Introduction

The State of Washington has made great strides in reducing the number of persons unnecessarily institutionalized by placing them in freer, more independent community situations. As attachment #1 points out, the population which was 4,225 in 1968 has been reduced to 2,900 as of the end of February.

The figures used to establish the funding for this project, that is, the institutional population in 1971, of 3,386, has now been reduced by close to 500 persons. Within the specific institutions there has been a reduction in the population, which is greater than the general drop in population. For instance, the population at Fircrest School has been reduced by almost one-half and by more than a half if one omits the relatively new and autonomous Half-Way House.

Recently the Frances Haddon Morgan Children's Center, a facility for 50 retarded disturbed pre-adolescent children, formerly housed in larger institutions, has been established. A special unit for the severely retarded, blind child has been established at the State School for the Blind, and within the period we are talking about, some four years ago, a new facility for the most profoundly retarded nonambulatory persons has been established at Interlake School.

The Group Home Program (as detailed on the accompanying charts - see attachment #2) has, in the space of three years, risen from zero to serving 500 people, and the expectation is that another 400 people will be placed in the next 22 years. Concurrent with this population decrement, there have been some physical changes in the institutions. At Fircrest School, the change has been most noticeable. Recently built living units are designed on the basis of six person cottages so that the situation slowly resembles the normal home environment.

Many serious problems of institutionalization still exist, but this goal has been pushed for some years and is probably further toward solution that most other states. The greatest need, then, at this time, is the acceleration of the specific solutions, making the institutions smaller and less crowded, the abolition of the use of working residents, the further movement in the large institutions such as Rainier School and Lakeland Village toward a more desirable private and humane environment.

A further need is the clarification of state laws and procedures that impinge on the rights of the individual, especially as they pertain to placement in an institution and continued incarceration.

Objectives

The objectives of this project shall be:

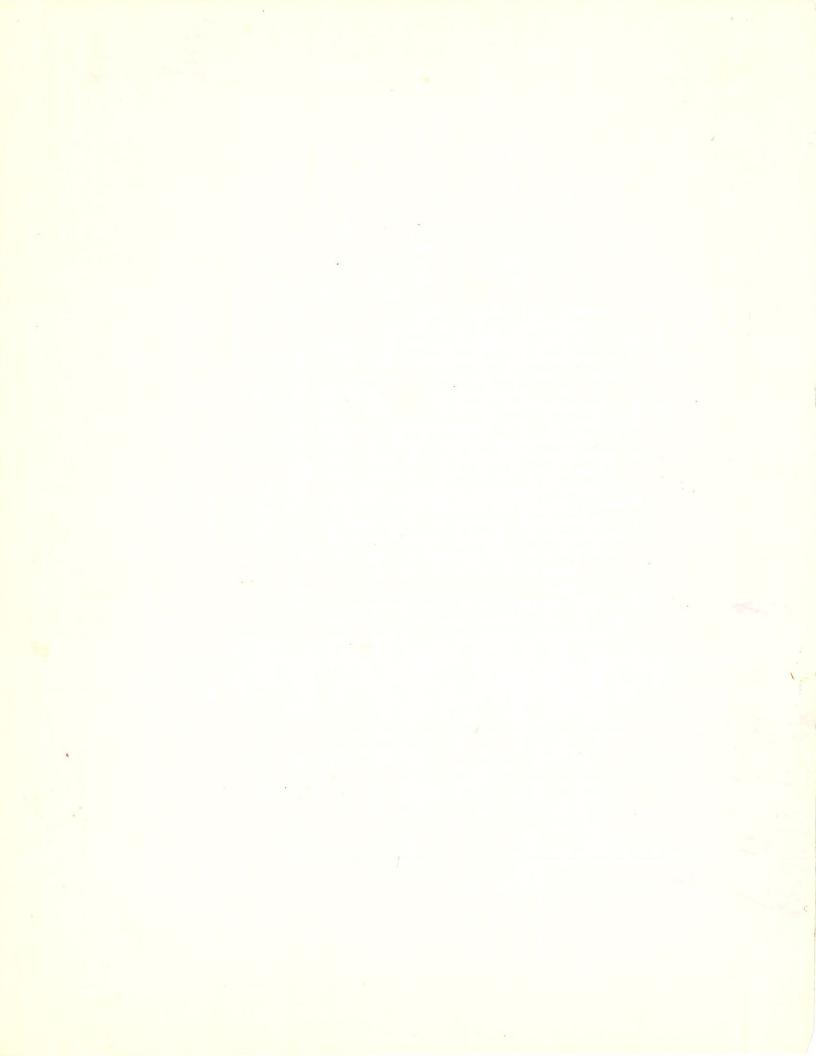
Identifying substandard aspects of the institutions's facilities and programs; Identifying resources presently and potentially available for improving 2.

conditions within the institution;

- 3. Devising a plan which will lead to the achievement of accreditation standards within a specified time period;
- 4. Incorporation of the project plan into the State Developmental Disabilities Plan to provide a combined plan in which the priorities of both parts have been coordinated.

The specific aims shall be:

- 1. To develop a concise statement which details the present deficiencies of our system, both in terms of a physical and programmatic aspects. This statement to be a joint effort of those state agencies involved.
- 2. Establish short-range and immediate solutions to these deficiencies.



1 Talk of Cecile about Deinst plan of ODD and impact on (3) Mail out to new members material.

(3) Coordinate + droft grant.

(4) W/ Cecile shift funds + Move out

(5) Mail Copy of ODD Deinst proposal

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(1) Ketterhend + gewel.

(2) Staff organistation

(3) T.C. Wife * Cecile