

ated \$116,000 as a matching fund to create day-care centers for retardates in any local subdivision of the State that wishes to apply.

Of course, the program of education in the State could not have succeeded without the specialized services of teachers. The University of Maryland has established a department of Special Education to train these teachers. The enrollment in this program has jumped from 60 in 1957, when it was started, to 235 this fall.

Our Legislature also has appropriated the money to set up two major clinics for the diagnosis and evaluation of children with multiple handicaps. One of these is at the Johns Hopkins University and the other at the University of Maryland. There a child has access to all the specialist services and tests that are required in treatment.

Three years ago, it was my privilege to open formally a new dental center for handicapped children at Children's Hospital in Baltimore. I was very favorably impressed by the work that was being undertaken there. The project is financed by state, federal and private funds.

Employment is another area in which your State government has attempted to help the retarded. The State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation has developed a program to evaluate and train retardates. The result has been that many previously unemployed Marylanders now fill productive places in the State's economy, to their own benefit and to the benefit of the State as a whole.

Among the pilot programs of our Department of Mental Hygiene is one for the day care of mentally retarded children in a day-care center for a small number of nonresidential patients at Rosewood State Training School. This program is designed to give pre-school experience to these children that will allow them to proceed in public education at an accelerated pace.

Yes, after so many years of neglect, Maryland at least has started to make great advancements in the care, treatment and education of the mentally retarded boys and girls of our State. We all acknowledge that there is a great deal more to be done. With the generous, public-spirited assistance of organizations such as we have represented here today, I am sure that we will enjoy continued success in our noble effort.