

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF BRANT
OHSWEKEN BRANCH

Teacher-Homemaker Evaluation Report
1984

In 1979 the Teacher-Homemaker service was inaugurated as part of the protection and preventive services being given by our Agency to Six Nations Reserve Branch office and community.

In the initial years, the Teacher-Homemaker duties involved only contact on a one-to-one basis in all areas related to homemaking. The purpose was to possibly break the vicious cycle of children of former clients becoming clients of today by raising aspirations, pride and self respect, to motivate, encourage and incorporate those basic qualities that are part of normal family living through the following objectives:

To improve domestic abilities, child care skills, to give opportunity for social interactions, to preclude individual or family breakdown, to strengthen and preserve human initiative and to develop community awareness and resources.

Many one-to-one clients attitudes and habits changed from inadequacy to wanting to achieve a better standard of living. Other older clients proved to be very reluctant to change old habits therefore, continued to suffer social casualties.

The C.A.S. mandate (section 6, 2, C) of the Child Welfare Act recognizes the fact that measures are constantly necessary to forestall the emergence of social problems. Through implementation of new and innovative service methods this can continue through the Teacher-Homemaker program on the Reserve.

It has been recognized that group activities are beneficial for those individuals who require new skills in personal development, parenting, interpersonal relations, etc. Services are necessary to help foster conditions that support healthy family and community life and instill pride and knowledge of our Native heritage.

Melba Thomas

STATISTICS - Teacher/Homemaker Program

January 1, 1984 to December 31, 1984

TOTAL: 101 contacts/clients
 149 children involved/affected

REFERRAL SOURCE:

26	Children's Aid Society
60	Self
2	Day Care Centre
2	Foster Parent
7	H.O.M.E. Program
3	Public Health
1	Friend
<u>101</u>	

PROGRAMS:

22	involved in <u>One-To-One</u>
22	attended <u>S.T.E.P.</u> Program
21	attended <u>Karate</u> classes
6	attended <u>Cooking</u> classes
10	attended <u>Beadwork</u> classes (Jan/Feb/Mar/Apr/May)
14	attended <u>Crochet</u> classes
25	attended <u>Fitness</u> classes
4	attended <u>Family Nutrition</u> classes
6	attended <u>Beadwork</u> classes (Oct/Nov/Dec)

130 TOTAL - This does not include Assertiveness/
 Human Sexuality Training nor the two
 senior volunteers who attended.

TRAINING:

12	attended <u>Human Sexuality</u>	26 children affected
8	attended <u>Assertiveness</u>	8 children affected

S.T.E.P.

Systematic Training for Effective Parenting

The STEP program was held at The Children's Aid Society office in Onswegen Monday nights for a nine week period. Participants from a variation of backgrounds consisting of clients foster parents an Early Childhood Education student and Home Day Care, etc., took part.

The group vocalized their present child rearing techniques and shared experiences of common concerns with other group members with willingness to learn more effective way of relating to their children. Through use of tapes, group discussions, weekly readings and discussions of the Parent's Handbook, practicing of specific child training principles and techniques, parents learned more effective parenting skills.

Certificates of completion were presented to 19 people. The teacher-

IROQUOIS BEADWORK

Volunteer instructor, Virginia Beaver, provides Iroquois beadwork instructions in her home every Wednesday morning 9 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Ladies learn to make a variety of beadwork, chains, necklaces, watchbands, pendants, etc. Each participant has an opportunity to develop a knowledge of fundamental beadwork and techniques in free hand looming and appitque. Historic and symbolic adornments are discussed so that participants will be able to understand their meanings, significance and are encouraged to develop their own style.

All participants are requested to leave one of each completed article with the teacher-homemaker. These articles are used for displays for open house, Health Fairs, Bi-Centennial and the Six Nations Fall Fair.

CROCHET CLASS

Crochet class held every Thursday morning 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Children's Aid Society staff room in Ohswegen.

Volunteer instructor, Leslie Hill, offers ladies an easy inexpensive way to create beautiful articles for gifts and family, i.e. clippers, potholders, pillow cover, and afghans, etc.

All participants are requested to leave one of each of the finished articles to be used for displays for open house, Health Fairs, Bi-centennial celebrations and the Six Nation Fall Fair.

COOKING CLASSES

Cooking instructors, Melba Thomas and volunteers, Iowne Anderson and Betty Smith.

Cooking classes are held the last Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Ojistoh Club, Ohswegen.

Participants are being taught new concepts of saving and fresh approaches to old ways through the following; Recipes used included low cost, extended and meatless dishes with each recipe designed to save money, food, effort or energy using Canada's Food Guide for proper nutrition.

Most recipes were varied to meet grocery "specials" vegetable availability and family preferences, providing enjoyment plus economy. Introduction of less familiar foods to the family, i.e. Tofu, - encouraged family participation in meal planning and preparation. Participants are becoming more comfortable with metric measures.

A field trip to a meat market is planned to learn how to recognize the various cuts of meat by name, grade and appearance. To take the guesswork out of shopping and to use the right cooking method for each cut, therefore, getting the best value

All participants are encouraged full participation, cooking, serving and recipe tastings. All participants are encouraged to take part in community displays, open house and the Six Nations Fall Fair.

ONE TO ONE TEACHER-HOMEMAKER SERVICES

The objective of the Teacher-Homemaker program is to provide concrete help through one-to-one teaching and group service, designed to prevent separation of children from their parents, replacing inadequacy and discouragement with a feeling of self-worth that comes with improved mothering and homemaking.

Presently the Teacher-Homemaker is involved with eighteen (18) parents on a one-to-one teaching basis.

The Teacher-Homemaker teaches, demonstrates to mothers acceptable methods of child care, meal planning, food purchasing, budgeting and all other areas related to acceptable Household management. In some case, due to economic hardships, mothers with limited income and ability are so overwhelmed that they aren't able to function adequately. The Teacher-Homemaker is available to give strength and support to help alleviate some of these problems.

In working with these mothers, it is very important not to set impossible goals and to learn to be pleased with small achievements.

Mothers are encouraged to participate in Teacher-Homemaker craft and recreation activities to learn and stimulate hidden desires and talents while enjoying and increasing socialization skills.

LADIES FITNESS CLASS

Slim into Spring began March 19, 1984 and continues for a 10 week period at J.C. Hill gynasium, Ohsweken each Monday night from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The classes are geared to the needs of the ladies from the community. The ladies have the opportunity of improving their overall appearance, increasing their self-confidence, physical fitness and socialization skills.

Volunteer instructor, Cheryl Henhawk, is an honors graduate in Physical Education from Western University.

KARATE

A class of 21 children and adults participated in a 10 week Karate class held at J.C. Hill gym, Ohsweken, Monday 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Participants were taught various defensive techniques, experienced opportunities to improve their concentration, discipline and improve their physical and mental condition. This class encouraged family participation.

John Lockyer, (second degree black belt) and Mike Morton were the volunteer instructors.