PN FEEDBACK III: We have further Networker comments on the “whither/wither PN” issue, which was first raised in the December 1991 newsletter, and continued in the March 1992 PN.

From R. Wayne Clark (Co-ops and Social Change, Box 549, Durham, NC 03824): I find PN a valuable inspiration to keep my spirits up. If it did not come around regularly, I might forget that some people in America are working to restore a sense of community in our lives—urban and rural. I would like to see more coverage of cooperatives and their role in rebuilding America.

From Raphael Fischler (Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA 94720): Any way the newsletter could include a bibliographic section on progressive planning? This would require Networkers to send in what they find, on a regular basis (any chance that would happen?). What about specific journals being “assigned” (on a voluntary basis) to individual PNers?

From Cindy Roesser (610 West End Ave., New York, NY 10024): I usually only glance at the newsletter, but I am nonetheless delighted to be connected to the Planners Network, and consider it a fine resource. I also am a member of the APA and ADPSR, but always felt the strongest affinity to PN. I regret that we don’t have more Network activities (e.g. conferences, workshops), and are not more active as a group (e.g. supporting specific legislation).

From Chris Tilly (Dept. of Policy and Planning, Univ. of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA 01854): I confess to utter complacency. I find PN as a newsletter and roster quite useful. I’m happy to keep sending money; I would have little or no interest in actually doing anything to revive or revive PN. I feel somewhat distant from planning, as an academic economist with policy-oriented interests. But there is enough overlap and cross-fertilization that I almost always get something out of the newsletter.

I’m not sure what feasible alternatives exist. One possibility would be an electronic bulletin board. Face-to-face events in various cities might help; but, given the broad range of interests among PN members, it may be difficult to craft events that would draw a significant percentage of PN folks in each city.

PN REPOSITORY: As the issue number on this newsletter indicates, PN has achieved a notable publishing record since its beginnings in 1975. PN #100 is approaching, and the idea of a library repository for a complete (and continuing) file of the newsletter has some growing appeal.

To covert the idea to reality, we are looking for specific suggestions from Networkers on how best to proceed. Please send us recommendations, warnings, proposals, etc.

FINANCIAL MINI-REPORT: Since the May Planners Network, we have received 45 contributions totaling $1,600. Our thanks to each contributor for your financial support.

With these contributions, our year-to-date figures are $5,611 from 163 Networkers. This compares to $7,237 from 225 contributors in the first three issues of 1991.

To tell quickly when you last supported PN with a check, look for the date after your name on the mailing label. We change (or add) the date whenever we get a check. The absence of a date means you have not yet contributed financially, and we’d like a check from you if possible.

Passing the Word

TOURISM/DEVELOPMENT: From Katherine E. Ennis (City Planning Dept., Box 511, Auburn, AL 36831): I am researching local economic development and tourism, and would like information on articles and publications on the topic, for a research report and annotated bibliography. I’ll be glad to send a copy of the finished report on request.

BLACK ACTIVISM: The Politics of Black Empowerment: The Transformation of Black Activism in Urban America, a 230-page book by James Jennings of the Univ. of Massachusetts-Boston, has been published by Wayne State Univ. Press. Copies are $29.95.

AIR POLLUTION: The Environmental Exchange (1930 18th St. N.W. #24, Wash. DC 20009, 202/378-2182) has issued a 111-page report, Air Pollution Solutions, which profiles 69 local laws, citizen campaigns, and innovative government and business programs that are effectively reducing smog, air toxics, and other chemical emissions. Copies are $17.


MENTAL HEALTH/HOMELESSNESS: National Organizations Concerned with Mental Health, Housing, and Homelessness is a 36-page free resource from the National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness, 262 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054, 800/444-7415.


ELDERLY SERVICES: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is establishing a grant and technical assistance program called “No Place Like Home,” to encourage state and local housing finance agencies to provide support services for older people in HFA-financed housing developments. Tenants: James J. Callahan, Heller School, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA 02254, 617/373-3074.


REDLINING/LAS VEGAS: Cashing Out: A Report on Home Mortgage Lending and the Creation of Moderate- and Low-Income Neighborhoods in Las Vegas is a 32-page report from the Las Vegas Alliance for Fair Banking (c/o Culinary Workers Union Local No. 226). The price is $15. Copies are available from the Growth Policies Fund, (702) 367-8630, 100 S. First St., Reno, NV 89501. On the 1990 lending trends of the city's largest banks. A leading finding: Out more than 10,000 home loans by all the city’s lenders, 59 went to the mostly-median, low-income Westside. No price listed.


NETWORKER UPDATE: From Frederick S. Tainter: I have left my position at IEP Inc., and now am a principal a LandUse Inc. (Box 155, Ashland, MA 01721, 508/881-6661), a consulting firm focusing on environmental planning, land-use policy, and economic development.

HOMELESS/COUNSELING: The American Association for Counseling and Development (800/347-6467) has published Helping Homeless People: Unique Challenges and Solutions, as a guide for educators, counselors, social workers, and related human development professionals. Copies are $27.25.

HUNGER RESOURCE: The Supplement to the January 1992 (Vol. 24, No. 1) Journal of Nutrition Education focuses on “Hunger in the 80’s and 90’s,” and features research articles and reports on projects, problems of hunger, program response, and next steps for nutrition educators. Copies: Society for Nutrition Education, 2001 Kilebrew Dr. #1, Minneapolis, MN 55425. No price listed.

HOMELESSNESS/WOMEN: The Women Outside: Meanings and Myths of Homelessness, by Stephanie Gedele, examines homelessness and marginality among women, with special attention to cross-cultural perspective. Copies are $25, from Univ. of California Press, 510/442-4502.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT: The Growth Management Planning and Research Center, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, 206/543-5168 has begun distributing the Tools That Work series, providing information on 18 growth-management tools, including an index to the city from a jurisdiction which used it successfully. Also available is Local Growth Management Planning Tools, a report on the use, purpose and effectiveness of local government ordinances and planning mechanisms used to manage growth. No prices listed.


LENDING/CHICAGO: The Woodstock Institute (407 S. Dearborn #550, Chicago, IL 60605, 312/427-8070) has issued The 1990 Community Lending Fact Book, providing detailed information on Chicago-area loan applications and denials, by race and income of applicant. No price listed.

TENANT ALLIANCE/HUD: Tenants in privately owned projects assisted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have formed the National Alliance of HUD Tenants: Alliance President Jim McNiel, Box 525, Boston, MA 02128.

SELF-HELP/SOCIAL CHANGE: Frank Riekkien, Executive Director of the National Self-Help Clearinghouse in New York, reviews the role of “Self-Help/Mutual Aid and Social Change” in a four-page article in Journal of Housing, Vol. 15, No.1 (1986). Perception, Canada’s social development magazine. Self-help/mutual aid, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, have been integrally involved in social movements, he asserts, and have been in the forefront of progressive social change. Copies: Frank Riekkien, CUNY Graduate School and University Center, 33 E. 42nd St., New York NY 10017. Self-help cooperatives are listed.

FAIR HOUSING FUNDS: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has issued a notice of funds availability for its 8.5-million Fair Housing Initiative Program. Applications: Fair Housing Information Clearinghouse, Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20850, 301/432-3442.

STATE GOVERNMENT: The Council on State Governments (Iron Works Pike, Box 1190, Lexington, KY 40504, 800/990-1910) has issued the 670-page 1992-93 edition of The Book of the States, for reference, comparison, and analysis of state governments. Copies are $82.75.

HOUSING PRESERVATION: Save Your Home is a 34-page booklet for residents of HUD-assisted housing on new programs in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve the units’ low-income affordability. Copies are 50 cents (minimum order, 20 copies), from National Housing Law Project, 1950 Addison St. #200, Berkeley, CA 94704, 510/548-9400.

CRA REQUIREMENTS: The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council published in the March 31 Federal Register requirements for CRA during the Reagan administration. This is a new requirement, as requirements for housing assistance programs.

PN Special Feature

The Desperate Need for SRO Housing

by Walter Thabit

The lack of single-room occupancy housing, or SROs, is forcing millions of poor and elderly single- and two-person households across the country to compete for space that they have little left to live on. Many others already are homeless. An SRO tenant, in contrast, rents a single living room, shares a kitchen and bath with other tenants, and pays one-third to half the rent being charged for a full apartment.

The problem is that SROs are frowned upon by landlords and local communities. With few exceptions (San Diego is one; Los Angeles another) city bureaucracy works to keep their "high" housing standards, while people are living in cardboard boxes. SRO demolition and conversion to other uses is encouraged; the creation of new SROs is discouraged.

The result is an increasing squeeze on the very poor, ending in mental illness, substance abuse, and a growing homeless population.

Nowhere is the issue more clearly drawn than in the Desperately Needed SRO Housing effort, a campaign to create new SROs and save the SRO situation in New York City.

New York lost 75,000 SRO-type units over the past 30 years, resulting largely from misguided city policies, which banned SRO and furnished-room development in 1955, and encouraged converting low-rent residence hotels into co-ops and condos.

Since then, the city has continued to be antagonistic to SRO-type units, despite an explosive increase in single-person household growth (which don’t need as much space as larger households), from 185,000 in 1960 to 700,000 in 1986, and also a doubling of renters paying $35 percent of income for rent (from 18.5 percent in 1960 to 1986.9 percent in 1986).

Today, 400,000 one- and two-person households are either already homeless (at least 60,000 of whom are elderly and homeless), or in critical need of less expensive accommodations.

About half the 400,000 neediest are elderly. The 160,000 elderly renters living on the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in 1986 (45,884 in 1986) are paying 60-80 percent of their income for rent, leaving less than $5 a day for all other expenses.

Some 30,000 mentally ill and physically disabled elderly need residential care settings.

Of the non-elderly, one-third are employed, and need only affordable housing. Some 70,000 of the non-elderly also need treatment and/or supportive housing for mental illness, substance abuse, and other disabilities.

To start satisfying these critical needs, New York City needs at least 100,000 SRO-type units. The operating costs alone of full apartments, even studios, are far higher than most poor persons can afford. SRO rents are more easily affordable.

So far, the city has undertaken a very modest program of nonprofit SROs, primarily social action, with special needs. At its best, the program provides less than 1,000 units a year.

But there’s the situation around the city, the city should immediately:

1. Repeat the prohibition against SROs and furnished-room conversions, which would allow developers to create SRO-type housing.

2. Adopt a new building classification provision for the conversion of "living units," with a minimum floor area of 120 square feet. Even if the City Council agrees with the need for SROs, the major impediments to their creation (based on the recent experience of nonprofits) are the spendy fees and the slow approval of permits to produce them quickly and inexpensively.

3. We recommend include exclusively restrictive and complex building and zoning codes. Processing building applications and getting various agency approvals are nightmares.

Another problem is Local Law 38, which would allow the City to make housing units to be wheelchair accessible, adding 15 percent to project costs. (Accessibility could be required for a percentage of the units, or for ground-floor units, or for a percentage of projects, without burdening all units with the costs.)

In response, we also need:

1. Easing of restrictive building and zoning codes.

2. Radical reductions in processing time.

None of the above steps would cost a dollar. Instead, they would double the number of more SRO-type housing by private developers—ranging from professional associations to the mom-and-pop conversion of one- and two-family homes into furnished condos in order to make enough money to carry those empty houses.

While these steps would radically improve conditions for most low-income, single-person tenants, they also have:

1. Encourage SRO-type developments at very low rents, by subsidizing conversion construction costs as needed to meet the needs of the lowest-income persons.

2. Prevent nonprofit housing/ residential care programs that treat/support the mentally ill, substance abusers, those with HIV and AIDS, and the severely disabled elderly.

The city could pay for the needed subsidy programs by using the Housing New York program, as one example. This program, funded by Battery Park City Bond Issue, has to date totalled $1.2 billion.

Typically (and unfortunately), the fund now is being used primarily for moderate-
Elderly Services: The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is establishing a grant and technical assistance program called “No Place Like Home,” to encourage state and local housing finance agencies to develop older persons’ services for older people in HFA-financed housing developments. Teachers’ Janes J. Callahan, Heller School, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA 02254, 617/776-3974.


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Self-Help/Community: Frank Riemens, Executive Director of the National Self-Help Clearinghouse in New York, reviews the role of Self-Help/Mutual Aid and Social Change in a four-page article in the Vol. 15,4/16-1 Perception, Canada’s social development magazine. Self-help/mutual aid efforts, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, have been integrally involved in creating more and more self-determined communities, and have been in the forefront of progressive social change. Copies: Frank Riemens, CUNY Graduate School and University Center, 33 E. 42nd St., New York, NY 10017.

Fair Housing Funds: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has issued a notice of funds availability for its 65.9-million Fair Housing Initiative Program. Applications: Fair Housing Information Clearinghouse, Box 6901, Rockville, MD 20850, 800/358-1432.


Housing Preservation: Save Your Home is a 34-page booklet for residents of Illinois. It illustrates housing on new programs in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve the units’ low-income affordability. Copies are 90 cents (minimum order, 20 copies), from: National Housing Law Project, 1950 Addison St. #200, Berkeley, CA 94704, 510/548-9400.

CRA Requirements: The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council published in the March 31 Federal Register registration of the Community Reinvestment Act requirements, as a source of debt or equity funding for affordable housing programs. (continued on page 4)

PN Special Feature

The Desperate Need for SRO Housing

by Walter Thabit

The lack of single-room occupancy (SRO) housing, or SROs, including at least one elder or severely disabled, is forcing millions of poor and elderly single- and two-person households across the country to live in conditions that many have little left to live on. Many others already are homeless.

An SRO tenant, in contrast, rents a single living room, shares a kitchen and bath with other tenants, and pays one-third to half the rent being charged for a full apartment.

The problem is that SROs are frowned upon by most landlords and local communities. With few exceptions (San Diego is one; Los Angeles another), city bureaucrats view SROs’ “high” housing standards, while people are living in cardboard boxes. SRO demolition and conversion to other uses is encouraged; the creation of new SROs is discouraged.

The result is an increasing squeeze on the very poor, ending in mental illness, substance abuse, and a growing homeless population.

Nowhere is the issue more clearly drawn than in the Desperately Needed Now: An SRO Housing Fix for New York and for the SRO situation in New York City.

New York lost 75,000 SRO-type units over the past 30 years, resulting largely from misguided city policies, which banned SRO and furnished-room development in 1955, and encouraged converting low-rent residence hotels into co-ops and condos.

Since then, the city has continued to be antagomorphic to SRO-type units, despite an explosive increase in single-person household, which (don’t need as much space as larger households), from 185,000 in 1960 to 700,000 in 1990, and also a doubling of the renters paying 35 percent of income for rent (from 18.5 percent in 1960 to 38 percent in 1990).

Today, 400,000 one- and two-person households are either already homeless (at least 60,000) or in imminent danger of becoming homeless, or in critical need of less expensive accommodations.

About half the 400,000 neediest are elderly. The 160,000 elderly renters living on the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) level in 1990 (45,884 in 1986) are paying 60-80 percent of their income for rent, leaving less than $5 a day for all other expenses.

Some 30,000 mentally ill and physically disabled elderly need residential care settings.

Of the non-elderly, one-third are employed, and need only affordable housing. Some 70,000 of the non-elderly also need treatment and/or supportive housing for mental illness, substance abuse, and other disorders.

To start satisfying these critical needs, New York City needs at least 100,000 SRO units. The operating costs alone of full apartments, even studios, are far higher than most poor persons can afford. SRO rents are more easily affordable.

So far, the city has undertaken a very modest program of nonprofit SROs, primarily by formal action, with special needs.

At its best, the program produces less than 1,000 units a year.

But to turn the situation around, the city should immediately:

* Repeat the prohibition against SRO and furnished-room conversions, which would prevent developers to create SRO-type housing.

* Adopt a new building classification permitting construction of low-rent “living units,” with a minimum floor area of 120 square feet.

* Do not agree with the need for SROs, the major impediments to their creation (based on the recent experience of the city’s property development attempts) to prevent them quickly and inexpensively.

* The city includes exclusively restrictive and complex building and zoning codes. Processing building applications and getting various agency approvals are nightmares.

Another problem is Local Law 58, which makes it impossible for a tenant to be wheelchair accessible, adding 15 percent to project costs. (Accessibility could be required for a percentage of the floor area, or for a percentage of projects, without burdening all units with the costs.)

In response, we also need:

* Easing of restrictive building and zoning codes.

* Radical reductions in processing time.

None of the above steps would cost a dollar more than the cost of building more SRO-type housing by private developers—ranging from professional developers to the non-profit and conversion development of one- and two-family houses into furnished condos in order to make them easily carry their empty homes.

While these steps would radically improve conditions for most low-income, single-person households, they also have:

* Encourage SRO-type developments at very low rents, by subsidizing conversions and new construction as needed to meet the needs of the lowest-income persons.

* Fund new nonprofit housing/ residential care programs that treat/support the mentally ill, substance abusers, those with HIV and AIDS, battered women, and the seriously disabled elderly.

The city could pay for the needed subsidy programs by using the Housing New York program, as one example. This program, funded by Battery Park City and as one example, now totals about $1.2 billion.

Typically (and unfortunately), the fund now being used primarily for moderate-

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and middle-income housing. But the disaster of homelessness demands that top priority be given to the SRO program, until the crisis is contained.

In brief, cities have to start remembering the forgotten majority of women and men at the bottom of the income barrel. They are a rapidly growing number, especially the poor elderly; and they are being brutalized by high rents, illegal and unstable housing occupations, and growing homelessness.

Finally, cities should take note that the costs of temporary shelters are greater than the costs of permanent shelters, and that one room is better than no room at all.

Walter Thabit is a planning consultant in the Women's Policy Research Institute. He is currently Needed Now. An SRO Housing Revolution, by Walter Thabit, is $5 postpaid from Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development, 236 W. 27th St. 2nd Flr., New York, NY 10011.

**URBAN AGENDA: Challenging Uneven Development: An Urban Agenda for the 1990s, edited by Philip Nyden and Win Wiesel, focuses on community efforts against gentrification, and preserving diverse communities, among other topics. The publisher is Rutgers Univ. Press; no price listed.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: From PnStr Ken Coey (College of Social Science, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI 48824), is a correspondence. During the winter, I was on leave from a project I have been working on for the National Science Foundation. I have been working on developing a research agenda on the impact of information technology in conjunction with a national development strategy, and asked for published documents on the experiences of others in developing such an agenda. I sent him some information, but wondered if other PnStrs might have more. If you contact me, I'll pass your suggestions along to my correspondence.

**BLACK COMMUNITY/LA: Apartheid in an American Community: The Case of the Black Community in Los Angeles, is an article by Cynthia Hamilton, which first appeared in the L.A. Weekly. Copies are $2 from Labor/Community Strategy Center, 14540 Haynes St. #200, Van Nuys, CA 91411, 818/781-4800.

**PnStr WORK CHRONICLED: Where the Buffalo Roam, by Anne Matthews, recounts the Buffalo Commons work that Deborah Pepper and her husband, PnStr Frank, have done on the land use and economic future of the Great Plains in particular, and the American West in general. Copies are $19.95, from Grove Weidenfeld, 841 Broadway, New York, NY 10013, 212/614-7850.

**CIVIL RIGHTS/HUD: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 1990 Annual Civil Rights Report to Congress is available from HUD's Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division, Wash., DC 20410. No price listed.

**NETWORKER UPDATE: From Networker Dennis Crow (331 N. St. Sw., Wash. DC 20024): I have been working for HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPs), which manages all of HUD's homeless assistance programs. I have the lead role for the Emergency Shelter Grants Program nationwide, and its new set-aside for Native Americans.

Personally, I married a SNAPs staffer last year, and am still writing staff in planning other conference work for shelters, APA, AICP, and Maecenas Press.

**POLICY PROPOSAL: The Eisenhower Foundation (1660 L. St. N.W. #200, Wash. DC 20036, 202/429-0440) has issued No Quick Fix, a comprehensive, 10-year, $300-billion federal policy proposal for investing in children and youth, and reconstructing inner-city communities. No price listed.

**RESEARCH/WOMEN ISSUES: July 31 is the deadline for two-three research mini-grants from the Institute for Women's Policy Research (1400 20th St. N.W. #104, Wash. DC 20036, 202/785-5101) for project-oriented research, tied to local, state and national advocacy, on women's issues, with attention to race, ethnicity, and class. Contact Joyce Wando.

**UTILITIES/ENVIRONMENT: Power Line is a bimonthly newsletter, providing environmental and consumer perspectives on national energy issues. Regular features include articles and analysis, information resources, and news briefs. Subscriptions are $20 (individuals and nonprofits) from Environmental Action Foundation, 930 Carroll Ave. #100, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

**CRA ORGANIZING: Hartford Area Rally Together (66 Park St., Hartford, CT 06106, 203/525-3449) has published Building Power with CRA, describing its successful organizing effort to establish a low-interest loan fund for first-time buyers. No price listed.


**TAKE THE MONEY AND Run: The Story of Banking Deposits from Minority Neighborhoods in 14 Cities is a report on banking practices in American banking institutions, tied to local, state and national advocacy, on women's issues, with attention to race, ethnicity, and class. Contact Joyce Wando.

**ANTI-DRUG FUND-Government Information Services (1611 N. Kent #508, Arkansas, 72209, 704/256-9000) has issued an 1,100-page 1992 Guide to Federal Funding for Anti-Drug to establish a clearinghouse and contracts to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for drug abuse treatment, prevention, education, and rehabilitation. Copies are $176.

**HOUSING DATA: The Widening Gap: The Housing Needs of Low-Income Families (24 pages, $10), and The Widening Gap Sourcebook (100 pages, $10), both by Networker Gwathmey Dolbear, have been published by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, 101214th St. N.W. #1200, Wash. DC 20005, 202/662-1530.

**HOUSING AGENCIES/QUERY: From Networker Hans Jensen (Room 200, San Diego CA 92102, 619/296-7005): Are Networkers aware of any housing agencies that do a particularly good job in providing low-income housing in their cities? The San Diego Housing Commission is being reorganized, and the person assigned the task would like to communicate with some successful agencies. I would welcome suggestions.

**BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT: The National Urban League Research Department (1111 14th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/785-7000) has issued a report, Perils of Neglect: Black Unemployment in the Nineties.

**PUERTO RICANS/HIGHER EDUCATION: The Higher Education Center for the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Hunter College, 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10012, 212/772-5689) has issued a Directory of Puerto Rican Professionals Working in Higher Education in the United States, with some 600 entries on faculty, staff, and administrators in colleges and universities. Copies are $25.

**RURAL HOUSING: The California Coalition for Rural Housing (926 St. J4422, Sacramento, CA 95816, 914/443-7515) has published an 82-page guide on affordable housing for low-and moderate-income households, The Affordable Housing Handbook ($5), and also publishes a bimonthly newsletter, California Rural Housing News.

**NONPROFIT INSTITUTE/TUFTS: The Lincoln Center Tufts University (Medford, MA 02155) has received funding for a New England Institute for Nonprofit Organizations, to improve the effectiveness of small and medium nonprofits through education, training, and policy assistance, and research. PnStr Rob Holister (617/762-3765) is Director of the Lincoln Field Center.


**RIOT RESOURCE/LA: Inside the L.A. Riots, edited by Don Hazen, is a new compendium, from the Institute for Alternative Journalism, 2955 8th St., New York, NY 10021, 212/799-4822. Copies are $8.95.

**CHILDREN'S ISSUES RESOURCE: The Spring-Summer publications list of the Children's Defense Fund (1223 C St. N.W., Wash. DC 20001) features a 128-page book by CDF President Marian Wright Edelman, My Children and Yours, passing on to her sons a family legacy based on service to others. Copies are $16.

**POVERTY NEWSLETTER: CAP News is a quarterly newsletter of the Campaign To Abolish Poverty, 942 Market St. #708, San Francisco, CA 94102, 415/397-4911. Annual subscriptions are $10.

**HOUSING DISCRIMINATION: A national audit by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of housing discrimination is available (along with six sub-studies) from HUD User, Box 609, Rockville, MD 20850, 800/245-2691. The price is $4 each.

**AMERICAN INDIANS: Social Justice and Public Policy, edited by Donald Green and Thomas Tomessen, has been published by the Univ. of Wisconsin's Institute on Race and Ethnicity (Box 41, Milwaukee, WI 53201, 414/229-4701) as Vol. IX of its Ethnicity and Public Policy Series. Copies are $16.95 (paper).

**TOXICS ORGANIZING: The Vermont Toxic Education Project (Box 455, Barre, VT 05641, 802/476-7757) has published an Environmental Emergency Training Guide for Community Workers, by Theresa Freeman. Copies are $8.95.

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A URBAN AGENDA: Challenging Uneven Development: An Urban Agenda for the 1990s, edited by Philip Nyden and Wim Wieland, focuses on community efforts against gentrification, and preserving diverse communities, among other topics. The publisher is Rutgers Univ. Press; no price listed.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: From PNer Ken Cory (College of Social Science, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI) comes a newsletter. A correspondent wrote that he was charged with developing a research agenda on the impact of information technology in conjunction with a national development strategy, and asked for published documents on the experiences of others in developing such an agenda. I sent him some information, but wondered if other PNeRs might have more. If you'd like my suggestions along to my correspondent, let me know.

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CIVIL RIGHTS/HUD: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 1990 Annual Civil Rights Report to Congress is available from HUD's Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division, Wash, DC 20410. No price listed.

NETWORK UPDATE: From Networker Dennis Crow (333 N. St. W., Wash, DC 20024): I have been working for HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPs), which manages all of HUD's homeless assistance programs. I have the lead role for the Emergency Shelter Grants Program nationwide, and its new set-aside for Native Americans. Personally, I married a SNAPs staffer last year, and am still writing stuff in planning her wedding. We plan to work for shelters, APA, AICP, and MaacoinPress.

POLICY PROPOSAL: The Eisenhower Foundation (1600 L St. N.W. #200, Wash, DC 20036, 202/429-0440) has issued No Quick Fix, a comprehensive, 10-year, $300-billion federal policy proposal for investment in children and youth, and reconstructing interconnected communities. No price listed.

RESEARCH/WOMEN ISSUES: July 31 is the deadline for two-three research mini-grants from the Institute for Women's Policy Research (1400 26th St. N.W. #104, Wash, DC 20036, 202/785-5100), for gender-oriented research, tied to local, state, and national advocacy, on women's issues, with attention to race, ethnicity, and class. Contact Joyce Wando.

UTILITIES ENVIRONMENT: Power Line is a bimonthly newsletter, providing environmental and consumer perspectives on national energy issues. Regular features include articles and analysis, information resources, and news briefs. Subscriptions are $20 (individuals and nonprofits) from: Environmental Action Foundation, 6930 Carroll Ave. #600, Takoma Park, MD 20912.

CR A ORGANIZING: Hartford Areas Rally Together (60 Park St., Hartford, CT 06106, 203/525-3449) has published Building Power with CRA, describing its successful organizing effort to build a low-interest loan fund for first-time buyers. No price listed.


TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN: The Stophopping of Deposits from Minority Neighborhoods in 14 Cities is a report on banking practices in select cities. Copies are $4.25 from: ACORN, 739 8th St. S.E., Wash, DC 20003, 202/547-8292. No price listed.

ANTI DRUG FUND: Government Information Services (1611 N. Kent #508, Arlington, VA 22209, 703/528-6000) has issued a 1-page 1992 Guide to Federal Funding for Anti Drug to establish grants, covering grants and contracts to public agencies, and nonprofit organizations for drug abuse treatment, prevention, education, and rehabilitation. Copies are $17.

HOUSING DATA: The Widening Gap: The Housing Needs of Low-Income Families (24 pages, $10), and The Widening Gap Sourcebook (100 pages, $10), both by Networkers Fain and Dolberae, have been published by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1012 14th St. N.W. #1200, Wash, DC 20005, 202/662-1530.

HOUSING AGENCIES/QUERY: From Networkers Hans Janssen (San Diego CA 1015 19th St. #700, San Diego, CA 92101, 619/296-7005): Are Networkers aware of any housing agencies that do a particularly good job in providing low-income housing in their cities? San Diego Housing Commission is being recommended, and the person assigned the task would like to communicate with some successful agencies. I would welcome suggestions.


PUERTO RICAN HIGHER EDUCATION: The Higher Education Guide for the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (Hunter College, 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10012, 212/772-5689) has issued a Directory of Puerto Rican Professionals Working in Higher Education in the United States, with some 600 entries on faculty, staff, and administrators in colleges and universities. Copies are $25.

RURAL HOUSING: The California Coalition for Rural Housing (926 J St. #422, Sacramento, CA 95816, 914/445-7515) has published an 82-page guide on affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households, The Affordable Housing Handbook ($5), and also publishes a bimonthly newsletter, California Rural Housing News.

NONPROFIT INSTITUTE: The Lincoln Filene Center at Tufts University (Medford, MA 02155) has received funding for a New England Institute for Nonprofit Organizations, to improve the effectiveness of small and medium nonprofits through education, training, public policy assistance, and research. PNer Rob Hollister (617/762-3659) is Director of the Lincoln Filene Center.


RIOT RESOURCE/IA: Inside the L.A. Riots, edited by Don Hazen, is a new compendium, from the Institute for Alternative Journalism, 15 55th St., New York, NY 10029, 212/790-4822. Copies are $8.95.

CHILDREN ISSUES RESOURCE: The Spring-Summer publications list of the Children's Defense Fund (1221 C St. N.W., Wash, DC 20001) features a 128-page book by CDF President Marian Wright Edelman, A Promise Is A Promise: 40 Years of Struggle for My Children and Yours, passing on to her sons a family legacy based on service to others. Copies are $16.

POVERTY NEWSLETTER: Cap News is a quarterly newsletter of the Campaign to Abolish Poverty, 942 Market St. #708, N.Y., San Francisco, CA 94102, 415/397-491. Annual subscriptions are $10.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION: A national audit by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of housing discrimination is available (along with six subaudits) from: HUD User, Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20850, 800/245-2691. The price is $4 each.

AMERICAN INDIANS Socio-Justice and Public Policy, edited by Donald Green and Thomas Tennesen, has been published by the Univ. of Wisconsin's Institute on Race and Ethnicity (Box 41, Milwaukee, WI 53201, 414/229-4701) as Vol. IX of its Ethnicity and Public Policy Series. Copies are $16.95 (paper).

TOXICS ORGANIZING: The Vermont Toxic Education Project (Box 458, Barre, VT 05641, 802/476-7757) has published an 18-page guide, Toxic Guide for Community Workers, by Theresa Freeman. Copies are $8.95.

July 23, 1992/Planners Network 94/5
CIVIL RIGHTS/ASIAN AMERICANS: Civil Rights Issues Facing Asian Americans in the 1990s is a 223-page report from the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Wash., DC 20423. No price listed.

RURAL HOUSING: The Cattaraugus Preservation Corp. (1 Washington St., Bx 806, Ellenville, NY 12428, 716/609-2075), a rural nonprofit housing group of which PnR Dan Carr is Program Coordinator, has completed a 32-bed adult residential care facility for homeless persons. It is completing its fifth Farm Home Administration Section 515 project for seniors, disabled, and handicapped, and is starting a single-family homeowner program, while exploring the community land trust concept.

CHILDREN/YOUTH PROPOSAL: Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-CT) has introduced legislation (S 1073) which would create a children's investment trust fund, similar to Social Security, for programs benefiting youth, and families. Details: Jule Sugarman (Box 27224, Wash. DC 20038, 202/785-9524), who proposed the strategy (and was also a founder of Head Start).

LIBRARIES AT RISK: The Institute for Local Self-Reliance (3452 10th St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/323-4108) has published a six-page report, Save the Public Library. No price listed.

NETWORKER UPDATE: From Networker Michelle Donnelly (821 N.W. 5th C1, Gainesville, FL 32607) I received notice of my MALP membership, news as a research associate on a study funded by the Florida Department of Transportation to develop a plan for older pedestrians, especially in the Orlando area, and an opportunity to apply also to other Florida areas with concentrations of elderly.

HOMELESSNESS RESOURCE: Homes for the Homeless: A Handbook For Action, by Adam Berger and others, is a 259-page booklet, which recounts the Yale Law School Shelter Project and Homeless People's Community-Based Housing effort. Copies are $14.95 (paper), from: Carolina Academic Press, 700 Kent St., Durham, NC 27701, 919/689-7486.

HOUSING TRUST FUNDS: The Housing Trust Fund Project (570 Shepard St., San Pedro, CA 90731, 310/334-2499), headed by PnR Mary Bukovsky, is an information clearinghouse on housing trust funds, and also publishes a monthly newsletter, Current Trends.

HOMELESS FUNDING: The Planners Network has joined with other national organizations in supporting the National Coalition for the Homeless (182 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/265-2371) in a Congressional appeal for greater fiscal 1993 funding for McKinney Homeless programs. Contact the Coalition for details.

POVERTY PERSPECTIVE: “Measuring Poverty” is a nine-page overview, by Patrick Ruggles of the Urban Institute, in the Spring 1992 Focus newsletter of the Institute for Research on Poverty (Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706, 608/262-6358).

PEACE DIVIDEND is a newsletter from Social Policy magazine (25 W. 43rd St. #826, New York, NY 10036) on using defense savings for human needs, in moving toward a peace economy. No price listed.


HOUSING RESEARCH: The Center for Housing Management and Development (Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Univ. of Illinois, Champaign) is compiling a database on housing efforts and activists, and wants to include entries for the United States. Contact: Leena Astfield, Manager, Housing Research Register.


FAIMLY UNIFICATION: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is preparing a notice of funds availability for an 11-state demonstration of special Section 8 rental assistance to help prevent unbalanced immigration of children from their families. Details: Lisa Mihaly, Children's Defense Fund, 25 E St. N.W., Wash. DC 20001, 202/628-8777.

URBAN VILLAGE/SEATTLE: From Jim Krouskop (Growth Management Clearinghouse, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, 206/543-5168) we are looking for models of urban village developments, especially in which affordable housing, displacement, small business retention, and safety have been addressed, as part of our work with Seattle Community Inc., a nonprofit group planning to redesign an area of downtown Seattle. The aim is to create in-town development with the best growth-management principles.


LIGHT RAIL: From PnR Phil McMann (189 Lake St., Perris 92566, Western Australia, Australia: The Light Rail Group in Perth is seeking information on light rail versus freeways, such as articles, experiences, statistics, personal issues, and so forth, which would help us defeat freeway planners and their plans.

NONPROFIT FUNDING: The Union Institute/Center for Public Policy (1731 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/667-1313) has issued Neighbors Building Communities: A Report of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Project, a 101-page account of expanding business aid to nonprofits through state tax credits for donations. No price listed.

PnR UPDATE: From PnR Marc Weiss (Urban Planning, Columbus Univ., New York, NY 10027, 212/843-3557) I am looking for information, ideas, and references on inner-city or ethnic development and marketing. Also, I am working on housing and urban policy issues for Gov. Bill Clinton's Democratic presidential campaign; so send me your thoughts, suggestions, strategies, and policy proposals.

HOUSING DOCUMENTARY: Takeover: Heroes of the New American Dispossession is a documentary by Pamela Yates and Peter Kinoy of May 1990 actions in five U.S. cities, occupying vacant HUD housing. It is scheduled for an August 10 showing on PBS in the View series. Details: The American Film Institute, 530 W. 38th St. #881, New York, NY 10119, 212/397-0970.

Upcoming Conferences

PEOPLE'S CONVENTION: A national call has been issued for a People's Progressive Convention August 21-23 in Pisgah, N.C. Details: National African American Network, 5113 Georgia Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20011, 202/726-0766.

JOBS

PN REMINDER: Some of the jobs we may list may have publication deadlines earlier than when you receive the newsletter. But deadlines sometimes can be adjusted. So we urge you to phone first, if a number is listed, and check on the deadline schedule.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: The National Association of Community Development Loan Funds (924 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19107, 215/923-2475) is seeking an Administrative Assistant, to provide office and program support, and clerical services to a three-person staff. Salary is $18,000-$21,000. Contact: Martin Paul Trumble, Executive Director.

The Planners Network

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in political, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote profit and property rights over human rights and needs. We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and ensuring the environment is treated as a human, not a commodity. We believe in the equitable distribution of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

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The Planners Network Newsletter is published six times a year as the principal means of communication among Network members, students, and faculty, and is to serve our needs (even if we need funds for operating expenses). The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network members: $15 for students and unemployed; graduated payments for the employed of $25 plus $1 for each $1,000 earned above $10,000.

LISC STAFF: The Local Initiatives Support Corp. (733 3rd Ave., New York, NY 10017, 212/455-9800) is seeking an Assistant Director, and am working as a site director in a five-city campaign, and also a Program Director in connection with a three-year community-building initiative. Salary is based on experience, but applicable to New York area, not suitable to West Point, New York.

HOUSING DIRECTOR: The Texas Development Institute (824 W. 10th St. #110, Austin, TX 78701, 512/478-6067) is seeking a Housing Director. Salary is $25,000-$35,000.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The University City Hospitality Coalition (3601 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 215/689-9433) is seeking an Executive Director for its services to homeless and indigent adults of West Philadelphia. No salary listed.

PORTFOLIO MANAGER: The National Equity Fund, an affiliate of the Local Initiatives Support Corp., has an opening for a Senior Portfolio Manager in its New York office, to oversee the asset management of a portfolio of 68 projects in the New York region. Salary is based on experience. Contact: Beth Demes, Director of Portfolio Management, National Equity Fund, 118 N. Clinton #A101, Chicago, IL 60601.

PROJECT STAFF: The Mega-Cities Project (4 Washington Square North, N.Y., New York, NY 10003, 212/996-7230), headed by PnR Janice Perlman, is seeking a Program Associate for organizational development and administration ($45,000-$55,000), and a Leadership Program Director ($50,000-$54,000), creating linkages between neighborhood low-income and minority neighborhoods and the government and business community.

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Members of the Steering Committee: Chester Hartman, DC, Chair; Emily Arichtsen, Boston; Eve Bach, Berkeley; Bob Beague, Portland, OR; William Chu, San Francisco; Michael Collins, Ithaca; Charles Hoch, Chicago, Joochul Kim, Tempe; Judy Kowys, Buffalo; Jacqueline Lavitz, LA; Peter Marcuse, NYC; Alan Rabish, Seoul; Trent Thompson, Durban, SA; Andrew Trembley, Pinellas Newsletter Editor: Prentice Bowser.

Is enclosed my check payable to the Planners Network for $ ...

Please check here if this is a new membership...

Please check here (current members only) if this is an address change, and write your former zip code...

Name: 
Address: 

Planners Network • 1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009

July 23, 1992/Planners Network #94/7
☐ ACADEMIC COORDINATOR: The Univ. of California Center for Cooperatives is seeking a three-quarter-time Academic Coordinator (position #APG92-02) in connection with developing a research and educational program in cooperative housing and rural economic development. Contact: Personnel Dept., UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 300 Lakeside Dr. 6th Flr., Oakland, CA 94612, 510/987-0087.

☐ PLANNING/CHILD CARE: The National Economic Development and Law Center (1950 Addison St. #200, Berkeley, CA 94704, 510/548-2600) has an immediate opening for a planner specializing in child care development in low-income communities. Duties will include technical assistance and public policy analysis. Contact: James Head, Executive Director.

☐ PHILADELPHIA LISC (924 Cherry St. 4th Flr., Philadelphia, PA 19107, 215/923-3801) has an opening for a Program Officer, with strong technical skills and at least three years’ experience in community and real estate development. Salary is competitive. Contact: V. Lamar Wilson, Program Director.

☐ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The Center for Democratic Renewal (Box 50469, Atlanta, GA 30302) is seeking an Executive Director. No salary listed.


Ex Conferences


☐ AUTO-FREE CITIES: Transportation Options (427 Bloor St. W. #205, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7, Canada) held the second international conference on auto-free cities May 22-24 in Toronto, on the theme “Car Dependence: Costs, Causes and Cures.” Among the speakers was PNer David Gurin, Deputy Commissioner, Metro Toronto Planning Dept.

☐ POVERTY/POLICY: The Univ. of Wisconsin’s Institute for Research on Poverty (Madison, WI 53706) has held its 25th anniversary conference, “Poverty and Public Policy: What Do We Know? What Should We Do?” Details: Robert Hauser, Director, 608/262-6358.

Etcetera

☐ SEPTEMBER PN DEADLINE: The arrival deadline for copy for the September Planners Network is Tuesday, September 8. We look forward to hearing from as many Networkers as possible. As always, our thanks to those who can type their notes. It’s a great help in production, and it reduces our chances of misreading what you write.

Arrival deadline for PN #95 copy: Tuesday, September 8.

☐ LOST SOULS: We herewith are reviving a former occasional feature in which PNers still in the Network can help us renew contact with PNers on the move who neglected to advise us of their address change. We’re always optimistic they really meant to stay in touch. Please let us know if you have an address for any of our wandering PNers:

Nina Bohlen, Cabin John, MD; Peter Medoff, Roxbury, MA; Charles Downs, New York, NY; Deborah Schnabel, Venice, CA; Steven Bass, Los Angeles, CA; Theresa Sefla, Berkeley, CA; Melissa Mandos, Baltimore, MD; Jonathan Feldman, Washington, DC; Catherine Adsitt, New Brunswick, NJ; Mary E. Shea, Hyattsville, MD; Mike Wold, Seattle, WA.