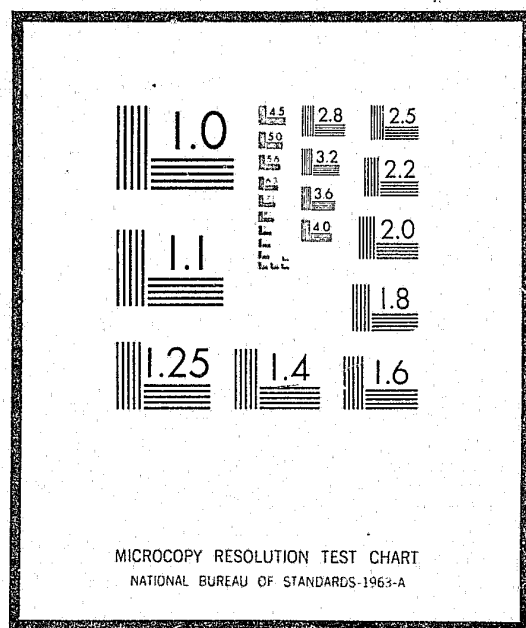


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100-8-1-73

LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

DISSEMINATION STATE  
PROCESS REPORT

1. Grantee: HONOLULU MODEL CITIES PROGRAM

2. Identifying Organization: DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS/DIV OF RECREATION-CITY OF HON.

3. Title or Character of Project: TEEN POSTS

4. Grant No. 5. Date of Report: / /

6. Grant Amt. 7. Character of Report: /

8. Covering Period: 4/1/73 to 5/21/73

To:  Cognizant Regional Office  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
 State Planning Agency, State of NEW JERSEY

Submitted herewith is the grantee's progress report for the period shown above:

NCJRS  
DEC 20 1976

Fred M. Bado  
Project Director (signature)

FRED M. BADO, PROJECT DIRECTOR  
(Typed Name and Title)

[Commence report below and add continuation pages as required.]

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ENCLOSURE

## TEEN POST PROJECT - FINAL REPORT

The purpose of the Teen Post Project was to provide recreational alternatives (i.e., activities and facilities) as a means of reducing the incidence of juvenile delinquency and of improving the relationship between teenagers and the Hoboken Police Department. In order to fulfill its purpose, the Teen Post Project had the following objectives:

1. Creating a place teenagers would feel was their own and which would be accessible to them during afternoon, evening and weekend hours.
2. Providing an opportunity for teenagers and the police to meet in an informal atmosphere, in order to establish mutual understanding and lines of communication.
3. Providing opportunities for development and expression through recreation programs and instructive activities.
4. Providing an environment for teenagers to discuss and receive help for their problems through advice from the project staff and through referral to appropriate agencies.

Although approved for funding in April, 1972, the Teen Post Project did not become fully operational until December, 1972. Among the major causes of delay were

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- 1) the need for four different organizational entities (Model Cities Agency, Neighborhood Planning Council, City Department of Public Works and City Council) to participate in and ratify project contract negotiations;
- 2) the need for three of the four entities to participate in the hiring process; 3) the lack of separate program management and administrative experience on the part of the operations agency; and 4) the lack of immediately available space appropriate to the program.

Despite these difficulties, the Teen Post Project did manage to meet its basic objectives. Immediately upon becoming operational, regular weekly dances were held at the Teen Post II Center. These dances each had an average attendance of two hundred to two hundred and fifty teenagers. Live entertainment was furnished by local bands who donated their time. In addition to providing a much desired activity, the dances had the effect of bringing together teenagers of varying ethnicities and from different sections of the City, creating a friendly and harmonious atmosphere not often experienced in Hoboken.

Weightlifting classes also accomplished the goal of bringing teenagers together to the sum of 32 boys enrolled in the classes. A Coffee House was established in one center that served coffee, tea, soda, donuts, cookies, etc. to approximately 50 children per day. Other activities

from 3:00 P.M. to 7: P.M. accommodated about 100 children between the ages six to twelve years in ping pong, floor games and a variety of table games. From 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. both centers made available to teenagers such activities as ping pong, billiards, cards, dominoes, and various other table games. Karate instruction was also given by a qualified instructor who donated his time and skill.

Basketball leagues were formed at Teen Post I which consisted of thirty-five (35) teams in the biddy, midget, junior and senior class with a total of 416 players.

As the contract required, a Teen Council was formed. The Council functioned effectively in indentifying the need for and helping to develop the above activities.

Through the course of on-going teenage discussion groups and individual counseling by staff members, a lot of childrens' problems and family hardships were brought to light. Many of the problems were overcome through the efforts of staff members advising either child or parents or contacting the appropriate existing agencies such as the Welfare Department, Alcoholics Anonymous, NAACP, New Jersey State Employment Service, etc. to satisfy their need. In many instances the policemen assigned to the Police Community Relations Division, housed in the same building as was Teen Post II, were on hand and very expedient and efficient in helping the children and solving their problems whenever possible.

Relationships between teenagers and the police were further improved through the joint undertaking of ventures designed to benefit teenagers. The staff of the Police-Community Relations Program worked together with teenagers on a drive for donations to improve the Teen Post; on a boxing instruction program and on a film program.

As the Teen Post/Coffee House project was nearing its end, the Teen Council members as well as the other participants were literally up in arms over the fact that the funds were exhausted and the Center would have to close. The teenagers themselves made every effort to find a way to keep the Center open or locate another site, possibly donated, so they could continue their recreational activities. Fully aware of their plight and fully realizing the urgent need for recreational activities during the summer months, the Hoboken Model Cities Agency extended the project through September 30, 1973 with HUD supplemental funds.

Funding for continued recreation programs are still being sought by Hoboken Model Cities as well as the City of Hoboken. Having provided recreational services to approximately 800 of the City's youth has brought about an awareness to local residents and City officials as to the real need for such services. Not only would these children have been without this array of recreational

the incidence of juvenile delinquency would have been greater.

A better relationship and understanding between the youth, police and the City has developed because of the project and its efforts towards this goal.

**END**

*7-20-1944*