Two handbooks published in April this year herald in the turning point in the provision of family support services.

"Who Cares ? Family Problems, community Links and other Helping Bervices " has been written by Jean Mc Caughey, Sheila Shawer, Helen Ferber and others. (published by Sun Books for the Sinstitute of Applied Economics and Social Research, University of Melbourne)

"Community Child Care Nanual " has been written by Winsome McCaughey Pattricia Sebagtian and others (Published by Greenhouse Publications for Community Child Care, 67 Brunswick S reet Fitsroy)

Both Community ChildCare and Who Cares ?" quote the world famous.

Margaret Mead was recently said... "We now expect the family to achieve alone what no other sociaty managements has ever expected an individual family to accomplish unaided. In effect, we call upon the individual family to do what the whole clan used to do "

Community Chald Care gives pride of place to its animistances definition of the word "community" stating....

manual the term 'community' refers to that processe of interaction between people. knowing and being known, caring and being cared for sharing, exchanging, trading and so on The geographic context in which the process can occur most easily in the filled of child care is that of the immediate neighbourhood and the numicipality. Prexx Proximity and accessibility are essential because woman and with infants and toddlers frequently do not have transport and must walk. Older children also depend on their two feet to gwt around.

"Who Cares ?" goes beyond trying to find the answer of the problem of how services can reach the people, by asking the further w question of "how can markingaxx the services integrate the people into the community and encourage them to participate fully and freely in its life. ?"

In seeking the enswer to this the "Who Cares?" team searched for ways in which personal supports can be encouraged and familiax gave the example of the Community hild Care movement as a prototype for this type of saif help relationship, stating.

"The Comminity huld Organization and searched for this groups." his movement encourages the acquisition and development of neighbourhood houses in which small groups of parents in a local area come together to plan a service and to share the responsibility for maintaining it and for the care of their children, "The report quotes from Community hild Care the following description of a Neighbourhood Centre Timemarkxxxx :

"Through communicating, working collectively together and becoming a family acquisity they can establish the services and make those informal, reciprocal arrangements which, while meeting each family a child care max needs, also give people a sense of belonging, and a group on which they can depend." I note the definition of ecommunity as quoted above; it is important to underline that ereating community is a process.... an on-going dynamic relationship, not a fixed and makes permanently determined relationship, thus its very nature allows for reciprocity,

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Over and over again in the pages of "Who Cares ?!! it is that is that it is that is

In the "Who Carest" epilogue Professor Rongald Henderson presents his own personal viewsbubich he describe as being "influenced not only by the study described in the book, but also by my experience in the conduct of the Commission of Inquiry into Poverty for the Australian Government and in many other ways."

Before giving a summary of Professor Henderson's views it is important to emphasize that because the research team have not synthesized tex their findings into an integrated view the whole question of "Who Cares" is left asxuminately an open ended challenge. P ofessor Henderson's epilogue sets thexistal textumination the historic conditions in which this challenge wassinglement is made.

The Cares ? Professor Ronald Henderson's personal view. The Summary in the Summary of Wx "Who Cares ?")

To a guaranteed minum income scheme ser all (see Poverty Report by Prof. Marriage and health to build up these family support servoce

-Bervices

- *Doctors are often the first and sometimes the main source of information of families in need of support. Need to streamline referrals through social workers at group practice or community health centre and themunical social worker all of which need to be aware of informal care-taker network. Some-one with a "roving commission" who is accessible by 'phone and willing to take trouble to supply and obtain assitance is essential in such a scheme.
- * Citizens Advice Centres, wscpaillay where they are closely associated with municiple social worker, have mades significant contributein to community aid services, Alfeed for C.A.Bs to be more acceptable, comprehensive and effective.
- * There is a distruct of State Social Welfare Department. Need for regional offices of the Dept to develop preventive role
- * The mobility of social work staff is a cominute problem, Need for helpers who stay put. A middle aged woman with an established home and ties in the local community could halpxxxxxxx prove more approachable and effective than a young social worker with few local ties.
- * Ther is a grave danger that old people and passive welfare client elients are reduced to the role of recipients only. Need to find ways for amy more people from all sections of the community to be able to controbute voluntary service. Suggestion throws that retirement Commonwealth Social Security could notify municipal soiels work department of people who are on retirement etc.
- * There are serious deficiencies in regular community services. Need for a shift of emphasis do that schools, hospitals a mehabilitiation centres and so on regard the relationships between the srvice and the community as of equal importance to its specialised function.
- *Statutory services usedxxivxismiliamxxxixminimizationalx
 were least disliked when they were made available at the municipal
 level. Need for services to be localised.. this wiso provides
 better opportunities for co-operation between care-taking
 individuals, volumetray organisations, and local welfare services.
- * Voumard Committee of Inquiry into local Government in Victoria in 1972 concluded that local councils are playing a more and more importat part in we; fare services. Need to encourage discussiin and between different levels of grant financial relationships formulae effects welfare spending.
- * There is a general assumption that those at high level planning know what "we should do to help them" on the assumption that "we know what they need". The research has show that there is a great dal to be learnt about what people need and want and how b st to meet these needs and wants.