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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

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HOUSTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

For the next several months, Directions will feature one of DETRMHMRS' programs. By this effort, the citizens of the region will become better acquainted with the programs of DETRMHMRS.

The Houston County Developmental Center, located at 701 San Jacinto in Crockett, currently has 13 clients enrolled. Director Mae Hailey, assisted by Brenda Nichols, Wendell Burrell and a number of volunteers are currently providing a full array of training and activities for these clients who range in age from 13 to 36. Training activities include workshop type projects such as furniture refinishing, sewing and crocheting. Other training includes grooming and hygiene and a full range of personal and social adjustment activities.

Clients Franklin Green, Albert Martin and Volunteer Richard Graham.



Volunteer Louise Gunnels working with a group of clients.

DETRMHMRS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD AT GROVETON

The regular monthly meeting of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, June 26 at 7 p.m. in the Trinity County Courthouse at Groveton.

Action taken by the Board included: acceptance of a bid by Polk County Motor Company for three mini-bus vans; appointment of the accounting firm of Axley & Rode, Lufkin, to conduct the first annual audit; approval of a lease agreement for the Shelby County Halfway House; authorization for the Executive Director and staff to proceed with the planning and preparation of the annual report; authorization of a lease of additional office space in Lufkin; and approval of implementation of a certificate of appreciation program.

Representing the news media were Bill Burnett, Groveton News; Lynn Dunlap, The Lufkin News and Gregg Peak, The Trinity Standard; also DETCOG's Public Information Officer, Lyn Holt.

TRINITY COUNTY VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED

Board of Trustee member V. B. Woods and Trinity County Advisory Council Chairman Bill Burnett gave special recognition to a group of Trinity County volunteers as they were introduced at the June Board meeting in Groveton.

Those receiving special recognition for volunteer service at the Trinity County Outpatient Clinic include Melba Wars, Kathy Maxey, Anna Pfleger, Fair Punch, Marvine Carter and Betty Bock. These ladies serve as typists and receptionists in addition to performing general office and housekeeping duties. Thanks ladies. We need more like you!

SAN JACINTO CLIENTS ATTEND POLK COUNTY WORKSHOP

Seven clients from the Shepherd area are currently enrolled in the Polk County Workshop at Livingston.

Transportation is being provided by an automobile furnished by Wynn Motor Company of Coldspring. A special "thank you" is in order to the people at Wynn Motor company for making transportation available to this group.

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RADIO SERIES UNDERWAY

Radio Station KEEE(AM)-KJCS(FM) in Nacogdoches is currently sponsoring a five week series on the problems of alcohol and the alcoholic. News Director Robert Warren Hill is serving as moderator for the sessions.

Spotlighted in the series is Jon Ed Smith, Drug and Alcohol Counselor for Nacogdoches, Shelby, Sabine and San Augustine Counties. Topics include Community Counseling Services, who is the alcoholic, the alcoholic and industry, myths on alcoholism and alcoholism and DWI offenses.

Program guests will be Ed Ross, Employer Assistance Program Coordinator for the Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Paul Jackson, DWI Instructor for DETCOG.

The program can be heard on the Saturday noon news over KEEE-KJCS.

DETRMHMRS ENTERS INTO CONTRACT WITH EAST

The DETRMHMRS entered into a contract on July 1, 1975, with the Employees Assistance Services of Texas (EAST) Program at Kountze, in Hardin County. This new service will provide an in-patient alcoholism treatment/rehabilitiation program for problem drinkers. The program is operated in a wing of the Kountze Hospital and provides psychiatric, medical and other professional care. The average length of stay per client will be 10 to 30 days and will be available to all DETRMHMRS clients.

DETRMHMRS ASSUMES HALFWAY HOUSE

On July 1, 1975, DETRMHMRS assumed the operation of the Shelby House, Inc., a halfway house for male alcoholics that has been under the supervision of Winston Smith of Center.

The House will accommodate 8 to 10 male alcoholics. The facility staff will include full time and relief house managers and a full time housekeeper.

Programs will consist of individual counseling by DETRMHMRS counselors and group counseling will be provided by the local Alcoholics Anonymous organization.

Renovations will begin soon and the facility will begin accepting clients from the region in the near future.

SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD AT LUFKIN

A special meeting of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees was held in the assembly room of the Texas Power & Light Company on June 28 at 9 a.m.

The following action was taken by the Board: approved the proposed budget for fiscal year 1976 as recommended by the staff; approved a supplemental grant in aid application for the establishment of a day activity program for mental health for Lufkin; and, declined to engage in a personnel recruitment campaign with a consulting firm made available by the Community Services Division of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL FORMED

The San Augustine County Advisory Council held its organizational meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 1975 at 7 p.m. in San Augustine.

In attendance at the meeting were Dr. and Mrs. Robert Tipps of Center, Mrs. M. J. Buchele, Mrs. Marvin Dickerson, Mrs. Jean Hines, Mrs. Eugene Jones, Mrs. B. R. Matthews, Mrs. Homer Murray and Mrs. Bill Pass, all of San Augustine.

Dr. Wayne Lawrence and Mr. Russ Burbank, representing the DETRMHMRS staff outlined the purpose and functions of local Advisory Councils and reported on ongoing and projected programs of the Services.

The group elected the following to serve as officers of the San Augustine County Advisory Council: Mrs. Jean Hines, Chairperson; Dr. Robert Tipps, Vice Chairperson; and Mrs. M. J. Buchele, Secretary-Treasurer.

VANS TO BE ASSIGNED

Three Chevrolet vans, to be purchased from Polk County Motor Company, will be assigned to the Shelby County Sheltered Workshop, the San Jacinto County Developmental Center and the Polk County Sheltered Workshop in the very near future.

These vans are fully equipped with air conditioners (front and rear) and custom comfort interiors.

The vans should be of great benefit in providing client transportation and consequently making services available to qualified prospects who do not currently have transportation available.

HARDIN COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

The Hardin County Advisory Council met on Wednesday, June 4, at the Hardin County Courthouse in Kountze, Texas.

Members present included Howard Barrington, George Daniels, Tommy D. Easley, T. S. Hooks, Buddy Moore, Mae Nichols, Houston Thompson and Mae Williams. Representing DETRMHMRS were Dr. Wayne Lawrence and Betty Ecker.

The major topic for discussion was the determination of services to be provided by DETRMHMRS in Hardin County. The group discussed the interest of the Employee Assistance Services of Texas (EAST) as to the possibility of contracting with DETRMHMRS to deliver inpatient hospital care to alcoholic and drug abuser clients in the Hardin County area. It was determined that this program would allow indigent citizens of Hardin County and the region access to the EAST Program rather than the Program being available only to clients who could pay for services.

After discussion of the matter, the group voted unanimously to contract with the EAST program.

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IS THAT A FACT?

A quiz on Mental Retardation made available through the courtesy of the Austin-Travis County MHMR Center.

Questions

____ 1. Mental Retardation is
- a. curable
- b. a developmental disability
- c. a mental illness
- d. contagious

____ 2. Mental retardation can occur
- a. before birth
- b. during birth
- c. after birth
- d. only through heredity

____ 3. How many retarded persons are there in the United States?
- a. 1 million
- b. 3 million
- c. 6 million
- d. 8 million

____ 4. The majority of these persons are
- a. mildy retarded
- b. moderately retarded
- c. severely retarded
- d. profoundly retarded

____ 5. Causes of mental retardation include
- a. some diseases
- b. environmental deprivation
- c. sin
- d. high fever

____ 6. Most persons who are retarded "look" different
- a. true
- b. false

____ 7. Most causes of retardation are
- a. inherited
- b. in females
- c. not fully understood
- d. due to alcohol

____ 8. Most retarded persons can support themselves
- a. true
- b. false

____ 9. Most retarded persons have other disabilities such as deafness, blindness or crippling conditions
- a. true
- b. false

Answers

1. (b) Normal development fails to take place.
2. (a) (b) and (c).
3. (c) That's about 3 per cent of the population.
4. (a).
5. (a) and (b).
6. (b) <u>false</u> Seventy-five per cent of all mental retardation is mild. Mildly retarded persons seldom "look" any different from you or me.
7. (c) Although over 200 prenatal and postnatal causes of retardation have been discovered, no clear determination of cause can be made in 75 per cent of identified cases of mental retardation.
8. (a) <u>true</u> About 75 per cent can learn to support themselves, both economically and socially, if they receive adequate services such as education and vocational training. Another 10 per cent can become partially self-supporting. Only a small proportion remain dependent.
9. (b) <u>false</u> Those disabilities affect only a small number of persons with severe or profound retardation.

MH DIRECTOR ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Betty Ecker, Director Mental Health Programs, attended the 3rd annual Summer Study Program on Rural Mental Health at the University of Wisconsin at Madison June 15 to 20. While there she began a one year study program leading to certification as a Rural Mental Health Administrator. She was also re-appointed to the committee that will plan next summer's meetings. She will also continue as Co-Editor of the Rural Committee on Mental Health Newsletter. The news letter has a nation-wide circulation of 3,000.

JULY BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD IN SAN JACINTO COUNTY

The regular meeting of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees will be held in the courtroom of the San Jacinto County Courthouse at Coldspring on July 24, at 6 p.m.

The public is cordially invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.

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