

**Self-Enhancement Program And Tender Loving Care - Think 'N' Try (TLC/TNT) Program**



Roy Pittman



Tony Hopson and Ray Leary

**Programs target 'At-Risk' youth**

On Sunday, June 26, 1988, at 2:00 p.m. at Columbia Park, North Lombard and Woolsey streets, the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and Portland Public Schools announced two special programs, **The Self Enhancement Program** and **The Tender Loving Care - Think 'N' Try Program (TLC/TNT)**, a gang prevention strategy.

Both programs will target approximately 200 middle school age youth in the North Portland area who are at risk of not succeeding in school and are suscep-

tible to "Gang Related" activities.

The programs will provide youth with positive alternatives for their time and talents, through a combination of academics, sports and physical fitness activities with intensive group and individual work on personal goal setting, self-esteem building and peer pressure counseling.

This initial two-month summer program is to be linked with school year in-school and after school activities to create a year-round continuum of service.

**Self Enhancement Program** — University Park Community Center, 9009 N. Foss, Program Directors: Tony Hopson & Ray Leary,

July 5 - 29, 1988, 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Tender Loving Care - Think 'N' Try Program** — Portsmouth Middle School, 5103 N. Willis Blvd., Program Directors: Roy Pittman & Faye Palmerton, July 25 - August 26, 1988, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Contact Persons:** Michelle Harper, Assistant to the Superintendent, Parks and Recreation, 1120 S.W. 5th, Room 502, Portland, OR 97204, 796-5108; Marcia Douglas, City-School Liaison, Bureau of Human Resources, 1220 S.W. 5th, Room 209, Portland, OR 97204, 243-7912.

**Youth Training Opportunities**

**Highway Safety Program creates jobs for 'At-Risk' youth**

Nearly 150 low-income and "at-risk" youth will have jobs this summer clearing brush and maintaining landscaping along state highways in the Portland area. The program is a joint effort of the Oregon State Highway Division, the Private Industry Council and the Multnomah County Juvenile Court.

The workers, between the ages of 16 and 21, are referred by the court and the Private Industry Council, which pays their wages of \$3.85 an hour.

The program, now in its second year, is a valuable training opportunity for the young people and a benefit for the taxpayers, according to District Maintenance Supervisor Dave Willhite, who oversees the program for the Highway Division.

"It allows us to do important work we couldn't afford to do with our own people. The motorists are getting a double benefit of having their roads cleaned up and getting kids off the street doing a valuable job," said Willhite.

The youth crews are assigned

to maintain landscaping along highway right-of-ways and to clear brush and small trees that can cause safety problems for motorists. Vegetation can obscure road signs, block drainage ditches, reduce sight distance and prevent sunlight from melting frost or ice on the highway. Before the program was initiated last summer, the Highway Division did not have the staff power to keep up with the fast-growing vegetation.

**Program Offers Youth Training Opportunities**

Approximately 70 young people have been hired to work the first five-week shift of the program, which runs from June 20 - July 22. A second group will be hired for a second five-week shift. The workers are grouped into crews of 10, with two highway maintenance workers and one representative of the juvenile court system to monitor and instruct each crew.

Those workers who demonstrate the best work skills will be given an opportunity for further employment with the highway division. Two members of last summer's crew are now permanent employees of the highway division.

For more information: Contact Janis Collins, 653-3217 or Dave Willhite, 229-5002.

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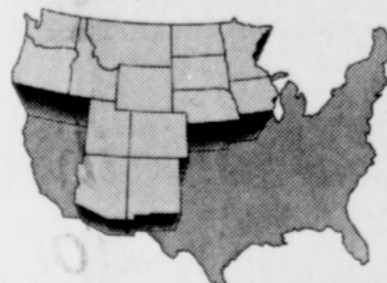
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