GOVERNOR PROPOSES MAJOR OVERHAUL OF NEVADA SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

LAS VEGAS - Governor Richard Bryan has unveiled a plan calling for a complete reorganization and streamlining of services for Nevada's children and their families.

In making the announcement, the Governor called for the creation of one central agency of child and family services under the Department of Human Resources. The current state system involves several different state agencies.

'The purpose for the consolidation of children and family services into one agency is to make it easier to serve their needs and do it more effectively," said the Governor. "Our current system creates tremendous hardships since each time a child and his or her family are referred from one agency to another, they must go through a separate intake process and a change in caseworkers. This can be extremely frustrating and time consuming.

Nevada has one of the fastest growing populations in the nation, with the number of children mushrooming from 106,439 in 1960, when Nevada's children and family services were in their infancy, to a projected 309,693 by 1990. Child abuse and neglect reports have increased from 22 in 1967 to an unprecedented 7,282 in

These statistics indicate the tremendous demands which are placed on state programs that were designed when there were far fewer children and problems.

Under the present state system, the division of welfare, health, youth services and mental health and mental retardation handle children and family services. Under the Governor's plan, these services would be consoli-

HOOKS ASKS SPECIAL PROSECUTOR IN FATAL QUEENS SHOOTING

Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, Executive Director of the basis for criminal charges NAACP, has asked New York's Governor Mario Cuomo to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate the fatal shooting of Alfred Sandders, a black New Yorker, last Dec. 29th in Queens. The borough of Queens was also the site of the Howard Beach incident.

Sanders, 39, a former Transit Authority mechanic, was shot 11 times by police who alleged he was lunging at an officer with a knife. The shooting was the latest of several events in New York City in which many blacks have insisted that police acted unjustifiably in shooting black people.

The Sanders case was presented to a Grand Jury by Queens District Attorney John to enforce the law.

J. Santuicci, but it found no against the police officers.

In calling for a special prosecutor, Dr. Hooks told Governor Cuomo:

"Our staff attorney, George Hairston, conducted the investigation for the NAACP local and state units. He has advised us that his investigation reveals that actions by the Queens District Attorney's Office were woefully insufficient.

"The manner in which Mr. Sanders was killed left the black community in a state of anger and disbelief. Additionally, this unfortunate event has heightened racial tension and is fostering among members of the minority community distrust of the Police Department and those who have been assigned the duty

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dated into a single agency with one central intake point

Governor Bryan has directed the Department of Human Resources to begin an extensive review of its existing services and come up with recommendations for the integration of those services into a single agency for children and family services. The department will also develop the necessary legislative and budgetary recommendations for the Governor and the legislature.

CAAR

From Page 7

affidavits for Clark County and State of Nevada Victims Crime Compensation

Telling the community about a new service is always a difficult task. Reaching the deaf community may be particularly hard. If you know a hearing impaired person, please pass on this article. Non-judgmental counselors are available and want to assist all victims of sexual assault.

According to Detective Zinovitch of the Metropolitan Sexual Assault Unit, "the deaf may be at an even higher risk for sexual assault, as offenders believe they won't tell." In the last decade, the hearing population began talking about sexual assault. It's time the deaf community comes forward, arming themselves with prevention techniques. then reporting and prosecuting if they are assaulted.

CAAR offers a free speakers bureau. Interested groups should call the office for further details.

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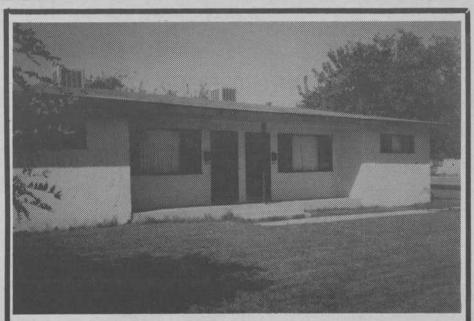
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