



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FRANK LOGUE
MAYOR

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
CONNECTICUT 06508

NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: 10:45 A.M., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1979

Mayor Frank Logue today announced the unveiling of a mural by CETA artists, Terry Lennox and Ruth Resnick, to be dedicated at the City Welfare Department on Bassett Street, February 8.

The mural, viewed in its earlier stages by Joan Mondale in her visit here last May, was funded by New Haven CETA and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. It is the culmination of more than a year's work by muralists Resnick and Lennox.

"Once again I commend Ruth and Terry for contributing to the art and culture of our community," said Mayor Logue. "Through this mural, these two women have displayed a tremendous sensitivity to the needs and hopes of the people of our city."

Mayor Frank Logue, CETA Administrator Thomas Corso, Welfare Department Director Leota Tucker, and State Representative William Dyson will be among the guest speakers at the dedication ceremony scheduled to begin at 5:15 followed by a reception and open house.

"I congratulate the artists and their associates for their magnificent accomplishment. CETA has been part of many creative projects in New Haven, but we are especially proud of this mural. It will make a special contribution to the spirit of our city for many years," Corso said.

Corso noted that the CETA Summer Youth Employment Program has produced over 20 murals city-wide during the past three years.

Tucker characterized the mural as "a symbol of hope. It portrays the problems urban dwellers face, but it also reflects the strength and dignity of people. It is a beautiful first step in our plans to make the Welfare Department

a more pleasant place for clients and staff."

The mural's design and imagery is the result of research, interviews and many pastel studies taken from photographs and live models.

The mural contains portraits of friends, staff and clients who posed for the artists at the Welfare Department.

In their New Haven mural projects, both Resnick and Lennox worked with people of all ages and backgrounds helping them to express their feelings. "Perhaps the most exciting experience for us," noted muralist Lennox, "is that of team members who, as part of the visual dialogue created in the mural, have been able to effect change in their personal lives and in their communities."

The ceremony on February 8, marking the first phase of interior renovation at the 196 Bassett Street building, was done in cooperation with another CETA program, "Ventures for Community Improvement," which employs youth in neighborhood improvement projects. Under the direction of Dan Daddona, and designer Joseph Cifferelli of the Human Resource Administration, six Ventures' painters, Doris Morales, Juan Pagan, Billy Waller, Les Smith, Jorge Nieves and Reese Harris, have given the walls of the Welfare Department a fresh coat of paint.

People from every neighborhood are invited to join in the open house festivities from 5-7 p.m. this Thursday.