

Shakeup at Developmental Center continues

Willowbrook gets new deputy director

By ROBERT MIRALDI

Willowbrook Developmental Center has a new deputy director for administrative support services, it was announced yesterday, as the shake-up of the administration of the 2,800-bed institute for the retarded continues.

Director Harold C. Piepenbrink announced yesterday that Sherman P. McCoy, whose background is in hospital administration, has replaced Donald E. Fleming as deputy director, essentially the No. 2 spot at Willowbrook.

McCoy will receive \$35,678 in his new post while Fleming, who now becomes personnel director, will take a cut in salary to \$21,545. The announcement came as no surprise to Fleming who has been aware of the decision for a few weeks.

McCoy, a Brooklyn resident, comes to Willowbrook from Harlem Hospital Center, Manhattan, where he was associate director for administration in the department of psychiatry for the past 14 months.

Piepenbrink said he picked McCoy after interviewing several candidates because he was a "trained hospital administrator." Sources at Willowbrook said that Fleming just did not meet the qualifications needed for the deputy director's spot.

Since taking the director's spot at Willowbrook in March, Piepenbrink, who was recruited for his abilities as an administrator in Illinois, has been shaking up Willowbrook's organizational structure as well as its top-level administration.

Fleming is the first top-level

administrator to be shifted, although reportedly other officials are under pressure to resign. Those officials have asked not to be identified, but have admitted to the pressure and have said they intend to resist the pressure.

In March, Piepenbrink said his first task would be to decentralize the chain of command at Willowbrook and to straighten out which administrators are responsible for given areas of responsibility.

Willowbrook now has five deputy directors who report directly to Piepenbrink. Included is a director for each of

the city's five boroughs as the Department of Mental Hygiene continues its process of geographic unitization, which is the dispersal of the center's population back to the borough in which the resident originally resided.

McCoy, who could not be reached yesterday for comment on his new position, is a 1969 graduate of Cornell University. He received his master's degree in 1971 from the Sloan Institute of Hospital Administration at Cornell.

At Harlem Hospital, McCoy, who received a \$23,700 salary, had fiscal control of the psy-

chiatric unit's \$3.5-million budget. He was supervisor of administrative and personnel policies and coordinated the unit's support services.

Before going to Harlem Hospital, McCoy was a liaison administrator for the city Health and Hospital Corp., coordinating the corporation's communication with its four hospitals in Brooklyn.

McCoy is also a former chief administrative officer for the division of psychiatry at Kings County Hospital, where he worked with a wide range of community groups in developing community-based

mental health services.

Fleming, former right-hand man to former director Dr. Miodrag Ristich, played an important role for the state in the recent precedent-setting court case which mandated radical changes and eventual phasing down of Willowbrook to 250 residents.

Fleming testified for the state and aided defense attorney George Mantzoros of the attorney general's office along with Dr. Stanley Slawinski, who is presently a deputy director with jurisdiction over Willowbrook's Staten Island and Manhattan residents.