

## New Service To Ailing Children

Children convalescing from hospital care but unable to return to their own homes will be the special concern of the newest project of the Catholic Family Center.

The Catholic Family Center will launch its new program on May 15.

Staff workers of the center are currently recruiting foster nurses and mothers specially adapted in care of ailing children for this program.

Father Donald J. Mulcahy, director of the Catholic Family Center, explained the care children need who are "well enough to be out of the hospital but not well enough to take care of themselves."

In homes where both parents have to work or where the mother is herself sick, a child just out from a hospital could not be given the needed care, Father Mulcahy stated. The center will now provide temporary foster homes for such children, he said.

He also said couples willing to open their homes to care for these children are invited to phone Mrs. Clarence Green at Hamilton 6-3400.

The new program has been designed to help fill the gap when the children's Convalescent Hospital on Beach Ave. closes July 1.

OTHER SERVICES of the Catholic Family Center range from placing children for adoption to counsel for married couples or aid to immigrants to adjust to the American way of life.

Specially trained social workers help unwed mothers

### St. Joseph's Villa

Recreation and play activities are an important part of the total program at St. Joseph's Villa. Anyone who works with children or observes them knows that youngsters need to play.

Play aids a child grow and develop. It encourages his imagination; develops skills of body and mind; forms healthy outlets for pent-up energy; and brings about understanding, warmth, and sympathy toward others.

There are many types of play and leisure time activities at the Villa. Some children are attracted to and have need of the strenuous activities of sports while others can use well and need the quiet, creative activities found in the arts and sciences. Some may use a combination of outlets.

In this way each child may be considered as an individual with his own particular needs and abilities.

Considering the importance of the individual approach for its recreational program, St. Joseph's Villa employs "specialists" who instruct, encourage, and guide youngsters in the various fields of interest which may have meaning for certain children then in care.

The boys for the most part are interested in athletics and so many opportunities in this line have been part of the program. By obtaining the use of two nearby school gyms it has been possible to allow the older boys and the younger boys to find fun and play at their own level of ability and interest.

Youngsters are also encouraged to take advantage of art lessons offered and older boys who wished took part in the diocesan science fair, under the guidance of a college science student.

There are four regular counselors for the boys and one for the girls who, under the direction of a trained group worker, supervise the youngsters during play periods each afternoon.

Girls, too, have specialists to train them in dancing, music, crafts, sewing, and cooking.

During the evening there is time for the quieter leisure time interests. There have been checkers and chess tournaments among cottages which necessitates visiting one another's cottage and affords opportunities of playing host to one's friends. This occurs again when older boys and girls have a dance or party and invite friends.

On some evenings there are movies at the "Little Theatre" on the grounds. For the most part, however, the evenings are spent in quiet play, reading, or watching a favorite TV program.

Friday evening is usually a special one for them, the youngsters get to see up a little later and there is the added pleasure of some treat which some may come in preparing such as popcorn, punch, fried cakes, or hot dogs.

locate a maternity home either locally or out-of-town, arrange proper medical care and guide them in their decision concerning possible adoption of the child.

Over 100 infants were placed in adoption homes this past year through the Center's program.

An additional 300 youngsters, from pre-school children to teenagers, were given foster home care under the Center's supervision.

Newcomers to America, European fleeing communist oppression and Puerto Ricans seeking a home better than their poverty-rife island could provide them, have also been aided by the Center.

Arrangements were also made for older people to be admitted to St. Ann's Home or to find security and happiness in their own homes through the help from social workers of the Family Center staff.

The Center's staff now total 24 professionally trained members.



Young boys get the right advice at DePaul clinic.

## Clinic Calms Emotions

What do you do with a child who can hear but won't listen?

Parents and teachers find pupils with this problem have serious difficulty in school-work.

The DePaul Clinic of Catholic Charities was set up two years ago to handle this and similar emotion-based difficulties of children. Main source of funds to maintain

the clinic is the Monroe County Board of Mental Health.

Philip Powers, executive director of the clinic, reports 101 children have been aided this past year in their emotional problems.

The DePaul staff includes Dr. Albert W. Sullivan, medical

director; Mrs. Grace Meade and Arthur Connors, psychiatric social workers; Dr. Carmen J. Scales, psychologist; and Mrs. Edgar Letson, secretary.

Symptoms of emotional problems are shyness, anxiety, timidity, belligerence, fearfulness.

## Partnership Helps Boys

Rochester's Jaycees—members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce—and the Genesee Settlement House have a partnership program for teenage boys.

Jaycees members meet with boys at the House to aid them get ready for a job when they finish school.

A good share of emphasis is put on "staying in school until you graduate."

Staff workers at the House discovered increasing numbers of boys were dropping out of school as soon as they reached the legal age to do so—leaving their education incomplete.

Meetings with the Jaycees have helped several boys develop a new attitude to school, to complete their high school education and, in some cases, to go on to college or technical school.

Boys already out of school or definitely planning to leave as soon as they could were advised about job possibilities, responsibilities of employment and tax details.

Grooming was discussed at great length. The kind of clothing worn for a job interview was discussed. It was pointed out that neat, clean clothing was necessary—not necessarily a fancy suit, but "no zoot-suits with dungarees or the fast-clothing worn by teenagers to their damage" would be conducive to good employer-employee relationship, the Jaycees visitor told the boys.


Many other kinds of problems were discussed in the individual meetings. Records were kept by the Jaycees of each meeting. The agency group worker assigned to the program met with each Jaycees member weekly to discuss the contents of the records, to advise and plan further procedure.

The Jaycees enumerate many things that had come to light during the individual sessions with the boys.

Questions have included: "How come a 'cop' can take you down to the station for questioning if you're only standing around making smart remarks?" "Why should I pay

board at home, I need all my money?" "The teachers are too smart, they flunk you all the time" and many other comments which indicated the need to work intensely on attitudes.

One mother requested assistance to the meetings for her son and for a neighbor boy, stating "I think both of these boys need this kind of help. Both their fathers are dead."

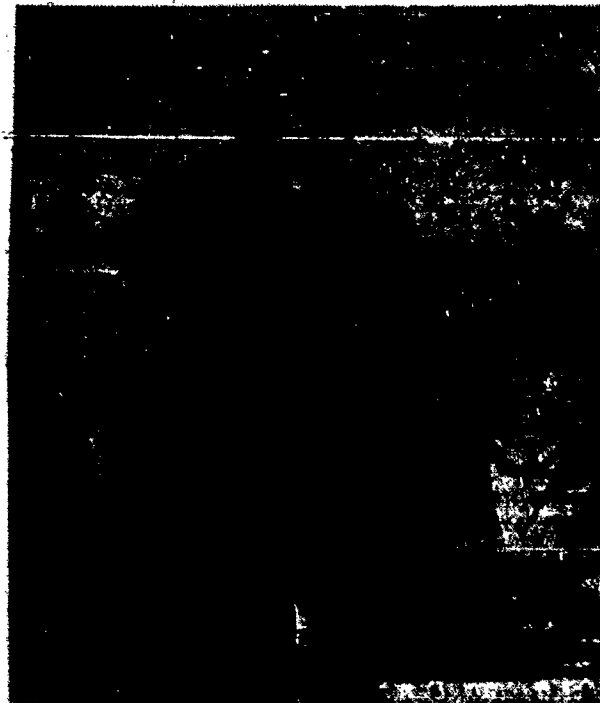


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Father Donald J. Mulcahy, George Montgomery and Miss Elizabeth Stokes chart Catholic Family Center program.



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