



LOCAL MH•MR

# NOTES

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## STAFF NAMED, OFFICE OPENED BY GREGG-HARRISON MH/MR CENTER

The Gregg-Harrison Counties MH/MR Center has announced the appointment of several staff members and has moved its Marshall office to the second floor of the Memorial Hospital Annex, 1602 West Grand.

Waller Ethridge, Ph.D., chairman of the Board of Trustees, announced the following staff appointments to the Center: Frances H. Willis, executive director; John H. Rosser, mental health director; Dan Gottsch, mental retardation director; Lonel J. Hughes, business manager; Tony Gibson, mental health caseworker; Marilyn Morrison, mental retardation caseworker; Judith Carroll, executive secretary; Ernestine Finigan, receptionist-clerk; Jody Trich, receptionist-clerk; Alice Furrh, teacher, pre-school program; and Bobbie Long, teacher-aide, pre-school program.

The Center's executive director and professional staff serve both the Marshall and the Longview offices.

Services offered by the Center include a pre-school program for children 3-5 years old. A day activity center for adults is planned.

## GALVESTON CENTER MARKS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION

The Galveston County MH/MR Center observed its first year of operation with a recent open house at the center office in La Marque.

Visitors heard staff members explain Center programs for volunteer training, MH teaching and consultation, service to alcoholics, state school application processing, and mental hospital services in the community.

Approximately 100 visitors attended the two-hour event.--Mrs. Mary McKay.

## SAN ANTONIO RETARDATES RECEIVE BAND UNIFORMS, HATS FROM GOODWILL

San Antonio's Goodwill Industries has donated more than 50 band uniforms and hats to the city's instrumental music and band program for retardates.

The band program, partially financed by a grant from the Bexar County MH/MR Board of Trustees, was initiated by the San Antonio Recreation Division in April as part of its recreation services to the handicapped.

Approximately 30 young adult retardates are now enrolled in the program under the direction of Carl Fusaro.

The band, which meets once a week, is a spare-time activity for its young members. Most participants live in halfway houses and work full-time during the day as part of vocational rehabilitation training.

Fusaro said he hopes to expand the program soon if enough instruments are donated to the band.

## NORTH, WEST TEXAS CENTER STAFFS CONFER AT QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

The eighth quarterly meeting of directors and staffs of North and West Texas Community MH/MR centers was held January 14 in San Angelo.

The meeting, at the First Christian Church, was sponsored by the MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas.

Program participants included representatives from the Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center, Plainview; Austin State School; Big Spring State Hospital; the National Association for Retarded Children; and the MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas.

Topics discussed at the workshop included day care center operation; diagnosis and evaluation of the non-verbal child; hospital-community center relationships; and developing partial hospitalization programs.--James M. Young.

## WACO-McLENNAN COUNTY CENTER SHARES OFFICES WITH WACO ARC

The Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center is providing offices for the Waco Association for Retarded Children.

The association can now be contacted through the MH/MR Center at 110 South 12 Street, Waco, Texas 76701, Telephone 752-3451.

## HIDALGO COUNTY CENTER ACTIVE IN VALLEY CRISIS ASSISTANCE NETWORK

The Hidalgo County MH/MR Center is participating in a newly-established Assistance Network in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Aimed at combatting drug abuse, the network was instituted December 1, with a "Valley Helpline" telephone listening service. Other projects planned for development in the near future include a halfway house for alcoholics and a "crash pad" for drug abusers.

Marion Shirah, executive director of the Hidalgo County MH/MR Center, Edinburg, has been elected vice-chairman of the organization. According to Shirah, the network is a coordinated research effort to measure the effectiveness of all community activities in drug education, information, treatment, and prevention.

## NO DECEMBER PUBLICATION

Because of special year-end publication deadlines, *Local MH/MR Notes* was not published in December, 1970.

This month's publication marks the first issue of Volume 3 of the *Notes* series.

## MIDLAND MH/MR CENTER PARTICIPATES IN INTER-AGENCY CASE REFERRAL PROGRAM

The Midland Community Center for MH/MR has developed good working relationships with essential community agencies, center officials announced.

Cooperating agencies making referrals to the center are involved in alcoholism, law enforcement, employment, rehabilitation and counseling. They include the public school system and county and corporation courts.

As part of the inter-agency case referral relationship, the MH/MR center provides testing for the school district and assists with student counseling.—**Bill Mims.** ■

## ODESSA WORKSHOP OUTLINES COUNTY JUDGES' ROLE IN MR WORK

Judges from 60 counties and representatives from West and West Central Texas community MH/MR centers attended a regional MR workshop in Odessa, January 7 and 8.

The workshop was the third in a series to discuss the judges' role in developing community mental retardation services. The series is sponsored by TDMHMR in cooperation with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Workshops are conducted by Management Services Associated, Inc., of Austin.

**Stuart Fisher**, acting director of program support services, TDMHMR, was keynote speaker at the Odessa meeting.

A feature of the workshop was a 10-member panel discussion on "The Role and Responsibility of the County Judge in Promoting and Supporting Local Programs for the Mentally Retarded." The conference stressed how county judges can use the resources at their disposal most effectively and how to serve as the catalyst in promoting action.

Workshops have previously been conducted in Austin and Waco with the final meeting scheduled for San Antonio, February 11 and 12.—**Larry Mildren.** ■

## TELEVISION NETWORK FEATURE WILL FOCUS ON RETARDATES' WORLD

The world of retarded children will be explored by NBC television News in a special half-hour documentary to be telecast in color January 31 on the NBC network.

Titled "No Miracle But Love", the program was filmed at the Bethesda Lutheran Home in Watertown, Wisconsin. ■

## BEXAR COUNTY DETOXIFICATION UNIT APPROVED BY MH/MR TRUSTEES, COUNTY

A detoxification unit to provide medical care for alcoholics at the Bexar County Jail has been approved by the Bexar County MH/MR Board of Trustees and the Bexar County Commissioners Court.

The seven-bed unit is part of a proposed Bexar County Alcoholic Treatment Center which is scheduled to begin operation April 1 pending final approval from the National Institute of Mental Health.

Initially, the unit staff will consist of a part-time physician, four full-time registered nurses, four alcoholism counselors and a clerk. ■

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES EXPANDED BY WACO-McLENNAN COUNTY CENTER

The Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center is working with the Methodist Home to extend new mental health services to children and families.

A new \$1.5 million Guidance Center for Children will open on the edge of the Methodist Home grounds in September 1971. Five services will be provided for emotionally disturbed children. They will include emergency and inpatient treatment, outpatient and family counseling, partial care services and education-consultation services.

**John Wise, Ph.D.**, director of psychological services at the Waco-McLennan MH/MR Center, will be spending three-fourths of his time at the new facility when the Guidance Center's first building opens in June.

Staff and new comprehensive programs will be a joint venture under the direction of child psychiatrist **Bradley Miller, M.D.** ■

## TWO TRUSTEES FOR REACH PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY BELL COUNTY CENTER

The Bell County MH/MR Center Board of Trustees has made two appointments to the board of the Killeen REACH Child Development Center.

**Mrs. Elmer Summers** and **Reverend Dennis Camp** were named to the board of directors.

Donations for organizations in the Killeen and Fort Hood area are the Child Development Center's major source of income. ■

## TEXARKANA CENTER COMMITTEE SPONSORS DANCES FOR HANDICAPPED

A committee of the Texarkana Regional MH/MR Center is sponsoring weekly dances for area handicapped persons.

The Center's Recreation for the Handicapped Committee sponsors the Tuesday night dances. Local bands and musicians have donated their time to furnish music. Soft drinks are provided by the Texarkana Association for Retarded Children.

Retardates and their families are invited to the dances, which are held at the Texarkana Knights of Columbus hall.—**William J. Dees.** ■

## TRUSTEES, OFFICERS NAMED FOR GULF BEND CENTER BOARD

Members of the Board of Trustees of the Gulf Bend MH/MR Center have been appointed and officers elected for 1971.

Officers are **Judge Frank H. Crain**, chairman; **Mrs. Frank S. Buhler**, vice-chairman; **Mrs. John W. Griffin**, secretary; **Mrs. Fred W. Jackson**, treasurer; and **Mrs. Leon Polzin**, correspondent.

Other members are **Harvey P. Armintrout**, **Murray Tarkington**; **Mrs. Robert Ramsey** and **Carlos Baker.**—**Mrs. Mary Polzin.** ■

## NEW DALLAS FACILITIES DUE FOR SPECIAL CARE SCHOOL

A new \$700,000 Special Care School for retarded children, partially funded by the Dallas County MH/MR Board of Trustees will be constructed in Northwest Dallas.

Tentatively scheduled for completion in March, 1971, the new facility will accommodate 125 children and will include 12 classrooms, a physical therapy gym and a regular gym.

The new project is to be located on Fyke Road. The Special Care School opened eight years ago and is presently in operation at 12711 Marsh Lane. ■

## NEW NUECES TRUSTEES ANNOUNCED

New members of the Nueces County MH/MR Board of Trustees are Tom Priestly, Reverend Jack Heacock and James Gabbard, M.D.

Trustees reappointed for two year terms are Mrs. Vernon Mueck and Mrs. Lenard Gerbig.--Mrs. J.G. Bryson ■

## BAYTOWN CENTER ESTABLISHES RETARDATE PLACEMENT PROGRAMS

The Baytown Opportunity Center has initiated a new evaluation program designed to determine proper placement of retardates in training and student programs.

Jack Dial, executive director, said present enrollment in the school and sheltered workshop is 42.

The Baytown Center, founded in 1954, is a contract agency of the Harris County MH/MR Center.--Sarah Cartsonas. ■

## DALLAS MH/MR CENTER OFFICE RELOCATED FOR BETTER SERVICE

The Dallas County MH/MR Center has recently moved to new headquarters at 414 South Thornton Freeway.

Many of the center's services, including counseling, referral, educational programs, record keeping, and evaluation programs, will be centralized under one roof.

The central office is responsible for supervising eight districts in the Dallas area. ■

## BELL COUNTY TRAINING CENTER GETS PIANO FROM AREA SORORITY

The Bell County Mental Retardation Training Center in Belton has received a piano donated by the Xi Iota Nu Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Mrs. Wanda McCauley, teacher-director of the center, recently accepted the piano from members of the sorority.

The Training Center, a division of the Bell County MH/MR Center, is located at Gober Party House and is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday through Friday. ■

## NEW WACO/MCLENNAN TRUSTEES NAMED

Four new members have been appointed to serve two year terms on the Waco/McLennan County MH/MR Board of Trustees.

New members are: Mrs. Cullen Smith, Mrs. Thelma Lifland, Milton Spark, M.D., and Judge Bob Thomas. ■

## CHILDREN'S MH FACILITY APPROVED TO SERVE BELL, TRAVIS CENTERS

The Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation has approved a pilot program for improving children's mental health services in Bell and Travis counties.

Under the recently-approved plan, a children's psychiatric unit is to be constructed at the Austin State Hospital to serve community MH/MR centers in the two counties.

Services offered to children and adolescents at the state hospital will be coordinated with community center programs. The 60-bed unit will serve both centers as a short-term intensive care facility.

About \$450,000 in federal funds is being sought to finance the \$1.2 million unit, tentatively scheduled for completion in late 1972. ■

## NEW SAN ANGELO TRUSTEE NAMED

Gus F. Eckhardt, M.D., has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo.

Dr. Eckhardt, a physician associated with the Doctors Clinic of San Angelo, replaces Dwain Dodson, M.D., whose term has expired.

The new trustee is a member of the Tom Green Eight County Medical Society and has previously served on the Medical Advisory Board of the MH/MR center.--James M. Young. ■

## HARRIS COUNTY HALFWAY HOUSE BEGINS THIRD YEAR OF OPERATION

Bartlett House, a residence for post-psychiatric patients operated by the Harris County MH/MR Center, has begun its third year of operation.

During its first two years, the residence housed some 60 persons. According to Herman Curiel, director, only 11 of those in the Bartlett House program needed to return to a hospital for additional treatment during the period.

The program is operated in conjunction with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.--Sarah Cartsonas. ■

## BROWNWOOD DINNER HONORS DOGGETT

The Boards of Trustees of the MH/MR Center for Central Texas and the Brown County Association for Retarded Children jointly sponsored a December dinner honoring Bill J. Doggett.

Doggett was recognized for his work while superintendent of the Brownwood State Home and School for Girls, a post he vacated to become TDMHMR deputy commissioner for mental retardation services.--Mrs. Patsy Pike. ■

## BEXAR COUNTY TRUSTEES ANNOUNCE OFFICERS, NEW MEMBERS FOR 1971

Officers for the Bexar County MH/MR Board of Trustees have been announced and five new members were appointed to terms which began January 5.

Officers for 1971 are James D. Baskin Jr., chairman; Mrs. Otilia Vidaurri, vice-chairman; and Mrs. Grace Ann Durr, secretary.

Newly appointed trustees are: Fernando Guerra, M.D.; W.J. Robinson, Ph.D.; Preston Stephens; Antonio Tinajaro; and Lorenzo Fitzpatrick.--J. Lyle Hill. ■

## LA MARQUE JAYCEE-ETTE BAZAAR BENEFITS GALVESTON MH/MR CENTER

The Galveston County MH/MR Center has received the proceeds of an arts and crafts bazaar sponsored by the La Marque Jaycee-Ettes.

Mrs. Mary McKay, center executive director, said the \$187 donation will be used to purchase supplies and equipment for the center's pre-school education program for retardates.

The three-day bazaar, featuring handmade holiday decorations, was held in the Mainland Mall Shopping Center in La Marque. ■

## MH/MR OUTREACH CLINIC DEDICATED AT HASKELL-STONEWALL OPEN HOUSE

An open house and formal dedication of the Haskell-Stonewall County MH/MR Outreach Clinic was held November 22.

The clinic, a satellite operation of Vernon State Center, is directed by Aubrey Headstream.

Program participants were Haskell County Judge B.O. Robertson; Stonewall County Judge-Elect Pat Mitchell; and Frankie Williams, M.D., J.K. Bleek, Ph.D., Jim Bricknocker, Ed Patt and Johnny Wilburn of the Vernon Center.—Larry Mildren. ■

## AMARILLO MH/MR TRUSTEES HONOR PANHANDLE AREA LAW MAKERS

The Amarillo MH/MR Regional Board of Trustees was among sponsors of a "Texas Legislature Day in Amarillo", November 17.

Other sponsors were the Panhandle Producers Royalty Owners Association and the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce.

Honorees at a luncheon given by the MH/MR Board included Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes, Speaker of the House Gus Mutscher, Senators Grady Hazlewood and Jack Hightower; Senator-elect Max Sherman; Representatives Bill Heatley, Ralph Wayne, Tom Christian and Dean Cobb; and Representatives-elect Phil Cates, Ben Bynum and Bryan Poff.

At the luncheon Mutscher said the 1969 Legislature was its most progressive in dealing with mental health and mental retardation problems. He promised a high priority for MH/MR in future appropriation bills. ■

## CENTERS ANNOUNCE STAFF APPOINTMENTS

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

**Shirl Brunell, Ph.D.**, director of Juvenile Services Program, Texarkana Regional MH/MR Center;

**Parke Miller**, director of Mental Retardation Character Building and Recreation Programs, Galveston County MH/MR Center;

**Dewey Hibbs**, supervisor, Darrell Royal Workshop and **Ed Peters**, director of volunteers and inservice training, Austin/Travis County MH/MR Center;

**David Delgado**, director of Mental Retardation Services, El Paso Center for MH/MR Services.

**Mrs. Rebecca Whitis**, patient-intake social worker, Wichita Falls Community MH/MR Center;

**Mrs. Patsy Pike**, volunteer coordinator and caseworker, MH/MR Center for Central Texas, Brownwood.

**Mrs. Polly Taylor**, head nurse, Kountze Outreach Clinic. ■

## "LOCAL MH/MR NOTES" CORRESPONDENTS

Paul Southern, Th.D., Abilene Area Center for MH/MR; Louise Evans, Amarillo MH/MR Regional Center; Ed Peters, 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.

Items for *Local MH/MR Notes* should be forwarded to Public Information Office, TDMHMR, prior to the end of each month for the following month's issue. Address correspondence to *Local MH/MR Notes*, Public Information Office, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Box 12668, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

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