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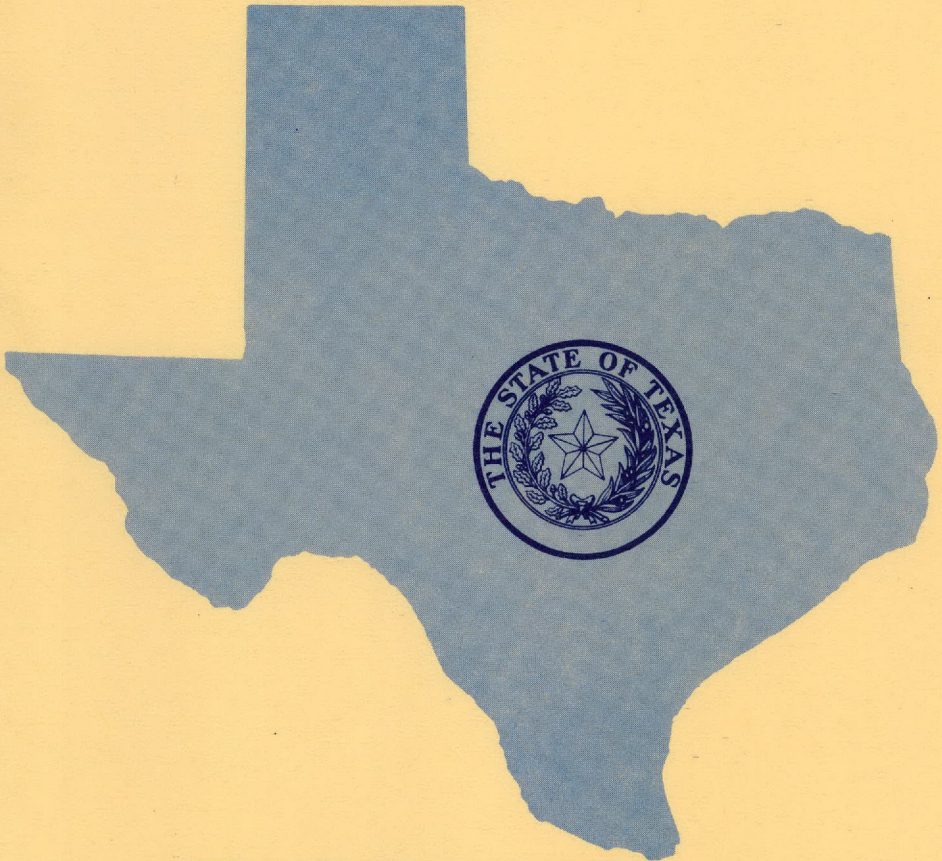
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A STATUS REPORT OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

FISCAL YEAR 1971



TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
SEPTEMBER 1971

TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
1301 WEST 38TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Jess M. Irwin, Jr.
Commissioner

W. K. Harvey, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner

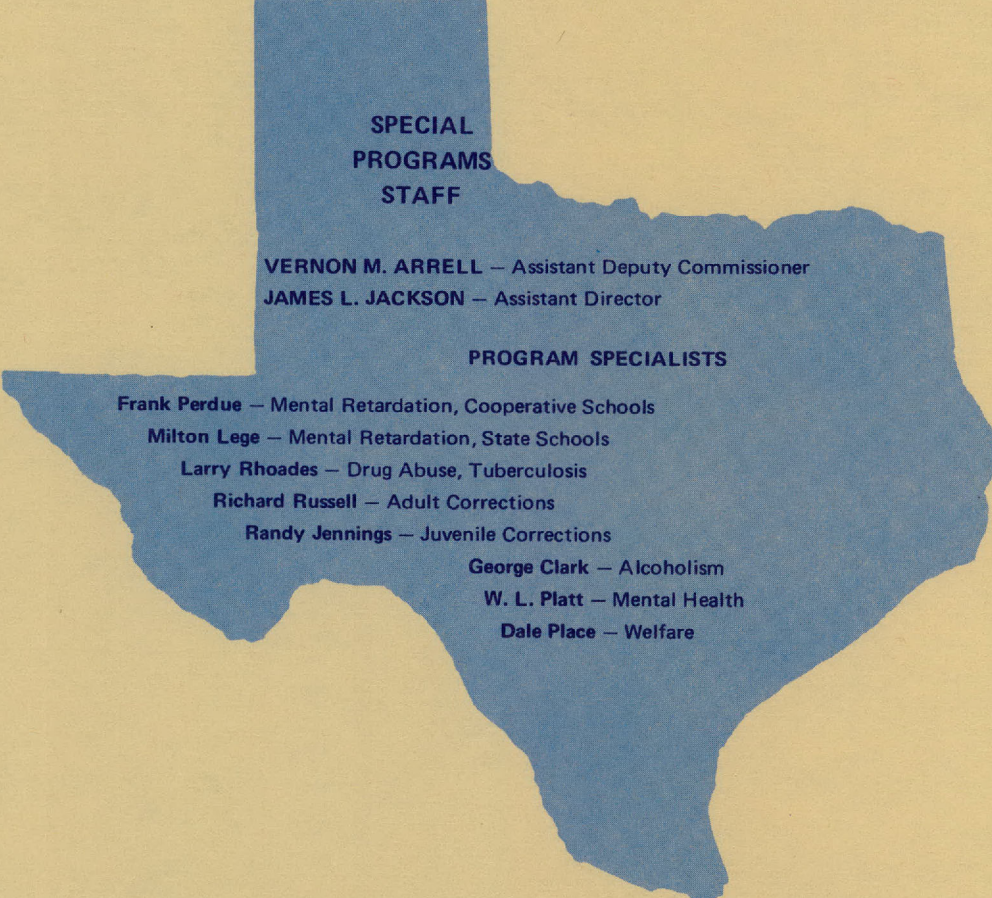
Vernon M. Arrell
Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Special Programs

James L. Jackson
Assistant Director for Special Programs

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TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION SPECIAL PROGRAMS SECTION

Under the direction of Mr. Vernon M. Arrell, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, the Special Programs Section of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission has major program responsibility for the following disciplines: Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Drug Abuse, Alcoholism, Adult Corrections, Juvenile Corrections, Welfare, and Tuberculosis and Other Lung Diseases.

To serve these disability groups, over 800 professional and supportive personnel are housed in various State Hospitals, State Schools, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers, Correctional Institutions, Outreach Offices, and District Offices. From the Central Office, eight (8) Program Specialists serve field personnel who work with clients on a direct basis.

To finance the abovementioned Special Programs, several interagency contracts have been signed, whereas a third party contributes twenty percent (20%) of the program budget and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission absorbs eighty percent (80%) of the budget with Federal Funds. Joint program agreements have been written with all organizations with whom this Commission has working relations. To assure that a good communications system exists, liaison members of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission have been assigned to work with all State and local organizations which jointly serve the disabled.

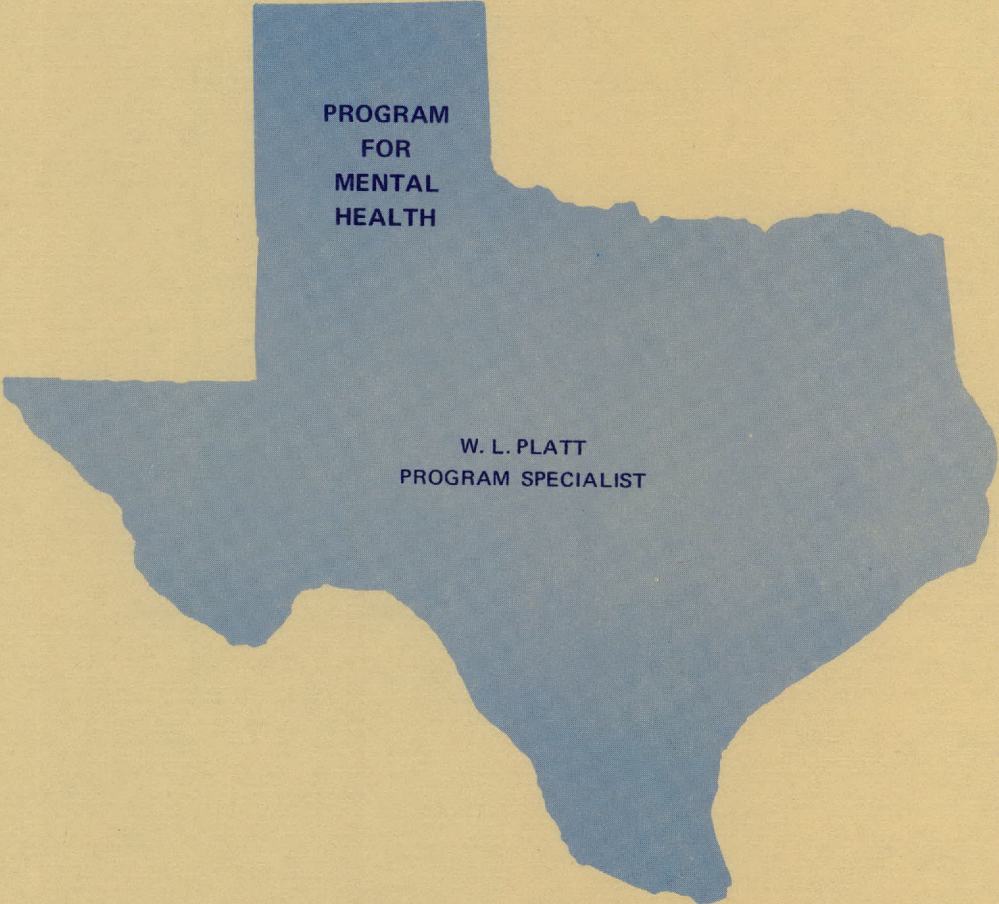
During the past few years, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission has grown tremendously in regards to the number of handicapped people served and rehabilitated. For example, during fiscal year 1971, a total of 53,184 individuals with disabilities in the Special Programs area were served by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission staff. Of this number, 8,293 cases were successfully rehabilitated. Most of these cases were served by Counselors located in State institutions and those with caseloads serving only disability groups in the Special Programs area. However, a large number of the 8,293 closures were handled by General caseload-carrying Counselors who serve all kinds of disabilities. It is projected that 64,850 individuals whose disabilities are in the Special Programs area will be served in fiscal year 1972. Hopefully, 10,200 of these cases will be successfully rehabilitated.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission plans to continue its close working relationship with such agencies as the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, the Texas Department of Health, the Texas Department of Corrections, the Texas Youth Council, the Texas Commission on Alcoholism, the Texas Department of Public Welfare, and Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers. Major emphasis will be placed on the development of community centers, where the preventive concept of rehabilitation will be stressed.

To cope with the problem of meeting the needs of the future, each Program Specialist has been given the responsibility of developing a Five Year State Plan. Involved with this study will be field representatives from each of the six geographical regions of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. The main objective will be to determine what types of rehabilitation services will be needed for the next five years and what plans this Commission needs to make to meet such needs.

In an effort to better utilize the Program Specialists, the program areas of Mental Health, Drug Abuse and Alcoholism will be served on a bi-regional basis by three Program Specialists. Similarly, in the Mental Retardation field, two Program Specialists will each have responsibilities in three geographic regions for the Cooperative School and State School Programs. After a year of evaluation regarding this type of organizational structure, it may be desirable to assign multiple program responsibilities in smaller geographic areas to other Program Specialists.



**PROGRAM
FOR
MENTAL
HEALTH**

**W. L. PLATT
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Introduction

During the year 1962, a determined effort was made by the Vocational Rehabilitation Division to render services to the mentally ill clients within the State. At that time, there were no full-time Counselors working with the mentally ill at any of our District Offices. There was a Counselor working in each of the six State Mental Hospitals and a Counselor in two of the State Clinics. During the year 1962, the Division appointed a full-time Consultant for the Mentally Ill and commenced placing additional personnel in the highly populated areas of the State. From 1962 to our present date, full-time workers have been placed in most of our District Offices. With the addition of the needed staff and in-service training, there has been a steady incline in the number of mentally ill being rehabilitated.

Accomplishments – 1971

During the fiscal year 1970-71, there were 7,336 mentally ill cases referred to the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for services. Rehabilitation plans were written for more than fifty percent of this number. There were 1,957 cases rehabilitated. I am listing rehabilitants, by the year, to further indicate the growth of this particular program.

1964 – 548	1968 – 851
1965 – 620	1969 – 1149
1966 – 703	1970 – 1404
1967 – 666	1971 – 1957

During the fiscal year, Counselors have been placed at the Kerrville State Hospital, Vernon State Center, Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers, and additional District Offices. During this period of time, our referral system from State Hospitals to field Counselors has greatly improved. With the coming of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers, Outreach Clinics, and halfway house facilities, services are being brought closer to the clients' home areas.

A recent accomplishment of importance was the completion of a

Statewide study of the Mental Health Program. The committee was composed of representatives from each region and recommendations brought out in the study will be of value for planning in the field of Mental Health for a period of the next five years.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

State Hospitals

Interviews should be made on all admissions to State Hospitals for screening purposes. Vocational evaluation should be provided for all clients accepted as a referral. Individual and group counseling should be provided on an intensive basis. The writing of a Vocational Rehabilitation plan on every case where time permits should be accomplished. Case records mailed to field Counselors should be fully documented. Hospital Counselors should visit field Counselors and facilities on a planned schedule. Field Counselors should visit hospital units and prospective clients on a planned schedule. Hospital programs should receive feedback from field Counselors that will enable evaluation of the effectiveness of hospital services. Field Counselors who are reluctant to accept and work with hospital cases should be given special orientation in the area of Mental Health. Special orientation classes should be provided Supervisors in the field of Mental Health who have the responsibility of supervision of Counselors working with the mentally ill. (This recommendation was made in our special Statewide planning report.)

Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers, State Clinics, Outreach Clinics, and Other Treatment and Rehabilitation Facilities

Most of the recommendations in the above paragraph will be applicable to this paragraph. Since the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers and Outreach Clinics are comparably new, we recommend that as progress is made in these facilities, we develop along with them.

District Offices

All District Offices, other than one or two man offices, should have one or more Counselors responsible for the delivery of services to the mentally ill client. In larger offices, all individuals working with the mentally ill should be placed under the same Supervisor. Again, I am

recommending that Supervisors be given special training in the field of Mental Health.

Halfway Houses

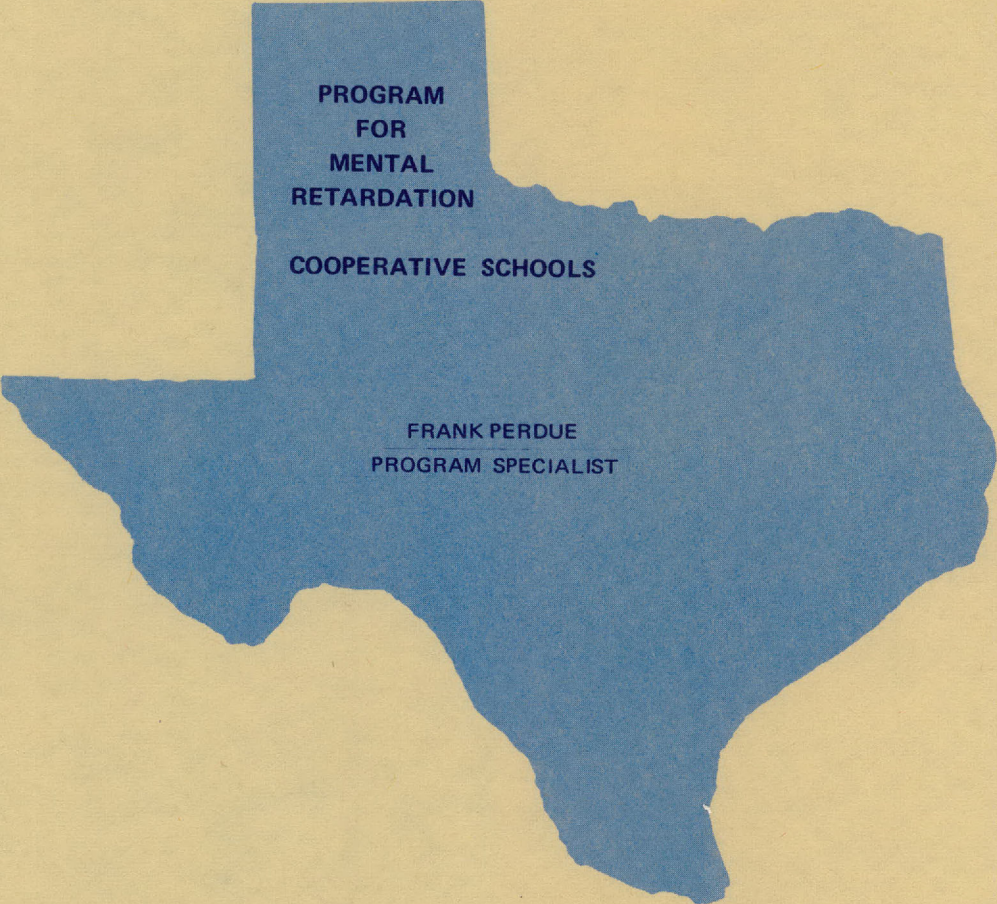
Halfway houses have found their rightful and much-needed place as a resource in the planning and rehabilitation of the mentally ill client. During the upcoming fiscal year, every effort should be made to update and refine the services of the halfway house. A great weakness at this time is the lack of knowledge and effort on the part of some Supervisors and Courtesy Counselors in discharging their responsibility as it relates to the halfway house facility. The classification team has proved to be a useful vehicle in classifying halfway houses seeking classification recognition. The classification team should visit every halfway house at least once every six months and report their findings to all concerned.

In-Service Training

There are many new people in the field of Mental Health and additional personnel being employed on a regular basis. Every effort should be made to assist Staff Development in planning necessary in-service training.

Planning

Planning should never cease. Consultants, Regional Directors, Supervisors, Counselors, with Staff Development, should carry on constant planning to cover not only the next five years, but the next ten years.



**PROGRAM
FOR
MENTAL
RETARDATION**

COOPERATIVE SCHOOLS

**FRANK PERDUE
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT COOPERATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Introduction

The Cooperative School Program is a three way agreement between the Texas Education Agency, Department of Special Education; the Texas Rehabilitation Commission; and the Independent School Districts in Texas. The Independent School Districts furnish teachers with released time from classes and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission provides Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors to work with them cooperatively. This is strictly a "team" approach in working with the Educable Mentally Retarded. This program, however, is to serve all disability groups with the exception of the visually and speech handicapped.

Accomplishments – 1971

During the 1970-71 school year (fiscal year 1971), there were 2,167 mentally retarded closures in status "26." For fiscal year 1970, there were 1,877 status "26" closures. This shows an increase of 290 closures over last year.

There are, at present, approximately 75 Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors working in the Cooperative School Program with 230 Vocational Adjustment Coordinators employed by the schools. Many of the Vocational Adjustment Coordinators are employed for 11 or 12 months and many have 100% released time from the classrooms.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission paid \$49,748.84 in Vocational Adjustment Coordinator travel for the period of July 1, 1970 through December 21, 1970. It is estimated that \$53,000.16 will be paid for the period of January 1, 1971 through June 30, 1971, making a total of \$102,749.00.

As of August 30, 1971, there are 181 schools with signed agreements. We have added 35 additional schools this year.

The sum of \$1,683,786 may be used for matching funds, based on Vocational Adjustment Coordinator salaries. Approximately \$440,600 can be added to this amount for fiscal year 1972 due to teacher pay

raises, adding new Vocational Adjustment Coordinators, and Vocational Adjustment Coordinators' positions being extended to 11 to 12 months of employment.

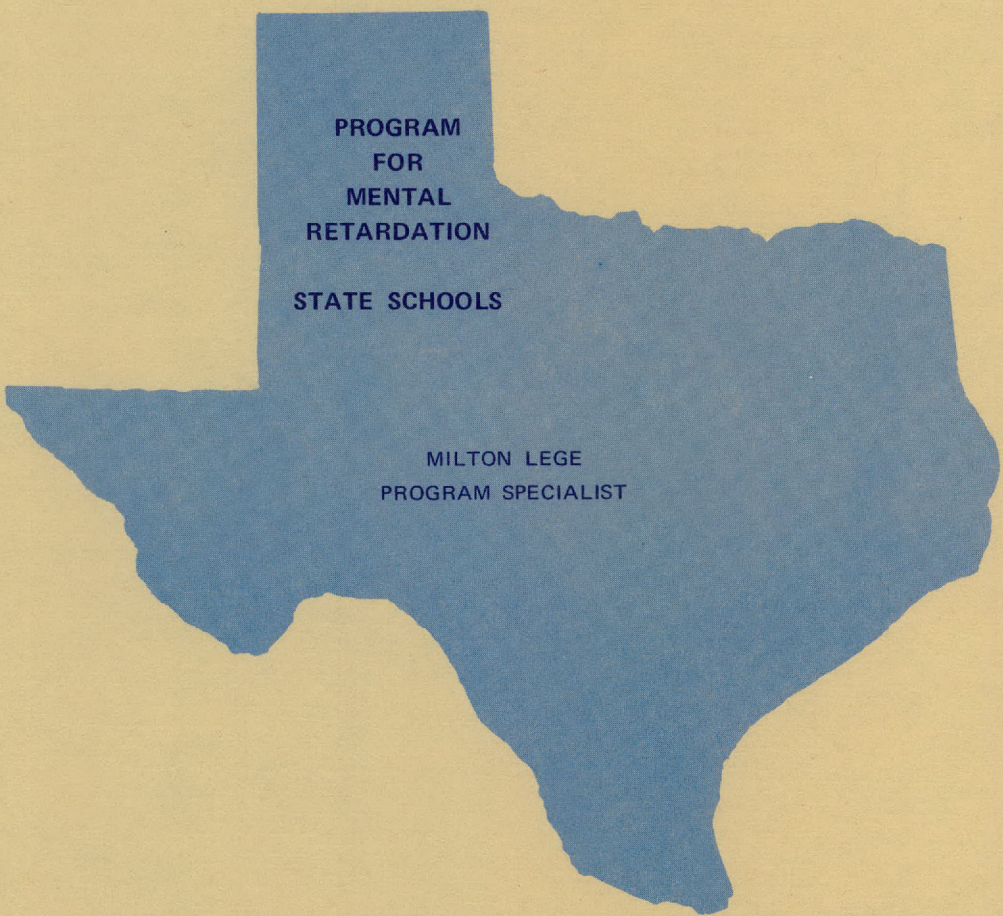
Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

There has been no noticeable change in our Cooperative School Program since the implementation of "Plan A" by Special Education. Twenty-four pilot "Plan A" schools will be added by the Texas Education Agency for school year 1971-72. By 1976, each school in Texas should in some way be a part of the Cooperative School Program.

There is a potential of 25 cooperative districts being added within the next two or three years, and as many as 50 Independent School Districts asking for approval by themselves.

Our major problems in the Cooperative School Program are:

- a. Follow-up
- b. Personnel to work with new schools in the program
- c. Lack of personnel from the Department of Special Education to work with Texas Rehabilitation Commission State Office staff for the 1972 school year



**PROGRAM
FOR
MENTAL
RETARDATION**

STATE SCHOOLS

**MILTON LEGE
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT STATE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Introduction

The rehabilitation program in the State Schools for the Mentally Retarded has been in operation since approximately 1957. These programs are operated by an interagency agreement with the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. We have programs in nine State Schools and one Human Development Center.

Accomplishments – 1971

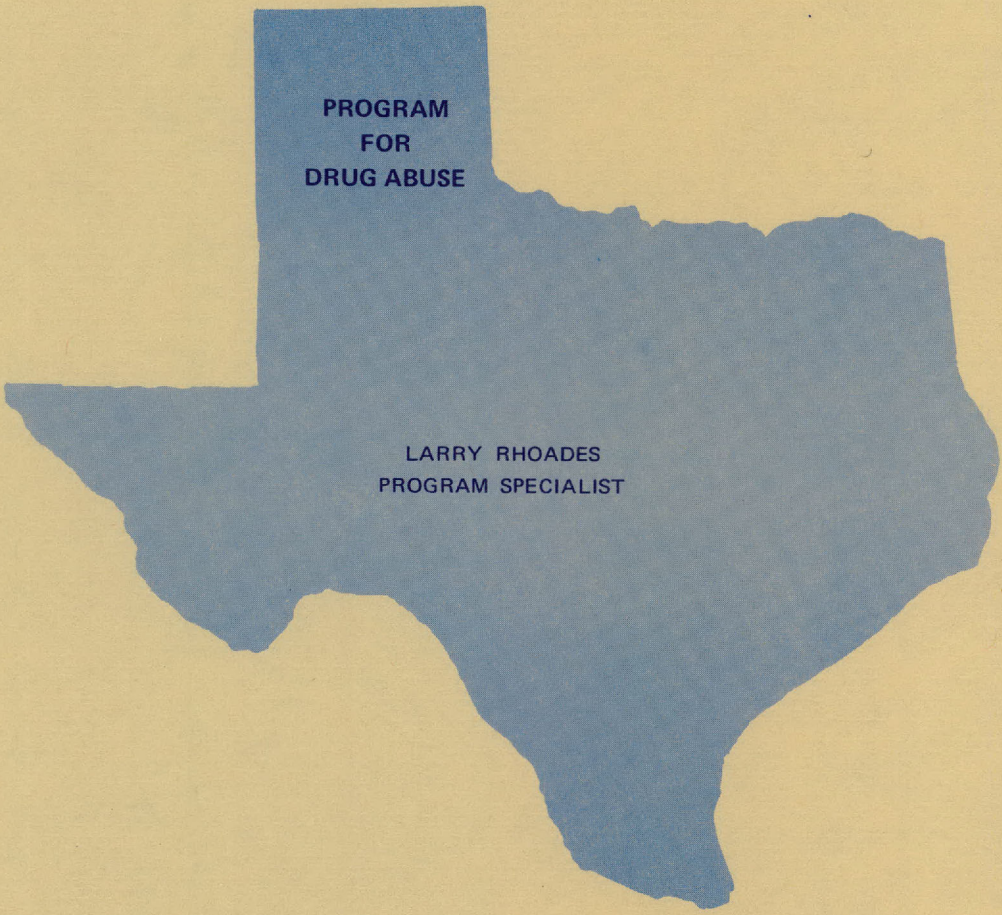
The rehabilitation program in the State Schools has been declining during the past twelve months because of the lower level clientele being referred for rehabilitation services. This is due to a decrease in the level of residents now being accepted in the State Schools and because we have been rehabilitating those with high enough potential to be moved back into the community. During fiscal year 1971, there were 1,650 clients served in our State School programs, and there were 268 closed rehabilitated in status "26."

Much time was spent in analyzing the program and planning new concepts which would provide for better utilization of our staff and program of services in the State Schools. The Statewide planning committee did a fine job in gathering data meeting the new regional concept for our State School Program. I feel that this involvement did effect a new understanding and appreciation of the kinds of services that are now available in our large State School rehabilitation programs.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

Much of fiscal year 1972 will be spent in the implementation of the new regional State School rehabilitation program. We plan to disseminate this information by having regional meetings involving the rehabilitation staffs, the State School staffs, and Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center staffs meeting jointly and to have Max Arrell and Bill Doggett explain the program and give it Central Office impetus.

The new regional concept should allow us to serve 1,000 new clients from the community that need the kind of program available in our State Schools. We should be able to provide services to this additional number without any increase in staff or case service monies. The interagency contract for fiscal year 1972 is for a total of \$887,880. This should give a total served of approximately 2,600 clients and should increase our "26" closures to around 500.



**PROGRAM
FOR
DRUG ABUSE**

**LARRY RHOADES
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM

Introduction

Of the 13,785 individuals served in Special Programs in fiscal year 1971, 778 persons were served in the Drug Abuse area. Services were provided in Federal and State institutions, as well as in Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers and Vocational Rehabilitation District Offices. To meet the needs of the drug abusers, 20 full-time professional and supportive staff members have been employed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

Accomplishments – 1971

At the Clinical Research Center, Fort Worth, a full-time Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor works with ex-heroin addicts in a program conducted by the Federal government. This Counselor has been connected with this program since September 1, 1966. The success of this program is difficult to enumerate, since many of the heroin addicts are sent to live in various cities within the State of Texas and are required to return to the Research Center because of the reoccurrence of a Drug Abuse problem.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors have been staffed at the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences, Houston, since 1966, at which time a rehabilitation program for the drug abuser was initiated. Fiscal year 1971 reflects that 41 individuals were rehabilitated. Such number of closures does not truly depict the overall contributions of Vocational Rehabilitation at the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences. Many individuals receive counseling and guidance services but yet have not been placed in competitive employment. To meet the great influx of referrals, two additional Counselors were placed at the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences during fiscal year 1971.

During the Sixty-First Legislative Session, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation was given the authority to provide treatment services to drug abusers in the State of Texas. To implement a program meeting the needs of the drug abuser in the San Antonio Hospital district, 25 beds were designated in 1971 for the

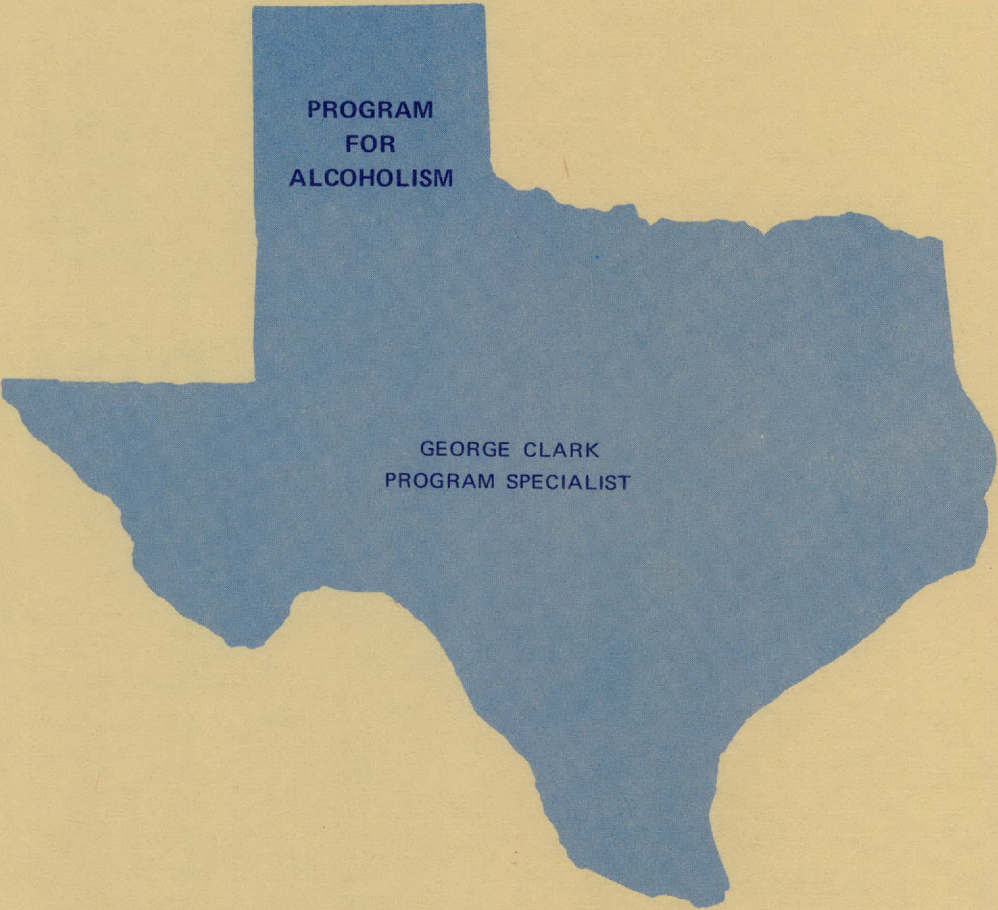
treatment of heroin addicts. The Texas Rehabilitation Commission assigned a special Counselor to work with these individuals under a methadone maintenance program. Since the average stay for each patient in the Drug Treatment Program is 4 to 6 weeks, the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor's caseload now numbers approximately 100. According to statistics, 41 individuals were rehabilitated from this program, and as a result of this success, other State Hospitals plan to implement similar programs.

Counselors who are spending the majority of their time working with Drug Abuse cases have been assigned to the following Vocational Rehabilitation District Offices: El Paso, Dallas, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Houston. The majority of the total number of caseload-carrying Counselors, 435, have a limited number of Drug Abuse cases on their rolls.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

During fiscal year 1971, plans were formulated to develop three rehabilitation programs in conjunction with the drug treatment programs operated by Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Centers in the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth and Corpus Christi. As the majority of the referrals is expected to come from Criminal Justice sources, grant applications have been prepared to be submitted to the Criminal Justice Council for funding purposes. The matching ratio of these funds is 75% Federal and 25% State funds. It is anticipated that each of the abovementioned rehabilitation-drug treatment programs will begin operation in October, 1971.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission has been actively involved in helping to develop a study on drug abusers through the Governor's Interagency Council. In addition, a Five Year State Planning Committee has developed a plan which identifies the needs of drug abusers for the period 1970-75. Recommendations have been made by such committee reflecting the services this Commission will need to provide for the next five years.



**PROGRAM
FOR
ALCOHOLISM**

**GEORGE CLARK
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM

Introduction

In fiscal year 1970, a total of 936 clients were closed rehabilitated. Approximately 1,669 plans were initiated. At that time it was projected that 3,000 plans would be initiated in fiscal year 1971. In the Supervisors' Composite Report for June, 1971, both cases closed rehabilitated and plans initiated show an increase over fiscal year 1970. However, it is to be noticed that during fiscal year 1970, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission was involved in three joint agreements with halfway house facilities serving persons suffering from alcoholism. Currently, we are not involved in any agreements with halfway houses but are purchasing services on a per client basis from halfway houses serving alcoholic clientele in accordance with said halfway house classifications.

There are 28 staff members carrying caseloads specifically for persons suffering from alcoholism; 19 Counselors and 9 Rehabilitation Technicians. In all of our State Hospitals, Counselors and ancillary personnel have been designated to serve clients admitted to the hospitals who have an alcoholism diagnosis.

There are eleven halfway house facilities classified Class I from which we may purchase services for alcoholic clients located in Odessa, San Angelo, Wichita Falls, Amarillo, San Antonio, Waco, Austin, Longview, Houston and Dallas. There are two halfway houses serving the alcoholic client classified Class II from which we purchase services, namely, Alpha House in San Antonio and Coastal Bend Halfway House in Corpus Christi. The Talbot House in Beaumont is the only Class III facility from which we purchased services for the alcoholic client during fiscal year 1971. In addition to the aforementioned facilities, the Big Spring Halfway House, Prude Ranch, and Goldsmith House are three facilities available to provide services to alcoholic clients and those with other disabilities.

We are involved in an interagency cooperative agreement between the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Commission on

Alcoholism which provides for seven professionals and ancillary staff to serve in key areas of the State to work with alcoholics. Staff members who are funded under the agreement are Dorothy Cooke at the Amarillo Outpatient Clinic, James Trice at the El Paso District Office, John Spears at the Texas House in Houston, Jerry Burgess at the Longview District Office, Thurston Neas at the Wichita Falls Alcoholic Coop Program, Dale Uzzel at the Waco District Office and Javier Leal at the Corpus Christi Alcoholic Coop Program. The abovementioned personnel are provided secretarial help so that they might successfully carry out the program as called for in the agreement.

Accomplishments – 1971

In fiscal year 1971, according to the Supervisors' Composite Report, there were 3,278 referrals, 2,475 accepted for services, 2,468 plans initiated, and 1,993 active clients. There were approximately 7,929 clients served, 1,519 clients closed as rehabilitated ("26") and 1,036 clients closed in Status "28"–"30."

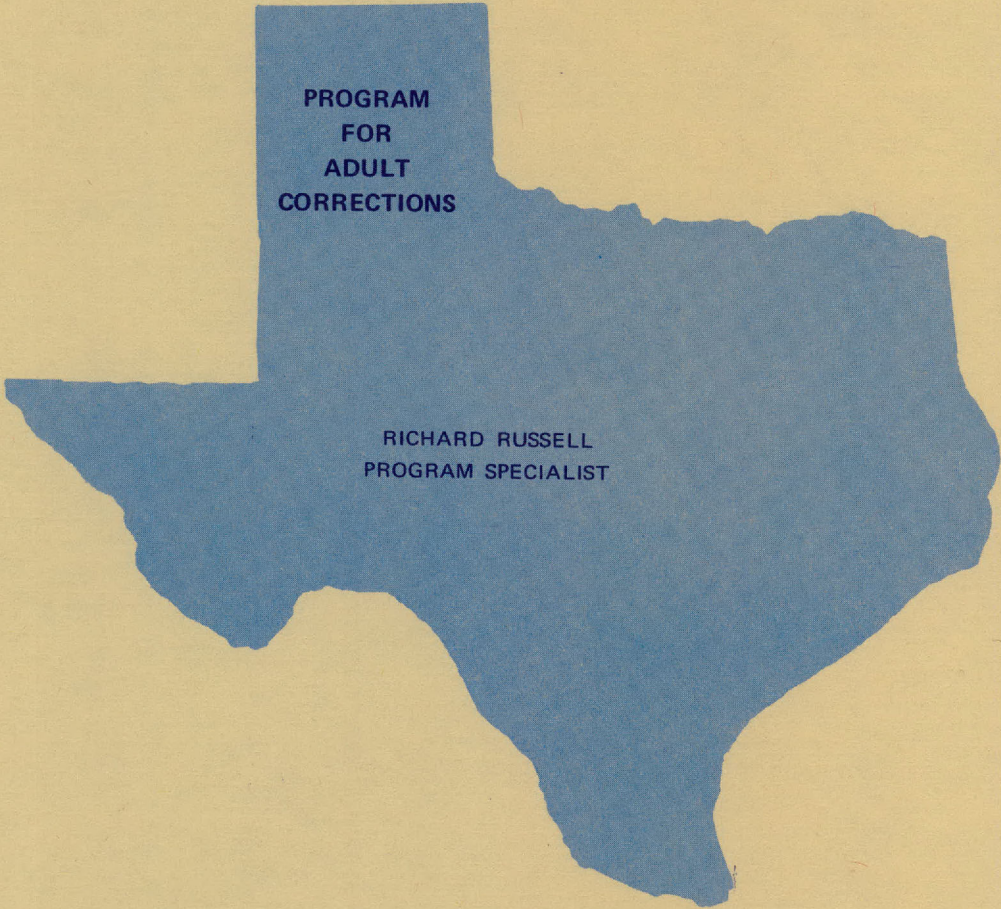
Counselor #578 made an approximate twenty-five percent sampling of his caseload based on 39 clients closed in "26" for the past fiscal year ending June 30, 1971. The following note is for your information regarding client income before and after services. Before Vocational Rehabilitation services, the average income was \$69 per week. The average amount of case services expended on the client was \$693. The average income after Vocational Rehabilitation services was \$115 per week per client. The above shows a twenty-one percent increase in the income per client after Vocational Rehabilitation services have been extended.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

During the past fiscal year, work on a comprehensive Statewide plan has been initiated utilizing field personnel which will provide information regarding directions and growth of the Alcoholism Program in coming years.

More concentration on community programming involving Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors is recommended. Program development planned for the coming year for persons disabled by alcoholism has been undertaken in each region which will improve and expand

community-based services. Additional field personnel have been placed in district offices and it is anticipated that through expanded and improved programs, services will be provided many more individuals disabled by alcoholism during fiscal year 1972.



**PROGRAM
FOR
ADULT
CORRECTIONS**

**RICHARD RUSSELL
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT ADULT CORRECTIONS PROGRAM

Introduction

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission has been involved in correctional rehabilitation since September, 1967. In the Adult Correctional Program, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission has interagency agreements with the Texas Department of Corrections, the Division of Parole Supervision, the United States Bureau of Prisons, and the United States Probation Office. Working agreements have also been developed with the Adult Probation Departments in San Antonio, Austin, Dallas and Houston. Similar agreements are being studied in Lubbock and Beaumont.

Accomplishments – 1971

The Adult Correctional Program enjoyed its most productive year since its initiation in 1967. The disability code printout reveals that 2,153 cases coded character and behavior disorders, code 522, were closed in status "26." This figure includes both the Adult and Juvenile Correctional Programs. It also includes some character disorder cases coming out of Mental Health and Mental Retardation facilities. Counselors whose primary responsibility is District Office corrections, "06," were responsible for 871 status "26" closures for an average of 44 closures per Counselor.

A major accomplishment this year was the completion of a Statewide study of the Adult Correctional Program. Recommendations from this study resulted in the Texas Rehabilitation Commission/Texas Department of Corrections Program being revised. Results of this program revision should become evident this next year.

As we continue to emphasize cooperative agreements with parole and probation departments, the Adult Correctional Program is becoming community oriented. This is in keeping with the Commission's philosophy of preventive rehabilitation.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

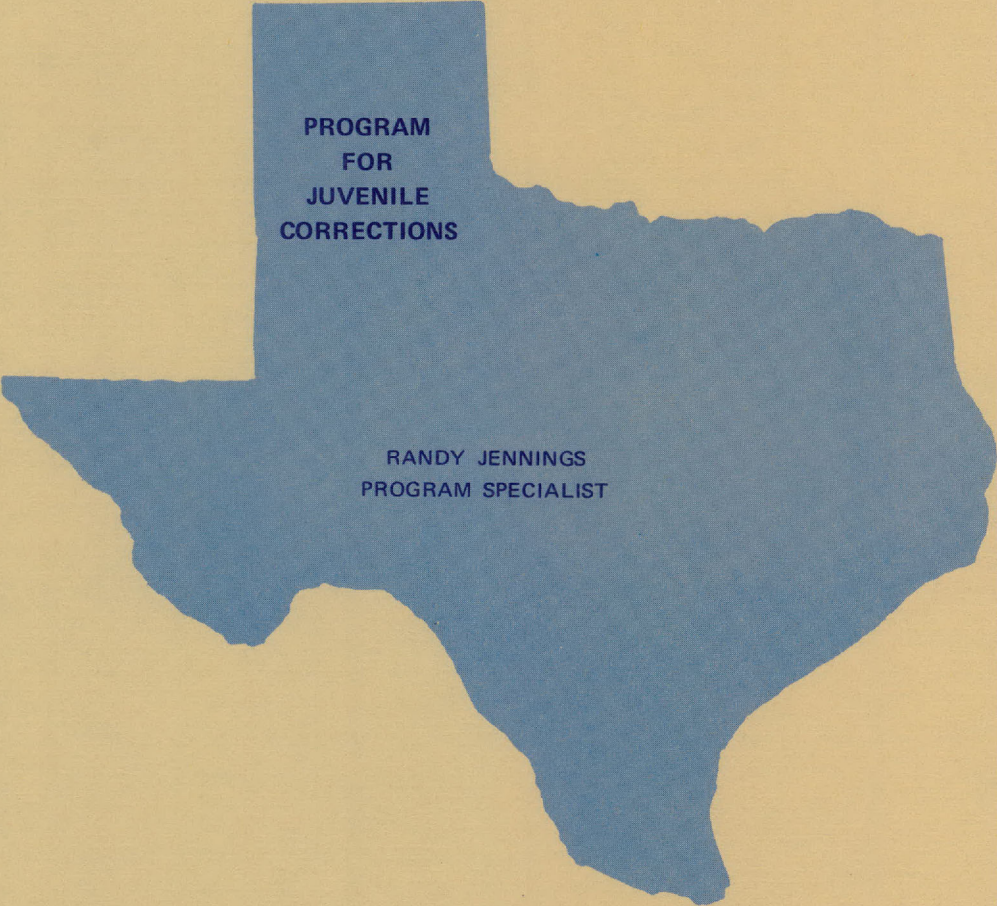
The priority in 1972 will be to complete the revision and improvement

of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission/Texas Department of Corrections cooperative program which began this past year. As this is accomplished, it will then be feasible to regionalize the Adult and Juvenile Correctional Programs.

The Goree grant has been approved and it will be important that a program, based on past experience, be developed which will result in realistic rehabilitation services being provided. This program will be brought to the community level through the work-release program being developed in conjunction with the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Continued efforts will be made to develop or expand cooperative programs with county probation departments. Presently, a Criminal Justice Council Grant is being completed for Houston and one is being considered for Beaumont.

In fiscal year 1972, Adult Correctional Counselors should close around 1,400 cases in status "26." This does not include those Counselors working corrections as a secondary responsibility.



**PROGRAM
FOR
JUVENILE
CORRECTIONS**

**RANDY JENNINGS
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT JUVENILE CORRECTIONS

Introduction

The Juvenile Program began in 1967 with a Counselor at the Gatesville State School for Boys under an interagency agreement with the Texas Youth Council. Until September, 1970, the Juvenile Program was limited largely to Texas Youth Council parolees in selected parts of the State. During the course of the past year, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission has entered into fifteen cooperative agreements with county probation departments and public schools.

Accomplishments – 1971

General – During the past fiscal year, a comprehensive Statewide Plan was completed, utilizing input from field staff. A Correctional Programs Closure Report form was designed to provide information of growth, direction and trend in juvenile programs.

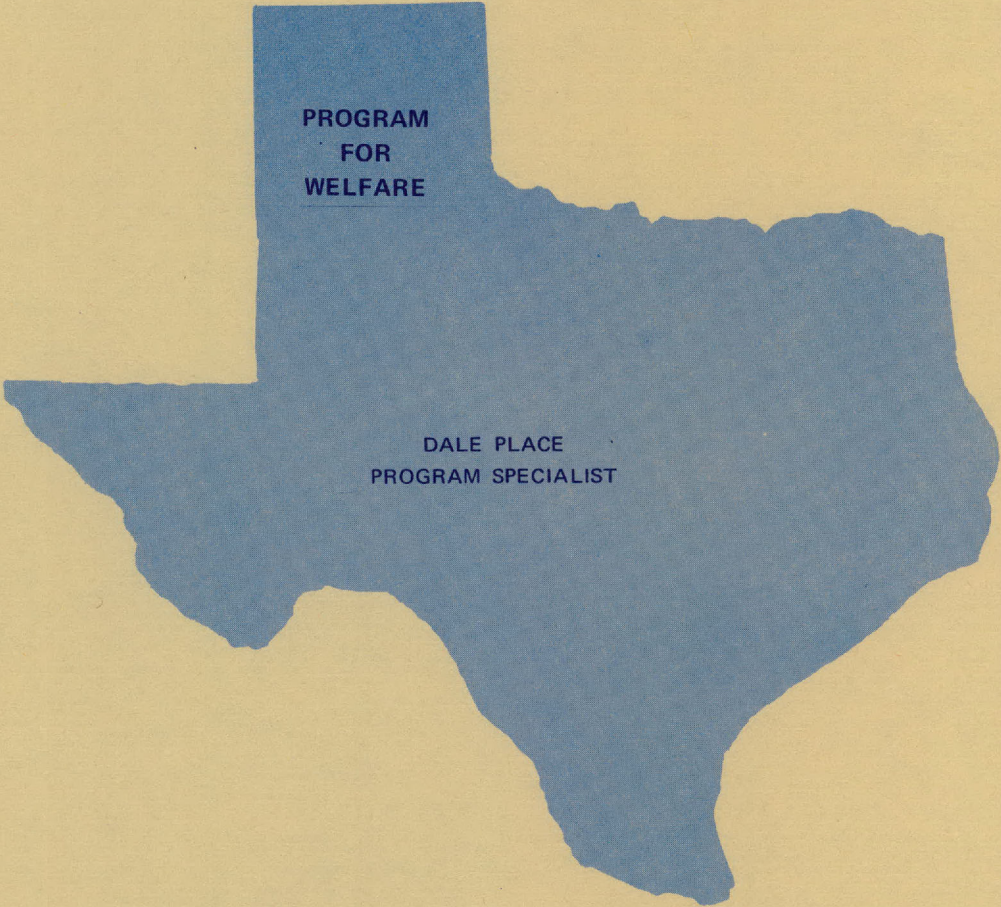
Field Staff – Seventeen full-time Counselors. Eighty percent of the present field staff is either new Counselors or Counselors with new caseloads. The program is representative in all six regions and community-based. There are presently two experimental caseworker/technician positions which will be evaluated for their effectiveness in the near future.

Texas Youth Council – The interagency agreement with the Texas Youth Council was revised and implemented during the past year. For three years, the Gatesville State School for Boys has operated with a less than fifty percent successful outcome on transferred cases. During the past year, sixty percent of transferred cases were successfully rehabilitated and the total number of referrals was markedly increased. The Director of Reception has recently begun screening all students at reception for Vocational Rehabilitation potential and referral—a major cooperative gesture by the Texas Youth Council. Field Counselor/Parole Officer cooperation has been greatly enhanced by mutual staff meetings and administrative coordination, and our institutional staff has remained modest in size.

Grant Programs (CJC) — There are two operational grants for the Juvenile Program, one in San Antonio and the other in Dallas. Both are pre-delinquent in nature, deriving referrals from public schools and Model Cities' neighborhoods. Applications for similar programs are pending in Fort Worth and Lubbock.

Future Program Development — Fiscal Year 1972

1. Through the use of the Correctional Programs Closure Report form, an accurate accounting and evaluation of the Juvenile Program will be kept.
2. Special Programs status reports indicate that the Juvenile Program has generated over 1,000 active clients during fiscal year 1971. It is realistic to assume that 800 of these can be successfully rehabilitated.
3. Fiscal expenditure information reveals that, with the exception of the halfway house placement, cost per closure for juvenile clients is relatively inexpensive (\$6—\$700 per client). A concerted effort will be made to encourage the use of on-the-job training and short term training for juvenile clients.
4. Through the use of Bi-Regional Workshops, staff development will be very pragmatic and field-problem oriented.
5. An effort will be made to educate Regional Directors and Supervisors, through familiarization with results of Statewide planning, in Juvenile Corrections. A workshop will be conducted to familiarize General Counselors with techniques of working with juvenile clients.



**PROGRAM
FOR
WELFARE**

**DALE PLACE
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT WELFARE PROGRAM

Introduction

The rehabilitation of the disabled person receiving welfare benefits has been a concern of Vocational Rehabilitation since the beginning of the Vocational Rehabilitation movement. Primarily, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission works with disabled persons referred from the Texas Department of Public Welfare; however City and County Welfare Departments also make frequent referrals of disabled persons to the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. An agreement, signed on August 7, 1967, is the basis for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's cooperation with the Texas State Department of Public Welfare.

Accomplishments – 1971

The accomplishments in the Texas Rehabilitation Commission's Welfare Program can be listed:

A full-time position for a Program Specialist was created on July 15, 1970, in the Special Programs Section of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

An extensive review of all existing joint welfare projects was made and Third Party Agreements were reviewed and terminated in most instances. The Texas Rehabilitation Commission assumed full responsibility for these projects.

A Statewide workshop was held in Austin in October, 1970, for joint project Texas Rehabilitation Commission personnel and Texas State Department of Public Welfare personnel.

A Statewide planning committee was appointed and finished its work in May, 1970. A five year plan for this program is being published at this time.

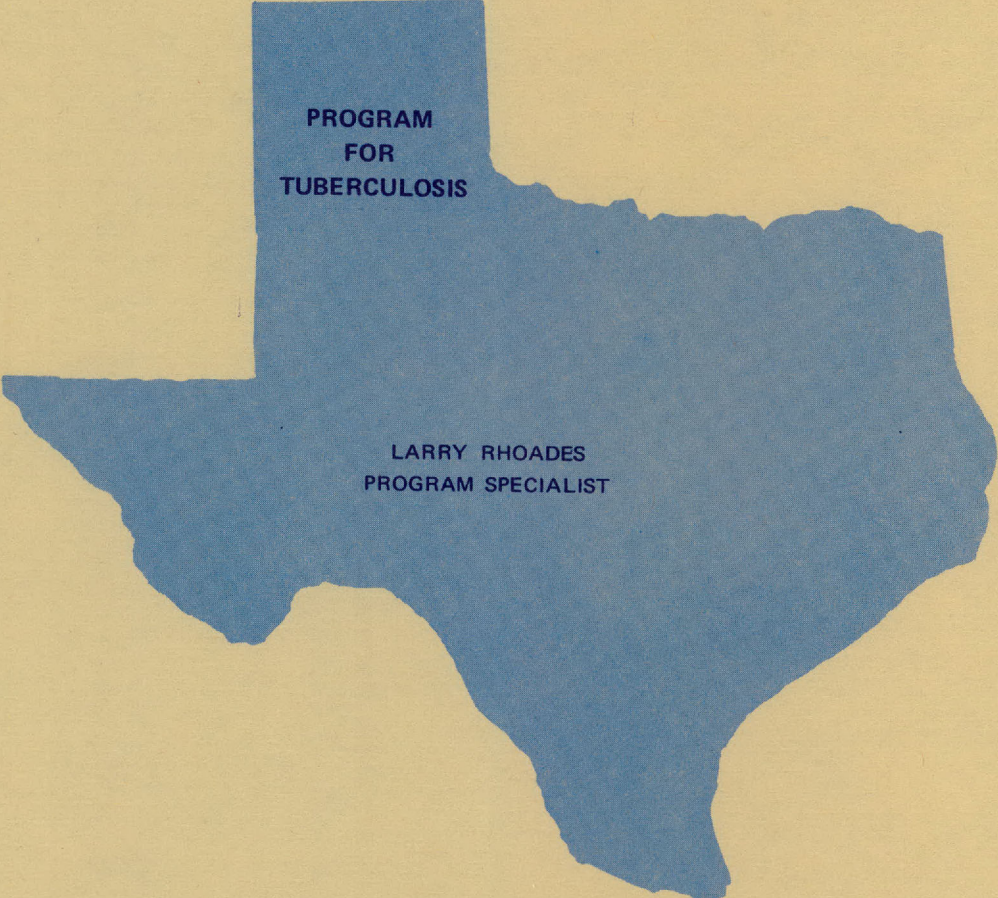
Planning for Statewide expansion of the program with Welfare Reform readiness as the impetus, has been accomplished. This includes establishment of an expanded working relationship on the State level

with the Texas Department of Public Welfare, which will culminate in joint departmental funding of the program expansion.

The number of successfully rehabilitated adult welfare recipients totals 1,102, while the goal was 875 for the year. There were 789 successful rehabilitations the previous year. This feat was accomplished with no increase in field staff. Forty-one percent of the 1,102 rehabilitations were totally removed from welfare rolls, and the remaining forty-nine percent had their benefits decreased from \$1,422,264 annually to \$465,408 annually. The 1,102 rehabilitants had annual earnings of \$277,704 at the time of acceptance for Texas Rehabilitation Commission services, and \$2,327,424 annual earnings at the time of closure from Texas Rehabilitation Commission rolls.

Future Program Development – Fiscal Year 1972

Welfare Program Statewide expansion is projected for fiscal year 1972 with plans to add 89 positions serving the disabled welfare recipient. Twelve new welfare projects are planned along with major expansion in the existing seven projects. This expansion will result in the Texas Rehabilitation Commission being able to increase the number of persons served by 5,000 and will result in an additional 2,852 rehabilitants annually when the additional projects are operational. This expansion will provide the Texas Rehabilitation Commission with direct contact with seventy-five percent of the Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.



**PROGRAM
FOR
TUBERCULOSIS**

**LARRY RHOADES
PROGRAM SPECIALIST**

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASE PROGRAMS

Introduction

Through the efforts of private physicians and various Health Departments across the nation, the tuberculosis problem has declined to some degree during the past ten years. However, during the same period of time, the gross mortality rate for emphysema and chronic bronchitis has more than quadrupled and continues to grow faster than any other disease. It was found in a survey of doctors in the East Texas area that 140 of the 550 doctors who answered a questionnaire were treating over 4,000 patients with chronic pulmonary obstructive lung diseases. One thousand of these patients were said to be in need of rehabilitation services.

Accomplishments – 1971

To meet the needs of those involved with tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission operated Vocational Rehabilitation programs at the East Texas Chest Hospital, the San Antonio Chest Hospital, and the Harlingen Chest Hospital during fiscal year 1971. In addition to these facilities, District Office Counselors across the State accepted tuberculosis and other respiratory disease cases. According to an annual statistical report, 616 referrals involving tuberculosis and respiratory disease problems were made to the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. Of this number, 120 plans were initiated, and 88 cases were successfully rehabilitated.

Perhaps the most concentrated effort to rehabilitate those with pulmonary problems is made at the East Texas Chest Hospital, where the Texas Rehabilitation Commission operates, in conjunction with the Department of Health, a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease rehabilitation project. Such facility is the only one of its kind in the State, and referrals can be made from any county in Texas. During fiscal year 1971, nearly 500 referrals were made to the project.

Future Development – Fiscal Year 1972

Future developments with the Tuberculosis and Other Respiratory

Disease Program hinge greatly upon the interpretation of legislation that was passed during the Sixty-Second State Legislature. In an effort to make a proper determination of laws passed during such legislative session, a ninety day agreement has been signed by the Texas State Department of Health, the East Texas Chest Hospital, and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. Such an agreement will make it possible to continue the chronic obstructive pulmonary disease project.

If the legislation passed during the Sixty-Second State Legislature permits the Texas Rehabilitation Commission to continue its services in rehabilitating those with chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, statistics reveal that there is a need to establish other projects similar to the one currently operated at the East Texas Chest Hospital. Future sites might include the San Antonio Chest Hospital, as well as the Harlingen Chest Hospital. It may also be necessary for the Commission to increase its number of personnel in District Offices, as the incident rate of respiratory diseases continues to grow.

The Texas Rehabilitation Commission will continue its close liaison work with the Texas State Department of Health, as well as Community Health Centers.

Discrimination Prohibited — Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states: “No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The Texas Rehabilitation Commission is in compliance with the Civil Rights Act.

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