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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

An Equal Opportunity Employer | Vol. 3, No. 8 | April 11, 1977

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK . . . .

The coming of spring with the concomitant blossoming of trees, shrubs, and flowers is a beautiful and uplifting experience for most people. The miracles associated with the proliferation of colors can and should inspire each of us to meditate on the plan and purpose of our world and universe, as well as our role in this system. We, of course, should be thankful for our ability to perceive the beauty of spring and to incorporate its inspiration into our lives. This time of year can rejuvenate our spirits and help us to properly arrange our priorities in life. It should also make us mindful of our responsibilities of properly serving our clients. The individuals that take the initiative to seek help and assistance in solving their daily problems are placing a great deal of trust in our agency and employees. We should accept this responsibility seriously and strive to provide the most meaningful assistance possible. Like the blooming of flowers in the spring, we are attempting to help our clients blossom by growing and achieving their maximum individual potential and breaking out of a self defeating spiral of problems and defeats.

Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D.
Executive Director

WELCOME NEWCOMERS

Since the first of March, ten new employees have joined the MHMR staff, and we would like to extend a big welcome to:

SUSAN ELLERT, Community Service Aide II, Hardin County Sheltered Workshop
GEORGIA FLOWERS, Secretary, Hardin County Sheltered Workshop
IKE HARTZELL, Caseworker, MR Offices
HELEN NIEZEK, Unit Supervisor, Hardin County Sheltered Workshop
SCOTT PRICER, Ph.D., Program Director, Outpatient Clinics, Central Adm.
STEVE ROOP, Unit Supervisor, Tyler County Outpatient Clinic
MARK SEVERNS, Community Service Aide III, Nacogdoches County Outpatient Clinic
PAT SMITH, Personnel Clerk, Central Adm.
JOHNNY STOKMAN, Community Service Aide, Angelina County Day Treatment Program
RITA WARREN, Clerk, Angelina County Outpatient Clinic

MARCH BOARD MEETING HELD IN CROCKETT

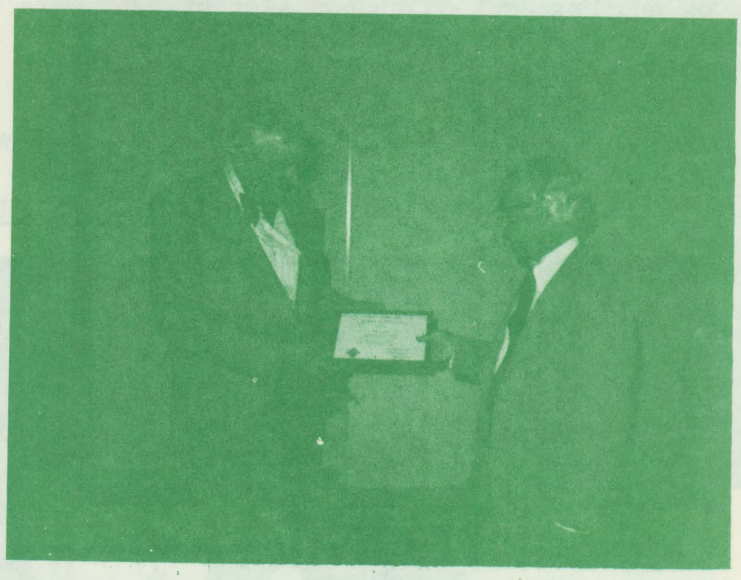
The Board of Trustees of the Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services held its regular monthly meeting at the Crockett Public Library on March 22, 1977, at 5:30 p.m..

Items for consideration by the Budget and Finance Committee included consideration of bids for the Day Treatment/Administration Facility construction project, consideration of Second Quarter FY 1977 Expenditure Report, and consideration of equipment bids for air conditioning units, audio visual equipment, and office equipment.

Items for consideration by the Program Committee included the consideration of proposed Lufkin ISD Alternative School Program, a status report of the Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers, Inc., and consideration of proposed Supervisory Management Training Program.

Items for consideration by the Personnel and Public Education Committee included consideration of Certificate of Appreciation presentation, and consideration of nominees for local advisory councils.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was set for April 26, 1977, at 5:30 p.m. at the San Jacinto Co. Courthouse in Coldspring.



J. B. Sallas, Mayor of Crockett, receives Certificate of Appreciation from Ward R. Burke, Chairman of MHMR Board of Trustees, at March Board Meeting.

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LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

Nine of the eleven local advisory councils met in the past few weeks. A large part of the meeting agenda was: to draw for terms of membership this one time so everyone would not rotate off the councils at the same time; to hear a presentation on the new Genetics Counseling Program given by the Clinic Coordinator, Mrs. Sandi VanWinkle; the appointment of a Volunteer Chairperson on each council who will help recruit and orient volunteers in the local units; and to hear status reports from the Unit Supervisors in each county. The following advisory councils have met with MHMR staff members:

ANGELINA COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 15, at the Angelina Co. Developmental Center. Members present were: Mrs. Pat Baldwin, Acting Chairperson; Mrs. Bernice Harris, Secretary; and Ms. Ina Mae Townsend. Also present was a visitor, Miss Sybil Goldsmith from Wharton.

HOUSTON COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on April 5, in the Crockett Public Library. Members present were Mr. Oscar Sanders, Secretary; and Mr. J. D. Long. Volunteers present were Judy Kirksey and Ann Huff.

Mr. Larry Welker was introduced as Unit Supervisor of the new Sheltered Workshop. The Developmental Center has been phased into this operation, and they will move into the new facility soon.

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 3, at the Sheltered Workshop. Members present were: Mrs. Betty Loflin, Chairperson; Mr. Al Warr; Ms. Sue White; Mrs. Perlene Horton; and Mr. Neill Hays. Also present was Dr. Jerry Self, Board Member, and Mr. Joe Borders.

NEWTON COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 17, at the Outpatient Clinic. Members present were: Mrs. Agnes Martin, Chairperson; Mr. Gerald Pace, Vice-Chairperson; Mr. James Duncan, Secretary; and Mrs. Shirley Clark. Also present was Mr. George Gee, Board Member.

The next meeting was set for April 20.

POLK COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 21, at the Community Counseling Center. Members present were: Mr. Ike Cox and Mr. Jack Calhoun. Also present were Mrs. Donna Sack, Mrs. Helen Malone, and Mrs. Gwen Ray.

SAN JACINTO COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 21, at the Developmental Center. Members present were: Mrs. Bessie Sanders, Chairperson; Mrs. Minnie M. Thomas, Vice-Chairperson; Mrs. Chlorine Scott, Assistant Secretary; Ms. Betsy Jackson; Mrs. Kathryn Crumley; and Dr. George Atkinson. Also present was Judge K. P. Bryant.

SHELBY COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on April 12, at the Shelby County Halfway House. Members present were: Mr. Bobby Collins, Chairperson; Mr. Marcellus White; Mrs. Billie Allen; Mr. Doyle Watson; Mr. John D. Windham; and Rev. George Helton.

TRINITY COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on March 8, at the Outpatient Clinic. Members present were: Mrs. Anna Pfleger, Chairperson; Mrs. Janis Bergman, Vice-Chairperson; Mrs. Ina Callahan, Secretary; Rev. Everett McCollum; Mrs. Malcom Barnes; Mrs. Oma Bush; and Mrs. Thelma Pegoda.

TYLER COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Met on February 16, at the Outpatient Clinic. Members present were: Mr. Bob Boykin, Chairperson; Mr. Carl Jones; Mrs. Hazel Jackson; Mrs. Janie Boykin; Rev. Shannon Arrington; Mr. Brad Smith; and Mr. Sam Sullivan. Also present was Board Member, Judge Allen Sturrock, and visitors Mrs. H. Parks, Mr. Milton Parks, and Mr. Jeral Bateman.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented posthumously to the families of Mr. H. Parks and Mrs. Betty Bateman for their contributions to and support of MHMR programs.

HARDIN COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL will meet on April 21, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hardin County Courthouse.

JASPER COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL will meet in late April or May at the Jasper County CCC.

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NEW UNIT SUPERVISOR AT SHELBY CO. HALFWAY HOUSE



David Smith is the new Unit Supervisor at the Shelby Co. Halfway House in Center, and began his new duties on March 1.

Prior to this position, he was employed as Coordinator of Rusk State Hospital's Aftercare Program.

Many will remember David when he was an Alcoholism Counselor at the Polk County Community Counseling Center for several months before employment with Rusk State Hospital.

Welcome, David--glad you're back!

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U N I T H A P P E N I N G S

Houston County Developmental Center clients display ribbons won at the Special Olympics Track and Field Meet in Brenham.



HOUSTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

Eight clients at the Houston County Developmental Center attended the District Speical Olympic Track and Field Meet at Brenham on March 9. They competed in the 25-yard dash and baseball throwing, and won 3 first place ribbons, 2 second place ribbons, and 2 third place ribbons. Participants in the District Meet were: Ammonia Fobbs, Sheila Cunningham, Debbie Reynen, Dorothy Lewis, Bernadine Harper, Albert Martin, Jack Washington, and Johnny Driskell.

JASPER CO. DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER AND JASPER-NEWTON SHELTERED WORKSHOP

The Jasper Co. Developmental Center and Jasper-Newton Sheltered Workshop welcomed over 100 guests at the Open House held on March 17. Tours of the facility were conducted by the staff, and ladies from the Episcopal Church provided the refreshments. This was a very successful occasion thanks to the Workshop clients who spent two weeks, late hours and Saturdays of hard work getting ready for the Open House.

Developmental Center clients took a field trip and toured the Sno-Ball stand in March. They were shown how Sno-Balls are made and were each treated to one. They also had a write-up and picture in the JASPER NEWSBOY.

Clients of the Developmental Center and Sheltered Workshop attended the Special Olympics sponsored by Region V in Beaumont on March 30. Many ribbons were won and a good time was had by all.

NEWTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

The Newton Co. Developmental Center staff celebrated St. Patrick's Day by attending the Open House at the Jasper-Newton Sheltered Workshop in March.

Recently, five clients traveled to Lufkin for therapy at the Wilson McKewen Treatment Center. They also enjoyed a stop for lunch at McDONALDS.

Clients and staff enjoyed a fun day at the Golden Triangle Special Olympics in Beaumont on March 30. Participants brought home first and second place ribbons in the boys and girls 25-yard dash and 50-yard dash, 2 third place ribbons in the boys 25- and 50-yard dash, and 2 first place ribbons in the girls softball throw.

* *

SCOTT PRICER, PH.D., NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Pricer was recently appointed as the Director of Outpatient Clinics. He began his duties on April 1, 1977, and his office is located at Central Administration in Lufkin. As a Program Director, he is responsible for the supervision of the five outpatient clinics in the 13-county region.

Dr. Pricer graduated from the West Orange High School, received his B.S. from Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon, his Master's degree in counseling from Indiana State University in Terre Haute, and his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

Prior to his employment with MHMR, Dr. Pricer spent the last four years as Director of the Counseling and Testing Center at the Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky.

Dr. Pricer and his wife, Karen, and their two children, Julie 11 and Todd 7, plan to make their home in Lufkin



Please address correspondence to: DIRECTIONS, Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services, 303 Angelina Bldg. Lufkin, TX 75901.

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