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SECTION 3 - PROGRAM ANALYSIS

PROGRAMS OFFERED/OBJECTIVES

LA SED was created to advocate for the social and economic development of Hispanics and residents of Southwest Detroit. The LA SED Board of Directors felt that Hispanics were not availing themselves and/or not having accessibility to social, public, and private programs they were entitled to as citizens of this country because of cultural and linguistic differences. Hispanics were discriminated then, as they are now, and institutions designed to help them were insensitive to their specific needs.

LA SED is the only Hispanic agency that was specifically designed to advocate on behalf of this disenfranchised segment of the Detroit population.

LA SED has successfully negotiated with the Mayor's Office, the Detroit Public School System, the Department of Social Services, the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, the Wayne County Sheriffs Department, and others to ensure that Hispanics are treated equitably and have fair accessibility to these services.

Neighborhood Development meets various community related objectives including advocacy, information and referral, capital and resource development, education, publicity and long-range planning. A variety of in-house services are also coordinated through this project (i.e., MESC branch office, Wayne County Neighborhood Services, etc.).

Supportive Social Services to Older Adults objectives are to provide educational and recreational programs for senior citizens and to supervise and coordinate daily activities such as Meals on Wheels, Food and Friendship, Choreworker and Homemaker. Another objective is to supervise the center in the absence of the senior director and to assist in other program functions.

Social adjustment objectives focus on youths, providing counseling, leadership workshops, work experience, and crisis intervention. These activities focus on, but are not limited to, educational issues, the court probationary system, continuation into higher education, and special summer projects.

LA SED Youth Program services adolescents, mainly Hispanic, ages 13-25. The majority reside in homes below the poverty level in the Southwest Detroit community. Predominantly, the clients can be described as at-risk youth and many have dropped out of school. Individual and family counseling are provided regarding academic issues, familial conflict, assimilation issues, interpersonal conflict, depression, crisis intervention, pregnancy concerns, and higher education matters. Employment training and referral is also provided. Supervised recreation programming is offered each day.