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Hunger group gets UNL base

By Joi Patterson

Educating people about hunger and the needs of the poor is the goal of Bread for the World, a nationwide, Christian organization. A UNL chapter is being formed through the Lutheran Student Chapel and Center.

Marv Brinkman, chairman of the center's social ministries, said the organization's purpose is not to raise money for food.

"This organization goes beyond fund raising," Brinkman said. The organization is an "educational movement," he said.

BFW's activities include publishing information on how to write an effective letter to political leaders and sending literature and filmstrips to groups interested in joining.

Shelley Bobb, an intern at the Lutheran Center and a four-year member of BFW, said the literature is "very sensible, and not at all sensationalized or sentimental. The literature is an effective teaching tool."

The group also puts out a monthly newsletter to give members clear reports and indicate when and where to write letters to congressmen.

In *Bread for the World*, a book by Executive Director Arthur Simon, he says BFW seeks an end to hunger in the United States, a U.S. food policy committed to world food security and rural development as proposed by the World Food Conference and the reform and expansion of U.S. development assistance.

According to Brinkman and a pamphlet entitled "Guidelines for Campus Hunger Groups," BFW campus activities would be in three areas: worship, study and action. Action for campus members would be voter registration, lobbying, campus awareness, local hunger action and membership building.

Bobb said people need to become aware of hunger and the needs of the poor. Members of BFW feel that too much money is spent on weapons and arms that might never be used. The money could be used to feed the poor.

Local program battles illiteracy

By Joe Kreizinger

The current rise in the United States' illiteracy rate is of growing concern, officials say. Today it is estimated that more than 23 million Americans age 16 and older cannot read at any level. Statistics show that nearly four out of every 10 adult Americans are plagued with illiteracy.

Statistics in Nebraska are no exception, said Rhonda Kadavy, director of the literacy program at Lincoln's AAAA (American Association of Advertising Agencies) CONTACT Center. Kadavy said nearly 20,000 Nebraskans are unable to read above the fourth grade level. She said nearly 5,000 students drop out of high school each year,

adding to the problem.

The contact center, 2900 Industrial Ave. North, promotes local advertisement agency help and gathers and distributes information on local literacy programs, Kadavy said. The AAAA is coordinated through CONTACT, Inc., a private, non-profit, criminal justice information center.

The AAAA initiated the contact center literacy program on a national basis in 1977, allocating \$75,000 a year for a three-year period to get the project underway. Today the Lincoln agency is one of 480 member agencies of the national organization.

Kadavy said illiteracy is not concentrated in any one demographic area.

"People usually think illiteracy occurs only in rural areas," Kadavy said. "This isn't always true. Many people in urban areas have the same problem."

Kadavy said the actual number of Nebraskans suffering from illiteracy may be higher than statistics show.

The contact center itself is not involved in tutoring individuals with communication disabilities, but it is actively involved in matching prospective students with tutors or tutoring methods.

Kadavy said the most widespread of these tutoring methods in the immediate Lincoln area is Laubach tutoring, a method which deals with phonetics training and use of comparing pictures and shapes in learning communication skills.

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