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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER 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.

Rev. Jerry Self is currently serving a two-year term as a DETR-MHMRS Board of Trustees member representing Nacogdoches County.

Born in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Rev. Self spent most of his childhood in Wichita, Kansas, where he graduated from high school. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, and a B.D., Th.M., and Th.D. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Rev. Self has served as a pastor in Texas and Oklahoma since 1962. In 1968, he became pastor of the Austin Heights Baptist Church, his current pastorate.

Presently, Rev. Self is President of the Kiwanis Club of Nacogdoches, a member of the Nacogdoches Mental Health Association (also, a past president) and a member of the Nacogdoches Ministerial Alliance (also, a past president).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEET IN DIBOLL

The DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees held its monthly meeting at the City Hall in Diboll, on January 23, 1975. The 1975 budget revisions and additions were reviewed by the staff and approved by the Board.

Other business on the agenda included the discussion of the Service Area Concept, unemployment compensation program, and staff participation in a Management Training Program.

Approval was granted by the Board to request funds from Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation for a Halfway House for alcoholics.

The Board also approved the agency's participation in the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA).

Routine business reports completed the agenda.

The next Board meeting was set for February 20 at 7:00 P.M. in the Diboll City Hall.

JUDGE MANN HONORED

County Judge Tom D. Mann was recently selected as the recipient of the First Annual Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen Award. Members from Tyler County civic clubs selected the recipient of this award.

The award was presented at a banquet held on January 31 at the Clans Restaurant at the Indian village near Woodville.

Judge Mann was selected for this honor because of the many improvements he has accomplished including service for the elderly and youth of Tyler County.

Before being elected to his present office, he taught school for 16 years. Ten of those years he was an elementary school principal at Vidor, Beulah and Colmesneil.

During his term of office as County Judge, the Tyler County Developmental Center and the Tyler County Outpatient have been opened.

The Tyler County Outpatient Clinic has been one of the major goals of Judge Mann's administration.



Outpatient Clinic Director Barbara Arnold and County Judge Tom D. Mann set up the new office for the area service clinic.

Judge Mann is a member of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees, an active member and Chairman of the Tyler County Advisory Council, and he also serves on the Tyler County Hospital Board.

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NACOGDOCHES ADVISORY COUNCIL ORGANIZED

The Nacogdoches County Advisory Council for DETRMHMRS held its organizational meeting on January 30, 1975, with Rev. Jerry Self, DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees member representing Nacogdoches County, coordinating the meeting.

The Advisory Council has as its function the planning of future programs for Nacogdoches County by working with Rev. Self and the staff of DETRMHMRS. The Council insures local input into program planning and, in turn, helps maintain local control.

Dr. Wayne Lawrence, Executive Director, and Dr. Felix Peebles, Director of Psychiatric Services, represented DETRMHMRS. Programs currently in operation in Nacogdoches County include: Nacogdoches County Community Counseling Center, 305 E. College, Nacogdoches, Phone 569-0066; Nacogdoches County Sheltered Workshop, 3220 E. Main, Nacogdoches, Phone 564-6605; and the Regional Inpatient/Emergency Psychiatric Services at the Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. These programs are made possible through a cooperative funding arrangement involving Nacogdoches County, DETRMHMRS, and the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

The following is a listing of the Advisory Council: Mrs. Walter Loflin, Chairperson; Mrs. Florence Anderson, Vice-Chairperson; Mrs. Mollie Brasher, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Marian Goodrum, Mrs. Gladys Hampton, Mr. Mike Perry, and Mr. Percell Warren, members.

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS EXPANDED

The Mental Health staff was increased during the month of January. New additions include: Dr. Felix Peebles, Director, Psychiatric Services; Mrs. Ruby Simmons, Director, Angelina County Outpatient Clinic; and Mrs. Barbara Arnold, Director, Tyler County Outpatient Clinic.

The proposed Newton County Outpatient Clinic will open in late February or early March in the former hospital building in Newton.

As of February 1, Regional Emergency and Inpatient Services are available at Memorial Hospital in Nacogdoches. Dr. Geoffrey T. Grubb is the physician for this program.

TYLER COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER EXPANDS

During the month of January, a hot lunch program was initiated at the Tyler County Developmental Center. Volunteers cook the meals at home and take them to the Center. Other donations include: milk for the meals from the Optimist Club, toys from Mr. Billy Mathews, financial contributions from the Garden Club and cakes from the Hillister Baptist Church.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

The San Jacinto County Advisory Council met on January 29, 1975, at Browder's Restaurant in Coldspring. Members attending were Mrs. Charlotte O'Quinn, Chairperson; Elizabeth Fraley, Mrs. Bessie Sanders, and Mrs. Marcelene Williams.

Others attending representing DETRMHMRS were Mr. S. H. Morrison, Director of Program Support Services; Mrs. Betty Ecker, Director of Mental Health Programs; and Mrs. Alta Patrick, Director of San Jacinto County Developmental Center. Also attending were Mr. Alton Nutt, Assistant Superintendent of the Shepherd Independent School District and Deborah Sheldon.

Items of business considered were the following: new location for the San Jacinto County Developmental Center, the Service Area Concept, and a report of the operations and plans for overall mental health and mental retardation programs.

ACCIDENT CLAIMS LIFE OF VOLUNTEER

An ambulance crash seven miles south of Madisonville claimed the lives of three men on January 22, 1975, including Mr. Landon Bradshaw, well-known columnist for the Jasper News-Boy.

Mr. Bradshaw was a passenger in an ambulance en route to Waco with two attendants, both of whom also perished in the wreck.

Funeral services for Mr. Bradshaw were held at the J. O. Stringer Funeral Home, with burial following in the Weeks Chapel Cemetery located near the Harrisburg Community.

Mr. Bradshaw was a member of the DETRMHMRS Regional Mental Retardation Advisory Committee and Chairman of the Jasper County Advisory Council. He was instrumental in the formation of the Jasper County Developmental Center.

Several DETRMHMRS' members were in attendance at Mr. Bradshaw's funeral. Plans are underway for employees to purchase a plaque to be placed at the Jasper County Developmental Center in his honor.

MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC OPENS

The Tyler County Outpatient Clinic opened Monday, January 20, 1975, at 1006 W. Bluff, Woodville. The Clinic is open from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

The Clinic will provide a full range of psychiatric and counseling services including marriage, family, alcohol and drug abuse counseling, as well as follow-up care for persons discharged from Rusk State Hospital. The staff plans to work closely with local agencies and school systems in helping prevent serious emotional and/or behavior problems.

Mrs. Barbara Arnold is the Clinic Director and a mental health team consisting of a psychiatrist, psychologist, and a caseworker, will visit the Clinic on a regularly scheduled basis.

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POLK COUNTY SHELTERED WORKSHOP EXPANDS

The Polk County Sheltered Workshop is presently providing training for six Polk County citizens. The overall objective is to provide training that will enable retarded individuals to remain in the community.

The Workshop is providing clients with basic work skills and job attitudes. The program will eventually include lessons in grooming, hygiene, and basic money management.

At this time, six persons come each weekday and perform tasks such as cutting old clothes into rags, doing laundry and washing and waxing cars.

Recently, three girls in the program have been busy removing printed prices from polyethylene candy bags for a Nacogdoches firm.

One main concern is to teach the mentally retarded to communicate socially with others, according to Mrs. Carol Willis, the trainer.



PARTICIPANTS IN WORKSHOP PROGRAM
...At work on an industrial project

Mr. Jack Calhoun is the Director for the Workshop and his wife, Kip, is currently painting a mural on the wall of the Workshop, providing the participants with a brighter environment.

JASPER COUNTY CENTER NEWS

January was a very active month for the Jasper County Developmental Center. The Center's adult groups delivered 2,200 potting cans to a nursery in Jasper and 500 cans to a nursery in Conroe. The Center has acquired several new ironing customers, and each working client is paid weekly for his production.

STAFF MEMBERS APPOINTED

MR Director: The DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees, at its regular monthly meeting on January 23, approved the appointment of Mr. Russ Burbank to the position of Director of Mental Retardation Programs. Mr. Burbank joined the staff on February 10. His most recent employment was as a clinical psychologist at Richmond State School, Richmond, Texas; and he has also been employed at the Denton State School and the San Angelo State Center as a team coordinator and psychologist.

Mr. Burbank is active in the Texas Association for Retarded Citizens (TARC) and Teens Aid the Retarded (TARS) as well as other church and civic activities.

Mr. Burbank and his wife, Nancy, and two daughters are currently residing in Lufkin.

MR Psychologist: Mr. Randy Godsey began employment as a clinical psychologist for DETRMHMRS Mental Retardation Programs on February 10, 1975. Mr. Godsey holds a Bachelor's Degree in psychology from Texas A&M University and has completed requirements for a Master's Degree in clinical psychology at Texas A&M University. He also has done graduate work at North Texas University where he served as a graduate counselor. He worked for one year in the "Troubled Youth Program" at College Station and completed his practicum studies at Rusk State Hospital.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Board member V. B. Woods of Trinity County on the arrival of a new grandson, Joshua Bob David. Joshua was born on February 17 and weighed 9½ pounds.

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AGING IS NOT REALLY A PROBLEM,

YOU ARE JUST LIKE YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN,

ONLY MORE SO!

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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.