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LOCAL MH•MR

# NOTES

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The TEXAS DEPARTMENT of MENTAL HEALTH and MENTAL RETARDATION  
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## KING APPOINTED ACTING DIRECTOR OF TDMHMR REGIONAL PROGRAMS

James A. King has been appointed acting director of the TDMHMR Regional Programs Division, effective June 26.

King was appointed by Earl Scott, TDMHMR Acting Commissioner, to succeed Charles Eskridge, who has resigned to direct a consulting service for public school special education programs.

King, who formerly was assistant director of the division, joined the department in 1966 as a health program specialist. While with TDMHMR, King has worked to develop plans to provide statewide services and facilities for the mentally ill and mentally retarded.

King is a native of Pineland and holds a BBA degree from Texas A&M University. ■

## HARRIS COUNTY MH/MR BOARD PROPOSES PROGRAM BUDGET

The Harris County MH/MR Center Board of Trustees presented a detailed program budget for the 1972-73 biennium to state and local officials, on July 8.

Board members were assisted by center staff members and representatives of local agencies in a special presentation utilizing visual aids.

The presentation, first from the state's community MH/MR centers, was reviewed in Houston by members of the TDMHMR Board, department key personnel, and representatives of the Legislative Budget Board, the Governor's Budget Office and related Harris County MH/MR associations and agencies.

New mental health programs and services proposed for the county include MH/MR centers in each of 11 catchment areas by the end of 1973; additional special alcohol and drug abuse programs; and extensive programs of children's services as proposed by the local Mental Health Association.

Among new mental retardation projects and services proposed at the meeting were a halfway house, five pilot neighborhood centers and a pilot project to develop a year-round residential and day camp program.

The Harris County Center serves an estimated 1,695,000 residents in a 1,747 square mile area. ■

## DALLAS CENTER MOVES OFFICE

On August 1, the Dallas County MH/MR Center's central administrative office, information, counseling and referral service and the mental retardation evaluation team will move into new quarters at 414 Thornton Freeway, Suite 120. The new telephone number for the administrative office will be (214) 948-3985. —Robert H. Dovenmuehle, M.D. ■

## PUBLIC SCHOOL MR SERVICES AUTHORIZED FOR TDMHMR SUPERVISED FACILITIES

Beginning Sept. 1, 27 non-public schools which are supervised by the TDMHMR will assume a vital role in the education of some 2,000 handicapped children.

Under a plan recently adopted by the State Board of Education, public school districts will be able to contract for special education services with these 27 schools and 18 other non-public schools for exceptional children.

Services contracted by the local districts will emphasize three treatment areas—physical therapy, occupational therapy and mobility training for the blind. Participants will receive a total education program at the contract school in addition to any other treatment necessary.

Community MH/MR Centers approved by the Texas Education Agency include: Austin-Travis County; Bexar County, San Antonio; Central Plains Comprehensive Community Center, Plainview; Dallas County; El Paso; Gregg-Harrison, Longview and Marshall; Lubbock; Central Texas, Brownwood; Hidalgo County, Edinburg; Greater West Texas, San Angelo; Midland; Nueces County; Corpus Christi; Smith-Wood County, Tyler; Tarrant County, Ft. Worth; Texarkana Regional; and Waco-McLennan County, Waco.

TDMHMR facilities approved for the program include Amarillo State Center for Human Development, Austin State Hospital, Beaumont State Center for Human Development, Corpus Christi State School, Denton State School, Lufkin State School, Lubbock State School, Mexia State School, Wichita Falls State Hospital and San Angelo Center. ■

## GALVESTON COUNTY MH/MR CENTER PROVIDES AREA HOMEMAKER SERVICE

The Galveston County MH/MR Center is providing a homemaker service for families of retarded children in its catchment area.

Mrs. Augustine Reed visits the homes of retardates to insure proper care and medication. In some cases, the homemaker arranges foster home placements when necessary.

An additional homemaker for the center has been requested for 1971. ■

## EL PASO OPENS CENTER SATELLITES

The El Paso Center for MH/MR Services has opened two satellite neighborhood "drop-in" centers as a pilot project in an attempt to reach persons who would not otherwise seek mental health care.

The satellite facilities will be operated until the end of August by six workers from the two southside El Paso areas working with Robert Duran, social worker case aide.

Center officials have expressed satisfaction with the success of the neighborhood centers. —Ruth C. Treager ■

## **NUECES COUNTY MH/MR AGENCIES SPONSOR EVALUATION AND PLANNING SEMINAR**

More than 60 representatives of local agencies for mental health and mental retardation attended an all-day evaluation and planning workshop on June 26 sponsored by four Nueces County agencies.

Sponsors of the meeting were the Nueces County MH/MR Community Center, Coastal Bend Council on Alcoholism, Vocational Rehabilitation Commission and the Corpus Christi Drug Abuse Council.

Topics discussed included hospital facilities for teen-age psychotics, aftercare counseling needs of addicts and alcoholics, and a walk-in clinic for people in crisis.

Among those attending the seminar were representatives of TDMHMR, Texas Vocational Rehabilitation Commission and the Texas Council on Alcoholism.

Moderator for the planning and evaluation session was **Nick Huestis**, executive director of the Nueces County MH/MR Community Center.—**Mrs. J.G. Bryson** ■

## **EL PASO MH/MR CENTER AND LOCAL MH ASSOCIATION SPONSOR PICNIC**

Day care patients of the El Paso Center for MH/MR Services Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic and inpatients of the R.E. Thomason General Hospital celebrated an early Fourth of July at a picnic July 1 on the hospital grounds.

The center and El Paso Mental Health Association sponsored the picnic and outdoor games. **Mrs. Michael Butler**, El Paso Center occupational therapist, and other staff members organized the picnic.—**Ruth C. Treager** ■

## **BELL COUNTY MH/MR CENTER AWARDED \$137,633 FEDERAL STAFFING GRANT**

A \$137,633 federal staffing grant has been approved for the Bell County MH/MR Center in Belton.

**U.S. Rep W.R. (Bob) Poage** announced that the grant will be available for staff salaries at the center during the 1970-71 fiscal year.

Center officials said if money is appropriated for full funding of the national mental health program, the Bell County Center could receive an additional \$29,000 for operation during the fiscal year. ■

## **SAN ANTONIO COMPLETES DIAGNOSTIC PROJECT FOR RETARDATES**

A six-month project designed specifically to diagnose and help multi-handicapped mentally retarded children has been completed in San Antonio.

Funded by the Bexar County Board of Trustees for MH/MR Services, the project was sponsored by the departments of psychiatry and pediatrics at The University of Texas Medical School in San Antonio under direction of the Community Guidance Center.

**Orie Forbis, M.D.**, associate professor of psychiatry and pediatrics for the medical school, directed the 100-child project at Robert B. Green Hospital.

Project officials recommended establishing additional facilities to broaden services available to retarded children. Additional facilities recommended for the San Antonio area include a diagnostic clinic offering family centered counseling and more day care centers accessible to families with no transportation. ■

## **PATIENT FOLLOW-UP SURVEY EXPECTED TO PROVIDE VALUABLE DATA ON CENTERS**

The office of Program Analysis and Statistical Research of the TDMHMR has developed a patient follow-up survey to gain reliable information on the nature, value and impact of community MH/MR centers in Texas.

Data is being collected from patients of the Harris County, Waco-McLennan County, Amarillo Regional and Hidalgo County centers. When tabulated by TDMHMR, the information will provide an approximation of the results of all community mental health treatment programs, according to **Daniel M. Sheehan, Ph.D.**, TDMHMR director of Program Analysis and Statistical Research.

Dr. Sheehan said results of the survey will provide invaluable data for planning new community programs and expanding existing ones.

During the summer, a team of nine interviewers is collecting data from over 600 patients treated by the four centers. Results of the survey will be published this winter, Dr. Sheehan said. ■

## **CENTER IS TREATING OVER 300 PATIENTS**

The Greater West Texas Center for MH/MR, San Angelo, is treating over 300 patients, including 42 new patients admitted in May.

**James Young**, the center's executive director, said the 42 new patients admitted during May included 29 adults and 13 children.

The center is serving 127 outpatients in the San Angelo area. ■

## **SUMMER SCHOOL IN PROGRESS AT HIGH PLAINS MH/MR CENTER**

A six week summer day school for retarded and handicapped children from a nine-county area is in progress at the High Plains Children's Training Center and Sheltered Workshop, Plainview.

The day school is part of the Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center.

Over 125 participants ranging in ages from 3-25 are enrolled in the program. Curriculum includes special tutoring for public school special education students, speech and hearing therapy, music therapy, swimming classes at the "Y" and play programs.

**Mrs. Eleanor Griffin** is school director and is assisted by volunteers from area high schools and colleges.—**Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley** ■

## **WEEKLY MH ACTIVITY PROGRAMS HELD IN ALICE, FREER AND FALFURRIAS**

The Kingsville Community Mental Health Center is conducting weekly one-day activity programs at its mental health sub-centers in Alice, Freer and Falfurrias.

**Mrs. Beryl Hill, ACSW**, of the Kingsville Center, directs the programs.

The center, a satellite of the Rio Grande State Center for MH/MR in Harlingen, serves the people of Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy and Kleberg counties. Patients of the Kingsville facility requiring inpatient services are hospitalized at the Rio Grande Center.

The Kingsville Center has also received a donation of \$700 from the **Alice G.K. Kleberg Fund**, Kingsville. A new piano, stove and refrigerator for the center's day hospital program were purchased with the donation.—**Alma Cocke, C.V.C.** ■

## COMPREHENSIVE ALCOHOLIC TREATMENT PROGRAM PLANNED FOR BEXAR COUNTY

A comprehensive treatment program for alcoholics has been planned by the Bexar County MH/MR Board of Trustees. The board has requested over \$637,000 from city, county and federal sources for the program's first year of operation.

The one-year pilot program, designed to unify and expand existing treatment, calls for a four-point approach. Facilities and treatment proposed includes the creation of a seven-bed emergency ward staffed by a three-member medical team in the Bexar County Jail, treatment at the Bexar County Hospital, three new outpatient community centers and expansion of the present Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center in San Antonio.

The Texas Commission on Alcoholism has awarded a research grant to **Martin Griffin, M.D.**, of the psychiatric department at The University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio to obtain evaluation data on the program. ■

## POST OPENS LOCALLY-FUNDED MH CLINIC

A mental health clinic has been opened at the Medical Center and Laboratory in Post.

Open on Thursday mornings, the locally-funded unit employs **John Miller, M.D.**, Lubbock psychiatrist, as consultant.

**Mrs. Ruth Payne, R.N.** of Big Spring State Hospital, is serving as coordinator for the unit. ■

## PENNSYLVANIA MH/MR CENTERS VISITED BY TARRANT CENTER REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives of the Tarrant County MH/MR Center recently toured selected mental health and mental retardation facilities in Pennsylvania.

**G. Clark Anderson** and **Doyle L. Lamb** visited centers in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Eagleville and Philadelphia to survey programs developed for detoxification of drug users and alcoholics.

The tour was sponsored by the Region VIII office of the National Institute of Mental Health. ■

## OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED FOR CENTRAL PLAINS MH/MR CENTER FACILITIES

The Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center will hold a simultaneous open house with Central Plains General Hospital, Plainview, on the afternoons of August 1 and 2.

Mental health services are housed in a new \$600,000 building. Mental retardation services are housed in a separate facility, the High Plains Training Center for Children.

The MH/MR Center serves nine rural counties with a total population of 125,000 and is the only mental health facility in the nine-county area. Counties served are Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Motley, Parmer and Swisher.

**Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley** is coordinator of the center. **Mary Bubliss, M.D.**, is medical director. ■

## HEW STUDENT WORK GRANT AWARDED TO DALLAS COUNTY MH/MR CENTER

The Dallas County MH/MR Center has received a \$1,976 Student Work Experience and Training grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The grant is for a 12-week program which encourages high school students to choose careers in mental retardation work. In the Dallas County program, three students will be working in the center's four development centers. — **Robert H. Dovenmuehle, M.D.** ■

## CENTERS ANNOUNCE STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Recent appointments to the staffs of community MH/MR centers include:

**Daniel E. Chamness, M.D.**, clinical director for outpatient mental health programs, Smith-Wood County MH/MR Center, Tyler.

**Miss Helen B. Holodnak**, director of psychological services and **Mrs. Helen M. Wall**, director of mental retardation services, Wichita Falls Community Center for MH/MR.

**Leroy Prodoehl**, formerly director of Information, Education and Referral Service, TDMHMR, named director of mental retardation services, Hidalgo County MH/MR Center, Edinburg.

**Robert Bautista**, social work counselor and **Miss Dorothy Youngblood**, secretary, Gulf Bend MH/MR Center, Victoria.

**Ben Selman, M.D.**, director of District VI mental health services, Dallas County MH/MR Center.

**Mrs. Jacqueline Elliot** and **Mrs. Lavonne Johnson**, case workers, Midland Community Center for MH/MR. ■

## TEXARKANA MH/MR CENTER RECEIVES \$182,077 STAFFING GRANT FROM NIMH

The Texarkana Regional MH/MR Community Center has been awarded a \$182,077 staffing grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for neighborhood outreach programs.

**Miss Lucille Jolley**, administrative director of the center, said the grant will staff neighborhood mental health centers which are planned as part of Texarkana's Model Cities program.

Staff members under the grant will work with courts in rehabilitation services for juvenile offenders and in the neighborhood centers. ■

## VERNON CENTER OPENS THREE OUTREACH CLINICS FOR SIX-COUNTY AREA

Mental health outreach clinics of the Vernon Center have opened in Graham, Quanah and Haskell to serve a six-county area of north Texas.

The clinics provide preventive and direct treatment under contracts between Hardeman, Foard, Young, Throckmorton, Haskell and Stonewall counties and the Vernon Center.

Services include coordination and establishment of community recreation and activity programs; mental health and mental retardation training programs for doctors, teachers, ministers, law enforcement personnel, school personnel and other area professionals; and consultation services to local professionals.

Clinic directors are **Rev. Aubrey Headstrom**, Haskell; **Mrs. Elaine Drake**, Quanah; and **Miss Ann Spears**, Graham. ■

## AMARILLO MH/MR BOARD BEGINS COMPREHENSIVE DRUG PROGRAM

"Operation Drug Alert," a comprehensive program to deal with community drug abuse, has been instituted by the Amarillo MH/MR Board of Trustees.

The program includes education, information, counseling and referral handled through a 24-hour telephone answering service. A speakers' bureau, composed of men and women who are well versed in the problems of drugs and drug abuse, is also maintained to serve schools, churches, civic and social organizations in the Panhandle.

The answering service is maintained through the Suicide Prevention-Crisis Intervention Center in Amarillo. During the first month of operation, a total of 620 calls was recorded by volunteer workers. ■

## GREATER WEST TEXAS MH/MR CENTER SPONSORS EDUCATIONAL MOVIE

The MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo, recently sponsored an educational film and discussion for the professional staffs of ten community agencies in Tom Green County.

"The Scream Inside—Emergency Through Group Therapy," produced by Sandoz Pharmaceuticals, was shown to 72 professional workers from the agencies.—James M. Young ■

## LUBBOCK MH/MR CENTER AWARDED COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD GRANT

The Lubbock County Hospital Board has approved a \$52,057 grant as its contribution to operating the Lubbock MH/MR Center in 1970-71.

The grant is \$4,000 more than last year's. The Center's total budget is over \$300,000. ■

## PECOS MH CLINIC GETS CASH GIFT

The Reeves County Mental Health Clinic has received a donation of \$175 from the Tupperware Hostess Club of Pecos. The funds will be used to purchase occupational therapy supplies and equipment.

The money was raised by the sale of Tupperware household goods in the city.

Reeves County Mental Health Clinic is an outreach clinic of Big Spring State Hospital. ■

## BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION SEMINAR HELD FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Public school counselors from Nueces County and the Corpus Christi Independent School District have completed a behavioral modification seminar sponsored by the Nueces County MH/MR Community Center.

The seminar, which consisted of five half-day sessions, involved behavior modification techniques which are useful in promoting mental health. A total of 31 counselors attended the meetings.—Mrs. J.G. Bryson ■

## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

## UNIFIED ATTACK ON DRUG ABUSE LAUNCHED BY STATE AGENCIES

A unified attack on drug abuse, which will provide assistance at the local level, is underway in Texas.

An Interagency Drug Abuse Council, under the leadership of Governor Preston Smith, Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes, Attorney General Crawford Martin and Speaker of the House Gus Mutscher, has been named. Harold Dudley is director of the statewide drug abuse program.

The Council, composed of nine task forces, is studying present problems and programs in the state and will recommend a comprehensive state plan, suggest legislative changes and policy changes pertaining to the drug problem.

The Council will publish a manual to provide guidelines of organization and action for use by community leaders in combating drug misuse. ■

## "LOCAL MH/MR NOTES" CORRESPONDENTS

Paul Southern, Th.D., Abilene Area Center for MH/MR; Louise Evans, Amarillo MH/MR Regional Center; John B. Spragens, MH/MR Center of Austin-Travis County; Mrs. Linda Chupik, Bell County MH/MR Center, Belton; James F. Bailey, Bexar County MH/MR Services, San Antonio; Mrs. Judy W. Bybee, Central Texas MH/MR Center, Brownwood; Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley, Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center, Plainview; Robert H. Dovenmuehle, M.D., Dallas County MH/MR Center; Mrs. I.W. Gillett, El Paso Center for MH/MR Services; Mrs. Mary N. MacKay, Galveston County MH/MR Center; Mrs. Leon Polzin, Gulf Bend MH/MR Center, Victoria.

Sarah N. Cartsonas, Harris County MH/MR Services, Houston; Marion Shirah, Hidalgo County MH/MR Services, Edinburg; Vergia Mae Musselwhite, Jefferson County Community Center for MH, Beaumont; Clayton Mallett, Lubbock MH/MR Center; Bill Mims, Midland Community Center for MH/MR; Mrs. J.G. Bryson, Nueces County Community Center for MH/MR, Corpus Christi; Gary K. Smith, Smith-Wood County Center for MH/MR Services, Tyler; G. Clark Anderson, Tarrant County MH/MR Center, Fort Worth; William J. Dees, Texarkana Regional MH/MR Center; Mrs. Donna Wiese, Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center; James M. Young, MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo; Mrs. Charles Russell, Wichita Falls Community Center for MH/MR Services.

Regional Coordinators: Larry J. Mildren, West Central Texas, Abilene; Weldon F. Newton, North Texas (West), Fort Worth; J. Lyle Hill, Southwest Texas, San Antonio; Bascom L. Hodges, Capitol Region, Austin; Richard M. Bruner, South Texas, Harlingen; James R. Sones, Gulf Coast, Houston; Hal I. Hart, East Texas, Tyler; Clyde R. McLean, West Texas, Midland; Gordon A. Cizon, North Texas (East), Fort Worth.

Items for *Local MH/MR Notes* should be forwarded to Communications, TDMHMR, prior to the end of each month for the following month's issue. Address correspondence to *Local MH/MR Notes*, Communications Division, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Tex. 78711.