

Number Of Blacks In Elective Office Show Slow But Steady Growth

The number of black elected officials in the United States continues to increase, according to a recent survey by the Joint Center for Political Studies.

The 1976 edition of the Joint Center's National Roster of Black Elected Officials lists, 3,979 blacks in elective office as of June 30 in 46 states and the District of Columbia. The total represents an increase of 2,794, which more than triples the number of black office holders since 1969 and an increase of 476 (14%), since the 1975 Roster was published. There were 1,185 black officials counted in 1969 and 3,503 listed in the 1975 volume.

Joint Center President, Eddie N. Williams observed: "The continuing increase in the number of black elected officials is an encouraging sign of black political vitality in this country."

"There are not only more black elected officials than ever before, but they hold prestigious and more influential positions. They represent more diverse elements of the population and are responding to the needs of their constituents.

"Black elected officials are no longer perceived as tokens in a racist society but as professionals in politics --- here to stay."

Numerically, blacks continue to show substantial gains in municipal offices. Accounting for almost half of all black elected officials, the municipal category for 1976 shows 1,889 black office holders, an increase of 316 compared to a year ago, the largest numerical increase within any level of office.

Prevention And Treatment Child Abuse And Neglect

CARSON CITY, - The Nevada Welfare Division was notified recently of a \$35,000 federal grant to train persons working for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Roger S. Trounday, director of the Department of Human Resources which includes the Welfare Division, said the grant from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will pay for training in Clark, Carson City, Churchill and Elko counties.

The grant will be used

to instruct trainers, using a curriculum developed by the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect. The Well-Homemakers, teachers, school administrators, shelter-home parents, child-care providers, law enforcement officers and social-work and health-care professionals will receive the training.

After the trainers have finished their course, the training program will be modified to meet the special needs of each of the four communities.



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