



TROUBLED?



MIXED UP?

ARE YOU...



FEELING LOW?



UNHAPPY?



ANGRY?

Guilford County Mental Health Center
404 N. Wrenn Street, 888-9929

Community Mental Health Services Improved By Model Cities Project

A Model Cities project designed to improve the city's mental health delivery system has been implemented by the hiring of a project director by the Guilford County Mental Health Authority.

Approved last spring by the Model City Commission, the project has been delayed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare-National Institute of Mental Health, who is contributing \$75,531 to the total budget of \$100,709 for Phase I.

High Point Model Cities' one-fourth local matching share is \$25,178. A further proposal will be made to the Commission this winter for funding of Phase II.

The money will be used to augment existing and proposed elements of the county's comprehensive mental health plan by enlarging the local mental health staff and by providing professionals to five agencies in the High Point community who currently render mental health and related services.

Coordination among projects is a key element in the Model Cities process. The new Community Mental Health project, planners say, will enhance the delivery system not only of other Model Cities projects, but of others, both public and private.

With the hiring of project director Beverly McCabe, a community services consultant, October 1, the project officially got under way.

TWO PHASES

The project is organized in two parts. Phase I involves the establishment of a 22-bed short-term acute treatment facility at Greensboro's L. Richardson Hospital; and the addition of several staff members at the Mental Health Clinic to provide direct services to High Point residents, particularly those from the Model Neighborhood.

Phase II, though pending funds, is designed to bridge gaps between the county's mental health services and those provided by a growing number of agencies who deal with problems related to mental health. As soon as contractual agreements are worked out by Ms. McCabe, five professionals will be hired to act as liaisons with the Mental Health Center and as resource persons for their own particular agency.

The L. Richardson facility, Ms. McCabe hopes, will be open by the end of December. Mentally ill, alcoholic and

drug-addicted patients will stay there no more than 14 days, it is planned, and will undergo intensive individual and group psychotherapy, detoxification and rehabilitation.

Until the new facility was approved, the closest facility for the care of such patients was John Umstead Hospital, Butner. Mental Health resident director Mary Elizabeth Blair, a principal planner of the project as a member of the Model Cities Health and Social Services Task Force, explained the desirability for community health care.

MINIMIZE BLOW

"There are no psychiatric beds for those who can't afford to pay—the indigents," she said. "Cone Hospital (Greensboro) is the only place in the county for the mentally ill to go if they need hospitalization. To be sent 90 miles away to Butner is a blow to anyone if he is sick. We want to keep the blow to a minimum. That's why we put the emphasis on community care, to keep patients as close to home as possible, near their friends and family."

The volume of out-patient, rehabilitative and pre- and post-care services available at the Mental Health Clinic, 404 N. Wrenn Street, has been considered handicapped due to a manpower shortage in the past, Ms. McCabe explained. They accept referrals from any source and offer individual and group counselling—"talk therapy."

The additional staff members at the Mental Health Center will help relieve the overload of patients. In September there were 562 active cases on file; of those, 25 percent, or 141, were Model Neighborhood residents.

Although the Model Cities and HEW-NIMH grants will maintain the five professionals the first year, it is

Now that
you're registered,
VOTE!
Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Here Are Some "Do's, Don'ts" To Guard Against Home Fires

Now that winter's on the way, homes will be turning on their heat—and upping the chances for fire.

In a matter of minutes, your home could be destroyed, and property that has taken years to accumulate could be gone.

Unsafe furnaces and negligence of basic home safety rules could cause your home to go up in flames.

Here are some "don'ts" that will keep your home safer in any season:

Don't thaw frozen water pipes with an open flame; use hot water.

Don't keep oily, greasy or paint-smeared rags in the house; they could catch on fire easier than you realize by spontaneous combustion.

Don't let electric cords for irons, lamps, and appliances get wet.

Don't replace blown-out fuses with pennies, wire or anything other than a new fuse.

Don't overload circuits.

Don't let old papers and trash accumulate in closets, attics, basements, garages and porches. Throw out trash regularly.

Don't let children play with matches.

Don't smoke in bed.

On the other hand, do follow these rules:

Have your heating plant, chimney and roof inspected every year. Sooty or leaking flues cause fires.

Use a fine mesh metal screen in front of your fireplace to stop sparks.

Know the location of the nearest fire alarm box and how to turn in an alarm. Memorize the fire department's phone number: 885-2171.

Watch your stove constantly while broiling or frying. Never pour water on burning fat.

If you smell gas, open windows and call the gas company immediately.

There are an estimated 680,000 home fires annually in the United States; don't let yours be one of them!

Revenue Sharing

(Continued from page 1)

ing—rather than isolating a problem such as housing or education—and build interrelated programs aimed at eliminating those problems.

The Model Cities process of planning, managing and evaluating programs, it is hoped, will show its true value as revenue sharing comes to High Point. The involvement of citizens will remain the all-important link in that process.

She Thought It Was 'Fishy'

(Continued from Page 1)

and considered herself swindled. She didn't know about the dozens of others in this community—and apparently hundreds in other cities across the state—in the same predicament.

Lawyer McGee, along with Doris Lindsay, a civic-minded citizen, unearthed the names of the 52 other people from High Point alone who had had dealings with the local keypunch school. Findings were turned over to the Consumer Protection Division of the state Attorney General's Office, who conducted its own investigation of the firm.

The matter was also referred to the North Carolina Department of Higher Education, which must license such schools in order to operate in the state. Meanwhile, a former instructor of the school met with local former "students" and exposed some of the company's practices.

AMMUNITION

All these new facts gave ammunition to Legal Services to demand the school to return the fees not only of Ms. Hickman, but of all others ident-

ified in High Point who apparently had also been cheated.

A threat of a lawsuit, as well as the threat by the Department of Higher Education to revoke their state license permanently, prompted the keypunch company to make restitution to all 53. Ms. Hickman and most of the others got back every cent of the money they had paid in fees to the firm.

Though the matter was settled out of court, the company can never open another school in High Point. However, because the national office made restitution to all concerned, and thus saved their reputation, they are still allowed to maintain schools in other parts of North Carolina.

Leona Hickman's case is only one of many civil matters handled by High Point Legal Services. Although it is not affiliated formally with Model Cities, it works closely with Model Cities and many Model Neighborhood residents in settling legal affairs.

Its office is located at 106 E. Grimes Street. McGee and senior attorney Jack Poisson can be seen Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.