



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

Documents Department
DEC 13 1969
Dallas

Vol. 1

November, 1969

No. 10

GOVERNOR NAMES WARD R. BURKE CHAIRMAN OF TEXAS MH/MR BOARD

Ward R. Burke, Diboll attorney, has been named chairman of the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation by Governor Preston Smith.

Burke succeeds **Horace Cromer, M.D.**, of Austin, who has served as chairman for the past four years. Cromer, who will continue as a board member, was praised by the Governor for his efforts as its chairman.

Burke has been a member of the board since 1963 when the agency was known as the State Board for Hospitals and Special Schools. He has been vice chairman since the MH/MR board was reorganized four years ago.

The Governor said his selection of Burke is in keeping with his policy of rotating chairmanships on all state boards where he feels several members have contributions to make. ■

BOARD APPROVES ALLOCATIONS FOR TREATMENT, PLANNING CONTRACTS

The Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation has approved expenditures of \$51,433 for community service treatment contracts and \$5,400 for planning contracts.

Treatment contracts for local psychiatric services were allocated to Amarillo, \$8,333.33; Brenham, \$3,164.66; Brownwood, \$4,000; Corsicana, \$5,000; Longview, \$5,000; Lufkin, \$16,000; and Marshall, \$9,936.

Planning contracts of \$2,700 each were awarded to Plainview and Brownwood.

The treatment contracts cover the four-month period from September 1-December 31. The planning contracts are for two-month periods from September 1-October 31. ■

MR COUNSELING SERVICE CENTER OPENED TO SERVE TRAVIS COUNTY

The Mental Retardation Counseling Service Center, serving Travis County, is now in its second month of operation at 2200 Rosewood, Austin.

Director and clinical psychologist for the center is **Cecil C. Lipscomb Jr.**

The 10-room facility houses several programs and mental retardation services, but "if they can't come to us, we go to them," Lipscomb said.

The center's staff, assisted by volunteers from Huston-Tillotson College, the University of Texas, and the Austin area, conducts programs in diagnosis and evaluation, consultation, child welfare, counseling for parents, home management training, self-help training, and recreation.

Opened in October with a backlog of 200 referrals, the center is financed through a combination of local, county, state, and federal funds.

A branch of the Austin Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center, the new facility offers MR services and MH referrals. ■

TDMHMR BOARD AWARDS GRANTS-IN-AID TO THREE NEW COMMUNITY MH/MR CENTERS

The Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation has awarded additional state grants-in-aid to three community MH/MR centers which recently began their initial year of operation.

Receiving grants-in-aid beyond their basic allocations for the current fiscal year are Wichita Falls Community Center for MH/MR, \$41,527.75; Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center, Plainview, \$18,667; and Midland Community Center for MH/MR, \$58,939. The centers' basic allocations, based on the per capita funding formula, were Wichita Falls, \$55,650; Plainview, \$49,020; and Midland, \$52,652.

The additional grants were awarded after the board modified previously adopted rules and regulations for community centers. The revision allows new centers to receive more than the base allocation during their first fiscal year if they have taken action to acquire a federal staffing grant.

Another modification of the rules bases the minimum allocation to centers that operated during only part of 1969 fiscal year on the year's average state grant rather than the average for the final fiscal quarter.

PLAINVIEW MH/MR CENTER OPENS; NEW PROGRAMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

The Central Plains Comprehensive Community Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center in Plainview began limited operation on Nov. 1.

The center is expected to begin full operation next summer, following completion of its \$600,000 mental health building, which will include 25 beds, occupational and recreational therapy rooms, treatment rooms, and office facilities.

Other facilities being developed include mental retardation services, a halfway house for alcoholics, and a sheltered workshop.

Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley is coordinator of services for the center which serves a nine-county area. ■

SITE VISITATIONS COMPLETED FOR PROPOSED CENTERS IN TYLER, VICTORIA

Initial plans for operation of MH/MR community centers in Tyler and Victoria were reviewed during recent site visits by TDMHMR key personnel.

Tyler is the site of the Smith-Wood County MH/MR Center. The Gulf Bend MH/MR Center includes Victoria, Refugio, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, and Calhoun Counties.

If approved by the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, both centers will be scheduled to receive state grants-in-aid. ■

DALLAS MH/MR CENTER, DARC COMBINE EFFORTS IN SERVICE PROJECTS

Cooperative projects between the Dallas County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center and the Dallas Association for Retarded Children include a contract for an expanded countywide recreation program. The program, which served 729 children last year, will be expanded this year to serve adults who are employed or enrolled in vocational training programs.

Three other programs originated by DARC have been transferred to the MH/MR center in cooperation with the center's board of trustees. These include an information, counseling and referral service operating on a federal grant since 1966; DARC's South Dallas day care program, which has been absorbed into the MH/MR day care center in that area; and an occupational training center for young adult retardates, financed by a three-year federal grant, which will be expanded through contract agreement with the MH/MR center. ■

THREE FEDERAL GRANTS APPROVED FOR MR STAFFING IN HARRIS COUNTY

Three federal grants totaling \$119,230 for mental retardation staffing in Harris County have been approved by the National Institute of Mental Health.

They include \$53,544 for a day care program in the Acres Home area, to be administered by the Harris County Center for the Retarded; a \$16,470 grant for the Baytown Opportunity Center; and \$49,216 for a mental retardation staff for the Bayshore MH/MR Center.

Implementation of the grants depends on the availability of matching funds from local and state sources.

The three Harris County grants are among 267 approved nationwide under the first U.S. Congressional appropriation of over \$8 million for mental retardation staffing. ■

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION SPONSORS MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR IN EL PASO

Four guest speakers highlighted a Parent-Teacher Association mental health seminar Oct. 23 in El Paso.

The speakers were Mrs. I.R. Adams, mental health chairman for the State Board of Managers of Parent-Teacher Associations; E.C. Wenger, executive director of Family Service of El Paso; Richard Yetter, an attorney; and Richard Glancey, news director of KELP-TV and radio, El Paso.

Directing the seminar were Mrs. W.E. Neill, Fifteenth District president of the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers, and Mrs. T.D. Owen, mental health chairman. ■

BROOKS COUNTY MH/MR PROGRAMS BEING DEVELOPED BY PLANNING GROUP

A mental health and mental retardation sub-committee has been appointed in Brooks County by the County Program Building Committee.

The subcommittee, composed of 12 Falfurrias area residents, will develop plans for an educational MH/MR program for the county.

The sub-committee will be assisted in studying, planning, and conducting the program by the Brooks County Agricultural Extension Agents, plus representatives from Texas A&M University Agricultural Extension Service and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Program priorities will be based on a study of the county's most pressing needs in mental health and mental retardation. ■

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT JOURNALISTS INVITED TO DRUG ABUSE CONFERENCE

High school journalists and their sponsors, representing 100 Texas high schools, will attend a two-day conference on drug abuse and drug addiction Nov. 22-23, in Austin.

The conference, to be conducted on The University of Texas campus, is jointly sponsored by the University's School of Communication, the University Interscholastic League, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Purpose of the conference is to enable high school journalists to better cover the story of youth and drugs, to acquaint them with facts regarding drug addiction among teenagers, and to help them better communicate with students through their newspapers. ■

C.G. CULLUM, DALLAS MH/MR LEADER RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Charles G. Cullum of Dallas, who helped plan, organize and develop the Dallas County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center, has received the Newton D. Baker Award of the United Community Funds and Councils of America.

The award, one of only five presented in the nation, honors outstanding volunteer leaders who have made a special contribution to a vital project or program at the local level.

It was presented by the Community Council of Greater Dallas at a luncheon meeting, Oct. 30.

Cullum, prominent in Dallas business, civic, cultural, and religious activities, has served as chairman of the center's board of trustees since it was organized in 1967.

MH/MR centers are now operating in Dallas County under the MH/MR board organized through Cullum's leadership. ■

CENTERS ANNOUNCE STAFF APPOINTMENTS

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

Robert Burnett Sheldon, M.D., of Schulenburg, consulting psychiatrist, Waco-McLennan County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center.

Robert Smith, M.D., director, El Paso Center for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services.

Annette Kyle, M.D., psychiatrist and medical director; **Gary Lewis**, social worker; and **Mrs. Mary Ann Roe**, clerk-typist, new members of the mental health staff at Bayshore MH/MR Center, Baytown. ■

NOLAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVE PROPOSED MH/MR OUTPATIENT CLINIC

The Nolan County Commissioners Court has approved a TDMHMR proposal to locate a mental health/mental retardation outpatient clinic in a Sweetwater bank building purchased by the county recently.

The building's present occupant will move to new facilities early in 1970.

The clinic building also will house welfare offices, the Red Cross, and a Veterans' Administration office.

The clinic's staff will include a full time case worker, a full time clerk-typist, and a part-time psychiatrist. ■

EL PASOAN NAMED TO COMMITTEE

Mrs. James M. Langford, of El Paso, who serves on the Board of Directors of the El Paso Mental Health Association and the El Paso Child Treatment Center, has been named to the Governor's Committee on Human Relations. ■

BEXAR COUNTY MH/MR BOARD STUDIES AFTERCARE PROGRAM FOR ADDICTS

A proposed program for aftercare of committed narcotics addicts in the San Antonio area is under study by the Bexar County Board of Trustees for Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

The aftercare program was requested by the National Institute of Mental Health, **James F. Bailey**, executive director of the board, said, in conjunction with the Narcotic Rehabilitation Act of 1966.

The Act gives federally-convicted addicts a choice of two alternatives—prison or enrollment in a narcotics withdrawal program.

In Texas, Bailey said, an addict can enter the U.S. Public Health Service hospital in Fort Worth for six months of treatment. Addicts must then receive three years of followup treatment in their home community.

The aftercare program would provide financial and medical assistance, family counseling, psychiatric service, and periodic biological surveillance.

"We were requested by NIMH to submit a proposal to cover aftercare of 100 addicts," Bailey said. ■

STUDENTS RECEIVE FIELD TRAINING IN MH/MR CENTER-SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Seven students from the University of Texas graduate school of social work in Arlington are taking field training in programs sponsored by the Tarrant County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center.

Six first-year students are being trained at the center's inpatient facility. One second-year student is receiving administrative training with the center's central office staff.—**G. Clark Anderson**. ■

COMMUNITY CENTERS, STATE FACILITIES VISITED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF HEW

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare recently completed the 1969 review of the state's compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Accompanied by TDMHMR regional coordinators, HEW representatives visited all state institutions. They also visited community centers which receive federal funds, including every service agency which negotiates contracts with community centers.

TDMHMR Department policy provides that students and patients will not be discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, or sex. The policy applies to all types of care, treatment, and contact with patients and students by TDMHMR employees. ■

RECREATION FOR RETARDATES STRESSED AT WORKSHOP FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS

Recreation, as well as education, helps a mentally retarded person to find his or her place in the community as a taxpayer rather than a tax burden.

This view was expressed by **Ed Yarmac**, director of mental retardation services for the Waco-McLennan County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center, at a training workshop for volunteers at Baylor University.

The workshop acquainted new volunteers with mental retardation work, and emphasized the techniques and values of recreation for the mentally retarded. ■

MH PROTECTIVE SERVICES GRANT WILL BENEFIT HARRIS COUNTY AGED

A three-year grant for a mental health protective services program for senior citizens has been approved for Harris County by the Governor's Committee on Aging.

A total of \$49,925 is being made available for the first project year which began in July. The aging project is part of the Harris County MH/MR Center program and is administered under the direct supervision of the county judge and county court.

Mrs. Agnes McRoberts is the project director. ■

CENTER OFFERS COUNSELING SEMINARS

Continuing seminars for ministers and teachers, focusing on mental health and mental retardation problems and counseling, are being conducted by the Bell County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center in Belton.

Sessions are held in the Wells Science Building at Mary Hardin-Baylor College.

The seminars are coordinated by **S.B. Schnee** and **L. Renegar**, clinical psychologist at the MH/MR center.

BAYSHORE MH/MR CENTER SPONSORS COUNSELING SESSIONS FOR MINISTERS

A group of Baytown area ministers are attending weekly counseling seminars sponsored by the Bayshore Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center, Baytown.

The weekly sessions are conducted by **Mrs. Janie Farris**, chief social worker at the center. Informal discussions include counseling techniques and problem-sharing.

After several months of informal sessions, the ministers have recently begun a series of programs with specific topics such as suicide prevention, electro-convulsive therapy (ECT), and drug use, symptoms and reactions.

MR TRAINING FILMSTRIPS AVAILABLE

Four new filmstrips produced by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare are available on loan without charge from the National Medical Audiovisual Center, Chamblee, Georgia.

Two of the filmstrips, for parent audiences, are titled *Growing Up at the Table—Teaching Feeding Skills to the Mentally Retarded Child at Home*; and *Diapers Away—Toilet Training the Mentally Retarded Child at Home*.

The other filmstrips, designed to be shown to attendants, are *Growing Up at the Table—Teaching Feeding Skills to Mentally Retarded Children in Groups*; and *Diapers Away—Toilet Training Mentally Retarded Children in Groups*.

Each filmstrip is accompanied by a discussion leader's guide and a narration available on tape or record. (Record is sent unless an audiotape is specifically requested.)

Requests for loan of the filmstrips should be addressed to: National Medical Audiovisual Center (Annex), Chamblee, Georgia, 30005.

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.

COASTAL BEND HALFWAY HOUSE MOVES INTO NEW CORPUS CHRISTI FACILITIES

Open house is scheduled November 16 in Corpus Christi at the new facilities of Coastal Bend Halfway House for alcoholics, 38 West Country Club Place.

The operation was transferred to new facilities Nov. 1 after operating about two years in a temporary location. Under the new program, halfway house facilities are available for 15 male alcoholics and a holding unit has a capacity of 5 additional residents.

Charles Acklen of Corpus Christi is resident manager of the facility 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.

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. ■

SAN ANGELO MH/MR CENTER SPONSORS MINISTERIAL SEMINAR

A seminar for ministers in the San Angelo area is being conducted this month by the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center for Greater West Texas and the San Angelo Ministerial Alliance.

Topics discussed at the series of four two-hour sessions include recognition of mental illness, referral resources, marriage problems, and suicide.

The program will resume in January with consultation sessions designed to assist ministers in counseling situations involving mental problems. ■

TARRANT BOARD APPROVES BUDGET, RELOCATION OF THREE FACILITIES

A budget of \$689,156 for fiscal 1969-70 has been approved by the board of trustees of the Tarrant County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center in Fort Worth.

The board also approved moving the center's administrative facilities, crisis intervention program and aftercare services to new quarters across Lancaster Street from the present center.

The center plans to increase aftercare services and continue present programs.—Weldon Newton ■

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

NEW BOARD MEMBERS ARE INSTALLED FOR WACO-McLENNAN COUNTY CENTER

Nine members of the new Waco-McLennan County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board have been sworn in by Judge Frank McDonald of the Tenth Court of Civil Appeals in Waco.

Four board members have one-year terms, while the remaining five will each serve on the board for two years.

Board members with one-year terms are Mrs. Martha Appel, Judge Ray Mormino, Dr. Tom Frank, and Joel Westbrook. Those with two-year appointments are Mrs. Margaret Allison, Mrs. Louretha Campbell, Mrs. Elizabeth Estes, Judge Bill Logue, and Rev. Roy Sherrod.

Speakers at the ceremony included Charles Eskridge, director of TDMHMR's regional programs division, and Bascom L. Hodges, TDMHMR regional coordinator.

Hodges read a letter from John Kinross-Wright, M.D., Commissioner, TDMHMR, commending the efforts of the retiring board members. ■

TARS VOLUNTEERS AID CENTER'S DAY CARE RECREATION PROGRAMS

Approximately 30 Teens Aid Retarded (TARS) volunteers are assisting recreation programs for mentally retarded children at the Child Day Care Center in Fort Worth.

Volunteer sponsors for the center's TARS group are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilkerson. ■

"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, M.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. ■