

Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center  
DALLAS SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN  
2312 OAK LAWN AVENUE, DALLAS, TEXAS

May 13, 1957

Mr. R. L. Thomas  
First National Bank  
Dallas, Texas

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Our psychological services have expanded considerably during the past year. We now have a new staff psychologist who has her Ed. D. in psychology and has acted as consultant not only to the Texas Department of Public Health but to Children's Bureau as well.

With the caliber of our present psychologist we are able to run a volunteer program in psychology and hence are able to get many more children tested than would otherwise be possible. Currently we have a volunteer program of four people all working directly under the supervision of our staff psychologist.

Among the new services offered this year have been some group therapy for the parents of cerebral palsied children. This program was initiated through the assistance of the Child Guidance Clinic and is being carried out by our staff psychologist and her volunteers. This added service will enable us to handle much more effectively the emotional problems of both children and parents and, as a result, will make for greater improvement in the children.

Our cooperative relationships with the Dallas City Schools, with the Child Guidance Clinic, and with the Children's Development Center, are now complete. Referral policies between these organizations have been established and are being followed effectively. We are especially pleased with the arrangements recently worked out for cooperative efforts between the Center and the Child Guidance Clinic under the direction of Dr. May.

A new service we hope to offer in the near future will be to take on a student affiliate in psychology. This will be a graduate student working on a Doctorate in Psychology and he will be assigned here full time for psycho-diagnosis and psycho-therapy. This also should augment our psychological program considerably.

During the past year we did an average of 80 psychological evaluations each quarter. This amounts to almost 30 evaluations a month. In addition, about 20 parental consultations were held during the quarter and 98 social histories were taken.

May 13, 1957

The psychological service we now have is by no means taking care of our complete needs. This can only be done with the employment of a full time psychologist. However, we are constantly moving in the direction of improved psychological services for the children, both cerebral palsied and non-cerebral palsied, who come to this Center. Our whole psychological program has recently been reviewed by the American Psychological Association and has been given their stamp of approval.

Our speech and hearing program now includes the employment of five speech therapists. We are soon to have a new and rather highly trained therapist for the deaf and hard of hearing children and a new therapist specializing in training children with cerebral palsy. These two therapists will replace staff members who are leaving the Center.

Our adult speech program is growing rapidly and now makes use of three volunteers in addition to our regular therapist who has recently been put on for some additional time. The Center continues to help adults with their voice problems, post-laryngectomy speech, and aphasia.

Our hearing program now includes an adequate hearing aid evaluation service. We have good working relations with most of the hearing aid dealers in Dallas and have available a stock of hearing aids for our use in fitting children. We have been designated as one of the diagnostic centers for the State Conservation of Hearing Program which is soon to get under way.

Currently we have from 120 to 130 speech and hearing children on the schedule at all times. We are now treating more than 160 separate individuals each quarter and are giving approximately 2800 treatments a quarter in speech and hearing. We are currently seeing approximately 80 new patients in speech and hearing each quarter, not counting the cerebral palsied and are doing about 220 evaluations a quarter in speech and hearing. Nearly 200 separate individuals are evaluated each quarter in speech and hearing, not counting the cerebral palsied individuals.

Our cerebral palsied treatment load has now expanded to the point where we have between 80 and 100 on our schedule at all times. These children get for the most part an intensive treatment program of 4 days a week, and each child gets physical therapy, occupational therapy, functional therapy, speech therapy, and hearing therapy as needed. In addition, these children now have the advantage of psycho-therapy where needed. We are now treating on the average of 75 separate individuals a quarter in cerebral palsy and are giving approximately 3500 treatments each quarter.

At the present time we are able to evaluate, in all departments, 25 new cerebral palsied patients each quarter. These patients come from all over the State of Texas as well as from Dallas and Dallas County and receive evaluations in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech, hearing, psychology, and a medical-social work-up. In addition, they are all seen in medical clinic by our highly specialized staff of doctors trained in cerebral palsy.

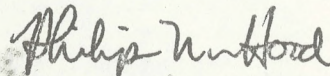
May 13, 1957

Currently we are doing more than 160 evaluations each quarter on cerebral palsied individuals and nearly 120 separate individuals are evaluated each quarter.

In addition to the information contained in the paragraphs just preceding, there may be additional information that would be of assistance to you in preparing your report. This information can be found in the yearly report for 1955-56, and in the last quarter report for January through March, 1957.

I shall be most happy to furnish you whatever additional information you may need if you wish. Please call me if there is anything else I can help you with in the preparation of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip N. Hood  
Executive Director

PNH/br