

Reagan Urged to Spur Voluntarism in Philanthropy

By KATH' EEN TELTSCH

Looking back on a 20-year career in philanthropy and education, Landrun R. Bolling of the Council on Foundations has urged the incoming Reagan Administration to enhance the role of the country's volunteer workers in providing social, economic and cultural services.

The 67-year-old Mr. Bolling, a former president of Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., and the Lilly Endowment, one of the country's major foundations, is about to step down as head of the council, a Washington-based trade association representing 1,000 foundations and corporate grant makers.

"As we begin a new administration that proclaims its intention to cut the cost of government but not abandon essential

services," Mr. Bolling said in a recent interview, "a comprehensive look ought to be given as to how the vast network of private nonprofit agencies and the millions of volunteers can be mobilized to perform on a far greater scale many of the services government does."

Private philanthropy has become "big business," he said, and collects billions in grants and uses these contributions to pay for welfare services, cultural and educational programs and a wide range of community activities in this country and overseas.

"In the operation of our museums, art galleries, orchestras and ballet groups, the financial burdens fall primarily on private organizations and volunteer boards," Mr. Bolling said. Thousands of volunteers across the country perform

services at the community level that would otherwise have to be paid for by government funds, he added.

The Republicans endorsed voluntarism in their party platform and should take steps now to encourage its expansion, Mr. Bolling said, by underscoring its significance at the highest levels. This could be done by a strong, supportive statement by the President, he added, and by establishing a new award specifically for volunteer services, modeled on the Medal of Freedom awards, which are the country's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Bolling will remain at the council as a senior consultant and honorary chairman. Eugene C. Struckhoff, a New Hampshire lawyer and an administrator at the council, has been named its president and executive officer.