

Community Research Inc. Records

MS – 217

Wright State University
Special Collections and Archives

Processed by:
Susan L. Deister
Spring 1991

Introduction

The Community Research Inc. records were discovered when the Wright State University Archives moved to its present location in July 1979. The collection's provenance is unknown.

The material in this collection date from 1957 to 1976 and fill 9 Hollinger boxes, 113 files and consists of 4 ½ linear feet. The collection is arranged into three series as such:

- Series 1: Community Research Inc.
- Series 2: Pilot Cities Program
- Series 3: Miscellaneous Papers

There are no restrictions on the use of this material.

Scope and Content

The Community Research Inc. records are positioned into three series: (1) Community Research Inc.; (2) Pilot Cities Program; and (3) Miscellaneous Papers.

Series 1 holds the essence of Community Research Inc., with records from its creation in 1957 as Metropolitan Community Studies. Other records in this series are focused on the day to day affairs of Community Research Inc., with files on its policies, Annual Reports, Board meeting minutes and other correspondence. Also included in this series are reports and evaluations of community programs and problems that face Dayton as a growing city in the period from 1959 until 1976. This area is of special interest, as these reports, evaluations and studies were the primary goal of Community Research Inc.

Series 2 contains records that are focused on Community Research's role in the Pilot Cities Program. As with Series 1, Series 2 contains reports, Board meeting minutes and correspondence that was focused on the operations of the Pilot Cities Program. (Many of these records were created by staff from Community Research Inc.) At the heart of this series are Federal grant proposals by Dayton civic leaders, members of the police force and local lawyers. This series also includes several bound evaluations of the programs funded by these grants. These records are of special interest, as Dayton was one of the only ten cities in the nation selected to participate in the Pilot Cities Program, which was an attempt by the Federal government to address the problems faces by urban centers in the period between 1971-1975.

Series 3 is a collection of miscellaneous reports and information gathered by the staff of Community Research Inc. This information ranges from reports and data on the Montgomery County Court system to the Dayton Police Department's attempt to purchase a gyroplane to assist them in crime fighting. Information in this series also includes information gathered by Community Research Inc. on urban problems that other cities faced in the 1970s, such as drugs and youth problems.

Brief Agency History

With the rise of the commuter suburbs and the decline of the old central business districts, many cities in the United States fell victim to urban decay and blight in the period after World War II. Many major urban centers during this time saw the focal center of their cities as breeding grounds for vice among the lower strata of society that had come to replace the middle and upper classes that had left the central city for the safety of the suburbs. Many civic leaders watched the decline of the central cities, many felt that the only solution was to eradicate the problem at its source, and thus created programs of urban renewal. However, in an attempt to rid their cities of vice and the lower elements of society, often whole districts within the city that had fallen into decay, also fell victim to the wrecking ball. This in turn merely forced the unwanted parts of society to relocate to another area within the fringes of the old central city. It was in this context that Community Research Inc., was formed in Dayton, Ohio.

Originally called Metropolitan Community Studies, Inc., the organization was formed in 1957 by a group of Dayton area citizens to study the people, the governments and the problems of Metropolitan Dayton. The name of the organization was changed to Community Research Inc. in May of 1960. The first study produced by the organization occurred in 1959, and was entitled "Metropolitan Challenge." Because Community Research Inc. was founded as a non-profit, tax exempt, independent agency, it was able to solicit support for further reports. (Most of the agency's operating budget was obtained from a variety of sources, such as local companies, foundations and private individuals.) Subsequent reports covered a wide range of subjects. However, the initial concern was primarily local government problems. Its focus broadened over time, though, to include a wide variety of urban problems, including alcohol and drugs, and the renewal of Downtown Dayton.

In August 1970, the Dayton-Montgomery County Project was launched through the offices of Community Research Inc. after the area requested and qualified for a Pilot Cities designation. The history of the Pilot Cities Project can be traced to the Congressional and Presidential Crime Commission Studies of the early 1960s, which surveyed the causes of crime and delinquency. These studies made recommendations for operational and policy changes in city governments and in criminal justice agencies. These recommendations ran from improving policy equipment to de-emphasizing traditional police approaches to crime and disorder in favor of tactics and techniques designed to identify and control causes of crime. Other recommendations included improving the process of prosecution, adjudication and rehabilitation and developing alternatives to the courts and corrections components of the criminal justice system. In all cases, the recommendations urged using a wider array of community resources by increasing the understanding of and involvement by the community in the problems and challenges of the criminal justice system.

Most of these recommendations, however, were theories – untried, untested, and unproven. To implement them would require experimentation and financing. Consequently, Congress passed and President Lyndon Johnson signed the Omnibus Safe Street Act in 1968. The act created within the Justice Department the LEAA, whose purpose was to provide motivation for local communities to implement new programs by utilizing Federal funds. The LEAA then created within itself the Pilot Cities Project to be established in ten metropolitan

areas across the country where local officials were supportive enough and criminal justice agencies creative enough to try a coordinated approach to many of the recommendations. Pilot Cities was to be a five-year project to assist these areas in developing innovative, criminal justice programs for the purpose of demonstrating the applicability of these concepts for criminal justice agencies throughout the country.

The Dayton Police department and other criminal justice agencies, on both the city and county levels, indicated a desire to test recommendations that might improve their operations and functioning of the criminal justice system. Thus, Community Research and the City of Dayton and its agencies became a part of the Pilot Cities program from 1970 until its final phase in 1975.

Container Listing

Series I: Community Research Inc.

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	Metropolitan Community Studies
	2	Community Research Inc. purpose and procedures
	3	Community Research Inc. Annual Reports, 1965-1967, 1970-1974
	4	Community Research Inc. Board meeting minutes, July 1973-October 1973, December 1973-March 1974
	5	Community Research Inc. business and staff inventories and contracts
	6	IRS Correspondence
	7	Community Research Inc. Joint Purchases Study
	8	Community Research Inc. Funding Sources
	9	Community Research Inc. Annual Audits, 1959-1975
	10	Battelle and Battelle Correspondence, 1975
2	1	Community Research Inc. staff photographs, unidentified
	2	Community Research Inc. Request for discretionary funds for Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Program, 1970
	3	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Community Centered Team Policing Program, 1971
	4	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Neighborhood Assistance Officer, 1971
	5	Community Research Inc. Modeling-An Aid to Juvenile Justice Planners, May 1971
	6	Community Research Inc. Drug Rehabilitation Program, 1972
	7	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Youth Resources Commission, 1973
	8	Community Research Inc. Public Defender Evaluation, 1975
	9	Community Research Inc. Real Estate Study of Dayton, Oakwood and Kettering, May 1976
	10	Community Research Inc. Study of Characteristics and Occupational Classification of the Unemployed, February 1976

Series II: Pilot Cities Program

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
3	1	Pilot Cities Program; An Overview, 1973
	2	Pilot Cities Story, 1973
	3	Pilot Cities Program; General Policy, 1973
	4	Pilot Cities Program; Master Plan, January 1972-July 1975
	5	Pilot Cities Program; Phase I Report, July 1, 1970-December 31, 1971
	6	Pilot Cities Program; Phase II Report, January 1973-January 1974
	7	Pilot Cities Program; Phase III Report, August 1975
	8	Summary of the Pilot Cities Project, August 1975
	9	Pilot Cities Program Weekly Reports, March 1972-December 1972
	10	Pilot Cities Program; Westinghouse Urban Systems weekly reports, March 1972-December 1972

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
3	11	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board, July 1973-October 1973
	12	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board, December 1973-March 1974
	13	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board, April 1974-August 1975
4	1	Pilot Cities Program Grant Manual
	2	Grants 1971-1973
	3	Pilot Cities Programs – 1971
	4	Pilot Cities Programs – 1971
	5	Police Programs – Grants, 1971
	6	Police Programs – Grants, 1971
	7	Project Circle: A Proposal to Design a Concept of Information Retrieval for Law Enforcement, June 1971
5	1	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation of Community Service Officer Program, 1971
	2	Pilot Cities Program: Youth Service Bureau, 1971
	3	Criminal Justice System and Cost Model – The Development in Support of Pilot Cities Project, March 1971
	4	Report of Plans and Progress, August 1971
	5	Pilot Cities Program: Dayton/Montgomery County Criminal Justice – Phase I, December 1971
	6	Crime and Community: A Preliminary Glance, 1971
	7	Pilot Cities Program: Juvenile Crimes Versus Adult Crimes, December 1972
	8	Pilot Cities Program: Crime and Community; Crime Prevention Policies, January 1973
	9	Pilot Cities Program: Utilization of Statistical Techniques in Criminal Justice Decision Making, January 1973
	10	Pilot Cities Program: Crime, Victims and Offenders – A Community Study, 1973
	11	A Comparison of Victimization Surveys in Dayton
	12	Pilot Cities Program: An Evaluation of the Dayton Crime Analysis Team, July 1975
	13	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation Design for Task Force Target Hardening Project
	14	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation of the Drug Rehabilitation Program
	15	Pilot Cities Program: Organizational Structure
	16	Pilot Cities Program: Victimization Survey Forms
	17	Pilot Cities Program: Miscellaneous Papers
	18	Pilot Cities Program: Phase Out Plan, 1975
6	1	Status Report: Model Cities 4-H Program, March 1975
	2	Status Report: Human Rehabilitation Center, 1975
	3	Evaluation of the Work/Education Release Program at the Dayton Human Rehabilitation Center, November 1971
	4	Evaluation of neighborhood Assistance Officer, 1971
	5	Evaluation of the Conflict Management Program, 1971
	6	Pilot Cities Program; Evaluation of Alcohol Rehabilitation Program, 1972
	7	Evaluation Report of Youth Services Bureau, 1972-19 75

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	
6	8	Evaluation Report of Montgomery county Public Defender Program, 1974	
	9	Evaluation Report of Criminal Justice Center Pilot TV Series, January 1974	
	10	Evaluation of Dayton/Montgomery County Criminal Justice Center, January 1974	
	11	Evaluation Report of Multiple Agency Crime Specific Intervention, 1975	
	12	Evaluation Report of Ex-Cons for a Better Society, Inc., 1975	
	13	Evaluation of Criminal Justice Center Program, June 1976	
	14	Evaluation of the Dayton police Department Decentralization and Reorientation Project	
	7	1	Evaluation of Dayton Passport Project, July 1975
		2	Evaluation of Dayton Personal Crisis Intervention Project (PCIP), August 1975
		3	Evaluation of the Task Force and Target Hardening Project, August 1975
		4	Evaluation of Dayton Criminal Justice Documentaries Project, August 1975
		5	Evaluation of Montgomery County Comprehensive Delinquent Youth Project, August 1975
		6	Evaluation of Dayton Victimization Center project (VCP), August 1975
		7	Evaluation of the Small Business Security Project, August 1975
8		Evaluation of Dayton Community Adjustment for Parolees Project, August 1975	
8	1	Pilot Cities Advisory Board – Chicago call Tape, December 7, 1973, 15 minute tape	
	2	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, January 14, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	3	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, January 18, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	4	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, January 18, 1974, 15 minute tape	
	5	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, February 8, 1974, 120 minute tape	
	6	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, March 8, 1974, 120 minute tape	
	7	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, April 26, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	8	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, May 17, 1974, tape minute tape	
	9	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, June 14, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	10	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, July 12, 1974. 90 minute tape	
	11	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, August 2, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	12	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, September 13, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	13	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, October 11, 1974, 90 minute tape	
	14	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, February 7, 1975, 90 minute tape	
	15	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, May 2, 1975, 90 minute tape	
	16	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, July 18, 1975, 90 minute tape	
	17	Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting Tape, August 29, 1975, 90 minute tape	
	18	J.C. Mila Tape, 60 minute tape	

Series III: Miscellaneous Papers

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	1	City of Dayton Community Oriented Team Policing Progress Report, March 1971
	2	City of Dayton Community Oriented Team Policing Progress Report, March 1971
	3	Public Opinion Center: Field Interviewing Manual, 1972

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	4	Dayton Miami Valley Consortium, 1973
	5	Montgomery County Juvenile Court, May 1974
	6	Montgomery County Juvenile Court, October 1974
	7	Public Defender, 1974
	8	Capital Expenditure Projects, 1975
	9	Neighborhood Districting, 1976
	10	GyroPlane
	11	Dayton Police Training
	12	Delinquency
	13	Drugs
	14	Courts
	15	Miscellaneous Papers