

Charlotte Attacks Teenage Employment Issue

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

In less than two weeks another type of job seeker will descend upon an already tight job market. Students will be out of school for the summer and many of them will be looking for work to help ease the high cost of clothing and school supplies for the fall. Some will be looking for employment in order to assist in their college expenses and others will simply need to find a job to help make ends meet at home.

Before the mad rush for employment begins, the city of Charlotte hopes to have already found the answer for hundreds of youth in search of employment.

According to Bob Person, director of the Employment and Training department, the city has attacked the issue of teenage employment in several ways.

"Although we have come up with some different approaches to solve the problem of teen employment, we will be serving less teens due to the loss of the CETA program," explained Person.

He also commented that although CETA was replaced by the Job Training Partnership Act, the funding was drastically reduced and therefore has resulted in less jobs. This year JTPA will provide the city's youth with over 500 jobs. That figure is less than half of what the number of jobs CETA provided.

In addition to JTPA the city is finding jobs for teens in the private sector. Under the auspices of Private Industries Council a minimum of 300 jobs are expected to be available for youngsters. Many of the jobs in the private sector will only be open to youth between the ages of 18 and 21. "Because of the nature of some of these private jobs it is almost a necessity that the employees be at least 18 years of age," expounded Person. He al-

so noted, that sometimes these summer jobs lead into full-time employment.

Still another avenue that will become a supplier of jobs is the city of Charlotte. "The City of Charlotte plans to create between 100 and 125 jobs for teens this year," remarked Person.

By the time all of these avenues have been joined together at least 1,000 jobs will be developed for the teen population. These jobs will be open to teens between the ages of 14 and 21 and who are considered economically disadvantaged.

Although Mr. Person stated that many of these jobs are already taken, he insisted there are still jobs available for males between the ages of 17 and 21.

For other teenagers who don't fall in the economically disadvantaged category Person offered some word of hope: "Charlotte and Mecklenburg have a good economic picture and although we (city) have come up with at least a thousand jobs, we have just scratched the surface as far as the jobs that are available." He further stated that while the city can only come up with a certain amount of jobs there are other agencies who are also working towards finding summer employment for youth such

as the Employment Security Commission, the Urban League, the Commission of Youth, the Women's Commission and the "Hire A Kid" project sponsored by the Community Relations Department.

In spite of the various outlets that will be available for many teens there will be some teenagers who want to work and will not be able to find jobs.

These are cases when creativity enters the pic-

ture. A youth wanting to work desperately enough can make a job for himself. For example, do you like children? Hire yourself out as a reliable and proficient babysitter. Find what the hourly rate is from other parents who use the services of a babysitter and from your peers who babysit. Or maybe you like working outdoors? A lot of money can be made

mowing lawns. In order to have monetary success in either of

these endeavors two things are required: first, you must make the public aware of your services. Advertise your skills through your parents' friends, through the church you attend and with neatly written flyers dropped off at your local grocery store, laundromat or beauty shop. Secondly, you must be as good as the services you are advertising.

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FBI Special Agent Says:

"We Have A Very Highly Motivated Core Of Agents"

By Audrey C. Lodato
Post Staff Writer

Fourth in series

FBI operations for the entire state of North Carolina are directed from the Charlotte field office. The Bureau operates 59 field offices and some 400 smaller offices throughout the U.S. Of the field offices, Charlotte ranks thirtieth in staff size. However, according to Special Agent in Charge, Robert L. Pence, the Queen City office is fifth in arrests and sixth in indictments and felony convictions. On a per capita basis, Charlotte ranks first in number of arrests, third in indictments, and second in convictions.

To what does Pence attribute this impressive success record? "We have a very highly motivated core of agents who are experienced," he began, "and they're living in an area where they enjoy being." On top of that, the SAC cited the presence of "interested and aggressive U.S. Attorneys" in the state, as well as excellent Bureau supervisors.

According to Pence, FBI priorities for 1984 include drug trafficking and white collar crime, "especially

Fogle Joins Mercy

Ralph Fogle, a retired Marine Corps officer, has joined Mercy as the new director of the laundry. Mr. Fogle, a native of Charleston, S.C., came to Mercy from Richmond, Va., where he was plant manager of a commercial laundry.

He served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam and Korea, and was director of the Marine Corps linen plant system worldwide. During the latter assignment, he was stationed at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Fogle was graduated from Porter Military Academy in Charleston, attended The Citadel in Charleston, and was graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1964 with a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering.

the large program frauds, such as Medicaid, Medicare, CETA, and other programs that involve large infusions of federal money.

The Bureau, working in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies, is making some progress against drug traffickers in North Carolina. Pence admitted that "we're not beginning to see the end of the problem," but expressed optimism that there has been significant development in combatting drug traffic over the past year, both along the coast and in the interior of the state. Bureau agents have been involved in about 100 drug-related arrests. Although law enforcement is having some effect, Pence said it is still too early to know how much.

Other recent successful cases involving North Carolina agents include an on-going investigation into water fraud, especially in

the northwest part of the state, which so far has resulted in 30 arrests, and a nationwide investigation into so-called "diploma mills," which is being directed from North Carolina. The phony diploma case has been getting widespread support from the academic community, as well as from various trade organizations and others where credentials are important.

The local Bureau chief noted that the FBI is currently in need of scientists and language experts. "Of course, we're always looking for qualified lawyers and accountants," he added.

Interested persons need not fit into any of the above categories to apply. There is a modified program which requires a college degree in any field and three years experience.

The Bureau needs minorities (blacks, Hispanics, native Americans, and others) and women. Call Charles Richards at 372-5485 for application information.

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