

## CARE TO SHARE REPORT .

Cheryl and I as the Volunteer Center Director and Shelter House Director perceived our role as Care to Share (CS) steering committee members as providing technical assistance in helping CS establish and implement a successful program. An important part of that assistance was to make sure that there was coordination with already existing services.

### PROBLEMS:

- 1) CS did not lay a proper foundation in assessing the need for their service. A needs analysis was never completed. The survey prepared by WCCAO (which has to be insisted upon, over one year into organization) was not a needs analysis but an information gathering tool.
- 2) CS has not been able to generate support within the group they represent (churches). To date few churches have joined and are participating actively. There are a number of churches expressing concerns regarding their purpose (Bethel)
- 3) CS has displayed an inability to present their organization accurately to the community. Newspaper articles are consistently inaccurate and there has been no attempt to correct this. Erroneous information has been given such as Val Bozied and Jackie Hanes as WCCAO representatives to their Board of Directors. These names were submitted one month after Cheryl and Linda had attended two meetings representing WCCAO. In addition, CS does not have a board of director but a steering committee. Their VISTA application did not reflect goals established by the steering committee (the goal was coordinating churches in East county with food box programs, not emergency services and I&R). There are also reports of CS food barrels in some local banks, which could depict that they are a food distribution point. One member of the committee stated in a public meeting that they have USDA food distribution responsibility.
- 4) CS has not been able to set short or long term goals which are supported by all members (reference again the VISTA application). Their focus is supposed to be on church food box programs (standardization and communication), but is being confused by some committee members that they are also an emergency service program.
- 5) CS has an inability to accept technical assistance from knowledgeable agencies. The information survey was not an appropriate vehicle for fund raising (they did it anyway). Their office operations and forms did not meet acceptable standards for accountability purposes (suggestions were rejected). Suggestions were given on how to develop a line item realistic budget (never completed). Suggestions on establishing short term goals have been rejected (re: food box program coordination). Suggestions on approach to people's needs were rejected (they seem to be geared toward policing/monitoring tactics).
- 6) CS has shown an inability to network with existing social services agencies. They are trying to develop their own I&R roledix without accessing existing information. They lack knowledge of existing social service agencies, what those agencies do and if CS duplicates them. They have shown inappropriate attitudes toward fellow steering committee members and their staff (re: survey-continuous harrassing phone calls and temper tantrum).
- 7) CS has no accountability. Steering committee recommendations are not adhered (VISTA application). There is no governing board, no clear organizational structure, no clearly established lines of communication. Liability is nor provided for.

RECOMMENDATION

We are recommending that WCCAO clearly state its lack of support for Care to Share as it now functions. It is suggested that this stand be conveyed through a meeting between Jerralynn and Larry Cole followed by a letter to CS.

An additional suggestion would be that CS function under the direction of TVFC. The concept of food box networking to encourage communication and discourage duplication is certainly valid. TVFC seems to be the natural vehicle for such a concept. The CS program model in Denver is part of their food bank program. I hesitate to mention this as a solution as it could immediately be construed as a take over move. But I feel everyone's goals should be what is the best way to serve as many Washington County households/individuals with emergency food needs as possible with the best service possible and I feel that at this time TVFC is the best experienced coordinating agency to accomplish this goal.

*Londell Davis*  
3/2/86

cc Val Boyd  
Cheryl Halbut