

TRC

news & views

TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

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1983 Expected to Begin on Continuing Resolution

Barring a last minute breakthrough, it appears likely that federal funding for vocational rehabilitation programs in Fiscal Year 1983 will be provided, at least for a while, under a continuing resolution instead of a regular appropriation from Congress. As of Sept. 27, with only three days remaining in FY 1982, Congress had not taken action on a regular appropriation for vocational rehabilitation. Budget committees of both houses of Congress were working on recommendations for funding levels under a continuing resolution.

Normally, under a continuing resolution, programs receive the same amount as was awarded the previous fiscal year. If that were the case, basic support (Section 110) funding for the nationwide vocational rehabilitation program in FY 1983 would be set at \$863.04 million. However, funding under a continuing resolution can be increased or decreased if amendments calling for adjustments are introduced in Congress, passed by both houses and signed by the President.

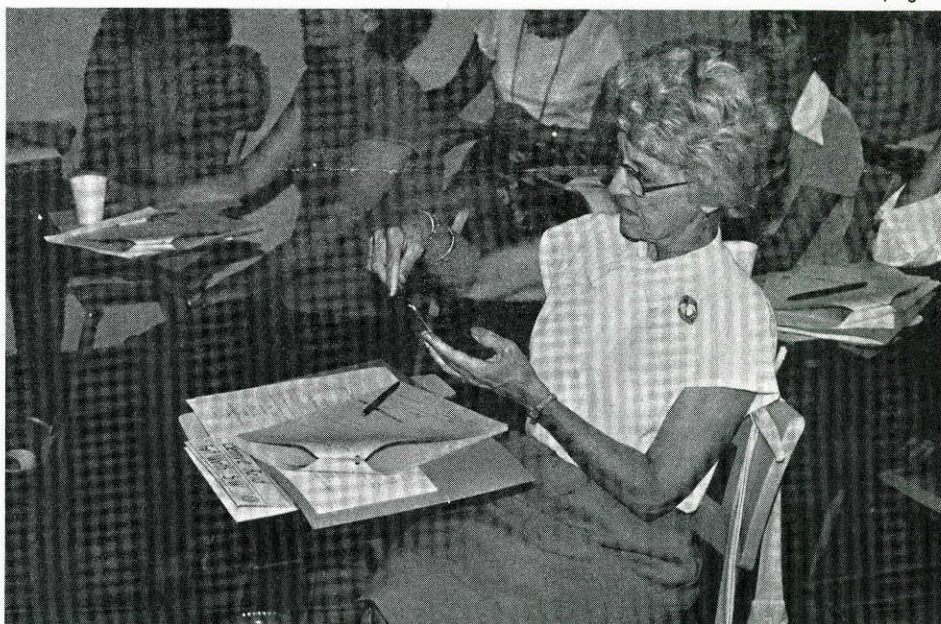
As of this writing (Sept. 27) the full Senate

Appropriations Committee has approved a measure calling for a continuing resolution at level funding, or the same amount as was allocated in FY 1982 (\$863.04 million). While other domestic programs included in the resolution were recommended for increases in funding, vocational rehabilitation programs were not. Observers say this is due to the absence of two senators, historically supportive of the vocational rehabilitation

program, when the measure was considered. During the final week of FY 1982, the prospect of introducing an amendment that would increase funding to the full level to the full Senate was under deliberation.

Meanwhile, the full House Appropriations Committee was expected to make its recommendation for funding for vocational rehabilitation programs on Wednesday, Sept.

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Region II administrative technician Bennye Reid examines a barber's razor at a recent training session covering the use and maintenance of equipment used by cosmetologists and barbers. All of TRC's "ad techs" gathered in Waco recently to attend the training and a special banquet. (See related story on p. 3.)

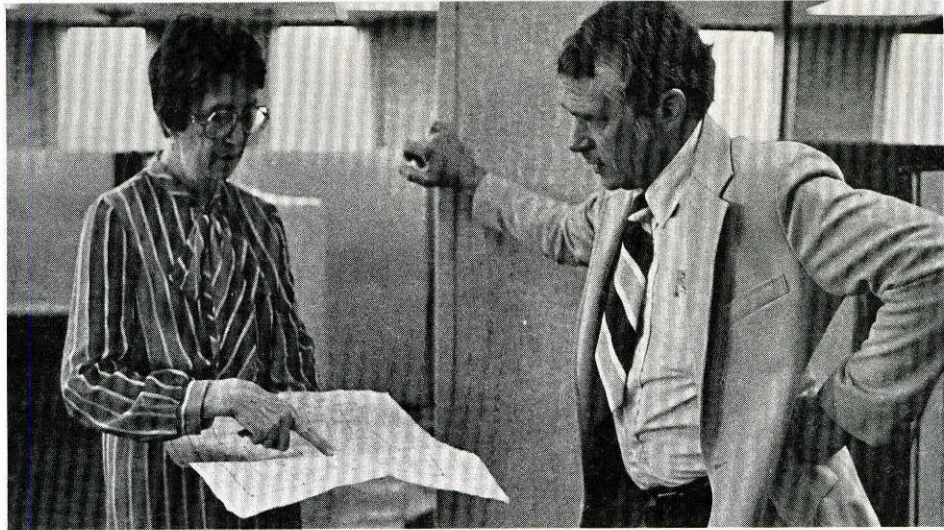
IMPART Moves to Austin

IMPART (Innovative Matching of Problems to Available Rehabilitation Technology) is moving to Austin. On Oct. 1, the responsibility for supervising the program was transferred to Program Services Director John Wylie. By Nov. 1, the IMPART office, currently located in San Antonio, will be housed in the Central Office.

IMPART's mission is to use existing technology to assist handicapped persons in their vocations and daily living activities. Since 1977, the project has operated under a federal grant. That grant, however, expired on Sept. 30.

With expiration of the grant, the IMPART project might have ended. However, a committee of field and Central Office personnel determined that TRC needs an office responsible for coordinating the technological aspects of the rehabilitation process. With the information provided by the committee, administrators decided to fund the program and move it to Austin.

Wylie says any modifications to the IMPART program will primarily be administrative in nature and won't change the overall mission or function. Currently, Wylie is accepting applications from persons interested in working as program specialist in the IMPART program. John McNair, who coordinated the program in San Antonio, has decided against moving to Austin. Clerical Supervisor Lydia Arguello will transfer to the Central Office.



Janis Beard, TRC's new administrative officer in charge of staff services, says she likes her new job because it offers "something different all the time." Beard is pictured here with her supervisor, Assistant Deputy Commissioner John Fenoglio, reviewing floor plans for new office space for part of the Disability Determination Division.

Staff Services Changes Hands

"It's just like jumping off the high diving board for the first time. You know you want to do it--you know you can do it--but, it sure looks like a long way to jump!"

That's how Janis Beard describes her feelings about the new responsibilities she has assumed as TRC's administrative officer in charge of staff services. Beard was promoted to that position on Sept. 1, when Jackson King, former chief of staff services, transferred to the Austin regional office to become regional director. In keeping with the Commission's personnel conservation policy, King's position in the Central Office was deleted when he transferred. Beard, however, has assumed many of the responsibilities that went along with the position.

No stranger to the system, Beard has worked in the staff services department for six of the nine years she has been with TRC. Previously, she was a stenographer in a Disability Determination Division reconsideration unit. As an assistant in staff services, Beard has handled almost all of the activities

she is responsible for now--activities which include handling leasing requirements for TRC offices, maintaining contracts on office rental equipment (copy machines, postage meters, etc.), maintenance of TRC vehicles, building maintenance for the Central Office and supervision of the Central Office mail unit, switchboard and copy room.

"The job is pretty much of a challenge most of the time," Beard says. "It's something different all the time. I've always liked a job that had a lot of different things to do."

Beard carries out her duties with a no-nonsense, straightforward style, complimented by a keen sense of humor--characteristics which have earned Beard a reputation in the Central Office and field. Along with that, Beard has earned a reputation for getting the job done. As one colleague put it, "It doesn't matter if you're the commissioner or the cleaning crew, if Janis wants to get something done, you'd best move out of the way."

Ad Tech Training, Banquet a Success

For the first time that anyone can remember, all of TRC's administrative technicians were in the same place at the same time recently. The place was Waco--the time, Sept. 14-15. The result was a mixture of learning and fun that won't soon be forgotten.

The ad techs gathered in Waco to attend training sessions on the use and maintenance of barber and cosmetology equipment. Generally, the technicians travel in smaller groups to attend training of this nature. The idea behind getting them all together at once was to help the technicians get acquainted with their counterparts from other parts of the state.

The highlight of the meeting was a banquet held on the campus of the McLennan Community College.

From the Field

Richard Smith, administrative officer in Region V, was loaded down with several copies of the September 1 issue of "Woman's Day" magazine on a recent trip to the Central Office. The reason for that, he proudly explained, was because the magazine featured a two page spread of photographs of Smith's lovely wife, Judith. Sure enough, the charming blonde model smiling at us from pages 84-85 of the magazine is Judith P. Smith, second prize winner of the publication's "My Most Versatile Outfit" contest.

Smith's part in his wife's success did not go unnoticed. The pictures he took of the 33 outfits Judith created from three basic items are featured along the top of the pages.

Guests of honor included Deputy Commissioner James L. Jackson, Assistant Deputy Commissioner John Fenoglio, Purchasing and Supply Director Milton Turnipseed, staff from Purchasing and Supply and the Warehouse. For many of the ad techs, it

was the first opportunity to meet, in person, some of the people with whom they had previously worked over the phone or through the mail. If the amount of handshaking, hugging and laughing was any measure, the evening was a sure success.



Region IV's administrative technicians model the matching shirts they had made especially for the "ad tech" meeting in Waco. The "IV's Faithful Techs" pictured here are (left to right) Edna Hollingsworth, Anna Bounds, Joyce Cooley, Betty Hughes, Mary Craver and Marion Johnson.

Annual Report, PSA's Take National Honors

For the second consecutive year, TRC's annual report took first place honors in the National Association of Mental Health Information Officers' National Media Contest. The certificate was presented to Information Specialist Kaye Beneke at NAMHIO's annual national institute in Kansas City, Missouri, in early September. Beneke wrote and edited the report. Graphic artist Becky Nieto created the design and layout.

In the audio/visual category, the "human energy"

public service announcements for television, produced for TRC by Public Address, Inc., were also awarded a first place certificate. Like the annual report, the television spots competed with entries submitted by agencies throughout the nation.

TRC productions will not be eligible to compete in the 1983 institute awards contest as Beneke has been assigned the duties of media contest coordinator for the coming year. The assignment places her on NAMHIO's Executive Committee.

From

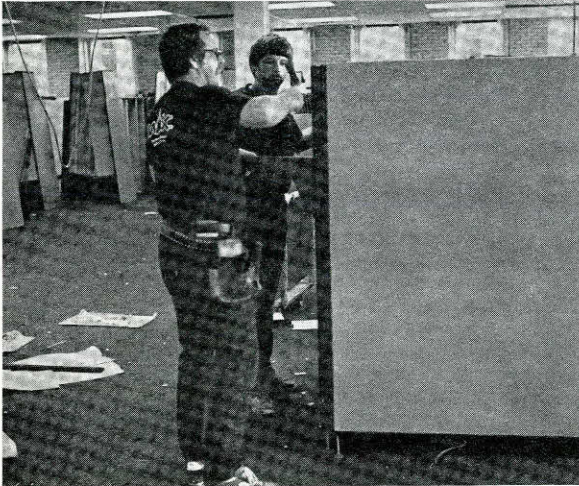


NON-CIRCULATING NTSU LIBRARY

Approximately 300 DDD employees have packed up their desks and left their offices. But, they didn't go far. They are now stationed in new offices located directly across the parking lot from the Central Office.

Seven continuing disability investigation units, three initial/reconsideration units and all DDD administrative and support units now occupy four floors of the building at 158 E. Riverside. The purpose of the move was

primarily to relieve overcrowding of the second floor of the Central Office where most of the DDD staff had been housed. Also, employees from another building, on South Congress, were moved because their lease expired at the end of Sept. Now, approximately 400 employees remain on the Central Office's second floor, and plans to redistribute the work area to make those employees more comfortable are underway.



In late September, workers were putting the finishing touches to the office space now occupied by approximately 300 DDD employees. The new office space features modular furniture.

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29. Earlier in the month, the House Appropriations Subcommittee had made its recommendation to the full committee. Though figures contained in the subcommittee's recommendation were not released officially, sources say there are indications that the subcommittee bill called for basic support funding at the full level authorized, \$943.9 million.

Advocates of the vocational rehabilitation program spent the final days of the fiscal year contacting their representatives in Congress urging support of funding at the full authorized level.

TRC News & Views is printed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for distribution to its employees and retirees throughout the state. Inquiries may be addressed to Kaye Beneke, Public Information Office, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, TX. 78704; or telephone (512) 445-8745, (Tex-An) 887-8745.

Retirements

Myrton McDonald, Program Specialist II, Dallas DDD Field Office West, employed June 24, 1977, retirement effective Sept. 30, 1982.

Harold Walker, Disability Examiner II, DDD, Austin, employed Nov. 4, 1957, retirement effective Sept. 30, 1982.

In Memory

Dolores Candelaria, died Sept. 7, 1982. Employed April 16, 1973, El Paso Montana Place Field Office, Stenographer III.

Calendar of Events

October 1982

<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
3 - 8	Training for Managers of Managers	Woodcreek, Wimberley
3 - 8	Management Training for Supervisors	Lago Vista, Austin
5 - 7	Production Marketing and Management in Sheltered Work Programs	Lubbock
13 - 14	GATB Training for Regional Training Officers	C.O., Austin
19 - 20	New Counselor Follow-On Training	R.O., Houston
21 - 22	Comprehensive Rehabilitation of the Severely Disabled	Gonzales
24 - 29	Management Training for Supervisors	Lago Vista, Austin
27 - 28	The Planning Process Field Test	C.O., Austin