

Advocate for ex-Willowbrook residents to speak

BY ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

The Benevolent Society for Retarded Children is sponsoring a presentation by the attorney appointed to oversee the implementation of court-order programs and services for residents of the former Willowbrook State School.

Rudy Magnone will give the presentation Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Magnone was appointed by the United States District Court to oversee programs and services for approximately 4,600 former residents of the institution, which is now the Staten Island Developmental Center.

Magnone, with some of his staff, will explain a recent settlement between the plaintiffs and the defendants in a case pertaining to

the rights of retarded former residents.

The settlement was intended to aid the former residents by providing proper living conditions, services, and programs; protecting existing community residences from unwanted expansion or extinction; fixing the closing date of the Staten Island Developmental Center for December 31, 1987, and limiting the number of individuals who can live on the campus to 150; requiring the state to place all remaining parties to

th class-action suit, unless prevented by severe medical disabilities, in small community-type facilities, and requiring the state to provide advocacy services for those involved.

The presentation will be held in the conference room at the Institute for Basic Research, 1050 Forest Hill Rd., Willowbrook, and is open to the public.