

# Feds help county in war on drugs

Troy, Rochester Hills and the northeast portions of the county could see more skirmishes in the war on drugs as a result of additional federal money coming into the area, according to the director of Oakland's NET (Narcotics Enforcement Team).

"That's one possibility," said NET Commander Dorothy K. McAllen. "We'll probably discuss it today."

McAllen said NET has been notified it will receive an additional \$301,547 to use in the war on drugs. The money is expected to be used to pay for a new street enforcement team and to assign officers to the major case team. In addition, the Oakland County Jail will get \$85,725

to expand its substance abuse education program for inmates about to be released.

"MOST OF that money will probably go toward getting more people," McAllen said. The federal money can pay up to 60 percent of the cost of each officer, with the remainder being paid by the community from which the officer is on loan.

McAllen said NET directors (the chiefs of police from the 16 participating communities) will probably begin discussing additional personnel today at their regular meeting.

But NET will probably increase operations in Oakland's northeast corner, McAllen said. "That's one of the most rapidly expanding areas,

and there appears to be an increase in drug activity in that area," she said.

McAllen declined to say how many officers are assigned to NET. She acknowledged, however, that some of the additional officers will be assigned to the major case team that works closely with the Oakland County Citizens Grand Jury.

THE CITIZENS grand jury has indicted more than 60 people, including three for murder, since it was initiated in the fall of 1989. The grand jury was formed to investigate narcotics traffic and unsolved murders. Announcement of the federal grant came from three Oakland County state senators — Michael

Bouchard, R-Birmingham, Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion, and David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield.

Honigman pointed out that "the drug problem is not just a big-city problem. It exists in our sleepy bedroom communities, too," and I'm grateful to Congress for recognizing this."

"We need to expand the war against drugs to include our suburban areas," said Bouchard. "Drugs are in every area of the country, and we need to address that fact."

Drugs continue to be a problem in all areas of the state," Dunaskiss said. "We need to be equipped to wage this war on all levels. These grants allow us to do that."

## Volunteers are sought

Focus: HOPE, a metropolitan Detroit civil and human rights organization, needs volunteers for several of its programs. The following descriptions highlight areas at Focus: HOPE where the demand for volunteers is greatest.

• The Food for Seniors and Food Prescription programs need volunteers to deliver commodity foods each month to homebound senior citizens and to drive mothers to one of five Food Centers to pick up nutritional supplements. Combined, these programs provide essential foods monthly to over 80,000 persons in metro Detroit.

• Individuals with child care experience are wanted to assist teachers at the Focus: HOPE Center for children. The Center offers infant

and toddler day care as well as a Montessori preschool for children of Focus: HOPE employees and trainees.

• Proctors are required to monitor candidates taking entrance exams for FAST TRACK. The program upgrades the math, reading and communication skills of recent high school graduates.

• Volunteers are also needed to help set up a resource library for Machinist Training Institute students, assist with large mailings and work at Focus: HOPE's annual Walk for Justice on Sunday, October 13, 1991.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these programs, please contact the Focus: HOPE Volunteer Department at (313) 883-7440.

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