

Urban M

In a "love, brother" setting, High Point Urban Ministry, Inc., brings help to the helpless and hope to the hopeless by showing it cares.

Founded four years ago by its director, the Rev. Robert D. Weant, Urban Ministry has four components which try to serve the needs of people from the entire High Point community.

They include the Pitcher and Cup, originally a storefront mission at 611 S. Main Street; Beddington Mission, a multi-purpose center on Beddington Road; Dial-a-Message, a recorded telephone reassurance service; and Contact, a telephone service for anyone with a problem.

Urban Ministry is non-denominational. It is funded at an annual level of approximately \$32,000 by 20 churches in the High Point area which represent some nine Christian faiths.

Though it has a paid staff of four, including Weant, its main work is carried out by close to 200 active volunteers from all segments of the community.

Contact, for example, is manned by volunteers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Its number, 882-8121, was dialed 675 times in October alone.

MINISTRY'S HEARTBEAT

People in crisis situations of all kinds call Contact. Described as the "heartbeat of the inner city ministry" by its organizer, Contact was first started in December 1968 as a weekend service. In February 1969 it began its present continuous schedule.

The majority of those who phone have problems such as loneliness, family disturbances, drugs or alcohol, or need information. Through these calls Urban Ministry gets most of its clients.

At the Pitcher and Cup itself, which serves as the ministry's offices, food pantry and clothes closet, clients receive whatever help is available. Only if Weant and his staff feel the case is beyond their professional competence do they refer it to one of High Point's other agencies.

The ministry does cooperate closely with the Department of Social Services, High Point Memorial Hospital, Mental Health, the courts, public

Stress Can Lead To Pill Addiction

(Continued from page 1)

think someone you know might be taking sedative drugs:

Is he drowsy much of the time? Is he irritable? Is he dizzy and anxious? Is he irrational, confused? Is his speech slurred? Are his movements slow; is he sluggish?

The National Institute of Mental Health is experimenting with these drugs to determine more about their effects and how to prevent addiction. In the meanwhile, keep an eye on the common drugs such as sleeping pills, in your home and see that they are taken properly.

To find out more about these and other drugs, contact the Drug Day Program, a Model Cities agency sponsored by the High Point Drug Action Council. Its office is located at 803 E. Green Drive, Phone 882-2125.

to listen to a sermon before they get their bowl of soup."

Besides these spiritually-oriented activities, Urban Ministry also conducts adult reading classes, operates a kindergarten three days a week, sponsors a Girl Scout troop, maintains a summer playground program, and provides space for a center run by Developmental Day Care, Inc.

Its Dial-A-Message, at 885-4912, every day provides a different 50-

In addition to many poor people, including many from the Model Neighborhood, Weant and his assistant director Zeke Ellis work with parolees, transient people who have no home here, and potential suicide victims.

An average case load for the two together is 200 persons per month. Recently Pitcher and Cup moved north one block to occupy the building next to Main Street Methodist

Urban Ministry's all about," says Weant, himself an ordained United Methodist deacon. "We want people to live more satisfactory and productive lives within themselves and their community. That's what we're here for."

Know Your Rights

(Part III of a series.)

What happens if we separate and have been fighting and cannot agree about anything.

Many times when a couple has marriage problems, the husband will simply leave the house and go somewhere else. If the wife has the house to live in, the furniture, and the children, she may have all she wants. In that case she does not need to do anything or have any kind of separation papers.

If the husband will not send child support she can take out a criminal warrant for child support and the court will order the husband to pay.

But what if we own things like a car, a lot of furniture, or a house, and there are a lot of bills to pay, and my husband will not agree to anything and will not support me and the children?

There is a special law, called GS 50-16, which allows a wife to sue her husband in court. Once you get in court the judge will decide who gets to keep what property, who has to pay the bills, who gets to keep the children, and how much child support must be paid. This law offers great protection for a woman who is abandoned by her husband. In some cases, the judge will also order the husband to pay alimony.

How can I afford a lawyer to take this kind of case to court if I have been abandoned, don't have a job, and have to feed the children?

Where a wife is abandoned and is dependent upon her husband for support she can go to a lawyer and pay him a small amount, or sometimes nothing, to start the action, and the judge orders the husband to pay the wife's lawyer. Most lawyers will not take this type of case unless the husband makes at least \$80-\$100 a week.

What if my husband is bothering me, assaulting me, or will not leave the house?

In this same type of court action, the judge can also enter orders requiring the husband to stay away from the wife or leave the house and turn it over to her. If he refuses to obey these orders, he can be jailed for contempt of court.

BULLETIN BOARD

Task forces now meet on the second floor of the First United Methodist Church educational building, 512 N. Main Street. Meeting rooms are accessible through the back entrance on N. Wrenn Street.

Pre-Commission Meeting	November 30
7:30 p.m., Fourth Street Library	
Evaluation Task Force	December 4
7:00 p.m., Model Cities Office, 609 S. Main	
Model City Commission	December 7
7:30 p.m., City-County Building	
Education Task Force	December 11
7:30 p.m., Methodist Church	
Employment Task Force	December 12
7:00 p.m., Methodist Church	
Health and Social Services Task Force	December 12
7:30 p.m., Methodist Church	

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Teresa Bodie, Project Director