

**JAPANESE AMERICAN
SERVICE COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT
1974-1975**



JASC

Japanese American Service Committee

Report from the President

1975 marks the thirtieth year of service to the Japanese community of Chicago by the Japanese American Service Committee. Originally called the Chicago Resettlers Committee, it was established to assist persons of Japanese ancestry in the relocation process to this city from concentration camps where they had been detained for the duration of World War II.

Although most Nikkei, in the intervening years, have made satisfactory adjustments to living in the Midwest, JASC as an agency continues to exist because there are still problems and needs peculiar to our group which must be alleviated.

This past year, the Board of Directors approved a remodeling project so that the activities area could be made more functional and attractive. This has resulted in a significant increase in participation, not only by Issei, but also by non-Japanese senior citizens of the Uptown area and by Nisei and Sansei.

Through a grant from the Administration on Aging to the national Japanese American Citizens League, JASC took over the Gerontology project to develop training materials for students of social work and providers of human services so that they can better understand the needs and problems of the Issei elderly. Through the development of video tape, film and written materials, this project will also serve to acquaint our Sansei with their cultural heritage.

The Community Development Act of 1974 provided the impetus for JASC to form a



committee on housing for the elderly. Under the chairmanship of Thomas Teraji, the committee has spent many hours determining the course of action. The next steps will be to undertake a feasibility study and to involve the community in the decision to build a high rise project for senior citizens.

Dr. George Kittaka, chairman of the Nursing Home Care Committee, worked with others to conduct a survey of the community for the need for nursing home services. The recommendation from this committee led to the creation of a Homemaker program as a support service to assist Issei to continue to live independently and avoid institutionalization for as long as possible.

In cooperation with the Japanese

Executive Director's Report

American Citizens League, members of JASC undertook an Asian Voter Registration Drive to encourage Asians to take the first step in participatory government. The large number of Asian residents in the 48th Ward may make it possible some day for an Asian American to hold an elected office.

As we look to the year ahead—the bicentennial celebration of this nation—we see increased attention being paid to Asian peoples caused by the large influx of Asian immigrants and the current controversy on the resettlement of Vietnam refugees in this country. These may give rise to increased

racist reaction by the majority population. All Asians must band with others of good will to prevent this from happening.

1975 is also International Women's Year as decreed by the United Nations. JASC hopes to sponsor a program in which Asian women can begin to realize their full potential and to work with vigor for a better society.

For the past thirty years, the Japanese community of Chicago has responded generously to the call for support. As we move into our 31st year, we continue to ask you to be PEOPLE—SHARING AND CARING.

Lillian C. Kimura

As the Japanese American Service Committee concludes its 30th year in 1975, it is gratifying to note the many significant contributions the agency has made to the Chicago Metropolitan area. 1974-75 has again been a year of progress and achievement for the JASC in its continuing efforts to meet the ever-changing needs in our community.

A long-awaited dream was realized in November, 1974, when the Issei Drop-In Center was opened with an immediate expansion of all services and programs for Issei. Complete renovation of this part of the building has resulted in a more attractive and larger space for the Nutrition Program for Senior Citizens and other activities. The same facilities are now being used during evening hours by Nisei and Sansei groups. Com-

munity use of the building has seen a six-fold rise.

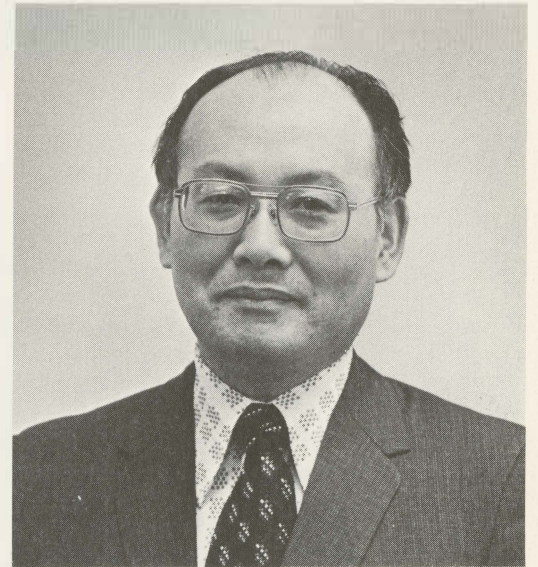
The Issei Comprehensive Program continues to provide vital life services for our aged. A large number of volunteers from the community forms the core of the delivery system for all services. Employment of a bilingual homemaker has enabled the agency to extend further its help toward those isolated individuals and families who have no other way to maintain self-sufficient lives which they prefer to institutionalized ones. Counseling services in Japanese have been expanded to provide increased support to elderly Issei whose advancing age has intensified the need for help in coping with problems brought on by physical and emotional isolation.

The sheltered workshop program, the

Senior Citizens Work Center, has been a very important and effective part of JASC services to both the Japanese community and the community at large. Through the year, the Work Center served 120 individuals, of whom 59% were Issei, 5% Nisei, 4% other elderly persons, and 32% clients from the Edgewater-Uptown Community Mental Health Center. The agency has paid special attention to programming in the Work Center for total well-being and better adjusted life styles for all clients. It should be noted that there has been a gradual but noticeable increase of Nisei and other Asian elderly participating in this program. Efficient management has kept sub-contracts coming to the JASC in spite of the discouraging present economy.

Following the tradition of facing changing needs with imagination and a sense of responsibility for the future, the leadership of JASC is now concerned with the anticipated needs of Nisei in Chicago as they face retirement in the next 5 to 10 years. The present feasibility study of community attitudes toward a senior citizens housing project is expected to confirm a long surmised need for congregate housing with appropriate social and medical services for residents. Along with housing needs, the agency is continuing its study of program possibilities for Nisei.

Although the JASC has had a very fruitful year, it is very aware of other unmet needs in the community. With the firm conviction that we are our brothers' keepers, the JASC will



continue to be responsive and innovative in planning and imaginative in developing a partnership with our community leadership to provide more comprehensive and caring services for Issei, Nisei, Sansei and others in need. At the same time, the agency will continue to develop financial resources, improved management and service effectiveness, keeping in mind the hundreds and thousands of people we serve and will be serving in the future. This is the ultimate inspiration which binds us all and stimulates us to move aggressively and effectively into the future.

Masaru Nambu
Executive Director



Social Service Division

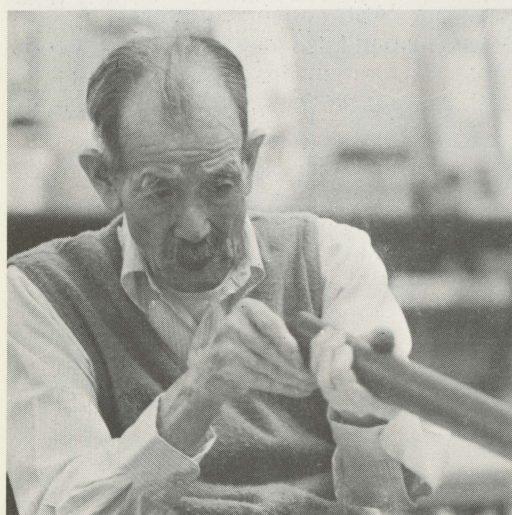
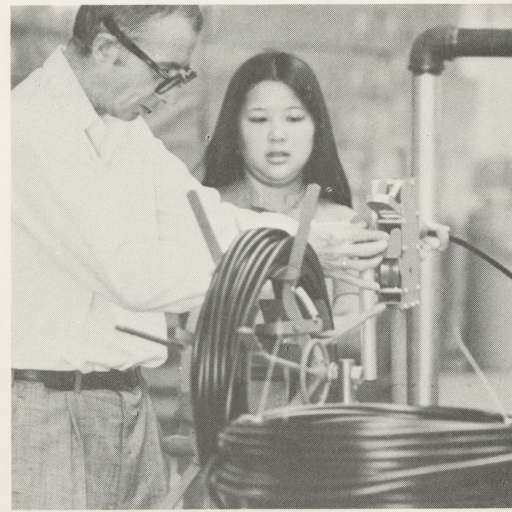
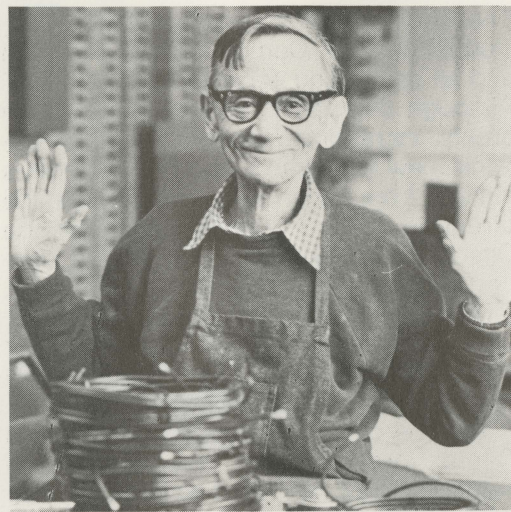
The Social Service Division of JASC includes the Issei Comprehensive Program and all counseling services at the agency. Although the staff is very busy with Issei clients, increasing numbers of Nisei, students, new immigrants, and businessmen's families from Japan seek help. Under the direction of Eiko Fricke, Social Service Director, the JASC offers high quality, concerned services including counseling, referral services, nutrition program for senior citizens, home delivered meals, homemaker services, telecare, visitations and dental and medical care.

With the completion of the Issei Drop-In Center, programs for Issei have been increased to 22, not including Senior Citizen Work Center activities. Drop-In Center programs include classes in cooking, ceramics, arts and crafts, brush painting, gardening, singing, body dynamics, movies, and games such as go and shogi. The monthly social programs, which include field trips to inter-

esting places in the city, attract about 100 each month. These programs are designed to meet the social, psychological and physical needs of the aged. The enthusiastic response and evident happiness of the people make this a very satisfying part of the services at JASC.

Counseling, available to all persons who seek help in any way, is an important part of all activities. This service is designed to provide a maximum supportive environment for all. The Community Fund and the Mayor's Office for Senior Citizens have recognized the vital need for this service by special funding received this year.

The Social Service Division at JASC would not be able to function without dedicated volunteers of all ages from the community to whom JASC is deeply indebted. As programs expand to meet changing needs, more involvement from the community is seen, both as participants and as volunteers.



Senior Citizens Work Center

The JASC Senior Citizens Work Center, a sheltered workshop, has undergone vigorous changes since its inception 15 years ago as an identity-sustaining service to retired Issei. During the past several years, the program has expanded to include Nisei, former mental patients from sheltered care facilities in the Edgewater-Uptown area, and non-Japanese Asians. As more and more Nisei reach retirement age, the Work Center is looking for ways to serve persons from this group more effectively.

Although the Center serves to supplement small incomes of the aged, its more impor-

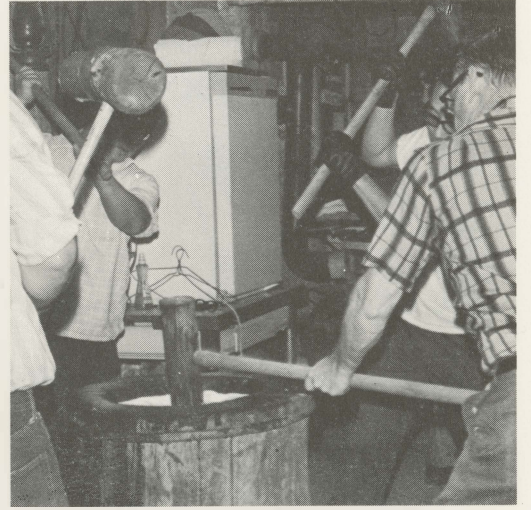
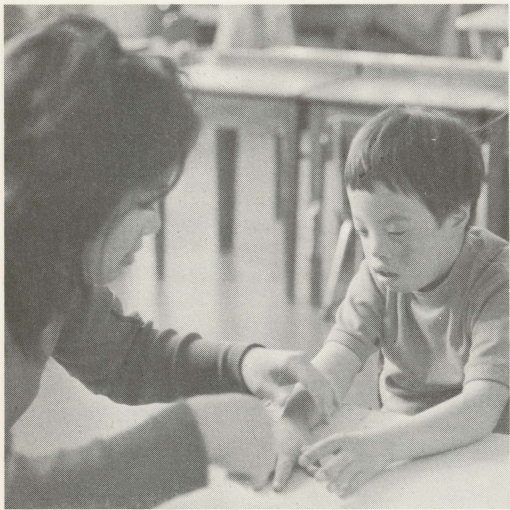
tant work is to provide opportunities for social interaction and to preserve a sense of self-worth in all participants. With this in mind, many non-work group activities are encouraged whenever feasible.

In spite of the downturn in the economy during the past year when many sheltered workshops faltered, the JASC Senior Citizens Work Center has been able to maintain its usual rate of sub-contracted work. This is a reflection of the efficient management of the Center by Director Fred Odanaka and the high reputation the Center has attained in the industrial community.

Issei Gerontology Project

The Issei Gerontology Project, a program funded at \$50,566.00 by the Administration on Aging for the period of January 15, 1975, through September 30, 1975, is being developed under the auspices of the Japanese American Service Committee by Ms. Momoko Iko assisted by a part-time secretary and three part-time paraprofessional development people. The Project has the dual purpose of creating access material of direct use to elderly Japanese and the development of a training packet to be used by paraprofessional providers of human services to Issei. Through video tapes, films, and

written materials, the packet will aid in familiarizing those who work with Japanese elderly with their unique values and needs. After September 30, 1975, the Japanese American Service Committee will have ready for distribution to providers of services copies of the Issei Handbook (information guide of services and benefits for Japanese and other Seniors) and training packet prototypes. This project can be of invaluable help to JASC in its work as well as to all agencies dealing with Issei clients. It can also serve to acquaint Sansei and others with some of their cultural heritage.



Proposed Senior Citizen Housing Project

The Board of the JASC has authorized a feasibility study to determine the market and need for a 200-unit congregate living facility for senior citizens to be built at some location convenient to the JASC building. The proposed plan, if accepted, can be a 100% financed one with all necessary conveniences such as a drug store, emergency medical call system, treatment rooms, craft

room, laundry and dining room. JASC would extend its social services to the residents of the facility. Since the project will take 4½ to 7 years to build at the earliest, it is envisioned as housing mainly for Nisei and others rather than primarily for Issei residents. The project will be one for serious consideration by the JASC should the feasibility study prove favorable.

Hand-in-Hand

Formed in October, 1969, Hand-in-Hand is an organization supported by the Japanese American Service Committee whose purpose is to increase public awareness of the problems and possibilities of exceptional children and to provide informed support for the parents of such children. Meeting regularly on the second Friday of each month, the group discusses common concerns and plans activities which will enhance the lives of children with a variety of handicaps such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, mongolism and learning disabilities. Speech therapy classes are held every other Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon at the

Academy of the Sacred Heart led by a professional therapist.

The group was originally organized with funds raised by the Young Japanese Americans, an arm of the Japanese American Citizens League, and membership is open to any interested persons whether or not they have any direct connections with handicapped children. Through discussions with professionals in the field, planning for relevant legislative action, and community education, the group provides a much needed human service to parents of exceptional children as well as to all concerned persons.

JASC Blood Assurance Program

The Blood Assurance Program, begun in 1973, provides free blood replacement coverage to all members of JASC and their families. In addition, members of participating Japanese American agencies and churches are covered if 4% of their memberships donate blood. In 1974, 6000 people were covered through the donation of more than 240 pints of blood.

A great many Issei, Nisei and Sansei have already been assisted through this life-saving program. If you or a member of your family is in need of blood, be sure to call the JASC

so that the hospital can be notified that the blood is being replaced through the JASC Blood Assurance Program.

The 1975 drive was begun on Monday, June 16, when a bloodmobile from Michael Reese Hospital came to the JASC from 3:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Another opportunity will be given on Monday, November 10, for those who were not able to give on June 16.

Grateful acknowledgement is extended to the following people who donated blood for the 1974 drive:

1974 Donors

Arima, John T.
Ase, Paul
Aylesworth, Dahlia Y.
Brain, Sharon
Brown, Mark
Doi, Mikio**
Doi, Tetsuo*
Flores, Rev. Finees
Forman, Jay
Fujii, Kathy M.**
Fujii, Tomiye
Fujimori, George Y.
Fujishima, Mitsuo J.
Fujita, Joy
Fujiura, Henry
Fukui, Henry K.
Hanaoka, Ray T.
Hara, Colin**
Harada, Yoshiro**
Hashiguchi, Paul H.**
Hashimoto, Michiko
Hashimoto, Paul N.**
Hashimoto, Shigeru
Hayashi, Alvin Y.**

Hibino, Rev. Masaya**
Hidaka, Flora
Hidaka, Mits
Hieshima, Howard
Hirami, Maki**
Hirano, Emy
Hitomi, Akiyo
Honda, Grace Y.
Hori, Calvin G.
Ide, Ken
Iino, Tada
Ikoma, Robert
Imon, Bob
Inouye, George D.**
Inouye, Raymond**
Ishida, Masaru
Isoda, Seishi
Itahara, Seiji**
Ito, Dorothy
Ito, Shunichiro
Itoku, Kenso
Jennings, Dennis**
Johnson, Marian
Kadota, Harry

Kamiya, Betty L.**
Kanaya, Enoch
Kaneko, Hiroshi
Kaneko, Kevin D.**
Kaneshiro, Charles T.**
Kariya, Naomi
Kariya, Takio***
Katahira, Ken K.
Kawaguchi, John M.
Kawahara, Dennis
Kawano, Martha
Kenmotsu, Jack M.
Kikuchi, Tom
Kimura, George M.
Kirshner, Richard S.
Kitahata, Paula
Kitsuse, Nelson Y.
Kittaka, George
Kiyomura, Henry S.
Kiyomura, Mary
Kobayashi, Ellen
Kodama, Mitsuo**
Kudo, Jean**
Kumata, Ruth**

Kurisu, Tom T.
 Kurita, Richard
 Kushino, Pat
 Kuzuhara, Chiaki
 Leman, Dan A.
 Maeshiba, David T.
 Makino, Richard**
 Manoogian, Bob
 Masamitsu, Thomas
 Matsumoto, Fred
 Matsumoto, Kimitsu
 Matsuoka, Lewis
 Matsushita, Akira
 Mayeda, Patricia
 Migaki, Joe**
 Miller, Russell**
 Miyake, Hisako**
 Miyamura, Rev. Ronald
 Miyata, Sharon N.**
 Miyata, Victor
 Morikawa, George
 Morishige, George
 Morita, Howard M.
 Morita, Kathryn A.
 Morita, Mototsugu
 Motoike, Hideo**
 Motooka, Masaru M.**
 Nagatomo, Laurreta
 Naka, Dennis K.
 Nakagawa, Mas
 Nakagawa, Shunichi
 Nakai, Eddy
 Nakamura, Lawrence T.**
 Nakao, George
 Nakao, Sam
 Nakao, Takashi J.**
 Nakazawa, Robert T.
 Nambu, Rev. Masaru
 Nemoto, Harold**
 Nishi, Michael C.**
 Nishimura, Arthur M.**
 Nishiura, Bing**

Oba, Kenneth
 Ochiai, Takeshi
 Odanaka, Erick J.
 Odanaka, Fred H.
 Ogawa, Dennis
 Ogi, Robert E.
 Oishi, Elyse A.
 Oishi, Tracy**
 Oishi, Jeffrey T.
 Oishi, Linda
 Okabe, Joe
 Okamoto, George
 Okita, Frank T.
 Okubo, Robin
 Omi, Fred
 Oyama, Robert S.
 Ozaki, Henry
 Sabusawa, Harry M.
 Saiki, George I.
 Saito, Minoru
 Sakata, Barry
 Sakota, Jane**
 Sakurai, Robert
 Sato, Andrew
 Sato, George Y.
 Shikami, Deborah
 Shimasaki, Sam
 Shimizu, Frank
 Shimoda, Noboru
 Suzuki, Henry K.
 Tademoto, Tomio T.
 Takahashi, Masaaki
 Takaki, Edith
 Takata, Dennis
 Takayama, Chisako
 Takemoto, Chris
 Takemoto, Keiko
 Takeshita, Charles H.**
 Takimura, Yoshi**
 Tamanaha, June
 Tamura, Dorothy J.**
 Tamura, Leo

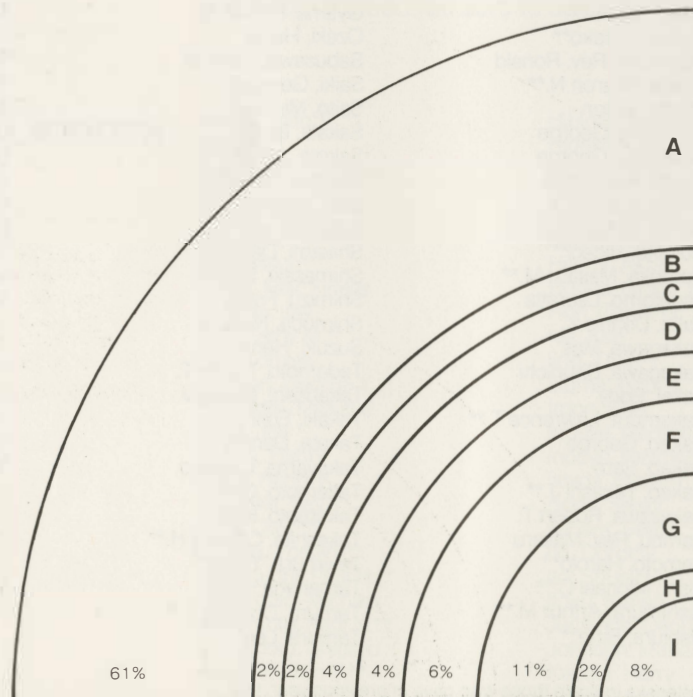
Tanabe, Henry
 Tanaka, David F.
 Tanaka, Haruko**
 Tanigawa, Hitoshi
 Tanigawa, Judith K.
 Tanimura, Michael
 Tatsui, Han
 Terada, Mary
 Terusaki, Gary B.
 Thompson, Mary Anne**
 Toba, Ben T.
 Tokuhisa, Thomas S.
 Tono, Jack K.**
 Tono, Mary H.**
 Tono, Nadine C.
 Toyama, Henry
 Toyama, Hiro
 Toyama, Ronald
 Trujillo, Eduardo
 Tsuma, Alice
 Uchida, Lynn
 Uchida, Terrell
 Vargo, Robin
 Wada, Yasushi
 Wakabayashi, Gene J.
 Wakabayashi, Kazue
 Wicklund, Eleanor
 Williams, Earl L.**
 Yamada, Lillian
 Yamada, Richard M.**
 Yamada, Robert M.**
 Yamagiwa, Gary
 Yamagiwa, John
 Yamagiwa, Kay
 Yamaguchi, Futami
 Yamamoto, Alice
 Yamanuha, Fred
 Yamauchi, Terry
 Yoshimura, Hideo D.
 Yoshimura, Kiyoo
 Yoshino, Ron**

*asterisks indicate those who gave in previous year, too.

Fiscal Year 1975 Budget

Income

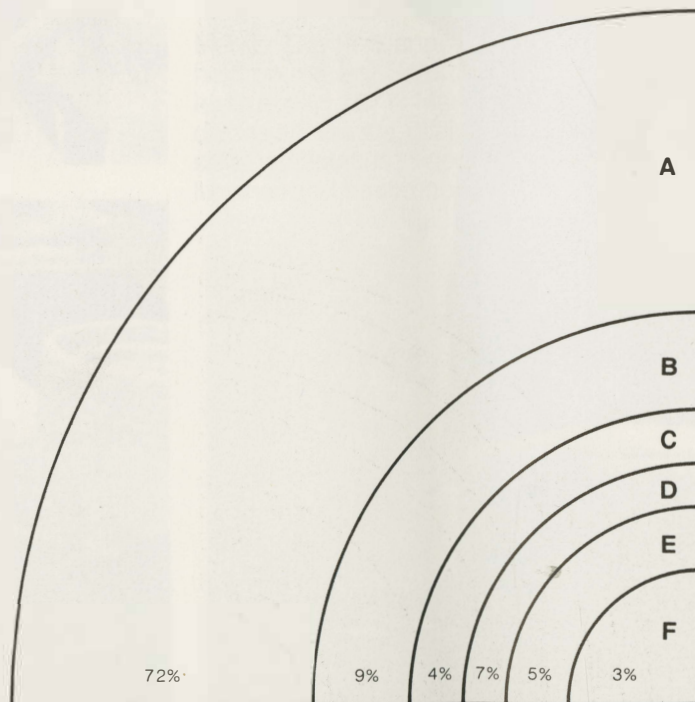
Rehabilitative Workshop	61%	\$293,224
Contributions	2	6,550
Service Feed—Division of Vocational Rehabilitation	2	9,000
Membership Drive	4	21,300
Special Events	4	21,800
Community Fund	6	29,661
State Grants	11	55,200
City Grants	2	7,500
Federal Grants	8	36,717
		<u>\$480,952</u>



- A** REHABILITATIVE WORKSHOP:
Subcontract Income
- B** CONTRIBUTIONS:
Community Trust
Miscellaneous Income
- C** SERVICE FEE:
Dept. of Vocational Rehab
- D** MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:
General, Supporting,
Sponsoring, Japanese Companies
- E** SPECIAL EVENTS:
Fuji Festival Dinner,
Market Day, Christmas Cards
- F** COMMUNITY FUND
- G** STATE GRANTS:
- H** CITY GRANTS:
- I** FEDERAL GRANTS:

Expense

Rehabilitative Workshop	72%	\$346,285
Administrative	9	43,286
Fund Raising	4	19,238
Family & Individual Counseling	7	33,667
Vocational Preparation & Job Training	3	14,429
Group Services & Social Development	5	<u>24,047</u>
		\$480,952



- A REHABILITATIVE WORKSHOP PROGRAM:**
Sheltered workshop program for senior citizens and former mental patients.
- B ADMINISTRATION:**
- C FUND RAISING:**
- D VOCATIONAL COUNSELING/JOB TRAINING**
- E GROUP SERVICES/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**
Issei Comprehensive Program
Communal living, home delivery meal services, telecare, social program, dental clinic, counseling, referral, homemakers serv.
Hand-In-Hand
Tutoring Program
- F FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING:**



Fuji Festival

The Fuji Festival, a fund raising dinner, is sponsored annually in the fall by the Japanese American Service Committee to raise a substantial part of the budget for the operation of the agency. The Fourth Fuji Festival was held on September 29, 1974, at McCormick Inn and featured a tribute to Congressman Sidney R. Yates for his many services to Japanese Americans and performances by Kuniaki Hata, baritone; the

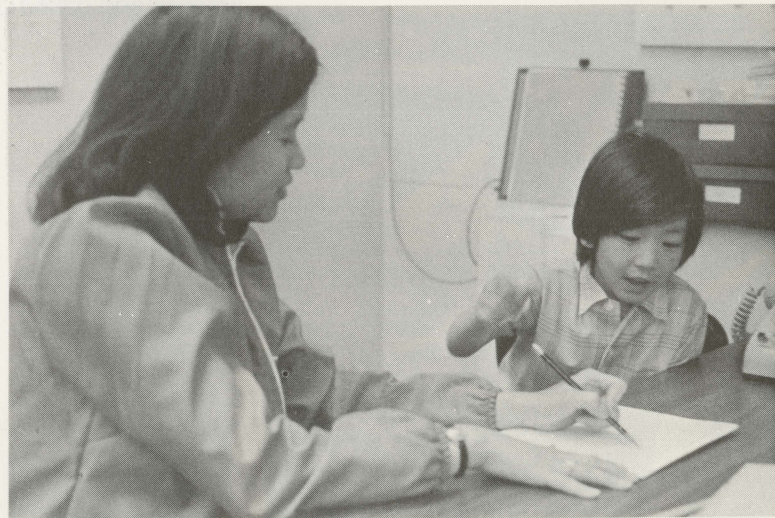
Minyo Dance Club of the Midwest Buddhist Temple; and the Opera Department of the University of Illinois presenting excerpts from *Madame Butterfly* in Kabuki style.

Work on the Fifth Fuji Festival is already underway with Tom Teraji as chairman. It will be held on Sunday, September 21, 1975, at the Marriott Motor Hotel, 8535 W. Higgins Road.

Market Day

Market Day, an annual fund raising event held on the first Saturday of June, was first instituted in 1971. Merchandise on sale includes chinaware, gift items, handcrafts, and small appliances. Food items such as box lunches and baked goods bring in a healthy

portion of the income. Market Day 5, held on June 7, was again a successful community wide effort aided by generous donations and sales tables manned by volunteers. This year, many craft items made by Issei were featured.



JASC Picnic

The annual community picnic sponsored by the Japanese American Service Committee has become a tradition anticipated by young and old alike since its inception in 1948. Held on the first Sunday of August each year, the event attracts more than 2000 people. Races for all ages, door prizes, Japanese folk dancing, demonstrations of

martial arts, performances by the Nisei Ambassadors Drum and Bugle Corps and other attractions have been part of the programs of past picnics. Community merchants participate generously by donating most of the prizes. The picnic affords opportunity for good fellowship and serves as one of the unifying forces of the community.

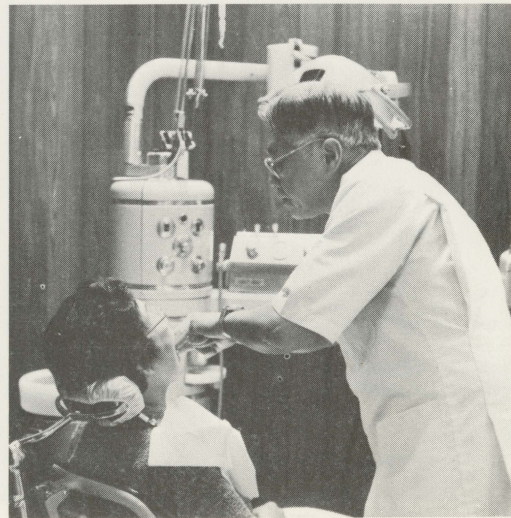
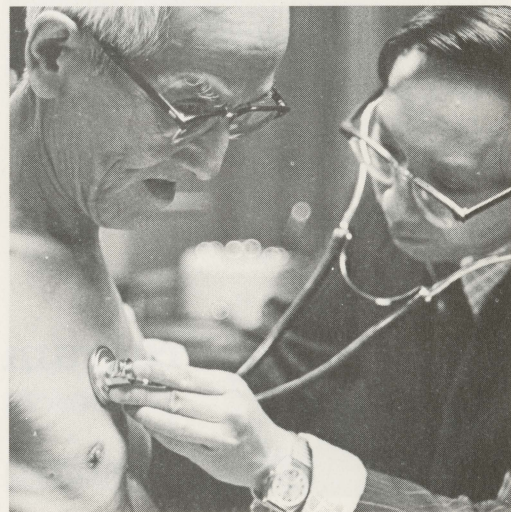
Tutoring Program

Every Saturday morning through the school year, the Japanese American Service Committee building becomes a classroom for some fifteen young children ranging in age from seven to fourteen. They are students in the JASC Tutoring Program, started four years ago by several Sansei who wanted to offer their services in an enrichment program for neighborhood children.

From 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon each Saturday, volunteer tutors offer assistance in mathematics, reading and the sciences.

They try to give students as much individual attention as they can and where possible a one-to-one ratio is maintained. The sessions are informal and flexible so that each student can work at his own pace. Occasional field trips to museums, zoos and other places of interest enlarge the learning experience.

Although the program is only for two hours a week, it is felt that students benefit from this individual attention and it is hoped that the service can be expanded to reach more children.



**JASC Board Members
1974-1975**

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Nishi, Michael
Odanaka, Fred
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Ondrus, Eva
Sumida, Joan
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Wilezenski, Henry

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Kagei, Ichiro
Kaneko, Dorothy
Nambu, Masaru
Satoh, Tomoko
Shirakawabe, Edna
Teshima, Lucy
Ueno, Rumi

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Printer/Ray's Offset Printing Co.



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