

ACTION AND RESOURCE CENTRE

NEEDS AS DESCRIBED BY
THE FAMILY MEMBERS

ARC RESEARCH
Shirlee Williams
Sharyn Taylor
Maureen Miller

In an attempt to obtain some ideas of the ARC family members' needs, the researchers designed and administered a questionnaire.

Within that questionnaire the four questions included in this report were asked. The answers to these questions have been compiled to provide information to the community house working party.

The questionnaire was answered by 72 financial members. A total of 78 members were approached. Of these six refused to participate in the survey. A response rate of 92.3% was obtained.

In response to the question, 'If you could decide what social activities your centre would provide to best suit your needs, what would they be?' family members named the activities illustrated in Table 1.

TABLE 1: Type of Activities to Best Suit Family Members' Needs

Type of Activities	%	n.
ARC Activities (present)	8.9	(n=15)
Groups (e.g. womens, childrens cooking, babysitting co-op, craft, dressmaking, first aid)	13.7	(n=23)
Sports (e.g. Darts, Squash, Tennis, Gym, Basketball, Football, Motor and Bike Riding, Rollerskating)	13.0	(n=22)
Social Nights and Outings (e.g. barbeques, cards, bingo, poker machines)	28.9	(n=49)
Activities for the young (e.g. after school program, playgroup)	7.2	(n=12)
Camps	10.0	(n=17)
Dances, Disco, Dinner Dances	17.1	(n=29)
Miscellaneous (christian fellowship, place to meet people)	1.2	(n=2)
TOTAL	100.0	(n=169)

A similar question regarding the resources family members would like in their centre was asked. 'If you could decide which resources your centre would provide to best suit your needs, what would they be?'

TABLE 2: Resources to Best Suit Family Members' Needs

Type of Resources	%	n
ARC Resources (present)	9.1	(n=14)
Housing	20.1	(n=31)
Legal	27.1	(n=42)
Income Security	7.1	(n=11)
Counselling (advise, support, sharing skills, education, communication, people to talk to, coffee lounge)	7.7	(n=12)
Credit Union, Savings and Loan, Christmas Club*	19.3	(n=30)
Holiday Hosting, resources for teenagers and children adoption	3.8	(n=6)
Miscellaneous (e.g. bulk food, furniture, health, social action, developmental fund, employment)	5.8	(n=9)
TOTAL	100.0	(n=155)

*A further 11 family members listed cash assistance as resources. These have been tabulated in the emergency aid figures.

The family members decided that the following resources would best suit their emergency aid needs.

TABLE 3: The emergency aid resources as listed by the family members

Type of Emergency Aid.	%	n
Legal	8.4	(n=12)
Material Aid	10.5	(n=15)
Cash Assistance	32.2	(n=46)
Bond Fund/Gas and Light Bond	10.5	(n=15)
Credit Union, Savings and Loans Development Fund, Resource Loan	4.2	(n=6)
Emergency Accommodation	20.9	(n=30)
Medical	3.4	(n=5)
Income Security	2.1	(n=3)
Other (e.g. bulk food, holiday host, education person contact transport, support interpreter	7.6	(n=11)
TOTAL	99.8	(n=143)

Table 4 illustrates the type of support the family members felt would best suit their needs.

TABLE 4: Support Needs

Type of Support	%	n
Sharing and Caring, Home Visits	5.7	(n=3)
Confidentiality	1.9	(n=1)
Back-up support (each other, moral support, understanding, community support)	49.0	(n=26)
Family involvement	1.9	(n=1)
Counselling/Social workers advice	9.5	(n=5)
Material Aid, financial aid, food vouchers, emergency accommodation, education, income supplement,	24.5	(n=13)
Staff, jobs for people, teamwork	7.5	(n=4)
TOTAL	100.0	(n=53)

Table 5 indicates the type of people family members felt should staff their centre.

TABLE 5: Staffing the Centre

Type	%	n
Low-Income People (indigenous)	62.8	(n=64)
Volunteers	4.9	(n=5)
Professionals, social and welfare workers, psychiatrist	16.7	(n=17)
Christian leaders	0.9	(n=1)
Caring people, support people	11.8	(n=12)
Other, family, like all workers, different kind of (to now)	2.9	(n=3)
TOTAL	100.0	(n=102)

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