



This fall, the Dalhousie Student Union is sponsoring a unique community-oriented educational project in Halifax's North-End.

The program, OutReach Tutoring, is run, manned and organized entirely by university students, who have seen a need for a program offering some sort of individual tutoring to children living in the North End. The basic idea behind the program is that university students would volunteer a night of their week to tutor children who are having trouble in their school work.

OutReach Tutoring was begun two years ago as a pilot project between Veith House, a North-End community centre, and the Dalhousie Student Union.

The project ran for the first two years, with about 60 tutors and 60 children, relying mainly on word-of-mouth to interest both students and children in becoming involved with the program. The tutoring was done in the child's home once a week, with the tutor making regular reports on the child's progress.

From questionnaires gathered at the end of the year, the tutors recommended an expansion of the program with a broader organization, to include more children and university students, and have the Student Union grant a bigger budget with possible office facilities.

Over the past summer, Veith House hired a student organizer who would, among other duties set up OutReach Tutoring for the coming year. From the work that was done this summer the program is expanding to include schools not only in the Mulgrave Park area, where it has operated the past two years, but in the Robie Street and Gottengen Street area of Halifax, where there is just as great a need for a tutoring program.

Upon contact, such institutions as the Maritime School of Social Work, the Atlantic Institute of Education, the Dalhousie and Saint Mary's Departments of Education, the City School Board, and the Atlantic Child Guidance Centre have agreed to help the program in supplying

materials, classroom space, advice and services.

To better equip the university student who is interested in tutoring, OutReach Tutoring will be running a morning and afternoon workshop on Saturday, October 14, on the Dalhousie Campus, highlighting community workers and educators.

The afternoon program will feature small group discussion centering around the elements of tutoring children and on education sessions.

It is hoped that the groups will meet every three to five weeks to discuss the ideas, approaches and problems in other words, these groups will serve as referral to help the university students to help themselves tutor better.

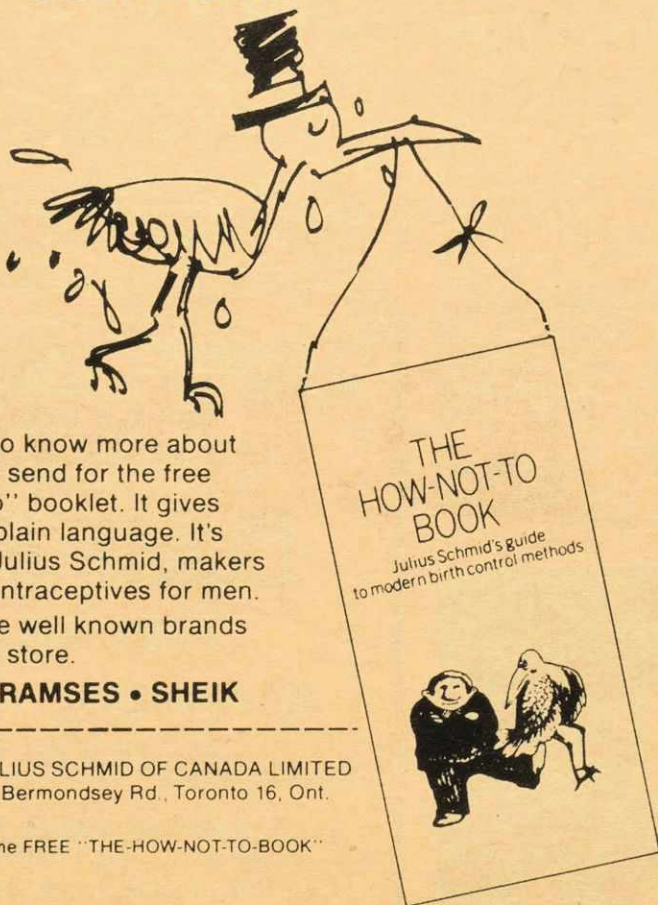
An information table will be set up in the lobby of the SUB during the last week of September and the first week of October. An initial meeting will be held on Thursday, October 5.

The OutReach Tutoring office is at 6034 University Avenue, 422-5833.



GAZETTE
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