

THE CASA CALLER  
Casa de Amigos  
928 No. Dallas  
Midland, Texas  
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Director: Marcia Ingram September 1976

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TIME FOR TUTORS ..... to volunteer for the fall program. Beginning on September 20th, one to one tutoring will be offered to more than twenty children per week. Each child meets with his or her personal tutor twice weekly either Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. Supervisors have already offered their time. Do you have two hours a week to help as a tutor? Sessions are from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Orientation for volunteer tutors is scheduled for September 13th at 3:30. All interested persons are urged to call Casa. Resource teachers from MISD are available to evaluate what sort of help each student needs and assist in developing a plan of work to be followed by students and tutors. Former tutors assure us that this work is a most rewarding experience. Do help if you can.

#### THANKS TO

Ortloff Corporation, Dean Stoltz, and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Bell for tickets for Casa youngsters to attend Midland Community Theater Pickwick Productions;

Lisa Smith and Lee Wagner for their help with summer tutoring and other summer programs;

Memorial Christian Church and Mildred's Flowers for providing floral bouquets to our senior citizens celebrating birthdays;

Ben Hoffacker for xeroxing tutoring materials;

And to all our generous donors who remember Casa with clothing, furniture and miscellaneous items.

CONGRATULATIONS ..... To Harry Clark and Fred Kester and other members of the Midland Housing Authority on their successful efforts to obtain housing for the elderly and handicapped. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held August 3rd on the new 100-unit facility.

DISCRETIONARY FUND....provides funds for extreme emergencies when other help cannot be found. We gratefully acknowledge recent contributors to this fund:

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Liljestrang

Maxine Hannifin

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bean

Memorial for Mr. Val Livingston from Mr. & Mrs. Tom Nelson

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Wilmeth

St. Nicholas Womens Club

First Christian Church

SOMETHING NEW....is being added..a motor development play area. We have felt for some time that a playground could be a useful addition to the tutoring program as well as providing a recreational area for the children in the neighborhood. Several of the children in the tutoring pro-

tutoring program as well as providing a recreation area for children in the neighborhood. Several of the children in the tutoring program have learning disabilities; and our advisors say that a planned program of physical activity in conjunction with tutoring would be of benefit to these children. We are now clearing the lot next to Casa that to Lock Construction Company. Phil Dowbow of Scout troop 51 is in the process of making some very innovative recreational equipment and other equipment has been acquired from a generous donor. Much needed is a concrete slab 20' x 36' which could be used for a multitude of activities. The public library has some excellent books on how to make equipment suitable for the needs of these youngsters. If your church or civic group is interested in furnishing a piece of equipment, please let us know. Helen Cronenburg, one of our tutoring supervisors, has had previous experience working with learning disabled children in a physical activity program and has consented to work with us on this project.

## CASA CALLER

**HOUSING** Casa is most pleased that the Midland City Council has increased the allotment of 1976 Community Development funds for rehabilitation of owner occupied homes from \$43,000 to \$160,000. This is certainly a step in the right direction and an encouraging sign of heightened awareness of the many housing related problems in south and east Midland.

Two of the most pressing problems we face are finding effective means to enforce city building codes and the almost total absence of funds available for mortgage loans for our areas. Several other cities in Texas are exploring new approaches to the mortgage loan problem. The Board of Directors of Casa is gathering information from many sources on the viability of these and other plans and will be cooperating with the City and County of Midland as well as local lending institutions to find the best answers for us.

**QUILTING** Volunteers to help teach quilting to the women at Casa are needed. Diane Holly has been a faithful helper and needs some assistance.

**PACE** (Plan Ahead for Careers & Education) . . . has been funded through 1976 with a special grant from United Way. Pace is aimed at providing counselling service to the troubled student, the dropout or potential dropout. Through PACE, we hope to decrease the number of dropout students in the schools. JOe Williams, director of PACE, is available at Casa Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-7 p.m. and Saturdays 8-1. Call the Casa anytime if you know of a student needing help. We will need tutors this fall who are qualified to teach junior high and high school students served by this program. These students will be tutored twice a week during the school year.

**NEEDED** Filing cabinets for our tutoring program.

**TRANSPORTATION** Permian Basin Regional Planning is completing a transportation study for Midland-Odessa. The results of this study will be provided to the respective city councils sometime in August. We sincerely hope our city council will give consideration to a city-wide transportation system, so badly needed by many Midland residents. Transportation is a serious problem for a great many senior citizens throughout the city. So often we talk to mothers on welfare who are anxious to lead productive lives and provide support for their children, but without transportation, this can be very difficult. Each month, Casa answers an average of 600 transportation calls--there are other community agencies also involved in providing transportation. We all agree that this is one of Midland's priority needs and hope for citizen support when it is presented to the Council.

**AND SPEAKING OF THAT PROBLEM.** . . . Casa has been working with a family from Chile with a four year old child who does not speak English. She could benefit from attending a bilingual program but the family does not own a car. Bilingual programs are available on the east side and transportation is needed for the child from the Yucca Tan Apartments. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who might be able to help in this rather unique situation.

**SPECIAL TUTORING MATERIALS.** . . are needed and they cost money. Can You help? For further information, please call Casa.

**HELP WANTED** . . a new editor for Casa Caller. No special skills needed, ~~aside from rudimentary English and simple typing ability.~~ The job requires about three hours work, 4 times a year. If a weekly ~~for you, maybe this is your niche~~

job requires about three hours work, 4 times a year. If a weekly volunteer commitment is too much for you, maybe this is your niche at Casa. Work can be done at home. Call Marcia Ingram at Casa if you are interested.

JUST A REMINDER . . . The lovely arts and handicrafts of the Casa Crafts Guild are always available at Casa. They serve to preserve an art form and provide income to the artisans. Remember these items when planning a gift list.