

'Operation TEAM' Proposed to Economic Opportunity for Summer Program

The North Star Borough Community Action Agency has submitted a proposal to the Office of Economic Opportunity for a summer camp program. If approved, the local program, known as "Operation TEAM," will be funded under President Johnson's "Share Your Summer" program passed by Congress earlier this month.

TEAM, (Teen-agers Emerge As Manpower), will benefit about 30 boys and 20 girls this summer. The youths will be mainly recruited through the Youth and Adult Authority and the Public Welfare Division of the Alaska Department of Health and Welfare. The program is designed for children from 11 to 16 years old.

While in camp the boys will construct a permanent summer camp out of local Alaskan materials. The camp will be located on donated lake-front property in a remote area. The girls will receive camp scholarships for a two week camp experience at the local Girl Scouts of America summer camp.

Operation TEAM will in-

clude a health program and intensive counseling. The boys' camp will have as its staff, a director, camp counselor, cook and volunteer youth leaders. The girls will camp with the Girl Scouts.

TEAM will be operated by an advisory board of eight to twelve people representing the children's parents and interested governmental agencies. The board shall be elected at an advertised public meeting by interested area adults.

According to Larry Brayton, CAA Director, "After conducting a camp survey of our community, it was learned that there is a lack of facilities, especially for young boys and girls in the poverty levels outside the mainstream of organized youth activities and usually in trouble.

"With this apparent lack of facilities for the children of the poverty area, and an additional provisions for specialized concentrated counseling for this group of children, the CAA Board has endorsed this program which will provide an on-going and growing camping facility

which will challenge the ingenuity of the boys and girls who will use the facility."

Much of the preliminary work on the proposed "Operation TEAM" has been done by Mrs. Jane Sutherland.

The proposed budget for TEAM is \$10,350. The CAA has asked for a federal grant from the OEO for \$9,300. The other \$1,050 will come from local sources and contributions.