

## **1984**

### **This was the state of the Kevin Coleman Center as of 1984:**

Kevin Coleman Mental Health Center began operations in 1978 with an emphasis on the chronically and severely mentally disabled adults in Portage County. Its beginning programs were very different from the then traditional community mental health centers because vocational rehabilitation and residential services were offered. These nontraditional programs augmented the more traditional psychotherapeutic services that the Center also provides.

The Center started with a vocational rehabilitation program that became accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in 1980. Staffing and equipment grants for the vocational program were obtained from the Rehabilitation Services Commission with match money from the Portage County Community Mental Health Board. Using a variety of vocational assessment techniques, vocational evaluation services are provided to clients. The Center also operates two businesses, janitorial and silk screening, to provide work adjustment services for clients. Later, job placement services were added to assist clients in seeking, getting and keeping jobs. Currently, there are 60 clients participating in vocational rehabilitation services.

In 1978, the Center also began with residential services. Subsequently, the residential services were shifted to a building owned by the Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority and managed by the Center. There are 12 beds available in this licensed residential treatment facility for adults. In addition, licensed community apartments are offered to severely mentally disabled clients. In 1979, the Center submitted a grant application for an additional residential facility to be funded by the Department of Mental Health. This grant was consolidated with an approved grant for partial hospitalization, and a new facility will open in Portage County in November 1984. This new building has space for an eight-bed residential treatment facility for post-hospitalized young adults and a two-bed respite/crisis care unit for clients of the Center.

In 1983, the Center added psychosocial services for 508 clients by means of a grant from the Department of Mental Health. This program will be the first to move into the new building in November 1984.

The Center has also provided chemotherapy, pre-screening for hospitalization, as well as individual and group psychotherapy for the 233 severely mentally disabled clients of the Center.

In 1984, the Center revised its case management system for the severely mentally disabled. Case managers provide umbrella coverage for advocacy, consumer activities, liaison to psychiatric facilities in the area, linkage to community resources, and treatment planning for the severely mentally disabled.

The Center has always provided opportunities for consumer feedback and participation in residential, psychosocial and vocational services. The Center also offers consumer participation in the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, consumer evaluation of services and membership on a Consumer Advisory Committee. The Center will expand consumer participation even further with the opening of the new building, which offers integrated mental health and rehabilitation services to the 508 (person) population.

### **PRIORITY**

Most of the resources of the Center provide services to the severely mentally disabled as defined by the Department of Mental Health and identified by the staff of Massillon and Fallsview Psychiatric Hospitals. A close and cooperative relationship exists between the Center and the psychiatric hospitals. In many instances a Center staff member accompanies the severely mentally disabled to the hospital. Case managers visit the patient in the hospital and confer with hospital staff

about treatment and discharge planning. The client moves quickly and easily into the Center's chemotherapy, socialization, vocational and residential services. The priority is to provide continuous service delivery from the hospital to the Center.

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