

CASA DE AMIGOS
A Christian Social Service Center
921 N. Dallas, P. O. Box 3137
Midland, Texas
Phone 682-1761

THE CASA CALLER

AUGUST, 197



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Vice Chairman (Finance): Howard
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Grissett
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Volunteer Chairman: Mrs. Margaret
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Casa Careers: Mrs. W. J. (Terry)
Fisher
Director: Marcia Ingram

CASA DE AMIGOS has been reaching about 150 children every week through its SUMMER PROGRAM. About 30 pre-school children are attending bilingual pre-school. Jo Gollnick has worked with 25 teenage girls twice a week to teach them Sewing skills. Mrs. Gene Reddell has been working with young girls in a "Smile and Style" grooming class. Boys and girls, third through sixth grades, attended a series of Art classes taught on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons by Midland artist Dorothy Peterson. One of the most successful facets of Casa's summer programs has been the Boys' Club. Every afternoon Joel Granado and Abel Natividad spent two hours with about 20 boys living in the area of the Casa. Officer Camirillo of the Midland Police Department has visited with the boys weekly to acquaint them with the workings of the law and also to promote better relations between the youths and the police department. In addition, the boys have had one swimming day per week, free of charge, at Hogan Park Pool. Fr. Verbrugge offered the use of St. Ann's gym for indoor recreation, and Midge Erskine,

member of the Sierra Club, has met with the boys several times for interesting discussions of ecology, nature, and wildlife.

Five neighborhood Youth Corps girls have been employed by the Casa for this summer. They are Martha Lopez, Celia Natividad, Belinda Brown, Fredonia Swindell, and Cynthia Webb. They have been involved in home visiting, pre-school programs, and office work.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES: Casa is no longer renting the building at 906 N. Dallas. Facilities have been completely moved to the building that Casa owns at 921 N. Dallas. There, Mr. W. J. Grissett has supervised renovation of the building's interior and redecoration of the rummage room. Fr. Garcia of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will work with a group of boys to paint the exterior of the Casa. In addition, Casa has been renting space at St. Andrew's Church in which to hold all the summer classes.

ADVISORY BOARD: Casa de Amigos is pleased that many citizens of Midland have offered their help to Casa for special situation advice. These people are: Bill Collins, Reporter-Telegram; Sherriff Ed Darnell; Joe Dominey, KMID-TV; Fr. Garcia, Assistant Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe; W. H. Gilmore Jr., independent; Mrs. Harvey Herd (Harriet); Bob Hicks, KWEL; Jim Hooker, Gibson's; Mrs. Bernie House (Patty); C. J. Kelly, First National Bank; Ted Kruger, Kruger Jewelry; Fire Chief Melvin Little; Dr. James Mailey, Superintendent of Schools; Fred Perry, KCRS; Attorney Tom R. Scott, Bullock and Scott; Ralph Slagle, Midland Independent School District; M. M. Steger, Business Manager of Electricians' Union; Mrs. Gail Stoddard (Junia), League of Women Voters; Dr. Alberto Torres; Chief of Police Harold Wallace; and Bob Watkins, Sears and Roebuck.

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AUTUMN PLANS: Activities are underway to form a Folk Crafts Guild for the women participating in Casa de Amigos. Dorothy Peterson will conduct classes in paper flower making. After taking instruction classes, each lady will be encouraged to make flowers at her home. The flowers will be sold throughout Midland with all profits going directly to the ladies. It is hoped that this program will expand into more art objects and Christmas decorations.

Casa de Amigos also plans to initiate a comprehensive tutoring program which will concentrate on elementary-age children. Many, many volunteers will be needed as

expectations are to work on a one-to-one basis. High school students, college students, adults--you are needed! Please call the Casa at 682-1761 to volunteer.

Other needs: Preschool and transportation volunteers; comic books; magazines of special interest to boys, such as Popular Mechanics; good rummage; toys and games in good condition; piece goods; and scissors. Please call the Casa.

CASA CAREERS

On May 20, 13 students received Certificates of Completion for the third Casa Careers Professional Cleaning Course. These classes will resume in September, with Midland Memorial Hospital and Reporter-Telegram personnel already pre-registered.

The Casa Careers SUMMER PROGRAM has had an emphasis on youth. On June 14, a "Read-In Room" was opened at Carver Learning Center. It was staffed by ten Neighborhood Youth Corps Workers and stocked with donated books and magazines, as well as a borrowers' collection of children's books from the Public Library. Under the direction of Amy Hitt, a supervised play and story-time for preschoolers was offered each morning Monday through Friday, while two groups of older children were involved in tutoring and handcraft projects. Attendance averaged 55 children. The Read-In Room was open to everyone in the afternoon, with materials for borrowing or browsing. Alfred Morales was in charge.

The young people who have worked there have been provided with a Careers showcase. They were given an intensive training program which included instructions in story-telling, group management techniques, music, tutoring, program planning, and library procedures, all taught by qualified people experienced in these areas. Each worker was encouraged to develop his own talents and ideas.

The Read-In Room program was closed on July 30 but will be re-opened in September.

WE LOVE TO TELL THE STORY, and would be pleased at the opportunity to talk about Casa to your organization. Please call 694-8049 or the Casa.

If undeliverable, please
return to

3204 Camarie
Midland, Texas 79701