

better system of accountability as to the two major functions in the administration of the living units: housekeeping and resident care," Grunberg said.

"We are working to reduce the population of the institution, which will improve the attendant-to-resident rates to 1-2 by the end of the fiscal year and to 1-1.5 by the end of the next fiscal year," Grunberg said.

Referring to one of the areas of information demanded by the court, Grunberg said, "Seclusion was eliminated at Willowbrook on June 15.

"Of the 11 residents who were in continuous of frequent seclusion, one was transferred to the valatie unit of Eleanor Roosevelt Development Service in the capital district ... the other 10 residents have been admitted to the behavior modification unit (where) 46 mental hygiene therapy aides provide one to one resident staff

care and training," he said.

Grunberg said that "restraint cannot be eliminated at Willowbrook.

Grunberg said that "all resident buildings received emergency kits on Aug. 3 and that plans and procedures for emergency evacuation ... were posted during the first week in August, on each building ward and in the lobby.

ADMISSIONS CLOSED

Admissions to Willowbrook have been continuously closed since January, Grunberg said.

On the subject of "parental consent," Grunberg said "once a selection is firmed up and it is determined that the resident would benefit from the transfer, a letter is sent to parents, nearest kin or guardians by the proposed receiving facilities, inviting parents to become acquainted with new location, layout, staff and program.

"The parents unable or unwilling to attend the informational meeting are then sent a certified letter, asking for consent to transfer the resident from Willowbrook State School," he continued.

"The receiving facility follows up with information to those denying consent and on those for whom no reply has been received. "No resident from Willowbrook is transferred if he objects or for whom consent has been denied by parents or next of kin," Grunberg added.

He said that "to date, more than 230 residents have been identified as appropriate for resettlement or relocation and 112 have already been transferred."

The agency director said, however, that "at this time ... it is not feasible for us to project in precise numbers a schedule for relocating and resettling Willowbrook residents after March 1973.

"We continue to adhere to an objective of transferring 2,000

residents from Willowbrook by March 1974."

Grunberg said that "while most inadequacies at the institution are still present, there are some very tangible indications that conditions are improving.

He noted the following:

- In 1970, 71 patients died at Willowbrook. In 1971, the institution lost 86 and in 1972, 56.

- In 1970, on a rate per 1,000 residents, Willowbrook stood at 20.3, compared with 19.6 at all other state institutions.

- In 1971, Willowbrook stood at 24.7, compared with a rate of 18.3 at all other state institutions.

- In 1972, Willowbrook stood at 16.4, compared with a rate of 18.6 at all other state institutions.

Since filing a deposition in Federal Court July 14, Grunberg said, Willowbrook has hired 177 employes for a net gain of 86.

A hearing is scheduled before Judd Monday.

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