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White House Conference on Children and Youth (WHCCY) Collection,
1950-1980

Collection 278

Champaign County Historical Archives

Finding Aid Compiled by: Bradley Kane, Fall 2018; Sherrie Bowser, April 2023

Creator name: Margaret Stewart

Inclusive Dates: 1950-1980

Physical Description: 1 box

Provenance:

The White House Conference on Children and Youth records were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in 2018 by Margaret Stewart, who was the head of the 1970 Champaign County Committee for the WHCCY. In 2023, the Archives received an accrual to the collection from Barbara Gladney chairperson of the 1980 Champaign County Committee for the Illinois WHCCY.

Access:

The record are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of the Urbana Free Library.

Historical Note:

The White House Conference on Children and Youth (hereafter abbreviated as WHCCY) was a national meeting convened by the President of the United States roughly once a decade from 1909 to 1971 that was dedicated to the discussion of topics related to child development and welfare. One of the resolutions of the 1950 Mid-century meeting was that state and regional organizations needed to be formed in order to research the unique challenges that children faced on a local level and the role that government programs, as well as educational and religious institutions, could play in helping to alleviate them. The Illinois Commission on Children and Youth was formed a year later in order to achieve this goal, while Champaign County's United Community Council was created in 1954 for the same purpose. Both of these organizations were responsible for assembling the Illinois Committee for the WHCCY and the Champaign County Committee for the WHCCY (respectively), two years prior to the start of both the 1960 and 1970 WHCCY. These committees were devoted specifically to creating reports that would be presented at the WHCCY.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains information on the 1950, 1960 and 1970 White House Conference on Children and Youth, primarily as it related to Champaign County and the state of Illinois. Preliminary studies, annual reports, and workshop findings of the Champaign County Committee and the Illinois Committee for the WHCCY are included. The bulk of the material is focused on the information gathered regarding children and general family life in Champaign County and the state at large by these committees both in preparation for and in the aftermath of the aforementioned conferences. A few newspaper clippings from the Champaign County area regarding the findings of that county's committee are included, most of these relate directly to the section of the report discussing the excesses of the police department



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toward minority youth. The collection also includes pamphlets that describe the activities of the White House Conference itself and their intended impact.

Name Headings

White House Conference on Children and Youth -Illinois Committee for WHCCY -Champaign County Committee for WHCCY

Subject Terms:

Child Development

Child welfare—Congresses.

Children

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically at the folder level

Container listing

Box 1

Folder 1: Mid-century White House Conference on Children and Youth, 1950

Folder 2: Champaign County Committee for WHCCY Reports, 1959-1960

Folder 3: Illinois Committee for WHCCY Reports, 1960

Folder 4: White House Conference on Children and Youth, 1960

Folder 5: Follow up workshop on WHCCY and Illinois comprehensive plan for child and family care, 1960-1963

Folder 6: Report of a Committee for a Comprehensive Family and Child Welfare Program in Illinois, October 1962

Folder 7: Champaign County Committee for 1970 WHCCY Reports, 1968-1970

Folder 8: Report of Illinois White House Conference on Children and Youth, May 1970

Folder 9: Report to the President White House Conference on Children, 1971

Folder 10: White House Conference on Children and Youth, 1970

Folder 11: Champaign County Committee Commission on Children, 1971

Folder 12: Unpublished book review of Michael Bakali's 'A Strategy for Excellence: Reaching for New Standards in Education' by Barbara H. Gladney, 1974 (2023 accrual)

Folder 13: Report of the Champaign Regional Committee for the 1980 Illinois White House Conference on Children, 1980 (2023 accrual)