

Supports Downey Side Program in Westfield

In Thursday's Westfield edition of The Daily News there was an article concerning the Downey Side home to be located on Sterling Street in Westfield. In that article was Mr. Morawiec's statement of opposition to the program because it "doesn't have the full support of all the citizens of Westfield."

In the first place there will never be any matter which all of the citizens of any town or city will agree on. It is folly to even suppose otherwise.

Secondly, there is no basis for all the opposition of the people in the Sterling Street area if their primary concern is the "possibility" of these youths being delinquent. If they don't have a place to live where they are treated as individuals in a real home atmosphere — which includes love, respect, responsibility and direction — they probably would become delinquents.

The Downey Side program is an alternative to these youths who have no home of their own; who are victims of neglect and who most urgently need help.

Instead of being concerned about what "might be" it seems to make far

better and certainly most positive sense to try to help these youths to become responsible citizens of the community and show them that they are, in fact, human beings worthy of such help.

The Downey Side program is worthy of all the support and assistance the citizenry can give it and it is my sincere hope that they will do so.

One further point: Can any of the people who are so violently opposed to the program in their area make any guarantees that their own children will not grow up and run afoul of the law?

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Springfield
Daily News - 6/3/75
- 7/75