

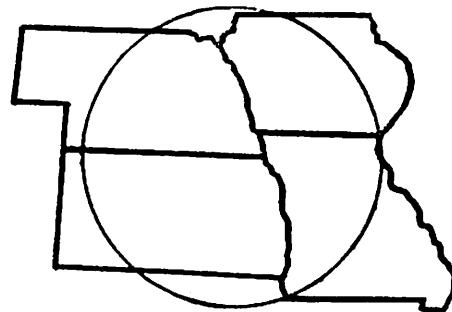
The Regional Network

KANSAS CITY REGION

Box 26 Lorimor, Ia 50149

Phone: (515) 763-2253

No. 16 November 11, 1982



THE MIDCREST POTENTIAL SYMPOSIUM

In preparation for the MIDCREST POTENTIAL SYMPOSIUM, 100 of the 400 interviews have been completed. A team of 12 has been on the road covering the 8 counties in Midcrest. Interviewers included Marileen Johnson, Nadine Green, Dorothy Hackman and 6 Lorimor residents. The Midcrest Rural Development Committee, (representing government agencies) has agreed to co-sponsor the event along with the Southwestern Community College and the ICA. Recruitment, interviews, compiling the data into a compendium, fund raising and spot-lighting effective projects require time and troops. So join us any time for a day, a week or a month to help prepare for this important event.

IMAGINAL EDUCATION COURSE

The Lincoln YWCA sponsored an Imaginal Education course on November 4-5. There was a varied mix of people - ages, backgrounds, long time colleagues and new friends - but they became a group very quickly and had fun along with the long hard work. (5 sessions in 2 days.) People felt it brought about a helpful shift in their self-stories, as well as learning new effective tools and methods for leading and building group dynamics. It was led by Iris Boivin, Russell Brown, Jane Johnson and Rick Jones.

RESEARCH THINK TANKS

Two Research Think Tanks were held in preparation for the Global Research Assembly scheduled for Jakarta in December: one focusing on the Role of Women, met at Priscilla Wilson's in K.C., the other was a part of the Youth Trek at the K.C. House.

CHURCH PRESENTATIONS

There continue to be requests from Churches in Iowa to see the Global Film on Human Development, learn more about our programs and to find out how they might participate in the Village or Cluster Adoption Programs in India, Africa and South America. Hawa Rosario, a Kenyan colleague was with us in October to assist in these presentations. Shakuntala Belge from India joined us for presentations at First and St. Timothy's UMCs in Waterloo and at Zion Church in Attica. If this kind of presentation, or an evening study or a weekend course, (appropriate to the Advent season) would interest your church, phone us for more information.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Nov. 16	Lincoln Study of the Aquarian Conspiracy
Nov. 16	Des Moines Roundtable
19-20-21	Vocational Journey Lab - U. of Notre Dame, Indiana
25	Thanksgiving at the K.C. House
Dec. 3-4	MIDCREST POTENTIAL SYMPOSIUM, Creston, Ia.
Jan. 1-2	Regional Council/Celebration in Lorimor

SPECIAL NEEDS

The Lorimor House needs a photocopy machine - that can take a heavy load. Carpeting - for the halls, stairs and upstairs rooms.

RECOMMENDED READING

Corporate Cultures by Deal and Kennedy
An edge book that explores the elements of creating and maintaining culture and uses new businesses as examples of forming cultures that motivate; gives vocational significance in the workplace.

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THE MIDCREST POTENTIAL SYMPOSIUM

BRIEF
November 1982

THE
DEVELOPMENT
SITUATION

Self-sustained local development has never been easy to achieve. The learnings and implications of many projects and programs have often been hidden because of isolation and inevitable setbacks. There is a need for communities to move from paralysis caused by undue dependency on external resources. Often there are parallel but unintegrated approaches to development by communities and organizations. The result is a paradox of overlap in efforts and gaps in meeting human needs. There are few forums where local citizens and development workers can document and exchange successful methods and models which could accelerate their own efforts.

THE
SYMPOSIUM
BACKGROUND

The TOWN MEETING:IOWA program between 1976-78, by bringing together residents of towns located in each one of Iowa's 99 counties, honored the importance of local communities as a way of celebrating the national Bicentennial. Community representatives in these Town Meetings named the challenges facing them and proposed realizable solutions for their communities. As a result of TOWN MEETING:IOWA, Lorimor decided to become one of 10 pilot communities in the United States to build and implement a comprehensive long-range plan. New industry and businesses, a community center, a weekly newspaper and senior citizen housing, water, sewer and street projects are among the accomplishments which indicate Lorimor's success. In March 1982, a representative group from the community again assessed their gains and formulated proposals for the future.

THE
MIDCREST
POTENTIAL
SYMPOSIUM

The Midcrest Potential Symposium, to be held at Southwestern Community College in Creston, Iowa on December 3-4 1982, will bring together representatives from communities and organizations of the eight counties of Midcrest - Adair, Madison, Adams, Union, Clarke, Taylor, Ringgold and Decatur. Local farmers, business and professional people, persons from government agencies and educational institutions, volunteer groups and service clubs, churches and neighborhoods will gather to:

- spotlight successful ventures in Midcrest
- project future accomplishments
- decide needed cooperative action

Citizen interviews are now being conducted in the eight counties to provide input for the Symposium.

Coordinating sponsors for the Symposium are Southwestern Community College and the Institute of Cultural Affairs. For more information, call the ICA office in Lorimor, 763-2253.