

DDD-PI-001

To: Developmental Disabilities Service Providers

From: Darvin Hirsch, Director
Developmental Disabilities Division

Date: January 31, 1985

Subject: Requirement for a Behavior Management Committee and a
Human Rights Committee

All providers of developmental disability services contracting with the Department of Human Services to deliver services to more than four developmentally disabled individuals must have as a portion of their organizational structure a "Behavior Management Committee" and a "Human Rights Committee." The Committees will meet on a regular, periodic basis.

The necessity of organizations having a "Behavior Management Committee" and a "Human Rights Committee" stems from two basic needs. The first need is the preservation of the rights of developmentally disabled individuals to treatment in the least restrictive appropriate environment and protection so that rights are not limited without due process. The second need is that organizations must have these standing committees operating appropriately to comply with ACDD standards and to appropriately respond to federal requirements.

In establishing their "Behavior Management Committee" and their "Human Rights Committee" each contracting provider should use the "Standards for Services for Developmentally Disabled Individuals," of the Accreditation Council for Services for Mentally Retarded and Other Developmentally Disabled Persons and, as appropriate, the applicable federal regulations for certification of an ICF/MR.

Pursuant to NDCC 25-16-03.3 and 25-16-06, along with NDAC sections 75-04-01-15 and 75-04-01-20.3 the Department of Human Services requires notification by February 15, 1985 of your organizations compliance in having a created and operational "Behavior Management Committee" and a "Human Rights Committee." If you have these committees operational please return the enclosed form by February 15, 1985. If your organization is not currently in compliance with this requirement please submit a plan indicating your steps toward compliance and the date certain when your organization will be in compliance.

DH:RG:kb

enclosure

c: DD Coordinators

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