

DDD-PI-051

TO: Regional DD Program Administrators
Regional DD Case Managers

FROM: Sandi Noble, MSW, Director
Developmental Disabilities Division

DATE: January 21, 1994

SUBJECT: Discharge Planning - State Penitentiary

Recently questions have been raised regarding the role of DD Case Management related to discharge planning when an individual with mental retardation or a related condition is projected for discharge from incarceration at the State Penitentiary. In instances where the treatment team at the pen determine that the individual could benefit from DD support or habilitative services upon their return to the community, the following transition procedures will apply:

1. Staff at the State Pen will make a referral to the Regional DD Program Administrator at the human service center in the individual's region of origin (region person resided in immediately prior to incarceration). Generally, the referral would be made towards the end of the individual's sentence, when discharge planning begins.
2. The DD Administrator in the region receiving the referral will assure that eligibility for MR-DD case management services is determined, in accordance with NDAC 75-04-06, in those cases where the individual is not an open DD client. The results of the eligibility determination will be made known to the State Pen staff as well as to the individual.
3. Discharge planning for an eligible client would include development of an Individual Service Plan, as coordinated by the assigned DD Case Manager, as well as coordination with Parole and Probation, when appropriate, and with service agencies in the receiving community; in accordance with the MR-DD Case Management Manual.

It is recognized that DD Services are not correctional in nature, nor are they designed to provide supervision for the express purpose of prevention of further criminal activity. DD services are supportive or habilitative in nature, addressing primarily the cognitive and related adaptive impairments which affect the person's ability to function independently in the community.

SN:cp
c: Regional HSC Directors