

MS-217: Community Research Inc. Records

Collection Number: MS-217

Title: Community Research Inc. Records

Dates: 1957-1976

Creator: Community Research Inc.

Summary/Abstract:

Community Research, Inc. was a privately funded think tank formed in 1957 to study and recommend solutions to problems facing metropolitan Dayton. Records include annual reports, Board meeting minutes, and evaluations of community programs. Another series of records focuses on the organization's role in the federal government's Pilot Cities Program in Dayton in the early 1970s and includes Board meeting minutes, correspondence, grant proposals, reports, and evaluations of funded programs.

Quantity/Physical Description: 4.5 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092, library-archives@wright.edu

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-217, Community Research Inc. Records, Wright State University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was accessioned into the Wright State University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives in November 1976.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

Due to preservation concerns, only reference copies of original audio and video materials can be accessed in the reading room. Items without reference copies can be digitized at the request of a patron for the cost of creating a digital copy. Please contact us **at least two weeks in advance** if

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Processed by:

Susan L. Deister, Spring 1991

Revisions:

Box and file listing revised by Lisa Rickey and Donna Bobb, June 2021.

Finding aid revised according to DACS standards by Lisa Rickey, July 2021.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in 3 series:

Series 1: Community Research Inc., 1957-1976

Series 2: Pilot Cities Program, 1970-1976

Series 3: Miscellaneous Papers, 1967-1976

Biographical/Historical Note:

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 police 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 – untries, 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.

Scope and Content Note:

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. Materials in Series 1 date from 1957 to 1976.

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. Materials in Series 2 date from 1970 to 1976.

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. Materials in Series 3 date from 1967 to 1976.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Organizations/Corporate Names

Community Research Inc.

Places

Subjects (General)

Material Types

Occupations

Collection Inventory

Box	File	Description	Date
		Series 1: Community Research Inc.	1957-1976
1	1	Metropolitan Community Studies	1957-1959
1	2	Community Research Inc. purpose and procedures	1975-1976
1	3	Community Research Inc. Annual Reports	1965-1967, 1970-1974
1	4	Community Research Inc. Board meeting minutes	1973 July-Oct, 1973 Dec-1974 Mar
1	5	Community Research Inc. business and staff inventories and contracts	1970, 1972-1975
1	6	IRS Correspondence	1970, 1972, 1975
1	7	Community Research Inc. Joint Purchases Study	1976
1	8	Community Research Inc. Funding Sources	1974-1975
1	9	Community Research Inc. Annual Audits	1959-1975
1	10	Battelle and Battelle Correspondence	1975
2	1	Community Research Inc. staff photographs, mostly unidentified	undated
2	2	Community Research Inc. Request for discretionary funds for Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Program	1970
2	3	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Community Centered Team Policing Program	1971
2	4	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Neighborhood Assistance Officer	1971
2	5	Community Research Inc. Modeling-An Aid to Juvenile Justice Planners	1971 May
2	6	Community Research Inc. Drug Rehabilitation Program	1972
2	7	Community Research Inc. Evaluation of Youth Resources Commission	1973
2	8	Community Research Inc. Public Defender Evaluation	1975
2	9	Community Research Inc. Real Estate Study of Dayton, Oakwood and Kettering	1976 May
2	10	Community Research Inc. Study of Characteristics and Occupational Classification of the Unemployed	1976 February
		Series 2: Pilot Cities Program	1970-1976
2	11	Pilot Cities Program; An Overview	1973
2	12	Pilot Cities Story	1973
2	13	Pilot Cities Program; General Policy	1973
2	14	Pilot Cities Program; Master Plan	1972 Jan-1975 July
2	15	Pilot Cities Program; Phase I Report	1970 July 1-1971 Dec 31
3	1	Pilot Cities Program; Phase II Report	1973 Jan-1974 Jan
3	2	Pilot Cities Program; Phase III Report	1975 August

Box	File	Description	Date
3	3	Summary of the Pilot Cities Project	1975 August
3	4	Pilot Cities Program Weekly Reports	1972 Mar-1972? Dec
3	5	Pilot Cities Program; Westinghouse Urban Systems weekly reports	1972 Mar-Dec
3	6	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board	1973 July-Oct
3	7	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board	1973 Dec-1974 Mar
3	8	Minutes of the Pilot Cities Advisory Board	1974 Apr-1975 Aug
4	1	Pilot Cities Program Grant Manual	1974
4	2	Grants	1971-1973
4	3	Pilot Cities Programs	1971
4	4	Pilot Cities Programs	1971
4	5	Police Programs – Grants	1971
4	6	Police Programs – Grants	1971
4	7	Project Circle: A Proposal to Design a Concept of Information Retrieval for Law Enforcement	1971 June
5	1	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation of Community Service Officer Program	1971
5	2	Pilot Cities Program: Youth Service Bureau	1971
5	3	Criminal Justice System and Cost Model – The Development in Support of Pilot Cities Project [MISSING]	1971 March
5	4	Report of Plans and Progress [MISSING]	1971 August
5	5	Pilot Cities Program: Dayton/Montgomery County Criminal Justice – Phase I	1971 December
5	6	Crime and Community: A Preliminary Glance [MISSING]	1971
5	7	Pilot Cities Program: Juvenile Crimes Versus Adult Crimes	1972 December
5	8	Pilot Cities Program: Crime and Community; Crime Prevention Policies	1973 January
5	9	Pilot Cities Program: Utilization of Statistical Techniques in Criminal Justice Decision Making	1973 January
5	10	Pilot Cities Program: Crime, Victims and Offenders – A Community Study	1973
5	11	A Comparison of Victimization Surveys in Dayton [MISSING]	
5	12	Pilot Cities Program: An Evaluation of the Dayton Crime Analysis Team	1975 July
5	13	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation Design for Task Force Target Hardening Project	Undated
5	14	Pilot Cities Program: Evaluation of the Drug Rehabilitation Program	Circa 1972
5	15	Pilot Cities Program: Organizational Structure	1974

Box	File	Description	Date
5	16	Pilot Cities Program: Victimization Survey Forms	1971
6	1	Pilot Cities Program: Miscellaneous Papers	1970-1971, 1973, 1975
6	2	Pilot Cities Program: Phase Out Plan	1975
6	3	Status Report: Model Cities 4-H Program	1975 March
6	4	Status Report: Human Rehabilitation Center	1975
6	5	Evaluation of the Work/Education Release Program at the Dayton Human Rehabilitation Center	1971 November
6	6	Evaluation of neighborhood Assistance Officer	1971
6	7	Evaluation of the Conflict Management Program	1971
6	8	Pilot Cities Program; Evaluation of Alcohol Rehabilitation Program	1972
6	9	Evaluation Report of Youth Services Bureau	1972-1975
6	10	Evaluation Report of Montgomery county Public Defender Program	1974
6	11	Evaluation Report of Criminal Justice Center Pilot TV Series	1974 January
6	12	Evaluation of Dayton/Montgomery County Criminal Justice Center	1974 January
7	1	Evaluation Report of Multiple Agency Crime Specific Intervention	1975
7	2	Evaluation Report of Ex-Cons for a Better Society, Inc.	1975
7	3	Evaluation of Criminal Justice Center Program	1976 June
7	4	Evaluation of the Dayton police Department Decentralization and Reorientation Project	undated
7	5	Evaluation of Dayton Passport Project	1975 July
7	6	Evaluation of Dayton Personal Crisis Intervention Project (PCIP)	1975 August
7	7	Evaluation of the Task Force and Target Hardening Project	1975 August
7	8	Evaluation of Dayton Criminal Justice Documentaries Project	1975 August
7	9	Evaluation of Montgomery County Comprehensive Delinquent Youth Project	1975 August
7	10	Evaluation of Dayton Victimization Center project (VCP)	1975 August
8	1	Evaluation of the Small Business Security Project	1975 August
8	2	Evaluation of Dayton Community Adjustment for Parolees Project	1975 August
10	1	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board – Chicago call (15 minute tape)	1973 December 7
10	2	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 January 14

Box	File	Description	Date
10	3	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 January 18
10	4	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (15 minute tape)	1974 January 18
10	5	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (120 minute tape)	1974 February 8
10	6	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (120 minute tape)	1974 March 8
10	7	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 April 26
10	8	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting	1974 May 17
10	9	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 June 14
10	10	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 July 12
10	11	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 August 2
10	12	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 September 13
10	13	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1974 October 11
10	14	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1975 February 7
10	15	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1975 May 2
10	16	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1975 July 18
10	17	Audiocassette: Pilot Cities Advisory Board Meeting (90 minute tape)	1975 August 29
10	18	Audiocassette: J.C. Mila (60 minute tape)	undated
		Series 3: Miscellaneous Papers	1967-1976
8	3	City of Dayton Community Oriented Team Policing Progress Report	1971 March
8	4	City of Dayton Community Oriented Team Policing Progress Report	1971 March
8	5	Public Opinion Center: Field Interviewing Manual	1972
8	6	Dayton Miami Valley Consortium	1973
8	7	Montgomery County Juvenile Court	1974 May
8	8	Montgomery County Juvenile Court	1974 October
8	9	Public Defender	1974
8	10	Capital Expenditure Projects	1975
9	1	Neighborhood Districting	1976

Box	File	Description	Date
9	2	GyroPlane	1974
9	3	Dayton Police Training	1972-1973
9	4	Delinquency	1970-1972
9	5	Drugs	1972
9	6	Courts	1970-1971
9	7	Miscellaneous Papers	1967, 1972-1973, 1975