

Retarded have right to group home life

I am writing this letter concerning the prejudices of several civic groups against the installment of group homes on Staten Island. It is pitiful to see that people can make false statements about something they know nothing about.

The retarded people that are placed in this type of home are placed there simply so they do not have to suffer the indignities of a Willowbrook type hospital. These people can do no more harm than a person with a disease such as polio or muscular dystrophy. They need our help to lead a "normal life," so let's give it to them!

PATRICIA KELLY,

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Policemen find missing patient

A 10-hour police search for a missing Staten Island Developmental Center patient ended yesterday when the patient was found in a steam room on the grounds.

The search for Louis Rodriguez was headed by Capt. William L. Johnson of the 123rd Precinct, Tottenville, who supervised 10 police officers and volunteer personnel from the center. It covered 3,200 acres. A helicopter search was also conducted.

Rodriguez was seen leaving Building 20 about 7:45 a.m. He was found in Building 27 after the building was searched a second time.