

County service agency names new president

By LINDA TAYLOR

er-care for patients discharged from Clinton Valley Center, advocacy of programs needed in specific communities, child care services, foster care, adoption service,

Being a volunteer has the potential of becoming a full-time job for Mrs. Donald Hartman of West Bloomfield. Having been a volunteer with Family and Children Services of Oakland County for six years, she was recently named president of its board of directors. Two goals she has set for her one-year term in office are to promote more interaction between the Family and Children Services staff, director and president and to promote better mental health in the community.

The purpose of the organization in general, as described by Mrs. Hartman in a recent newsletter, is to give "problem-solving counseling to troubled individuals." The program includes alcoholism, aff-

family life education and a youth program.

MRS. HARTMAN explained these functions are headquartered in three Oakland County Offices — Pontiac, Berkley and Walled Lake

— and several "outposts" including one in Rochester.

One of her favorite activities is the Youth Identity Center, which focuses on counselors' direct involvement with youths who are troubled and can't talk to their parents.

Mrs. Hartman, who has also served as the organization's vice president, said she became involved in Family and Children Services through her membership on the board of the former West Bloomfield United Fund.

Explaining the satisfaction she has gained through her volunteer work, she said: "I can grow as a person there and things are changing all the time."

"The organization has grown tremendously in the last few years," she continued. "But I don't think the public is that familiar with us. We now have a new public relations committee chairman and have a slide presentation."

She said she also would like to see more community involvement in the organization.

"It is non-sectarian and services everybody," she explained. "We need more people from labor and more ethnic groups."

SHE SAID the organization's volunteer program is undergoing a change. Volunteers will work as case aides as well as in public relations, research, clerical functions and advocacy programs.

As for Mrs. Hartman's volunteer time, she spends a lot of it "at home thinking and making phone calls." She said she has no real idea just how much time she spends at her "job" as board president, but, she said, "my family comes first."

Once a month she attends a board meeting and she enjoys attending meetings of the "lots of active committees." And she occasionally attend staff meetings "just to keep up with what is going on."

"The staff and administration are very caring people," she said. "That makes my work fun."



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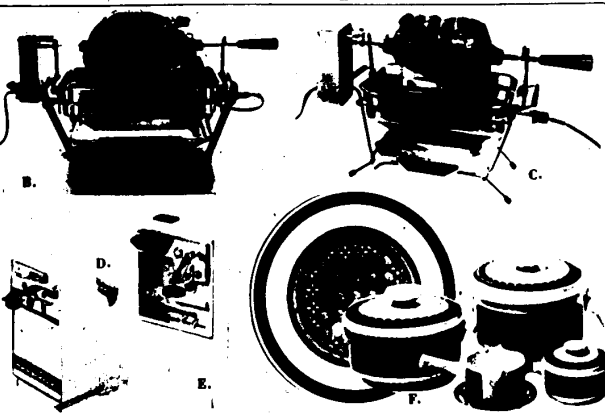
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