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crisis HOUSE news

630 W. LEXINGTON AVE., EL CAJON, CA 92020 • 444-1194 July 20, 1971 Vol. 1 No. 12

TRAINING: A training workshop for all Crisis House staff is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm at the Sacred Heart Convent, 2100 Greenfield Dr. El Cajon. This location was selected because it was available at no charge (by very special arrangement!) and is adequate for large groups.

This is a chance for everyone to get acquainted with everyone else, to share ideas and to get the answers to questions you have. The agenda is:

- 9:30 Micro-lab (getting acquainted)
- 10:00 What's Happening at Crisis House (general discussion)
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 Legal (problems in working with minors, etc.)
- 12:30 Lunch (bring yours in a sack, coffee and coke will be provided
- 1:15 Drugs (helping drug users)
- 2:45 Evaluation (what do you think of this kind of training)
- 3:00 End of training. All are invited to stay and talk, to make new friends and to swim (Bring suits, towels and bathing caps)

There has been a lot of interest expressed in this kind of get together. We hope to see everyone there. If you need transportation either come in or phone in to Crisis House, we'll find you a ride.

STAFF CHANGES: Richard Sison is the new coordinator of resources. He will probably be contacting some of you who have indicated on your applications an interest in working in this area. If he doesn't and you have info about needed items, call him at 449-0137.

Joan Sullivan, who has given a lot of time and energy to us over the past several months will be leaving the area in August. We're going to miss you, Joan. Good luck in your new job!

Wendell Fry, a medical corpsman, has volunteered to be coordinator of medical services. In addition to exploring the ins and outs of providing limited medical service we hope he will provide us with a useful index of who's doing what in the way of medical for people, especially for those who can't afford to pay, or who don't want to use regular medical services because of the nature of their problem. If you have any info we can use, call Wendy at 449-3870.

Bob Budz has taken over the Tuesday night group previously led by Richard Gayton. This group is especially appropriate for adults with drug problems. If you have a question about referring anyone call Bob, 447-5541.

FEEDBACK: The nurses of the Dept. of Public Health on Douglass in El Cajon contacted us to express their thanks and appreciation for the help Crisis House has given them. They hear very favorable comments about us from those they have referred for help. No matter what the need is, nobody gets a "brushoff", or a quick "sorry, we can't do anything"; it is always a sincere "we'll try". Volunteers either help directly or find someone who will and report back on what help was given. The nurses remarked about a couple of cases recently: one, an elderly man who needed a ramp built so he could move his wheelchair outside to enjoy the sunshine -- it was done; a person who was in dire need of a ride to the Public Health Dept-- it was provided. Another one that the nurses didn't feel they could elaborate on was just that Crisis House really "bailed them out of a fix" by meeting the need of a woman who "always has a crisis".

It appears that the quiet, sincere help we give speaks for itself. Thanks to the nurses for letting us know.

DRUG POLICY-GROSSMONT DISTRICT: The Grossmont Board of Education considered the Report and Recommendations of the Augmented Drug Review Committee at its July 7 meeting and failed to take definitive action. Instead, a new superintendent's committee was constituted. This new committee, consisting of the superintendent, Austin Sellery, 6 administrators, 2 board of education members and 1 teacher, are reviewing the recommendations to eliminate overlap, to work out specific ways the recommendations can be implemented, to work out cost estimates and to rank recommendations in order of priority. Their report is to be ready for presentation to the Board on 8/2.

The Augmented Drug Review Comm. was set up on 2/16/71 to review the Dist's current policy of expelling students who are involved with on or off-campus use or selling of narcotics. They were instructed to come up with some recommendations for changing the policy toward prevention, control and rehabilitation of drug usage in the district. After five months of hard work, discussion and investigation they did come up with a set of recommendations. In brief, they determined that expulsion has not been an effective deterrent in dealing with kids. Expulsion will become increasingly unfair since Ed.Code 10603.5 was recently amended to read ..."arresting officer of a juvenile arrested for a drug violation under 4180 of the Penal Code may (instead of shall) immediately give written notice to the student's school of attendance". This means that students who reside in communities where the police follow the old policy of notifying the student's school be will expelled, whereas the ones residing in communities where the police choose not to notify will not be expelled. At any rate, the committee recommended that off-campus violators no longer be automatically expelled, a nd that there be more flexibility in dealing with both on- and off-campus violators. They developed alternatives to expulsion.

Reluctance to take action on the part of the board stems from 2 factors. First, two members of the board are retiring and were hesitant to adopt recommendations that the new board would have to implement; Second, there is a basic philosophical difference of opinion among board members regarding discipline. In spite of the fact that the number of students involved with drugs is increasing each year, some board members continue to believe that the most effective way to deal with the problem is to have rigidly spelled-out rules and rigid enforcement. Attempts to develop alternatives, to see the problem in a broader context, or to deal with each student as an individual with a unique set of circumstances and needs are interpreted as "permissiveness" a-la-Spock. And, afterall, isn't his approach responsible for encouraging kids to question their elders, to question social values,and to go against moral rules, including taking drugs?

There are parents in the district who go along with the "one apple will spoil the bunch" philosophy and who see expulsion as a deterrent. However, the board is responsive to other views when presented in a constructive way. If you are interested in policy change in the district, a constructive way to make your views known would be to attend the Board meeting August 2, at the District Office, 7:30 p.m., or to write:

Mr. Overstreet, Pres.
Grossmont Board of Education
Box 1043
La Mesa, CA 92041

A QUIET HELPER: We in Crisis House become so involved in doing our thing we tend to overlook others who, by doing their thing, have helped us. One such person is Mary Lou Turner, editor and publisher of the Back Country Trader (BCT). Mary Lou is a Lakeside widow with a teenage son, Bob.

Because her paper is Lakeside-oriented, Mary Lou and the BCT have been interested in CH since it opened. For many months, BCT printed a complimentary ad for CH each week. In addition, Mary Lou typeset our cards, brochure and posters. Through her many friendships in the community, she has been instrumental in gaining for CH a financial pledge from the Lakeside CofC, a donated booth at the Lakeside Fair and Rodeo, free printing of our cards, brochures and posters. Thank you, Mary Lou.

NEWSLETTER: We are in the process of getting a bulk rate mailing permit that will allow us to expand our mailing list. If you know a person or organization that would like to receive a copy contact Irene, 444-0338 or Mary, 447-4339 and leave name and address.

If you have anything you want put in the Newsletter contact the same people. Don't throw away this paper! Help conserve national resources and our precious supply of paper by sharing it around.

NEW RESOURCES:

- Crash Pad-Sponsored by the Coord. Council on Social Development. Location: Presidio Park Rec. Ctr. 2811 Jackson, S.D. 296-6489. Facilities: 65 bed Hostel, temporary lodging for men over 18. Regulations: No food, amplifiers, smoking. Lodging from 10 pm to 8 am. Fee: less than $1 (see index file)
- Pregnancy Tests-County Health Dept. El Cajon Branch, can be arranged by calling for an appt, 442-9451. Tests are free, there is no residence requirement, no one is "notified" other than the woman herself, parental consent is not required. If a girl does not want notification of outcome of test mailed to her home she can make arrangements for notification when she keeps her appt. (see index card for more info)
- V.D. Diag. & Treatment-South East Health Center, 3177 Ocean View, Wed. eve. 5:30-8:30. No chg, no parental consent or notification. Names of contacts required.

WE NEED:

- Someone to take over Linda House's job of keeping our index of resources up to date. Call Irene.
- More food--cupboards are getting bare again due to many requests for emergency food. Any ideas?
- Someone to fix and paint our CH sign. Wires are loose and pole rusty-ugh! Anyone have some white paint, a brush, a little time and a pair of pliers?
- Volunteers for phones for weekdays afternoons and Sat. a.m. If you can switch, call Mary 447-4339.
- Someone who is particularly interested in working with the legal program. Kathleen Ross who has had it for a year, would like to resign.

FROM THE DIRECTOR: As we look around to where we've been and where we want to go there are some specific things that need more work NOW. (1) We need to clarify, define and expand our counseling services. (2) We need to explore new ways of providing legal advice and services to meet the increasing demand. (3) We need to do more in the way of training. (4) We need to increase and improve communication among everyone working at CH.

We have the structure and organization for meeting these needs. We have an active board, a full slate of coordinators, eager volunteers and, for the present, some alleviation from financial worries. Let's get together and not only germinate new ideas but work out plans for implementing them!

The above needs are based on our statistics for June. We handled a total of 411 calls and 72 walk-ins. Our most frequent request continues to be for legal services, followed by marital counseling, people who just want to talk, transportation requests, juvenile and drug problems, food and housing (in that order). Our busiest days are Tues., Wed., & Thursday, which reflects the number of legal requests as these are the days when legal advice is available. Even though we are only open 2 hours during the day, a large percentage of our requests are received then. This indicates a need for expanded day time hours.

THANK YOU'S TO:

Mr./Mrs. Neil Town - money
M. Ermal Smith - money
"Cover-Ups" for 6 quilts
Kaiser Hospital - baby formula
Convent Sacred Heart - use of lodge for training workshop.
San Diego Teachers' Assn - service
El Cajon Valley Lioness Club - $100 for Answerphone
Carl & Lee Black - money
Sprites - money
Katherine Jones - money
El Cajon teenagers dance - food and money
Pat Johnson - money

CRISIS HOUSE COORDINATORS

Executive Administrator - Irene Orr - 444-0338
Tel. Scheduling - Mary Cheuvront - 447-4339
Training - Betty Jordan - 442-3593
Transportation - Rick Gray - 447-5662
Counselors - Terry Phillips - 284-5293
Publicity and Historian - Maxine Scott - 444-4934
Statistics - Nikki Symington - 447-6234
Secretaries - Mary Cheuvront - 447-4339
Legal Program - Kathleen Ross - 462-1626
Speakers' Bureau - Barbara Fitzgerald - 461-5159
Cleaning - Mac MacDonald - 444-6788
Newsletter - Shirley Marchant - 448-4608
Resource Procurement - Richard Sison - 449-0137
Medical - Wendall Fry - 449-3870
Bookkeeper - Rose MacDonald - 444-6788

MEETINGS

Orientation for New Telephone Volunteers - Every other Saturday at Crisis House, 10:00 a.m. Next one is July 31.

Workshop for all Crisis House staff - July 24, 9:00 a.m. - Convent of Sacred Heart

Coordinators -*Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Next one is Aug. 10* at 340 N. 1st, El Cajon (Mgrs. apt.) For all coordinators. Open to anyone who wants to visit.

Board of Directors - First Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. Next one at Dr. Don Miller's, 1612 Cliffdale Rd., El Cajon. (All volunteers are encouraged to visit Board meetings whenever they choose.)

*Note change from first Tuesday each month.

Cure/
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San Diego, CA.

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92104

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