

Budget Cut Group Airs First Report

The first report on the local effects federal budget cuts are having was released last week by a consortium of local human service funders, a consortium which includes diocesan-Catholic Charities.

The report, researched by the Center for Governmental Research Inc., deals with the welfare assistance program Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and demonstrates that the working poor in the county were among the first to feel the impact of budget cuts passed last year under the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981.

The AFDC program is the major federal income maintenance program for low income families, according to a release from the center. The AFDC program is administered locally by the Monroe County Department of Social Services and provides financial assistance to families with dependent children who do not have adequate means

of financial support because of the absence, death, incapacity, or, in certain circumstances, unemployment of a parent. The program also provides for children of AFDC families who have been placed in foster care because they have not been properly cared for in their own homes.

The release said the report shows that "in 1981, 11 percent of Monroe County's welfare caseload consisted of people with earned income, 'the working poor.' As a result of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981 — which attempted, in part, to limit welfare aid to people most in need — two federal eligibility guidelines were changed that directly affected the working poor in Monroe County. These eligibility changes reduced the working poor as a proportion of the welfare caseload from the previous 11 percent in 1981 to about five or six percent as of April, 1982.

"It is anticipated that

reducing the allowable disposable income of working AFDC families may produce work disincentives that will discourage AFDC families from entering the work force or from expanding their work force participation if they are currently working.

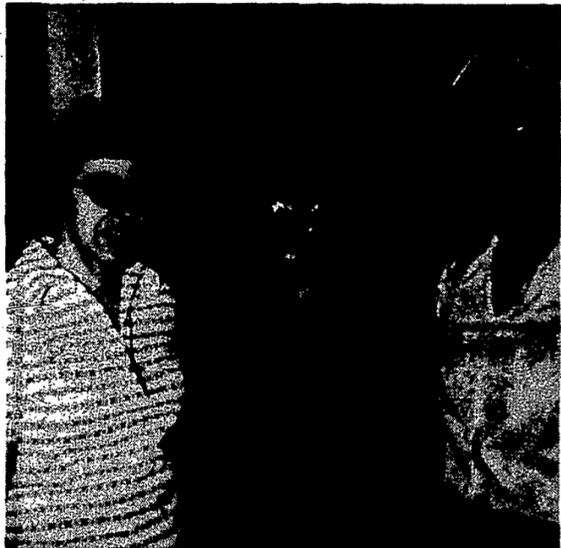
"In a study completed by the Congressional Research Service in March 1982 entitled 'Budget Cuts and Financial Work Incentives for Welfare Recipients,' such eligibility changes reportedly reduce by about 50 percent any financial gain from wages for a parent receiving supplemental AFDC and food stamps. And according to a recent study compiled by the Center of the Study of Social Policy in Washington, D.C., such changes mean that the average AFDC working parent in New York State will have less disposable income in Fiscal Year 1982 than the AFDC non-working parent.

"Proposed 1983 budget changes are similar to those enacted in 1982 in that they will primarily result in reduced assistance amounts and elimination of individuals from the AFDC rolls. Depending on the response of New York State, some of these individuals may be served through the state's Home Relief program.

"The Monroe County Department of Social Services is tracking AFDC families who were cut from welfare assistance by the 1981 eligibility rule changes. The county hopes to ascertain how many families return to the rolls and how the termination of benefits has affected those remaining off assistance. When available, the results of this survey may graphically detail the local impact of federal budget cuts."

Father Charles Mulligan, diocesan director of Social Ministries, is the chairman of the group sponsoring the AFDC paper.

Copies of the report and further information on the project are available to the public through Catholic Charities or Father Mulligan.



Tabasco Missioners

Nazareth Academy faculty members, from left, Sisters Mary Ann Mayer, Marilyn Pray and Magdalena Kellner, all Sisters of St. Joseph, are spending six weeks this summer in Tabasco, Mexico, as part of the mission team from Rochester working with the Chontol Indians. Located in a remote village named Tamulte, the Sisters will work with the youth, and involve themselves in adult literacy, health education, Bible study and nutrition programs for the people. This is Sister Marilyn's second summer in Tabasco.



Assistant Principal

Sister Magdalena Kellner has been named assistant principal for curriculum and student affairs at Nazareth Academy. She replaces Sister Joan Cawley who will be pastoral assistant at St. Patrick's Parish, Seneca Falls. Sister Magdalena has been instructor in Spanish and chairperson of the Language Department for the past seven years.

Bank

Continued from Page 1 yet ruled whether Calvi's death was murder or suicide.

The Italian press has reported that several unnamed cardinals and government officials have asked the pontiff to fire Archbishop Marcinkus.

The archbishop has denied any wrongdoing, but has refused to comment on specifics in the case.

The panel of which Brennan is a part will report directly to Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, Vatican Secretary of State, the Vatican said.

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