

CETA Targeted to Needy

Ms. Nellie Jones, director of the city human services department, defended governmental efforts to provide jobs and training for the unemployed during Questions and Answers interview with the Winston-Salem Chronicle news staff on Friday, November 24. Following are excerpts from her remarks.



Ms. Nellie Jones

Q-The programs in your department, such as CETA, have been criticized by the S.T.O.P. adherents as being the impact on the community if we did not have these programs?

A-The impact on the community would be that the unemployment rate would go up. We have demonstrated that with our program, the unemployment rate has dropped.

Q-What has been the extent of the drop?

A-We're talking about a point or at least a half a percentage point.

Q-How many people are participating in your various programs?

A-At the present time, there are approximately 700 people being served.

Q-Briefly could you list the different programs?

A-The programs are titles 1, 2, 6, and 3. All of it's involving work and jobs and the one is mostly training. We have training programs that deal with individual referrals for persons who want specific kinds of training. They go to the

Employment Security Commission and the Employment Security Commission refers them to Forsyth Tech

nical Institute or any other training institute in the community which would provide the type of training they are seeking.

Q-They have trainees at the Piedmont Aerospace Institute here and there are a lot of people at Forsyth Tech.

Q-Are all these programs temporary in nature?

A-The training programs have a specific number of weeks that a person can participate in—104 weeks. No person who goes into training can participate past 104 weeks or which he or she can receive an allowance.

Q-Do you have any statistics on how many people go on to get a regular job?

A-At least 50 to 60 percent of those people who are in

individual referral programs receive jobs in their areas in which they are trained.

Q-Do all the participants have to meet certain requirements?

A-Yes, the programs all have specific requirements.

Q-How successful has that program been?

A-It's been very successful because its one program that's always full. They're funded for 75 people and they have 75. Of course that program had to be reduced this year because the wage goes up to \$2.90 an hour and you can only support so many people at \$2.90 an hour.

Q-How is the employment picture in Winston-Salem? Is there a need for more CETA programs?

A-I'd say that CETA was originally designed to provide training for economically disadvantaged people. But with the downturn and the recession in 1974-75, the government saw CETA as a means to put a lot of people who found themselves unemployed back on the employment rolls. So CETA was used to do that in 1974-75. A lot of prime sponsors got caught up in the recession and may have forgotten the focus of CETA, which was training. CETA is not a permanent arrangement for anybody. It is a training program. Now that the economy has improved, of course, with the new legislation, it's focusing back on the persons it was supposed to

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ment and training program that is located on Patterson Ave. That program is designed specifically to help youth find out what they want to do, help them understand themselves, get some job exploration skills. They have a vocational exploration program that has youth just move from different jobs to other jobs to help them understand what goes on in the job. We also are trying to deal with the private sector on that. They have about 295 kids in that program. We also have a work experience program for youth who are still in school. These programs are for any youth from 16 to 21 in the school system. Both programs are operated by the school system.

Chronicle Letters

Dear Editor:

I was greatly disturbed by the article entitled, "Covington Style Part of Gripe," in your October issue of the Chronicle. This article was in very poor taste and it simply distresses me that you would allow such filth to be published. Black people, especially those who are doing something with their lives and who try to pull others up along the way, are slaughtered everyday—the white man takes care of that. However, what is most depressing is when blacks slaughter blacks. As long as this prevails, we'll never be able to equally compete because we will kill off ourselves.

We need to back-up our black brothers and sisters. Support should start in places such as the Chronicle. No one will ever please every one, but a black paper publicly castrating a black brother is ridiculous!

When there are problems, we need to deal with them on an intelligent level and with constructive criticisms: hold civil conferences, reach compromises, write letters, but for God's sake STOP THE IGNORANCE!

The Chronicle is not the only source responsible for Covington's slaughter. What about "The students who don't like him, the staff that doesn't like him, the faculty that doesn't like him, and the alumni that can't stand him. As one faculty member so disgustingly put it, "Covington is trying to do his job. I'm sure, but your smiling in faces and stabbing in backs, your idle gossip, threats, and apathetic support, will not change what you feel is going wrong. I hate to see such an acclaimed institution as WSSU degrade itself be-

cause of a bunch of pouting adults!

Support WSSU, be proud of its contributions. I had the opportunity to attend summer school at WSSU last summer and it was a good experience.

Thank you for supporting my right to voice my opinion.

Sincerely yours,
ROLONDA WATTS
Spelman College



What are those requirements?

A-For the individual referral program, they all must be economically disadvantaged. In every program we have, they must be economically disadvantaged—unemployed or underemployed. There are some people who are considered underemployed who we work with, too, that might not be as disadvantaged as another person.

We also use the criterion of 70 per cent of the living standard, but that gets confusing to people who might not be familiar with these kinds of programs, so we just say economically disadvantaged.

Q-Which program works with youth?

A-Under our title three, we have the youth employ-

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