

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT
1980-81



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State Budget and Control Board

RECORDS MANAGEMENT

The microfilm section has filmed over 600 cartridges of film this year eliminating over 600 cubic feet of hard copy record while creating over 600 cubic feet of additional file space. Several projects began this year and includes filming cancelled checks for the Department's Finance Section, the locator at S. C. State Hospital, which is to be distributed to all facilities of the Department of Mental Health, and over 600 cartridges of old film at S. C. State Hospital containing medical records will be duplicated in order to produce security copies to be stored at the Department of Archives and History. These projects are expected to be completed by September of 1981.

INTERSTATE TRANSFERS

S. C. still maintains a 2 to 1 ratio in transferring patients to other states over receiving patients. In addition, the Interstate Transfer Coordinator has referred a number of patients to other Mental Health and Mental Retardation facilities in S. C.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE HOSPITAL

Many of the goals established for FY '81 were attained. Primary in achievement was the closing of the Babcock Building to residential use. This required the cooperation and hard work of many staff and contributed to improved safety for hospital residents. Additional accomplishments were the installation and successful reopening of our Radiology Department, the strengthening of our Quality Assurance Program, the development of an effective treatment planning methodology, and the correction of many of our major life safety deficiencies. An accomplishment in which we take special pride is the accreditation of the Laboratory in the Byrnes Clinical Center by the College of American Pathologists. This accreditation is only achieved by laboratories practicing under the highest standards of efficiency and quality control.

There have been accomplishments; however, there were very discouraging setbacks during the fiscal year. Although the JCAH survey conducted in October 1980, reflected great progress, the final result was one-year accreditation rather than the maximum two-year decision. It will be necessary for the hospital to undergo an additional survey in October 1981. The greatest disappointment came as a result of budget cuts which necessitated the reduction in hospital staff of 192 positions. This had a severe impact upon the effective operation of the facility and we have experienced many challenges in attempting to provide accept-