



DIRECTIONS

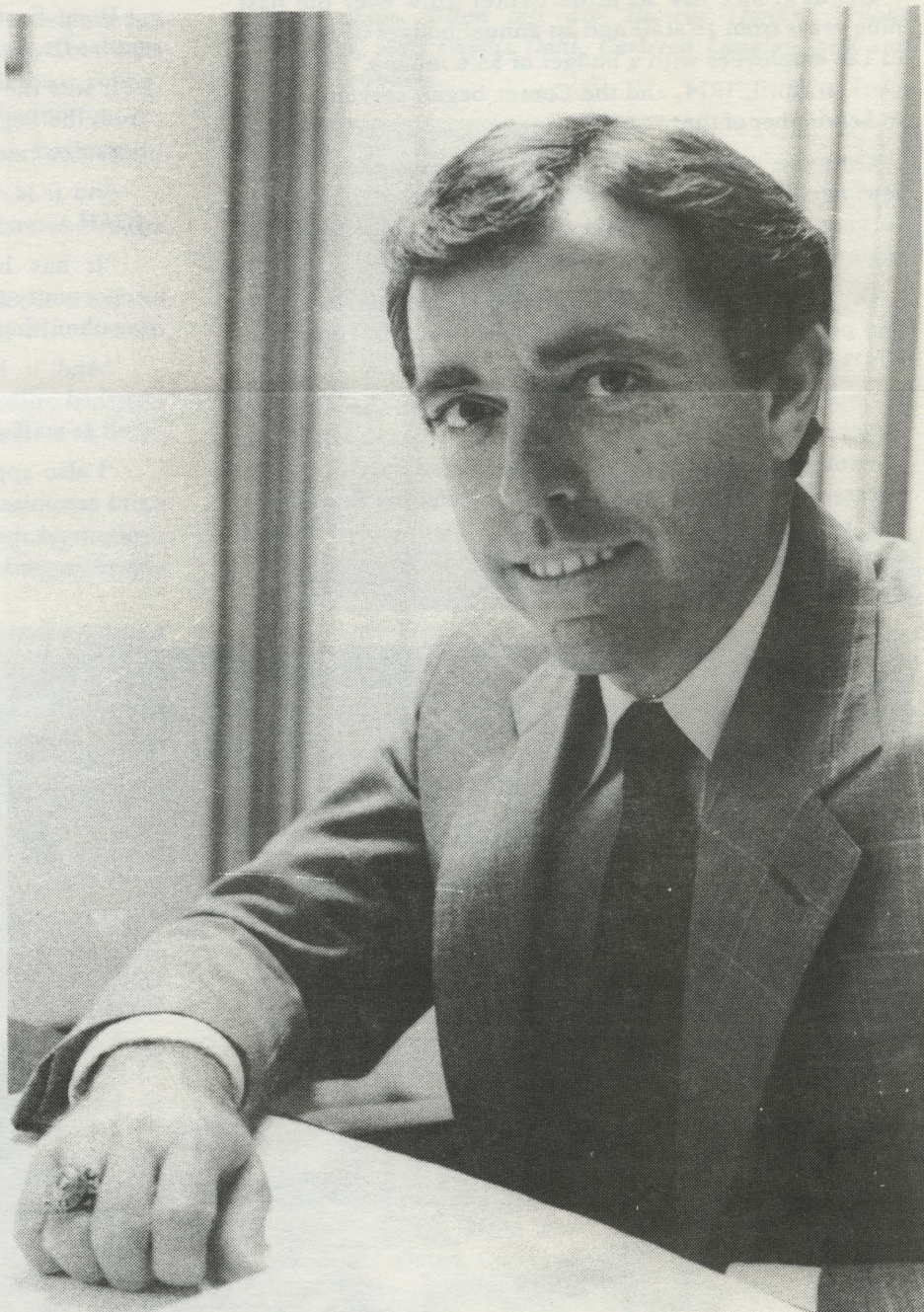
DEEP EAST
TEXAS REGIONAL
MHMR SERVICES

Vol. 9, No. 4

Accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals

Summer Issue, 1983

**Founding
Executive
Director
Leaves Post**



Executive Director Honored at His Departure

Founding Executive Director of Deep East Texas MHMR Services, Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D., resigned his post recently to enter private business in Longview.

Dr. Lawrence has seen the Center grow over the past nine years from 15 staff and an annual budget of \$650,000 to 125 employees with a budget of \$3.6 million. He began work in April, 1974, and the Center began serving clients in September of that year.

Over the years, services have been expanded from a few, small outreach centers operated by state institutions serving about 1,000 clients per year, to the current 36 regional programs, serving over 5,000 annually.

Dr. Lawrence is leaving MHMR to become co-owner and president of Health Technologies, Inc., in Longview. His resignation was effective July 31, 1983.

"Speaking on behalf of the Board and as one who has followed Dr. Lawrence's career over the years, I would like to express our gratitude for his dedicated service to the clients of our Center, and to wish him and his fine family the very best in their new life," commented Board Chairman V.B. Woods.

"It has been a pleasure to work with Dr. Lawrence, and we will miss him greatly," Mr. Woods continued. "He has established a fine organization at MHMR which will carry on in his absence and provide the basis for quality services for years to come.

"I am convinced, as a result of my association and contact with others that, out of the 31 community centers in Texas, ours ranks within the top three or four in management and organization.

"And, Dr. Lawrence will be particularly missed by the county judges and commissioners courts in the region with whom he has been in a close and cooperative relationship over the years."

Mr. Woods added that he was particularly proud that Deep East Texas MHMR is one of only two centers in the state to have achieved accreditation from the prestigious Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH).

Deep East Texas MHMR has been a leading Center under Dr. Lawrence's leadership.

It was the first Center organized on the regional basis from the beginning. It was the first to have an active and organized volunteer program.

And it is only one of two Centers in the state to have JCAH accreditation.

"It has been a pleasure for me to have had the opportunity to serve in this capacity," Dr. Lawrence said in submitting his resignation.

"And it has been particularly pleasurable to have worked with such a dedicated and concerned board, as well as staff and volunteers.

"I also appreciate the support of the 13 county judges and commissioners' courts over the past nine years, and commend them for their interest in helping the mentally handicapped citizens of this region."



Outgoing Executive Director Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D., and wife, Patsy, were presented an engraved silver tray by Deep East Texas MHMR Board Chairman V.B. Woods in appreciation of the nine years of service to MHMR by the Lawrences. The presentation was made at farewell dinner at the country home of Dr. Nancy Speck, Treasurer of the MHMR Board.

Summer Week at Camp Leander

Forty-nine clients and 13 staff members from Deep East Texas MHMR spent a week this summer at the Leander Rehabilitation Center in the beautiful Texas Hill Country northwest of Austin.

"It was a very strenuous and demanding week, but it was very fulfilling for clients and staff," reported Larry Heaton, Mental Retardation Program Director who annually organizes the delegation from Deep East Texas.

Staff begin the day around 5:30 a.m. when they start preparing the first of the three meals they will serve each day. They then end the day around 10:00 p.m. when they see that each client is safely in bed.

Mr. Heaton said every effort is made to provide a full day of activities and involvement for all clients. They take part in horseback riding, swimming, paddle-boat riding, fishing, volleyball, softball, tether ball, and badminton.

They also are entertained by magic, puppet, and talent shows, and have a dance almost every night.

Their recreational pursuits also include arts and crafts work.

"I think our participation in Camp Leander is a tribute to the quality and dedication of our staff," Mr. Heaton added.

He said that the money for client fees at camp are raised in the local community from family members, and other interested persons and organizations.

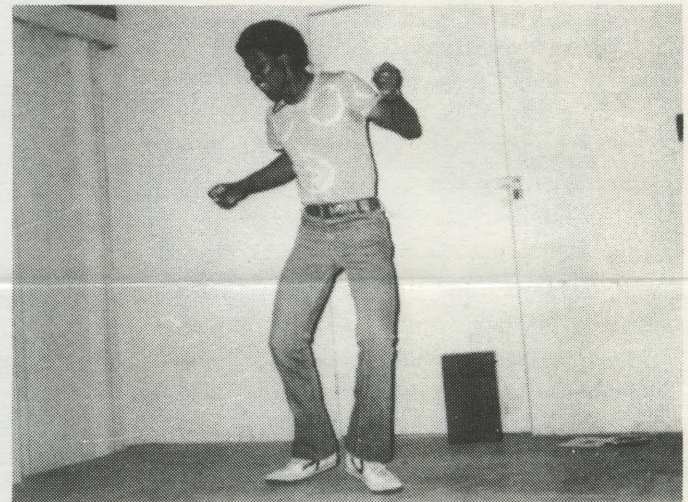
"The popularity of camp among clients is attested to by the fact that clients look forward all year to going back to camp in the summer. It is a high point in the year for them."



Honored recently by the Board of Trustees of Deep East Texas MHMR Services is Nacogdoches Mayor A.L. Mangham, Jr. Mayor Mangham was presented a certificate of appreciation for his dedicated service as a member of the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. At the presentation ceremony were, from left, MHMR Board Treasurer Nancy C. Speck, Ph.D., Mayor Mangham, MHMR Executive Director Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D., and MHMR Board Chairman V.B. Woods.



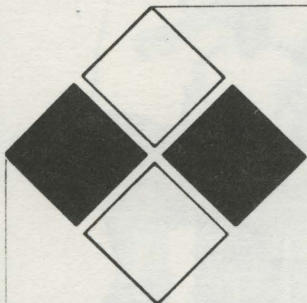
We're always blowing bubbles, or so the song goes. Clients and staff present their rendition at this summer's talent show. From left are Darwin Hanks, William Crowson, staff Phyllis Dahl, Carleton Langley, and staff Mike McCulley.



Kennedy Harold shows his fancy steps as his talent presentation during this summer's trip to Camp Leander.



Lion Doyle Pittmon of the Breakfast Club recently passed along his March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon grand prize, a Zenith video disc player, to the residents of the Nacogdoches County Halfway House. At the presentation were, from left, Deep East Texas MHMR Director of Volunteers Gwen Cunningham, Mr. Pittmon, Halfway House Director Nancy Jones, and John Phillips, Lions Club immediate past president.



DIRECTIONS

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Wayne Lawrence, PH.D., Executive Director
Joe McCulley, Editor

A product of the Consultation and Education Services Program.

Employees of the Quarter

Two employees were honored recently as Employees-of-the-Quarter at Deep East Texas MHMR Services, announces Sandy Skelton, center, Deputy Director for Client Services.

Left is Clem Lathan, MHMR Service Assistant and Trainer at the Shelby County Sheltered Workshop in Center. She is supervised by Benny Russell and joined MHMR, January 2, 1975.

Right is Sherry Hawthorne, Case-worker III and Social Worker at the Nacogdoches County Outpatient Clinic in Nacogdoches. She is supervised by Jo Bray and joined MHMR, January 5, 1981.

The presentations were made at a recent staff development meeting in Lufkin.



CLIENTS RIGHTS

Any client or representative of a client is invited to submit questions or complaints regarding services to the Public Responsibility Committee, P.O. Box 935 Lufkin, TX. 75901. This committee is independent and impartial. No members are employees of this center.

Toll Free Crisis Line

1-800-392-8343