

1980

## CAUR Annual Report: 1979-1980

Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR)  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**1979~80**

**Center for  
Applied  
Urban  
Research**



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CENTER FOR APPLIED URBAN RESEARCH  
FOR THE 1979-1980 FISCAL YEAR

Introduction

The annual report for the fiscal year 1979-80 is intended to provide statistical and narrative information related to the activities of CAUR for the period from July 1, 1979 - June 30, 1980. The report is structured to conform to the goals and objectives that were developed by CAUR. This report provides some information related to the activities in striving toward these goals.

GOAL: TO FOSTER A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS CAN GAIN A COMPREHENSIVE AND QUALITY EDUCATION, HELPING TO ENHANCE PERSONAL GROWTH AND TO PREPARE FOR CAREERS IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.

Objective: To be conscious of the potential benefit to students working at CAUR and to utilize students where practical on projects.

Activities

CAUR worked with the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency in administering the HUD 701 student intern program. Through this program three students were placed in work settings enabling them to gain practical work experience.

Also, graduate students were placed with the Center through the Urban Studies and Public Administration departments. One student was selected as a Resource Development Internship Program intern through the Department of Commerce and as part of that internship arrangement undertook a needs assessment of the Long School neighborhood area within the City of Omaha.

Another graduate student spent 15 hours per week working with the village of Louisville undertaking a community survey and utilizing the results of that survey in establishing community goals and objectives and organizing to undertake specific projects. Additionally, this student has assisted Omaha neighborhoods in developing an area-wide organization for mutual support.

A student intern assisted in the research and writing of a plan for the establishment of a Nebraska program for the transfer of science and technology to the public sector. This project was supported by the Denver

Urban Observatory and the National Science Foundation. This same student assisted in writing a community development plan for the City of Norfolk. This project allowed for working with the city government and required appearances at public hearings. Moreover, this same student undertook the review and dissemination of information on legislative bills being considered by the Nebraska Unicameral. Periodic reports of the status of the bills related to CPACS were distributed to the units within the College.

One graduate student was placed at CAUR for his internship program required for his MPA. This graduate student has worked with the staff of CAUR to undertake a study of residential lending patterns in Omaha.

Each of these students has been encouraged to participate in staff meetings and to become a member of our research team.

**GOAL: TO CONDUCT RESEARCH WITH EMPHASIS UPON THE CONCERNS OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR ESPECIALLY AT THE LOCAL AND STATE LEVELS.**

**Objective: To assist state and local entities in undertaking studies related to problem solving/management.**

### Activities

One of CAUR's objectives is to assist state and local entities in undertaking studies related to problem solving and management. During the fiscal year 1979-80 CAUR assisted the City of Norfolk in preparing a community development plan. The goal of that project was to provide a focus for the city's community development block grant and other activities. That report was utilized by the City in setting up a comprehensive three-year strategy for redevelopment of two sections of that community.

In addition, CAUR undertook two separate studies funded by Title V of the Rural Development Act. One study focused upon community leadership styles within communities of 2,500 to 5,000 within the state. The other study focused on the contribution of female entrepreneurs to rural development in communities of 1,000 to 5,000 in Nebraska. Both of these studies have application to public policy related to investment in rural communities.

Two other studies of direct benefit to state agencies were conducted for the Nebraska Mexican-American Commission. One study consisted of doing a needs analysis of the elderly Hispanics in Omaha. This project was then followed by a needs analysis of the elderly Hispanic populations in the Scottsbluff-Gering and Lincoln areas.

A major project undertaken by CAUR during the past fiscal year involved an extensive survey research project for Metropolitan Technical Community College. The objectives of that study were basically threefold. First, Metropolitan Technical Community College wanted information related to their image in the service area. Second, Metropolitan Technical Community College wanted information related to its current class offerings. Third, Metro Tech wanted information related to potential new courses which it should be offering. The survey research project involved over 7,000 surveys and resulted in two dozen written reports.

Objective: To maintain a data base which includes data related to economic and community development in the Omaha metropolitan area and the state.

#### Activities

In the last fiscal year, the Center acquired 439 new publications. Expenditures consisted of \$1,060 for acquisition of books and government publications and \$731 for subscription purchases.

Resource center data resources were used to provide information in response to 193 different requests.

Objective: To serve as a source of new information concerning current issues and research findings.

#### Activities

One of the major ways that information related to research findings is disseminated is through the Review of Applied Urban Research. During the past fiscal year, eight issues of the Review were published and distributed to an average of 2,500 readers.

In addition, State Senator Wesley's interim study committee was assisted in looking at the implications of passage of a statewide building code. Members from CAUR served on the State Housing Advisory Council and various MAPA boards, advised the Nebraska Association of Housing and Redevelopment organizations, served on the United Way of the Midlands committee, were members of the Nebraska Chapter of the Community Development Society (one staff person is the president-elect of that society), participated in the American Planning Association meetings, and serve various community and university-based organizations. Participation in these organizations provides an opportunity to disseminate information and share ideas concerning areas of mutual interest.

Objective: To manage the activities of CAUR in such a manner as to maintain and enhance its professional image.

#### Activities

In order to strive to fulfill this objective, the Center for Applied Urban Research attended and participated in various meetings. Staff provided assistance to local, state, and national organizations. The attached meeting schedule provides some data concerning meeting activities from January - June, 1980 (Attachment A).

Proposal writing is also a major part of CAUR's professional image. A goal of 20 proposals for the last fiscal year was established. That goal was exceeded. Attachments B and C provide information related to proposal writing and depict both successful and unsuccessful efforts.

GOAL: TO OFFER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DESIGNED TO FURTHER PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL, AND ORGANIZATIONAL AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GOALS.

Objective: To provide technical assistance to government, public, semi-public, and volunteer groups.

#### Activities

CAUR assisted government, public, semi-public, and volunteer groups through research and technical assistance.

A community attitude survey in the area surrounding a proposed location for a home for several mentally retarded young adults was conducted by CAUR for the Eastern Nebraska Commission on Retardation (ENCOR). The findings of this study helped ENCOR in determining whether or not to establish such a home at this specific site.

Research was also conducted for the Building Owners and Managers Association of Omaha (BOMA). The findings of this research identified the current problems of the local building owners and managers plus possible programs and projects that BOMA could offer to contribute to the solution of these problems.

The Greater Omaha Fair Housing Center, Inc. requested that CAUR assist them in conducting a housing audit in Omaha. CAUR developed the methodology, trained the testers for the audit, tabulated the data, and prepared the research report for this study.

CAUR provided assistance to the coalition of Omaha neighborhood organizations. In the fall of 1979, the board of the Greater Omaha Community Council perceived a need to reorganize the group the better to assist local neighborhood organizations in their work of improving the quality of life in Omaha communities. The Center for Applied Urban Research was involved in this reorganization in providing assistance and support to the reorganization committees composed of Omaha neighborhood leaders. CAUR continues to support this group and is planning educational programs to be part of the Nebraska Neighborhood Workshop/Convention in October, 1980.

CAUR also has assisted the Community Development Society/Nebraska Chapter in becoming a more effective group. At present, CAUR is involved with the leaders of community development, planning, housing, and zoning groups to establish a state-wide network to encourage professional development, standards, and beneficial interaction between these groups.

As an on-going resource, CAUR is constantly providing information and assistance to local and state-wide groups. As an example of this work, CAUR conducted a session to identify possible community projects for the Franklin Federal Credit Union. After the group chose a project, CAUR assisted them in preparing a proposal for funding for the implementation of the project.

Title XX funds were used by CAUR to provide training for foster parents throughout the state. The concept of that project is to train people who work directly with foster parents. This includes rather extensive training for teams which generally consist of one welfare worker and one foster parent. To date, the Foster Parent Training Program has provided training to support teams throughout the state, and it is now contemplating working with the Department of Public Instruction and the Indian reservations to expand the training programs to those target audiences.

A second Title XX project involving CAUR provided training for day care providers. Over 40 workshops were conducted at locations in Nebraska Department of Public Welfare's Regions I through IV. The total registration in those workshops was well over 500. Moreover, eight newsletters dealing with various aspects of day care services were published and distributed by CAUR. A third phase of the Day Care Project involved developing three home-study curricula. The first of these has been distributed to over 300 day care providers throughout the state.

Involvement with community groups has enabled the Center for Applied Urban Research to provide professional services to a wide range of other groups as well. For example, Children's Memorial Hospital wanted to know to what extent syrup of ipecac was available in households and if people were aware of its use. CAUR conducted a random sample survey of 600 households in the Metro area to provide data related to this concern. The Metro Area Transit Authority, the Metropolitan Utilities District, the Nebraska Mexican-American Commission, and the Junior League were all assisted by CAUR's professional staff in either data gathering or data analysis.

Objective: To develop and implement local research programs designed to facilitate data gathering efforts by external groups.

#### Activities

The Center contributed considerable amounts of technical assistance, ranging from assisting groups in grant development, working with groups in establishing goals and objectives, assisting the organization in doing needs assessments, and providing evaluation research. The organizations with which the Center worked include:

- A) Franklin Community Federal Credit Union
- B) The Urban League of Nebraska
- C) The Chicano Awareness Center
- D) ENCOR
- E) The United Way of the Midlands
- F) The Omaha Neighborhood Coalition
- G) MAPA
- H) The Long School Neighborhood Association
- I) Omaha Fair Housing Center, Inc.
- J) Building Owners and Managers Association
- K) Junior League
- L) Youth Advocacy Committee
- M) National Association of Social Work
- N) Lincoln Indian Center
- O) Omaha Area Council on Alcoholism
- P) Health Planning Council of the Midlands
- Q) Nebraska Mexican-American Commission
- R) Omaha Public Library



Attachment A

Meetings  
1979-80 Fiscal Year

January 1980

- 8 Ruff - State Housing Advisory Council
- 11 Ruff - NMFF  
Frost - Chamber of Commerce
- 16 Nebraska Chapter of CDS
- 17 DiMartino - Nebraska Mexican-American Commission
- 18 Ruff - NAHRO (Columbus)
- 24 Ruff, Williams - Fair Housing Coalition
- 25 Betty Abbott
- 29 Ruff, Williams - Fair Housing Coalition
- 31 DiMartino - APA meeting

February 1980

- 1 Ruff - CCS
- 5 Ruff - SHAC (Lincoln)  
Ruff - DPW  
Frost - Title I
- 8 Burch - To develop advocacy office for children, youth, family
- 12 Frost, DiMartino, CUTUA - CCS
- 14 Frost - HDR
- 16 DiMartino - MAC Board Meeting
- 19 Frost, Burch - Div. of ALCS (Lincoln)
- 28 Title V meeting
- 29 DiMartino - WOW radio

March 1980

- 4 DiMartino - SHAC (Lincoln)
- 5 DiMartino, Frost - CCS
- 7 Frost - Mo. Valley Historical  
DiMartino, Frost - Junior League
- 10 ENCOR meeting
- 12 DiMartino, Frost, Ruff - Shizuoka meeting
- 13 APA/CDS meeting - staff
- 17 Holley - ENCOR
- 21 Frost, DiMartino - CUIUA
- 25 Ruff - MAPA Strategy Task Force
- 26 Holley - Omaha Magazine
- 27 Holley - ENCOR

April 1980

- 1 Ruff - State Housing Advisory Council
- 2 Frost - Health Planning Council
- 7 Holley - Neighborhood leaders
- 8 Burch - DPW
- 16 Ruff - NAHRO
- 23 Frost - OPS (Metro)
- 25 S. Davis - CETA  
Davis - Region 5 Day Care Conference
- 28 Frost - Sociology class
- 29 Andrea Kuhn - Housing Study

May 1980

- 1 Ruff, Holley - Fair Housing Center
- 2 DiMartino - Mexican-American Commission

May 1980, cont.

- 6 Ruff - SHAC-DED (Lincoln)
- 9 Burch, Davis, Holley - Title I meeting (Lincoln)  
Davis - Westside Community Council
- 19 Burch - OACA
- 21 DiMartino - Omaha Sister City Association
- 23 Ruff - League of City Managers
- 27 Frost, Hein - Maenner Co.
- 28 Ruff - SHAC Building Code Task Force

June 1980

- 2 Frost - City Council
- 3 Ruff - SHAC
- 4 Burch, Holley, S. Davis, Ruff, Mayhew - Title I meeting
- 13 Ruff - NAHRO (Lincoln)
- 20 Ruff - Georgia Institute of Government
- 24 Ruff - MAPA Task Force
- 25 Frost - CCS  
Ruff - State Building Code Task Force  
Holley - Christ Child Center

Attachment B

Proposals  
1979-80 Fiscal Year

1. April 16, 1980 CETA - S. Davis
2. May, 1980 Diversified Neighborhoods - S. Davis
3. May 28, 1980 Assessment of Western Technical Community College Area - Ruff
4. June 6, 1980 Health Planning Council of the Midlands - Burch
5. Title I - 4 proposals - Burch
6. S. Davis
7. Holley
8. Ruff
9. March 7, 1980 Litter Proposal - Burch
10. July 23, 1979 Nonmetropolitan Growth and Migrant Service Demands - DiMartino
11. September 11, 1979 Lincoln Indian Center - Burch
12. October, 1979 South Omaha Tour - Williams
13. December 20, 1979 Omaha Northwest Freeway - Frost
14. Day Care Center Transportation - S. Davis
15. July 13, 1979 Train Officials and Board Members of Nebraska's Sanitary and Improvement Districts - Frost
16. Division of Alcohol Evaluation - Burch, Frost
17. July, 1979 Evaluation of Alcohol Education/Prevention Programs - Burch
18. September 10, 1979 Intervention Program for Low-Income Women - Burch
19. October, 1979 Evaluate the Juvenile Aftercare Residential Facility - Burch

## Attachment C

## CAUR GRANTS AND CONTRACTS 1979-80

TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	PURPOSE	LENGTH OF CONTRACT	AMOUNT
Educational Needs Assessment and Impact Survey	METRO TECH	Conduct a comprehensive educational needs assessment and impact survey	7/1/79- 6/27/80	\$ 28,860 10,000
Training of Day Care Providers Regions 1-4 (Title XX)	STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE	Training sessions for Day Care Providers	9/1/79- 8/31/80	\$ 119,142 Agency- 88,244 UNO- 30,898
Foster Parent Training Program	STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE	Train and evaluate foster parent training teams	9/1/79- 10/31/80	\$ 166,712 Agency-124,853 UNO- 41,854
A Study of the Developmental Accomplishments of Community Leaders	TITLE V	Determine benefits of investments in community leadership training in Nebraska	1/1/79- 9/30/79	\$ 10,804.58 Agency- 9,419.25 UNO- 1,385.33
Needs Assessment of Elderly Hispanics I	NEBRASKA MEXICAN-AMERICAN COMMISSION	Survey of service usage by elderly Hispanics in Omaha	12/18/78- 9/29/79	\$ 2,419 Agency- 1,500 UNO- 919
Proposal for a Program Planning and Development Grant	UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA CENTER ON AGING	To determine the need for services by older Mexican-Americans	2/8/79- 9/30/79	\$ 1,182.50
Comprehensive Community Development Plan City of Norfolk	CITY OF NORFOLK	Establish a comprehensive community development plan for the City of Norfolk	7/1/79- 12/31/79	\$ 13,500
Workshops for Professionals in Community Based Corrections	DEPT. OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES-FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT	Workshops	1/1/79- 9/30/79	\$ 10,206

TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	PURPOSE	LENGTH OF CONTRACT	AMOUNT
Nebraska Innovation Center	DENVER OBSERVATORY	Establish a Nebraska Innovation Program	4/7/80-11/30/80	\$ 7,500
Needs Assessment of Elderly Hispanics II Scottsbluff & Lincoln, Nebraska	MEXICAN-AMERICAN COMMISSION	Do a needs assessment study of elderly Hispanics in Lincoln & Scottsbluff, NE	10/1/79-9/1/80	\$ 9,500
Community Goal Achievement Workshop	TITLE IA HEA	Leadership training workshop	7/1/80-3/31/81	\$ 5,126 Agency- 3,235 UNO- 1,891
Mid-Life Career Planning for Nebraska Rural Women	TITLE IA HEA	Provide information to Nebraska women on career opportunities	7/1/80-6/30/81	\$ 16,921 Agency-10,414 UNO- 6,507
Administrative/Business Training for Directors of Day Care & Other Pre-School Programs	TITLE IA HEA	Provide training to child care providers in the State of Nebraska	7/1/80-3/31/81	\$ 20,074 Agency-12,779 UNO- 7,295
Female-Operated Businesses and Rural Development	TITLE V	Study economic and leadership advantages to community	12/1/79-9/1/80	\$ 10,692 Agency- 9,200 UNO- 1,492
Evaluation of MAT Carpooling Program	METRO AREA TRANSIT CO.	Evaluate MAT's carpooling program	2/27/80-3/27/80	\$ 1,500
Alcohol Prevention in Five Secondary Schools	CREIGHTON PREP	Design & implement a project to evaluate the alcohol and counseling program	4/79-5/80	\$ 633
Alcohol Prevention Program in Four Catholic Schools	CREIGHTON PREP AID	Develop staff management system and evaluate teacher training program	7/1/79-7/31/80	\$ 1,500

TITLE	FUNDING AGENCY	PURPOSE	LENGTH OF CONTRACT	AMOUNT
Determining Gas and Water Utility Wages for Omaha	METROPOLITAN UTILITIES DISTRICT	Consulting services	9/21/79-11/14/79	\$ 993.75
Sampling Assistance	SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OMAHA	Select sample of 2,000 & mail questionnaires	11/1/79-11/30/79	\$ 847.00
Study of Poison Control	CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	Construct questionnaire & interview 600 households concerning use of poison control methods & process data	11/15/79-12/21/79	\$ 708.00
Study for the Building Owners & Managers Association of Omaha, Inc.	BUILDING OWNERS & MANAGERS ASSOC. (BOMA)	Construct survey instrument & mail questionnaires Tabulate and analyze data	5/80	\$ 350.00
Evaluation of the Alcohol Prevention Programs 1973-June 1979	NEBRASKA CENTER FOR ALCOHOL ABUSE & PREVENTION (UNL)	Evaluate the alcohol prevention programs funded by the Nebraska Division of Alcohol	9/15/79-1/31/80	\$ 3,000.00

