

REMARKS BY VICE-PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

Freehold, New Jersey

Dedication

Evaluation and Training Center

September 23, 1966

It seems to me, today, as we dedicate this new vocational evaluation center, that Governor Hughes and John C. Bullitt, director of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity, have once more demonstrated their intense dedication to moving New Jersey's disadvantaged people out of poverty.

With the invaluable help of Community Action Program directors Joe Taylor, Milt Zatinski, Colonel Tarver, Ron Ossman and Wilson Coan and, of course NJOEO's Rural Manpower Development Program staff, they have forged this fine undertaking.

With the manpower services this Center is geared to provide, hundreds of rural poor--young and old alike--will gain the vocational prerequisites they have never had before . . . the vocational know-how they need to take their places, with dignity and self-respect, in the economic marketplace of our society.

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In a word, this is opportunity.

One of the most significant things about this Center, I feel, is its emphasis on evaluation. By taking the measure of aptitudes, education, vocational skills and attitudes, realistic training programs can be woven to accommodate individual needs. Only straightforward evaluation can provide those measures and only those measures, coupled with responsive and responsible training programs, can provide meaningful preparation for well-paying, lifetime careers.

Designed by the State's Rural Manpower Development Program, this Center in Freehold is the first of three that will be established in strategic areas of New Jersey to bring maximum vocational benefit to the rural poor of the State. Here, alone, nearly 700 disadvantaged, unskilled people from the central counties of Monmouth, Middlesex, Mercer, Burlington and Ocean will be given this splendid opportunity in the next year.

I believe this is one of the most complete and stimulating manpower programs in the nation today. It not only stands, separately, as a model other states may well follow in the months ahead, it represents a unique approach to the solution of manpower problems.

It also represents the first of a series of Opportunity Centers proposed by New Jersey's Manpower Development Coordinating Committee established by Governor Hughes earlier this year.

In short, it is part of a statewide master manpower plan to provide evaluation, skills training and, ultimately, jobs to the disadvantage everywhere in the States.

This is a glorious achievement. I can say with certainty that the President is proud of it. You must know that I am.

Thank you.



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