

1112 Boni Drive
Pittsburgh, Penna. 15236
January 22, 1973

Senator Frank Mazzei
1017 E. Carson Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203

Sir:

Something has to be done about the help at Spruce Lodge Total Care Unit at Western State School and Hospital in Canonsburg and done at once. On the three to eleven shift, I find only two girls taking care of 40 total care patients and now one of the two girls (Mary O) is retarded and is not capable of giving them the care that is needed. Even though Mary is a nice person and she tries hard she has put a rectal thermometer in a child's mouth who can bite and does not realize the danger involved. This is sheer negligence on the part of the authorities at Western State School and Hospital and action must be taken immediately.

I also see these children are back to laying on the floor or in bed all day without any attention from anyone except the little the attendants are able to give them. There is trained personnel who are very good with these beautiful children, but, I suppose the new director feels it is wasted on the total care. Well--I disagree, and if need be I will call every open discussion program I can and also write a letter to the editor of our local paper.

Your immediate attention to this crucial problem is requested.

Respectfully,

Joy Gafforini

CC: Hon. Jos. M. Gaydos
Dr. Goldberg, Pres. Parent's Group of WSSH