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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

An Equal Opportunity Employer Vol. 2 No. 1 September 11, 1975

SHELBY COUNTY SHELTERED WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHTED

For the next several months, DIRECTIONS will feature one of DETRMHMRS' programs.

The Shelby County Sheltered Workshop, located on Highway 96, south of Center, Texas is currently serving 16 adolescent and adult clients. The staff consists of Director Tom Watkins and Trainer Clem Lathan.

The major contract is the manufacture of turtle pin cushions for Bob Marshall, Honey Grove, Texas. The company supplies the materials and clients cut, assemble and stain the wooden parts and attach a cotton stuffed top. The current contract is for 6,000 units. In addition to this vocational training, the Workshop provides a full array of personal and social adjustment training.



MAKING TURTLES

NEW PROGRAM DIRECTORS

The Nacogdoches County Sheltered Workshop and the Tyler County Outpatient Clinic have new directors.

Mrs. JoAnn Fries was employed as director of the Tyler Clinic on August 8. Mrs. Fries is a 1971 graduate of SFASU.

On July 28, Allen Michelette began as Director of the Nacogdoches County Sheltered Workshop. Mr. Micheletti is a 1974 graduate of SFASU, with a B.S. degree in education. The DETRMHMRS is proud to have these new program directors on the staff.

"DIRECTIONS" CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

This issue of "DIRECTIONS" marks the beginning of the second year of publication. Starting with a circulation of less than 400, it is now approaching the 1,000 mark! We hope that you enjoy reading it as we continue to inform you of the activities of the Services and its friends and supporters.

DETRMHMRS ASSUMES HALFWAY HOUSE

DETRMHMRS now has its first residential living facility. The Shelby County Halfway House, formerly Shelby Halfway House, Inc, Winston Smith, President, is now accepting male alcoholic clients from the DETRMHMRS region.

The purpose of the facility is to provide services that will enable the alcoholic to maintain sobriety and function successfully as a productive member of society. The facility will provide a full array of services including individual and group counseling, social and vocational adjustment, financial and family involvement counseling.

The house is staffed by a House Manager, Relief House Manager, Cook and Counselor. Services of the facility will be available to any qualified applicant from the DETRMHMRS region.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO MEET IN LUFKIN

Lufkin will be the site of the September meeting of the DETRMHMRS' Board of Trustees.

The Board will meet at the Overland Express restaurant.

There will be a "Dutch Treat" dinner at 6 p.m. with the regular Board meeting following at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend.

DETRMHMRS NEW ADDRESS

303 ANGELINA BLDG.
106 N. FIRST STREET
LUFKIN, TEXAS 75901

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ADVISORY COUNCILS MEET

Newton County

The Newton County Advisory Council met at 10 a.m. on August 15 at Newton High School.

Members present were Agnes Martin, Chairperson; James Duncan, Sec. Treasurer and members Thelma Dennard, Gerald Pace and Jack Miller.

DETRMHMRS staff present were Betty Ecker and Charlotte Wolfe. Mr. George Gee, Newton County Board Member, also attended the meeting.

Items of business included a discussion of the fee system; a report on services rendered in the county during the past year and agreement that Mr. Calvin Smith, Sr. should be recommended to fill the council vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Robert Sneed.

Houston County

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

Those present included Ruth Dabney, Vice Chairperson; Oscar Sanders, Secretary-Treasurer; and council members Carol Moore and H. L. Wooten.

Si Morrison and Brenda Nichols represented the DETRMHMRS staff.

Jim Turner, local attorney, also attended.

The group discussed the role of the Advisory Council and what was expected of them and their relationship to the Services.

Brenda Nichols gave a status report on the Houston County Developmental Center and Si Morrison reported on regional programs and future plans. He also reported that a van was due for the Houston County Center in the fall.

Angelina County

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

Members present were Garland Picou, Chairman; Bernice Harris, Secretary; and council members Addie Williams, Ina Mae Townsend and Pat Baldwin. Staff members present included Dr. Wayne Lawrence and Si Morrison.

Also present was Judy Osborne, Communications Specialist with the Texas Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation.

Agenda items included a discussion of the status of a halfway house for the mentally retarded, discussion of a new location for the Angelina County Outpatient Clinic, a report on county and regional programs and a report on future programs for the County and the region.

ADVISORY COUNCILS (Cont.)

Nacogdoches County

The Nacogdoches County Advisory Council met on August 8 at the Nacogdoches County Sheltered Workshop.

Those in attendance were Mrs. Walter Loflin, Chairperson, and Mrs. John Anderson, Mrs. Russell Brasher and Mrs. Phil Goodrum. DETRMHMRS staff present were Jon Smith, Allen Micheletti, Russ Burbank and Si Morrison. Also present was Rev. Jerry Self, Nacogdoches County Board Member.

A report was given on renovations to be done on the Nacogdoches Workshop building and on a token economy program that has been initiated. There was also a discussion of ongoing and future programs in the region.

Polk County

The Polk County Advisory Council met on August 15 at the Polk County Courthouse.

Members in attendance were Peyton Walters, Chairman; Mrs. T. W. Elliot, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Fred Hagemeier, Mrs. Arverta Mosley, Polk County Judge Wayne Baker also attended.

Si Morrison, representing the DETRMHMRS staff presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Youth, Inc., represented by Fred Hagemeier. Youth, Inc. provides the building housing the Polk County Workshop.

Items of discussion included forthcoming renovations to the Workshop building and county and regional programs.

Larry Welker, Workshop Director, reported on workshop activities and exhibited items clients are assembling and packaging under various contracts.

THE SERENITY PRAYER

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things
I cannot change,
Courage to change
The things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference.

ERRATA

The staff has noticed we made an error in the last issue of DIRECTIONS. The last issue should have read Vol. 1 No. 12, rather than Vol. 1 No. 11, which was the July issue.

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NEW EMPLOYEE

The DETRMHMRS staff welcomes the following new employees:

Kirbyville Developmental Center

Sally Navarre, Director
Juanita Huff, Aide

Newton Developmental Center

Janice Smith, Director
Marva Lewis, Aide

Lufkin Developmental Center

Debbie Hill, Director
Dorothy Forsythe, Aide

Shelbyville Developmental Center

Mary Danley, Teacher
Bobbie Boykin, Aide

Administrative Office

Lavetta Henderson, Acct. Clerk II
Joseph Austin, Acct. Clerk I
Linda Brooks, Personnel Clerk
Louise Wooten, Secretary

Mental Retardation Staff

Evelyn Lacey, Teacher Supervisor

Mental Health Staff

Patricia Wolters, Nurse
Robert Vance, Ed.D. Clinical Psychologist

NEW SCHOOL PROGRAMS

As of September 1, DETRMHMRS, through a contractual arrangement assumed responsibility for eight training programs for the mentally retarded. They are Kirbyville, Newton, Lufkin and Shelbyville Developmental Centers, previously sponsored by the Lufkin State School and a program at the Indian Reservation in Polk County, previously sponsored by the Beaumont State Center for Human Development. Also, DETRMHMRS is cooperating with the Excelsior School District in Shelby County for supervision of programs at Center, Tenaha and Timpson.

DETRMHMRS BOARD MEETING HELD IN TYLER COUNTY

The regular monthly meeting of the DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees was held at the Woodville Inn on Thursday August 14 at 7 p.m. Tyler County Judge Tom Mann, Tyler County Board Member, welcomed the Board.

DETRMHMR BOARD MEETING (Cont.)

Local citizens attending the meeting were Rev. Jessie Adams, Marge Esler, Brad Smith, Betty Sue Mann, Don Fries, Mrs. and Mrs. Bob Boykin and Lounell Hays.

Items of business included: a consideration of contract for medical services, approval of vouchers for September and consideration of Certificates of Appreciation. The Board voted to present Certificates of Appreciation to the Tyler County Booster and KVLL Radio, Woodville.

WORKSHOPS BEING RENOVATED

The Sheltered Workshop buildings in Polk, Nacogdoches and Shelby Counties are receiving a face lifting.

The Polk County building is getting major roof repairs, a ceiling is being installed and flourescent lighting and heating improvements are being made.

The Nacogdoches building has a new entry and a covered walkway has been built, a personal and social adjustment training area has been equipped, including a stove and refrigerator for client training. New lighting is being installed and the interior is getting a new coat of paint. Bathrooms are being remodeled and a token store is being built and stocked.

At the Shelby building the storeroom has been floored with concrete and interior walls and ceiling have been added. The bathrooms are being remodeled and additional lighting is being added.

STAFF VISITS TEXOMA

Dr. Wayne Lawrence, Executive Director, and Mrs. Betty Ecker, Director of Mental Health Programs recently visited Texoma Regional MHMR Center with headquarters in Denison, Texas.

They were part of a seven member team selected to review the Center's programs as they compare with the accreditation standards outlined by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH). The reviews are a part of a joint effort by the State's regional centers and the Texas Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation to strengthen community programs for future accreditation by JACH. Similar site visits will be made to all the State's Centers in the near future.

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Please address correspondence to: DIRECTIONS, Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services, 303 Angelina Bldg., 106 N. First St., 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.