

## 2 Senior Citizens to Describe Volunteer Work at D.C. Hearing

Two Staten Island Project SERVE volunteers will testify Monday at a hearing in Washington, D.C. on what their work in Willowbrook State School has meant to them and the community.

Mrs. Carmine Diodato, 64, of Stapleton and James Gallagher, 68, of West Brighton will appear before Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, chairman of the Subcommittee on Aging, and Harrison A. Williams Jr. of New Jersey.

The two volunteers have been asked to give oral testimony in connection with a bill introduced by Williams which will give continuing financial assistance to Community Service Society projects such as SERVE.

The bill will provide for a new Older Persons Program

under title VI of the Older Americans Act.

Mrs. Diodato, who retired in 1950, is a member of a dance

group at Stapleton Day Center which demonstrates and instructs children at Willowbrook every other week. Meeting with the same children regularly has allowed Mrs. Diodato and others in her group to develop personal relationships with the children.

Gallagher, a former postman, works with a boy and girl, both six, at Willowbrook. Each week, he takes them for a walk, and eats lunch with them. A report notes that he is the first person to get response from the girl.

Monday's plane trip to Washington is the first for the volunteers. They will be accompanied by Arthur Garson, vice chairman of the committee on aging for CSS, and Mrs. Janet Saino, Staten Island Project director.