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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

An Equal Opportunity Employer Vol. 1 No. 11/2 August 14, 1975

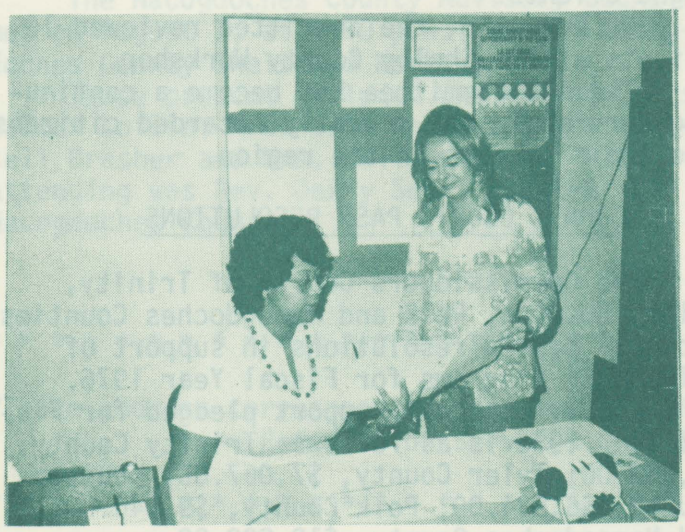
ANGELINA COUNTY OUTPATIENT CLINIC SPOTLIGHTED

For the next several months, Directions will feature one of DETRMHMRS' programs. By this effort, we hope to inform the citizens of the region about the programs of DETRMHMRS.

The Angelina County Outpatient Clinic, located at 302 N. Raguet, Lufkin is currently serving 179 clients. Since opening on October 15, 1974, the Clinic has served a total of 260 clients. The full time staff includes Director Ruby Ward and Virginia Toups, Secretary. The staff is assisted by a strong volunteer program including regular volunteers Mary Nell Taylor, Patsy Weems, Vernon Jones, Dan Chapa and Thelma Mence.



Volunteer Mary Nell Taylor examines the daily schedule.



Clinic Director Ruby Ward and Secretary Virginia Toups survey a folder.

DETRMHMRS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD AT COLDSPRING

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

Action taken by the Board included: consideration of revised application for Title I funds; a report on the Budget Hearing for Fiscal Year 1976; consideration of budgetary expenditures for Fiscal Year 1975; consideration of the establishment of contracts for office furniture and printing services for Fiscal Year 1976 and a discussion of personnel matters.

Mr. G. R. (Bud) McKellar, Commissioner, Precinct I; Judge K. P. Bryant; and Mayor Larry Browder welcomed the Board to San Jacinto County.

Numerous local citizens and Advisory Council members were present. Representing the news media were Martha Charrey, San Jacinto County New-Times and Lynn Dunlap, The Lufkin News. Refreshments were provided by the San Jacinto County Advisory Council.

CERTIFICATES TO BE AWARDED

The DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees at its recent meeting in San Jacinto County, voted to award Certificates of Appreciation to the following individuals and organizations: C. V. Wynn, Wynn Motor Company, Coldspring; San Jacinto County Judge K. P. Bryant; KTRE Television, Lufkin; The Lufkin News, Lufkin; The Lufkin State School; The Groveton News and Youth Center Inc., Livingston.

These certificates were awarded for outstanding contributions to the handicapped citizens of the region. Congratulations and thank you!

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES MOVED

The Administrative offices of DETRMHMRS moved across the street to 106 North First, 303 Angelina Building, in Lufkin. The move was made in order to provide adequate space for current staff and for central administrative staff to be employed September 1. The telephone number will remain the same. The mailing address will become 303 Angelina Building, Lufkin.

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PSYCHIATRIC NURSE EMPLOYED

Mrs. Patricia Walters, R. N., will join the DETRMHMRS Mental Health staff effective August 18, 1975. Mrs. Walters, a native of Killeen, is a 1973 graduate of the University of Texas School of Nursing at Galveston. In her most recent position, she served as head nurse at the psychiatric unit of Memorial Hospital, Lufkin.

Along with preforming general psychiatric nursing duties, Mrs. Walters will serve as the major laison person with regional hospitals contracting for Mental Health Inpatient services.

AUGUST BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD IN TYLER COUNTY

The regular meeting of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees will be held at the Woodville Inn at Woodville on August 14. The agenda includes dinner at 6 p.m. for Board members, staff and local citizens, followed by the regular board meeting at 7 p.m. The public is cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

CLINIC DIRECTOR RESIGNS

Barbara Arnold, Director of the Tyler County Outpatient Clinic recently announced her resignation effective August 7, 1975. Mrs. Arnold and her family are returning to the Houston area. Mrs. Arnold is to be commended for the excellent service she performed in opening and directing the Tyler County Clinic.

LUFKIN WORKSHOP HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

The Lufkin Workshop and Opportunity Center held formal dedication ceremonies marking the completion of new facilities on Sunday, July 20, 1975, at 2 p.m., at the Workshop in Lufkin. Gary Kennedy, Board Chairman acted as Master of Ceremonies, with Mr. Jess Irwin, Commissioner, Texas Rehabilitation Commission serving as the principal speaker for the occasion. The event was well attended by citizens of the region.

STATE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER VISITS REGION

Dr. James Dolby, Deputy Commissioner for Community Services, Texas department of Mental Health Mental Retardation and Mr. James King, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Community Services were recent visitors to the Deep East Texas region. They attended the Board of Trustees Meeting at Coldspring on July 25 and visited various regional programs the next day.

Dr. Dolby praised the DETRMHMRS Board and staff for the excellent progress that had been accomplished during the Services' first year of operation.

MEETING ON FORMATION OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR RETARDED CITIZENS SET

Eldon Ricks of Lufkin, Regional Vice-President for the Texas Association For Retarded Citizens (TARC), has announced a meeting for all regional citizens interested in the formation of local Associations For Retarded Citizens. The meeting is to be held September 6 at the Lufkin Workshop and Opportunity Center, 1305 S. Third Street in Lufkin.

The purpose of this meeting will be to instruct and assist local citizens groups interested in forming associations for retarded citizens.

Mike Bright and Scott Cochran, members of the TARC staff, will conduct the workshop. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. For further information contact the DETRMHMRS office at 713/634-2241 or 303 Angelina Building, Lufkin.

A. R. D. COMMITTEES OPERATIONAL

A new mental retardation service, the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) Committee is currently in operation. The purpose of these committees, composed of a caseworker, clinical psychologist, facility personnel and parents, is to review and evaluate the condition and progress of each client. After the review, the individual goals will be determined and a plan for goals accomplishment designed. The committees then meet with as many parents and guardians as possible to explain the program and seek cooperation in the home. The committees will also determine all admissions to and dismissals from the various MR programs.

The first meeting of an ARD committee was held at the San Jacinto County Developmental Center on July 15. Clients were reviewed and conferences were held with the parents of five clients.

On July 21, 23 clients were reviewed at the Jasper County Developmental Center and the parents of nine clients were available for conferences.

On July 30, the committee met at the Tyler County Developmental Center. Nineteen clients were reviewed including four new individuals. Conferences were held with the parents of eight clients.

On August 6, the committee reviewed 10 clients at the Shelby County Workshop.

The ARD Committee has become a continuing service to the mentally retarded citizens and their parents in the region.

COUNTY COURTS PASS RESOLUTIONS

The Commissioners Courts of Trinity, Tyler, Houston, Polk and Nacogdoches Counties recently passed resolutions in support of DETRMHMRS' programs for Fiscal Year 1976.

Local financial support pledged for Fiscal Year 1976 is as follows: Trinity County, $4,953.00; Tyler County, $7,067.00; Houston County, $6,584.00; Polk County, $9,846.00; and Nacogdoches County, $13,802.00.

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ADVISORY COUNCILS MEET

The San Jacinto County Advisory Council met on July 10, at Browder's Restaurant in Coldspring.

Members present included Chairperson, Charlotte O'Quinn, R.N.; Secretary, Marceline Williams; Elizabeth Fraley; Bessie Sanders, R. N.; Minnie Thomas and Betsy Jackson. DETRMHMRS staff members Alta Patrick and Juanita Hoot also attended.

The council made plans for refreshments and for greeting visitors for the July 24 Board meeting.

Houston County

The Houston County Advisory Council met on August 5, at 1 p.m., in the City Library in Crockett.

Those present included members Carol Moore, Oscar Sanders, Harold Wooten and Ruth Dabney. Also present were Jim Turner and DETRMHMRS staff members Brenda Nichols, Russ Burbank and Si Morrison.

Items for discussion included: location of an office for the area counselor to use one day a week; a report on local programs; a report on regional programs; a discussion concerning the role of local council members and a report of public information activities in the County.

Angelina County

The Angelina County Advisory Council met on August 4 at the DETRMHMRS office in Lufkin.

Members present included Chairman Garland Picou; Secretary, Bernice Harris; Addie Williams and Ina Mae Townsend. Others attending were Pat Cook Baldwin, local volunteer and Judy Osborne of the Texas Department of MHMR Staff. Representing DETRMHMRS staff were Dr. Wayne Lawrence and Si Morrison.

Topics of discussion included the status of the Halfway House for the Mentally Retarded; relocation of the Angelina County Outpatient Clinic; Angelina County participation for Fiscal Year 1976 and reports on local and regional programs.

Nacogdoches County

The Nacogdoches County Advisory Council met on August 7, at 4:30 p.n., at the Nacogdoches County Sheltered Workshop.

Those present included Chairperson, Mrs. Walter Loflin; Mrs. John Anderson; Mrs. Russell Brasher and Mrs. Phil Goodrum. Also attending was Rev. Jerry Self, Trustee for Nacogdoches County.

ADVISORY COUNCILS (Cont.)

The meeting agenda included; discussion of renovation for the Nacogdoches Workshop; County plans for Fiscal Year 1977; introduction of the new workshop director, Allen Micheletti; a report on current local and regional programs and program projection for 1976 and the possibility of United Way funds for 1976.

RADIO PROGRAMS TO CONTINUE

Due to excellent listener response, Radio Station KEEE - KJCS(FM) Nacogdoches, has decided to continue the series of programs on drug abuse and alcoholism. News director Robert Warren Hill will continue as moderator.

Forthcoming features will include: Jon Ed Smith, DETRMHMRS Drug and Alcohol counselor and Maggie, a recovered alcoholic, in a discussion of the female alcoholic and blackouts; Paul Jackson, DETCOG, on the DWI program; Eric Martin, SFASU Alcoholism Instructor, in a discussion of the educational aspects and early identification of alcoholism; Paula Williams and Jon Ed Smith on early identification in high school and decision making in regard to drug usage; and, Eric Martin and Jon Ed Smith in a discussion of alternatives for community programs regarding drug usage.

These programs can be heard at noon Saturdays over KEEE - KJCS(FM) during the month of August.

STAFF MEMBERS ATTEND BUDGET REVIEW

DETRMHMRS staff members, Dr. Wayne Lawrence, Russ Burbank, and Linda Foley attended a Budget Hearing with the Community Services Division of the Texas Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation in Austin on July 22. The staff was complimented on the thoroughness and content of the budget presented for Fiscal Year 1976. The budget was accepted with minor changes recommended in the area of ICF-MR funding.

JASPER COUNTY CENTER ACCEPTS NEW CLIENTS

The Jasper County Developmental Center has recently accepted three new clients; two adults, and one three year old deaf boy. The young boy is already learning sign language and the older clients are learning can washing and general clean-up chores. Recent activities include refinishing furniture and a contract to shell peas. The center is expecting over 40 clients in September.

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