



Futurity

Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

February 1991

Court Victory Declared in New Mexico

The Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia (PILCOP) recently announced, "In the final hour of the last work day of last year, in Albuquerque, the Honorable James A. Parker of the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico filed the opinion and order in *Jackson v. Fort Stanton Hospital and Training School and Los Lunas Hospital and Training School*." The federal court order required community placement and services for more than one hundred persons with developmental disabilities and set in motion a three-month planning process to yield community placements for hundreds more. "This marked the end of three years of hard fought litigation, the end of the last best defense of 'improved institutions,' and the beginning of a new era for New Mexicans with developmental disabilities," PILCOP reported.

Central facts to the 175 pages of findings and legal analysis included:

- o Placement in the institutions often results because the state has not made appropriate alternatives available.
- o Residents are not recommended for community placement, not because their individual needs require institutionalization or because community placement is inappropriate, but rather because community programs are not available in New Mexico for persons who have challenging behavior, physical handicaps, or special medical needs.
- o The services recommended by professional judgment cannot be delivered because New Mexico lacks the essential components of an effective community service system: case management, training and technical assistance by the state to private service providers, and mechanisms to assure accountability and quality assurance. No systematic community placement process exists; the state exercises no control over the process by which institutional residents are accepted for community placement.


Judge Parker concluded that New Mexico's failure to provide

Continued on page 2

Share a Wilderness

Adventure--At No Cost

Wilderness Inquiry has received a three-year grant from the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education to conduct training and research on "Integration through Adventure." In cooperation with the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living, a variety of workshops and outdoor adventures will be scheduled for people with disabilities and for nondisabled persons. Participants who are selected for this study may be involved for possibly up to three years. Responsibilities will include interviewing, completing questionnaires, being available for area workshops, and participating in up to two extended, outdoor adventures annually. Contact: Wilderness Inquiry, 1313 Fifth Street, SE, Box 84, Minneapolis, MN 55414. 612/379-3858 (voice or TDD), or 1-800/728-0719, toll-free.



Inside This Issue...

*Federal initiatives
announced to eradicate
lead poisoning.*

Contributions Requested: Integration of Older Persons

The New York Community Integration Project in Aging and Developmental Disabilities recently received a federal grant from the administrations on Aging and Developmental Disabilities to develop and disseminate materials for the integration of older persons with developmental disabilities. Case study monographs are being requested from local providers for publication in a series of monographs, such as how people have used adult day care, nutrition sites, housing, and social services.

A manual is now available: *The Wit to Win: How to Integrate Older Persons with Developmental Disabilities into Community Aging Programs*. In addition, a "how to" guide is being prepared about planning, networking, and service/program development.
Contact: Matthew P. Janicki,
Director, Community Integration
Project in Aging and Developmental
Disabilities, c/o NYS OMRDD, 44
Holland Avenue, Albany, NY
12229-0001. 518/473-7855.

Federal Plan Announced to Eradicate Lead Poisoning

It was twenty years ago that Congress declared lead-based paint a health hazard and ordered it stripped from federally subsidized housing. Ten years ago, the use of all lead paint was banned nationwide. Yet, federal officials admit that lead paint still remains in millions of American homes and is the major cause of lead poisoning in children.

Lead is a toxic substance, and if ingested, can impair neurological development resulting in cognitive and learning disabilities including mental retardation. Evidence now shows that the inhalation of the paint dust is even more hazardous. Despite federal action taken years ago to eliminate lead paint, a report released in December indicated that lead paint can still be found in 900,000 units of public housing and 57 million homes.

On December 14, 1990, the Department of Housing and Urban Development released a plan to eliminate lead paint in American households. The report is one of three which will comprise a comprehensive federal plan to combat lead poisoning. In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Health and Human Services will be proposing new regulations limiting lead levels in drinking water, lead-based plumbing fixtures and the disposal of lead batteries in landfills.

Dr. William Roper, Director of the federal Centers for Disease Control, commented that although these federal initiatives will take massive infusions of financial resources, much can be done without additional funds.

(Source: Government in Brief (1991, January), New York ARC.)

From page 1

community services to the 500 residents in the Los Lunas and Fort Stanton institutions violated both the due process clause of the U.S. Constitution and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

For more information, contact PILCOP, 125 South 9th Street, Suite 700, Philadelphia, PA 19107. 215/627-7100.

Events

February 15, 1991

"To Choose or Not to Choose: Guardianship and the Right to Refuse Treatment" will be presented by the Minnesota Association for Guardianship and Conservatorship and the Minnesota Chapter of the American Association on Mental Retardation at the Sunwood Inn, St. Cloud, Minnesota. Contact: Terri Williams, Mainsail Services, 6810 Hemlock Lane, Maple Grove, MN 55369.

February 18, 1991

Arc Minnesota will hold its annual "Day at the Capitol" at the Sheraton Midway Motel, St. Paul. Help to support legislative efforts that affect persons with developmental disabilities. Cost: \$15, includes coffee and lunch. Contact: Arc Minnesota, 3225 Lyndale Avenue, South, Minneapolis, MN 55408. 612/827-5641, or 1-800/582-5256, toll free.

February 23, 1991

AbleNet, Inc., is sponsoring a workshop on "Simple Technology--Tools for Independence" for parents, teachers, and others who serve people with severe disabilities. The workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn North, 2200 Freeway Boulevard, Minneapolis. Contact: AbleNet, 612/379-0956, or 1-800/322-0956, toll-free.

March 7-9, 1991

A conference on "Vulnerability and Resilience" focusing on children with chronic illnesses and disabilities will be held at the Omni Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. The conference is sponsored by the Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability at the University of Minnesota in cooperation with the Beach Center at the University of Kansas. Contact: Center for Children with Chronic Illness and Disability, University of Minnesota, Box 721-UMHC, Minneapolis, MN 55455. 612/626-2737.

March 14-15, 1991--St. Cloud

"Minnesota Training Program on Assistive Technology for Rural Professionals" is a workshop sponsored by the Governor's Advisory Council on Technology for People with Disabilities. Training will be provided in the use of assistive technology, identifying resources, and assessment issues in a rural service delivery system. Register by March 1, 1991. Contact: Susan Rest, 612/296-9718.

Caregiver Support Forum

Scheduled--April 11-12, 1991

"Support to Caregivers: Strategies and Models for Minnesota" will be presented by the Caregiver Support Project Task Force of the Long Term Care Management Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services, on April 11 and 12, 1991. The purpose of the forum is to explore exemplary methods for providing relief and support to those who provide care for family members of any age, such as persons who are elderly or who have disabilities. Examples of support groups and respite care programs in Minnesota and other states will be highlighted. Discussions will focus on how policies and resources can be generated and improved in Minnesota.

The forum will be held at Courage Center, Golden Valley, Minnesota. The Thursday evening session (April 11), featuring a keynote speaker of national importance, will be open to the public at no charge. On Friday (April 12), workshops and educational sessions during the day will be limited to 150 registered participants. Friday registration fee is \$20, which includes lunch. Contact: Nancy Smith, Director, Caregiver Support Project, Minnesota Department of Human Services, 444 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-3844. 612/296-5892.

Lending Library

The following videotapes (VHS 1/2") are available on a two-week loan basis. The only cost to the borrower is the return postage.

Speak for Yourself (53 minutes) encourages people with disabilities to express themselves.

People First (33 minutes), by James Stanfield and Associates, depicts people participating in the People First movement.

Our Voices Count:

Self-Advocacy Now (22 minutes), from the Self-Advocacy Association of New York State, Inc., provides tips for organizing People First Chapters.

Supported Employment: 1) ***It Works*** (18 minutes), a promotion; and 2) ***Making It Work*** (35 minutes), training film, from North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Training in Personal Futures Planning

The Human Services Research and Development Center of St. Paul has scheduled several training opportunities in Personal Futures Planning. Such training is intended for interested people who are involved in the lives of people with developmental disabilities, such as parents and family members, case managers, and other professionals and paraprofessionals. This effort is funded by the Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Facilitator Training: This training consists of four training days over a five-month period. Attendance at a one-day overview workshop (introduction) is a prerequisite. The initial two-day sessions of facilitator training will be held as follows:

Rochester: March 21 and 22, 1991
Mankato: April 11 and 12, 1991
Metro Area: April 25 and 26, 1991

The cost for the entire facilitator training program is \$60, and for parents and family members is \$25. Jane Wells will conduct these sessions.

Advanced Systems Change: Intended for those who have been trained as facilitators in Personal Futures Planning, the first two days are scheduled on February 7 and 8, 1991, in the metro area. A total of seven days of training will be offered at a cost of \$25 per day. These sessions will be conducted by Beth Mount and Connie Lyle O'Brien. For more information, contact: Pat Lyon, Human Services Research and Development Center, 357 Oneida Street, St. Paul, MN 55102. 612/227-9117

Futurity

MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY

Governor's Planning Council on
Developmental Disabilities
300 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155

Roger Strand, Editor
612/296-4018
612/296-9962 TDD

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 171
St. Paul, MN

TIME DATED MATERIAL



Futurity

Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

March 1991

New Hampshire's Closing of Laconia Makes History

On January 31, 1991, New Hampshire became the first state to claim, "*(This state) no longer has an institution for persons with developmental disabilities.*" On that date, the last four men left the Laconia Developmental Services (formerly called Laconia State School) and moved to community residences. This monumental step is the culmination of more than a decade of efforts to provide community lifestyles for all of New Hampshire's citizens with developmental disabilities.

Laconia's population was at its peak during the early 1970s, serving about 1,200 individuals. By 1983, the population had been reduced to about 500 people.


New Hampshire has achieved many notable successes in building a strong community service system for more than 2,000 people with developmental disabilities through its 12 area agencies. Small-scale living arrangements are now the rule. Supported employment services are widely available. The state has a particularly vigorous family-centered network of services for children with disabilities. In 1989, the New Hampshire Legislature adopted a measure aimed at eliminating the waiting list for community services while substantially accelerating state spending on family support services.

Reminiscing about the past 87 years of operation at Laconia and the people who lived there, Superintendent Richard Crocker commented, "*Their lives were regimented by the rhythms of the institution, rather than the rhythms of normal living.*" Doug Watson, director of program development added, "*The state has come to realize that everyone belongs in the community.*"

For more information, contact: Alan Robichaud, Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, Department of Health and Human Services, 105 Pleasant Street, State Office Park South, Concord, New Hampshire 03301. 603/271-5013

Funding Available To Serve Vietnam Veterans and Families

A requests for proposals has been issued by the Agent Orange Class Assistance Program with the intent to serve: a) families who may have needs relating to a child with developmental or other chronic disabilities; and/or b) those who may be experiencing family disruption due to the veteran's post-traumatic stress disorder or other lingering aftereffects of the veteran's service in the Vietnam war. Eligibility is limited to private, nonprofit organizations, and public institutions of higher learning. Deadline for application is May 31, 1991. Contact: Dennis K. Rhoades, Agent Orange Class Assistance Program, P.O. Box 27413, Washington, DC 20038-7413



Inside This Issue...

- Personnel training in Houston County pays off.
- Technology scholarships and loans available.

RESNA Conference Scholarships Announced

RESNA has received a donation from the IBM Corporation to provide scholarships to persons with disabilities and their family members to attend the 14th Annual RESNA Conference and the Technical Assistance Project's meeting of all states, June 21-26, 1991, in Kansas City, Missouri. Approximately ten individuals will be selected. The RESNA Technical Assistance Project is federally funded to provide information and assistance to states related to the implementation of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-407). For scholarship information, contact: RESNA, 1101 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036. 202/857-1199.

Technology Award Nominations Requested

Nominations are requested to honor those who have made creative applications of technology in their assistance to people with disabilities. This award program is part of the fourth annual Minnesota Governor's Award on Technology to Assist People with Disabilities. Nominations are due April 1, 1991. Request criteria and forms from: STAR Program, 300 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. 612/296-2771.

Houston County Training Program Deemed Effective for All

In October 1989, through the support of the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Legislature, Houston County Group Homes, Inc. (located in Southeastern Minnesota) embarked on an intensive training project for 99 direct service staff and supervisors. The concept of a competency-based training program, with monetary incentives for staff, was the solution decided upon after evaluating the critical issues faced by the board of directors: high staff turnover, low morale, poor pay, inconsistent program implementation, and a lack of ability to effectively integrate individuals into community activities. These issues perpetuated a less efficient delivery of services and a lower quality of care than was envisioned by the board.

One year later, the annual progress report stated emphatically, "*Competency based training is effective--service delivery to clients has improved directly as a result of the training and improved skills of staff participants.*" With a training budget of \$101,636 and a strong commitment from everyone involved, the following accomplishments were realized:

- Staff turnover was reduced from a high of 79 percent in 1987 to a current rate of 30.1 percent.
- In one residence, the number of community outings more than doubled--the average number of outings per month increased from 57 a year ago to 117.
- Individual Habilitation Plans increased in both quality and quantity of components--from an average of 43 percent of critical content to an average of 93 percent.
- The quality assurance review by the Advisory Committee revealed that there were marked improvements in all program areas. In addition, they found improved staff morale, increased choice-making opportunities for residents, improved interaction patterns, and a general sense of greater staff confidence in program implementation.
- The average pretest score among staff regarding mastery of competencies was 38 percent, while the posttest average was at the 94 percent level.

The authors of the report also observed that there is an increased emphasis on resident advocacy, "*More staff members are able to identify client needs and to speak more frequently and more passionately on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.*"

The authors concluded, "*It is the impression of all those involved in this project that a competency based training program tied to*

Houston County continued on page 3

Resources

Independence Day: Designing Computer Solutions for Individuals with Disability, Peter Green and Alan J. Brightman, Apple Computer, Inc., 1990. This attractive and informative book shows what happens when an individual with a disability meets a personal computer and puts it to work to change his or her life. Written by well-known experts in adaptive technology, Independence Day introduces the reader to four individuals with disabilities who actively discover how to design a computer solution to meet their particular needs--for more effective communication skills; for greater success in the classroom; for competitive participation in the workplace; and for fuller enjoyment of personal hobbies. Price: \$17.95. Contact: DLM, P.O. Box 4000, Allen, Texas 75002. Call: 1-800-527-4747.

Friends: A Manual for Connecting Persons with Disabilities and Community Members, Human Services Research and Development Center, St. Paul, 1990. This manual is based on the work done by the "Friends Project," which was funded by the Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities. The purpose of the project was to learn about and develop methods for the staff of residential service agencies to support people with disabilities in establishing friendships and relationships with people in their communities. A single, free copy is available from: Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, 300 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. 612/296-4018.

Houston County continued from page 2

enhanced wages will be of value to other residential service providers, and that such a program should be utilized system-wide to improve services to persons with developmental disabilities."

For more information, contact: David Theede or Margaret Cassidy, Houston County Group Homes, Inc., 1700 Lancer Boulevard, LaCrescent, MN 55947. 507/895-7264.

Easter Seal Society Offers Computer-Assisted Loans

The National Easter Seal Society has developed the first national loan program designed to enable people with disabilities to buy computer-assisted technologies. Typically, loans will range from \$1,000 to \$3,200.

Applicants should contact: Sully J. F. Alverado, Easter Seal Systems, 5120 South Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615. 312/667-8400.

Events

April 11 and 12, 1991


"Support to Caregivers: Strategies and Models for Minnesota" is a forum sponsored by the Caregiver Support Project Task Force of the Department of Human Services and the Caregiver Support Coalition of Minnesota. Location: Courage Center in Golden Valley. Call: Nancy Smith, DHS, 612/296-5892.

May 7, 1991

The Minnesota Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (MNASH) will celebrate its tenth anniversary hosting, "Decade of Change: Building Inclusive Communities," Holiday Inn North, Minneapolis. Write: MNASH, P.O. Box 1937, Pioneer Station, St. Paul, MN 55101.

"A person who is severely impaired never knows his/her hidden sources of strength until he/she is treated like a normal human being and encouraged to shape his/her own life."

Hellen Keller



Lending Library

The following videotapes (VHS 1/2") are available on a two-week loan basis. The only cost to the borrower is the return postage.

There's Always Belinda, Youth involvement in Ontario documents how a circle of friends was created.

Project Interdependence, documents friendship building in California.

Regular Lives, State of the Art Productions for Syracuse University, 1988 (29 minutes), children with disabilities participate in regular school activities.

Joint House-Senate Hearing on Discrimination on Basis of Disability, and *Senator Chafee: "I Don't Need My Walker When I Dance."* (Both features are on a single tape.)

"The real people with disabilities of the future are going to be those who don't have a computer to use."

Max Cleland

SSI Regulation Changes Can Benefit Workers and Children

The Department of Health and Human Services, Social Security Administration, has announced recent changes that will expand income and services for persons with disabilities who are working and for young children who may have formerly been declared ineligible.

Regarding working adults who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), "impairment-related work expenses" have been modified. Effective December 1, 1990, a person may deduct certain work-related expenses to determine countable earned income in both establishing and continuing eligibility to receive SSI. The following expenses are now generally deductible: medical devices, attendant care services, transportation costs, work-related equipment, drugs, and medical services. In addition, recent "cost-of-living" increases allow a person with a disability to have more income and still be eligible for SSI.

Regarding children, the Social Security Administration has expanded eligibility criteria which will allow more children to qualify than in the past. According to Leonard Rubenstein, director of the Mental Health Law Project in Washington, DC, "*The new standards will enable 55,000 additional children to receive SSI benefits over the next five years. This can offer many children with developmental delays, whose disabilities are harder to diagnose in the early months of life, an opportunity to receive desperately needed cash assistance and health care.*"

More information is contained in pamphlets entitled, *Benefits for Disabled People Who Return to Work*, and *Disability*.

Call: 1-800/234-5772.



Futurity

MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY

Governor's Planning Council on
Developmental Disabilities
300 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155

Roger Strand, Editor
612/296-4018
612/296-9982 TDD

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 171
St. Paul, MN

TIME DATED MATERIAL



 recycled paper



Futurity

April 1991

Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

Sweeping Changes in Service Structures Recommended

The Task Force on Developmental Disabilities of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) has released its recommendations for state action in a report entitled *Americans with Developmental Disabilities: Policy Directions for the States* (February 1991). "Perceptions of Americans with developmental disabilities are changing rapidly," the authors observed, "and most of the innovations in approaches that have occurred over the past two decades have been generated at the state and local levels." "(These changes)," the authors continued, "demand new structural approaches to services for persons with developmental disabilities, changes brought about largely by dedicated and vocal persons with disabilities and their advocates."

Several innovations were observed by the Task Force members: "Today, many people previously thought to require institutional care now live with their families or in small, supported community residences; use public transportation to work in competitive employment; participate in community recreation activities; and lead integrated lives in the community." Other innovations include allowing people with disabilities to choose where and how they want to live and in what activities they want to participate, empowering families and consumers to take an active role in decisions affecting their lives, and emphasizing support for people in natural settings.

"In this time of transition and new opportunities," the authors reported, "a number of states are defining principles upon which services to people with developmental disabilities should be based--the primacy of the American family and the importance of creating and supporting programs and services that enable people with developmental disabilities to experience presence and participation in community life. Most people want good relationships with family and friends, respect and dignity, opportunities to develop and exercise competence, and opportunities to contribute to community life and make choices about their future. Policies based on these values result in new residential, educational, and employment alternatives."

This report contains background information about early intervention, family support, transition services, community living, and supported employment, and makes recommendations for state legislative actions concerning each area. In addition, changes in funding structures will be needed. "In considering each topic area," the authors stated, "legislators and other policy makers need to realize the critical importance of building an 'infrastructure' capable of supporting the delivery of direct services, including the maintenance of a system to ensure the quality and accessibility of such services. Effective management of large, complex service systems requires access to timely data on numerous dimensions of systemwide performance, strategic planning, and development capabilities. A clearly articulated approach to ensuring that all participants receive high quality services and support systems is also needed. Policymakers need to be aware that investment in indirect supports is essential to maintaining a smoothly functioning service delivery system."

Continued on page 4...

University Project Promotes Self-Determination

Increasing numbers of youth with disabilities who have been receiving special education services are now leaving school and entering adult life in the community. Unfortunately, many are doing so with inadequate training in the skills necessary to exercise self-determination. In response to this need, the Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota, is conducting a research and demonstration project titled, "Enhancing the Self-Determination Skills of Youth with Disabilities." This three-year project has been funded through the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

In the fall of 1990, students between 15 and 18 years old were selected to participate in the initial research regarding decision making, personal choice, and self-advocacy skills. Community forums involving parents, educational personnel, self-advocates, and youth with and without disabilities to discuss the project and to identify issues will follow. Project staff will develop, implement, and evaluate programs in community settings. Outcomes of the project will be published and be made available. Contact: Brian Aberly, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota, 107 Pattee Hall, 150 Pillsbury Drive, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. 612/624-5592.

"Prevention is . . . babies born who are wanted, expected, and valued. . ."

Allen Crocker, M.D.



Inside This Issue...

Young People--Our Vast Untapped Resource

Apply for University Research Fellowships

Program for Parents of Young Children with Cleft Lip and Palate Announced

A series of classes will be offered by Services for Children with Handicaps, Minnesota Department of Health. These meetings are intended to help to understand the problems associated with cleft palate, especially how to help children to develop speech and language skills. Attend as many sessions as you can: 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 15, 22, 29, and May 6, 1991. Location: Classrooms A and B, Minneapolis Children's Medical Center, 2525 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. Call: Donna Medin, 612/623-5174.

Workshops on Friendships Scheduled

"Friends: connecting Individuals with Disabilities and Community members" is a one-day workshop that will be held in the Twin cities, Moorhead, and Duluth. This training will present stories, slides, and successful techniques learned in "The Friends Project." The workshops will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. as follows:

April 18, 1991

Holiday Inn, 200 West First Street, Duluth, MN.

April 19, 1991

Downtown Holiday Inn, 200 West First Street, Duluth, MN.

May 10, 1991

Day's Inn, 600 30th Avenue South, Moorhead, MN

May 30, 1991

Holiday Inn, Worthington, MN.

Fee: \$50.00, includes lunch, breaks, and materials. Contact: Human Services Research and Development Center, 357 Oneida, St. Paul, MN 55102. 612/227-3292.

Research Fellowships

The Minnesota Rehabilitation Research Training Program at the University of Minnesota is seeking post-doctoral candidates for fellowships in child and adolescent health, and applied policy research on the economics of services to persons with disabilities. The program is designed to train professionals to undertake careers and leadership roles as researchers in the field of rehabilitation. For more information, contact: Fellowship Committee on Rehabilitation Research, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota, 150 Pillsbury Drive, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. 612/624-4848.

A Vast, Untapped Resource

"Youth as resources: for the benefit of all members of Minnesota's communities, it's an idea whose time has come." This was the message given in *Promise of the Future, Responsibility Today: Findings of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Mentoring and Youth Community Service*, published recently. "The findings are clear," the authors of the report stated, "Minnesota policymakers at all levels should move decisively to support mentoring and youth community service initiatives. Such efforts yield immediate, tangible benefits to our communities. They are fiscally sound and a wise investment in our greatest resource, our young people.

The Blue Ribbon Committee was appointed in November, 1989 with the following purpose: In order to help Minnesota Young People be responsible and informed citizens and caring, healthy, and productive members of their communities, the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee... is to create a policy framework and strategies to assure that mentoring and youth community service flourish throughout the state.

Mentoring programs match caring, responsible individuals with youth to encourage and guide their personal growth and development.

The published findings reflect public testimony from forums held throughout the state in addition to information collected from experts and national surveys.

Specific vital recommendations by the Committee:

1. Youth as Providers and Leaders: Minnesotans should recognize young people as "producers" as well as "receivers." Young people should be asked to participate in decision making for programs in which they serve or which have an impact on them.

2. Recruitment of Mentors and Quality Standards: A statewide information and referral network for prospective mentors should be established and quality standards developed and applied. The new network should cooperate closely with the BUDDY SYSTEM and local mentoring networks. The Minnesota Office on Volunteer Services, should coordinate the network and build the state's capacity for mentoring through technical assistance to local leaders, recruiting mentors via statewide promotion, evaluation of mentoring effectiveness, and recognition of exemplary programs.

3. Integration into the Formal and Nonformal Curriculum: Service-learning should be integrated across the curriculums at every grade level and in every discipline, as well as through co-curricular activities of schools.

4. The need for Research and Applications through Postsecondary Education: Institutions of higher education in Minnesota should develop initiatives to conduct research and incorporate curricula related to mentoring and youth community service.

5. Culturally Appropriate Programs: More exploration and training is needed to increase sensitivity to a multicultural society.

6. Clarification between Court-Ordered Service and Community Service: The terminology for court-ordered service should be more clearly differentiated from terminology for voluntary community service.

As Joanne A. Englund of St. Paul observed, "In the process of making a better life for our children . . . we also removed meaning and purpose from most of their experiences. For many, we took away their right to contribute to their society. It's time we put in back--not through hazardous and stunting ways, but through service opportunities: learning by doing useful tasks."

A copy of the *Executive Summary* may be requested from: Minnesota Office on Volunteer Services, Department of Administration, 500 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. 612/296-4731, or 1/800/652-9747

Events

April 9, 1991 (7:00 p.m.), Dodge Center

A parent advocacy workshop on "Basic Rights" will be sponsored by Parent Advocacy Coalition on Educational Rights (PACER) and Arc-Dodge County at Triton Senior High School, Highway 14, Dodge Center, MN 55927. Contact: Shari Welsh, Rt. 2, Box 38, Dodge Center, MN 55927. 507/374-2204.

April 11 and 25, 1991 (7:30 - 10:00 p.m.)

PACER Center will sponsor a Transition Health Planning Workshop at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Avenue, St. Paul, MN. This free, two-session workshop will address important concerns and information needed for students with disabilities as they move toward independence and the use of adult health care services. Call: PACER Center, 612/827-2966 (Voice and TDD).

April 19, 1991

"Working Together: An Effective Community Response to Sexual Abuse" is a conference sponsored by Community Consortium of Sexual Abuse Treatment Providers. Content will address innovative programs, metropolitan issues, legal issues, and assessing and treating family members. Contact: Family Intervention Program, Minneapolis Children's Medical Center, 2525 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404.

April 24, 1991 (6:30 p.m.)

A class on "Introduction to Autism" will be sponsored by Twin Cities Society for Children and Adults with Autism, Inc. and Outcomes, Inc. Emphasis will include understanding communication problems and the development of communication skills. The class will be held at the TCSAC Office, 253 East 4th Street, St. Paul, MN 55101. Call Nancy Kobilka, 612/228-9074, or Bill Funari 612/439-6247.

May 4, 1991

PACER Center's 9th Annual Benefit will feature the comic talents of Joan Rivers at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Attend the reception and silent auction at 6:30 p.m., the show at 8:30 p.m., and a patron party at 10:30 p.m. Contact: PACER, 4826 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55417. 612/827-2966 (Voice/TDD).

May 14-15, 1991

"Transition from School to Community: A National Conference" will be held at the Sheraton Inn, Madison, Wisconsin, sponsored by several Wisconsin state agencies. Featured speakers include: Robert Perske, Jeffery Strully and Betty Ferris. Contact: Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities, ATTN: Joan Sanzsen, P.O. Box 7851, Madison, WI 53707-7851. 608/266-7826.

May 19-23, 1991

The American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR) will hold its 115th Annual Meeting and Exhibit Show at Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Washington, D.C. The theme is "Dialogue<-->Professionals; Public<-->Private; Research<-->Practice." Contact: AAMR, P.O. Box 1202, Washington, DC 20013-1202.

Resources

Shaping Case Management in Minnesota: In Theory, Reality and Practice, Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, January 1991. This report summarizes the lessons learned through grants funded from October 1986 through October 1989 in the area of providing case management services for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. The various projects described in the report demonstrate and document the state of case management in Minnesota and offer insights and recommendations for improvement of these services. A free copy may be obtained from: Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, 300 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. 612/296-4018 (Voice), or 612/296-9962 (TDD only).

Mental Retardation Programs: How Does Massachusetts Compare?

Edward Moscovitch, Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research, 1991. This study was inspired by the debate over taxes and spending in Massachusetts and the need to take a dispassionate look at budgets to see if it is possible to restructure programs to improve service delivery and/or reduce expenditures. Comparisons are made with other states, such as Minnesota and Michigan, and the author concludes that Massachusetts could: 1) safely provide community care to most of the people now in state schools; 2) provide decent care for the remaining residents at lower cost; and 3) get more federal reimbursement for community programs. As observed by Gunnar Dybwad in the Foreword, one recommendation in the report is crucial: "(Massachusetts must) free itself of the consent decrees in the several institutional class action suits, and thus terminate the 'judicial stranglehold' on developments in the Commonwealth." Copies may be purchased for \$10.00 payable to: Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research, 1105 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. 617/254-1877.

Lending Library

The following videotapes (VHS 1/2") are available on a two-week loan basis. The only cost to the borrower is the return postage.

Aging: A shared Experience

(20 minutes), New York Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, depicts people in integrated community settings.

Heads . . . You Win! Bicycle Helmet Safety (10 minutes), Chapel Hill League for Safe Bicycling, North Carolina.

Tools for Life (18 minutes), Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities, promotes the many opportunities available through new adaptive technologies that can result in greater independence.

Don't Be Surprised, a panel of self-advocates share their personal experiences.

The Case Management Team: Building Community Connections (13 minutes), Metropolitan Council, 1987.

Volunteers Needed for PACER Puppetry Project

Persons interested in children, puppets, and disability issues are invited to attend a training session for PACER Center's COUNT ME IN program on April 23, 1991 (5:00 to 9:00 p.m.) at 4826 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis. Call: Charlotte Green or Cathy Milota, 612/827-2966.

What's a TDD?

"TDD" means: Telecommunications Device for the Deaf. It is a device that allows an individual who is deaf (or does not have the ability to speak) to make a telephone call directly, without the use of another person to interpret. The conversation is typed rather than spoken. Both parties must use a TDD and the devices must be compatible.

The term TTY is often used interchangeably with TDD; however, this term refers specifically to the original mechanical teletypewriter equipment. Teletypewriters (TTYs) are still in use, both old and much newer models, and the term TTY should be used to refer to this specific kind of equipment.

A growing number of agencies, corporations, private organizations, and public institutions are installing TDDs in order to provide direct phone communication to and for their constituents who are deaf.

This Governor's Planning Council usually lists two numbers: 612/296-4018--Use this number for a voice call. 612/296-9962--This is our TDD number intended only for those with a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf. If you happen to call this number by mistake, you will get strange electronic beeps.

For more information please contact: US West Communications, Special Needs Center, 200 South 5th Street, Room 158, Minneapolis, 55402. 1/800/223-3131 (Voice and TDD).

Continued from page 1

Sweeping Changes

"To ensure quality," legislators and administrators can: develop program and services standards; require licensure for service providers and facilities; encourage staff training; provide for case management and service coordination; establish a mechanism to monitor services, service outcomes, and consumer satisfaction; implement both a management information system and an information and referral system; and obtain technical assistance from others who have experience with related programs and services."

Copies of the report may be purchased for \$10.00 payable to: National Conference of State Legislatures, 1560 Broadway, Suite 700, Denver, Colorado 80202 303/830-2200.

Futurity

MINNESOTA STATE PLANNING AGENCY

Governor's Planning Council on
Developmental Disabilities
300 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155

Roger Strand, Editor
612/296-4018
612/296-9962 TDD

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 171
St. Paul, MN

TIME DATED MATERIAL

