



N. P. Jureta Webb in her office at the Community Health Clinic. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

## A new kind of medical career

Grassroot News N.W. - Traditional medical careers are doctors, nurses and different specialized medical technicians. The contemporary shortage of doctors created the need to expand the responsibilities of nurses and the profession of nurse practitioner was born. Albina is blessed to have within its boundaries the nurse practitioner Community Health Clinic operated by Jureta L. Webb, a registered nurse practitioner who specializes in women's health care, along with Mariah A. Taylor, who is also a registered nurse but specializes in pediatrics.

Nurse practitioners are basically RN's who receive additional education that prepares them to handle more responsibilities. Mrs. Taylor elaborates: "A nurse practitioner would work in out-patient clinics and group health practices to augment the health of an individual and family. We deal in health maintenance rather than illness. You can consider us an alternative to a regular physician's visit. We tend to spend more time than the four to six minutes of a physician's visit because we look at the whole person rather than at the illness. We also look at the social and support structures of an individual to see if these are provoking the illness, because we give individual care, that in itself, makes us considered an alternative."

Mrs. Taylor explained the evolution of their clinic. "We opened up six months ago and organized ourselves as a group of two women who are seeking to work in a community based setting in the area of our expertise to bring about wellness. Black people are struggling people and our level of living is at the survival level. Thus, we see many stress related illnesses. Some people have

learned to deal with stress because they have the means of a financial release."

In the clinic is a women's health department headed by Jureta Webb. Services provided are physical examination, cancer screening, pregnancy testing and birth control. Mrs. Webb responded as to whether she viewed her role as a competitor of the traditional gynecologist. "We are not in competition because the role of a nurse practitioner is to deal with well women. They gynecologist takes care of an illness and through education and check-ups, we prevent them. We deal with what we can deal with and in cases where we can't, I'll refer the case out."

Mrs. Taylor is involved in pediatrics and well-child services that include immunization, growth and development screening and newborn follow-ups.

Other services include home visits, group clinics and community education classes. Their fees come from cash, welfare and private insurance. Hours are from 9-4 on weekdays and from 9:00am until 1:00pm on Saturdays.

How are nurse practitioners viewed by the medical community? "Some feel we are encroaching on their clientele, especially those in pediatrics because we provide basically the same services. Others view us as complimenting their services because they deal with pathology and we try not to let it develop to that degree." Mrs. Taylor answered, adding that physicians refer patients to them and vice versa.

As a career the nurse practitioner field should expand as the demands of the community for doctors increase. Both indicated that they aren't super nurses but nurses with a deeper background and varied responsibilities.

# POLICE OFFICER

**\$1,420.00 starting per month**  
**\$2,022.76 after five years service**



The Portland Police Bureau's Minority Recruiting Unit is seeking qualified minorities and women for the position.

If you are interested in a career in law enforcement and are 21 years or older, have a high school diploma or G.E.D, are a U.S. citizen and have no felony convictions, the Bureau is interested in you.

Applications are now being accepted at Portland Civil Service 510 SW Montgomery, Portland, Oregon between the hours of 8:00 and 5:00. Registration must be done in person. Applicants will be notified by mail as to test date.

For further information contact:

Officer Jeannie Bradley or Officer Beth Knudsen 248-5653, Personnel Division,

222 S.W. Pine Street, Portland, Oregon 97204.