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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

An Equal Opportunity Employer Vol. 1 No. 4 December 19, 1974

SEASONS GREETINGS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETS IN LIVINGSTON

The DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees held its monthly meeting at the City Hall in Livingston, on November 21.

The major item of business was the employment of Felix Peebles, Jr., M.D. as Director of Psychiatric Services for DETRMHMRS effective January 15.

Other personnel matters included the promotion of Robert G. West, Psychometrist, to the position of Psychologist upon completion of his degree requirement.

Other items of business discussed and approved were:

Authorization of joint agreement with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. This agreement will allow DETRMHMRS to participate in rehabilitation services and to receive reimbursement services rendered to TRC client.

Authorization that will permit the Services to participate in Title IV-A and Title VI Programs of the Texas Department of Public Welfare.

Visitors attending the meeting were County Judge, Peyton Walters; Livingston Mayor, Joe Pedigo; T. C. Walker and George Moore, Texas Rehabilitation Commission; Lee Pittman, DETCOG; Ike Cox, Director, Special Services, Livingston Public Schools; Oliver M. Cole and Helen Malone, Texas Department of Public Welfare; and Polk County Advisory Council members, Averta Mosley, Marilyn Elliott and Lucille Plane.

DETRMHMRS RECEIVES DDA GRANT

The Nacogdoches Workshop and Opportunity Center, located at 3220 East Main in Nacogdoches, has recently received a Developmental Disabilities Grant in the amount of $14,525.00. This Grant in addition to local and state funds will enable continuation and expansion of the Nacogdoches project. The Nacogdoches Workshop is presently serving 18 clients. Activities at the center include training in various job skills and personal adjustment and social skills training.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS SPOTLIGHTED

This section will be a regular feature for the next several months in order to introduce each Board member to the citizens of the region.

Mr. V. B. Woods is currently serving a two-year term as a DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees member representing Trinity County.

Mr. Woods holds a B.S. degree from Texas A&M University and a M.Ed. from Sam Houston State University.

He was born and raised in Marquez, Texas. He has resided in Woodlake, Texas since 1946.

Mr. Woods served in the U.S. Army and following his discharge as first lieutenant in 1946, he served with the Veterans Administration.

In 1953, Mr. Woods became high school principal for the Groveton Independent School District, a position he held for ten years. Mr. Woods was executive vice-president of the First Bank of Groveton from 1963 to 1974, and is currently president of Lovelady State Bank.

Mr. Woods has been actively involved in several organizations including Groveton's Chamber of Commerce, Community Council, Development Foundation, Lions Club, Woodlake-Josserand Water Supply Corporation and First United Methodist Church of Groveton.

Mr. Woods and his wife, Thelma Lea, have three children: Sally, who holds an accounting degree from Stephen F. Austin University; Nancy, who teaches kindergarten in Chester; and their son, David, who is a farm bureau agent for Trinity County.

POLK COUNTY WORKSHOP PROGRESSES

Remodeling of the building for the Polk County Workshop and Opportunity Center, under the direction of Jack Calhoun is almost complete. To date, a gate has been erected, the building rewired, repainted inside, and heaters installed. Also, the grounds have been cleaned and some repairs have been made to the outside of the building, A large amount of materials used have been donated by local citizens and much of the labor has been done by local V.F.W. members and others.

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DETRMHMRS EMPLOYS PSYCHIATRIST

Felix Peebles, Jr., M.D., will join the DETRMHMRS staff effective January 15, 1975, as Director of Psychiatric Services.

Dr. Peebles received his psychiatric training from the Austin State Hospital. He served as a psychiatric consultant in Nevada for three years and psychiatrist at a Veterans Administration Hospital for two years. He worked in Lufkin for 19 years in private practice, and most recently served as Clinical Director at the Rusk State Hospital for the past three years.

Dr. Peebles, who is originally from the East Texas area (born in Avinger, Cass County, Texas), is enthusiastic about the opportunity of working in the field of community psychiatry. He and his wife plan to live in Lufkin and become involved in numerous civic activities.

Dr. Peebles' professional memberships include the Cherokee County Medical Society, Texas Medical Association, American Medical Association, Texas District Branch of American Psychiatric Association, and American Psychiatric Association.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ATTENDS AUSTIN MEETING

Dr. Wayne Lawrence, Executive Director of DETRMHMRS, traveled to Austin in November for a meeting on possible legislative revisions of House Bill 3. This Bill created the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and mandated the provision of community mental health mental retardation services.

In attendance at the meeting were executive directors of the State's community mental health mental retardation centers, and various members of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation's legal division and community services staff.

The objective of the meeting was to provide community center directors with an opportunity to recommend possible changes and, at the same time, to provide local input regarding any future changes.

One recommendation was that the Bill allow regional boards of trustees to purchase real property.

Another recommendation was that board of trustees members serve three-year terms rather than two-year terms of office.

The legal staff of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation also dealt with the Texas Open Meetings Law and urged compliance by all boards of trustees.

SAN JACINTO COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

The San Jacinto County Advisory Council met on November 24, 1974, at Browders Restaurant in Coldspring. Members attending were Charlotte O'Quinn, R.N., Chairperson, Betsy Jackson, Elizabeth Fraley, Bessie Sanders, R.N., and Marcelene Sanders.

Others attending were Ben Hille, San Jacinto County Board of Trustees member, and Leonard Baxter and Alta Patrick, DETRMHMRS' staff members.

Items of business considered were the following: employment of the Director for the Developmental Center and progress to date; identification of clients eligible for entrance into the program; securing a sign for the Center; and transportation for clients.

The Council also selected Bessie Sanders to assume the public information duties for the Council.

PHARMACEUTICAL MEETING HELD

Betty Ecker and Si Morrison of the DETRMHMRS' staff recently met with the Pharmaceutical Association at a dinner meeting in Jasper. Area pharmacists in attendance were Leonard Shipman, Jasper; Pansy Adickes, Hemphill; Jim Olive, Pineland; Morris Austin, Jasper; Tom Carradin, Buna; Fred McDuffie, Jasper; Barry Henslee, Jasper; Marion T. Knight, Woodville; Gerald Page, Newton; Jerry Nobles, Kirbyville; Bob Boykin, Woodville, and George Gee, Jasper. Mr. Gee is also a DETRMHMRS Board member representing Jasper and Newton counties.

Mrs. Ecker presented a film entitled "Changing Myths: Give Mental Health A Chance." She also discussed the drug distribution program for Outpatient Clinics and explained the mental health services delivery system.

Mr. Morrison outlined DETRMHMRS programs and background.

DETRMHMRS' PROGRAMS EXPLAINED

Si Morrison, Director of Program Support Services for DETRMHMRS, participated in a workshop for principals and counselors sponsored by the Angelina College on November 19.

Eighteen principals and counselors from the region were in attendance at the conference, and the group was very interested in the activities of the DETRMHMRS. Many questions were asked regarding the referral system and the legal aspects of student referral.

Most of the workshop participants asked to be placed on DETRMHMRS' mailing list, and that additional information on available services be supplied to them. Mr. W. H. Killam, Dean of Students, served as coordinator and host for the conference.

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DETRMHMRS STAFF INTRODUCED

The following is a listing of all DETRMHMRS employees. This is provided to introduce our staff to the citizens of our region and, also, to provide program addresses and phone numbers. As new staff members are employed, they will be listed in subsequent issues of DIRECTIONS.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
P. O. Box 592
Lufkin, Texas 75901
Phone: 713/634-2241

Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Betty Ecker, R.N.
Director, Mental Health Programs
S. H. Morrison, Jr.
Director, Program Support Services &
Acting Director, Mental Retardation
Programs
Linda Foley
Accountant
Lee Mayberry
Administrative Secretary
Liz Nicholson
Secretary I
Lynn Nowell
Secretary I

Mental Health Staff:

Felix Peebles, M.D.
Director, Psychiatric Services
Betty Ecker, R.N.
Director, Mental Health Programs
Geoffrey Grubb, M.D.
Medical Consultant
Larry Davis
Coordinator, Alcoholism & Drug
Abuse Programs
Robert West
Psychologist
Judy Gibson
Caseworker

ANGELINA COUNTY OUTPATIENT CENTER
302 N. Raguet
Lufkin, Texas 75901
Phone: 634-2171

TRINITY COUNTY OUTPATIENT CLINIC
P.O. Box 570, Groveton Hospital
Groveton, Texas 75845
Phone: 642-1633

Linda Cobb, Director

Mental Retardation Staff:

S. H. Morrison, Jr.
Acting Director, Mental Retardation
Programs
Byron Crawford
Caseworker
(Psychologist Position Open)

JASPER COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
401 College
Jasper, Texas 75951
Phone: 384-4207

Marty Walker, Director
Kathy Braswell, Aide

SAN JACINTO CO. DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
P. O. Box 207
Coldspring, Texas 77331
Phone: 653-4246

Alta Patrick, Director

TYLER COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
157 Pavillion
Woodville, Texas 75979
Phone: 283-2471

Judy Westbrook, Director

POLK CO. WORKSHOP & OPPORTUNITY CENTER
1215 S. Washington
Livingston, Texas 77351
Phone: 327-8922

Jack Calhoun, Acting Director

LUFKIN WORKSHOP & OPPORTUNITY CENTER
P. O. Box 1237, 1305 S. Third
Lufkin, Texas 75901
Phone: 632-6867

Doug Nicholson, Director
Charlotte Chamblee, Caseworker
Jon Hall, MHMR Service Specialist
Rhonda Montes, Secretary
Kathy Stinett, Community Service Aide

NACOGDOCHES WORKSHOP & OPPORTUNITY CENTER
3220 East Main
Nacogdoches, Texas 75961
Phone: 564-6605

Steve Willingham, Director
James Johnson, Trainer
Judy McNiel, Trainer
Jo Anne Nall, Secretary

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Please address correspondence to: DIRECTIONS, Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services, P. O. Box 592, Lufkin, Texas 75901

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The Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services operates in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Executive Order 11246, as amended.