

Indian people knew their concerns locally better than anyone else. So we asked these people what was needed as far as Lawton and Comanche county was needed. And they didn't know. They had some ideas, sure. So we talked about it and they decided that they would come home and have a meeting and notify people in the area and then we would come down and we would talk about the things--like we have tonight. About the things that really concerns Indian people. So, out of this thing, grew an experimental group. And we met from October of 1962 until May of '63 and we brought in people. Now one of the first things that they--one of the first needs identified is that Indian people do not--are not generally capable of really communicating. And that there are needs certainly, but they were not able to talk, even among themselves in many instances. So we started out with a series of programs on communication. Just how to meet and talk to people. And we used University Faculty people. And the faculty became excited. We had about fifteen or twenty faculty members from about, I'd say, eight or ten different departments. We had speech, education, philosophy, sociology, economics, home economics, or family life and history, anthropology and other departments. And these guys got so excited that sometimes we would have to bring two cars to bring people down who wanted to just sit and observe and see what was going on. Well the townspeople became aware of this, because nothing like this as far as we knew had ever been attempted by a University in the United States. So out of this thing grew, well, the Bureau of Indian Affairs liked what they saw here. Because here were people who were attempting to help themselves and do it on their own. So, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for the next year gave us a contract to develop four additional centers. Well, I was employed. I was working in the Extension Division in Business and Industrial Services at that time, but I managed to come to about half the meetings. Then, I was