

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, Wednesday, March 13, 1974

State opens new unit for the retarded

ALBANY (UPI) — The State Department of Mental Hygiene yesterday announced it was beginning to phase in patients at its new mental retardation unit in Manhattan under "Project Exodus."

Dr. Alan D. Miller, commissioner of mental hygiene, said the new unit in the Keener Building eventually will house about 100 patients now at overcrowded Willowbrook State School on Staten Island.

Project Exodus is aimed at reducing the patient burden at Willowbrook.

The patients will be moved into the Manhattan - Keener project over the next several months, Miller said.

The building has been renovated to meet the needs of mentally retarded children and adults with a wide range of handicaps, Miller said.