



## Citizen Committee for Improved Treatment in our State Hospitals



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162  
450  
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200  
P. O. BOX 2001 • GA 8-1494  
SACRAMENTO 9, CALIFORNIA

November 13, 1961

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Winston O. Wilson

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Re: SALARY PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HYGIENE TREATMENT PERSONNEL as recommended in the Senate Fact Finding Committee on Revenue and Taxation, Senate Resolution 21 (1960 First Extra-Ordinary Session.)

Dear Friend:

This was our number 1 priority last year. It still is if we care about the mentally ill in California and what happens to them. We want the recommendations of the above committee included in the GOVERNOR'S BUDGET. We lost one of our strongest supporters through the untimely death of Senator McBride last spring, and although the full Senate adopted the recommendations, and they were a part of the Senate budget, all but a 5% increase for technicians was lost in joint conference. The need for the total program is as great this year as it was last--probably even more so.

The press has stated, "State Finance Director Hale Champion... predicted California will finish the present 1961-62 fiscal year with a state general fund surplus of at least \$15 million and possibly a great deal more... Champion placed the 'conceivable maximum' at around \$50 million."

Since the only reason for lack of enactment last year was given as being lack of money, it would seem that in view of the brighter fiscal picture, there is really no excuse for not having a program desired by so many for so many. Without your efforts last year, combined with the efforts of other citizen groups, we would not even have secured the 5% for technicians.

MAY WE URGE that you direct letters to the Governor and the Director of Finance AT ONCE since department budgets are under consideration now. These are the two men who obviously are the key people in determining the administration's budget. Please

have your people who know them, call. Ask your legislators who support this to call them. And please see that to the greatest extent possible, their offices are deluged with letters during the next two to three weeks. (A copy of such correspondence to your local legislator is always a good idea, too.)

With your efforts now, THIS PROGRAM CAN BECOME A PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET for the coming year. There will no longer be any reason for it not being so in view of the present fiscal picture.

And in mobilizing your forces, don't -- please don't -- forget to write a letter yourself.

We have attached a recent CAMH Memorandum and a 1962 Summary of Recommendations for your information and interest.

Ven Fahrney  
Ven Fahrney

Winston P. Wilson  
Winston Wilson

Elizabeth Berger  
Mrs. Emil Berger

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

"Salary Problems of the DMH"

Report of the Senate Fact Finding Committee on Revenue and Taxation, 1961

| CLASS TITLE                                  | AMOUNT OF INCREASE       | DATE OF INCREASE       | FULL YEAR COST |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Psychiatric Technician Series             | 1 step (5%)              | July 1962              | \$2,434,112    |
| 2. Food Service Assistants                   | 1 step                   | July 1962              | 178,020        |
| 3. Registered Nurse Series                   | 2 steps (10%)            | July 1962              | 810,740        |
| 4. Clinical Psychologist Series (Ph.D. only) | 2 steps                  | July 1962              | 91,191         |
| 5. Psychiatric Social Work Series            | 2 steps                  | July 1962              | 360,520        |
| 6. Physician Series - B range<br>C range     | 2 steps<br>5 steps (25%) | July 1962<br>July 1962 | 1,266,900      |
|                                              |                          |                        | \$5,141,483    |

MEMORANDUM  
\* \* \* \* \*CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH  
Division of National Assn. for Mental Health1222 Noriega St., San Francisco 22, Calif.  
LOmbard 4-6400

October 30, 1961

TO: Chapter Presidents, Executives and Public Affairs Chairmen  
CAMH Board of Directors

FROM: Mr. Irving S. Rosenblatt, Jr., Public Affairs Chairman  
Mrs. Emil Berger, Sacramento

SALARY PROGRAM FOR MENTAL HYGIENE TREATMENT PERSONNEL  
as recommended in the Senate Fact Finding Committee  
on Revenue and Taxation, Senate Resolution 21 (1960  
First Extraordinary Session.)

Some of us have received letters in reply to our communications supporting the salary program for treatment personnel which imply that the psychiatric technicians during the past two years have received a 15% salary increase, and another 5% may be forthcoming in February.

This is misleading at best. The actual facts are that the psychiatric technicians have received only a 5% special salary adjustment. This was only as a result of your efforts.

Our concern here is this: In state employment, the correctional officer, the vegetable gardener, the ferry boat watchman, the unskilled laborer and the poultry assistant and restroom attendant still start at higher salaries, than psychiatric technicians, whose beginning trainee pay today is but \$285. We're concerned with this inequity, for we feel that the mentally ill are an important thing to be concerned about.

If you receive such a communication, may we urge that you immediately respond, calling attention to the fact that you are well aware that ALL STATE EMPLOYEES HAVE RECEIVED GENERAL SALARY INCREASES, and that such action only perpetuates the glaring disparity of salaries of personnel who are dealing with things and salaries of personnel who are dealing with people--people who are ill.

| <u>Current State Employment</u> | <u>Monthly Salary Range</u> | <u>Annual Starting Salary</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Psychiatric Technician Trainee  | \$ 281 - 310                | \$ 3,372                      |
| Psychiatric Technician          | 325 - 395                   | 3,900                         |
| Correctional Officer            | 395 - 481                   | 4,740                         |
| Vegetable Gardener              | 395 - 481                   | 4,740                         |
| Ferryboat Watchman              | 376 - 415                   | 4,512                         |
| Laborer                         | 358 - 395                   | 4,296                         |
| Groundsman                      | 358 - 395                   | 4,296                         |
| Poultry Assistant               | 325 - 395                   | 3,900                         |
| Women's Restroom Attendant      | 310 - 376                   | 3,720                         |