





1977-78 JASC Board

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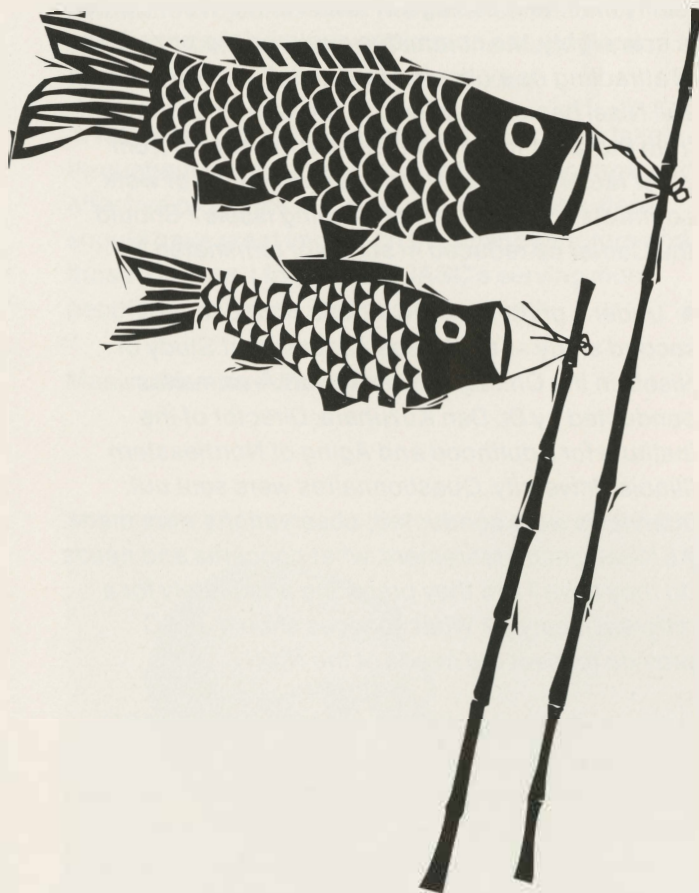
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President's Report

Periodically, every organization must take stock of itself. It should review where it has been and determine what new directions it must take to stay in stride with or be in the vanguard of changing times and needs. For the Japanese American Service Committee, this process of assessment and renewal began during the 1977-78 program year. The Board of Directors appointed a Long Range Study Committee under the chairmanship of Kiyo Yoshimura to evaluate present programs and services and to enlist community input in determining what JASC should be doing five to ten years from now.

To help give direction to the future of the agency, three separate studies were conducted:

- *Board member Hiroshi Kanno headed a committee of professionals in the field of gerontology to assess the Senior Citizens Work Center. Faced with the reality that the mean age of Isseis in the Work Center is now eighty, the committee explored the possibility of attracting new clients. Hard questions were asked: Will Nisei become involved in the Center as they retire from the labor force? What about the elderly from other racial and ethnic groups? What type of work contracts are suitable for the aging Isseis? Should the Center be reduced in scope or terminated?*

- *Under a grant from the Woods Foundation, a second study — the Needs Assessment Study of Niseis in the Chicago Metropolitan Area — was conducted by Dr. Dan Kuzuhara, Director of the Institute for Adulthood and Aging of Northeastern Illinois University. Questionnaires were sent out; interviews were conducted; observations were made. As Niseis reach retirement, what concerns and needs do they have? Are they preparing adequately for a different lifestyle? What services should JASC provide to meet the needs of the Nisei?*

- *As costs of operating an agency such as JASC have been rising rapidly, the third study had to do with financial development and public relations. John De Michele and Associates were contracted to do a feasibility study in which they explored sources for new funds for JASC. Subsequently, the firm was hired to conduct a major capital fund campaign over a three-year period. There is great need for the JASC to diversify its funding base so that it will not be necessary to curtail services or reduce staff as we*

have had to do this year because of financial pressures in the Work Center.

In the meantime, concern for the lack of privacy and the congestion in the office area resulted in the Board's approving a renovation project. Mieki Hayano, a long-time Board member and supporter of JASC, designed a new layout for our offices. This newly remodeled space should produce more effective and efficient service delivery.

As Board President, I am grateful to the Board members for their continued commitment and support in making the difficult decisions that will move the agency forward; to the staff who have repeatedly worked beyond the call of duty in providing services to clients and also in participating in Board-sponsored fund-raising and public relations events. Many, many other persons have given precious time and money to assist us in our work. It is all of us together who have made JASC what it is today—an agency with a nationwide reputation as a model self-help effort.

Lillian C. Kimura / *President, Board of Directors*



Executive Director's Report

The 1977-78 agency year was filled with events and projects that should have far-reaching effects on the future of the Japanese American Service Committee. As the President points out in her report, three research projects were conducted to shape that future.

Concerned about the aging Issei participants in the sheltered workshop program as well as other vulnerable and handicapped elderly in the community, JASC was ready to react when the possibility of new funds arose for programs to serve this segment of the population. The new funds are expected to become available as the result of the Governor's proposal to provide federal matching funds in meeting critical social service needs in Illinois. The United Way of Metropolitan Chicago in turn agreed to provide a portion of the local matching funds to private service providers.

The program proposed by the JASC, with Board approval, would provide a Day Care Center for the Elderly to meet the changing needs of the Issei elderly and prevent their being institutionalized. Applications for funding have been submitted to both the Illinois Department on Aging and the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens and the Handicapped. It is expected that funds will be made available under Title V of the Older Americans Act to renovate a part of the sheltered workshop area—approximately 2000 square feet—to serve as the Day Care Center for the Elderly.

The proposed Day Care Center for the Elderly is expected to be implemented in the coming year to meet the needs of persons who should remain in a familiar environment rather than be placed in institutions. This program should also assist Niseis and other children of senior citizens by alleviating emotional and psychological stress in caring for their elderly.

Another renovation project has been completed to transform the JASC office area, providing a warmer and more inviting atmosphere at the building's entrance and more effective quarters for the professional staff and the agency's clients.

Significant shifts in the content of the programs have been taking place during the past few years. In view of the aging condition of the Isseis in the sheltered workshop program, the chief focus has been on the

program's therapeutic value. At the same time, more emphasis has been placed on counseling to prepare the Issei clients for alternative programs such as the Day Care Center. Programs originally designed for Isseis—homemaker service, arts and crafts classes, cultural and educational programs, and casework counseling—have been expanded to accommodate the increasing number of Niseis and Sanseis coming to the agency for these services.

The improved liaison with the Illinois Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and its counselors' recognition of the capabilities of JASC facilities and staff have resulted in our serving more DVR clients this year than in the past. We look forward to our continued partnership with DVR.

The financial difficulties experienced during the first half of the 1977-78 fiscal year necessitated reductions in the staff and the agency budget. However, improved funding and careful management made it possible to reduce the year-end deficit far below the projected sum. The fiscal condition of the agency should be improved after the Major Fund Raising Campaign has been concluded.

In retrospect, I feel that significant steps were taken throughout the past year to pave the way for new and effective programs in the community. These steps should have great impact on the agency's future and those it serves. I foresee the JASC's serving more people, more needs, and in greater depth.

Masaru Nambu / *Executive Director*



Social Services

The Social Service Department of the Japanese American Service Committee offers individual and family counseling; information and referral service; educational, cultural, and social programs; homemaker services; meals-on-wheels and hot lunch programs; health-related programs; outreach services; and a library.

The educational and cultural programs consist of lecture series on various subjects; English and Japanese language classes; orientation to the American way of life; movies; chorus; arts and crafts—cooking, ceramics, amimono, flower arrangement, karuta-kai, harie, quilting, sewing, temari-making, parasol-making, Japanese doll-making, bead craft, silk flower making; and shodo and penji.

The social program, primarily for Isseis, features monthly parties and outings. The past year's activities included movies; blueberry picking in Indiana; a picnic in Schiller Woods; and visits to the Milwaukee Zoo, Starved Rock State Park, Northbrook Shopping Center, the Culture Center at the Chicago Public Library, the Field Museum, Arlington Park Race Track, and Delavan, Wisconsin.

In-home services—cleaning, shopping, laundry, and cooking—were made available to homebound clients. Some 53 Isseis, 11 Niseis, and 18 Japanese nationals were served in this program in 1977-78.

On weekends around the noon hour, the JASC is the scene of the Golden Diners Club. Under Title VII of the Older Americans Act, hot lunches are offered to persons 60 years and over at 50¢ to \$1.25, depending on ability to pay. No one is refused because of inability to pay. With a daily average of 88 participants, 83 percent are Isseis and the remaining 17 percent come from the community. For the homebound, a meals-on-wheels service is offered three times a week.

The health-related program encompasses blood-pressure checks, dental care, flu shots, foot examinations, diabetic detection tests, glaucoma tests, body dynamics, and lectures on health care.

In the JASC Library both English and Japanese books are available, many of which have been donated by the Chicago Public Library. Many of the books and pamphlets are on subjects related to Japanese Americans. The library is open on week days from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

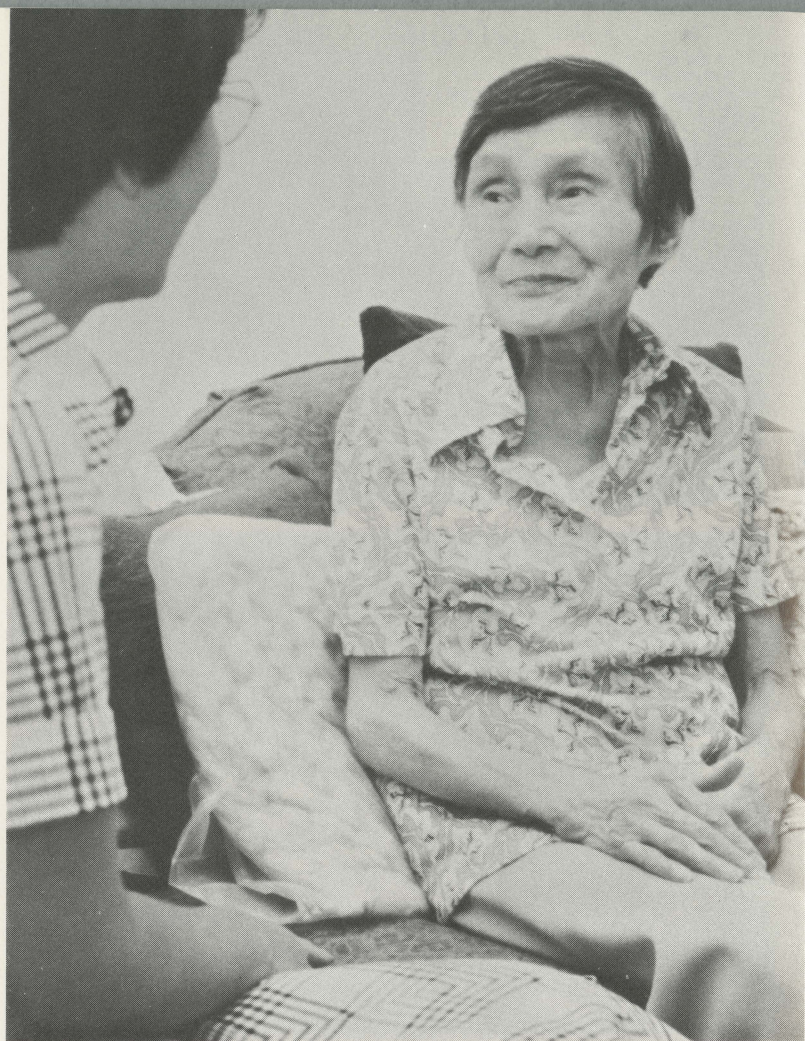
The JASC reaches out door-to-door and into the community to promote awareness of the services it offers. It also works through community organizations to identify potential clients.

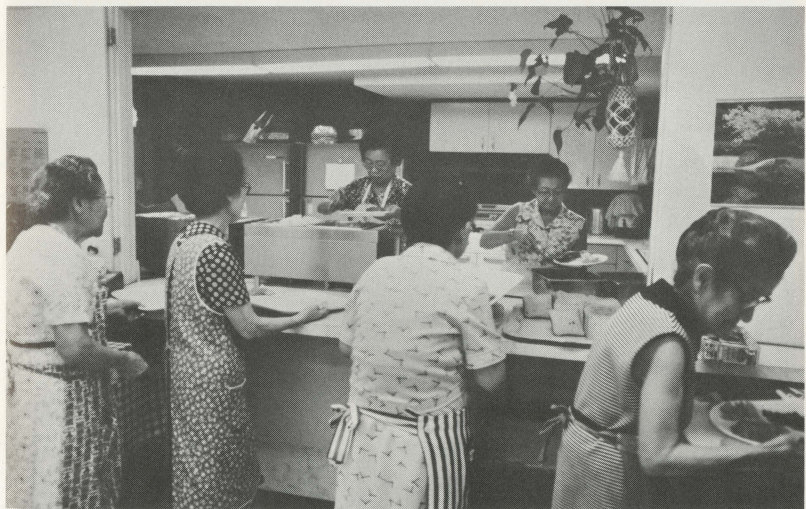
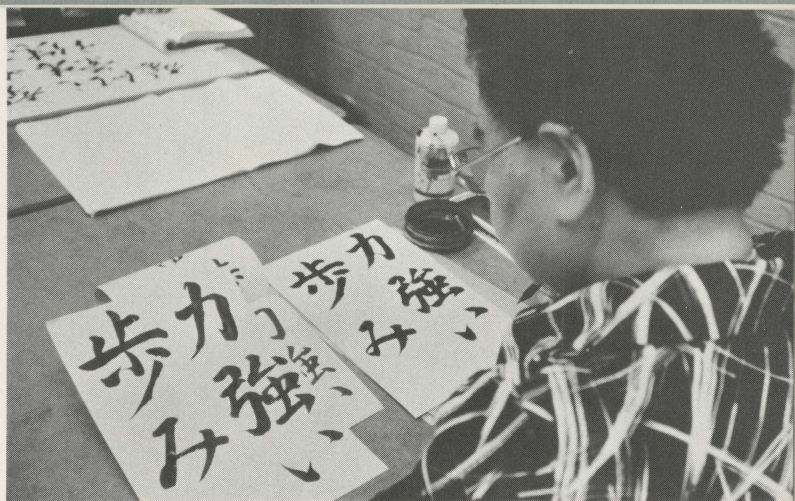
The staff of 16 includes professional social workers, homemakers, group workers, teachers, and aides. Under the direction of this staff, some eighty volunteers make it possible for the JASC to carry out its many programs. Out of the ranks of the volunteers come instructors for the classes, hot lunch program helpers to serve meals, doctors and nurses for the medical programs, those skilled in arts and crafts to make handicraft items for Market Day, friendly visitors for the isolated elderly, interpreters for the various programs, helpers for special events, homemakers to visit the homebound, and persons to deliver the meals-on-wheels and to escort clients.

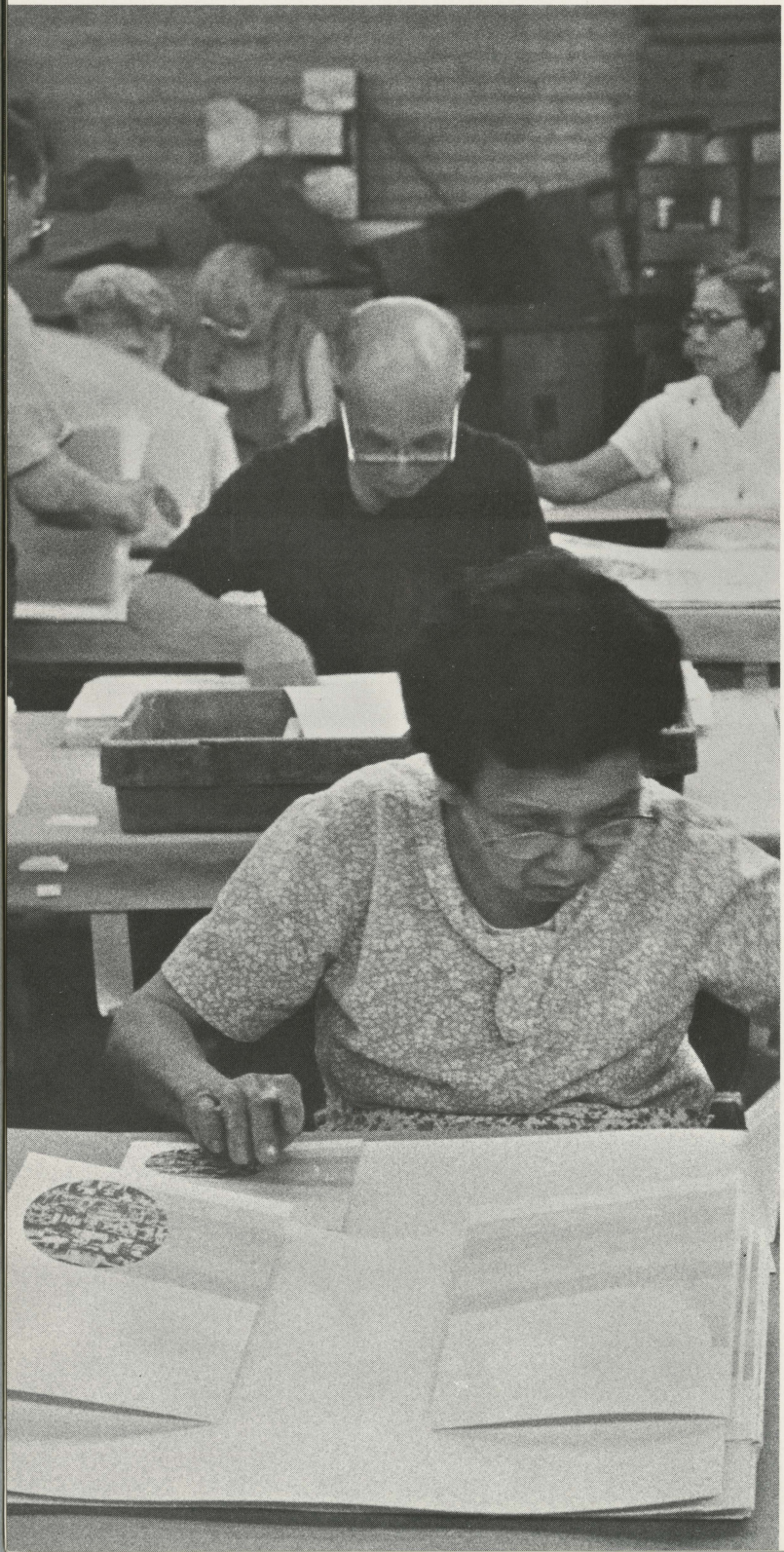
Summer activities for young children and intergenerational cultural programs were new services offered during the past year. Other new programs are in the offing for the near future, the most prominent of which will be the Day Care Program for the Elderly. This, along with the opening of Heiwa Terrace, will necessitate increased activity in counseling, in-home services, and cultural programs.

The Social Service Department receives part of its support from the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago and the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens and the Handicapped.









Sheltered Workshop

The major purpose of the JASC Senior Citizens Work Center is to provide effective therapy in dealing with the clients' physical and psychological problems of aging. The activities and climate offered by the sheltered workshop are designed to retard, arrest, or reverse the negative psychological aspects of aging. These include social isolation, emotional regression, problems arising from major role changes, and depression following personal or health loss.

For persons at the poverty level, even with aid from social security and other financial resources, the sheltered workshop offers remunerative employment. This can have profound effects in strengthening the ego, weakened through loss of customary productive roles; in relieving and reducing stresses arising from enforced inactivity and reduced income; and in fostering successful aging.

The sense of belonging, the ability to contribute to the welfare of others, and maintaining the uniqueness as Japanese are important to the Issei. The increasing dependency of the Issei calls for considerable support from their peers and groups such as the Senior Citizens Work Center and the Japanese American Service Committee.

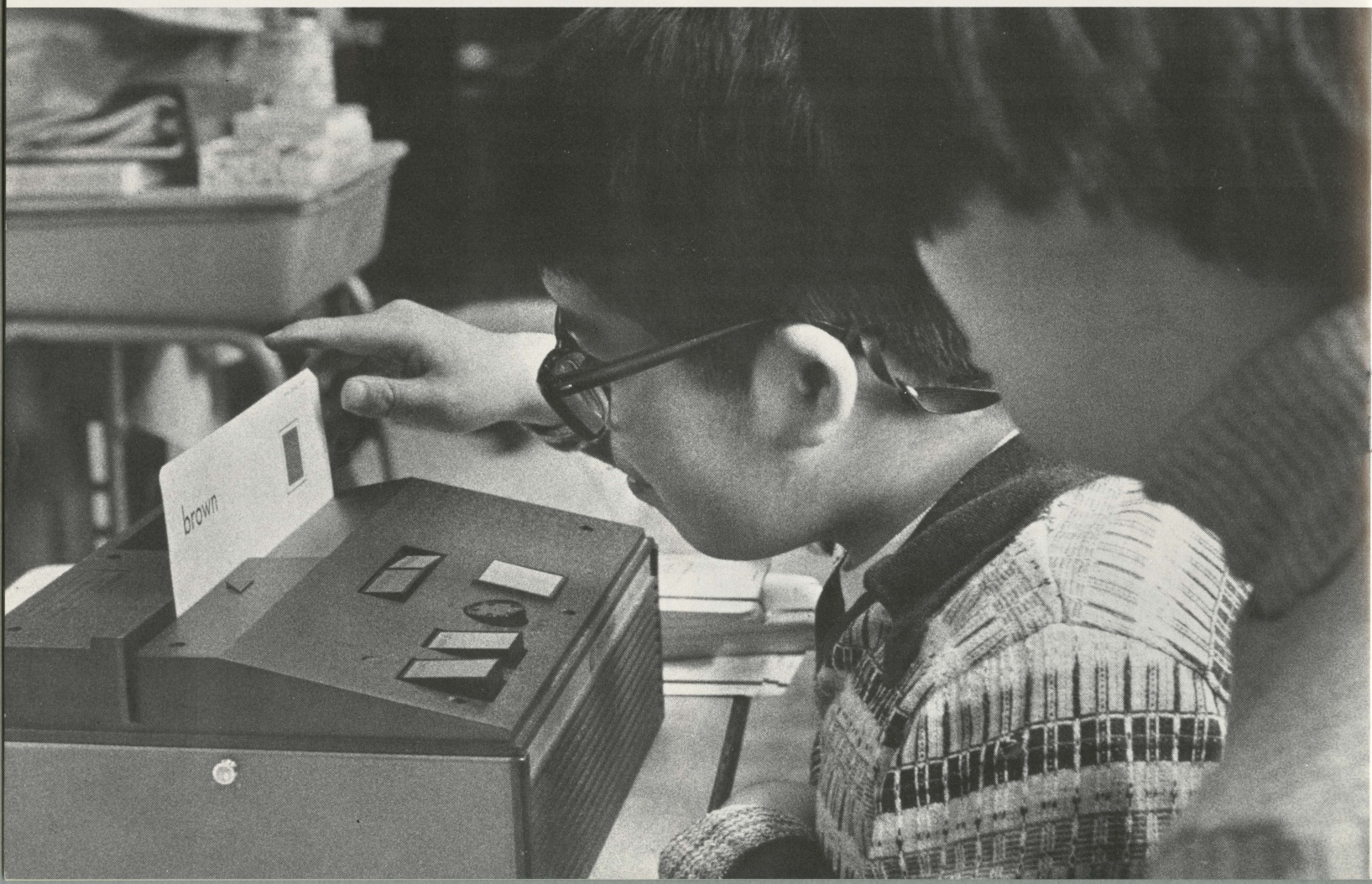
In addition to Isseis and a few Nisei retirees, the sheltered workshop also serves clients referred by the Edgewater Uptown Community Mental Health Center, with which JASC is affiliated. For this service, JASC receives funds from the Illinois Department of Mental Health and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Vocational Evaluation Job Training

Working with the Illinois Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, JASC conducts a rehabilitation program for psychiatric aftercare patients, 70 percent of whom are residents of sheltered-care facilities. Although rehabilitation programs are generally available to this population in the Chicago area, they tend to be limited in time. They also screen out persons unlikely to be rehabilitated for competitive employment because of serious and chronic psychological and related functional impairment, age, etc.

The JASC sheltered workshop, on the other hand, is almost unique in the area in offering long-term sheltered employment. The program is also unusual in that it provides an opportunity for psychiatric aftercare patients to work side by side with and to perform the same tasks as the psychiatrically "normal" retired older workers who have developed work identities and work habits. The structured, remunerative vocational activity is based on the importance of work to the individual in shaping his identity and self-esteem.

The vocational evaluation and work adjustment training services are offered to prepare clients for competitive employment. The extended employment program is designed for therapeutic long-term vocational participation, especially by chronically mentally ill individuals in conformity with the standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and as part of the comprehensive network of services offered by a community mental health center. Individual supportive and vocational counseling and structured social activities are also offered by the program. Emphasis is placed on cooperation and communication with the residential outpatient clinics and other agencies of primary treatment serving the clients.



Blood Assurance Plan

Approximately 6000 individuals are covered by the JASC Blood Assurance Plan. This benefit is available to all JASC members and the immediate members of their families.

Members of the organization are called upon to donate blood. The donation drives were conducted on two days during the past year, one in June and the other in November. With 4 percent of the membership donating blood, the quota of 240 pints was exceeded by 27 pints.

Heiwa Terrace

The plan to build the Heiwa Terrace was initially approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for a loan under Section 202 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The initial loan of 5.4 million dollars was increased to 6.4 million dollars, due to escalating construction costs.

As its year came to a close on June 30, JASC looked forward to the ground-breaking ceremony scheduled for July 8 and the beginning of construction in the fall. Of the five proposed projects approved for funding in Illinois in 1976, only Heiwa Terrace had advanced to the ground-breaking stage.

Heiwa Terrace will have 200 one-bedroom apartment units, with each apartment tied to the Section 8 rent subsidy. The construction site is located at the northeast corner of Lawrence and Sheridan.

Receipts from the fund-raising campaign for amenities and expenses not covered by the government loan now total over \$180,000. The generous response from the community is greatly appreciated.

Hand in Hand

Since 1969 the JASC has sponsored a group with the purpose of increasing public awareness of the problems and possibilities of exceptional children and of providing support for their parents.

The children receive biweekly speech therapy on Saturday mornings at the Sacred Heart Academy. A volunteer speech therapist provides help to supplement their regular educational program.

The parents meet monthly at the JASC to participate in a support group and to gain information and insight from guest speakers. An annual picnic and a Christmas dinner program bring the parents, children, and their friends together.

Project Hope

A small band of individuals concerned about supporting each other in times of serious illness and bereavement formed a self-help group that meets biweekly. The group is affiliated with the parent Project Hope organization headquartered at Northeastern Illinois University.

The JASC Project Hope group held a potluck supper and open house early in 1978 to acquaint guests with its existence and purposes. It also sponsored a workshop in the spring. Providing information in a question-and-answer session on such subjects as medical insurance, Medicare, and legal preparations related to serious illness and death were representatives of Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Social Security Administration, the insurance industry, and the legal profession.

JASC Project Hope meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at Northeastern Illinois University. It welcomes anyone needing or wishing to give support.

Fund-raising Program

Early in the year, the JASC commissioned a study to explore the proper directions for seeking support from the broader community. The results of this study clearly showed us that there was a need for better working spaces to serve our people, a desire to have a cultural-educational room to which friends of Japanese Americans could learn more about our traditions, and a real interest for JASC to share our experiences with other Asians who are now newcomers, and finally an expressed need for a special fund to help JASC maintain programs during periods of cash flow difficulties.

The Board approved a \$300,000 special campaign to be conducted over a three-year period to help achieve the above goals while expanding our annual funding activities.

Japanese American Service Committee

Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the year ended June 30, 1978

Revenue:

Philanthropic Support	\$ 92,057
Government Support	158,539
Sheltered Workshop	347,707
Others	<u>47,929</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$646,232</u>

Expenses:

Program Services	\$558,429
Supporting Services	<u>97,841</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$656,270</u>
Deficiency	<u>(\$ 10,038)</u>

The 1978 fiscal year shows a deficit of \$10,038. A substantial portion of the deficit was caused by the sheltered workshop sub-contract income not meeting the budgeted level.

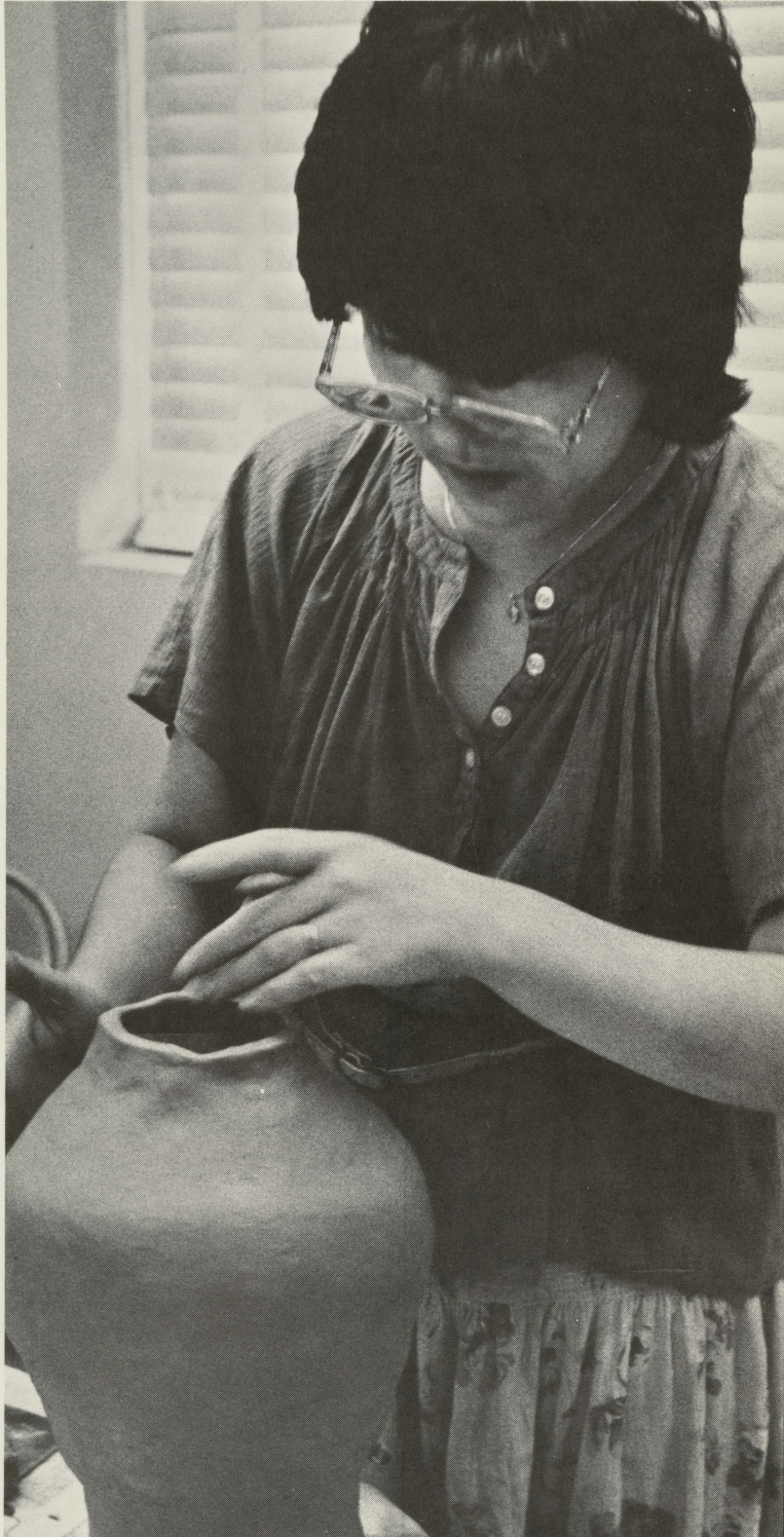
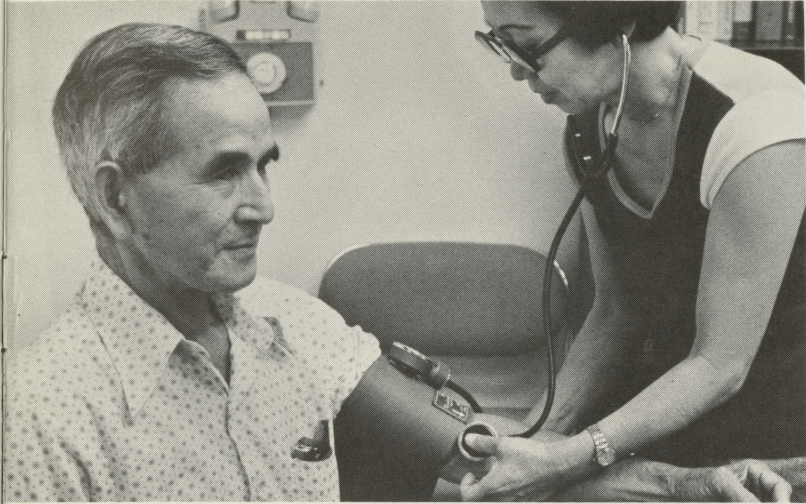
Anyone who wishes further information can view at our office a copy of our financial statements audited by Gale, Takahashi & Channon.

GALE, TAKAHASHI & CHANNON

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