

ATTENTION:

**GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER,
COMMISSIONER MILLER
AND CHAIRMAN DURYEA**

**WILLOWBROOK STATE SCHOOL
EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS**

**SAY: "OUR CHILDREN ARE MORE
IMPORTANT THAN ROADS!!"**

There are intolerable conditions at Willowbrook. Children are packed into over-crowded wards under the care of under-staffed and overworked employees. There is a shortage of clothing, furniture, cleaning supplies and other equipment necessary to give proper care to the children. Overworked employees do not always have time to feed the children in their care.

The recent newspaper and television coverage has only sensationalized the inhuman situations that Dr. Hammond has condemned for years. He has both publicly and privately protested the conditions at Willowbrook and has made no attempt to conceal from interested parties, particularly members of the press, anything about the Institution.

We hope that the recent television and other media exposes of the conditions at Willowbrook shall command immediate correction of the deplorable conditions.

We are fearful, however, that the upsetting of parents, of Willowbrook employees, and the invasion of privacy of the residents has proven somewhat less than constructive. The spate of current publicity is creating the impression that there is nothing good at Willowbrook, that the employees are indifferent and unconcerned. This is not the case. People who have given years of their lives to care for the helpless individuals at the School are now ashamed to admit they work at Willowbrook State School. Nothing has been said about the fact that the mortality (death) rate is down 1/3 in the last 7 years. That many of the residents are enrolled in the education program. The media has failed to allude to the recreation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, music programs, motivational, and other therapies that have been continued in spite of the budget cuts and State imposed "freeze" by the dedicated and hardworking employees at Willowbrook.

If you really want to help the retarded children, know that the blame lies with the legislators and ultimately with the taxpayer who, by their actions, have placed the care of the retarded on a lower priority than the construction of roads. Demand that they re-evaluate their priorities.

GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER, COMMISSIONER MILLER, CHAIRMAN DURYEA, AND THE LEGISLATURE THINK VERY LITTLE OF THE PATIENTS OF WILLOWBROOK AND OTHER STATE INSTITUTIONS AND CREDIT THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK STATE WITH VERY LITTLE INTELLIGENCE TO IMAGINE THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO COVER UP THEIR INDIFFERENCE AND NEGLECT WITH A PALTRY FIVE MILLION DOLLARS.

5,508 CHILDREN—

77% NEED TOTAL CARE 24 HOURS A DAY

**HELP NEEDED?
YOU DECIDE!!**

Committee of Willowbrook Employees

William Frow, Chairman