

Kids, parents

Make U-Turn for bright future

By JUDY OWEN
Area youths with drug problems, school problems or family problems have a chance to do an about face at U-Turn, the Bloomfield-Birmingham Center for Human Development, Inc.

The program which began in November 1972, with a skeleton program and one youth participant and grew in two weeks to include 12 participants now can serve 35-40 youths a time.

GRANT FOR PROBATE JUDGE

INSTEAD YOUTHS who come to U-Turn must first make an appointment, then go through a series of orientations and interviews to determine if they want to make a commitment to the program and themselves.

While many of the youths in the program have had drug problems, the program attempts to get to the root of the problem by helping to solve related family, school or peer group problems.

The program is based on the family unit. Genovesi said. It's not meant to take away from their own personal family and not just a "kid-to-kid sort of thing."

It involves the family, church, school, courts, police and peer group relations.

"We're giving a chance for the kids to turn around and evaluate their own lifestyle," Genovesi said. He stresses that it does not use psychotherapy.

PARAPROFESSIONALS under the supervision of professionals work with the youths.

"We're basically dealing with peer motivation," he said.

Students come to the program themselves or upon referrals by school officials, parents, churches, police departments or the courts.

Youths interested in U-Turn first attend general orientation sessions from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Mondays where they meet the staff, become acquainted with the program and decide if they would like to join.

They may then have an initial interview with the program director at which time the youth discusses changes that he would like to make within himself.

"IT'S A HIGHLY structured self-help motivation program," Genovesi explained.

Following the initial orientation, the youth then attends an orientation with six to 12 peers where he learns house rules and makes a commitment that he will not use mind-altering substances for the duration of the program and that he will participate with in the group sessions.

Genovesi said that the commitment is "a common bond between us all here."

This orientation lasts from two weeks to one month.

Both parents also attend an initial orientation session and then are contacted periodically throughout the time the youth is in the program.

"If the youth's problem is basically with his parents then we work with those parents more than others, seeing them about once every other week," Genovesi said.

ONCE THE youth feels that he has accomplished the goals of orientation, has been able to verbalize this to his group and has the staff member's approval, he meets with Genovesi for an evaluation.

At this point the youth prepares a "prescription."

The prescription may range from "It's hard for me to talk to Mom and Dad" to "School isn't where it should be at for me," Genovesi explained.

The youths then enter into value clarification exercises in groups of four to six persons.

"The basic goal of prescription is attitudinal change, as awareness is the basic goal of orientation," Genovesi said.

ANOTHER evaluation follows, then the youths enter into articulation which lasts about one month. This is the breaking-away part of the program where the youths are not as dependent upon the group.

The youths finally go through a final evaluation by the staff and then appear before a board of laymen made up of about 50 representatives from the community.

Graduation is the final step which gives reinforcement.

U-Turn officials will provide letters of recommendation for youths looking for jobs, will assist in job placement and will help youths return to school if they have dropped out.

Presently there are 45 youths on the waiting list.

GENOVESI HOPES that his new associate program director, Woody Shook, will help expand the program.

Shook was youth director at the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham where the U-Turn program was first housed.

The church consented to allow him to direct the program there three times a week.

LATER he returned to college and just recently received his degree in religion.

"We need 10 more of these youths in this community to begin to handle the problems," Genovesi said. "We are doing positive kinds of things. I'm

tired of hearing that the drug scene is declining.

"THE DRUG scene is increasing among elementary, and junior high kids," he said.

Workers on Genovesi's staff include Charlie Linder, a community-youth worker for six churches and numerous volunteers.

Overseeing the operation is a 17-member board headed by Ed Leder-mann.

In compliance with the new state law Genovesi has applied for licensing as a substance abuse program under Public Act 56.

THE ACT prohibits programs dealing with substance abuse from operating after Oct. 1, 1974 without licensing.

Funding for the \$47,000 annual budget has been bolstered by a \$20,000 two-year grant from the Junior League of Birmingham as well as grants from parent-teacher organizations, the Oakland County Drug Abuse Control program and Community Action Council (CAC).

But most of the help comes from volunteers who put in 800 to 900 hours each month. Volunteers serve in committee work, adult supervisory and clerical capacities.

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Insurance FACTS

by Robert H. Bergstrom, CPCU

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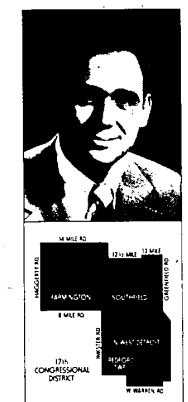
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It's hard to choose a Congressman unless he tells you where he stands.

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tells you where he stands.



Joseph Levin is the kind of man I like to see drawn into public life. He comes from a family dedicated to public service. He may well be the best of all the Levins. His integrity and dedication are unquestioned. He would have no obligations to any special interest groups. Lou Gordon's newspaper column

Democrat for Congress

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Inflation
The best answer to inflation is greater productivity which increases the supply of goods and lowers prices.

Congress should stimulate productivity by stimulating investment in buildings, machinery and other capital goods (through adequate depreciation schedules and investment tax credits) and by encouraging investment in education through tuition tax credits.

Tuition Tax Credits
Hard-working middle-income families cannot afford skyrocketing college and technical school tuitions. At the same time, many independent colleges are being financially suffocated.

Congress should encourage higher education and reduce inflationary pressure by providing a reasonable tax credit or tax deduction for a significant portion of the tuition paid to colleges and technical schools.

Pensions
I support the enactment of federal legislation to assure greater financial security for retirees.

Such federal legislation should ensure early vesting of retirement rights, transferability of employees retirement rights from one job to another, the financial stability of the plan itself, a fair rate of return on the pension fund and rules barring discrimination against women who temporarily leave the labor force.

National Health Insurance
I will work for early enactment of a national health plan which will protect the savings and financial security of middle-income families and assure high-quality medical care.

Welfare
A clear incentive to work must be inserted into our welfare system if it is to earn the support of a majority of the American people.

I support the proposed Family Assistance Plan concept because it would provide such a clear incentive and eliminate some of the more demeaning elements of our present costly and inefficient welfare system.

Campaign Financing Reform
We have learned very little from the exposure of the 1972 Nixon campaign abuses if we think that campaign abuses are confined to any one group of men or are solved by getting rid of those men.

It is imperative that Congress enact a campaign financing law that requires full disclosure of every contributor and every contribution and that imposes enforceable limitations on both the amounts of campaign contributions and total campaign expenditures.

Crime
Congress should continue to provide material support to our local police, establish special F.B.I. task forces to root out local corruption that impedes law enforcement, require federal courts to imprison professional sellers of hard drugs and require comprehensive treatment of all addicted criminals before they are released.

National Security
All other issues will pale into insignificance if we fail to avert a worldwide nuclear war.

While maintaining a strong national defense, we must actively explore every opportunity for mutual reductions of arms and secure arms controls.

The United States should continue its uniquely constructive role in assisting Israel and her neighbors to move together toward a more stable peace.

We must also accelerate our efforts to alleviate the problems of malnutrition, starvation and related hopelessness that historically have so often been the cause of war.

About the Candidate
Joseph Levin was born and raised in Detroit. He is 36 years old. He is the youngest of four children of the late Federal Judge Theodore Levin and Rhoda K. Levin. His oldest brother is Michigan Supreme Court Justice Charles L. Levin. He is a first-cousin of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Sander M. Levin and Detroit Common Council President Carl M. Levin.

He was the Finance Director of the 1970 Michigan Democratic Party gubernatorial campaign, the Treasurer of the 1968 Democratic Presidential Campaign in Michigan and, in 1971 and 1972, the Co-Chairman of the Michigan Democratic Party Century Fund. He has been a Democratic campaign worker in every election year since 1952.

He graduated from Oberlin College in 1959 and Columbia Law School in 1962. He has practiced law for 12 years in the Detroit law firm of Dice, Sweeney and Sullivan. He is married to Raina M. Levin, M.D., a 1970 graduate of Wayne University Medical School.