

History of the Easter Seal Treatment Center of LaSalle
an Oral History

Anne Kleinmaier, Interviewee
Of Ottawa, Illinois

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Narrator's Name: ANNE KLEINMAIER

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Interviewer's Name: HELEN HAYNER

For: STARVED ROCK LIBRARY SYSTEM ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Q: This is Helen Hayner of the Starved Rock Library System, I'm interviewing Mrs. Anne Kleinmaier. Mrs. Kleinmaier has been associated with the Easter Seal Treatment Center in Ottawa for quite a number of years. Mrs. Kleinmaier is going to give us some of her personal background and then tell us of the history of the Easter Seal Center as she has known it through the years. Today is February, catch the date, February 18, 1976 and this interview is taking place at the Easter Seal Treatment Center in Ottawa, Illinois. Okay, Mrs. Kleinmaier, may I call you Anne, I think that's a little easier.

A: Certainly.

Q: Anne, if you could give us a little personal background to the place and date of your birth and a little family background.

A: Okay, I was born in Seneca in 1918 and my parents moved to Chicago so I was educated in the Chicago schools until I was in seventh grade, then we moved back to Seneca and I graduated from Seneca High School. I went to California and lived with a sister and went to business college there for a year.

Q: Where in California was that?

A: Santa Ana.

Q: Santa Ana?

A: Yes, and I worked there for three years and I returned to Illinois in 1940 and my husband and I were married in 1941.

Q: Had you husband -- well that was previous to World War II then.

A: It was at the time of World War II.

Q: Was your husband in service?

A: No, he wasn't in service, he had a medical problem that made it impossible for him to serve. He worked at the shipyards at that time, though.

Q: Oh, in the Seneca Shipyards?

A: In the Seneca Shipyards, yes.

Q: I would imagine he had some interesting experiences from there.

A: I'm sure he did.

Q: I've heard a lot about it and the only time I've seen the shipyards has been when they're all long quiet. I'm sure that's a whole story in and of itself. Okay, so you were living in Seneca, correct?

A: Yes, and we moved to Ottawa when our first child was born, and she was born in 1943 and of course we've lived in Ottawa ever since. We had two children, Sandra was born in 1947 and -- in 1943 and Kay in 1947.

Q: Where are your children now?

A: They're both married and Sandra and her family live in Palos Heights and Kay and her family are in Rhode Island.

Q: Oh, that's a far way then?

A: Yes, it is. Her husband's in military service, in the Navy.

Q: Okay, now how did you get associated with the Easter Seal Center, your first experience with it?

A: My first experience was through Sandy, who is my oldest daughter. She was a junior volunteer and she told me that they needed help in the office so badly, and I went to a Mother's Day Tea one spring and started volunteering, and that was in 1958.

Q: Where was the Easter Seal Center located then?

A: At that time it was at 905 West Main Street, it was a -- you were a volunteer then. . .

Q: (Laughs) I remember the building, right. Could you give us some kind of a description of that facility?

A: Of that facility -- it was a shingled house and it had five small rooms, in fact we could put all five of those rooms I think in the present Physical Therapy Department in our new building. We froze in the winter and were very warm in the summertime.

Q: What was your, the number of staff members?

A: The number of staff members at that time when I started was the director, who was a physical therapist, and a teacher, and before too long they had a speech therapist and an occupational therapist.

Q: When you first worked you were working as a volunteer?

A: I worked as a volunteer for two years and then I was employed part-time and then eventually I became full-time because the work load increased with the increase of patients.

Q: You remember the names of any of the employees?

A: At that time?

Q: Staff, yes.

A: Mrs. Jameson is our oldest employee. . .

Q: And she is still here?

A: . . .she is still here, she's been here for seventeen years. A very dedicated person and has done a great deal for handicapped children in the county. To me she is "Easter Seal" as far as the children are concerned. When I first started Rita Salmon was the program director at that time and also the physical therapist.

Q: I remember her.

A: Beulah Swingle was the speech therapist and Eleanor Finley was also speech therapist. And I think it was Mrs. MacGregor who was the first occupational therapist that was with us.

Q: Mrs. MacGregor?

A: McGregor. I think there have been about 45 employees since I've been here, that have come and gone.

Q: That's quite a . . .

A: Yes, it is, it's quite a turnover.

Q: But considering the size of the operation and how it has increased, it isn't.

A: It isn't any -- people usually stayed as long as they could. I think that's one thing that's very unique, the close relationship of the staff.

Q: I can recall myself my experience with Easter Seal Center, of course Mrs. Jameson and Rita Salmon and I think Eleanor Finley. David I think was, received physical therapy from Rita and speech therapy from Mrs. Finley.

A: Then they had a summer program and it was Mrs. Lowell Nelson who took care of the pre-school program in the summer.

Q: Now Mrs. Nelson taught over at Shabbona?

A: Yes, she was also first grade teacher. They also opened a branch center in Streator about that time, I think around 1960 and Mrs. Peg Riley, Mrs. Dean Riley, was the teacher there.

Q: Oh, I didn't realize that.

A: They also had speech and therapy there. That facility was closed I think in 1973, if I'm not mistaken, because the schools had more

A: programs for handicapped children and the cost of the operation of the center made it forbidding to keep the center open. So Mrs. Riley is now the assistant teacher at this facility.

Q: This facility -- now this facility covers the entire LaSalle County?

A: Right, that's right. And Mrs. Riley has been with Easter Seal for ten years. Then in 1967 Miss Salmon resigned and Mrs. Esche became the program director or the executive director. She started at Easter Seal in 1964 as a part-time physical therapist. At that time Easter Seal had contracts with St. Mary's Hospital in LaSalle and in Streator too because there were no physical therapists in LaSalle County except the one at Easter Seal.

Q: In the entire county?

A: As far as I know, yes, I think that's true.

Q: Oh goodness!

A: So Mrs. Esche took care of the case load at St. Mary's in LaSalle and then she became our executive director in 1967 and she's the one that's pulling it all together and has brought the center up to standards. We are now working on being accredited by CARF which is the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, in order that our center can give the best patient care that is possible.

Q: Now this accreditation comes from a national group?

A: Yes, right. This is mandated by our national society, it is something every Easter Seal Center is going to be doing by 1977.

Q: They all will be accredited?

A: Yes.

Q: Or working towards accreditation?

A: They have to be by 1977.

Q: Okay, we've talked a little bit about the old facility over on Main Street, I don't know how many people are familiar with it, it was located across from Killer Kain on Main.

A: Right. The first facility in Ottawa was at Ryburn.

Q: Oh, I didn't realize they had. . .

A: You see, Easter Seal was organized in 1950. In 1947 they were organized county-wide through the interest of Henry Light and he was a man in Streator that had a handicapped child. In 1953 they started the treatment center at Ryburn Hospital. They had one room and in exchange for the use of the room the physical therapist did physical therapy at the hospital. Of course, they didn't have a department, but she did what she could on the floor and in the rooms for the patient.

A: They had 40 patients the first year.

Q: In the entire unit?

A: In the entire unit and in 1958 they purchased the center on Main Street.

Q: Mr. Henry, what was that?

A: Henry Light, L-I-G-H-T, yes.

Q: Now was this Mr. Light active in the formation of the Easter Seal. . .

A: Yes, he was. He was the one who first started organizing that.

Q: Now where did your funding come from at this time?

A: I think the first funding and I'm not too sure of the dates, but they had a mass mailing and I think the first year they -- there was about seven thousand dollars contributed.

Q: And this amount was used in the Ryburn facility?

A: Well, no. When they moved into the center on Main Street.

Q: Now was there an association with the national group of crippled children or something?

A: Oh yes, we were affiliated with the National Society and the State Easter Seal Society.

Q: Now did they -- obviously they gave you support -- was any financial support coming from them at that time?

A: No, no.

Q: So any. . .

A: Funds are through your own community.

Q: Local funds strictly?

A: Local funding.

Q: You have to raise them yourself?

A: Yes. Our fund drive has gone up from seven thousand that year and last year it was twenty-six thousand.

Q: That again is still all of the -- that is your budget?

A: No, our budget is around ninety thousand. But we have general contributions and a membership drive in the fall, and we have a small grant from the MR Board, for mentally retarded children, and fees according to ability to pay. Now we are -- we receive tuition from the public schools under House Bill 2671, which pays the tuition for some of the children in the nursery school.

Q: So therefore you are working on a pretty tight. . .

A: Yes, we are.

Q: . . .tight budget, tight schedule.

A: We are, we are all very careful with the money that is in because of trying to meet our budget every year.

Q: Yes, right. Okay, if we can go back -- you started in Ryburn and then over to Main Street. . .

A: That's right.

Q: You began working in the Main Street facility?

A: That's right.

Q: Now, what was the big change from Main Street?

A: Just look around. . .

Q: Yes. I mean, I'm here, this is. . .

A: That was one of the happiest days of our life, I think, in 1970 for the staff to move into this beautiful facility.

Q: Could you not only describe the facility itself but how it came into being?

A: They had at the time I started working for Easter Seal, I think there was a small amount of money that had been given for future building plans. They realized that at 905 West Main it was too inadequate for the staff to do a good job for handicapped people, so the board -- we have a volunteer board of 30 people that are representative of all over the county, decided that we needed a better facility. So they had a capital fund drive. We received a large bequest in stock and there's a plaque in our office, reception room, that tells you the people who are major donors. So we started out on a building that was about \$135,000 building and we had a mortgage of \$45,000.

Q: That is not bad.

A: And it's -- we're doing very well. We use all our memorial money and bequests to retire the mortgage.

Q: Could you tell us where this building is located?

A: This building is located on the corner of Adams Street and 4th Road. We have an executive director's office, an office, a reception room, a large physical therapy department with a room for whirlpool. We have our own laundry which we really are in need of because we were sending

A: our laundry out, or the staff was taking home sheets and our junior volunteers were running to the laundry, you know, to do the towels and sheets that were necessary. We have an occupational therapy department and a large nursery school and two speech therapy rooms.

Q: So your staff now is. . .

A: And a volunteer room, or multi-purpose room where we do our funding or fund raising and the board and the staff have their meetings every month.

Q: So what is your, say your permanent staff at this point?

A: Our premanent this time?

Q: What is the number?

A: The Number? There is eight of us.

Q: So that has definitely grown?

A: Yes.

Q: Now would you have any idea of approximately how many volunteers do work at the Center?

A: Well, each year I think adult volunteers, we have between 25 and 30, some of them have been with us for fifteen years. Three for fifteen, there is one woman who has been here for thirteen.

Q: Oh goodness, could you give us their names?

A: Mrs. E. O. Schneider, and Cecilia Barring, and Mrs. Arleigh Mason.

Q: These have been old-faithfuls, I assume?

A: Yes, they have. Cecilia Barring is a resident of Pleasant View and she'd had cerebral palsy, hence she's been coming in here, which gives her something to look forward to too. And there are many things which she has been able to help us with.

Q: Oh, that's marvelous.

A: So, we're glad to have her. Mrs. Schneider is also a member of the

A: Board of Directors and is in the Child Welfare Guild who have been extremely generous and helpful to the Easter Seal program, as many clubs have helped. Of the clubs and organizations I don't like to name any one above the other, because we've had very good support from LaSalle County people and organizations.

Q: This Child Welfare Guild though does specifically support the Easter Seal Center?

A: Yes, they do. They were very generous in the capital fund drive, whenever we have anything that we need done they are always right there to help us. They've purchased equipment, whirlpools, adding machine in the office, a mimeograph machine, and other equipment. I offhand couldn't tell you all they have done, but it has been very, very appreciated.

Q: They're sort of angels for you?

A: They are, they are. The Delta Theta Tau club is another one -- Delta Theta Tau sorority, is another organization that has given us tremendous support. They have their chop suey dinner, you know, every year.

Q: Oh, right, which is a good dinner.

A: They furnished at the time of the building -- we moved into the building -- they furnished the nursery school completely.

Q: Oh marvelous, from their dinner?

A: From their chop suey dinners. They're always right there too when we need them. They have established a small brace fund too, which we can help people who do not have the money to buy a brace for a child or sometimes it's an adult. But as you know, braces can be very costly so they have to be cautious about what it is used for.

Q: I would assume too now, this I'm not sure of, but say a child that goes into a brace, he might not stay in that same brace for any length

Q: of time?

A: That's the problem, outgrowing.

Q: Outgrowing, so it's replacing all the time.

A: Right.

Q: So all these funds I'm sure come in handy. Are there any other particular angels for the Easter Seal Center?

A: There's so many, there's so many. They're all angels as far as I'm concerned. That's one thing that's been my greatest joy working here, is the people that you meet. As far as the service clubs, the Rotary Club has been generous and the Lions Club has been and the Jaycees, not only in Ottawa but in other communities too. As I said, I don't want to leave any one out, because I think every service club, and the American Legion, every service club has been -- realized the need for helping handicapped people.

Q: Right. Now on your annual fund drive, how is that handled so to speak?

A: Well, this year I'm the fund drive coordinator and I have been for about probably seven or eight years. It's always a frantic time because you know you need the money and everyone, not only myself, but the staff all help me as much as they can. So I set up, as a coordinator I see that the mail is all organized and sent out and that the parades are organized county-wide.

Q: Are you speaking of the Lily. . .

A: No, this is what we call the Easter Seal Parade, which is the door-to-door or neighbor-to-neighbor, so I have to try to find chairman in every township in the county, with the help of the board and sometimes the staff members. Then we have a tag day, which is called our Lily Day, and we have a school coin card appeal. We send to those

A: schools who will accept. We try very hard to have as many special events as we can, because this is a good source of income and it's a one-time deal.

Q: Do you try to set a goal each year for your drive or is it just what. . .

A: Well, we know what we need in contributed income and we try to meet that but of course we haven't been able to so far. I don't know what contributed income we need but we're hoping for at least, I'm hoping for at least \$30,000 this year.

Q: Which would help.

A: It certainly would.

Q: Thirty dollars or thirty cents.

A: Yes, right. We have a golf tournament every summer, too.

Q: Oh, I had never realized that.

A: They usually have this at Prairie Lake in Marseilles. The last, I think it's four years, Mr. Clayton McHugh has, from the board of directors, has done this for Easter Seal.

Q: That's very nice, something like that would. . .

A: Merchants contribute the prizes and it's fun for those who play and yet they're doing something for Easter Seal, too.

Q: Right, right, it's an interesting or different type of activity. . .

A: It is.

Q: . . .for Easter Seal to be into. Well, let's see, could you give some explanation of what the various duties of say your volunteers, what they do here?

A: In the nursery school, it depends on the enrollment. Right now the enrollment is twenty, and we're state licensed by the Children and Family Services for seventeen, so they have split the class this year.

A: So the older children come in the afternoon and the younger ones in the morning. The teacher, Mrs. Jameson, like to have at least three, and they assist her with directing the attention of the child to the teacher. As you know, what you did as a volunteer. Milk and cookie time and bathroom and anything that's needed in there. The other volunteers help me in the office mostly. At times we've had volunteers in the speech department, when there's long-term people here for a long time. Such as we had one patient who was brain-injured and he needed further support except the actual therapy, someone working with him and talking with him. He was here for two years, so we had a volunteer there. Volunteers in the office do about everything that they can, there's some typing and filing and record keeping and the campaign. Our campaign ends at Easter Sunday each year but it takes up until the following year to get all the files in order and all the posting done. This is what they help me with.

Q: Would you be able to exist without your volunteer help?

A: No, I don't know what we would do because we are all very busy every day and this relieves a great deal of pressure on the staff to have this support.

Q: I think maybe. . .

A: In the summertime we have our juniors, too.

Q: Now those are usually high school girls.

A: Yes.

Q: And/or boys?

A: Oh, we like to have boys because little boys in the nursery school like to, you know to be with boy, too.

Q: Do you get many boy volunteers?

A: No, really, we have mostly girls. But two of the years we have had maybe two or three, some of the years, and sometimes just one. They're very good in camp, too. They have a summer camp program, for a week and junior volunteers assist with this.

Q: Now where is this camp held?

A: Well, they go to Buffalo Rock, they take them to the 4-H grounds, what is the name of this -- Environmental Center. Then that last day they try to take them someplace special. They've taken from to Aurora to Pioneer Park by bus and sometimes this has been like the first bus trip for some of the children.

Q: Now transportation is usually provided again by volunteers for this?

A: Yes, and the food too at camp. Clubs, like the Junior Women's is another organization that have given us a great deal of support. They have helped provide lunch, they've helped type envelopes, they've worked in the nursery school and they gave the speech department the "Teach Your Child To Talk" series, which the speech pathologist tries to do several times a year. It's a program for pre -- for expectant mothers or young mothers to give them help in knowing what normal speech is and where there might be a problem. It's more or less preventive instead -- for people, for children who actually have a speech problem.

Q: Yes. Because of my own experience you wonder for a long time whether there is a problem or whether they're just being lazy.

A: Yes.

Q: Something like that would be very helpful I'm sure. Let's see now, I know you've got some notes here. Are there any other special activities that are carried on by the Center?

A: Well, there's another one I'd like to mention that we have that was started about four years ago, the Stroke Social Hour.

Q: What was that?

A: Stroke Social Hour. This is for stroke patients from the county and they come in once a month and have entertainment and refreshments and visit back for forth and some have been coming for maybe the last year. They're getting acquainted and making friendships, get to talk to each other about their problems and solutions. It's been very worthwhile.

Q: That's a supportive things for them I would assume?

A: Yes, right, it is. Suzanne Meadows is the occupational therapist here now and Suzanne directs this program.

Q: Could you give, we sort of passed over this, the staff at the present time at the Easter Seal Center?

A: Why, as I told you there were eight. Of course I've mentioned Mrs. Esche, our executive director. June Jameson is the teacher. Peg Riley the assistant. Sue Meadows the occupational therapist. James Osborn speech pathologist.

Q: Now what would be the difference between a speech pathologist and a speech therapist?

A: He has his Master's degree and he's required to be a member of the American Speech and Hearing Association. Then Kay Biffany is our new office assistant. Marge Eilts, Mrs. George Eilts, is a physical therapy aide and when she isn't doing that she is keeping us clean, she does all our housekeeping, does a beautiful job. Easter Seal also has a part-time speech therapist in the Mendota area, Ellen Werner, and she has been seeing Medi-Care patients for Easter Seal for the last three years. Also, last but not least is Dr. Alameda. Dr. Alameda

A: started coming to the Center about the same time I started working here. He comes once a month and gives consultations to people on written referral of their family physician. He generally sees between 20 and 30 people each month.

Q: And he has a tight schedule.

A: Yes, he does. We appreciate it very, very much.

Q: I know I had consulted with him myself, and I thought, Oh goodness. I'm sure he'd done a lot of people good.

A: Yes, he has, I'm sure he has. The Child Welfare Guild helps underwrite the orthopedic clinic program too, each month, so that's a big help to the budget.

Q: Now do you have any consulting medical staff other than. . .

A: We have a medical advisory board. Dr. Paul Rosborough from Ottawa is the chairman of the board and Dr. T. Ong from Streator, Dr. A. J. Sellett from LaSalle and Dr. Robert Carter from Mendota are on this board, that the staff can turn to for help with medical problems with the patients.

Q: So they're all taken care of?

A: For medical policies.

Q: Okay.

A: Easter Seal was approved as a Medi-Care agent two years ago, we can serve Medi-Care patients and be reimbursed for their care and treatment.

Q: Do you have many Medi-Care patients that do. . .

A: It varies, it varies. Sometimes we have as many as six or eight a month and sometimes it drops. Easter Seal also has a contract with the Ottawa Public Health Nursing Service, to serve their home-bound patients with physical therapy and speech therapy.

Q: Now then you would send someone out to them?

A: Yes, they go out to the homes as the therapist has time. Right now the executive director is also doing the physical therapy.

Q: So that's a . . .

A: It's a double, she -- it's a double burden for her -- not a burden but makes her schedule very tight so she is trying to see home-bound patients as she can. Something else I thought about -- the occupational therapist goes out to the LaSalle County Nursing Home once a month for consulting services and the occupational therapist and the speech therapist go into the nursing homes for in-service training for the nurses in the nursing homes within the county.

Q: You have expanded your activities, your range of activities tremendously.

A: Well, I think Mrs. Esche constantly strives to improve the program for handicapped adults and children.

Q: Would you have any idea over the years whether you have served more, say children, or more adults, or does that all even itself out in the longrun?

A: We have a Center report so we know these facts at the end of every year how many children, how many adults we serve. This year I think in this past fiscal year we served 379 patients and about two-thirds were children and one-third adults and I think that would be the average now. Because the case load has changed somewhat since there's physical therapy departments in every hospital in LaSalle County.

Q: Right, so this is . . .

A: They get the acute out-patient and in-patient at the hospital, so Easter Seal is serving people on limited incomes, on Social Security or long-term patients and at times some are acute.

Q: Mrs. Kleinmaier, what kind of say physically handicapped persons do you serve? What would be their particular reason for coming here?

A: Well, almost -- they can serve any handicapping conditions, but the ones that have been admitted have been for strokes, arthritis, fractures, neurological problems as far as adults. With the children there's cerebral palsy, spinal _____, muscular dystrophy. There's some children in the nursery school that have language development problems or they're socially immature. But they do need the help before they reach school age so that school will be easier for them and they can cope with their classes when they become kindergarten age.

Q: At what age will you accept a child in your nursery school?

A: The nursery school program is geared for children three to six.

Q: And then your older childre come through. . .

A: No, this is the age Easter Seals serves, just three to six, it's pre-school. At one time they had a tutoring class in the afternoon for older children but now they need this program just for the pre-school age, they've changed it to that. Because there are other programs in the county that do serve older children and they are on a longer daily schedule, which would be more worthwhile for them.

Q: Have you found that all of these various programs that have been coming into the county are certainly a help to the Easter Seal Center, to the whole area of the handicapped person who needs help?

A: Oh yes, I'm sure they are. We have our Allied Agencies which Easter Seals's a part of, that's all the health agencies in the county, and they meet once a month. I think they're trying to cooperate with each other to meet the needs of all LaSalle County people, whether they're handicapped or if it's another problem that they are dealing with.

Q: Would be able to recall any particular either event or events in your association with Easter Seal Center that you feel are significant or have a special meaning?

A: Well, one in particular was our 25th Anniversary which was in 1972. And of course, the building of our new building- and one of the benefactors that I'd like to recognize is Mr. Peck, who gave Easter Seal the land for the building. This year we were host to the Annual Meeting of the Easter Seal Societies of Illinois. This was held in October at the Holiday Inn in LaSalle-Peru. They had a professional seminar and comprehensive program for multi-handicapped children and volunteer program. It was very worthwhile, it lasted for two days. Then the societies from around the state came to the Center for open house and to see the building.

Q: Mrs. Kleinmaier, could you give some kind of description of the structure of the Easter Seal board, how it operates?

A: We're governed by a volunteer board and they are representative of as many areas as we can reach in the county. They meet once a month and Wilbert Hoffmeister is our current president.

Q: And he is from where?

A: He is from Ottawa.

Q: Mrs. Kleinmaier, would you recall who was instrumental in your original building committee to come to your new facility here?

A: Rev. E. J. Larson was head of the building committee, and he was the one who got the building started with the help of other board members.

Q: Okay, thank you. Mrs. Kleinmaier, I'd like to thank you for your time that you've taken in giving us this interview about the Easter Seal

Q: Center, it's something that we hear of and we see the building, but we don't know exactly what goes on in it or how it came to be. I thank you very much for your time.

A: Thank you for asking me.

Q: Today is March 5, 1976 and I'm back at the Easter Seal Treatment Center. Mrs. Kleinmaier has recalled some other items that she would like to include in this tape having to do with services of the Easter Seal Center. Mrs. Kleinmaier.

A: When you were here last I omitted our equipment loan pool which is given to all LaSalle County people on a free basis.

Q: Now what would this equipment include?

A: It's wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, anything that would help the handicapped person.

Q: And they could come to the Center. . .

A: They'd come to the Center and get this either on long-term or short-term loan as the equipment is available.

Q: Oh, that's a marvelous service.

A: Another thing that I forgot to tell you about was our "Where To Turn" directory, which is a directory that we have been printing since 1967 and updating it every few years. That last print, revised edition, was March 1975. This is a reference which is used in locating the appropriate agency to which people in need may be referred and the directory includes county, state and national health and welfare agencies both public and private. This is indexed according to services given.

Q: So if someone would call you can say we need help in a particular type of a health problem. . .

A: We can go to the "Where To Turn" book and try to find help for the specific need. This book is given to all health agencies, physicians, schools, anyone we think might find it of value.

Q: Marvelous, marvelous service. Now how did this come about, do you know?

A: Well, it was started because Easter Seal felt that there was a need for something like this, because they themselves received so many calls from people asking where can I go to get certain services. The first printing, I think had, probably between 30 and 40 listings, and our last one has 79. So each year it grows as agencies come in and change.

Q: Now is this one of your personal activities here, to keep this updated?

A: I have helped with the printing and the compiling of the information that goes into the book. The book, we try to get it sponsored because they are costly. The LaSalle County Medical Auxiliary sponsored the book several times and also the Child Welfare Guild.

Q: Another one of their various services to you.

A: Yes, right. Of course, the first copy is given free and additional copies are on a cost basis.

Q: From the Easter Seal. . .

A: From the Easter Seal Center.

Q: So if anyone felt they had a need for this type of information, they could call you and you would have a copy for them?

A: Yes.

Q: Very good, I thank you very, very much.

A: There was another program that I would like to mention is what they call the Zero to Three Infant Intervention Program. This is a comprehensive

A: developmental management program for infants zero to three to provide intensive physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy, and care and education. In other words to intervene as early in life as you can with children who have problems, in order that they might progress at a faster rate.

Q: Now is this program. . .

A: It's in effect now and it's being developed to make it more comprehensive.

Q: That I think sound like a very good type of program -- we think of disabilities as being at a later age, but. . .

A: They start at infancy, in many cases.

Q: . . .so this get them -- nips them in the bud, so to speak.

A: Right. Those were the three things I wanted to mention to you that I think were, have been of value to the people in LaSalle County by having Easter Seal available to them.

Q: Well, I thank you Mrs. Kleinmaier. This is all marvelous information and I'm sure will be of great benefit to people in knowing what is available here.

A: Fine, thank you.

Q: Thank you.

END OF TAPE

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PLACE Ottawa, Ill

DATE Feb. 18, 1976

Mrs Anne Kleinmair
(Interviewee)

Helen E. Hagner
(for Starved Rock Library System)