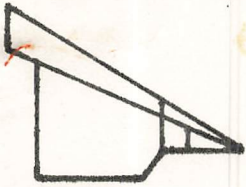


DELTA PACE VOICE



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"A Small Town With A Big Future"

THE DELTA PACE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

QUARTERLY REPORT

QUARTER TWO

The Delta Pace Human Development Project is one of twenty-four comprehensive development projects sponsored by the Institute of Cultural Affairs in twenty nations around the world. Each project is a two year intensive effort initiated by a week-long consultation in the community, during which practical programs are designed to completely revitalize community self-sustenance, self-reliance, and self-initiative. The consult in Pace was held February 20-26, 1977, and delineated 14 programs to be fully implemented within two years.

The methods employed in every aspect of implementation, the specific procedures used, and the broad arenas of renewal are designed so that any community willing to put forth the equivalent effort could replicate the project in its own situation. In India, project replication has already begun with an additional fifteen villages participating. Implementation is structured by focusing efforts on the 172 subtasks outlined in the document; when all subtasks are done, the 14 programs will be actuated and the two year project completed. At that point local residents will have been trained in methods for designing new programs, structuring corporate activity, and maintaining community motivity.

The project's primary thrust in the first quarter was to focus on rebuilding a positive community identity, by providing objective signs of hope relative to the future. The basic approach utilized numerous quick, visible signs and launched a major beautification effort. A specific strategy employed was eighteen consecutive Saturday workdays.

This past quarter the primary thrust shifted to an intensification of leadership training toward evoking a depth, long-range commitment to the future of the town. The basic approach was twofold: 1) to involve residents directly in continental and international gatherings, and 2) to provide one major objective miracle dealing directly with both the economic and social life of the community. Specific strategies employed were excursions to Canada, Korea, Chicago, Pine Bluff, and Houston, and the total restoration of the old Post Office for use as a preschool. The latter project symbolized that a deteriorating business district could literally come to life again.

The following is a report by programs of the work of the last three months in Pace:

I. HEALTH EXTENSION UNIT

A community survey has been completed, which involved visiting every household in Pace to determine housing conditions and needs, the existing health situation, population statistics, income data, educational background, family monthly expenses, and major "felt needs" of the community. The Delta Pace Preschool is extending regular health treatment to children one to three years old and will implement family training in nutrition, sanitation, and immunization procedures. It will also provide one balanced hot meal daily. Three buildings cited as health hazards in the main business district have been demolished and another has been purchased by the town for renovation as a community center. One footbridge has been reconstructed, another repaired, and one traffic bridge is being rebuilt.

II. PUBLIC WORKS FORCE

Pace currently has no sewage collection system or sewage treatment facility: raw sewage is ineffectively handled for most of the community through open sewage ditches that frequently clog up. The drainage ditches must be cleaned manually due to the gas and water lines that would be ripped out if heavy equipment were used. The proposal for the funding of the sewer system feasibility study, called the 201 study, has been submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and has been approved in Jackson and sent to Atlanta. The next step is actually doing the study, and Continental Consultants Inc. in Jackson has been contracted as the engineering firm for Pace. In addition, the National Demonstration Water Project in Washington, D.C. has selected Pace as one of four towns in Mississippi that it will work with to upgrade the water system and provide a sewer system. Personnel representing NDWP have almost completed a comprehensive evaluation of Pace's current water system and recommendations will be made concerning needed repairs and improvements, how it can be funded, and an estimate of monthly costs per residence for water system use and maintenance.

III. AREA TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

An application to the Community Services Administration has been submitted for a 12 passenger minibus to begin the regular service of the transportation system.

IV. BASIC EDUCATION ACADEMY

The old Post Office, located in the main business district, has been made available by Mr. Jesse Pace for use as the Delta Pace Preschool. Throughout the summer members of the community spent many hours restoring the old building to meet day care center guidelines as set forth by the State Welfare Department and the State Health Department. The old floor was torn out and a new one put in; new interior walls were built; a ceiling was hung with all new lighting fixtures and air conditioning ducts; all new plumbing and wiring was put in; a kitchen, bathroom, crib room, utility room, and an isolation room were built; rotten window and door frames were replaced; tile was laid on the floor; a central air conditioning and heating system was installed; the inside and building front were repainted; and a septic tank and sand and gravel filter were put in. The entire restoration effort has an estimated value of \$45,000; the actual cost amounted to \$11,000, with the difference being accounted for through volunteer labor and donated materials. The renovation represents the first major restoration effort in the main business district in many, many years.

The Title XX proposal for funding has been approved and covers 7 full-time jobs, 2 part-time jobs, supplies, materials, toys, insurance, and utility costs. The new jobs represent 28% of all the full-time jobs available in Pace for Pace residents, and when applications had been received, thirty-five people had applied for the nine openings. The new staff is Barbara Smith, Director; Lelia Ann Donelson and Ruby Bolden, Teachers; Deloris Bradley, Symantha Bradley, Johnny Lee Grays, and Charlotte Jackson, Teacher Aides; Thelma Murray, Cook; and Allen Price, Janitor. When the staff had been hired, all nine plus Sandy Powell, Lynette Pennington, and Judy Mullins (a social work student from Delta State University) went to Chicago for a weekend training and curriculum planning session. Personnel from the preschools in Pace, Fifth City (Chicago), Ivy City (Washington, D.C.), Vogar (Canada), and Cano Negro (Venezuela) spent the weekend designing the curriculum to be used in the preschools in each of those projects this year.

Twenty-two children have registered for the preschool (representing 87% of the eligible children in Pace) and will begin on Monday, October 3rd. The opening of the preschool will enable at least one child to re-enroll in the Pace Elementary School, since he will no longer have to stay at home to take care of a younger sister. Green and gold uniforms have been made for the entire staff, complete with the Delta Pace symbol, and green T-shirts with a gold preschool symbol are being ordered for the children.

V. ADULT TRAINING INSTITUTE

Training received a major emphasis during the past quarter, and was conducted primarily in two arenas -- 1) within Pace, residents began to assume leadership roles formerly handled by ICA staff, and 2) many residents journeyed beyond Pace for direct exposure to other cultures, towns, events, and leadership methods. Guild leaders meetings have been implemented on Monday nights and stake leader's meetings on Tuesday nights. Pace is geographically divided into 5 "stakes" or neighborhoods, and each stake met for the first time officially last quarter with local residents providing the leadership. At the meetings each Tuesday night, the stake leaders go through a brief methods training session and then design the conversations and workshops they will use at the stake meetings on Thursday nights.

Many "Pacers" traveled this past quarter. Otha Cleveland left Pace on a two and one-half hour notice to go to the Vogar Consult for two weeks and to the summer Research Assembly in Chicago for the following two weeks. Gail Towers went to the Human Development Project World's Fair in Kwangyung il, South Korea, and then to the Research Assembly. Six others from Pace joined Otha and Gail at the Assembly in July and found themselves working for two weeks with representatives from each of the other 23 projects around the world and also with representatives from the replication villages in India. Four Pace residents attended the Area Council in Houston to participate in program planning for the entire South for the coming quarter. The following weekend the new Preschool staff drove to 5th City in Chicago for a weekend training and curriculum building session with preschool staff from other North and South American projects. A total of twenty Pace people participated in such excursions last quarter, and in each case horizons were broadened, methods learned, and resolve deepened.

In June, ICA staff worked with 18 local communities in 9 Delta counties to sponsor town meetings as part of the Delta Days program. Over thirty Pacers participated in leadership training sessions in preparation for leading the 18 town meetings, and each town meeting had at least two Pace residents giving one of the two talks

and leading workshops. Attendance at the town meetings totaled 20% of the population of the towns, and 15 towns sent 4 or more representatives to the Delta Days Assembly at Delta State University in mid-June. Following the Assembly over 50 persons visited Pace for an outdoor barbeque and a tour of the community.

VI. TOWN BEAUTIFICATION CAMPAIGN

The community design program made much progress last quarter. The business district was a major focus, with the restoration of the old post office, and the purchase by the town of the old 2-story boarding house in the center of town. Forty students from the School of Architectural Design at Mississippi State University visited Pace and will be designing the business district, the central plaza from one end of town to the other, and low-cost, high-quality housing. The black, vinyl-covered chain link fence donated by Sears was installed around the new community playground that was built by Xerox employees and Pace citizens in quarter one. Street signs and welcome signs were designed by MSU students and models constructed for water tower graphics. A new tractor was purchased by the town to enable an expanded garbage collection service and ongoing maintenance of public areas. An existing land-use map has been completed delineating the use of each of the 282 buildings in the community.

VII. DELTA PACE IDENTITY PROJECT

During quarter one the Youth Service Corps designed and obtained gold T-shirts with the YSC symbol in green. Not to be outdone, this past quarter adults designed their own shirts with their own symbol, including the slogan "Delta Pace - a small town with a big future". The T-shirts were green with gold symbols, and the 100 shirts sold out in 6 weeks. The stakes began formal meetings with 25% of the town in attendance the first evening and have continued to meet weekly. Many people visited Pace during the quarter, including Dr. Henning Scherf, the head of the ruling Social Democratic party in Bonn, West Germany, Mr. Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Congressman David Bowen, and Mr. Sam Hollis of Memphis.

VIII. YOUTH SERVICE CORPS

The YSC began the summer by preparing on a two-day notice to participate in "Almost Anything Goes" in Bolivar County. The Pace crew finished 4th in the county and came home with shouts of "wait 'till next year!" It marked Pace's first participation in the annual nation-wide event, but by all accounts, certainly not the last. That event launched the Summer Youth Program that included many work projects and clean-up days, a lunch program every day, and weekly trips to the Mississippi River Beach. Three members of the YSC attended the Research Assembly in Chicago and one attended the consult in Vogar (Manitoba, Canada).

In June eleven members of the youth group and advisors from Lakeside United Methodist Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, spent a week in Pace as guests of the YSC. Both groups worked together all week to rebuild the most frequently used footbridge (160 feet long) by replacing the sub-flooring, the flooring, and the handrails with new treated lumber. Money earned by the Pine Bluff youth group during the year on work projects paid for the lumber and food for the week and rented the film, "Bridge Over the River Kwai", that all the youth saw on Sunday night to begin the week. About a month later, Mark Harvey and six members

of the YSC visited the church in Pine Bluff for the weekend, attended a church barbeque, the Sunday morning worship service, Sunday School, and stayed in homes of church members two nights. Everyone involved was excited and enthusiastic about the exchange.

IX. ELDERS SUPPORT NETWORK

All the elders in the community were visited by the YSC to find out what needs existed that the YSC could meet, and then many work projects were carried out. In turn, the elders formed the nucleus of interviewers in the every household survey conducted in the community in late August and early September. Early compilations from the survey are very revealing. In Stake 2 for example, one third of the households have at least one adult who cannot read or write, but half of those want to learn. One elder, Mr. Catrel Hall, attended both the Research Assembly in Chicago and the Area Council in Houston, and another elder is part of the new preschool staff.

X. COMMERCIAL SHOPPING CENTER

A new store owner located in Pace. A former Pace resident, Mr. Tommy Taylor, bought Ralph's Grocery Store, remodeled it, and reopened it as Mr. Food. Mr. Harold Lum put a new ceiling in his store, Lem King's, and the two stores immediately added "slush puppy" machines, bagged ice, and large soft drinks, all at highly competitive prices. The community laundromat was completed, repainted, and maintained a steady profit margin all quarter.

IX. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

Six Pace youth worked through the summer in jobs funded through the CETA program, and nine new jobs came to Pace through the new Preschool. Total new monthly income amounted to over \$6,000 per month.

XII. LIGHT INDUSTRIES COMBINE

Research continued throughout the quarter around possible new light industries for Pace.

XIII. LOCAL CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

Construction during the summer focused around the Preschool building, the footbridge, and the building demolition. Research and active investigation continued concerning new residential housing in the community.

XIV. DIVERSIFIED FARM COOPERATIVE

The community garden had a very productive summer, yielding many bushels of peas and beans and a wide assortment of other vegetables. It has now been plowed and disced and is ready for planting in fall vegetables.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
<p><u>COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community garden planted, harvested, ready for planting -Youth garden planted -New tractor purchased by town 	<p><u>LIVING ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -30 new trash cans painted and distributed -Old bus repair shop renovated (\$10,000 value/ \$250 cost) -Land-use map completed -EPA 201 study funds applied for -Community playground built (\$30,000 value/ \$1,800 cost) -Every household survey done -NDWP conducting water system study/evaluation -Building renovated for preschool (\$45,000 val/ \$11,000 cost) -Housing survey completed -Footbridge reconstructed (\$5,000 value/ \$1,200 cost) 	<p><u>PREVENTIVE CARE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Open sewage ditches cleaned -Open sewage ditches enclosed and covered -Nutrition program continuous from age one through 6th grade -Health treatment monitored through school structures, ages 1 - 12 -Three hazardous buildings demolished
<p><u>APPROPRIATE INDUSTRY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Earthworm farm established -Earthworm bait route set up 	<p><u>CORPORATE PATTERNS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -18 community workdays held -300 attend town meeting -450 attend Consult -25% of adults in town attend initial stake meetings -Regular guild leaders and stake leaders mtgs. -30 Pacers provide leadership in 18 Delta town meetings -Garbage collection expanded 	<p><u>FUNCTIONAL EDUCATION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Preschool opens for 1-3 year olds -Teacher training implemented -Literacy survey done -Youth sent to consult in Vogar and Research Assembly in Chicago -3 youth sent to Research Assembly -6 youth visited Pine Bluff church for weekend -Crafts classes held -7 adults take GED exam -Resident represents Pace in South Korea
<p><u>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Laundromat opened with profit every month -Two grocery stores remodeled -Community Association functioning -Proposal submitted for 12 - passenger mini-bus -Two used pick-up trucks donated -Laundromat building painted 	<p><u>IDENTITY SYSTEMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community symbol designed, goes on signs, trash cans, and T-shirts -All-school graduation celebration held -July Reunion held to welcome former Pace residents -Street signs and welcome signs designed by MSU -Guild designs 6' x 16' mural for Laundromat Wall 	<p><u>COMMUNITY WELFARE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Elders created all decor for consult -Youth Service Corps formed -Summer Youth Program conducted -YSC hosts Pine Bluff Church youth group for week to rebuild footbridge -Elders lead survey teams -8 women & 1 youth hired as preschool staff -Preschool staff spent weekend in 5th City for training and planning -6 youth hold summer CETA jobs -Youth Talent-Fashion Show held