

Industry, county join in job training

More than \$3.8 million in federal funds will be channeled through the state to Oakland County for job training programs for youth, unskilled adults and economically disadvantaged residents.

The Job Training Partnership Act

plan, scheduled for approval by the governor Aug. 31, was announced by Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy and Oakland County Private Industry Council chairman Carl P. Cohen. It should be in full force by Saturday, Oct. 1, and run through June 30.

The plan aims at providing training opportunities for eligible people in occupational areas identified by the private sector.

Programs focus on classroom training, on-the-job training and limited work experience. Classroom training includes, but is not limited to, computer programming, medical assisting, bookkeeping, secretarial, word processing and dental technology.

On-the-job training emphasizes employer/employee relationships where direct supervision is done at the employer's work site. Examples of this type of training include electronic technicians, business programmers, dental assistants, computer operators and maintenance mechanics.

Provisions also are made for retraining people who have been laid off and have little opportunity for re-employment in the same occupational or skill level area they left.

The limited work experience program provides a combination of on-the-job and classroom training.

Oakland County has been designated as the Service Delivery Area (SDA) grant recipient which receives funds directly from the governor. The Oakland County Employment and Training Division of the Public Services Department administers the job training plan. The Private Industry Council, with

its majority membership from business and industry, and the county executive will provide policy guidance and oversee the activities under the job training plan for SDA. In addition, the council will independently review, monitor and evaluate all programs included in the plan.

The Private Industry Council also has representation from public and private training institutions including Oakland University, Oakland Community College, labor organizations, the state Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Michigan Employment Security Commission, community-based organizations of Oakland-Livingston Human Services Agency and Area Association on Aging, Veterans' Affairs Commission, Economic Development Corporation and Oakland County Chamber of Commerce.

To insure program effectiveness, additional coordination efforts are incorporated in the plan using the services of the MESCC, Economic Development Corporation, state Department of Education, county-based organizations in Oakland County and other SDAs in neighboring labor markets.

Under the Job Training Partnership Act, the next planning grant period is scheduled to cover the two-year period from July 1, 1984, through June 30, 1986.

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SEMTA board gets new member

A former Oakland County commissioner has been appointed to the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) board of directors representing Oakland County.

John Peterson was appointed to the SEMTA Board by the Oakland County Commissioners. The Avon Township resident replaces Paul E. Kasper.

As a commissioner representing Rochester, part of Avon and Pontiac townships for six years, Peterson also was chairman of an ad hoc transportation committee for the county.

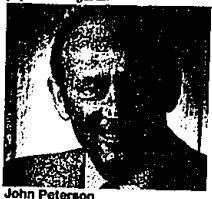
He has also served on the executive board of the Comprehensive Health Planning Council for southeastern Michigan and is a trustee of Crittendon Hospital, Rochester.

He was chairman of the health and human services committee on the county board as well as a member of the finance committee.

Peterson has been a representa-

tive of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. since 1956. He holds a bachelor of business administration degree from Michigan State University.

The Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority is governed by a 15-member board of directors representing seven counties which comprise the SEMTA region. Appointments to the SEMTA board are made under a formula based on population figures.



John Peterson

Low vision aids now available to residents

Oakland County residents who are visually impaired will now be able to see printed material better thanks to a grant which will allow a special library to purchase low vision aids.

The low vision aids, like magnifying glasses and computers to enlarge print, are being purchased through a grant offered by Louis Blumberg of Troy. Blumberg established the Philip S. Slovic Low Vision Assistance Fund to aid people with sight problems.

The aids will be available through the Oakland County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in the Farmington Hills Public Library. "This is a great step for the visually impaired," said County Executive Daniel T. Murphy. "We are affording peo-

ple the opportunity to appreciate fine reading material who otherwise would be unable to read."

The services are free to all physically handicapped Oakland County residents.

In addition to the low vision aids, the library also has more than 10,000 records of novels, biographies and children's stories.

The Oakland County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is constantly searching for donations to help it keep up with new materials. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays. For more details, call 553-0300.

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