could we do to keep this from happening in the future as far as relocation is concerned. I think this is not only a matter of moving them into standard housing, in the initial move, but after they are there that they are able to remain there in a situation that's better there, because this is the success or failure of urban renewal as far as we are concerned, not the matter of tax dollars, although that is a matter of concern too. In the Rosa Verde area the new emphasis on the part of the urban renewal agency is one of rehabilitation. Much of the criticism that has

been leveled at urban renewal across the country has been in displacement of people, and this is justified we feel.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR REHABILITATION

In rehabilitation, however, there is a grant where \$3,000 is made available to families who can bring their property up to standard and this, of course, is a new approach from the standpoint of urban renewal. Where the families have been displaced in past projects were in areas that were not suitable for residential use and were converted for commercial use in keeping with the proper reuse studies. In addition to this, there is an opportunity in Rosa Verde for developing a new industrial concept, and rehabilitation is going to be the answer in the model city areas, for the most part, with additional grant fund money that will be available through the program. There is a means by which we can utilize people living in the area to form small corporations of construction personnel to actually do the rehabilitation to be involved. And this is one of the programs that we carried out in our HELP House concept. Again we can talk about the services of the elderly being worked in here in our program by EODC, and things of this kind, but again it is in the written form and will be covered more lengthy in that area. Another matter that I think needs certification, one of the greatest recommendation that we have made would be the disparity between the services that are being provided by Federal funds through relocation by urban renewal as compared to those that are lacking in other displacement programs.

For instance, when highway land is acquired or school site is acquired, or when the river project acquires land for right-of-way, drainage programs, there is no program of relocation available to persons affected. We have a situation, for instance, in the civic center project where we bought a person's home, not only paid him for the home but paid him a good cost for relocation, we paid him something in excess of \$1,500 to reestablish, and yet the property owner next door to the situation had his property acquired by the State highway department and received no benefit or assistance beyond the actual matter of acquisition of his property.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Let me say right there that I agree with you that the Federal highway location has been high-handed in the extreme in many instances in this country in the past years.

Mr. MARTIN. One of the things that I think, Senator, that will speak for the matter of whether relocation has been accomplished to the benefit of people involved in San Antonio is the fact that the housing authority and city of San Antonio have contracted with the urban renewal agency staff because of their ability and training in this field to do the relocation for the relating programs. Ours is one that does concern ourselves about the people and one—although we can't do all of the things that we would like to do with reference to acquiring property in all instances because money, of course, must first be justified by appraisal. We do concern ourselves with the matter of providing services—

Senator YARBOROUGH. There's one question, Mr. Martin. On page 4 you say that it might also be noted here that agency counselors have encountered no difficulty in relocating either the nonelderly or elderly families and individuals.

Low-Cost Housing

Mr. MARTIN. This is true today, Senator. We are at a point now, however, that if we do not start an extensive program of reconstruction of low-income units that the backlog or inventory of housing that is existing in San Antonio is not going to be available as fast as it is being used up, and the result of that has been there are two proposals now in the model city's program whereby the private homebuilders of San Antonio will build and sponsor low-cost housing on vacant land of the model city area, and another by a group called SANYO, who are proposing to build low-cost housing under the 221, 225, 226 program. Let me make another point to show the recognition of the responsibility for housing as a part of the relocation program. When 221D-3 became a program in San Antonio we couldn't have the city nonprofit organization to build the houses. We formed a nonprofit corporation from the board of the urban renewal agency and built the first 110 units of 221 housing here in San Antonio. This is the Las Palmas Garden Apartments in San Antonio. After this was done and shown that it could be done we had a number of 221D-3 projects throughout the city since that time. Now, referring to what I think is an excellent and very brief summary, "Relocation in Urban Planning: From Obstacle to Opportunity," written by one of the men who was also involved in an advisory capacity to the relocating of dispossessed elderly before. It summarizes how the San Antonio study is part of four others that were part of a Ford Foundation study. I think it is quite an excellent book.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Can you file that for reference with the committee?

Mr. MARTIN. This is my only copy. Let me get one available to you, if I may.

Senator YARBOROUGH. All right. If you can get it I would like to get one filed. Thank you. Thank you very much for your presentation. We will read this statement in full as well as your other statements.

(The statement referred to follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF M. WINSTON MARTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

1. PLANS FOR COORDINATING ACTIVITIES WITH THE MODEL CITIES PROGRAM, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE NEEDS OF ELDERLY MEXICAN-AMERICANS

It is hoped that through the Model Cities Program there will be the establishment of satellite site offices of various public and private social agencies. If urban renewal is selected to be the relocation agency for the Model Neighborhood Area, there is within the Agency's relocation department a section known as Special Services which is staffed by competent and qualified persons who are familiar with the many programs offered by both public and private social agencies in the community.

Relocation counselors will work with each elderly Mexican-American to increase income potential through employment, financial assistance and service programs of social, health and welfare agencies. They will make full use of employment programs such as the Foster Grandparent, Adult Distributive Education and Bexar County Senior Community Service.

The Foster Grandparent Program is funded by EODC and operates out of the Bexar County Hospital where elderly persons are employed on a parttime basis as nurses aides in the children's wards. The Adult Distributive Education Program, under the direction of the San Antonio Metropolitan Center, offers prevocational instruction to elderly persons in a given trade or craft followed

by job placement with a local business firm. The Bexar County Senior Community Services also provides employment for senior citizens as aides with the organization.

2. SOME DISCUSSION OF WHETHER NEW RELOCATION TECHNIQUES MAY BE FEASIBLE UNDER THE SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THE MODEL CITIES PROGRAM

Supplemental grants are "bonus" money that can be used to finance special experimental projects for model neighborhood residents, to fill gaps not met by other federal, state or local resources, or for other activities that are part of the model neighborhood program. Supplemental funds should be used primarily for activities that will attract other resources into the model neighborhood, or redirect existing resources to make them more effective.

Therefore, under this explanation of supplemental funds, any new relocation techniques or methods proposed by Model Cities Agency, the Urban Renewal Agency or area residents can be funded through regular HUD resources and be considered the relocation program for that specific project.

However, supplemental funds available under the Model Cities Program can be used in cases where the needs or requirements cannot otherwise be met by existing programs or agencies. For example, should the urban renewal agency be the relocation agency for the Model Neighborhood Area, it would be feasible to use these supplementary funds when relocating persons displaced by other public agencies (such as the River Authority or State Highway Department) that have no funding for relocation activities.

3. THE INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA ISSUED A REPORT IN FEBRUARY 1966 ON "RELOCATING THE DISPOSSESSED ELDERLY—A STUDY OF MEXICAN-AMERICANS." WE WOULD LIKE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE PROJECT DESCRIBED IN THAT STUDY. FOR OUR HEARING RECORD, WE WOULD LIKE A CRITIQUE OF THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THAT STUDY

The San Antonio Urban Renewal Agency considers relocation to be one of its most important responsibilities and, therefore, attempts to make every effort to make the relocation process as easy as possible for the families, individuals and businesses who are involved. The Agency also realizes that some persons require more attention and consideration when relocation is taking place than others, and that one such group is the elderly Mexican-Americans. This is essentially the same philosophy set forth in the 1966 study.

There is no question that when this study was made in 1966 a number of weaknesses existed in all renewal relocation programs. However, through attention given this and similar studies, legislation has been initiated to strengthen renewal relocation programs and, as a result, the Agency has been able to implement the important recommendations contained in the San Antonio study.

The urban renewal project described in the 1966 study, "Relocating the Dispossessed Elderly—A Study of Mexican-Americans," has been divided into two projects: the 158-acre Vista Verde Project and the 82-acre Rosa Verde Project. Located directly west of the central downtown business district of San Antonio, these adjacent projects are divided by the city's downtown expressway.

The Survey and Planning Application for Vista Verde, which is to have residential and related commercial uses as its major objective, was approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development on April 22, 1968, and the project is currently in the planning stage. Approximately 700 to 800 housing units are planning within the Vista Verde area, the exact number depending upon the design and layout of the units. It is visualized that these units will take the form of one-, two- and two-and-a-half story garden-type apartments and townhouses, both of which utilize the communal living characteristics which will be brought out later in this discussion.

Rosa Verda, to the east of Vista Verde, contains the City Market area, the Santa Rosa Medical Center, some housing and many commercial establishments. The redevelopment plan for this project calls for commercial rehabilitation, reconstruction and expansion of the market area, expansion of the medical center and the development of related medical facilities, such as out-patient care clinics, doctors' offices and housing for the elderly. Statistically, there are 114 families and individuals in Rosa Verde over 60 years of age which represent more than one-third of the project population; 93 per cent of these elderly persons have Spanish surnames and 46 per cent are non-citizens.

Land acquisition in Rosa Verde began in May 1968 and, as of December 6, 1968, options had been obtained on 51 of the 143 parcels of land in the project which will be acquired under the redevelopment plan. As of this same date, 33 families and 25 individuals had been relocated. Of the 33 families, 6 were elderly families, and of the 25 individuals, 9 were elderly. This is a total of 15 elderly families and individuals and 43 non-elderly families and individuals who thus far have been relocated. It might also be noted here that Agency counselors have encountered no difficulty in relocating either the non-elderly or elderly families and individuals.

As a matter of record, the Agency has been very successful in its relocation program since entering its first project in 1961 and feels it has been particularly successful in dealing with the elderly who constituted one-fourth of the total relocation workload in the Agency's first two projects and who comprise one-third of the population in each of the two current projects. (See chart below:)

ELDERLY POPULATION
CURRENT URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS—SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

Project	Number of elderly to be relocated	Percentage	Total relocated
Central West Area ¹	135	28	492
Civic Center ¹	203	26	801
Rosa Verde ²	114	34	332
Vista Verde.....	211	36	587
Total.....	663		2,212

¹ Relocation completed.

² Now in relocation process.

It is interesting to note that none of the elderly persons relocated by the Agency in any of its projects has returned to substandard living conditions, and that no complaints have been received by the Agency concerning these relocations. In fact, the number of families and individuals who chose to return to substandard housing after having been relocated by the Agency is substantially low. Such substandard moves were made by 20 of the total 492 relocations (4%) in Central West Area I and by only three of the total 801 (less than 1%) relocations in the Civic Center Project.

Critique of study's major recommendations

The major areas of recommendations which developed from this study are: (1) Ways of Achieving Understanding; (2) Ways of Achieving Contact; (3) Ways of Extending Assistance; and (4) Ways of Achieving Coordination.

Recommendations concerning ways of achieving understanding can be summarized by the statement that persons involved in the relocation process should not feel as if they are simply "pawns on the political chessboard." The San Antonio Urban Renewal Agency strongly feels that it is conscious of its responsibility in making the relocation process as easy as possible for the persons involved, particularly for those elderly individuals who would find an adjustment of this type harder than younger persons. In its effort to achieve understanding with persons in the project area, the Agency implements many of the suggestions that have been set forth under this first recommendation. In addition, changes in policies and regulations set forth by the Department of Housing and Urban Development governing when residents may be contacted have made possible the implementation of procedures which allow the Agency to have better communication with the project residents. Site offices can be established within the project area after approval of the Survey and Planning Application, whereas before a site office could not be established until the date of the Loan and Grant approval.

Notification letters, written both in English and Spanish, are hand-delivered to project residents and business concerns as soon as the application for Survey and Planning has been approved. Residents and businesses receive a second letter at the public meeting, and a third is hand-delivered to them after acquisition has taken place. One relocation counselor is assigned to one household or business for the duration of the renewal process, and each relocation counselor with the Urban Renewal Agency is fluent in both English and Spanish so that there is no

communications barrier encountered. Also, early in the relocation process, counselors become aware of any non-housing needs that project residents may require. In all cases of need, appropriate agencies are contacted and counselors make additional visits to ensure that needs are being met. The Agency feels that the above measures aid in achieving understanding as set forth by the 1966 study.

The Agency recognizes the validity and merit of the majority of the points under this recommendation for ways of achieving understanding between the Agency and project residents. However, it does take exception to two of the points. One states that renters, or tenants, have been overlooked to a greater degree than owners as far as communication is concerned. Both property owner and tenant meetings are held in each project area, with both day and night meetings scheduled for the convenience of all persons in the area. In addition, as was stated previously, personal contact is made with both tenants and owners immediately after the application for Survey and Planning is approved. It should be pointed out that tenants, in actuality, receive more attention and information from the Agency than do owners, since it is usually the case that owner-occupants, after receiving payment for their property, prefer to "relocate" themselves. In fact, it is estimated that 85% of the relocations of owner-occupants are self-referrals, whereas tenants do not have the means to take relocation upon themselves and must depend upon the Agency.

The second point which the Agency criticizes concerns the fact that "the letter given to the relocatee should be more realistic in its standards . . . if it is intended that he search for his own housing . . ." Housing standards set forth in the Agency's information letter to project residents and business establishments are the minimum standards set forth by the local Housing and Inspections Office, and anything that does not meet this criteria cannot be considered standard housing. Moreover, the Agency does not intend that a resident, especially an elderly resident who may require more attention and consideration, search for his own housing. Standards are included in the informational statement for those persons, usually owner-occupants, who prefer to find their own housing.

The Agency is in full agreement with the second major recommendation; that is, the need for elderly Mexican-Americans to be in contact with familiar elements such as friends, an established way of life, language and culture. As stated in the study, one of the ways such contacts can be kept is by utilizing group location and developing housing based on the communal characteristics of slum living. Although group relocation is not advocated in all circumstances, Urban Renewal relocation counselors believe such action would be beneficial when dealing with select groups, such as a group of elderly Mexican-Americans who have established a living pattern and who are tied together by culture and language. Such a group would, in all probability, prefer a group relocation arrangement. The fact that these elderly persons would be able to adjust better and more quickly to their new surroundings would more than justify such action.

COMMUNAL CHARACTERISTICS

Again, as stated in the study, slum living with its communal characteristics offers an established way of life for many elderly persons. And, although slum living is anything but physically comfortable, it would be termed "spiritually comfortable" for it provides a community to which its residents, especially its elderly residents, can belong. In the slums, the types of housing which offer this communal way of life are called corral housing and row housing. However, with architectural design and imagination, the basic idea of these types of housing can be developed into standard and comfortable garden-type apartments and townhouses, such as are being proposed for the Vista Verde Project.

Ways of extending assistance constitutes the third major area of recommendations. As far as urban renewal is concerned, the local Agency is now able to provide more relocation assistance than has ever before been possible as a result of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. For example, relocation adjustment payments which are designed for families and elderly individuals have been increased to permit payments of up to \$500 per year for a 2-year period instead of the previous maximum of \$500 over a five-month period. Agency relocation counselors make maximum use of these payments but feel that eligibility requirements could be broadened to allow more persons to receive the relocation adjustment payment. Another feature of the Housing Act which has increased the Agency's methods of assistance authorizes a payment for a dis-

placed owner-occupant of residential property to enable him to purchase a replacement dwelling. The payment, which cannot exceed \$5,000, is the difference between the average price for an adequate replacement home and the acquisition of his former home. It is felt that this will be particularly beneficial to elderly persons who live on a very limited income.

The Agency also extends assistance in non-housing areas of need, going far beyond what is done in many renewal relocation programs and similar to some of the suggestions mentioned in the study. For the past six years, the Agency has held citizenship classes for its project area residents. Conducted with volunteer help, the classes proved to be particularly popular with elderly residents.

Another form of assistance, which encompasses many areas of need, is the Agency's H.E.L.P. House which has been developed to provide services for residents in the Rosa Verde and Vista Verde Projects Areas. H.E.L.P. House, which stands for Housing-Education-Livelihood-Progress, is not a duplication of services of other public and private agencies but, rather, a coordinating effort to make various services known and available to these project area residents. Programs include regularly scheduled visits by representatives of job placement bureaus, the Social Security Administration and other agencies which have information and services needed by the residents but not immediately accessible to them; classes in such areas as sewing, math, English, handicraft and citizenship; and special recreation and informational programs for all age groups.

The Urban Renewal Agency acknowledges the recommendation that coordination among various agencies is necessary in the relocation of elderly persons, and feels that perhaps this was the most important gain of the study itself. The Agency believes it strongly considers the human element in its renewal programs and, at the same time, is fully aware of its inability to provide the many social services needed by the elderly. Because of this, the Agency has developed close and constant working relationships with agencies and organizations which can provide these needed services. The counselors who are involved directly in relocation as well as those in the Special Services Section (H.E.L.P. House) are competent and qualified individuals who are completely familiar with the services offered by other agencies and their eligibility requirements. In addition, counselors are informed about scheduling of renewal projects so they are able to answer any questions from area residents relating to the initiation of any urban renewal projects.

A complete analysis of each family and individual socio-economic survey sheet is made by the relocation staff well in advance of any relocation activities. This process enables the staff to become familiar with existing problems which can or may delay the process of relocation. Counselors then initiate contact with agencies they feel can provide the service needed by a particular site occupant. The study's suggestion that these socio-economic surveys be distributed to agencies concerned with the renewal process could not be done since these surveys contain too much confidential information.

All in all, the Agency feels that is doing much toward "humanizing" the renewal process and that it is this factor which has contributed to the success of its relocation program and to its acceptance in general in the City of San Antonio.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The next witness is former county—Bexar County Judge Charles Grace. Judge Grace, you gave very effective testimony in the bilingual hearings held here in May of last year. Congratulations on the contribution you made on the fine passage for that bond. You may proceed in your own way.

STATEMENT OF HON. CHARLES W. GRACE, FORMER COUNTY JUDGE, BEXAR COUNTY

Mr. GRACE. Well, Senator, first of all I want to say that I have no prepared statement. You've mentioned the staff, assistance to the supervisor, to the County of Los Angeles had, and that it is even more than a U.S. Senator has, even a county commissioner of Bexar County has. But I have no staff assistance, so I will have to speak extemporaneously. Also, I might want to point out to you at this time

I had a very dear friend of mine, he called me Monday, and he said he had the Hong Kong flu. I talked to him last night, he was a little let down because he has just got this plain old ordinary American flu. I think I am getting that Hong Kong flu right now. Senator, first, I would like to point out that some statements were made a few minutes ago why we had in our Constitution—urban renewal laws as passed by the Legislature by the State of Texas and why we had in the city charter—that is the constitution of the city of San Antonio—provisions that you can't have public housing in urban renewal—land acquired by urban renewal. I might point out that the gentleman who chairs the committee that wrote that charter in San Antonio is the head of the largest home lending institution of this community. He is opposed to public housing and he is the Mayor of San Antonio, Walter McAllister. It is just a point that I am stating for the record.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Well, I was astonished that it was in the city charter. The city might pass an ordinance—have an aberration to pass an ordinance—but I was amazed to see it placed in the basic city charter.

Mr. GRACE. Well, Senator, I might point out to this committee I have been in attendance all throughout the morning and afternoon and when I think about the complexity of modern living, the new system that we are developing, you know you are an attorney, a former judge, you were the member of the board of examiners of the State of Texas, the board of law examiners of the State of Texas, you know lawyers, we have continuing legal education, we go to law institutes, we are kept informed if we are going to be good lawyers worth our salt, and when I hear of all of these new programs available to our citizens, you know you almost have to go back to a citizen's institute once in awhile to try to keep up with all of the legislation that is coming out to try to help us have a better life, either as a young citizen or a middle-aged citizen or an elderly citizen.

I might point out also, Senator, that listening to our citizens here today who are of Mexican heritage, their humility, their dignity about themselves, about how they are here to serve you, you know we should concern ourselves—and I know you as a U.S. Senator, and the Senate of the United States are concerned with all the elderly citizens, but I think if we search our hearts and our consciences and our minds, we know—we know that citizens of Mexican heritage have suffered this stigma of discrimination in this State. I am a native-born San Antonian and I know. Some of our citizens who are black, we have to give a little, they have been slashed, so to speak, and sometimes we inquire about them, but we are not giving them anything more than anyone else should receive, but because of the fact, because they have suffered discrimination, why we have to give them a little more concern in making certain that they benefit from the programs that have been enacted to help everybody in this country.

Senator, one of the things that concerns me about housing for the elderly, I think when we speak of housing for the poor, we speak of housing for the elderly, because most citizens as they get older in age they become poor. You know, there are urban renewals in San Antonio. Mr. Martin pointed out awhile ago that he has been in operation in the city since 1959. We haven't had one bit of low-cost housing, 221D-3 housing of one unit. We have had a big civic center

where we had HemisFair, we have got the area around the jail where we mentioned we have got a new Holiday Inn. The next project is around the Santa Rosa Hospital where they are going to add to the Santa Rosa Hospital. I think they are going to build a high rise medical clinic, some nice high rise apartments. I don't believe they are for the poor. Finally, down the road we have got some land and I am not just making this up—I got a letter from my great distinguished Congressman from our District. I would like to read it into the record.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Before you read that, you said none of this low-cost housing is for the poor. That is not because it is not authorized. Our laws of Congress do authorize this type of low-cost housing.

LOW-INCOME RESIDENTIAL NEEDS

Mr. GRACE. Well, you have this 221D-3 housing available. I have a statement from the Director of FHA. A number of applicants for 221D-3 housing, they had houses but they couldn't get the land and FHA can't condemn land and when the sponsors went to buy the land to put in the areas where housing was needed they couldn't afford to get it. The land cost was too high. The people wouldn't sell. Urban renewal has that convention authority, but the fault lies not with Mr. Martin, who is Director, he just carries out the policy. He is a very excellent administrator and in my opinion doing a wonderful job. It is the policy that counts, Senator, and in quoting the letter of March 9, 1967, from Congressman Gonzalez to Mr. Martin, he points out that it seems to me that the lengthy explanation of the history of the events relating to Rosa Verda compel this conclusion, that the first list of priorities insofar as the urban renewal agencies are concerned, the lowest of the low are the residential needs of the people in San Antonio, especially the low income people. Your own letter shows that whenever the interests of a group need to be sacrificed, it is the residential interest of low-income family that ends up on the altar.

Time and time again these interests have been flung aside for one reason or another. As a matter of fact, it has been with all the renewal activities in San Antonio no significant contribution to the housing needs of the people have been made. This in my opinion is a serious indictment of the entire program. The program was designed primarily to meet the housing needs of the people. Only a small fraction of the total Federal program, for example, may be set aside for commercial development, according to the law, but this certainly has not been the history of urban renewal in San Antonio, and Senator, it hasn't been the history of urban renewal in any of the other 50 States of the United States. We here in the boondocks in the city, we read the wonderful legislation that is written in the Halls of the Congress of the United States. We have great hope, great expectation when it is written, but when it finally gets out and it is administered, why we don't get any—we don't get anything out of that legislation.

I have a column here by Evans and Novak. Since that program—speaking of urban renewal—started in 1949, for example, 41 percent of the low income families displaced for urban renewal programs have not been relocated in the relocating areas. They have been spread out to other ghettos and the places where they used to live now gleam with glass skyscrapers, shopping centers and in many cases, new public

housing. Here we have got the big Tower of America, the big civic center, a Federal pavilion, a new county jail, a Barker's Department Store, we have an addition to the Santa Rosa Hospital. You know, you live in an area, you get your roots there. I remember reading a book one time called *Tap Roots*. You get your tap roots in an area and then after generations begins to grow valuable, maybe. Let's look at it from a dollars and cents viewpoint. Here urban renewal comes in and takes it over and they move you out. Oh, they might give you another house and place to live, sometimes maybe a better one, but you lose your friends, your neighbors, the—I can't describe it, Senator. It's like when you build a highway through a park. You know what happens, Senator?

Senator YARBOROUGH. The buffalo lose their pattern.

A CALL FOR STRONGER CONTROLS

Mr. GRACE. Right. So that has been one of the faults here and when I say applies not only to this community but throughout the community of the United States. And I say that the Congress and you, as a Senator, and your fellow colleague, you passed this wonderful legislation and I want you to feel in your heart and in your mind that when you have got poor administrative or execution of that law, you have got problems, and I say that when you have got laws coming out of the Congress now that you use so much authority to the local officials and state officials, I think it would be useful to benefit the elderly, that the Senate and the House demand stronger controls and see that their intent is carried out. I think that—I've read what they call the ombudsman system from the Scandinavian countries. I think we need something like this for our elderly, for our poor, and even for some of our more affluent citizens who are in the poor or poverty bracket, to deal with the laws and with the administrators of these laws.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I admit the first ombudsman I ever saw 3 days ago in Stockton, Calif. They have one, they have employed one, with anybody with a complaint against the Government, they have adopted the Swedish system in Stockton, Calif.

Mr. GRACE. Senator, I want to point this out, that I mentioned the fact that there were these applications for 221D-3 housing, this is garden type housing, but it doesn't necessarily have to be garden type housing, but nonetheless it is sponsored by some nonprofit agencies. As of February 9, 1967, Mr.—Miss Hobbs sent me the information that they had approved the local FHA housing, they had approved allocations for 650, they had 760 pending, and they had 200 more in the Federal office pending additional information, a total of 1,610 local low cost housing.

Senator YARBOROUGH. In San Antonio?

Mr. GRACE. Yes; but no land in which to build them, no land in which to build. They had people planning to build houses in the FHA where they had sent some of their employees out looking for land sites—

Senator YARBOROUGH. But you have got a city charter that says you can't build that on this land.

Mr. GRACE. No, you can't build that type of public housing but that isn't public housing. You can build that kind of housing on urban renewal land. Mr. Martin's agency sponsored the first 221D-3 housing on South Zarzamora, that is permissible on urban renewal land, am I right?

Mr. MARTIN. That is correct.

Mr. GRACE. I have discussed this with Mr. Martin, I have discussed it with Mr. McLeod, Mr. McLeod urged that maybe they can go on and take the land and include it in some program that he had already. I don't know, I can't say that Mr. Martin was averse to that. I can't say that he was in favor of it. But Mr. Martin is not the Board, he is just the executive director. He just carries out the policies for the urban renewal board and is appointed by city council by the city of San Antonio. I want to make one other point, Senator, and then if you have any questions, I will intend to answer them.

14 PERCENT FOR UTILITIES

You know, I thought—the gentleman that was speaking this morning, I believe it was Mr. Gloria, said that he spent \$20 a month for rent, paid \$5 a month for his utilities, and he bought his food. You know, that gentleman pays when he buys utilities, he pays 14 percent—14 cents out of every utility dollar is a tax that goes to the city of San Antonio. It just doesn't make sense to me that here we have a man who has a mere pittance of social security or old age assistance, and they all have to buy utilities and yet 14 cents out of every rate dollar for gas and electricity in this community goes to the general fund of the city of San Antonio. We had a big windfall of the sales tax recently announced here. We hear that we have got all of these programs that have been treated by the Federal Government for 2 and 3 years out of the Departments of Labor, or HEW, and now there is no money left to carry on these programs.

I haven't heard anybody say with this windfall of tax dollars that the city of San Antonio has gotten out of the sales tax—they are talking about capital improvements, but nothing has been said or mentioned by the city administration or the city manager by using some of this money to help some of our disadvantaged people to become advantaged. I say that because the point I am trying to make is I don't care what kind of laws, they come out of the Congress, out of the 89th Congress, the greatest legislation for the social well-being of American citizens was enacted in the history of this country. If you have got leadership on a local level that will vote against an increase in the State constitutional limit on the aged and the black and dependent children, et cetera—

Senator YARBOROUGH. Are you saying that some of the local leadership is more interested in chilling the water than they are in warming the people?

Mr. GRACE. Yes, sir; that is the point I am trying to make. And until we have a change of attitude, not only there, I don't want to hold my city up as being the only one of its kind in the Nation. I find this is true in so many of our cities. I see by the way the business interest has taken over the urban renewal program, I see now they want to go

into these areas, the model cities, but I think they are going in for the wrong reason. They're going in for one reason when they ought to go in to try to help people, they're going in for another reason—money.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What this seems to be developing today on this hearing for the aged, this illustrates that these hearings are very different in every city that we have visited. You have mentioned things that are developing. We passed these laws for the benefit of the people.

FIGHT FOR FOOD STAMPS

Mr. GRACE. I agree with you, Senator. And you can't say we are just going to talk about the elderly disadvantaged because as I think what applies to the elderly in some of his social programs, such as housing and food and food stamp program, we get the food stamp program in Bexar County, we fight for it for 3 years, we get it and they have got no office for it. Everybody knows, Mr. Martin knows, that it ought to be over here where the people need it and can have access to buy these stamps. We have got one office in San Antonio. Now, that is not having the heart to carry out the intent of Congress when they enact these laws.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You remember Mr. Gloria. He stated that he was advised that he was ineligible because he was single.

Mr. GRACE. Well, that was misinformation. You get into this social security office, Miss Slick is the regional district manager here, Senator Yarbrough. Miss Slick is originally from San Marcos. They don't allow these people to speak Spanish, if that is correct, and I assume that Father Casso testified that they wouldn't allow the social security agents to converse in Spanish. Well, that is rather ridiculous, it is just not good commonsense, and it sort of demeans the dignity of this individual who can't express himself well in English as he can in Spanish.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We have councils around the world, councils who talk to people in different languages. It seems to me that we could have some councils here in America for people who are bilingual.

Mr. GRACE. I think the Government has gotten away from the people. You heard from the gentleman who represented the Barrios Unidas. They want to have a say. You hear before the U.S. Transportation Department where the mayor of the city of San Antonio called and said we want to have a say as to where these highways are going to go, we want to have a say, the people want to have a voice. They believe in democracy. They were taught that in school and they want to put that to work.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Judge Grace, thank you for a very interesting presentation from a person who really knows the situation in Bexar County and San Antonio. You have made a great contribution to this hearing.

Mr. GRACE. Thank you.

Senator YARBOROUGH. We have many questions that we need to know, but we are past our closing time. We have other witnesses. The next witness is Mr. John Markey, president of the Senior Citizen Council of Bexar County.

**STATEMENT OF JOHN MARKEY, PRESIDENT, SENIOR CITIZEN
COUNCIL OF BEXAR COUNTY**

Mr. MARKEY. Senator Yarborough, I did not receive any information from you until yesterday and ordered this program, and all I have to say this afternoon is what I picked up here today. I am president of the Senior Citizen Council of Bexar County which will have an election next Saturday and I will lose my presidency. But we have tried and we are under the process of trying to get more elderly citizens—doesn't make a difference whether they are in our group or not, but all of them, an income of at least \$200 per month. You probably get a letter from some of our group in order to do that. And we are also trying to get in San Antonio where we can get elderly citizens of over the age their deficit in drug bills. My drug bills run around from \$50 to \$60 a month, just for myself and my wife.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Two Senate committees are working on that, the Antitrust Committee, and the Government Operations Committee. Two different committees that moved on it because of this.

Mr. MARKEY. And we are also working, and one of my members has a plan, he has got some information from Chicago in regards to a housing—these people come down here with some money and he is in the real estate business and he is trying to sell them some property that we can put up another housing unit for the aged. And I want to go along with Commissioner Albert Pena when he says that we need all the information, all the help that we can get for the poor, elderly, hungry, and old—I mean elderly people on the west side especially. But we also are going to attempt to work on this elimination of this \$50 in the medicare and we want the help of the senior citizens in order to get that out. And I started yesterday to work in the city of San Antonio to try to get bus fares reduced from the hours of, say, 10 to 4, or something like that for the senior citizens that are carrying a card. The city bus company turned us down flatly, and said their rates are too low now. Senator Yarborough, we have approximately 40 senior citizen councils in the city of San Antonio.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Forty councils in the city alone?

Mr. MARKEY. Yes; most every church has a senior citizens group. Villa Tranchese has three or four of them out there and I belong to one, and the 411 Berrera Street, I think they have a senior citizens. All of the churches have them, the community center has them, but we are the Senior Citizens Council of Bexar County which has been in operation for about 6 or 7 years.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Markey, how old are you?

Mr. MARKEY. Do I have to tell you—sir, I am going on 76 years of age.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The reason I asked this is because Conrad Adenauer pulled Germany together after World War II, after he was 65, and De Gaulle wouldn't have done so badly at way past 70 if France and all of the Communists and everything had not struck for a month and pulled his gold reserve of \$5 billion down to \$4 billion.

Mr. MARKEY. I was 75 in July.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And we had not only leaders of nations in our own lifetime, gosh, we wish that Mao over in China wasn't so

big at 78, and Ho Chi Minh, he is over 75. I wish he would slip but he doesn't slip fast enough.

Mr. MARKEY. And getting back for the local cause of the housing for the Mexican-American people of—my personal opinion is one that I have seen and talked with different people, is if they have got a small place, two or three rooms, and that is paid for, and they can get by with it, I don't believe they want to move. The gentleman over here says that different people say that if they move they are satisfied, but I don't know. I have got a little old place out there on this creek that is going to be fenced off in a few days. I get out on the backyard and sit out in the sun. But I can't do that in a housing—

Senator YARBOROUGH. And you live longer, too.

Mr. MARKEY. So getting back to the elderly, the Spanish-speaking people, I don't believe they want to move. And now the San Antonio River Authority come along and they want to stop up my street in a few days. I live on Martinez Creek. I have been washed out a couple of times on account of that creek.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Would you rather be washed out or moved out?

Mr. MARKEY. I think I would rather be washed out a number of times. I have had the water up to the floor of my house, particularly about 5 or 6 years ago when we had the flood here. And they have come along now and all across the street, across the river from straight up there in Balcones Heights down to this area up here, along this creek is stopped up until they get through with the River Authority. Now, getting back to another field, a new one, this expressway, when it was first put in in the district where I live, this fellow was offered \$6,000 for his home. They come along and they didn't want to take it. The city of San Antonio confiscated the house and they took it. They had to move to another place, and I am under the impression that I know they paid \$12,500 for that, an elderly man and an elderly woman in their sixties. Where can they get the money to pay this? This is what I think that this thing of moving the people out of their homes is wrong. Thank you, Senator, for allowing me this little privilege and I appreciate it very much.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you. We are very glad to hear from you.

The last witness is Mr. Henry Munoz, Jr., of the Texas AFL-CIO.

STATEMENT OF HENRY MUNOZ, JR., TEXAS STATE AFL-CIO

Mr. MUNOZ. Thank you, Senator, for the gracious invitation and I am not going to read all of this material to you because you would get statistical indigestion. They even have a handbook here, a handbook for Mexican-Americans, so you will know what a Mexican-American is. Now, we certainly thought that when we went to the Mexican-American Interagency White House Conference in El Paso, that this was going to solve all of our problems. This turned out to be a whitewash conference. A whitewash. I believe that we testified before your committee as to why we Mexicans ain't got it too good. We got the report from the Western Hemisphere immigration Department. This morning, Senator, I want to compliment you, sir, for being so far-

sighted in bringing your committee to the community of the forgotten people. This morning I attended sugar beet wage hearings under the Department of Agriculture. I not only wept from the judgment, I went into insanity.

Who in the world would ever believe that a migrant farmworker who is now working in the outskirts of town in the Belgian gardens making \$5, \$6, or \$7 a day and has to provide his own lunch, would miss that much to go down to the Holiday Inn to testify on his own behalf. I have suggested to the Agriculture Committee a year ago that they have it some other place instead of the Gunter Hotel, if the elder gentleman who testified earlier, driving a 1954 Dodge came to the Gunter Hotel he would have to pay 75 cents or 80 cents for parking, it might as well be a million dollars to him. I suggested to the agriculture committee that if they want to hear the migrant worker himself tell us something, instead of Munoz who is called an outsider—have the hearings out there where the people are, and hold them at night. They'll be able to attend and tell you what bothers them; and all I see at the agriculture hearings are the same faces that I see at every testimony, the farmer who testified before your own committee in Rio Grande City and the same ones that testified before your committee in Edinburg before Senator Harrison Williams, and yourself, Senator, and Senator Kennedy, and they always say the cost of living has gone up. The price of machinery, fertilizer, and then the migrant worker. He comes in last. Even the fertilizer comes in first.

I want to commend you, I want to commend you, Senator, because if Mohammed cannot come to the mountain, you have brought the mountain to Mohammed. Our concern is volumes and volumes—here is another one from the Department of Agriculture, thinking this is an economic research of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Report 112. I'd be awfully stupid to sit there and tell those people the statistics that they furnished me when they already know what is wrong with a Mexican-American farm laborer. As a member of the Texas Advisory Board to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and other committees, they tore up a lot of money on a Mexican-American study project. Advance report volumes of them. The burden of poverty. All you find is: We ain't got it too good. Well, what in the world are we doing about it? The Institute for Research on Poverty of Mexican-Americans, all indicate one thing, Senator, that unfortunately we don't have enough Senators with the compassion that you have. Your Bilingual bill is most welcome and you are certainly the cause of nondiscrimination because of age. This morning it was brought out in testimony, here is another one—unemployment in government.

Under research anywhere it will tell you that we Mexican-Americans just don't have a chance. It was brought out and we indicated, I indicated that—that when my president—and I am not talking about L. B. J., I am talking about Hank Brown—told me I was just ahead of you for this hearing, Senator; Monday I was in El Paso, I was raising a little hell because our people are raising perhaps too much corn and not enough hell. From there I went to Fort Worth because ever since the November election, Senator, we have been on the road holding legislative conferences. All of the directors, including Hank Brown,

as you know, he put his hand in a saw, had it been his head it would have broken the saw, but he is on the road. He is on the road real hard. When I called in and Hank said you get your *como se llama* down to San Antonio with Senator Yarborough, and I said I have a conference for 2 days on the model city projects—and he said I don't give a damn what you are doing, you get down to San Antonio. And here I am, Senator, and as to why we are so concerned, here are volumes and volumes and volumes that you find here. Not a single one is mentioned of the elderly and farm worker. This is political news, sad news to young people, too young.

This morning a farmer said, for crying sake, you are asking us to pay \$2 an hour? And I said why not, you are asking for a bigger subsidy, and sugar beets rates are stocked very highly. What is wrong with that? He said, well, we already had a crew, a mama and papa and nine children. I said, I know you do, I know you do. Why? He said because we get 10 or 11 hands on one acre, and I said I got news for you, buddy, we are going to file a lawsuit against the Department of Agriculture if they don't enforce the law, because if we divide nine by whatever it is, you are in violation of the Federal minimum wage law. But there were no migrants out there, Senator, so when my president—and again, I don't mean L. B. J., I mean Hank Brown—said tell Senator Yarborough—as to our grave concern of the elderly. Let me say why we are concerned. We represented approximately 375,000 dues-paying members in the State of Texas who are the finest workers in this State. Therefore, they are taxed more, whether to property or whatever it is, they pay more money than anybody else. We have stacks and stacks of mail, of little people complaining, and our motto is "Serving the Workers of Texas," not necessarily the dues-paying members, but all workers. We spend money on a public information officer in south Texas, out of Houston.

I called him and I asked him if he could be in San Antonio and he said I have got the flu, and I asked him have you got the Hong Kong flu, and he said no, I have got the Formosa flu, I couldn't get down that far. And he couldn't be here. Now, we are not against model cities projects, we are not against urban renewal, we are not against anything. We want to help, but we want our tax money to be spent properly. We want it to go to the grassroot level, not just the top. I would like to—

Senator YARBOROUGH. You don't believe in the trickle down bill?

Mr. MUNOZ. No, sir, absolutely not. If we were to do that in the AFL-CIO, Senator, we wouldn't be in office too long, and the reason we are now is because we care—I hadn't been home until I was told to be here, and it was an invitation that I would have given up my seat in hell to be here with you; because I would like to enter into the record with you as to the contrasts, and where we stand—right behind you in behalf of the elderly, the poor, the forgotten American.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The exhibits offered, we had offered from the newspaper.

(The exhibit referred to follows:)

[From the San Antonio News. Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1968]

URBAN RENEWAL HAS SIX TRACTS READY FOR SALE

Urban Renewal Agency of San Antonio is advertising for sealed bids to sell six tracts.

Boundary of the tracts is formed by Buena Vista-Dolorosa Streets on the north, San Pedro Creek and MKT Railroad tracks on the east, Interstate 35 west, and Arsenal-El Paso Streets on the south.

William Toudouze, URA land disposition supervisor, said the sealed bids will be accepted at 418 S. Laredo St. until 2 p.m., Nov. 25.

Toudouze said URA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, which must contain an acceptable redevelopment plan.

He also pointed out previous bids on the tracts had been rejected because the recommended minimum disposition price, which is the average of two independent appraisals on the land were not met.

Toudouze added that interested parties had contacted URA about developing the six tracts, which led to the current invitation of bids.

Two tracts are bounded on the north by Buena Vista-Dolorosa Streets, east by San Saba Street, south by Nueva Street, and west by Interstate 35. Each contains slightly over 30,900 square feet.

Toudouze said the recommended minimum price for the two tracts together is \$2.65 per square foot.

However, he said, on one lot the minimum price \$3.10 per square foot, and on the other \$2.20 per square foot.

URA regulations prohibit manufacturing of any kind, service stations, automotive repair shops, and building materials or lumber yards on this property.

Hotels, motels, and apartments are acceptable on the property, Toudouze said.

On all six tracts, prohibitions also include single family residences, billboard maintenance or manufacturing facilities, open storage areas visible from public streets, and trailer camps.

Three of the other parcels each containing just over 58,600 square feet are bounded on the north by Buena Vista-Dolorosa Streets, on east by Santa Rosa Boulevard, south by Nueva Street, and on west by San Saba Street.

Minimum recommended prices per square foot are \$3, \$3.10, \$3.25, but all three tracts together may be bid on with a minimum recommended price of \$2.75 per square foot.

The sixth tract, containing 43,785 square feet, is bounded on the north by Nueva Street, east by Urban Loop, south by Alamo Bottling Co. property, and west by Ace Manufacturing Co. property.

Toudouze said redevelopment restrictions on the tract include no second hand or salvage merchandise stores, amusement parks, skating rinks, dance halls, mortuaries, or poultry or meat packing plants.

He also said prohibitions on the property include institutions for the care of the insane, feeble minded, alcoholics, narcotic addicts, and tuberculosis patients.

Mr. MUNOZ. Yes, sir, as to why—and also I would like to answer to the model cities, that should enter into the record. Now, there's a great uproar in saying that there is no hunger. Absolutely there is no hunger in our State. Well, Senator, then I am just wondering why the committee head, Senator McGovern, said that the widespread hunger is a national disgrace. I would like to submit this, too. One of the witnesses as to the hunger problem, and some panel member pointed out that the Agricultural Commissioner has been more concerned with feeding the poor abroad and helping the big grower instead of helping the poor people here. Isn't this a disgrace that our Mexican-Americans who testified here with dignity and with pride, some people didn't because they were ashamed to say I can't eat, I can't afford to eat. We couldn't sell this picture to the Communist world. They would laugh at us. We proceeded to go ahead, Senator, and take advantage of a little Federal money before Mr. Nixon takes over and apply for a grant. And beginning January the 4 labor representatives are going to go to the University of Houston for 2 weeks and five seminars to be learned in all kinds of poverty programs.

And we are going to turn them loose with Mr. Andy Sandoval, Mexican-American in Lubbock, that is where we need it. We have Mr. Johnny Henderson, a Negro in east Texas. We have a representative

in south Texas, the lower Rio Grande Valley, and beginning the first of the year we will have another man operating from San Antonio to Laredo; Del Rio to Eagle Pass and west to El Paso—we are going to cover what we call the Mexican-Dixon line, organizing them economically in their community.

Senator YARBOROUGH. This is—

Mr. MUNOZ. Federal program. We are also going to present a \$3 million project—oh, mama mia, it is kind of foxy for those things, and if that isn't popular already, there is a brand new department that of urban development by an expert, a man who was head of the Arizona AFL-CIO, and served some time under Secretary Weaver and now he is head of the department for national AFL-CIO. In urban development and human resources, we are going to create a department at the state level for the 18 months. He is going to be a national AFL-CIO employee attached to the policies of the Texas AFL-CIO.

CONCERN ABOUT MODEL CITIES

Now, as to why we are so greatly concerned about model cities, a very simple thing that we see, this I would like to enter into the record also. When San Antonio applied for a model cities project with Secretary Weaver, we are greatly concerned because we have letters from the elderly and low-income people here in this town, seems to have indicated to us, the mail, that they were somehow reluctant to accept model cities because their homes were going to be taken away. I don't know which of the two model city projects in San Antonio—I know one of them, but I don't know which one, wants to build houses from \$5,000 to \$14,000. At my age, Senator—21 plus—I would be afraid to go into debt for \$14,000 and I doubt quite seriously that a man that is getting old age pension would be qualified or even foolish enough to try to buy a home at that price. Now, this is a confession that I have to make—I served as an international representative for the International Typographical Union from 1946 to 1956, and then I got wind to take advantage of my GI bill of rights as it was going to expire. I left my job and enrolled at St. Mary's University here. I worked for the San Antonio Light as a linotype operator at night. Some of my coworkers thought I was crazy quitting the job, but I wanted to get some book learning before the GI bill of rights expired. I went to St. Mary's and I graduated. My major, sociology. My minor, economics.

My first job when I graduated in 1960 was head of the Merrill migrant labor project here in San Antonio under the auspices of the Bishop's Committee for the Spanish Speaking. The first thing that I did in the office was immediately move it out from its location because I felt that if there were any migrants in that area they were lost on their way to the cotton fields in Lubbock, and I set up an office right on San Fernando in south San Augustine in migrant target area. That is where I set up an office. The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce pamphlet says: Come to the city where the sunshine spends the winter, where you have the blending of two cultures. Yes, Senator, there are two cultures, that of the rich and that of the poor, and the poor seem to be getting poorer.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you very much. We thank all of you who cooperated to help us. I would like to visit with many people but

I must leave immediately. I want to express my appreciation to all that cooperated to set this up. I know that they got a great deal of help from the community, this fine facility here, and we expect a lot of work here. Thank you very much. This hearing is now recessed until January. We will set the date later, between the 3d and the 20th of January. The hearings will be concluded in Washington, D.C.

(Whereupon, the committee recessed, to reconvene at 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 14, 1969, at Washington, D.C.)

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FROM WITNESSES

ITEM 1: LETTER AND PROPOSALS FROM ALFRED V. RODRIGUEZ,* ADMINISTRATOR, SAN ANTONIO MODEL CITIES PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 25, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR YARBOROUGH: Thank you for inviting me to participate at the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging held here in San Antonio December 19, 1968.

I welcome every opportunity to share information regarding the Model Cities Program with interested groups.

* * * * *

As requested, the following details regarding the use of supplementary funds for programs for the elderly in the Model Cities Area are submitted.

The Welfare Component Review Committee has submitted to the Citizens' Participation Policy Committee for approval a project titled "Planning and Coordination of Services to the Elderly in the Model Neighborhood Area." This project emphasizes two activities, planning and coordination (see attached project description for details).

As Miss O'Neill stated at the Senate hearing, local constraints on the expansion of services to the elderly in this community are imposed by the following:

1. Non-availability of City, State and Federal funds.
2. Limitation of local voluntary funds.

Suffice it to say, the above constraints likewise apply in planning programs to meet the needs of the elderly neighborhood residents. At a conference held December 9, 1968, with representatives of the Administration on Aging and Housing and Urban Development, we were informed that monies were not available to provide direct services to the elderly as originally proposed in the initial proposal submitted to this agency.

As a result of this conference, revisions and deletions were made (refer to revised proposal of December 19). Of particular concern was the necessity to delete service aspects as outlined in the original proposal.

Please excuse the delay in answering your requests. I am sure you can appreciate the priority this agency has placed on completing the Model Cities planning document.

Sincerely yours,

ALFRED V. RODRIGUEZ,
Administrator.

[Enclosures]

EXHIBIT A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT—STAFFING PATTERN—REVISED

It is currently estimated that there are between 8 and 9 thousand elderly people residing in the Model Neighborhood Area. We have some evidence concerning a small number of the elderly in the area, which indicates that these people are not mobile, for a variety of reasons.

One social work coordinator based in the area, would be needed to provide supervision and coordination of services and activities in these four areas.

One professional social worker research oriented would be needed to collect and analyze information concerning the elderly and their needs. In addition, this worker would be responsible to interpret the findings to the various community agencies as a basis for the development of new services. He would work

*See statement, p. 250.

with the agencies to help them use the resources available to develop these services.

During *phase one*, the planner would review all pertinent information available from such sources as: The Model City Agency, Urban Renewal, Housing Authority, Community Welfare Council, Settlement Houses, Neighborhood Centers, churches and recent area studies.

Phase two, analyze the services of existing agencies to determine their effect on the needs of the elderly.

Phase three, the establishment and development of activities, with the ultimate objective being the expansion and decentralization of social services to the elderly.

EXHIBIT B. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSAL—IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MODEL CITY AGENCY—REVISED

Plan with the existing city-wide and neighborhood type agencies for the extension of services or development of new services for the benefit of the elderly in the Model Neighborhood Area.

Review all data available concerning the elderly who reside in the Model Neighborhood Area.

Analyze the services of existing agencies to determine their effect on the needs of the elderly in the Model Neighborhood Area.

Actively seek out the elderly to determine what they want and need to have a more meaningful and satisfying life.

Document the need for new and unavailable services.

EXHIBIT C. BUDGET—REVISED

Project director-----	\$9,600	Consumable supplies:	
Assistant project director-----	8,400	1 typewriter-----	480
Data analyst (for 5-month pe- riod) -----	4,500	Telephone -----	300
1 stenographer at \$350 per month for 12 months-----	4,200	Office supplies-----	300
Cost of fringe benefits 15 per- cent -----	2,600	Postage -----	125
Space costs office rental-----	2,500	Reproduction costs-----	600
		Office desks, purchase 3 at \$125 -----	375
		Office chairs 6 at \$60-----	360
		Filing cabinets 2 at \$125---	250
		Total -----	34,590

EXHIBIT D. NURSING HOMES PROPOSAL—MODEL CITIES

It is proposed that a nursing home be built for operation in the MNA with a capacity for 100 beds.

BASIS

While the 100 bed nursing home is not an exact proposal, it is an estimate of the needs for nursing care in this neighborhood, both real and potential. There are presently many elderly people who should be receiving the services of a nursing home who are living in the home of family members. These family members are deprived thereby of the opportunity to seek employment and to pursue normal goals in life. Likewise, many residents of the NMA are ethnically bound to care for their own aged and incapacitated relatives rather than to permit this to be done by hired persons who are not related. In times past, this has been the mode of care for the aged in all ethnic groups. However, with the

rapidly changing times, we are experiencing, this mode has given way to nursing care in some ethnic groups, and it is predicted that it will continue to give place in additional ethnic groups and individual families as education increases and as facilities and care become available. Therefore, it is estimated that the 100 bed institution would be utilized immediately by many eligible recipients of its services and that maximum use would be made of it within one year as knowledge of its availability and services is spread within the community.

MANAGEMENT

It is recommended that the facility be operated by the employment of a single manager. He would be directed by a board of professionals and semi-professionals in the medical and para-medical fields and members of the model neighborhood area.

FINANCING

After the initial cost of construction and furnishing of this institution, it is anticipated that its operation would be entirely financed by the Vendor Nursing Home Program administered by the State Department of Public Welfare. The estimated cost of yearly operation, and construction, is to be found attached to this proposal.

Plant cost: Construction and furnishings, 1st year only-----	\$150, 000
Operational cost: Administrative (per annum):	
1 administrator at \$600 per month-----	7, 200
1 secretary at \$350 per month-----	4, 200
Office supplies at \$100 per month-----	1, 200
1 registered nurse additional for each 33½ patients or 3 for each shift, 3 shifts per day, at \$3 per hour; senior nurse on duty to function as supervisor during supervisor's off duty periods, \$6,552 per month-----	78, 624
2 nurses aides for each nurse at \$1.50 per hour, \$6,552 per month---	78, 624
1 janitress on duty 24 hours per day at \$1.25 per hour, \$910 per month-----	10, 920
1 food service supervisor, 16 hours per day at \$3 per hour, \$1,455 per month-----	17, 460
1 cook, 16 hours per day at \$2 per hour, \$970 per month-----	11, 640
2 kitchen helpers, 16 hours per day at \$1.25 per hour, \$1,213 per month-----	15, 356
Food, at 50 cents per day per person, \$1,500 per month-----	18, 000
Utilities, \$250 per month-----	3, 000
Transportation, \$50 per month-----	600
1 social worker, \$500 per month-----	6, 000
Total-----	401, 624

ITEM 2: A LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR MEXICAN-AMERICAN SENIOR CITIZENS: A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY PETE TIJERINA *, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MEXICAN-AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND

THE SPONSOR

The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund was granted 2.2 million dollars by the Ford Foundation on May 1, 1968. The principle office and legal research center is situated at 325 International Building in the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. We now have a staff of six attorneys, four secretaries, and four VISTA volunteer lawyers engaged in legal research. The

*See statement, p. 258.

Ford Foundation has kept the sum of \$500,000 in reserve for a possible six- or seven-year operation; the sum of \$100,000 was kept reserved to be used for fund-raising; and the sum of \$250,000 was kept in reserve to be used for scholarships to Mexican-Americans attending law schools in the Southwest. The balance of the grant was divided over a period of five years; and, consequently, we operate on a strict budget. Because of the budget and limited funds, MALD concentrates on precedent type-making cases in the field of Civil Rights; and while our program was earmarked for the States of Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and California, we render services to Civil Rights cases involving Mexican-Americans in the Mid-West. Hence, priorities have been given to employment discrimination, jury discrimination, and school de-facto segregation cases. In order to effectuate our program, we now have a network of approximately 300 Mexican-American cooperating attorneys.

THE PROBLEM

The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund has become increasingly aware of a variety of legal problems that confront the Mexican-American senior citizens in San Antonio and in the Southwest. These legal problems are serious, widespread, and various approaches to a solution are needed, including the creation of a separate legal assistance-type office to engage in law reform and legal education.

A current Mexican-American Study Project conducted by UCLA shows that we have in the City of San Antonio approximately 23,000 Mexican-American elder citizens over the age of 60; and in accordance with Ramon Cheeves, the Regional Director of the Texas Welfare Department office in San Antonio, they have approximately 5,000 Mexican-Americans receiving Old-Age Assistance in this city. These figures do not take into account the thousands of Mexican-Americans that are illegal residents; that is, they crossed the river many years ago without a passport, married in the United States, and are fearful of applying for Old-Age Assistance, Social Security, and/or citizenship. The UCLA Study Project made a survey of the Southwest, which shows that we have 63,000 farm workers that are 65 years old and over. All of these Mexican-American elder citizens above referred to have an annual income much lower than \$3000, which is generally accepted as the poverty line.

Consumer frauds

This is a special problem for the Mexican-American senior citizens because of their inability to read, write, and understand the English language. They are victimized by home-improvement contractors, salesmen, and loan sharks. They frequently do not understand the contracts they sign and are later embarrassed to admit that a fraud has been perpetrated. The home-improvement contractor usually represents himself as an inspector; and, as a result, these poor people enter these outrageous legal obligations without knowing their rights.

State and Federally funded programs

The biggest problem here is that most agencies do not have bilingual case-workers, and there are many areas where a lawyer could be most helpful in protecting the Mexican-American senior citizens' rights, particularly in perfecting appeals with reference to their Social Security and/or Old-Age Assistance. Most of these people still have difficulty understanding the basic eligibility requirements for Medicare.

Housing

Most Mexican-American senior citizens live in segregated urban ghetto slums known as "barrios." The problems of the "barrio" efficiency in public services, problems of public welfare, housing, and others are similar to those of the Negro ghetto. It is interesting to note that Mexican-American senior citizens have not applied for housing in the Federally-funded housing projects for elder citizens.

The reason is that they do not know of the rights to this type of housing and secondly, they are fearful of discrimination.

Voting

Mexican-American senior citizens have encountered obstacles to registration in voting, such as some restrictive legislation, intimidation, and gerrymandering of electoral districts, which they believe are the result of discrimination. In the 1964 general election in San Antonio, for instance, Texas Rangers appeared in polling places in Mexican-American districts and used cameras, apparently taking pictures of the voters.

Citizenship

There are a great many Mexican-American senior citizens in this community who are eligible for citizenship, but they have a language barrier and are generally fearful of the immigration officers. These elder citizens are sometimes exploited by unscrupulous employers that threaten to report their illegal status if they do not continue in their employment.

THE PROGRAM

The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund will employ one attorney on a full-time basis to provide legal assistance for the Mexican-American senior citizens, and this program will be two-fold: 1) Law Reform and 2) Legal Education. The staff will consist of one secretary and four senior citizens to be employed on a part-time basis as community involvement specialists.

Law reform

The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund has a completely equipped law library and four VISTA volunteer lawyers engaged in briefing and legal research; these resources will be available to this program. If it becomes necessary to institute court action challenging a State statute, a State or Federal agency, MALD attorneys are ready to cooperate and will counsel and plan the strategy with the senior citizens' lawyer.

Legal education

The Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund has established a working relationship with various Mexican-American community organizations which have expressed their willingness to cooperate in disseminating the legal education program for the elder citizens. Organizations that have agreed to help are as follows:

1. The Mexican-American Unity Council, which operates under a grant from the Ford Foundation for the development of "barrio" organization leadership;
2. Federation for the Advancement of Mexican-Americans (FAMA);
3. League of United Latin-American Citizens (LULAC), which has a program dealing with juvenile gangs in the "barrios";
4. Mexican-American Youth Organization (MAYO), which consists of young college students working in the "barrios" under a sub-grant of the Mexican-American Unity Council;
5. VISTA Volunteers. We have in this area approximately 40 volunteers; and at a recent meeting they agreed to assist in the legal education program of MALD.
6. KWEX, a Mexican-American television station, has agreed to allow us fifteen minutes a day for this type of program;
7. The three Mexican-American radio stations, to-wit: KUKA, KEDA, and KCOR, have also agreed to provide us with free time.

Representatives from these organizations will sponsor and participate in legal educational programs for Mexican-American senior citizens of this community, and the office attorney will arrange for the preparation and circulation of legal information, pamphlets, etc., in Spanish.

Attached to this proposal is a list of the personnel and proposed budget.

PERSONNEL AND PROPOSED BUDGET

Personnel :

1 Staff attorney-----	\$10,000.00
1 Secretary (salary range—\$325 to \$400 monthly)-----	4,800.00
4 Senior citizens ¹ ("Barrio" involvement specialists) (part-time, 20 hours per week, \$2 per hour at \$1,920 each)-----	7,680.00
MALD director (as supervisor of legal program)-----	1,200.00

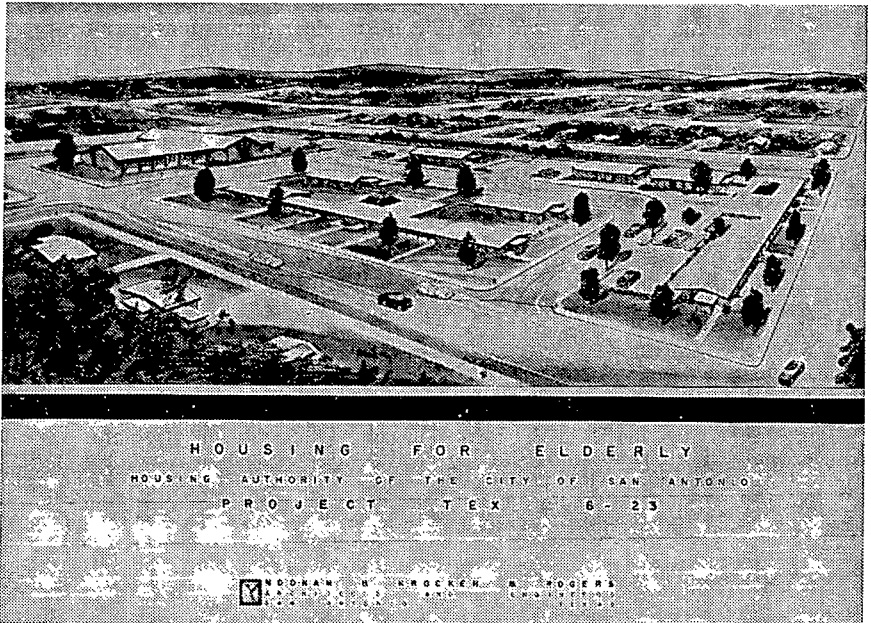
¹ The above budget does not include itemized expenses for the 4 senior citizens to be employed as "barrio" involvement specialists, such as office space and office equipment.

Office Expenses

Office space-----	1,200.00
Office supplies-----	1,000.00
Accounting and audit-----	600.00
Telephone-----	600.00
Fringe benefits (hospitalization, etc., for 2 employees)-----	600.00
Payroll taxes-----	892.32
1 Executive desk-----	200.00
1 Executive chair-----	75.00
1 Secretarial desk-----	289.00
1 Secretarial chair-----	75.00
1 IBM typewriter-----	685.00
1 File cabinet-----	75.00
4 Armless chairs (\$23 each)-----	92.00
 Total -----	 30,063.32

ITEM 3: EXHIBITS FROM RICHARD G. JONES,¹ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SAN ANTONIO HOUSING AUTHORITY

EXHIBIT A. DESIGN SKETCHES OF HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY, HOUSING AUTHORITY, CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, PROJECT TEX 6-23



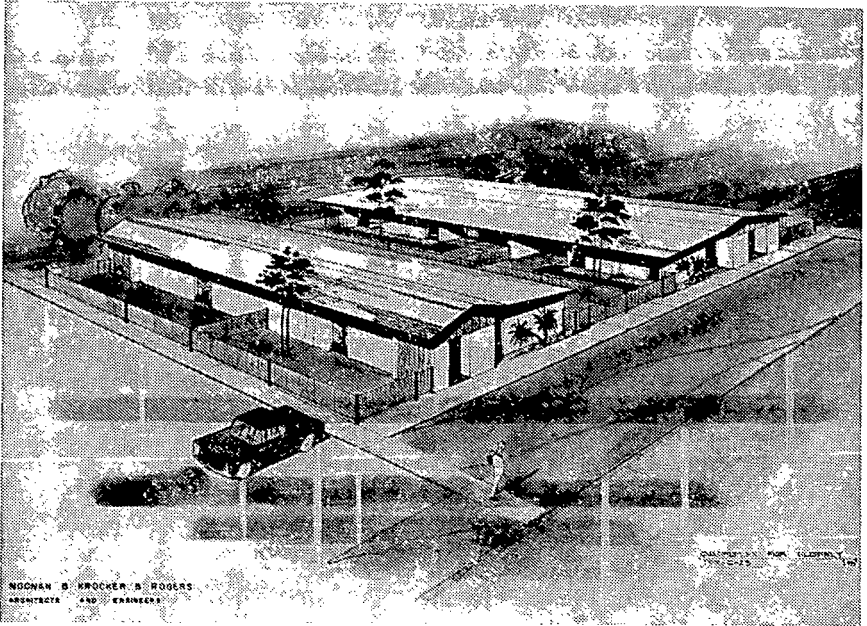
Site plan showing arrangement of quadruplex and duplex apartments and a community building for the elderly. Notice that families are able to identify with each other and with the outside world as desired.

¹ See statement, p. 277.

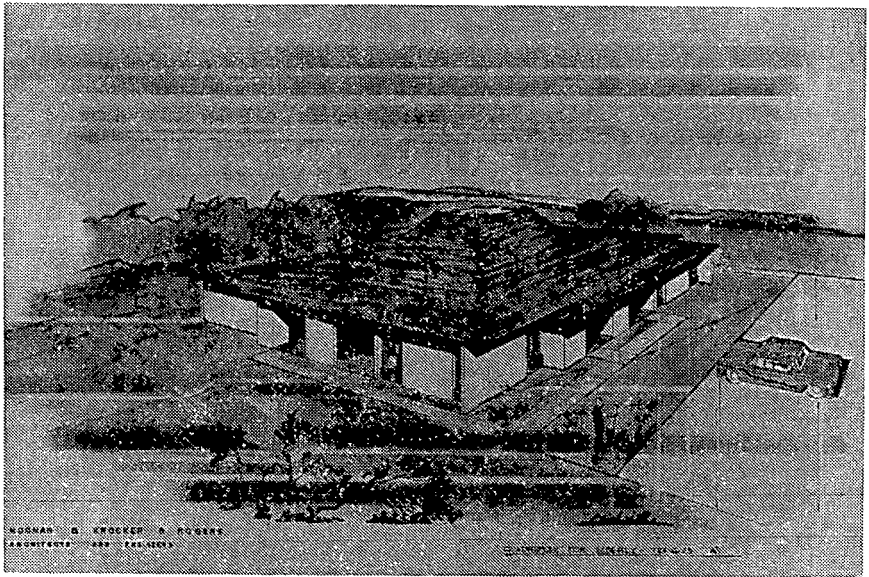


A 3-story, 50-unit development for the elderly being developed under conventional public housing procedures.

This project provides first-floor dwellings for the elderly for those who might wish to do a little gardening outside the front door. For others, there are 2nd and 3rd floor apartments. All of the apartments face both inward to a private green space and outward to busy streets. There is a very small community center on the first floor.



These are two duplexes for the elderly providing privacy yet close relationship with neighbors for supportive living.



A quadruplex for the elderly with four apartments under a single roof. This type of building can be used either on individual 75' lots or can be used in conjunction with other forms of housing in a small development. The philosophy of the Authority is demonstrated in the fact that in this type of building the elderly can be supportive of each other but also have privacy.

EXHIBIT B.—LOCATION AND AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME OF ELDERLY FAMILIES, BY RACE OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, IN ALL DEVELOPMENTS OF THE SAN ANTONIO HOUSING AUTHORITY, AS OF NOV. 30, 1968

Projects	Total apart-ments avail-able	Total elderly families	Number of families			Average annual income			
			Mexican-American	Negro-American	Anglo-American	All elderly families	Mexican-American	Negro-American	Anglo-American
Alazan-Apache Courts.....	1,168	326	323	3	0	\$1,627	\$1,624	\$1,939	-----
Victoria Courts.....	781	230	116	22	92	1,461	1,589	1,125	\$1,379
Wheatley Courts.....	247	65	0	65	0	1,508	-----	1,508	-----
Lincoln Heights Courts.....	335	70	1	69	0	1,477	1,000	1,483	-----
Cassiano Homes.....	495	42	40	0	2	1,965	2,009	-----	1,098
East Terrace Homes ¹	478	74	0	74	0	1,606	-----	1,606	-----
San Juan Homes.....	451	53	53	0	0	1,849	1,849	-----	-----
S. J. Sutton Homes.....	240	25	0	25	0	1,694	-----	1,694	-----
Mirasol Homes.....	488	81	79	2	0	1,625	1,591	2,963	-----
Menchaca Homes.....	148	24	23	0	1	1,880	1,897	-----	1,498
Villa Veramendi Homes.....	258	38	38	0	0	1,568	1,568	-----	-----
Victoria Plaza ²	184	183	9	0	174	1,652	1,513	-----	1,660
Villa Tranchese ²	200	200	22	5	173	1,782	1,567	1,475	1,818
Leased housing.....	12	2	0	0	2	2,210	-----	-----	2,210
Rex Apartments ²	89	79	10	3	66	1,789	1,513	1,471	1,845
Totals.....	5,574	1,492	714	268	510	1,642	1,653	1,530	1,686
Percentage.....	100	27	(48)	(18)	(34)				

¹ Includes 36 apartments especially designed for the elderly.

² All apartments shown are especially designed for the elderly.

Source: Systems and Procedures Office, San Antonio Housing Authority, December 1968.

EXHIBIT C. LETTER FROM RICHARD G. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOUSING
AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

HOUSING AUTHORITY,
OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO,
San Antonio, Tex., February 5, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR YARBOROUGH: Thank you for the opportunity to review the transcript of testimony at the December 19, 1968 hearing in San Antonio on problems of the Mexican-American elderly. We return the transcript as requested with only a few minor editorial changes.

We are also appreciative of the opportunity to read the statement by Mrs. Marie C. McGuire before your Committee in Washington, D.C. We agree with her that additional research is in order as to the housing desires of the Mexican-American elderly. We also agree that housing production should not be stopped while research is proceeding since the need is too great.

During the hearing in San Antonio and in Mrs. McGuire's testimony, reference is made to a study by Dr. Frances Carp* regarding "Factors in Utilization of Services by the Mexican-American Elderly." We do not challenge Dr. Carp's conclusions since her reputation as a researcher is well known. We would call attention to the fact that the sample for her most recent study was random in that it was obtained by knocking on doors within a geographical area and including in the sample anyone who was willing to answer the questions. As a result, over half of those included were homeowners, a group not usually considered a part of the low-rent public housing market. Dr. Carp's study draws some comparisons between this study and an earlier one involving applicants for Victoria Plaza, the San Antonio Housing Authority's first multi-story building for the elderly. In evaluating Dr. Carp's comparisons, it should be recalled that the sample in the latter instance was composed of the total applicants for the new structure—in other words, individuals who had already made an emotional and psychological decision to move. Their responses, therefore, would differ tremendously from those interviewed in the recent study, regardless of ethnic or racial considerations.

The testimony at the San Antonio hearing confirmed again our conclusions that satisfactory communication between ethnic and racial groups and individuals; between those of "the establishment" and the persons they seek to serve is always difficult. We will continue in every way possible to improve that communication. We will also continue to attempt to provide a wide range of housing opportunities which will satisfy all of the groups which comprise the housing market for the elderly.

* * * * *

Thank you again for the opportunity to work with your Committee on this very important subject.

Sincerely,

RICHARD G. JONES,
Executive Director.

ITEM 4: MATERIAL SUBMITTED BY MISS DOROTHY F. O'NEIL,**
DIRECTOR, SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.—A PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY
IN THE MODEL NEIGHBORHOOD AREA, SAN ANTONIO, TEX.

BACKGROUND OF THE AGENCY

In August of 1955, the Community Welfare Council established a Committee on Problems of the Aging to do specific and intensive planning for services to people over 60 years of age. A survey of community services established that very little consideration has been given to their needs.

Plans for specifically designed housing for the elderly, including community space on the ground floor and an outline of the anticipated services, were presented to the committee by the Housing Authority.

The committee accepted the outline as presented and created sub-committee to explore the areas of health, recreation, and counseling. These sub-committees then contacted every agency in the community for assistance in space planning and

*For statement by Mrs. Carp, see pt. 4, p. 460, hearing in Washington, D.C., Jan. 14, 1969; and p. 325.

**See statement, p. 253.

staffing in these areas. The establishment of a Center in the housing project was one of the objectives of the committee. It was hoped that this would be a pilot study to determine the specific needs of this age group in this community and the types of services necessary to meet these needs.

A speaker's bureau was organized to interpret the plans and solicit funds from churches and civic groups for equipment and furnishings. Following consultation with the United Fund, the Welfare Council was designated as holding agent for the contributions.

A grant was provided from the Hogg Foundation, University of Texas, to the Welfare Council for the services of a co-ordinator over a three year period of demonstration, and later an additional grant was made for basic research.

In June of 1960 the Housing Authority executed a lease with the Welfare Council for the use of the community space. Upon completion of furnishing the Center the formal opening of both apartments and the Center was held in September.

DEVELOPMENT OF OPERATING STRUCTURE

In September, 1959, the co-ordinator was employed by the Welfare Council in a dual capacity. The primary responsibility assigned was to work with these aforementioned sub-committees in regard to the furnishings and agency commitments for staffing the Center. In addition the co-ordinator was to serve as staff consultant to the Section on Aging of the Council in relation to the broad community needs of this age group. As the committee work progressed, decisions were made regarding the responsibility of the co-ordinator, the council, and the Housing Authority. A Committee of Management was formed as a standing committee of the Council Board. The interrelationships of the prime agencies were incorporated in this group. Membership included the Director and a Commissioner from the Housing Authority; the Director and a Board Member from the Welfare Council; and volunteer members who had demonstrated their concern with the needs of older adults.

This committee was charged with the responsibility of determining the Center's purposes, developing by-laws, establishing operating policies consonant with those of the participating agencies, and planning for a permanent group.

The Community Welfare Council Board of Directors were designated as the first members of Senior Community Services, Inc. Board of April 1962. In September of that year these Board members nominated the members of the Committee of Management and elected them as Board members of Senior Community Services, Inc. with responsibility for the continued development of the Senior Center, and the broad community concern for older adults. The composition of the Board provides for continuing representation by the Housing Authority and the Welfare Council on the policy level with community volunteers and persons served comprising the balance of the membership.

Senior Community Services, Inc. is a co-ordinating agency for both public and private organizations which are currently, or which may serve the aging. These organizations cover a broad area of service to the elderly, such as the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, San Antonio Housing Authority, Recreation Department, State Department of Public Welfare, Visiting Nurse Association, Social Security Administration, San Antonio Literacy Council, The Worden School of Social Service, San Antonio Public Library, Department of Welfare City of San Antonio, San Antonio Section National Council of Jewish Women.

In addition to co-ordinating services, consultative services are offered to groups and organizations to encourage them to render service to older people. These include Community Centers and others making efforts to integrate programs benefiting the aged where they do not exist. We have also given consultation to Worden School of Social Service in developing training courses for people in the field of aging to help them implement service to the aged, as well as lectures to various units of the State Department of Public Welfare, nursing students, and college students to promote and stimulate action and service to older persons.

In addition to the above, information and referral for older adults and their families is provided on a limited basis. Assistance is given to the participating agencies to encourage the further development of activities and service within the Senior Center.

One of the most recent developments is the Eastside Senior Citizens Center, a Community Action Program. Originally, Senior Community Services, Inc. provided guidelines for the creation of this multipurpose center, and thereafter offered continued consultation.

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Initial funding was provided through a grant to the Community Welfare Council from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, University of Texas.

In 1962 the agency was chartered as a non-profit corporation in the State of Texas. Sources for operations and research funds from 1962 through 1967 included the United Fund, Ford Foundation, Hogg Foundation, G.A.C. Half Foundation, and the Half Trust.

In 1968 a federal grant under TITLE III Older Americans Act, Administration on Aging was received to extend coordinating services in a new area.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROPOSAL—IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MODEL CITY AGENCY

Review all data available concerning the elderly who reside in the Model Neighborhood Area.

Analyze the services of existing agencies to determine their effect on the needs of the elderly in the Model Neighborhood Area.

Actively seek out the elderly to determine what they want and need to have a more meaningful and satisfying life.

Provide information, assistance, and referrals based on these individual contacts with the elderly.

Actively intervene when necessary to see that individuals get the service they need from the appropriate agency.

Involve the elderly in social action and self-help programs which will lend group strength and support to the individuals thereby maximizing their capacities to deal with some of their problems.

Expand the use of existing "centers"¹ for a greater number of elderly people or develop new "centers" in four areas within the Model Neighborhood Area.

Provides transportation which will enable the elderly to participate in the opportunities afforded by the larger community, trips to sites of interest such as museums, missions, parks and so on. The need exists to transport people for groceries, to purchase their food stamps, to county hospital, clinics, etc. Coordinate the activities and services of all agencies and groups serving the elderly within these four areas.

Document the need for new and unavailable services.

Plan with the existing city-wide and neighborhood type agencies for the extension of services or development of new services for the benefit of the elderly in the Model Neighborhood Area.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT—STAFFING PATTERN

It is currently estimated that there are between 8 and 9 thousand elderly people residing in the Model Neighborhood Area. We have some evidence concerning a small number of the elderly in the area, which indicates that these people are not mobile, for a variety of reasons. Therefore, personnel should be available to the elderly within their own neighborhood or proximate area.

We are proposing a minimum of four "centers" in the Model Neighborhood Area, using facilities with which the elderly are familiar.

In each of these locations the minimum staff required to implement these objectives include:

One (1) Social Work Coordinator—College graduate preferred

One (1) Aide—High School graduate preferred

Two (2) Staff Aides—College student and senior citizen

In addition there would be need for the following type of administrative personnel:

One (1) Project Supervisor—MSW preferred

One (1) Planner—MSW preferred

One (1) Secretary—High school graduate preferred

One social work coordinator based in the area, would be needed to provide supervision and coordination of services and activities in these four areas. One professional social worker based in the main office of Senior Community Services would be needed to collect and analyze information concerning the elderly and their needs. In addition, this worker would be responsible to interpret the find-

¹ Centers refer to settlement houses, neighborhood centers, Office of Economic Opportunity centers or facilities already existing in the Model Neighborhood Area.

ings to the various community agencies as a basis for the development of new services. He would work with the agencies to help them use the resources available to develop these services.

In the initial phase, the planner would review all pertinent information available from such sources as: The Model City Agency, Urban Renewal, Housing Authority, Community Welfare Council, Settlement Houses, Neighborhood Centers, churches and recent area studies.

This information will enable us to reach the maximum number of elderly persons in the specific target areas.

The next phase would involve the establishment of a base of operations in the four areas.

Immediately thereafter, area personnel would be employed and oriented to their specific tasks.

The prime method to be used in implementing the proposal objectives is a concentrated home visitation program.

Later development would include the establishment of activities, trips, etc. in the four centers. The ultimate objective would be the expansion of activities for the elderly under the existing agencies to insure continuation of the program.

SALARIES AND RELATED EXPENSES

	Number of persons	Salary	FICA
Project supervisor.....	1	\$9,000.00	\$343.20
Planner.....	1	9,000.00	343.20
Social work coordinators.....	4	28,800.00	1,267.20
Aides, one-half time.....	8	13,440.00	591.36
Aides, full time.....	4	13,440.00	591.36
Secretary.....	1	4,200.00	184.80
Subtotal.....	19	77,880.00	3,321.12
Workmens compensation.....		77.88	
4 club wagons at \$3,582.96.....		14,331.84	
Insurance per year.....		364.00	
Gas and service per year.....		1,728.00	
Travel per year:			
Project supervisor.....		600.00	
Travel per year:			
Project supervisor.....		600.00	
Project planner.....		600.00	
4 student aides.....		1,200.00	
8 older workers.....		1,075.20	
Equipment 4 centers: Typewriters, phones, craft materials, food, paper, pencils, etc.....		20,000.00	
Subtotal.....		117,856.92	117,856.92
Total estimated costs.....			121,178.04

ITEM 5: LETTER FROM M. WINSTON MARTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS*

URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY,
OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO,
San Antonio, Tex., February 5, 1969.

DEAR SENATOR YARBOROUGH: In reference to your letter of January 29, 1969, the following is an expansion of my statement that "There is a means by which we can utilize people living in the area to form small corporations of construction personnel to actually do the rehabilitation to be "involved", made before your San Antonio hearing on December 19, 1968.

As you are aware, in project areas such as ours in San Antonio, there are many persons skilled in carpentry, electrical work, masonry, plumbing and the like, but because they are, for the most part, small individual operations without good organizations, they can not compete with larger construction firms. We propose to organize these persons into a corporation, or perhaps several corporations, for the purpose of having them, rather than a larger outside construction firm, do the necessary commercial and residential rehabilitation work in the project areas.

*See statement, p. 284.

Financing for such a venture would come from the Small Business Administration and we believe we could enlist San Antonio businessmen to counsel the new corporations in such matters as organization and management. We also would make legal aid available to insure the correct procedures in the forming of the corporations.

We believe that such a corporation could not only assist the involved persons themselves, but could also do much toward helping the employment situation in the area. It is feasible that, under the guidance of the skilled workers, unskilled workers from the area could be hired by the corporation and receive on-the-job training during the actual rehabilitation work.

I would like to point out that this corporation would be totally controlled and operated by the people in the project area who are involved in the corporation. The Agency would participate only in an organizational and advisory capacity, and this would be only in the initial stages.

I wish to express my appreciation again, Senator, for your thoughtfulness in including me in the recent hearing, and I am sure I express the feeling of the citizens of San Antonio that we are most grateful for your long interest in and support of our community. If I can ever be of any assistance, or provide you with any additional information you might desire, I would be most pleased to do so.

Sincerely,

M. WINSTON MARTIN,
Executive Director.

**ITEM 6: SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF MRS. MARILYN WACKER,
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOUSING AUTHORITY OF SAN
ANTONIO**

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SAN
ANTONIO, TEX., WITH RESPECT TO HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY**

The San Antonio Housing Authority is continuing to devise new techniques for meeting the housing needs of low-income elderly persons in our city.

One new experiment moving on a rather large scale is the construction of four apartments for older adults in scattered locations in San Antonio. In addition to all of the special design and safety features for older persons, they would each have a private patio and a larger common area for ease of communication and friendship.

Several existing apartment complexes, such as the Rex Apartments, have been offered to the Housing Authority for purchase and rehabilitation for apartments for the elderly. They are in excellent locations around San Antonio. The Housing Authority is considering their purchase if they are near transportation, stores, and other facilities which would serve the needs of the older persons.

The Housing Authority will continue to consider both leasing and purchase of apartments and homes proposals which will serve elderly from the existing housing supply. Again, if well located and in such condition that they can be rehabilitated, it is believed that such dispersed homes and apartments will serve the needs of elderly who do not particularly want to live in an older project with younger families or in the newer popular high-rise developments. (Both high-rise developments have more than 300 eligible applicants waiting for admission to an apartment.)

Another new experiment of the San Antonio Housing Authority to better serve the needs of elderly families will be with the purchase and rehabilitation of "loft-type" buildings which were originally built for warehouses, auto dealerships, and retail stores. These buildings will be completely stripped down to the basic concrete and steel structure. Then, new utilities, walls, and complete interiors will be constructed—giving a total new use and life to structures with perhaps another 100 years of life left in them. The economics of this approach appear to dictate a "going in" price which is equal to the cost of the land alone . . . thereby allowing money to strip the building down completely to the concrete and steel structure. The advantages sought are: better locations than could otherwise be found; a new life given an otherwise run-down building and therefore a possible catalyst role toward rehabilitation of the downtown area; and a considerable cost savings over the purchase of a site with totally new construction.

*See statement, p. 277, for statement of San Antonio Housing Authority.

In spite of criticism to the contrary, the Housing Authority has had amazing success and acceptance of high-rise apartments in good locations and especially designed for older adults. Literally hundreds of qualified elderly are waiting to get into existing or new high-rise apartments. Sites are being offered by turnkey developers in a great variety of older neighborhoods close to the existing dwellings of the elderly. As these new high-rise apartments are added to the housing supply for elderly in the various neighborhoods, the older adults who seek shelter will no longer need to go downtown or across town to find housing within their means—rather they can be housed in neighborhoods and areas familiar to them throughout the years.

On the drawing boards at the present time are several experiments with "mini" high-rise apartments for elderly families in good locations around San Antonio. These apartments would rise no more than three or four stories in height. They would contain all of the special design features of Victoria Plaza and Villa Tranchese, but be limited in numbers from 50 to 100 apartments in total. Apartments will feature the privacy of balconies and landscaped courtyards with easy communication with neighbors on each floor, plus the multitude of educational, recreational, and health activities provided by Senior Community Services, Inc., of San Antonio (a United Fund Agency presently headquartered at 411 Barrera Street).

SITE SELECTION GOALS

To use all of the new housing tools available to local housing authorities (and described above) in order to maximize both the choice of neighborhoods available to families as well as the types of housing—scattered sites, small projects, leased housing, housing for eventual purchase, and older remodeled housing in homes or apartments. We are pursuing the goals of both rebuilding wornout sections of San Antonio (which the population pressures and desires of families will not permit to be abandoned as "throw-away neighborhoods") and at the same time bringing in a wide choice of new and used housing in other neighborhoods outside the traditional ghetto areas. In short, our efforts are to *maximize the housing choice* for families in need of housing in the market which we serve.

Sites for elderly housing should be both inside and outside the older neighborhoods of San Antonio. There should be a greater diversity of choices as to types of housing available to the older persons in need of housing—scatter homes in existing neighborhoods, small developments such as the "mini" high rise; new high-rise buildings near downtown and also in outlying areas near shopping centers and good transportation; the small quadruplex developments where a few families may dwell among the younger families in existing neighborhoods; and if the response is there, "Turnkey Three" housing for sale to elderly families who are mentally, physically, and financially able to maintain their own homes. However, this latter choice could probably be more easily offered within the privately sponsored FHA housing programs rather than through rental housing with a graduation into home ownership late in life.

Appendix 2

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FROM INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

ITEM 1: LETTER FROM ROY L. SWIFT, DISTRICT MANAGER, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION,
San Antonio, Tex., January 14, 1968.

DEAR SENATOR YARBOROUGH: I understand that Mr. Robert M. Ball, Commissioner of Social Security, sent you on January 9 a letter commenting on testimony submitted at your hearing in San Antonio on December 19. His letter, I believe, included a statement from me on service rendered by the San Antonio social security district office to the Mexican-American community.

At the time I submitted that statement to Mr. Ball, I had not had an opportunity to see the word-for-word transcript of Mr. Peter Tijerina's testimony.

In the certified excerpt of Mr. Tijerina's testimony which I now have at hand, I find that he is quoted as saying, in part:

"For example, one of the problems is the lack of bilingual contact representatives in the office of Social Security. Now the local office serves eleven counties, Senator, and they have seven field representatives, only one Mexican-American. Now more than 80 per cent of the interviews conducted require bilingual—a bilingual person."

First of all, let me point out in the interests of accuracy that the San Antonio office serves 14 counties rather than 11. While it is true that just at the moment we have only one Mexican-American among our six (not seven) field representatives working outside the office, that fact does not give a realistic picture of our Spanish-language capabilities in serving these outside communities. One of our other field representatives is fully competent in conducting interviews in Spanish and does so regularly whenever there is need.

Further, our field representatives travel to contact stations outside the office with a claims representative to assist them in interviews, and two of these regularly on the road are fully competent in Spanish (one being himself a Mexican-American).

It was quite inaccurate for Mr. Tijerina to suggest that 80% of the interviews outside the office require a bilingual person. At least half of our area is comprised of communities to the east and north of San Antonio where very few of the people are of Mexican-American descent; we find that not over 10% in those towns need to conduct their business in Spanish. We believe 20% would be a generous estimate of overall out-of-office Spanish-language needs. In all the communities we have made arrangements with other office workers where our contact stations are located to help us with Spanish-language interviews in the rare occasions when one of our own people on duty is not prepared to conduct the interview in Spanish. This office *never* asks that our callers bring along an interpreter.

Within our main office, where by far the largest volume of callers is served, the number of people needing or wishing to conduct their business in Spanish does not exceed 25%, and my statement in Mr. Ball's letter described how we are organized to be certain that every one of these people is readily served by a completely bilingual employee.

The only part of our area where 80% or more of the interviews need to be in Spanish is on the West Side of San Antonio, which is served by our metropolitan branch office. As I mentioned in my statement, seven of the eight employees in that office, including the officer-in-charge, are Mexican-American and in fact about 90% of our interviews there *are* conducted in Spanish.

Though we believe we are reasonably well prepared to meet the language needs of the entire service area, we are not satisfied. We have always tried to maintain a good proportion of Mexican-American people among our field representatives. In July this proportion was suddenly reduced because two of our fine people there went on to better jobs: Miss Mary Ruiz was promoted to officer-in-charge of the branch office, and Mr. Juan Rocha resigned to take a very challenging position as assistant to Mr. Peter Tijerina, although he had been offered a promotion within the Department of HEW. As a matter of fact, our field representative force for more than a decade has been a real springboard for Mexican-American employees to move on to greater achievement. We count among these others Mr. Gilbert Gonzalez, now manager of our office in Laredo; Mrs. Irma Barrera Lemke, who was promoted to operations supervisor in this office and Messrs. Dan Galvan and Leo Vidaurri, who have moved on to higher grade work in other Federal agencies.

Therefore we are constantly recruiting and training young people of Mexican-American descent for this "promotion ladder." At least two splendid young employees of Spanish sur-name are directly in training for this job at this moment, and just as soon as Civil Service requirements for time in grade are met, they will be in strong competitive position to be promoted to field representative.

Finally, as a sidelight, you will be interested to know that 17 out of our 95 employees have signed up this winter for semester-long night courses, on their own time, in conversational Spanish at San Antonio College, seeking to establish or improve their skills in this vital area of communications. Three of these employees are Mexican-American, the remainder are Anglos.

Please be assured that by policy and practice this office is dedicated to serving and to continue to improve its capacity for properly serving the rights and needs of the Mexican-American community as well as all the other elements of our population in these 14 counties.

Sincerely yours,

ROY L. SWIFT,
District Manager.

Enclosure.

EXHIBIT A. STATEMENT SUBMITTED EARLIER TO COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. BALL

Within the memory of the employees longest on duty (representing the past 22 years), the San Antonio District Office has never asked for or needed outside interpreters in conducting interviews in Spanish. The office is so staffed and organized that a member of the public, able to converse in Spanish only, can come into the office, be welcomed, referred to a technician, and his business conducted in Spanish. The organization is such that most of these interviews are actually conducted by bi-lingual technicians. In the few instances where a bi-lingual technician is not available, a qualified well trained, bi-lingual interpreter from the staff is readily available to assist in the interview.

Thirty-six percent of the staff in the San Antonio social security office is Mexican-American. This figure approximates the Mexican-American population in San Antonio.

The metropolitan branch office, serving a concentrated area of Mexican-American population, is headed by a Mexican-American officer-in-charge, and six of the other seven employees are themselves Mexican-American, while the seventh has reasonable command of the Spanish language. More than 90% of the interviews in this office are conducted directly in Spanish, with no third party interpreters needed.

The San Antonio offices, in their joint Spanish-language radio and television broadcasts, which appear every week, regularly tell their audiences about the availability of these Spanish-language services in both offices.

A number of employees in the San Antonio office, both Mexican-American and Anglos, who have little or no knowledge of the Spanish language plan to take a course in conversational Spanish at San Antonio College. The course begins in January and lasts for four months. We are always seeking ways to improve our service to the public and hope to eventually eliminate even the rare instance where we have to call on an employee in our office to interpret.

ROY L. SWIFT.

ITEM 2: STATEMENT OF FRANCES M. CARP, PH.D., AMERICAN
INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

USE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF THE AGED¹
FRANCES M. CARP, PH. D.²

AMERICAN INSTITUTES FOR RESEARCH

There is growing concern with problems in regard to the use of services for old people. When services are provided many who need them do not use them. Many investigators have found this to be true, with senior centers (Kutner, 1956; Downing, 1957; Wilensky, 1961, Rosow, 1967). A very small proportion of old people attend senior community centers. Ostfeld (1968) discovered an appalling amount of illness among old people who did not seek medical attention. My report to you concerns a group of old people who made no effort to move from shacks to low-rent apartments.

There is some possibility that those in greatest need of a service are least likely to obtain it. Blenkner (1961) suggested this in regard to senior center attendance. Your own Eisdorfer (1968) made the same point in regard to Ostfeld's data. The people I studied who did not apply for apartments in new, modern facilities were more consistently in substandard housing than were the applicants.

At least in regard to medical and housing services, minority-group membership may be involved. Among the old people Ostfeld studied who had not seen a physician, those with the highest rates of disease and medical risk tended to be the Afro-Americans. The study I am reporting to you today was done because 3% of the applicants for low-cost housing were Mexican-Americans in a community in which they comprise over half the population.

Another matter of concern today is the social integration of the aged. Rosow (1967) and many others are concerned with both the practical and the theoretical implications of the general devaluation and segregation of the old. Elder members of minority groups are perhaps prototypic of the alienated.

One way in which people may express their integration into or alienation from the broader society which surrounds them is by using or failing to use services they need, which are provided by that society. Expectation would be for the most alienated to make least use of community services. The pattern of behavior in regard to needed services suggests that their use reflects integration into the broader society, while failure to use them indicates alienation from that society.

Then, understanding of the determinants of service utilization may be important for two reasons: to see how services can be delivered to those who most need them, and perhaps to learn a little more about the forces of integration and alienation.

SETTING FOR THE STUDY

In San Antonio, Texas, in 1959-60, Victoria Plaza, a high-rise public-housing project especially designed for the elderly was built. Before construction was completed there were approximately twice as many legally qualified applicants as there was space. However, only 3% were Spanish-named, while the 1960 Census reported 50% for the area, and the Roman-Catholic Archdiocese, which may be more accurate in this instance, estimated 55%. Ninety-seven per cent of the applicants were Anglo-Americans, though they are only about 35% of the population.

In 1967-68, a second high-rise public-housing apartment-house for the aged was built in the same city. After the experience with Victoria Plaza, there was some concern about lack of participation by Mexican-Americans, and a special effort was made to recruit them to Villa Tranchese. Environmental design was involved. To provide the privacy for home which is traditional in Latin-American culture, the new building has inside halls, (Victoria Plaza has exterior, open galleries.) Window treatment in Villa Tranchese permits easier and more complete regulation of visibility into apartments. Villa Tranchese even has a modern version of the old "village well," in the hopes that the opportunities for social contact it affords will be attractive and satisfying to Mexican-Americans.

There was also a concerted effort to inform the Mexican-American community about Villa Tranchese and to interest its members in making appli-

¹ Supported by Administration on Aging grant No. AA-4-68-061-01.

² Statement submitted at the request of the committee.

cation for apartments. This careful attention to physical design of the building plus the information and recruitment campaign did not have impressive results. Of the first 500 legally qualified applicants to Villa Tranchese, 20 had Spanish surnames—an increase from three to four per cent.

The National Council on Aging (1967) among others has pointed to the dismal plight of elderly Mexican-Americans. In general they are severely deprived of the goods of present-day society and extremely alienated from it. The housing of many in San Antonio is definitely substandard. Their houses are old and small, and they lack modern conveniences. Particularly in regard to equipment for heating, many are not safe.

These people are not at all integrated into the broad society. This is shown in many ways. For example, in the group I studied, only a little over one-third were citizens of the United States. Nearly two-thirds had been born in Mexico, but all had lived in this country most of their lives; no one had been here as few as 36 years, and half had lived here 55 years or more. Nevertheless, the first naturalization had taken place only 25 years ago, and the majority of the foreign-born had never become citizens. Over one-third attended school in this country. At that time all instruction was in English and use of Spanish, even on the playground, was severely punished. Nevertheless, not a sixth of the group could communicate in the English language. All interviewing had to be done in Spanish.

The lack of integration into the "majority" culture of San Antonio was shown also in the "territoriality" of their behavior (Ardrey, 1966). These old people tended to confine their moving about to their own "home range." Many had never been "on the Northside" or downtown. During the collection of data a food stamp program opened up. The research lost an excellent interviewer because she felt it was more important to help people obtain food stamps. They were unable to manage by themselves, because it was necessary to go to the central downtown office. They did not know where it was, or how to get there. Even if they got to the office they could not cope, because no one spoke their language. This was truly an excursion into a foreign land, and they needed both a guide and an interpreter.

This was a group severely non-integrated into the contemporary society which surrounded them, and a group severely deprived in regard to housing. It seemed important to learn why they did not make use of badly needed housing which is provided by their community, and even urged upon them.

THE STUDY

One-hundred Mexican-Americans were located who probably would qualify for public housing for the aged.¹ Spanish-speaking interviewers who grew up in the Mexican-American part of town explored with them the reasons for their non-use of this housing. In addition the old Mexican-Americans were compared with applicants to Villa Tranchese on whom data were being collected at the same time. All Ss were 62 years of age or older. The groups were matched on sex and present income. They were sharply different, of course, in regard to such variables as education and socioeconomic status during earlier years. For example, work during the major working years tended to be in middle-levels of the job scale for Anglo-Americans, but at the very bottom for Mexican-Americans.

In general, reasons for the differential utilization rate for public housing for the elderly may include (1) satisfaction with present living situation, (2) information about the new residential possibility, and (3) attractiveness of the special residence.

DETERMINANTS OF DIFFERENTIAL UTILIZATION RATE

Satisfaction With Present Situation. Data collectors rated the Mexican-Americans' housing as worse than that of the Anglos. The old people frankly described their houses as "shacks," but only about 15% showed any interest in moving. This must not be interpreted to mean that they liked to live in shacks, or that they did not know any better. They would have been very glad to have standard

¹ Housing Authority standards for eligibility are complex. This study makes no pretense to determine eligibility for public housing, but selected as subjects person in an age range and income range similar to those which characterize legally qualified applicants for public housing on whom data were collected for another study.

housing. Their satisfaction with the present situation had nothing to do with the physical environment but stemmed from ego supports and interpersonal relationships which made it possible. Their homes might be shacks, but they protected privacy and personal autonomy, provided for frequent contact with family and friends, and maintained contiguity to accustomed neighborhood institutions. The Mexican-Americans were less mobile—they had lived at the present address longer than the Anglo-Americans. Many more of the Mexican-Americans were home owners. They were proud of home ownership because it proved and prolonged their independence, and protected their privacy. They were aware of the economic advantage (Goldstein, 1968), and they much preferred investment in real estate to deposits in banks, which they distrusted.

Family ties were stronger and warmer among the Mexican-Americans. Twice as many Anglos were divorced or separated from their spouses. Many more of the Anglo individuals were living alone, and many more of the Anglo-American couples were living as spouses alone. More of the Mexican-Americans had children, their families were larger, and they saw them more often. Only two Mexican-Americans expressed any feeling that their children did not care enough about them, while this was a factor in public-housing application for the majority of Anglos.

Generally the Anglo-American applicants expressed the common feeling that they were devalued and unimportant, while the Mexican-American elderly felt that they were not only loved and valued but also respected. In the multigenerational family it was rare indeed for an elderly Anglo-American to perceive himself as the head of the household, but practically all Mexican-Americans so perceived themselves. Not one Mexican-American thought he was a burden to his children, while for the Anglo elderly this was an important factor in the decision to seek an apartment in the public-housing facility. The grandparental role was a rich one for the Mexican-Americans. They felt that their contact with the grandchildren was valuable to the younger generations. That is not to say that they did not enjoy it themselves! The Anglos generally expressed much less satisfaction. They often quoted the old bromide that they were glad to see the grandchildren come, and gladder to see them go. Under this pat answer there clearly was the feeling that their children did them (the grandparents) a favor when they arranged for a visit with the grandchildren.

Information About the New Housing.—Socially, though not physically, the Mexican-Americans had more satisfactory living situations than the Anglo-Americans. However, there is no way of knowing what they would have decided about moving to Villa Tranchese if they had known anything about that possibility. The information and recruitment campaign failed dismally. Only five per cent of the old Mexican-Americans had ever heard of it, and what those few knew was very meager.

Attractiveness of the New Housing.—Obviously, these people did not have enough information about the service to decide whether or not they wanted to use it, and the whole matter might be dropped there. However, if adequate information were available, certain characteristics of the service and of the community which provided it might be unattractive to elderly Mexican-Americans.

The location of the facilities may be a factor both in potential attractiveness and in current level of information. One reason they knew so little about the housing facilities was that they were outside the Mexican-American "territory" within which these people tended to remain. Had they known about the special facilities it is doubtful that they would want to move into them, because the move would mean leaving the "home range." Owned homes, long-familiar neighborhoods, proximity to families and friends were the important ties to the present situation, the reasons for overall satisfaction despite living in shacks.

One evidence of the effect of location on information and service utilization is the familiarity of most of these old Mexican-Americans with ordinary public housing, which is scattered through their own neighborhoods. Most knew a good deal about age-heterogeneous public housing, and some were living in it. These old Mexican-Americans also used—to a greater extent than their Anglo-American counterparts—senior center and medical services which were located within their own parts of town.

It was patently impossible to assess the attractiveness of the special design features of Villa Tranchese. Too few knew anything about the building. They were asked what they thought about a residence for older people only. The large majority thought it a splendid idea—for others. Very few could conceive of any contingency which would cause them to be willing to live in one.

It seems possible that these people did not think they were legally eligible for the special public housing, or that they felt excluded from it. Not one person seemed to feel that he was not wanted, legally or otherwise, in public housing for the elderly. They did not believe lack of citizenship to be a bar, nor did they feel any prejudice against them. Remember, some of these people, and more of their children, were living in public housing. However, their feelings of exclusion of from the dominant society were pervasive and bitter.

Also they openly and bitterly expressed to the Mexican-American interviewers their lack of respect for some aspects of the dominant culture. In particular they resented its effects on the young. Once young people came into contact with the "gringo" society, it was no longer possible for the elders to control them. They pointed out that this lack of control was not historically a characteristic of their own society. Another bitterly resented trait of the Anglo-culture—and one more germane to the present discussion—was its ruthless invasion of privacy. You will remember that protection of privacy was an important source of satisfaction with present living situation. They were distrustful of social welfare programs in general because of the necessity to become "a case" in order to take advantage of them. There was some doubt that the benefits justify the surrender of independence and privacy.

DISCUSSION

Obviously, many inter-related forces are at work in determining the differences between Mexican-Americans and Anglo-Americans in use of public housing for the elderly. Though he lives in what is to him as well as to others a shack, the old Mexican-American is not seriously distressed about his living situation—largely because it provides him important ego satisfactions and interpersonal relationships. Clearly he does not know enough about public housing for the elderly in his community to know whether he would like to move into it. If he did know about the special housing, certain of its characteristics probably would have negative valence for him—again, for reasons of self esteem, privacy and autonomy, and supportive relationships with other people. Location of these facilities may be a factor both in his ignorance of them and their lack of appeal to him.

The Anglo elderly applied for apartments in Villa Tranchese to gain privacy and independence, to cease or avoid being a burden on their families, and because they could not contribute to others and therefore find meaning in their own lives—as well as to obtain physically adequate housing. Actually, a third were in good housing when they applied, but the interpersonal situations were intolerable. The Mexican-Americans felt they had privacy and independence, love and respect, and that they made meaningful contributions to the lives of other members of their families. So, one might ask, who is alienated?

Surely the elderly Mexican-Americans were almost totally isolated from the mainstream society. This study verifies the fact that elderly minority-group elderly are likely to be among the most alienated. They also support previous findings that those objectively most in need of a service may be least likely to obtain it. They suggest that even the best-intentioned information campaign may fail to reach the old member of a minority group. This may be accentuated when, as here, there is a language barrier. However, it is likely that this behavior is characteristic of minority-group elderly more generally. Usually they are in the working class. The behavior of these Ss in regard to service utilization is like that of any working-class group, only perhaps more extreme. Their ties with society are almost exclusively with their neighborhood (Rosow, 1967). Probably this "home range" behavior is reinforced by the feelings of prejudice from and toward the society in that foreign land across town.

The results suggest that new measures of communication must be opened up if the neediest are to learn about community services and if those most alienated from the larger society are to be made part of it. Because the minority-group elderly tend to be creatures of their immediate neighborhoods, provision of needed services and integration into the broader society must start there.

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