

FAMILY GUIDANCE CLINIC OF MERCER COUNTY

300 WEST STATE STREET

SHARON, PENNSYLVANIA 16146

★ ★

PHONE: 347-4583 OR 347-4584

April 23, 1973

Received in
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

APR 30 1973

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Ref. to _____

The Honorable Milton J. Shapp
Governor of Pennsylvania
State Capitol
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Shapp:

As concerned professionals we want to voice our opinions concerning the dismissal of Dr. James H. McClelland, Superintendent of Polk State School & Hospital, Polk, Pa. We are strongly opposed to this action.

We have worked with Polk and several of us have seen the facilities. The so-called "cages" were viewed by us as a positive treatment procedure, as a safe, humane way of dealing with violent behavior. To quote Dr. McClelland, "It's an opportunity to separate a patient from the group, but still keep him in the group where he can see and hear the other patients - just like having a child in a playpen in a living room."

We strongly recommend that this decision be reconsidered.

Sincerely,

The Staff

Dorcas Deluge, A.C. SW.
Patricia Woodbridge, caseworker
Michelle H. Kantor, MSW
Patricia Means
Frank Barnes
William - PhD
George Phoenix, MSW
Barbara Morris

cc: Helen Wohlgenuth, Pa. Welfare Secretary
Dr. James H. McClelland