

Report: Cuts keep volunteers from

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WASHINGTON — Although the Reagan administration says its cuts in spending for social programs will be offset by increased volunteer work, the cuts actually will weaken many volunteer organizations and prevent them from expanding services, according to a report presented here yesterday.

Brian O'Connell, president of an organization called the Independent Sector, said the concept that voluntarism would replace the expenditure

of public funds represented "totally unrealistic expectations for what private philanthropy and voluntary organizations can do."

The group's 76-page report, the result of a six-month study, concluded that volunteer organizations would not be able to replace the federal role in social programs. The reason, it said, is that many of them are inexperienced in fund-raising and lack the staff and skills to compete for the administration's proposed "new federalism" block grants to states that would replace current disbursements of federal money to

various agencies and organizations.

The Independent Sector, an umbrella group for foundations, national voluntary groups and corporations, predicted in the report substantial increases in financial donations for social programs by businesses and individuals because of the budget cuts.

But it concluded, after surveys of corporations and other potential donors, that, while the yearly increases would total several hundred millions of dollars, they would be far less than "needed to make much of a dent against [Reagan's] cuts of bil-

filling service gap

lions of dollars."

O'Connell said American corporations had increased their donations to public service programs by 11 percent in 1981, but that figure "represented less than 300 million new dollars nationwide."

According to the report, Reagan's economic recovery program will also force nonprofit groups that now receive much of their money from the government to reduce services.

O'Connell said the volunteer groups representing Hispanics and other minorities would have the most difficulty in raising funds,

along with groups working for newer and sometimes unpopular causes such as battered women and children.

The study states that for the 1981-84 period, private agencies will receive \$25.5 billion less than necessary in public funds to carry their programs at their 1980 levels. It adds that federal expenditures in government-operated social programs will be reduced by \$115 billion for the same period.

At a separate news conference yesterday, spokeswomen for a coalition of 38 national women's groups contended that the President's economic

policies were denying "women's economic equity" and "weakening women's rights in the workplace."

Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D., Colo.), speaking for the coalition, criticized Reagan for proposing cuts in day care services "for women who must work to support their families." She and Eleanor Holmes Horton, former head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, also cited proposed cuts in education and job training programs that aid divorced women and women who must depend on public assistance without such programs.