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FACILITIES FACETS



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DIRECTOR'S DIRECTIONS

The newly instituted "Admission Processing Fee" has caused a certain amount of confusion. I would like to try to clarify the purpose and the application of the fee.

In an effort to reimburse facilities for their cost in providing services and also maintain a manageable system for the local office, certain compromises are made. One of those compromises is the per diem rate.

When we figure the cost of vocational evaluation we take the total cost and divide by 50 and get our per diem cost. This "sort of" works but it is not totally accurate for many reasons.

One problem that we felt we could compensate for was the process of amortizing costs over the entire program. Facility expenses do not occur in this manner so it makes sense that we not reimburse them in this manner.

Many of the expenses incurred in handling a client are incurred at the beginning of the program. This is when the client requires the most staff time. He or she must have records set up and often have an initial battery of tests along with initial counseling and case management time.

If these costs are spread over the 50 days of a program and the client quits after the first week, we have a problem. This is why the "Admission Processing Fee" was instituted. It reimburses their additional cost up front where it actually occurs.

The fee is only payable after the client has selected and been accepted by a facility and the authorization for services is written. In addition the client must attend the facility physically in order to initiate the intake process.

No fee is paid for "visits" to decide what facility a client might like to attend or for screening purposes by the facility.

We feel this is a better and fairer way to deal with this problem. I hope you concur.

A NEW EMPLOYEE JOINS DVRS' FACILITIES UNIT - NOVEMBER 1983

Mr. Allen Waters joins the Facilities Unit this month. Allen is a long time Vocational Rehabilitation employee. His previous position was Supervising Counselor in the Trenton local DVRS office. Allen will be filling the post previously held by Mrs. Jane Eggiman who retired in the Fall of 1982.* We welcome Allen and take this opportunity to introduce him to you.

(* That post being Facility Specialist for Central New Jersey Area.)

NOTEWORTHY QUOTES

"Quality is never an accident.
It is always the result of
intelligent effort.
There must be the will to
produce a superior thing."
-By: John Ruskin

UNITED WAY OF AMERICA ENDORSES CARF

United Way of America on July 5, 1983, endorsed the National Standards and Accreditation program of the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The intent is to encourage local community support through this endorsement. Local United Way organizations are encouraged to consider this when determining levels of support.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL ROUNDUP

Federal Fiscal Year 1983 is now history. The figures are all in and are generally encouraging.

Of DVRS' 5,371 rehabilitations this year, 1,387 (25.8%) of these individuals received some facility service while a client. Seven hundred and six (706) of these rehabilitations were in competitive employment and six hundred and thirty nine (639) were placed in sheltered employment.

DVRS spent \$2,578,866 in Vocational Rehabilitation facilities. This figure does not include transportation; maintenance or physical medicine service costs.

Clients beginning evaluation increased 4.7% this year and clients beginning Work Adjustment Training increased 17.9%. There was even a 5.5% increase in clients beginning Skill Training program although the statewide figure was only 189 new starts for the year.

The average wage for clients placed in competitive employment was \$4.16 an hour while average

wage of clients placed in Sheltered Employment was \$1.16 an hour.

In the Extended Employment program the overall average was \$1.05 per hour up \$.03 from last year. During FY 83, 278 or 7.4% of the population were placed in competitive employment. The population of the Sheltered Workshops was 71.5% mentally retarded and 18% mentally ill. The remaining 9.5% suffered from disabilities ranging from blindness to amputation.

During the last year the breakdown of clients who were sent to facilities for services is as follows:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Visual.....	.9%
Deaf.....	1.8%
Hard of Hearing.....	4.0%
Orthopedic.....	12.2%
Amputation.....	.7%
Mental Illness.....	33.8%
Mental Retardation...	29.3%
Cancer.....	5.1%
Diabetes.....	.3%
Epilepsy.....	3.3%
Cardiac.....	1.4%
Not Classified.....	7.2%

Much of the data quoted here is available for specific facilities and we will be happy to work with you if you have any specific requests.

JOHN E. FOGARTY PUBLIC PERSONNEL AWARD

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped annually presents the John E. Forgarty Public Personnel Award. This award honors an outstanding public agency employee for contributing to hiring of disabled people in the agency in which he or she is employed.

An official or worker who has contributed toward employment of the disabled people in his or her agency - federal, state, county,

municipal, judiciary or public college or school - by developing or instituting policies or procedures giving leadership, or by finding suitable jobs for disabled people in his or her agency.

The award is given for the nominee's activities from January 1 through December 31 of the previous calendar year. These activities may include culmination or continuation of a project started previously or a project that began and ended during the year being considered.

Anyone wishing to submit a nomination should prepare a statement describing the nominee's contributions or actions leading to employment in his or her agency and where applicable in the community. This should be submitted with a biographical sketch and an 8 x 10 inch glossy photograph of the nominee to Karen Sinnreich, DRVS, CN 398, Trenton, NJ 08625 by December 20, 1983.
