

CBC gets a boost

Seniors help shape agency program

By JANAN CHANNAM
Problems of the aged they are varied, plentiful and often unmet.

Realizing this, the Area Agency on Aging held a public hearing Monday in the Berkeley Community Center where about 150 Oakland County seniors aired their needs and desires.

The agency, established in April 1974 after the Older Americans Act amendment of 1973, has been allocated \$250,000 under Title III funds.

A decrease from last year's budget of \$350,000, the money is to establish community services for older people.

Speaking to the elderly, Sandy Reminga, director of the tri-county Agency on Aging, said the purpose of the hearing was to find out where senior citizens want the money spent.

"It's our responsibility to find out where we are lacking, to bring about closer coordination. We don't exist just to allocate money," she said. "We're an overall planning and service organization."

Explaining that the Ford administration has recommended a \$20 million cut in funds, Ms. Reminga said this would drastically affect services the agency can provide.

"It's up to you to write your congressmen and oppose this cut," she said. "Or no one is going to know you care."

WORKING ALONG Federal guidelines, the agency's responsibilities include:
• Planning new services to meet the known needs of older people
• Coordinating existing service programs to the elderly
• Pooling the available but untapped resources which could assist in service programs to older people

Responding to a citizen's query on the agency's past accomplishments, Ms. Reminga said, "We have provided elderly people with transportation, health, visiting referral, social and educational services. Specifically, we have offered deaf senior citizens with sign language interpreters and home-delivered services."

AGENCY COORDINATORS have listed transportation, referral, homemaker, counseling, legal, and health services as priorities for next year.

Members and supporters of Citizens for Better Care (CBC), a nursing home consumer organization, expressed their discontent with the agency's decision not to fund CBC.

"Oakland County is one of the richest counties in the U.S.," said Margaret Evans, "but we are still failing our older people. We need a local place to complain, an organization to stand behind us and help when we need nursing home information. If you cut the CBC, you cut an important referral agency," she said.

Edward Bill, of Michigan Department of Social Services, said CBC does provide information for patients and families in need of a nursing home, but under Title III funds, not all services can continue.

"The emphasis of our services should keep the elderly out of nursing homes," said Bill. "We need home-delivered services as the alternative to a nursing home."

PATRICIA KEY, of Oakland County said once nursing homes become a profit-making business, they must be monitored. "CBC was the only referral agency a person could go to when in the dilemma of choosing a nursing home for a loved one," she said. "Once you cut CBC, you run the risk of keeping people who can't be rehabilitated out of nursing homes."

According to Suzanne Szczepanski, area resource coordinator, citizens' concern over CBC is valid, since more than one-half of Michigan's nursing homes are in the tri-county area.

"CBC has helped resolve problems in nursing home and adult foster home care," Ms. Szczepanski said. "But the amount of grants and funds it receives decides what services it can offer."

OTHER SENIORS felt federal funds shouldn't be depended on—using untapped resources.

Marye Miller, Title III director of Rochester, said people have to look at resources available in the community, and not constantly rely on federal funds.

"Don't rely on any federal funds to do the work the people should do, put the pressure on legislators at every level of government," she said. "That's the only way to get anything done."

BUT RUTH Dikoff, director of social services for Visiting Nurses of Metro Detroit, said she would hate to see the value of CBC denied as an objective.

"The CBC has taken the role of attempting to correct some of the abuses found in nursing homes," said Mrs. Dikoff.

NU-PHONICS, INC. Authorized **Zenith** specialists

Specialist's
SPECIAL THIS WEEK!
\$179.00
Zenith York
Pentiac Southfield
Main Office 682-1117
Detroit Warren
Toll Calls Call Collect

Be sure to get all the small car you can for your money.

Chevette has rack-and-pinion steering.

Compact, lightweight and proven dependable. Chevette's 30.2-foot turning circle is among the shortest in the world. You'll appreciate it every time you park or turn around.

Chevy Chevette Hatchback Coupe seats four, and it's priced \$401 below the VW Rabbit.

That's right. At \$3098, our Coupe price is \$401 less than the barest Rabbit, based on a comparison of Manufacturers' Suggested Retail Prices for base models.

Chevette has a 1.6-litre overhead cam engine.

A tough little engine. Smooth and quiet too, partly because of hydraulic valve lash adjusters. Want extra power? Order the available 1.6-litre version. (Not available on Scooter model.)

Chevette's Freedom battery never needs water.

A battery you never have to worry about filling. Sealed side terminals resist corrosion buildup.

Chevette is protected by 17 anti-corrosion methods.

Zinc-rich primers, wax base sprays, galvanized metals, epoxy paint, front fender liner liners... the list is extensive, for the kind of protection you'll appreciate as the miles and years roll on.

6030 DEALERS

These are the EPA estimates for a Chevette with standard 1.4-litre engine, 4-speed manual transmission and standard rear axle. (Remember, the actual mileage you get will vary depending on the type of driving you do, your driving habits, your car's condition and available equipment.)

Chevrolet

Chevette parts and service are available at all 6,030 Chevy dealerships... nearly 3,000 more than VW, Toyota and Datsun combined.

Chevette is made right here in the U.S.A.

It's the first U.S.-built car with the size, the price, the mileage and the guts to go toe-to-toe with the little foreign cars.

Warehouse Clearance



MEN'S 10-SPEED BICYCLE by Lambert

- Chrome-Molly frame
- Alloy fork, drop bars, pedals & seat post
- Cotterless crank
- All sealed bearings
- Wt: 25 lbs.

partially assembled
Add \$10 for assembly adjustment
\$240 Value

MEN'S & LADIES MASERATI & ARCTIC 10 SPEED BIKES
Values to \$159
\$99.95

add \$10 for assembly & adjustment
partially assembled

6 H.P. Roto Tillers \$230

RECREATIONAL LEISURE
30717 W. 10 MILE

Farmington 477-0212
Open Sun.
Just East of May's
Hwy 6 & to the rear

DRIVE A CHEVETTE AND BELIEVE