MENTAL HYGIENE ADMINISTRATION

Vacancy, Director

Alp Karahasan, M.D., Ph.D., Deputy Director

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Telephone: 383-2695

The Administration, formerly the Department of Mental Hygiene, was established by Chapter 685, Acts of 1949, to supersede the Board of Mental Hygiene. This Board, created by Chapter 29, Acts of 1922, as part of a reorganization of the Executive Branch, had carried on and expanded the functions of the State Lunacy Commission, established by Chapter 487, Acts of 1886, to inspect public and private institutions for the insane and to advise their Boards of Managers. The Act of 1949 abolished not only the Board of Mental Hygiene but also the separate governing boards of the State mental hospitals and gave the Department full and plenary powers over, and supervision of, all matters relating to the custody, care, and treatment of persons of unsound mind.

The Administration is headed by a Director, certified in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Director is responsible for discharging the functions assigned by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene and for the direction of the hospitals and facilities within the Administration.

Under the provisions of the Maryland Community Mental Health Services Act of 1966 (Chapter 125, Acts of 1966), the Director of Mental Hygiene, with the approval of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, is empowered to make State grants-in-aid to further community mental health services. The Act also provides that he is to supervise the programs receiving these grants-in-aid. The Act contains provisions for the establishment of local mental health advisory committees (Code 1957, Art. 43, sec. 1J).

To improve continuity of care between community and hospital programs, a regionalized structure, consistent with State HSA designated areas, has been adopted by the Administration. Dr. Sanford Bienen and Dr. Ronald Cann have been appointed Assistant Directors for the Southern and Central Maryland areas, consistent with Article 59, sec. 8c. Their regional offices, along with those of Dr. Harold English and Dr. Robert Grooms, have allowed for the implementation of

policies that have shortened length of hospital stays, improved community mental health programs for the severely psychiatrically ill, and increased the continuity of care between the hospital and community programs.

CLIFTON T. PERKINS HOSPITAL CENTER

Stuart Silver, M.D., Superintendent

P. O. Box 1000 Dorsey Run Road Jessup 20794

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The Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center was established by Chapter 814, Acts of 1959, as Maximum Security Hospital. It adopted its present name in 1960. Designed to provide active treatment programs within a setting of maximum security, the hospital is located midway between Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

The hospital receives patients who are referred by the courts of Maryland for pretrial psychiatric evaluation and provides a residential service for individual offenders who have been found to be not guilty by reason of insanity, as well as hospitalization for inmates of penal institutions who become mentally ill and require involuntary psychiatric hospitalization. In addition, the hospital accepts transfer patients from other State psychiatric hospitals when their illness requires maximum security treatment for a period of time. The hospital is designed for a capacity of 246.

CROWNSVILLE HOSPITAL CENTER

Bertram Zimmerman, M.D., Administrator

Crownsville 21032 Telephone: 987-6200

Crownsville Hospital Center, established by Chapter 250, Acts of 1910, as the Hospital for the Negro Insane of Maryland, was opened to patients in 1911. It adopted its present name by Chapter 187, Acts of 1912. Chapter 685, Acts of 1949, omitted reference to race. The hospital admits mentally-ill patients from Anne Arundel, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties as well as some patients from Baltimore City. Crownsville is located approximately eight miles west of Annapolis on Route 178, four miles from Route 3. This facility is licensed for 625 patients and includes programs for the mentally retarded and alcoholic within its buildings.