

# Alcohol Program Lily White

Carolina Community News Service

Raleigh, N.C.--Are you black, unemployed, and looking for a job? Now hear this!

The unaware, who for any reason, happens into suite 1100 of the Ablemarle Building in Raleigh might leave thinking that blacks are not hired in the Alcohol and Drug Services Section of the N.C. Department of Human Resources. If a person did reach that conclusion it would not be totally incorrect.

The section develops policy and programs for \$22 million in federal and state funds for treatment of alcoholism.

The section employs in its Raleigh office one part-time black woman as a clerk, while all of its professional staffers and the other three clerical workers are white.

Dr. R.J. Blackley, acting Section head, says the lack of blacks in the section is the result of past discrimination and failure of blacks to qualify for professional jobs. A medical doctor, Blackley says, "I would like to say whoever is qualified gets the job" when a job is vacant. According to Blackley, the last vacant position was for a grantsman to write and attain funds for the alcohol programs, a posi-

tion formerly held by a black attorney. When he left state employment, Blackley said, a qualified black applicant could not be found.

The hiring of blacks in the Alcohol and Drug Services Section throughout the state is not better. The latest figures available for the section showed that in September Black employment was concentrated in service and maintenance, skilled craft, and paraprofessional jobs, a persistent pattern in overall state hiring. Take a look at the following table which are about the same for Black men and women in the section.

A state plan required for federal funding by the National Institute of Mental Health declared that the Division of Mental Health Services under which the Alcohol and Drug Section is administered, is "striving to overcome the many and diverse factors which have resulted in the under-representation of various minority groups in our staffs."

Prior to submission of the report to the NIMH a Task Force on Black Alcoholism was organized which recommended changes in personnel policies. Change in testing procedures for hiring and the career ladder to provide advancement opportunities to paraprofessionals head the list. The task force also recommended establishment of a quota system in hiring, and a training program for black leaders to enable them to understand the

nature of alcoholism and alcohol abuse in the black community.

Counselors are currently being trained by the Alcoholism Training Program at East Carolina University in Greenville.

Jerry Lotterhos, the Center's white director in a proposal submitted to the Alcohol and Drug Section which was funded for \$22,000, identified the problems of hiring blacks in the state alcohol program very critically.

"The staffing patterns of our state alcohol abuse programs do not reflect an equitable percentage (based on Black population ratios) of black staff the professional and administrative levels."

Discrimination of blacks in hiring filters all the way down to an inferior quality of services. Lotterhos' proposal claimed. Drug abuse programs are insensitive to the Black alcohol abuser. Most of the programs are white middle class oriented such as the Alcohol Anonymous.

the black culture contribute to lack of involvement in treatment services," the proposal generalized. Continuing it read "In general, Blacks do not hold staff positions in the professional and administrative areas of our state and local alcohol abuse programs."

Despite claims that all is being done to hire blacks within the division the \$22 million of federal and state funds is still being spent to support a staff of white administrators and professional staff

way, according to Lotterhos' findings, has been detrimental to the prevention and treatment of the disease among Black problem drinkers. \$5.2 million of those funds are federally provided funds with prohibitions barring discrimination against minorities.

Father Arthur Calloway, director of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church in Raleigh, and a secretary to the Task Force, said in a telephone interview that staffing patterns for the Alcohol

Section have not been the focus of the group but might become its focus as it resumes work following a summer recess.

Approximately two dozen blacks are now in training at ECU and are soon to receive certification as therapists. Questioned if those persons will find employment, Calloway said that he was not sure but that if they did not, political pressure would have to be applied by the Task Force to assure hiring of the black therapists.

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## Carolina Street Scene II

### Downtown Event Big Success

Thousands thronged to weekend's Carolina Street Scene, the Joseph Brewery's second 'Rites of Fall.' The who assembled to a variety of music and to see the crafts consumed over thousand gallons of at the Schlitz

tion. stic displays ranged water color exhibits ant displays. Herbie hight-lighted the al performances, alternated among our stages. Perform- ncluded the Little an Band and Dan- complete with Bava-

rian costumes, the Appalachian Folk Band with Grandfather Mountain Cloggers, the Mose Allison Trio, and the Urban Arts Jazz Transit.

One of the most popular acts was a glass blower, stationed in NCNB Plaza who created delicate vases "before your very eyes."

A giant plastic tunnel inflated with compressed air stretched down Fourth

A giant plastic tunnel inflated with compressed air and full of adventurous youngsters stretched down Fourth Street.

Refreshments were available in the form of

good old American hot dogs, or good old Mexican tacos--with Greek pastries and German snacks available for the gourmands in the crowd. Two mayoral candidates also offered refreshments at their respective headquarters.

Besides the fun of craft-shopping and crowd-watching, one could enjoy the performances of street entertainers like the strolling musicians, the Linda Bush Acrobats, and the Patterson Street Drill Team.

The Carolina Street Scene seems to have become a Winston-Salem tradition.

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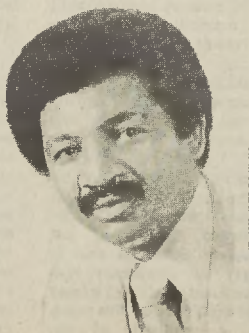
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