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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairmen: State Advisory Committee
Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee
Mental Health Advisory Committee

FROM: Charles R. Morris
Secretary

SUBJECT: Institutionalization/Deinstitutionalization

One of the major goals of the department is the development and implementation of a plan to provide community care and treatment to selected groups of clients currently being cared for in state institutions. Several steps will be necessary to accomplishing this goal. Initially, the department will have to determine the kinds of clients who can benefit from programs carried on at the community level and those community programs needed to serve deinstitutionalized clients. In order to accomplish this, I have designated several department staff to devote full time to gathering needed data and preparing implementation plans for deinstitutionalization related to the developmentally disabled, mentally ill, and juvenile delinquents. I am attaching a copy of the project work plan for your information.

X In implementing the work plan, it will be important for project staff to have not only the benefit of the knowledge of other staff members of the department, but it is also imperative that they have an opportunity to discuss the material which they are developing with community leaders and community agencies. I would like to secure input from you and your committees particularly with reference to the criteria developed for deinstitutionalization. Ralph Littlestone, Director, Planning and Research Division, and Cheri Gonyaw, Executive Assistant, will be in touch with you in the near future to set up a time to brief you on the project in more detail. Subsequent to this, project staff will be seeking your assistance and input.

Attachment

POLICY STATEMENT

INSTITUTIONALIZATION/DEINSTITUTIONALIZATION

DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED, MENTALLY ILL, AND JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

See this legislation

The State of Washington has for many years operated sizable institutional programs for the developmentally disabled, mentally ill, and juvenile delinquents. In recent years, there has been a good deal of discussion as to the establishment of community-based treatment programs for some of those currently institutionalized and smaller, regional institutional facilities for others. In a beginning attempt to evaluate some forms of community-based treatment and care, the legislature, in cooperation with the department, enacted Juvenile Probation/Subsidy, Adult Probation Subsidy, Mental Health Commitment Act, and several pieces of legislation having to do with work-release programs. Although these are considered to be fairly effective programs, they impact only upon a small segment of those in danger of being or actually institutionalized and represent a piecemeal approach to what is becoming a major issue throughout the United States--institutionalization/deinstitutionalization. The Department of Social and Health Services working from the assumption that clients whom it serves in institutions throughout the State can benefit from a variety of different kinds of treatment and care is undertaking long-range planning to assess the feasibility of decentralizing some functions currently carried out in institutional settings.

ISSUES

Several major issues need to be addressed in considering institutionalization/deinstitutionalization:

1. A primary issue is whether the goal of placing an individual in a contained setting is to protect society or, whenever possible, to resocialize the individual so that he can re-enter the community.
2. The second issue is whether or not institutionalized clients can benefit more from other types of treatment and care.
3. The third issue relates to the ability of the department to assist in the development of community-based care and treatment programs which meet both geographic (urban and rural) and client needs.
4. The final issue is whether or not the cost/benefits of decentralized institution programs will be sufficient to warrant development of new facilities and methods of treatment.

WORK PLAN

In order to assess these issues, various department divisions will be involved in implementing the following work plan:

PHASE I - January 14, 1974

Current Situation - Institutional

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
1. Current population trends by program area and facility, including definition of data requirements	Planning & Research	1/25/74
a. Comparative data		
b. Types (presenting problems)		
c. Average length of stay		
d. Recidivism Rate		
2. Criteria for discharge by program area and facility (if variations exist).	Community Services	1/25/74
3. Impact of juvenile probation subsidy on institutional programs.	Community Services	1/25/74
4. Projected impact of mental health commitment law	Community Services	1/25/74

Current Situation -- Community & Department Services

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
1. Delineation of available community service programs by program area and type.	Community Services & Planning and Research	1/31/74
a. Client capacity		
b. Current rate of utilization (including waiting lists)		

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
c. Geographic distribution		
d. Average Length of utilization		
e. Average per client cost		
1) Weekly, daily, or monthly rate		
2) Average utilization cost		
2. Delineation of available department service programs by program area and type, e.g., foster care, group home, casework	Community Services & Planning and Research	1/31/74
a. Client service capacity		
b. Current rate of utilization		
c. Distribution by region		
d. Average length of service utilization		
e. Average per client cost by program type		

PHASE II

Planning -- Institutional Programs

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
1. Development of criteria to determine which institutionalized clients can benefit from community-based <u>treatment</u> .	Community Services	2/1/74

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
2. Development of criteria to determine which institutionalized clients will be placed in community-based care (contained setting).	Community Services	2/1/74
3. Impact of implementation of "1" and "2" above as related to population trends.	Planning and Research	2/8/74

Planning -- Community Programs & Department Services & Facilities

<u>Task</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date Due</u>
1. Assessment of the kinds of community programs & department services & facilities which will have to be developed to meet the decentralization of the functions of large institutions.	Community Services & Planning and Research	2/22/74
2. Development of a two year plan to decentralize institutional functions.	Community Services & Planning and Research	2/22/74
3. Assessment of the fiscal impact of the decentralization plan.	Administrative Services & Planning and Research	3/1/74
4. Availability of funds to meet fiscal impact.	Administrative Services	3/8/74
5. Comparative analysis of costs of <u>maintaining</u> a community treatment and care program and an institutional program.	Planning and Research	3/22/74