

JAPANESE AMERICAN SERVICE COMMITTEE OF CHICAGO



ANNUAL REPORT 1978-79

President's Report

For the past six and one half years, I have had the privilege of serving as President of the Board of Directors of the Japanese American Service Committee. This was my second stint on the Board, the first being in the late fifties and early sixties when the agency was still located on La Salle Street. During the intervening years, JASC responded to the needs of the Japanese American community in Chicago and established the many successful programs to which I fell heir.

With this heritage and aware of its potential, JASC continued to grow. I am grateful to all who served on the Board during my presidency for their contributions of time, talent, and funds to support our efforts. I am appreciative of the efforts of the staff who always gave unstintingly of themselves in order to serve our clients. I particularly want to express my appreciation to the 1978-79 Executive Committee members, who this past year assumed more responsibility as my job relocated me to St. Louis and rendered me unavailable on a daily basis. My thanks to all.

For this account of the past year's activities, one highlight is the construction of Heiwa Terrace (see page 9). After years of negotiation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, funds were finally released so the building could start. At this writing, the shell has been completed (all twelve floors) and the builders are working on the interior. Occupancy is scheduled for the spring of 1980. Our thanks to Tom Teraji and his Housing Committee who have steered this project since its inception.

Armed with the findings of a feasibility study, JASC launched a major capital campaign under the leadership of Hiroshi Kanno. In an effort to provide matching funds for the development of a day care program for the elderly and establish an endowment fund, we appealed to corporations and foundations. While we did not meet our goal, the residual benefit has been the creation of awareness about the Nikkei community, our needs, and our aspirations among corporate and foundation leaders. The "payoff" may be several years away.

One of the accomplishments of my tenure is the development of closer working relationships with the Japanese business community and the Consulate of Japan. We are grateful for the interest and support demonstrated by the representatives of the Japanese government and the Japanese corporations in the work of JASC. In very tangible ways, they have contributed to the quality of life of not only Americans of Japanese ancestry but of other Chicagoans as well.

I have passed the gavel to Tom Teraji and hope for him similar successes and satisfactions. My thanks to all of you for "caring" and "sharing."

Lillian C. Kimura / 1978-79 President, Board of Directors



Executive Director's Report

The time has come again to take stock of the Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago—to review what we have done during the past year and to decide what priorities and directions we must choose for this year and in future years.

The agency took unprecedented steps to explore new and additional financial resources. Numerous and valuable contacts were made, useful information was gathered, and funds were raised through the Major Capital Fund Drive conducted during the past year. There should be follow-through on the endeavor initiated and the manpower and financial resources invested so that we can continue to strengthen the agency's capability to meet the increasing costs of operation.

Working together with the Technical Advisory Committee, chaired by Vice President Kiyo Yoshimura, the staff has put more effort and emphasis on the future needs and concerns of Niseis. It should be noted that the increasing number of Niseis, Sanseis, and Yonseis are availing themselves of the various JASC services. For example, 88 percent more Niseis and 24 percent more Sanseis received counseling service during fiscal year 1979 than in the previous year. Among homemaker clients 15 percent are Niseis, and 50 percent of those receiving meals-on-wheels service are Niseis. Of the participants in the various arts and crafts classes approximately 13 percent are Niseis and Sanseis.

A continuing effort will be made to provide services to respond to intergenerational problems as Isseis advance in age and Niseis and Sanseis are faced with the problems of coping with and caring for the aging members of their families.

As part of its continuing endeavors to provide suitable programs for the elderly, the Board of Directors approved a plan to renovate the agency's facilities to accommodate a day care center for the elderly and to provide an enlarged meeting space for groups. An application was submitted to the Illinois Department on Aging to fund the starting of the day care center program, and a \$100,000 grant was made available through Title V of the Older Americans Act for renovation. An additional grant of \$20,000 was received from the Chicago Community Trust to initiate the program. The renovation is expected to be completed by the fall of 1979, at which time more community space will be provided for meetings and classes for Niseis and Sanseis.

During the past year, the JASC was engaged in a project called "An Assessment of the Vocational Rehabilitation Needs of the Ethnic Minorities in the Chicago Communities of Uptown, Lakeview and Lincoln Park," with a grant of \$40,497 provided by the Illinois Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. This study will be completed by September 1979. The agency also applied to the Illinois Department of Vocational Rehabilitation for a grant of \$100,000 to implement the plans that are derived from the needs assessment study. This project includes the establishment of an outpost in the Uptown area to serve the ethnic minorities in the area for a projected three-year period.

The JASC is vitally interested in providing a continuum of care for its elderly clients, and the Workshop Program Committee has been making an in-depth study on the status of the Work Center program to determine the anticipated needs of the present Issei clients as well as



the future potentials of the program. The committee is headed by Yoji Ozaki and includes Frank Takahashi, Dan Kuzuhara, Ed Coble, and the Work Center staff.

The JASC has gained a nationwide reputation as a model agency for self-help. The achievement of such an accomplishment has been made possible through the joint efforts of volunteers and the agency staff. I am deeply appreciative of the dedication and professionalism demonstrated by the staff. Moreover, the JASC could not be effective and have achieved as much as it has without the strong leadership and support of the Board of Directors and close to 100 volunteers who have so generously and selflessly contributed their time and energy to help the agency serve our community effectively.

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; home-maker services; meals-on-wheels and hot lunch programs; health related programs, and a library.

The educational and cultural programs are open to all age groups. An increasing number of Niseis—a total of 595—participated last year in the programs. The following programs were offered last year: Japanese and English language classes, kimono wearing, tracing the family tree, movies, arts and crafts, cooking, ceramics, amimono, flower arrangement, temari-making, parasol-making, paper crafts, tsumamie, shodo and penji, cultural nights, and children's summer programs.

In the past year, social programs brought people to blueberry picking, picnics, Water Tower Place, ice shows, movies, Amlings Flowerland, Arnie's North, and the Museum of Science and Industry, to name some of the outings conducted by the JASC.

In-home services—cleaning, shopping, laundry, cooking, and escort service—were made available to homebound clients. Some 64 Isseis, 18 Niseis, 1 Sansei, 14 Japanese nationals, 6 other Japanese, and 18 others were served in the program in 1978-79. The high quality of our services has been recognized by many public agencies, which have been referring more and more clients to our agency.

On weekdays, an average of 88 persons, 60 or older, are served hot lunches under Title VII of the Older Americans Act at the JASC. All the participants are contributing 50¢ to \$1.25, depending on their ability to pay. Meals-on-wheels service is offered for homebound persons three times a week. More than 50 percent of the recipients are Niseis.

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

The JASC library is open on weekdays from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The Chicago Public Library has been providing English and Japanese books.

The staff of 18 includes professional social workers, homemakers, group workers, teachers, and aides. Under the direction of the staff,



Blood pressure checks



Glaucoma tests



Kimono wearing instruction



Counseling



Issei representation at Senior Citizens' Art Fair



Arts and crafts classes



Senior citizens' outings





Children's programs



Nutrition program



Thank you, volunteers

over eighty volunteers make it possible for the JASC to carry out its many programs. Out of the ranks of the volunteers come instructors, hot lunch helpers, doctors and nurses, friendly visitors, interpreters, helpers for special events, homemaker volunteers, a delivery person for meals-on-wheels programs, and those skilled in arts and crafts to make handicraft items for Market Day.

The RAP (Relatives of Aging Persons) Group for Niseis and once-a-month Tea and Conversation gatherings for homebound persons were new services offered during the past year. Transportation was provided for the homebound as needed. Currently, the JASC is planning to start a Day Care Center for the Elderly in the fall of 1979. This, along with the opening of Heiwa Terrace in 1980, will necessitate increased activity in casework, 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 Handicapped.

new program (Eye clinic, Music Library, Senior Self help)

Sheltered Work Center

The JASC Senior Citizens' Work Center has been providing effective therapeutic service through its work program by helping clients to cope with their physical and often psychological problems related to aging. These problems are from social isolation, major role changes, loss of spouse and health, and depression.

The sheltered workshop offers employment and compensation to supplement often meager incomes. There has been a definite effect of ego-strengthening for the program participants because of their ability to contribute to the welfare of the agency.

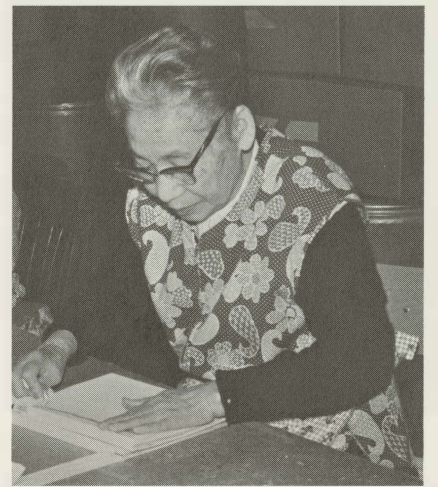
In addition to the Issei and some Nisei retirees, the sheltered workshop also serves clients of other ethnic backgrounds, such as Koreans, Chinese, and Filipinos. It also serves clients referred by the Edgewater Uptown Community Mental Health Center and the Illinois Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Hand-in-Hand

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

The children receive weekly speech therapy on Saturday mornings at the JASC. A volunteer speech therapist provides help to supplement the regular educational programs of these children.

The parents meet on the second Friday evening of each month, 7 to 9 P.M., at the JASC, to participate in a support group and to gain information and insight from guest speakers. An annual picnic and Christmas dinner program bring the parents, children, and their friends together.



Japanese welfare delegates visit Sheltered Work Center

Blood Assurance Program

All JASC members and their immediate families—approximately 6,000 persons during the past year—are covered by the agency's Blood Assurance Plan.

Our goal for this year is 240 pints. The first blood drive brought in 129 donors on June 18. The second drive is scheduled for November 12.

We encourage members and nonmembers to donate blood for this worthy cause.

The JASC Blood Assurance Program has to date 33 gallon givers, with 19 more expected to reach a gallon of blood donation in the near future.

Heiwa Terrace ... Up, Up, Up



Since ground was broken at official ceremonies on July 8 at the outset of JASC's 1978-79 administrative year, construction on the exterior of Heiwa Terrace has proceeded steadily upward, as passersby at Lawrence and Sheridan will attest. In 1979-80 work will be continued on the interior, with completion and occupancy scheduled for the spring. Persons interested in becoming residents in the 12-story, 200-unit housing for senior citizens should contact the JASC.



Japanese American Service Committee

Statement of Revenue and Expenses for the year ended June 30, 1979

Revenue:

Philanthropic Support	\$ 81,500
Government Support	211,536
Sheltered Workshop	326,166
Others	<u>85,707</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$704,909</u>

Expenses:

Program Services	\$611,229
Supporting Services	<u>126,207</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$737,436</u>
Deficiency	<u><u>(\$ 32,527)</u></u>

The 1979 fiscal year shows a deficit of \$32,527. 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.

1978 - 1979 Board of Directors

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Vice Presidents

Program Kiyō Yoshimura

Finance Hiroshi Kanno

Building Tom Teraji

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Harry Sabusawa

Hannah Takahashi

Tom Teraji

Gary Yamagiwa



Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago
4427 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois 60640
Telephone: 312/275-7212-13