

Thomas Mousley has family of 40 boys

When Thomas Mousely goes to work in the morning, he is involved with activities which encompass thousands of young people. At night, he goes home to a family of 40 boys.

Mousely is the new archdiocesan director of the Catholic Youth Organization and his assignment as a permanent deacon is the Boystown Home, Kearny.

Mousley came to Newark from Kansas City, Mo., where he had also been a director of the CYO program. He was chosen for the Newark post after a nationwide search to fill the job.

Pleased to come into a program that is active, he said "My immediate plans are to consolidate the CYO organizations in the archdiocese, which includes Hudson County, to achieve the goal of one CYO administration. We will also try to reach more young adults between 18 and 24."

While the traditional CYO programs offered locally are con-

sidered excellent, Mousley said he would like to enhance them by adding more dealing with social problems.

"Faced with the times we live in," he said, "we need to get more involved with drug abuse prevention, youth alienation, juvenile crime and even the problem of runaways."

A needs assessment survey will be made in the near future throughout the four counties to see what programs are most needed and in what areas. "A need we are addressing in our Quest program," Mousley continued, "is the problem of youth unemployment. We'd like to be able to prepare youngsters for job hunting with tips on resumes, grooming, and what to do in an interview."

"What we are really saying is that the CYO wants to continue dealing with the whole person, offering guidance, healing, justice and service," he said.

These are the kinds of things Mousely is doing with his ministry at Kearny Boystown. "I don't want to separate my work from my personal life. Boystown is my family," he said.

The family, made up of boys from 12 to 16 years of age have been placed in Boystown by the division of Youth and Family Services. They are not orphans, but boys in need of a more structured environment.

"We offer regular academic courses as well as extensive off campus vocational training. My duties include pastoral counseling, assisting at mass and recreation with the boys."