Youth Program

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ed training for economically disadvantaged youths ages 14 through 21 who qualify.

Mary Freas of the Human Services Department, which administers the program locally, said the program will differ from past years in the following ways:

"This year the program will offer skill training, labor-market orientation and remedial education, in addition to work experience.

'For example, most youngsters will study how to fill out job applications and conduct themselves on a job interview. They also will explore various careers while learning more about themselves.

"All eligible youth will be interviewed before they are accepted into the program, which should result in a better match between the

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promptly, temporarily, in many cases.

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youth and the job and training.

"Work agreements with participating agencies will insure that strict standards in supervision and quality of work will be maintained.

"A youth council to aid program planning has been appointed, made up of individuals from the school system, vocational rehabilitation, business, youth agencies and youths themselves."

This year's council includes Betsy Brown, Forsyth County Juvenile Justice Council; Faye Conrad, 70,001 Youth Program; Eleanor Dodson, School System; Matt Elmore, N.C. Division Vocational Rehabilitation; Aldrenia Gaither, Experiment in Self-Reliance; Robert Griffis, business; Jerry Smith, Youth Energy Network; and Steve Williams, youth representative.

The program will extend through mid-August. Applications will be available sometime in April.

Youngsters in the program will be paid a minimum of \$2.30 per hour for approximately 30 to 40 hours of work weekly.

Any public or private non-profit agencies interested in providing job opportunities should call the Human Services Department, 727-8002.

Plot To Discredit Blacks?

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Davis described the condition as something like a constant headache: "It's always there, and it always hurts, but you learn to live with it." The problem in many cases, he points out, is that a black will receive a severe punishment, but discrimination is hard to prove. For example: if an offense could be punishable by a slight fine or a six-month jail term, the judge could give the black defendant the maximum sentence and still be legally within his rights, even if a white man committing the same offense received less punishment. One might question the judge's impartiality, but proving it is another matter.

An example cited by Davis of two similar cases receiving two different treatments are the cases of Andrews and Markle. Both men are city employees; both charged with shoplifting. In both cases the store manager agreed to drop the charges. In Markle's case, the charges were dropped and the matter ended; in Andrew's case the police prosecuted anyway. Andrews is black: Markle is white.

When asked what concerned citizens could do about this apparent injustice, Mr. Davis paraphrased Martin Luther King, saying that you can't force people by law to like you. The best you can do is to pass just laws and then try to elect people that will enforce them on an impartial basis.

Alderman Carl Russell declares that "justice is

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often meted out according to skin color." He adds: "That's one of the reasons I'm in politics."

In reference to the three cases discussed in the CHRONICLE article last week, Mr. Russell stated. "A man is supposed to be considered innocent until proven guilty. I don't see that anyone has been proven guilty." He, too, expressed concern that the Andrews case had been prosecuted despite the store manager's willingness to drop the charges. The arresting officer was moonlighting as a store guard, says Mr. Russell, who is strongly opposed to such moonlighting practices. He says that it often impairs the effectiveness of a policeman in his regular duty. and may affect his objectivity, since he depends on the store fore. part of his income. In such a case, an officer is not an impartial witness.

Regarding the Walter Marshall case, Mr. Russell expressed regret that the conviction was not appealed. "he was badly treated," says Mr. Russell. "They beat him up, and then charged him with resisting arrest, and I don't believe Walter Marshall is that kind of a person."

Still, there have been improvements through the years, Mr. Russell concedes, Now in his sixteenth year as alderman, he says he can remember when things in Winston-Salem were much worse, when police would try to provoke blacks into resisting arrest so that they could make more severe charges, and

a time when beatings and trumped-up charges were evident. "We still get a bad policeman from tiem to time," he says, "One who uses his power to vent his racial hangups, but it's not as bad as it once was "His recommendations for further improvements include a police review board, and "a long look at the court system."

NAACP President Patrick Hairston expressed concern with the way cases involving blacks are treated in the media. "The newspaper is the black people's Bible," he says, "If it's printed in a newspaper, blacks will believe it." Mr. Hairston feels that this fact is used to discredit blacks. The charges will be printed in big headlines and people remember the charges, not whether the man was convicted or not. He cited the case of a man whose business suffered because he was accused of raping a 14-year-old girl he had never even seen. The girl later admitted that she had invented the story, but the newspaper story "State drops charges" was very small compared to the coverage the original charges received.

"And they never print anything good about us," says Mr. Hairston. "I could save 50 people with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and it wouldn't be noticed, but if I kill somebody it'll be all over the front page." Mr. Hairston urges black people to support newspapers which are fair to blacks in their coverage.

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Drugs

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is a free lecture service available to organizations on a variety of topics. For example, senior citizens groups might be interested in talk on the use and dangers of various prescription drugs, or parents groups could request the drug education lecture.

Sundial House needs more volunteers, who will be trained in a six-week 48-hour counseling session in late April with instructions dealing with alcoholism, drug problems, suicide calls, and other crisis situations. Anyone over sixteen who wants to volunteer, or any organization who would like to have a guest speaker from Sundial should call Monica Schamel at 723-9141.