

CRCS: Past, Present, and Future

"In the beginning" (before RTC, UAP, and ICI) there was the Developmental Disabilities Project on Residential Services and Community Adjustment. This project was initiated in 1976 under a grant from the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities (now ADD), Rehabilitation Services Administration, Office of Human Development Services, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and was directed by Bob Bruininks. The DD Project, as it was known, involved a nationwide census study of residential programs for persons with mental retardation in 1977 and an indepth interview study of about 2,000 residents of 236 residential facilities in 1978-1979. Both studies were designed to collect data on a) the administrative and general characteristics of facilities, b) the demographic, physical, and behavioral characteristics of people in residential facilities, c) movement statistics including factors related to first admission and readmission to residential facilities, and d) the placement of former residents of public residential facilities. In 1981, the DD Project was renamed the Center for Residential and Community Services (CRCS) to reflect both its general orientation and its commitment to expansion beyond a single project.

In 1981, CRCS received major funding from the Health Care Financing Administration to replicate the 1977 census study and to carry out a number of related policy studies and analyses. Data from the 1977 and 1982 surveys were used for reports on five-year trends in residential services. Probability samples were selected from the 1982 database of 15,633 facilities to study residential services to and experiences of elderly persons with mental retardation, and for persons living in small community foster homes and group homes of 6 or fewer residents.

The CRCS Recurring Data Set Program continues today and expands this 15-year involvement in maintaining and reporting national data on residential services for persons with developmental disabilities. Major aspects of the program include: 1) conducting annual state-by-state surveys on the number of persons in public and private, Medicaid funded and non-Medicaid residential facilities by size and type; 2) gathering annual statistics on resident movement and costs in public residential facilities; 3) conducting biennial surveys of all public residential facilities to gather data on resident demographic and functional characteristics, facility administration, staffing, resident movement; 4) carrying out secondary analysis of federal statistical program databases that have significant subpopulations of people with developmental disabilities; and 5) conducting research integration and/or state policy surveys related to contemporary policy issues of importance in residential services.

Since its inception, CRCS research activities have been reported in 100 separate reports, book chapters and journal articles. Beginning in September, CRCS will merge with the Research and Training Center on Community Living to form the Research and Training Center on Residential Services and Community Living. This combination will blend the extensive experience of CRCS in national survey and policy analysis activities with the commitment and expertise of the Research and Training Center in the areas of community integration intervention and longitudinal and qualitative research.

For further information about the work of the CRCS, contact Carolyn White at 624-5510.

Institute to Co-Sponsor Inclusive Education Workshop

The Institute on Community Integration, along with the Minneapolis Children's Medical Center and Hopkins School District 270, will present a workshop *Inclusive Education = Full Membership* September 30-October 1, 1991. Topics for the workshop include: Inclusion/Exclusion in School and Society, Strategies that Work, Giftedness vs. Disability, Dealing with the Three Dragons, Management Strategies, Problems, and Finding Solutions. This workshop features Marsha Forest and Jack Pearpoint, Directors of the Center for Integrated Education and the Community, and visiting Professors at McGill University in Canada.

Marsha Forest, a well-known advocate of inclusive education for all children, has provided support to many school districts and families seeking to build inclusive school communities. An internationally recognized author and lecturer in the area of inclusive education, she has developed MAPS and Circle of Friends as innovative strategies to help school systems welcome and include all students. Jack Pearpoint has been a leader in the international literacy movement for the past fifteen years. He has been a strong advocate for including students who are challenged by maladaptive behaviors, and along with Marsha, explored creative and cooperative educational structures.

The workshop, designed for professionals, paraprofessionals and parents/caregivers, will be held at the Eisenhower Community Center in Hopkins. For further information, contact Gay Rosenthal of Minneapolis Children's Medical Center (863-6870), or Tom Koch of Hopkins School District (933-9236, 933-9270).

Personnel Update

A warm welcome to **Jill Jackson**, a new employee at the Institute on Community Integration. She is the Principal Secretary for the Outcomes Center in room 111 Pattee (phone 626-1530). Originally from Manhattan, Jill completed her Bachelor's degree in Art History at Bard College in New York. She plans on beginning her Master's degree program in Public Policy Management here at the University of Minnesota next Spring.

Jill moved to Minnesota to accept an internship at the Children's Theatre, then worked at KSTP for four years, nurturing her interest in film and videos. She also has curated local art shows on occasion. Welcome to the Institute, Jill!

The Computer Center announces that **Christina Kimm** and **Yu-Wen Chang** will be responsible for Rick Itenbach's responsibilities at the Technical Assistance Center. We want to congratulate them for a job well done. If you have questions for either Christina or Yu-Wen, you can find them in 110 Pattee, or contact them at 624-7337.

Cross Reference

The library reorganization is in its final stages of completion. One phase of the library reorganization consists of disbursing library materials to interested persons for stewardship.

We ask your help in the completion of the library reorganization. If you have any books or materials that you think may belong to the library, would you please return them to Marijo McBride, in order for the materials to be catalogued. Thank you.

Managing... When You Must Criticize

If you need to criticize, try these suggestions:

- Voice your criticism as soon as possible. It's more natural than waiting a long time.
- Criticize one thing at a time. Don't overload the person with a list of concerns.
- Don't repeat a point once you've made it.
- Object only to actions the other person can change. If you ask the person to do something he or she is unable to do, frustration builds in your relationship.
- Present criticisms as suggestions or questions if possible.
- Avoid sarcasm. Sarcasm signals you are angry at people -- not at their actions. This may cause people to resent you.
- Avoid words like *always* and *never*. They usually detract from accuracy and place you in a weak position.
- Don't apologize for your criticism. Doing so detracts from it and may indicate you're not sure about whether you had a right to say what you did.
- Don't forget compliments. Then when you criticize, people will be more likely to accept it.

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Odds and Ends

• Minnesota Assistive Technology Consortium (MATC)

The focus and purposes of this group are to provide networking opportunities, information sharing, resource identification, and promotion of collaborative efforts regarding Assistive Technology.

The consortium membership includes consumers of assistive technology, professionals who provide assistive technology, and others who are intrigued by assistive technology. In order to promote consumer involvement, consumer scholarships will be provided (after 10/01) to finance costs of attending meetings or making them accessible (interpreters, transportation, etc.). Funding will be sponsored through the STAR program.

Meetings are open to all interested persons. The next planning session will be September 4th, 1991 at Tamarack Technologies Incorporated, 1471 Energy Park Drive, St. Paul.

For further information, contact Diane Mutchler at 296-9145.

Workshops and Conferences

- August 16: *Positive Learning: An Alternative to Behavior Management*, White Bear Lake, MN. Contact 1-800-247-6836.
- August 16-20: *American Psychological Association*; San Francisco, CA.
- August 19-21: *Improve Your Firm's Direct Mail/Direct Marketing*, New York. Contact 1-212-768-7277 x486.
- August 19-22: *American Statistical Association Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA.

Birthdays!

August 19	Martha Thurlow
August 26	Troy Mangan
August 27	Nina Russo
August 28	Cathy Macdonald