

Confidential

December 4, 1975

Charles B. Inlander, Director  
Modular Training Project on Advocacy  
Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Citizens  
1500 North Second St.  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17102

DEC 10 1975  
RECEIVED  
FELLOWSHIP

Dear Charlie,

Per your request, I am writing to provide you with additional information concerning my recent visit to a Pennsylvania State School and Hospital. Please feel free to share this letter with appropriate persons associated with PARC.

On October 31, 1975, I visited Ebensburg State School and Hospital, Ebensburg, Pa. during the hours of 11:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. with a colleague of mine

At the outset of our tour, Ebensburg administrators explained that most residents at the institution received a full-time program of education, while some received "as much as they could handle." As we toured the facility, however, we noted that large numbers of school-age residents (under 21) were not in any program. I would estimate that we observed at least 100 and as many as 200 school-age residents who were not participating in any educational program during regular school hours.

Most of the residents we observed either wandered about large day rooms or slept in chairs. A couple of residents were naked, while the majority wore old, baggy "state clothes."

Our "tour guide," an Ebensburg administrator, was unable to explain why school-age residents were not involved in programs. He merely remarked, "I don't understand why they're not in school--they all should be."

We directly observed one crowded classroom on the grounds of the institution. One resident was asleep; a couple sat in chairs, listless. From my experience with institutions and the "developmentally disabled," I would guess that these residents, as well as many others throughout the facility, received large dosages of tranquilizers which made it difficult for them to stay awake and alert.

Ebensburg administrators explained that the Intermediate Unit of the Pennsylvania Department of Education rented three or four buildings in the community to which institutionalized children were transported to receive educational programming. These were



Charles B. Inlander

Page 2

I wanted to bring these observations to your attention to see if there is anything that you, or others associated with PARC, can do to begin to rectify this situation. Please let me know if you would like me to furnish you with more specific information regarding my visit, including the name of the facility, or if I can assist you in any other way.

Kindest personal regards.

Very truly yours,