

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT
1972-73



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at this hospital. Many employees worked for extended periods without relief while others performed tasks they are not normally required to do. All of these exemplary efforts are greatly appreciated and we commend this high quality of service to all employees.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Group Volunteers provided and encouraged social and/or recreational activities regularly for the patients. Group Volunteers numbered 3 to 12 per group and served from one to two hours per visit. Eighty-six groups, representing all denominations of area churches, chapters of the Mental Health Association, schools, civic and service clubs, made up the Corps of Group Volunteers. Additionally, Occasional Volunteers served during holidays or for other special occasions during the year. Most of the 60 Individual Volunteers worked with specific patients for varying periods of time including some who had clerical assignments throughout the hospital. One church group initiated the "Adopt-A-Patient" program by which each Volunteer "adopted" a patient and treated that patient as a loved relative by sending cards and/or gifts for special occasions, wrote letters and arranged for passes from hospital when the patient's condition permitted. Material contributions were great throughout the year and the patient's Apparel Shop was stocked completely from contributions. A new Volunteer Services Policies and Procedures Manual was written during the year and manual for Volunteers was updated.

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Professional services activities were considerably enhanced during the year by the employment of several psychiatrists and physicians with excellent training and experience.

REMOTIVATION SERVICES

The continued treatment and/or long-term care wards continue to be known as Remotivation I and II. No new behavior programs were started because of lack of per-

sonnel. However the programs in the Thompson and Talley Buildings and the program on Ward 310, Babcock Building, continued to function satisfactorily. Renovation of Parker Annex was completed and is being used for men able to live in an open ward environment. LaBorde Building was closed and is undergoing renovation. During the past year more interest in and planning towards a change over to the geographical catchment area unit system has been evidenced. The first unit or pilot project which was initiated at Allan Building progressed well even though it is not functioning as a complete unit because of lack of nursing personnel. The second unit consisting of patients from the Charleston Area, is now in the formative period. There was an appreciable decrease in the resident population during the year from 2,198 in July 1972 to 2,019 on June 30, 1973.

NURSING SERVICE

Staffing for the year of 1972-73 was increasingly difficult in the loss of men and in efforts to recruit them. Since all service sections continue to become increasingly program oriented and consideration is geared toward the Unit System of locating geographic catchment areas together, there continues the desire for relatively fixed staffs and increased employees for individual relationships to patients or increased involvement in group activities or programs. The key problem, the absence of the built-in relief factor of a .6 ratio to supply needed coverage remains. South Carolina State Hospital continued affiliation for diploma, associate degree and baccalaureate nursing.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICE

The Admission Exit Social Work Section was reorganized to establish four teams of social workers; each team having assigned a Master's Degree Social Worker. Each Social Work Team, in turn, was then assigned to work with a multi-disciplinary Admissions Team. Several workers have been involved with the Resocialization Program in the Leiber Building and two social workers implemented a similar program for Ward 219 in the Williams