

out there working that because families will go off of welfare assistance sooner that if they have problems, which many of them will continue to have problems, then the impact on private providers will be even greater than they are now. One of the things that was done is to take a survey of a lot of those providers and many of...well, we sent out to almost everyone in the state that provides, United Ways, private foundation, food pantries, homeless shelters, domestic abuse shelters, and so on, and many of them replied and gave us an answer that I have passed out to you, a sheet that shows what that survey told us. The results were that an overwhelming majority of these providers are presently running at full capacity. A high percentage said that whether they were running at capacity or not, said they were currently serving the maximum number of clients that they were able to. A high percentage expressed pessimism their services could accommodate new cases if required to by our so-called welfare reform. Eighty percent of those who responded said that they were running at full capacity or not, at least expressed pessimism that their services could accommodate new cases. The increased needs that these service providers will have to fulfill because of the number of men and women...women and children who lose their ADC benefits in the years ahead means that these providers will not be able to meet the needs of their clients. The most troubling thing about those results is that those human service groups that are most overburdened at the moment are those that are designed to fulfill the most basic needs. These are the needs intended to be met by Aid to Dependent Children. Ten of the eleven groups that provide shelter to people and saying whether or not they were running at full capacity reported that they are. Another high percentage of the groups that provide basic necessities, such as food, clothing, utility aid and such said that they're either now running at full capacity or doubted very much that they would be able to meet the needs of extra clients. This pattern of basic need providers being severely taxed was echoed by another survey of nonmetropolitan food pantries done by the Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska. A high percentage of those pantries said that even now periodically they run short of food, funds and help. Another group said they were currently just managing to keep up with the requests. Seventy-three percent of these pantries said that they would not be able to weather any new demands on their services that might be caused by this bill, by the law being changed. I think that two comments from two of the health providers that we surveyed were especially telling. The Indian and Chicano Center saw even more severe health