



DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MHMR SERVICES

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LUFKIN, TEXAS 75901

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Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D., Executive Director

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

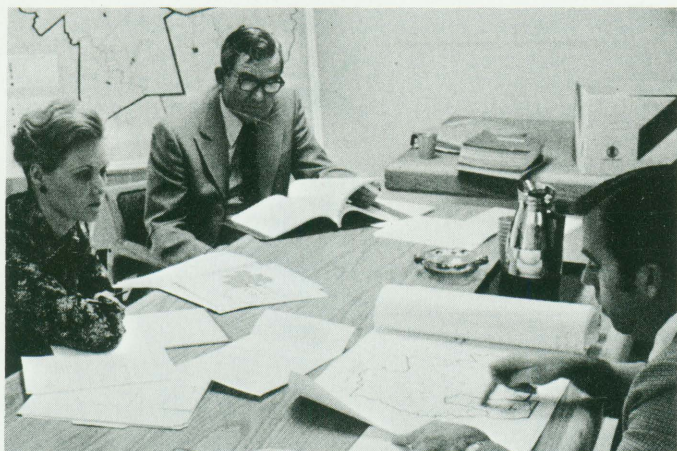
May, 1978

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mrs. Nancy Carter Speck of Nacogdoches has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services by the Nacogdoches County Commissioner's Court. Mrs. Speck is representing Nacogdoches County on the nine member Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Speck is a resident of Nacogdoches County. She is married to Arthur L. Speck, M.D., and has two children, Arthur, Jr. and Virginia. She has a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, M.Ed. from Temple University and will complete her Ph.D. in August, 1978, from Texas Woman's University. Mrs. Speck currently is involved in research on Gifted Child Education.

Mrs. Speck is active in many civic and professional organizations: Council for Exceptional Children, Piaget Society, Piney Woods Association for Retarded Children, Nacogdoches Housing Authority Board of Directors, Lamplighters, Inc. Board, Christ Episcopal Church, Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce and is District Governor, Beautify Texas Council.



Mrs. Speck and Mr. V.B. Woods, Board member from Trinity County, look on as Dr. Wayne Lawrence discusses regional concept.

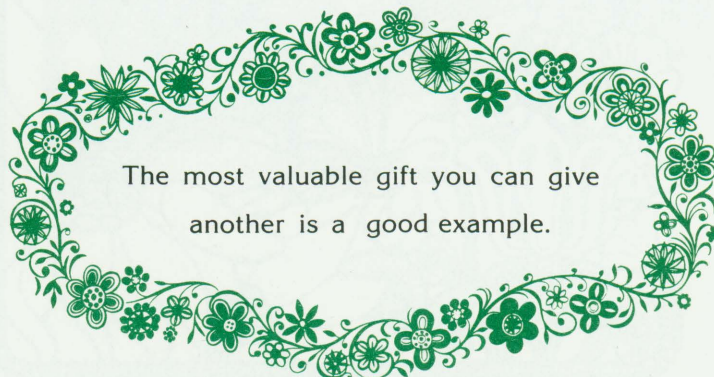
MHMR PILOTS AFTERCARE PROJECT

The Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services (MHMR) has been awarded \$51,978 to pilot an Aftercare Program. The pilot is the result of the recently passed Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation's Commissioner's Rule on Aftercare.

The Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services is one of three centers throughout the State of Texas chosen for this pilot. The other two MHMR Centers chosen were Harris County and Heart of Texas located in Waco.

The pilot will focus on two major areas: Aftercare and Prescreening. The Aftercare Program will insure that any individual that leaves a state mental hospital such as Rusk State Hospital or a state school for the mentally retarded such as Lufkin State School, that person will be provided MHMR service immediately upon release.

The other aspect of the pilot is prescreening. This part of the program requires that all voluntary admissions to Rusk State Hospital and all admissions to Lufkin State School from the Deep East Texas Region must first be screened and evaluated by MHMR staff at the community level. This prescreening process will assist in determining the best treatment approach for the individual. In many instances, the prescreening assessment will indicate that the person does not need to enter a state institution, but rather can be treated in a less restrictive environment at the community level.



TOLL FREE CRISIS LINE—1-800-392-8343

from the **Director's Desk**

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BANQUET

On Thursday, May 4, 1978, MHMR held its first Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet. This function, which was held in order to recognize our volunteers, was attended by approximately 200 people. Ms. Nancy Barker, Chief of Volunteer Services, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, provided the address for this event. In her remarks, she thanked the volunteers for their continued support of MHMR and emphasized the necessity of involvement of local citizens for the success of these types of programs. A total of 17 volunteers received awards including certificates of recognition and pins for providing volunteer services in excess of 100 hours.

This function, which was co-sponsored by the MHMR Regional Volunteer Services Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees, was a tremendous success due to the involvement of many people. Numerous staff and many of our regular volunteers worked diligently to make this event a success.

I would once again like to say a special "thank you" to all our volunteers, and encourage any interested reader who feels so inclined to make application to become a registered volunteer of this Center by contacting Mrs. Gwen Cunningham, MHMR Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 4101 South Medford Drive, Lufkin, telephone 713/634-8241.



VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Jack Calhoun from Polk County is the Volunteer of the Month of May. He received a Volunteer Services pin and bar for 2,000 hours at the Volunteer Recognition Banquet on May 4th, thereby recognizing him as the MHMR Volunteer with the most hours. These hours were donated prior to September, 1977.

Mr. Calhoun was recruited in the fall of 1975 to get the Polk County Sheltered Workshop "off the ground." He agreed to take on this project temporarily, and ended up staying until July of 1976. During this time that he was MHMR staff, he secured the Workshop building from the City of Livingston, and was responsible for a major part of the renovation, which included repairing the roof, installing bathrooms, and making the building "operable." He worked tirelessly to secure contracts for the Workshop clients. While Jack was Director of the Workshop, his wife, Kip, donated many volunteer hours. She also received a pin at the Banquet on May 4th.

In July of 1976 Mr. Calhoun resigned from our staff. He then resumed his membership on the Polk County Advisory Council and has been a member of the Regional Volunteer Services Advisory Committee since its inception. He continues to serve as the Chairman of this committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Calhoun are loyal MHMR volunteers, and their contributions to our Center are sincerely appreciated.



Mr. Jack Calhoun, Volunteer of the Month, relaxes at recent Polk County Advisory Council meeting.



JASPER DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

During April four parents have each volunteered their services one morning each week. This has enabled staff to give much more one-to-one time with each client. Each mother has really done a great job and has helped immensely. Mothers volunteering were: Sherry Nichols, Dorothy Maxie, Bobbie Newman and Jackie Jansen. We are planning on putting up our new slide and monkey bars soon. Along with our swings and sand boxes, we'll have a great play area out under the hickory nut tree.

SAN JACINTO CENTER

San Jacinto County Developmental Center is still making progress. Two new clients were added to the roll. These clients come to us from Polk County making a total of 10 in the Developmental Center.

In March, we were invited to participate in the Special Olympics. We entered 3 clients in the Softball Throw and the 25-Meter Dash. Tommy Coward won first and second place ribbons and Bernice Glover won second and third place ribbons. These girls will go to Austin, May 24th thru the 26th, to compete in the State Track Meet.

NEWTON COUNTY CENTER

April has been a busy month for clients at the Newton Developmental Center. April 11th we traveled to Beaumont to participate in the Special Olympics. We brought back 10 first place ribbons, 6 second place ribbons and 4 fourth place ribbons. An added treat for the day was a stop at McDonald's. On April 26th we participated in a program at the Newton Junior High School honoring all those who went to the olympics.



Workshop clients begin clean-up around housing sites.

WORKSHOP CLIENTS HELP IN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The Jasper-Newton Sheltered Workshop, a program of Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services, has been awarded a contract by the City of Brownell, Texas, to assist in the beautification of a housing project. The City of Brownell, a rural community in Jasper County, received a Community Development Block Grant from H.U.D. in the amount of \$250,000. This money is to be used for housing rehabilitation and water lines.

An important portion of the project is the beautification of the housing project. The Mayor of Brownell has awarded a \$2,240 contract to the clients of the Jasper-Newton Sheltered Workshop to beautify twenty (20) homesites. The work to be accomplished by the clients will include the orderly pick-up and disposal of trash, raking of leaves, general yard maintenance, planting and manicuring of plants and trees and the removal of junk cars from the area.

The Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services currently operates six sheltered workshops and contracts with a seventh. Each of these workshops can provide a variety of services to the general public on a contractual basis at a reasonable cost.



Workshop staff discuss project with Brownell City Councilman (1st left) and Maintenance Superintendent (2nd left).



WELCOME NEW STAFF

The following individuals have joined the Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services' staff since our last issue of "Directions."

HELEN ANDERSON, Board Secretary, Central Administration.

MARY LINDA DECKER, Community Service Aide III, Jasper County OPC.

GARY FLENOY, Community Service Aide III, Nacogdoches County OPC.

IRIS LANG, Clerk I, Business Division.

JULIA WHITE, Aftercare Worker, Prescreening and Aftercare-MH.

WELLS WRIGHT, Systems Analyst, Business Division.



Tom Watkins (left) receives a plaque of appreciation from clients of the Shelby County Sheltered Workshop. Tom has been Unit Supervisor at the workshop since December 16, 1974. He is leaving in May to accept a position in private industry. Good luck, Tom!

BETTY ECKER LEAVES MHMR

Betty Ecker, Director Program Evaluation and Planning Division, has resigned effective May 31, 1978.

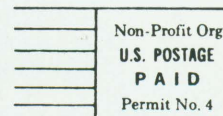
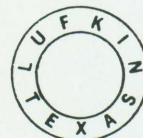
Betty has decided to pursue her education in Hospital/Health Delivery Administration. She is undecided about which university she will attend to work on her Masters degree.

Betty has been with MHMR for over three years. She initially was Division Director for the Mental Health Division. A little over a year ago she assumed her present position as Director, Program Evaluation and Planning.

Betty has been actively involved in the programs of MHMR and will be missed. The staff wishes her the best of luck in her future undertakings.



When you ask from a stranger that which is of interest only to yourself, always enclose a stamp . . .
Abraham Lincoln



Please address correspondence to: DIRECTIONS, Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services, 4101 S. Medford Drive, Lufkin, TX 75901.

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.