



HELP Serves the Community

Two kinds of stories consistently appear side-by-side in the newspapers. They tell of the younger generation with plenty of energy and idealism seeking an outlet for that energy, and of large numbers of unfortunates in our society in desperate need of help.

For the past few months, a group of students at the University of Guelph has been doing something about bringing the two together. With the formation of HELP, a student-run social service organization, they are beginning to fill a need in many spheres of the life of the community.

HELP is not unique, but it is one of only a few. It is totally a student-run organization and is manned only by student volunteers. At the present time, HELP

serves only as a contact point between students and social service groups. In other words, HELP directs students to the particular social service group that they are to work with and, from then on, the social service group is responsible for training and advising the students. However, by September of this year, HELP hopes to organize an orientation period consisting of speakers, movies, and discussions for their volunteers.

HELP is a young organization. Rev. Frank H. Whelan, the Roman Catholic chaplain on campus, sparked interest by introducing the idea in September of 1967 and this was followed by a preliminary survey conducted in November by the Newman Club. In mid-December, four students gathered in the campus coffee

shop to draw together a constitution. Since then events have proceeded rapidly. The program was initiated in January of this year and is now functioning in its second semester.

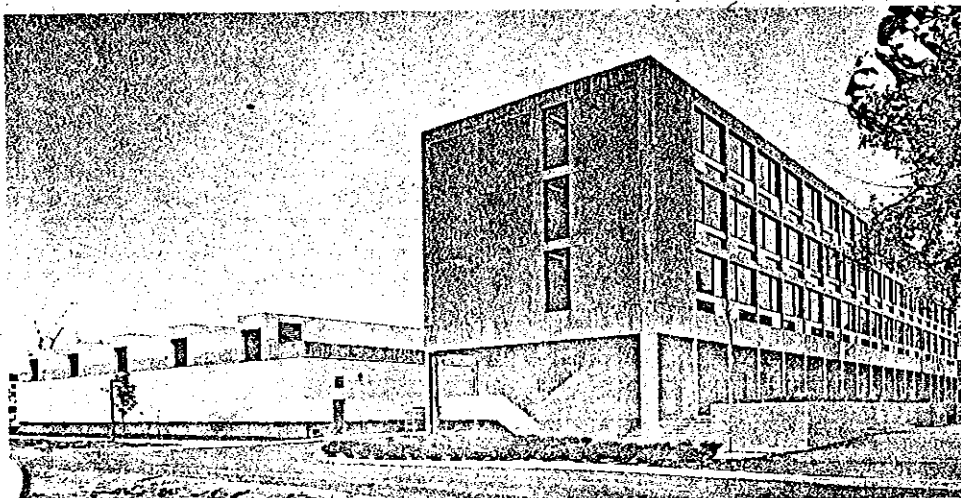
The newly organized group obtained the support of Union Council which granted HELP a modest budget, as well as an office to be used as a home base.

January marked the public emergence of HELP. After an initial advertisement and a series of notices in the *Ontarion*, the organization undertook to fulfill its goals, namely to assist needy people in and around the city of Guelph. These people include mentally retarded patients, emotionally disturbed children, confined senior citizens, and delinquents, among others. Within a month, the HELP office had been in touch with upwards of fifty students, many of whom are now involved in some kind of regular volunteer service.

Among the many activities undertaken by the volunteers are: discussing social action with area high school students working with juveniles at the Galt and Guelph Training Schools, recreating with emotionally disturbed boys at an Orangeville school, leading Hi-Y discussion groups, coaching a young boys' hockey team, and entertaining elderly people in a home for the aged.

It has been found that volunteer work with retarded children is the most popular area of work with the univer-

OFFICIAL OPENING



The New Crop Science Building will be officially opened Saturday, June 22, at 2:30 p.m. For the full story, see page four.

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"Help" Helps Others Can You Help "Help"?

"Help" needs help. Perhaps you can give it.

The organization "Help" is made up of volunteers and is based at the University of Guelph. Its aim is community development, which means it can be involved in almost anything. "Help" workers can be found acting as Big Brothers to youngsters on probation, organizing a dance at Hillcrest training school, playing bingo with senior citizens in one of Guelph's nursing homes or working on any other project which they consider worthwhile, and which helps our community.

No organization can exist without some financial assistance. Help depends entirely on donations, and although they have received aid from the University Alumni and students, the organization is currently in need of financial help from the Guelph community which it serves.

In order for the volunteer workers to help others "Help" has purchased a station wagon. They now need \$650.00 to complete this essential purchase. Can you help?

If you can, contact "Help" at the University of Guelph, ext. 8104. They're hoping to hear from you.