



LOCAL MH-MR

# NOTES

Published by

The TEXAS DEPARTMENT of MENTAL HEALTH and MENTAL RETARDATION  
Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 512 453-7231

Vol. 1

September, 1969

No. 8

## TDMHMR BOARD ADOPTS REGULATIONS FOR OPERATION OF COMMUNITY MH/MR CENTERS

Regulations and standards for the operation of community MH/MR centers have been adopted by the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

The rules, subject to ongoing review and revision, apply to all services provided by community MH/MR centers governed by local boards of trustees. Community boards took part in drafting the regulations, which incorporate legislative amendments to the Texas Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act, effective Sept. 1.

The standards specify that all community center allocations for 1970 must be equivalent to four times the fourth quarter state grant provided in 1969, assuring that no local center's state funds will be decreased.

State grant-in-aid funds for centers will be provided to 23 local MH/MR boards on the basis of population served, with additional funds to be allocated according to the financial ability of a local community to support public services.

Community boards are required to match state grants with a minimum of 20 per cent and a maximum of 40 per cent in local support which may include the value of buildings and improvements.

The regulations require local programs to meet minimum standards prescribed by the state. Medical responsibility for all patients is required to be vested in a physician.

The regulations also require that services be provided to all Texans with all types of mental or emotional disorders and mental retardation without respect to age, income, sex, race, or religion.

## HALFWAY HOUSE FOR ALCOHOLICS ESTABLISHED IN CORPUS CHRISTI

A halfway house for alcoholics is now open in Corpus Christi.

The facility is operated by the board of directors of the Coastal Bend Halfway House in cooperation with the Nueces County MH/MR Community Center, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Coastal Bend Council on Alcoholism.

Charles Acklen of Corpus Christi is resident manager of the facility. A maximum of 15 male alcoholics can be served at one time. All receive vocational rehabilitation. Facilities for five additional residents are anticipated in the future.

The multi-agency project resulted because all the agencies wanted to provide services for alcoholics but none was able to provide funds and programs for the operation independently.

Combined resources of the sponsoring agencies have allowed planning for a full year of operation and definite commitments concerning services to be offered.-Mrs. J.G. Bryson

## FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY CENTERS ALLOCATED BY TEXAS LEGISLATURE

State allocations for MH/MR community center funding are \$4.5 million for the 1970 fiscal year and \$5.5 million for the 1971 fiscal year.

The 1970 allocation by the Texas Legislature reflects an increase of \$1 million over the \$3.5 million appropriation for the 1969 fiscal year.

The funds will be distributed according to the new formula established by the recently adopted rules, regulations, and standards governing the provision of MH/MR services to community centers.

## COMMUNITY CENTER REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND TDMHMR AUSTIN CONFERENCE

More than 100 representatives of community MH/MR centers throughout Texas and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation exchanged ideas and viewpoints in Austin Sept. 11 and 12.

Emphasis was on methods that have proven effective in various community mental health programs in Texas, with presentations by local MH/MR center personnel from Amarillo, Houston, Dallas, Texarkana, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso, Belton, Edinburg, Midland, and Waco.

Speakers included John Kinross-Wright, M.D., TDMHMR Commissioner; Gary E. Miller, M.D., TDMHMR Deputy Commissioner; Robert L. Stubblefield, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas; and Moody Bettis, M.D., Associate Director of the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences in Houston.

The conference was sponsored jointly by TDMHMR and the state's 23 community MH/MR boards of trustees.

## PERSONNEL FROM TEXARKANA CENTER PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Three community-related projects have been conducted this summer by staff members of the Texarkana Community Mental Health-Mental Retardation Center.

The projects include a pilot study of 15 emotionally disturbed children and their parents, and evaluation of juvenile offenders and projected rehabilitation methods. Staff members also are working as advisors to the local Head Start Program. -Hal Hart

## TEMPLE DAY CARE CENTER OPENED

A day care center for moderately retarded children in Bell County opened Sept. 2 at Memorial Baptist Church in Temple under sponsorship of the Bell County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center.



## SAN ANTONIO TEACHERS ATTEND MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Teachers in the San Antonio area recently attended a two-day mental health workshop sponsored by the Mental Health Association of Bexar County.

The staff of the Community Guidance Center prepared synopses of case histories for group discussions during the workshop and also served as consultants and group leaders.

More than 70 persons associated with various aspects of mental health assisted in the planning of the workshop, and many also participated as group leaders or consultants.—Lee Otta Wall

## DR. MEYER DIRECTS SAN ANTONIO CENTER

George G. Meyer, M.D., has been named director of the Northwest San Antonio Community MH Center and associate professor of psychiatry of the University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio.

Dr. Meyer's appointment was announced by Douglas M. Mitchell, administrator of the Bexar County Hospital District.

Dr. Meyer also is a consultant to the United States Public Health Service, Division of Indian Health.

He received his bachelor of arts degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1951 and his medical degree from the University of Chicago in 1955.

## ATTENTION FROM 'OLDER BROTHERS' BENEFITS MINNESOTA RETARDATES

A group of 50 boys at the Minnesota State Training School at Red Wing, Minn., are acting as "older brothers" for mentally retarded children while taking part in a juvenile offenders' rehabilitation program.

The program known as Institution Community Continuum (ICC), was begun in November, 1967, to give retarded children at a nearby facility companionship with older boys, and to give juvenile offenders a chance to "give of themselves to help others."

## RETARDED CHILDREN'S MONTH OBSERVED AS HOUSTON MAYOR ISSUES PROCLAMATION

Houston Mayor Louie Welch proclaimed the month of August as Retarded Children Month in Houston.

The announcement coincided with the annual Greater Houston Builders Association's 1969 Parade of Homes which this year benefitted the Hope Foundation for Retarded Children.

The Foundation, a non-profit, non-sectarian corporation is constructing headquarters at Hope Village, a 20-acre site near the Gulf Freeway.

## REHABILITATION SURVEY SHOWS TEXAS RANKS FOURTH IN NATION

Texas ranks fourth in the nation in the number of disabled persons rehabilitated to gainful occupations during the fiscal year which ended June 30.

A total of 11,861 Texans were rehabilitated, according to statistics released by the Social and Rehabilitation Service, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Nationwide, a record 241,390 persons were rehabilitated during the fiscal year. Last year's total was 207,918.

Pennsylvania led the nation with 16,544 persons rehabilitated. Next were California, 14,450; Illinois, 13,410; Texas; and New York, 10,250.

## TARRANT COUNTY MH/MR CENTER PLANS TWO OUTPATIENT CLINICS

Two outpatient psychiatric clinics are being planned by the Tarrant County MH/MR Center in Fort Worth.

If approved by the Tarrant County MH/MR Board of Trustees, the two clinics would be in Arlington and in Southwest Tarrant County.

The center is requesting a \$600,000 federal staffing grant to help finance the new services.

The center also plans expansion of existing MH programs, to include a halfway house and day treatment programs, a program for mentally ill children, a plan to provide follow-up care for patients discharged from clinical services, expansion of the child guidance clinic, and a pastoral care program.

Proposed mental retardation programs include day care services, a counseling program for parents of retarded children, an activity center, and additional classrooms for special education.

A central information and referral center is planned for both the mentally ill and mentally retarded.

## HALFWAY HOUSE FOR ALCOHOLICS OPENED TO SERVE MIDLAND-ODESSA

Permian Basin Rehabilitation House, Inc., a halfway house for alcoholics, has been opened in Midland to serve the Midland-Odessa area.

The halfway house has a regular capacity of 15 beds.

Watson La Force, Jr. of Midland and Roy Bell of Odessa are co-chairmen of the facility's board of trustees.

The halfway house is funded under an agreement between the Midland MH/MR Community Center and the Texas Commission for Rehabilitation.

## BALL GAME BENEFITS MH ASSOCIATION

August 16 was "Mental Health Night" at Potter County Stadium in Amarillo during a Texas League baseball game between Amarillo and San Antonio.

A percentage of the game's receipts was given to the Texas Panhandle Mental Health Association.

## HIDALGO COUNTY ALCOHOLISM COUNCIL INCLUDES COMMUNITY CENTER LEADERS

Bob Giles, executive director of the Hidalgo County MH/MR Center, Edinburg, and R.F. Bohannon, M.D., consulting psychiatrist for the Center, have been named to the Hidalgo County Council on Alcoholism.

## SEMINOLE OUTREACH CLINIC OPENED

An outreach mental health clinic opened Sept. 1 at Seminole [in Gaines County], under the direction of Big Spring State Hospital.

Jerome A. Smith, M.D., of Lubbock is psychiatric consultant.

Also scheduled to open this month are an outreach clinic in Pecos [Reeves County], and the Taylor County Mental Health Clinic in Abilene.

Marvin Grice, M.D., of Odessa, will be psychiatric consultant for the Pecos clinic. Albert Jasso, M.D., of Pecos will supervise the medication clinic.

Mrs. Constance Hallock will be chief caseworker for the Abilene clinic.—Larry Mildren



## EXISTING FACILITIES ARE ADAPTED IN DEVELOPMENT OF MH/MR CENTERS

Modification of existing facilities has been a key factor in establishing several community MH/MR centers.

One example is the Dallas County MH/MR Center's development of mental health services in District VI, a South Dallas area.

No hospital facilities were available in or near the district except a nursing center previously used as a hospital.

A third of the building was leased for the adult MH program and the nursing home's dietary service was used for inpatients' meals.

Weeks of building alterations followed. Patients' rooms and a pharmacy became offices. A storeroom was converted into a nurses station. A supply room was adapted for occupational therapy. Wide corridors in the building were transformed into waiting rooms, recreational therapy areas, and a living area for inpatients. A garden opening onto a day room doubled for athletics and a quiet, fenced "sitting place."

The new center is staffed, whenever possible, with residents from the district it serves.—Weldon Newton. ■

## IRVING GROUP SHOWN LEARNING METHOD

"Behavior shaping," a basic form of learning used to teach retarded children at the Helping Hand School in Irving, was demonstrated at the August meeting of the Irving Association for Retarded Children.

The "behavior shaping" method consists of rewarding students immediately after they perform a desired task, and telling them what they have accomplished.

Mrs. Phala Finley, director of the school, and two teachers, Judy Young and Craig Sheffield, demonstrated the method to the association. ■

## BEAUMONT CLUB TEACHES SQUARE DANCE AT CENTER FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Square dance lessons for retarded and special education students are being held at the Beaumont State Center for Human Development.

Don Buztingham, caller, and the Tradewind Square Dancers, who have acted as instructors, volunteered to teach square dancing two nights a month at the Center, and said the sessions are being met with "great enthusiasm and success." ■

## 'PHARMACIST OF YEAR' HELPS PROVIDE DRUG VENDOR PROGRAM IN HARRIS COUNTY

Irwin Miller, Houston pharmacist, has been cited by the Texas Pharmaceutical Association as Texas "Pharmacist of the Year."

Miller was honored for negotiating the first vendor drug program in Harris County between the County Pharmaceutical Association and the Harris County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center. ■

## MIDLAND CENTER MOVES TO NEW OFFICE

The Midland Community Center for MH/MR has moved into new offices in the Rivercrest Building, 2101 W. Wall St.

Included in the complex are the offices of the Midland Council on Alcoholism, Family Counseling Services, Midland United Fund, and Midland County Tuberculosis Association. ■

## SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY MEETINGS FEATURE FILM SCREENINGS, SEMINARS

Two community-wide programs related to mental health problems were sponsored in San Antonio recently by the Mental Health Association of Bexar County, the Northwest Community MH Center, and the San Antonio Group Psychotherapy Study Group.

Both programs, open to the public, were held in the auditorium of the University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio. Films illustrating diverse forces influencing man's behavior were shown and discussed. Those attending were encouraged to express their reactions to the films "Raisin in the Sun" and "The Pawnbroker."—Lee Otta Wall ■

## MH SLOGANS PRINTED ON GROCERY BAGS

*Mental Health Scope* reports that Borman Food Stores and Great Scott supermarkets in Detroit are printing mental health slogans on their shopping bags reminding mothers that "every child needs love, security, acceptance, control, guidance, independence, protection."

Additional information about the project is available from Michigan Society for Mental Health, Box 1969, Lathrup Village, Mich. 48075. ■

## GREENWOOD IS APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON AGING

S.R. Greenwood of Temple, treasurer of the Bell County MH/MR Board, has been appointed by Gov. Preston Smith as chairman of the Governor's Committee on Aging.

Greenwood, acting chairman of the committee for several years, began work in the field of aging in 1955 when he was instrumental in developing a program for a Georgetown retirement home. He also helped establish two multi-purpose centers for the elderly in Temple. ■

## CENTER DIRECTORS, PERSONNEL ATTEND WORKSHOP IN SAN ANGELO

MH/MR center directors and administrative personnel in West and West Central Texas participated in the third of a series of workshops at the MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas in San Angelo, Sept. 15.

A concurrent workshop for clerical personnel included sessions on patient data forms, communications, telephone courtesy, and methods of collecting fees. ■

## MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC IN LAMPASAS IS PART OF NEW OUTREACH PROGRAM

Community leaders in the Lampasas area are developing plans for a mental health outpatient clinic to be operated as an outreach program of Austin State Hospital.

The Lampasas County Commissioners Court has agreed to provide office space and equipment for the clinic. Salaries and other expenses will be provided by the state. The planned staff would include a caseworker and an office clerk.

The proposed clinic has been approved by Lampasas physicians.

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you receive your *Notes* by mail and you change your mailing address, please advise the Communications Division, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Tex. 78711. Please include both your old and new address.



## NEW FILMS AVAILABLE FROM TDMHMR

Three new films, each in color, are available through the TDMHMR film library in Austin.

"Marijuana," a 34-minute film, depicts problems resulting from teenagers' use of marijuana.

"Patterns," a 17-minute presentation filmed as Title II project of Austin State School, shows how low-trainable retardates can benefit from physical education.

The third film, "A Dream To Grow On," is a 28-minute film about the Special Olympics for Retardates, sponsored by the Kennedy Foundation.

Booking information is available by contacting Larry Reed, Information, Education, & Referral Service, Communications Division, TDMHMR, Box S, Austin, Texas 78711.

## PASADENA MH/MR COMMUNITY CENTER WILL BE FOURTH IN HARRIS COUNTY

The Harris County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board of Trustees is scheduled to open a community MH/MR Center in Pasadena on Jan. 1, 1970.

The Pasadena center, the fourth center to be opened in Harris County, will serve Pasadena, South Houston, Webster, Clear Creek, Seabrook, Deer Park, Channelview, Jacinto City, and Galena Park. It will provide outpatient consultation-education and day hospital programs. Inpatient and emergency services will be at Southmore Hospital in Pasadena. Emphasis will be placed on treatment of children and alcoholics.

The staff of 15 will include both professionals and non-professionals.

## OUTREACH PROGRAM FOR GAINESVILLE BEING STUDIED BY CIVIC LEADERS

Development of an outreach program from Denton State School to serve children in the Gainesville area is being studied by community leaders there.

A group of Gainesville civic leaders met recently with representatives of Denton State School and TDMHMR to study the proposal and determine specific needs and services which might be provided by the center.

Estimates based on national averages indicate that as many as 400 children in the Gainesville area could benefit from training provided by an MR center.

## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

## HOUSTON TEACHER ATTENDS CONFERENCE ON EDUCATING CHILDREN FROM GHETTOS

Mrs. Shirley F. Marcus of Houston, who with her husband was co-founder of the Houston-Harris County Center for the Retarded, recently attended a conference on educating the children of the ghetto, or inner city.

The conference, sponsored by the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, was held at Warrenton, Va.

Mrs. Marcus, a Houston public school teacher, works with the culturally retarded at the Foster School.

## FERGUSON LEAVES HIDALGO BOARD

W. C. Ferguson, Ed.D., has resigned from the Hidalgo County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board of Trustees to help establish a graduate school at Pan American College.

## CENTERS ANNOUNCE STAFF APPOINTMENTS

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

Richard G. Jones, Ph.D., associate director, South Plains Guidance Center, Lubbock.

Mrs. Kimberly Harrison, R.N., psychiatric nurse, MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo.

## "LOCAL MH/MR NOTES" CORRESPONDENTS

Paul Southern, Th.D., Abilene Area Center for MH/MR; Louise Evans, Amarillo MH/MR Regional Board of Trustees; John B. Spragens, MH/MR Center of Austin-Travis County; Mrs. Sharon L. Grimm, Brownwood MH/MR Center; Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley, Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center, Plainview; Robert H. Dovenmuehle, Ph.D., Dallas County MH/MR Center; Henry Freeman, Galveston County MH/MR Services, Hitchcock; James R. Young, MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo; Merton Trast, Harris County MH/MR Services; Marion Shirah, Hidalgo County MH/MR Services; Vergia Mae Musselwhite, Jefferson County Community Center for MH.

Allan R. Cutting, Northeast Texas MH/MR Board, Texarkana; Mrs. Harold Vexler, Northwest Community Center, San Antonio; Mrs. J. G. Bryson, Nueces County Community Center for MH/MR, Corpus Christi; Gary K. Smith, Smith-Wood Counties Center for MH/MR Services, Tyler; G. Clark Anderson, Tarrant County MH/MR Center, Fort Worth; Mrs. Hugh C. Whitmore, Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center; and Mrs. Dick Gose, Wichita Falls Community Center for MH/MR Services.

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