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14 HEAD START PERSONNEL FROM
MISSOULA RECEIVE SUPPLEMENTARY
TRAINING AT UM THIS SUMMER

MISSOULA--

Fourteen Head Start employes in Missoula are receiving tuition and books for courses at the University of Montana this summer under a program administered by the UM School of Education.

The program, entitled Head Start Supplementary Training (HSST), is directed by Dr. J. Francis Rummel, dean of the UM School of Education. The training program is funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

Trainees hold jobs in Head Start, a national program which aids preschool children whose parents make incomes considered at or below the poverty level by OEO poverty guidelines. Head Start programs provide health services, nutrition programs, education, parent involvement, and social and psychological services.

Besides the 14 enrolled under UM HSST this summer, a total of 98 persons have participated in the program at UM since June 1968 for 532 total credit hours.

Said Dr. Rummel, "Before entering supplementary training, a period of six months service as a paid employe in a Head Start program is usually required. Moreover, an individual must demonstrate the desire to continue as a Head Start staff member."

Both "professionals," or trainees with college degrees, and "nonprofessionals," trainees without college degrees, may receive supplementary training. Nonprofessionals may enter UM without a high school diploma and may receive retroactive college credit once they have earned high school equivalency certification.

Nonprofessionals may participate in a two-year program which may lead to a bachelor's degree at the end of four years.

Trainees who possess a bachelor's degree are required to pay one-half of the academic costs.

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Mary Lou Tevebaugh, 31, a teacher's aide in Missoula's "day care," a Head Start program for children of working parents, is attending UM this summer under HSST.

Said Mrs. Tevebaugh, "Persons under this training program don't want watered-down courses. We want to earn college credit by working for it."

Mrs. Tevebaugh said that more than half of the 14 persons under the program at UM this summer are parents. "At least four of them have to take their children to babysitters before they go to work and school," she said.

"Most of the 14 trainees work eight hours a day for Head Start," she continued. "On top of this, a number have 7:30 a.m. classes." She added that there are several program participants who are the sole breadwinner's of one-parent families.

Dr. Rummel said, "A few individuals during the past year have been able to complete college work so that they could be certified as teachers to teach in public schools or in Head Start programs in Montana."

Trainees in the two-year program take basic courses such as child development, social welfare and English composition. Other courses in the program emphasize child development. Elective courses may also be selected on an individual basis.

The program administered through UM also provides the tuition and books for 10 Head Start personnel from Helena who are taking courses at Carroll College, Helena, this summer.

The 14 personnel all of Missoula, under the UM HSST this summer include Mrs. Tevebaugh, Elizabeth M. Comstock, Alice JoAnn Marlow, Evelyn L. McBride, Patricia L. Myers, Mary C. Parrish, Naett P. Sharp, Hugh T. Standley, Loretta Breslin, Nancy J. Munro, Richard Roberts, Doreen Daniels, Virginia Jarrett and Linda Shearer.

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