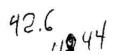
146

Daytime Activity Centers for the Mentally Retarded

Growth Toward A Goal

A Special Study of the Minnesota Association For Retarded Children, Inc. 6315 Penn Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55423







RETARDED CHILDREN

OFFICERS
RAYMOND W. DOYLE, President
Rochester
MRS. WILLIS SEWALL, First V. Pres.
Minneapolis
R. H. FERGUSON, M.D. Second V. Pres.
Rochester
MRS. DAVID DONNELLY, Secretary
St. Paul
FRANKLIN C. SMITH, Ph.D., Treasurer
St. Paul
MELVIN D. HECKT, Past President

DIRECTORS ROBERT K. ANDERSON, D.V.M. St. Paul CALVIN W. AURAND Wayzata REV. ROBERT DARCY Sacred Heart ARTHUR BENNETT, D.D.S. Circle Pines MRS. HAROLD BINA Owatonna WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN Anoka MRS. R. L. DASKAM MRS. MILES HUBBARD St. Paul ROBERT L. JENSEN Minneapolis MRS. ROBERT KOVALL ROBERT L. LOCKWOOD Minneapolis DENNIS MILLER Caledonia ROBERT RHODE THOMAS SWALLEN. M.D. Minneapolis MRS. JAMES TOBRIN Detroit Lakes GEORGE WIELER Windom GUY E. WORDEN Fergus Falls CHARLES F. ZWISLER, D.O.S.

SPONSORS

JOHN A. ANDERSON, M.D. Minneapolis PHILIP S. DUFF, JR. Red Wing MRS. EDWIN GASS Northfield ARTHUR L. GLUEK Minneapolis VICE-PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY Washington. D. C. REYNOLD A. JENSEN, M.D. Minneapolis
WALTER M. JUDD, M.D.
Washington, D.C.
CONGRESSMAN CLARK MacGREGOR Minneapolis DUANE J. MATTHEIS St. Paul CHARLES W. MAYO. M.D. Rochester CONGRESSMAN ALBERT QUIE GENERAL F W RAWLINGS Minneapolis MAYNARD C. REYNOLDS, Ph.D. GOVERNOR KARL F. ROLVAAG St. Paul PREONIK A. SCHMIDT, Th.D. Minneapolis MOST REV. JAMES P. SHANNON JOHN R. STEINBAUER Bloomington DAVID J. VAIL, MD.

966 CAMPAIGN CHAIRMAN FRED J. HUGHES

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GERALD F. WALSH Minneapolis

Minnesota Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

6315 PENN AVENUE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55423 • 866-4937

Letter to the Readers of This Report

Day activity centers are a service for children not eligible for public school, but they are not something extra beyond meeting needs for these children.

The children in centers <u>represent</u> thousands who have not participated in the tax-supported free public education program in Minnesota. It would be safe to say that the state saved several millions of dollars in taxes because thousands were not able to attend school.

The cost of the day activity centers is about \$600 per participant per year, not much more than it costs to educate a normal child for a year. If this service is not provided and significantly expanded, the ultimate price to the state is likely to be residential care at a cost of \$2,100 per year per person. It seems to us that the argument would be not whether or not to provide such centers, but how quickly these services can be developed in every county—the goal of our title—of the state.

We are confident that the request of \$1,500,000 for day activity centers by the Department of Welfare can be utilized wisely and well during the next biennium and strongly urge its appropriation.

Minnesota Association for Retarded Children

February, 1967

member, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

This survey was undertaken by the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children to assess the growth, development and benefits of day activity center (DAC) programs throughout the state. DAC facilities, personnel, program and participant progress were reported by the center directors on a questionnaire completed during Spring. 1966.

In preparing this survey report certain additional facts and figures on budgets and financing compiled by the Minnesota Department of Welfare Day Activity Center Advisory Committee, Dr. Richard Ferguson, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Chairman, were also included.

WHAT IS A DAY ACTIVITY CENTER?

A daytime activity center has been defined as a community setting for the care, training and stimulation of mentally retarded persons for whom there are no public school classes or other facilities available due to their age, mental ability or behavioral traits. The primary care of the individual enrolled in a day activity center rests with his parents.

Minnesota's <u>Comprehensive Plan to Combat Retardation</u>, a two-year study by the Minnesota Mental Retardation Planning Council, further details the primary purposes of a day activity center as follows;

- To offer a program which is suited to the capabilities and limitations
 of each individual and is structured to his needs and ability to progress.
- 2. To provide constructive, meaningful use of time.

- 3. To help the retardate to adjust within the family and community.
- 4. To offer parent counseling.
- To facilitate casefinding, with emphasis on early discovery and management of remedial conditions.
- 6. To free parents from constant care of the retarded so that they may allot more time to other essential family needs.
- To integrate agency services for the retarded so that a continuum of appropriate services is available to the retarded at all stages of his life.
- To provide a setting for long-range diagnostic studies of the individual.

HOW DID THE PROGRAM DEVELOP?

Until 1961, many parents of severely mentally retarded children in Minnesota had to choose between keeping their child in the home or sending the child to a state institution due to a lack of community services. Day activity centers for retarded children were available in only seven of the state's 87 counties.

As might be expected, most of the existing centers were in urban areas where financial support was available from private agencies. Even then the lack of funds tended to limit the extent and quality of the programs offered and the number of individuals that could be served.

The 1961 Minnesota Legislature, acting upon the recommendation of the Legislative Interim Commission on the Problems of the Mentally Retarded, Handicapped and Gifted Children, passed a pilot project daytime activity center statute.

The Minnesota Department of Public Welfare was appropriated \$36,000 to reimburse up to 50 percent of operating costs of pilot project centers selected by the Commissioner. To qualify for consideration as a pilot project, centers were required to provide: 1) daytime activities for a: retarded, school-age children not eligible for public school classes because of age, mental ability or behavioral traits, and b: pre-school and post-school age retarded who are unable to independently engage in ordinary community activities; and 2) counseling services to parents of center participants.

Nine pilot projects were established and a high degree of community interest in the centers was indicated.

Following the demonstrated need and success of the pilot centers, the 1963 session of the legislature provided \$155,000 in state matching funds for the operation of day activity centers throughout the state. Administration responsibility was assigned to the Department of Welfare which had had the authority to license and set standards for centers.

Growth continued during that biennium and the 1965 legislature appropriated \$425,000 for matching funds for 1965-1967 and authorized cities, towns and counties to levy taxes for matching purposes.

But the DAC expansion which had begun meant more centers and more participants, and the \$425,000 was all allotted by July 1, 1966. The shortage of matching funds meant that 12 centers which began operation in late 1966 and early 1967 did so without state support. Also, grants to centers had to be limited to the amount they had received the previous year.

During 1966, Minnesota's Comprehensive Plan to Combat Mental Retardation was completed.

A key recommendation was that daytime activity centers should be developed wherever need can be demonstrated with a goal of at least one center in every county. This is the goal referred to in the title of this survey.

FACTS AND FIGURES

The following section includes a chart of general information on the 40 state-aided DACs together with charts on budget and financing and on transportation. In reviewing these figures, it should be remembered that they represent only a portion of the DAC picture in Minnesota. There are also 20 centers operating without state aid and inquiries have been received by the Department of Welfare regarding 17 more centers which are in the planning stages, all of which are expected to apply for state aid as soon as they are functioning.

DAY ACTIVITY CENTERS RECEIVING STATE FUNDS

TABLE I

	11121			
Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment
AITKIN COUNTY Aitkin County DAC Fourth Street Northeast Aitkin, Minnesota 56431	Aitkin County and surrounding area	Sept., 1963	5-35 years	6
ANOKA COUNTY Anoka County DAC Hayes School Annex 615 N. E. Mississippi St. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55421	Anoka County	Dec, 1964	5-11	17
BLUE EARTH COUNTY Open Arms DAC 415 South Second Street Mankato, Minnesota 56001	Blue Earth and surrounding coun- ties, part. Nicol- let and LeSueur	March, 1958	3-12	15
CARLTON COUNTY Carlton County DAC 1000 Washington Avenue Cloquet, Minnesota 55720	Carlton County	Jan., 1964	15 and over	12
CHIPPEWA COUNTY Chippewa County DAC Fairgrounds Montevideo, Minnesota 56265	Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, and Lac Qui Parle Counties	Oct., 1964	4-40	8
DAKOTA COUNTY Neighborhood House DAC Ascension Episcopal Church 315 West Morton Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55107	Westside St. Paul, West St. Paul, So. St. Paul, Rosemount, Mendota Heights	Oct., 1963	4-8 15 and over	10
DOUGLAS COUNTY Douglas County DAC Bethesda Lutheran Church Highway 29 North Alexandria, Minnesota 56308	Douglas County and Ottertail County	Sept., 1964	4-40	8

Day Activity Centers Receiving State Funds - Table I - continued

Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment
FILLMORE COUNTY Fillmore County DAC Elementary School Spring Valley, Minnesota 55975	Fillmore County	Sept., 1964	4-13 years	5
FREEBORN COUNTY Freeborn County DAC, Inc. 308 Water Street Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007	Freeborn County	April, 1962	16 and over	11
GRANT COUNTY Grant County DAC Hoffman, Minnesota 56339	Grant and Douglas Counties	Nov., 1965	4 and over	8
HENNEPIN COUNTY Hennepin County DAC 1701 Oak Park Avenue No. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411	Hennepin County	April, 1964	4-18	66
Hennepin County DAC Extension Gethsemane Lutheran Church 715 Minnetonka Mills Road Hopkins, Minnesota 55343	Hennepin County	Oct., 1965	3-15	8
Opportunity Workshop DAC 6315 Penn Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55423	Hennepin County	Jan., 1966	18 and over	8
School for Social Dev. 1639 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403	Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington Counties	April, 1960	17-35	23
ITASCA COUNTY Itasca County DAC Roosevelt Street Coleraine, Minnesota 55722	Itasca County	June, 1966	3-35	15

Day Activity Centers Receiving State Funds - Table I - continued

Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment
KANDIYOHI COUNTY Kandi- Meeker DAC Atwater, Minnesota 56209	Meeker and Kandiyohi Counties	Feb., 1962	4-37 years	19
LYON COUNTY Lyon County DAC c/o Ghent Public School Ghent, Minnesota 56239	Lyon County	Jan., 1963	4-16	11
MARTIN COUNTY Martin County DAC North Ave. and 12th St. Fairmont, Minnesota 56031	Martin County	1963	6-29	14
MC LEOD COUNTY McLeod County DAC, Inc. Route 3 Biscay, Minnesota 55337	McLeod County	March, 1966	4-35	12
MOWER COUNTY Austin Activity Center Box 531 U. S. Highway 16 East Austin, Minnesota 55913	Mower County	1956	4 and over	20
NOBLES COUNTY Nobles County DAC Adrian, Minnesota 56110	Nobles County, Southwestern Minnesota	Sept., 1963	4-45	8
OLMSTED COUNTY Olmsted DAC Rochester State Hospital Rochester, Minnesota 55901	Olmsted County	Spring 1962	4-13 15 and over	32
POLK COUNTY Polk County DAC c/o Methodist Church 225 North Ash Crookston, Minnesota 56716	Polk County	Sept., 1965	4-21	7

Day Activity Centers Receiving State Funds - Table I - continued

Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment	
RAMSEY COUNTY Laurel Center for Retarded Children c/o St. Mary's Episcopal Church 1895 Laurel Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota 55104	St. Paul	Jan., 1966	8-16 years	7	
Merriam Park DAC 2000 St. Anthony Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota 55104	In St. Paul from Rice St. West and North to city limits and to Mississippi River	Oct., 1965	16-40	7	
Merrick DAC 715 Edgerton Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55101	The East Side of St. Paul	Oct., 1964	18-45	15	
North Suburban DAC c/o Advent Lutheran Church 3000 North Hamline St. Paul, Minnesota 55113	North Suburbs, No. St. Paul, White Bear Lake, Mounds View, New Brighton, Roseville	Sept., 1966	4-8 14-21	28	
Wilder Day Nursery No. IV 25 North Dale Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55102	Greater St. Paul United Fund area	Feb., 1956	4-8	37	
RICE COUNTY Rice County DAC 115 Third Street N. W. Faribault, Minnesota 55021	Rice County	Sept., 1963	Post School	28	
ST. LOUIS COUNTY Duluth DAC 2205 East Fifth Street Washburn Hall, Old UMD Duluth, Minnesota 55812	Duluth, Proctor and rural areas	Sept., 1962	16 and over	13	

Day Activity Centers Receiving State Funds - Table I - continued

Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment
ST. LOUIS COUNTY Range DAC for Retarded Vaughan Steffensrud School Chisholm, Minnesota 55719	St. Louis County	Nov., 1963	3-25 years	16
STEARNS COUNTY St. Cloud DAC 302 Fifth Avenue South St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301	Stearns, Benton and Sherburne Counties	Sept., 1962	4 and over	20
SWIFT COUNTY Swift County DAC 10th St. S. & Oakwood Dr. Benson, Minnesota 56215	Swift County and adjacent areas	Jan., 1966	4-30	3
WASECA COUNTY Waseca County DAC for Retarded 509 Second Avenue N. E. Waseca, Minnesota 56093	Waseca County	Nov., 1965	4-12	4
WASHINGTON COUNTY North Washington County DAC St. Michael's Church Route 2 Stillwater, Minnesota 55082	Washington County	March, 1964	4 and over	14
WATONWAN COUNTY Watonwan County DAC 325 East Main Madelia, Minnesota 56062	Watonwan County	Feb., 1962	6-14	6
TRAVERSE COUNTY Wheaton DAC Wheaton, Minnesota 56296	Wheaton and surrounding area	1962	4 and over	5
WINONA COUNTY Winona County DAC 354 Lafayette Street Winona, Minnesota 55987	Trade area of Winona County	Sept., 1963	4 and over	8

Day Activity Centers Receiving State Funds - Table I - continued

Day Activity Center	Area Served	Date Opened	Age of Group Served	Enrollment
WRIGHT COUNTY Wright County DAC Buffalo Presbyterian Church 101 N. E. First Avenue Buffalo, Minnesota 55313	Wright County	Sept., 1964	5-10 years	9
YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY Canby Activity Center 108 No. Haarfager Canby, Minnesota 56220	Yellow Medicine, LaQuiParle, Lincoln Counties	April, 1966	Pre- School	7

DAC BUDGET AND FINANCING

TABLE II

	1005.00	1065.66	Vacaler	Dudast	Desident	Don't T	
	1965-66	1965-66	Yearly State per	Budget Estimate	Budget	Rent or Lo	ease
	State Grant	County Support	State per Capita	1967-68	Estimate 1968-69	Estimate Month	Year
			Cost				1
Aitkin	\$ 1,682	\$ 1,682	\$280.33	\$ 2,400	\$3,000		
Anoka	6,500	4,000	382.35			\$125	\$1,500
Austin	5,984	- 0 -	299.20	16,500	17,500		4,000
Canby	4,000	5, 500	572.00	12,000	12,400		
Carlton	3,570	2,000	297.00	4,000	4,400		
Chippewa	4,320	- 0 -	540.00	11,000	11,000		
Douglas	2,500	2,000	312.50	6,000	6,000	50	450
Duluth	4,810	- 0 -	370.00	15,500	15,500	100	1,000
Fillmore	1,910	2,000	382.00	4,000	4,600		
Freeborn	5,942	- 0 -	540.18	11,880	12,400	100 to 150	1,500
Grant	1,060	700	132.50	2,500	2,700		200
Hennepin (incl. Ext.) Opportunity Workshop	58, 445	38,885 -	790.00	340,000	570,000	800 300	9,600
Sch.Soc.Dev	6,000	- 0 -	260.87	36,008	37,645	525	6,300
Itasca	3,265	2, 500	326.00	17, 500	20,000	125	1,500
Kandi- Meeker	5,625	5, 200	296.05	11,940	12,215	None	None
Lyon	5,327	2,527	484.00	13,000	15,000	150	1,350
Martin	2,351	1,500	167.93	9,600	9,800	None	None
McLeod	1,738	6,845	145.00	17,000	18,500		\$1 per yr.frc sch.di
Nobles	4,923	4,273	615.38	9,987	10,105	85	680

DAC Budget and Financing - continued Table II

	1965-66 State Grant			Budget Estimate	Rent or Leas Estimate	e	
		Support		1967-68	1968-69	Month Yo	ear
Olmsted	\$11,955	\$ 6,060	\$ 373.00	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$-0-	\$ -0-
Open Arms, Mankato	4,240	- 0 -	375.00				
Polk	2,113	962	301.86	7,100	7,600		100
Ramsey							
Laurel	1,500	- 0 -	214.00	8,930	9,500	50	600
Merriam Park	3,200	- 0 -	458.00	15,100	18,000	100	1,200
Merrick	5,545	- 0 -	369.67	15,000	16,500		500
Neighbor- hood Hs.	5,966	- 0 -	298.00	16,051	18,000	100	1,000
No.Suburban	5,994	5,000	214.07	30,030	31,530	50	600
Range	4,000	500	250.00	10,500	15,000	300	3,600
Rice	5,267	3,000	188.11	25,000	25,000		
St. Cloud	3,671	- 0 -	184.00	7,600	8,000		
Swift	4,000	3,500	1,333.33	8,500	9,000	75	900
Waseca	1,000	- 0 -	250.00	4,000	5,000	50	600
Washington, No	1,700	1,000	121.00	6,935	6,935	100	1,200
Watonwan	1,700	2,000	283.00	7,000	7,000	Not known	1
Wilder	10,000	- 0 -	256.41	72,696.50	79,965.50	Bldg. owned Foundation	by
Wheaton	1,027	- 0 -	205.40	2,200	2,200		100
Winona	3,100	1,500	387.50	6,550 7,300	6,550	50	450
Wright	3,650	2,750	405.56 -12-	,,500	7,800	50+	450

PARTICIPANTS

ENROLLMENT

Mentally retarded persons totaling 573 are being served by the 40 state-aided day activity centers surveyed. Remarkable growth is shown when compared with 323 served in 23 centers as reported in the 1964 survey.

The number of participants per center ranges from five to 66 with an average enrollment of 14.3. Exact enrollments for each center are shown on Table I.

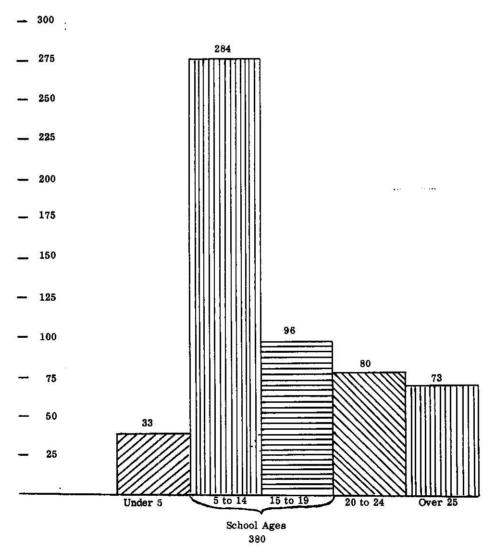
The growth spurt in day activity centers dates from 1961 when the state legislature enacted the Daytime Activity Center Law making it possible for non-profit and public organizations operating such centers to receive state funds to match their financing up to 50%. At the time of the enactment there were only three centers; by 1963 the number was up to nine with 124 participants; then a jump to twenty-three in 1964. With the opening of these 17 new centers, 235 more mentally retarded individual Minnesotans are receiving services which were not available previously.

The larger benefit of the centers is apparent when it is noted that, through the child attending the center, 573 Minnesota families are benefiting from the centers' services

AGE

The largest number of participants in day activity centers are school-age children who are either ineligible for special classes or are living in areas where special classes are not available. School-age children, 5 to 19 years old, being served in these centers totaled 380, or 66.3 percent.

TABLE III AGE OF PARTICIPANTS



As noted earlier, the centers also offer services for retardates too young or too old to attend special classes. There were 33 participants under five years of age and 148 over 20 years old.

Age breakdowns from the present survey are shown on Table III.

OTHER HANDICAPS

Participants in the day activity centers who had the double handicap of being mentally retarded and having physical defects numbered 72, or 12.5 percent. Also, 85 of the participants were under medication.

Directors judged that 225, or 39.2 percent of their participants would need practically total care and supervision for the rest of their lives.

The questionnaire did not ask directors to report physical handicaps in detail. However, case studies and remarks mentioned cerebral palsy, obesity, blindness and deafness among the handicaps.

PARTICIPANTS REMAINING IN THE COMMUNITY

As mentioned earlier, the presence of a mentally retarded child or young adult in the home may cause a great personal strain on the family. Furthermore, paying for child care during any parental absence, long or short, may cause a financial burden. On the other hand, placement in state institutions may subject the child to inadequate group care which the families decry, not to mention its high cost for the state. This dual dilemma has been satisfactorily solved for many by the offering of the services of a day activity center. Retarded individuals may remain within the warmth of the family circle while receiving the specialized training which they need and deserve.

Cost to the state to assist a child in a day activity center is only about one-seventh of what it would be to maintain him in a state institution.

The surveyed center directors indicated that 75 individuals remained at home due to the existence of a day activity center in the community. Counting \$2,100 as the cost for maintaining an individual in a state institution for one year, the day activity center program saved approximately \$133,950 in state funds for these 75.

PARTICIPANTS RETURNING FROM INSTITUTIONS

Availability of a day activity center has also made it possible for some individuals who had been institutionalized to return to their homes and families. Fifteen such individuals were reported by the directors surveyed. These persons represent an additional saving to the state of \$26,790 when figured at the same yearly cost used in the preceding paragraphs.

STATE GUARDIANSHIP

Of the 573 participants surveyed, 163 (28.4 percent) were reported to be under state guardianship.

WAITING LIST

Twelve of the day activity centers reported waiting lists. A total of 149 persons are awaiting the services offered by these twelve centers with 80 of them waiting to attend Hennepin County Day Activity Centers.

These waiting list figures, however, do not accurately reflect the number of persons needing or wishing this type of service since only 32 of the state's 87 counties have centers.

WITHDRAWAL AND DISMISSAL

Sixty-six day activity center participants withdrew or were dismissed from the program during the past year.

A number of the withdrawals reflect progress either on the part of the participant or of the community. These were the withdrawals in order to enter special public school classes either due to the improvement of the participant in the center, or to the opening of a local special education class.

Other withdrawals were necessitated by the moving of the child's family from the community. Placement in public or private institutions caused additional withdrawals. Transportation problems contributed to some cases of withdrawal; in several instances, though, the participant re-entered when weather cleared up and transportation became easier. Attaining an age enough beyond that of other participants so that group rapport was difficult was another reason for withdrawal.

Only two actual dismissals were reported, these for severe retardation.

PARTICIPANTS GOING INTO SPECIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSES

Directors of the 40 day activity centers surveyed reported that 69 of their participants would be entering special public school classes next fall (Fall, 1966), No breakdown was asked for trainable and educable classes. Twenty-one of the 69 entering public school were from Wilder Center in St. Paul which is set up as a pre-school center with all of its participants from that age group and with potential for school training. Another group of five going to public school followed the opening of a special class in the area.

JOB PLACEMENT

Nine of the day activity center participants were placed in jobs during the past year, according to the center directors. While this does not seem like a very large figure, considering that 148 of the center participants are of an age for work (20 years and over), it must be remembered that the person who attends a center may be severely mentally retarded and also may be physically handicapped. To get the full picture of job placement of retardates, these figures must be combined with those from special education classes, sheltered workshops and the state division of vocational rehabilitation.

RESULTS OF DAY ACTIVITY CENTER PROGRAMS

Long-range results can only be determined when the participants now being served attain adulthood. However, more easily apparent short-range results can be noted.

- A number of participants have shown remarkable progress in a variety of ways. Individual examples of improvement are cited below.
- 2. The cost to the state of helping to provide services for a mentally retarded individual in a day activity center may be as little as 24 cents per hour per participant with about 60 cents per hour per participant a more typical cost-to-state figure. The matching amount must come from local financing, of course, and may include tuition.
- Local financial support to continue to provide matching funds is apparently available. In most cases, county governments have assumed the responsibility for providing local funds.

- 4. While a number of centers have ideal facilities, many of the centers surveyed have need of additional space or of space with more desirable arrangements (bathrooms adjacent, playgrounds, etc.).
- 5. Transportation continues to be a problem for the centers, particularly in rural areas where participants live long distances from the facility.
- 6. Parents' enthusiasm and support continues high.
- 7. Community concern and support has been a factor in much of the growth of the centers. The Mrs. Jaycees groups and other individual volunteers have made outstanding contributions. In one case, a new center was founded by a group of concerned clergymen.
- 8. In non-metropolitan areas particularly, day activity centers have served as the focus for comprehensive services for the mentally retarded.

EXAMPLES OF IMPROVEMENT

EXAMPLE A

A pair of twins who have had behavioral problems seem to be responding favorably. They had destructive impulses without much self-control when under stress. They seem interested in learning words and numbers. At least one of them seems to be educable but needs the individual attention provided in our center.

EXAMPLE B

I have two participants who have really been "drawn out" because of the center. One spoke only in monosyllables when he started three years ago. This year he is putting his thoughts into words. Another hardly spoke at all. He now joins in conversation. The center is his whole life.

EXAMPLE C

One girl, age 10, cried constantly—ate everything, even the pictures on the wall. She pestered the other children. Now spends her time happily working on puzzles, coloring, listening to records, etc. For the first time, her parents can take her with them when they go visiting.

EXAMPLE D

One of our non-ambulatory retardates had lived most of his life in his playpen or crib. Outside of nap time, he is standing alone, or walking with self-help around both class and play rooms. His perception has improved beyond our belief, and also his vision. He now notices objects twenty feet away, and then attempts to reach them. The last two weeks he has taken as many as ten steps alone.

EXAMPLE E

One of our students (pre-schooler) was extremely hyperactive and literally "crawled the walls" when he first came into our program. By our insistence for him to remain seated when told, remain lying on his mat, and eat when others did, he eventually became more interested in our materials used in teaching and our toys. He forgot his running around in a chaotic way, and now gives us his complete attention, even though still non-verbal. He is attempting to not only speak, but to participate in other ways now and obviously enjoys the program. He was a fussy eater, but now has learned to like several foods.

<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

We, the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children, recommend to the 1967 Legislature that:

- the day activity center program be expanded and that \$1,500,000
 (estimated) in state funds be appropriated for the next biennium.
- rent, leasing cost and amortization of loans on space to conduct day activity center programs should be allowed as items eligible for state matching funds.
- the limitations on state and local support for day activity centers be raised or eliminated.
 - The present 25 cents per capita limit on state support in any one county be eliminated.
 - b. The 1/10 mill limit for counties containing cities of the first class and the 1 mill limit for other counties should be removed or raised.

APPENDIX

$\frac{\text{DAY ACTIVITY CENTERS NOT RECEIVING STATE FUNDS}}{\text{APPENDIX TABLE I}}$

NAME	TOWN
Becker County DAC	Detroit Lakes
Beltrami County DAC	Bemidji
Clay County DAC (Harbor lights)	Moorhead
Dakota County DAC	Rosemount
Duluth Rehabilitation Nursery	Duluth
East Range DAC	Eveleth
Faribault County DAC	Blue Earth
Freeborn Alpha Class	Albert Lea
Holy Nativity DAC	Minneapolis
Morrison County DAC	Little Falls
Mount Olivet DAC	Minneapolis
Open Arms DAC: for Adults	Mankato
Open Door DAC	Minneapolis
Renville County DAC	Bird Island
Rock County DAC	Luverne
St. David's DAC	Hopkins
St. Paul Rehabilitation for Handicapped	St. Paul
St. Michael's DAC	Minneapolis
Sibley County DAC	Winthrop
South Washington County DAC	Newport
Swan Lake Children's Center	Delft

$\frac{\text{DAY ACTIVITY CENTERS IN DEVELOPMENT STAGE APPENDIX}}{\text{TABLE II}}$

<u>NAME</u> <u>TOWN</u>

Big Stone-Stevens DAC Ortonville

Brown County DAC Sleepy Eye

Jackson County DAC Jackson

Lac Qui Parle County DAC Madison

Le Sueur County DAC Waterville

Murray County DAC Slayton

North Presbyterian Church DAC North St. Paul

Otter Tail County DAC Fergus Falls

St. Andrew's Church DAC Minneapolis

St. Mark's DAC North St. Paul

St. Paul's on the Hill DAC St. Paul

Scott County DAC Shakopee

Steele County DAC Owatonna

Wadena County DAC Wadena

Westminster Presbyterian DAC Minneapolis

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION FOB RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

MEMORANDUM

There are several errors and oversights on the following map giving locations of day activity centers for the mentally retarded in Minnesota. We ask that you make these corrections on your copy:

In Houston County, add a DAC in the development stage.

In Rice County, add a DAC operating but not receiving state funds.

In LeSueur County, change the center from being in the development stage to one that is operating without state funds.

In Redwood County, add a center operating without state funds. In; Sibley County, change this from a center operating without state funds to

a center in the development stage. In Ramsey County, reduce; the number of centers in the development stage from

3 to 2. In Kanabec and Pine counties, add a center in the development stage on the northern half of the boundary dividing these two counties.

Thank you for your cooperation. We apologize for this inconvenience to you.

