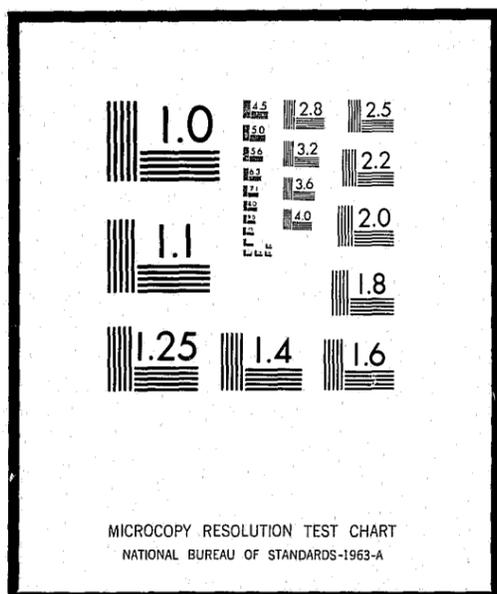


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LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
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FINAL PRODUCT EVALUATION REPORT

SYSTEMATIC PLAN INVOLVING YOUTH IN PRODUCTIVE INTERACTION -

CCCJ #0850

(CA)
COLUSA COUNTY DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

JUNE 30, 1974

SUBMITTED BY IRA NELKEN

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA P.A.C.E. CENTER

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I. INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Colusa County Delinquency Prevention Commission's project: Systematic Plan involving youth in Productive Interaction was:

To develop and implement a coordinated-countywide prevention-remediation and educational program that through productive interaction of existing agencies and community action programs, will significantly increase community awareness of the causes of delinquent behavior, provide adults and youth of Colusa County with constructive alternatives to delinquent behavior and thereby increase positive reactions by adults and youth in terms of attitudes toward and compliance with community norms, legal provisions and acceptable health standards with emphasis on drug abuse and alcoholism.

Three standards or criteria were specified to delineate the kinds of improvements sought by the project and to determine if the project was successful in meeting its objective the 1973-74 project year. These standards for the end of the second year of this project were: (1) the incidences of persons actively involved in seeking treatment for drug and alcohol problems will significantly increase, (2) the number of repeat arrests for drug and alcohol violations will significantly decrease, (3) the number of persons involved in community action programs designed to prevent delinquency will increase significantly, thereby indicating a change of attitude on behalf of the adults and youth of Colusa County.

This product evaluation report will examine the project in terms of the above criteria and other project evaluation data ("hard data") available from the project director to determine the efficacy of the project and its development in the past two years.

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II. TREATMENT CRITERIA

Available data on people seeking individual treatment is presented on drug, alcohol, and crises treatment at Colusa County Mental Health, The Bridge, and the Counseling Center for the period January 1973 to June 1974 in Table I (page 8). During the eight month period, January - August 1973, 162 individuals received help from Mental Health and The Bridge. During the eight month period, November 1973 - June 1974, when the Counseling Center was operational, 357 individuals were able to receive treatment. This is an increase of 195 individuals or a 120 percent increase in services rendered.

In the first eight month period, 36 individuals were treated by Mental Health (22.2 percent of those treated), 126 by The Bridge (77.8 percent of those treated). In the last eight months, 9 individuals were treated by Mental Health (2.5 percent of those treated), 48 by The Bridge (13.4 percent of those treated) and 300 by the Counseling Center (84.1 percent of those treated). The Counseling Center which was set up by the project has significantly increased the number of people receiving treatment.

Correlations between the numbers treated by the three organizations over their periods of operation indicate no relationship between the number of individuals treated at The Bridge and at Colusa County Mental Health. A substantial, direct relationship is indicated between the Counseling Center and both The Bridge and Colusa Mental Health by the substantial correlation coefficients which occur. An interpretation of this information is that the number of individuals the Counseling Center has been treating is proportionate to the number of individuals treated by the other two organizations (their clientele) and that the Center is reaching individuals who would not have been reached by Mental Health or The Bridge. The slope of the regression equation derived is an indication of the proportion of numbers treated. A slope of 2.0 between the Counseling Center and The Bridge indicates the Center will serve twice as many individuals as The Bridge, and a slope of

5.1 between the Center and Mental Health indicates the Center will service 5 times the number of individuals as does Mental Health.

There is also a cost factor to treatment which is worthwhile reporting. The cost of service to an individual at the Counseling Center has been calculated at approximately \$9.00; at Mental Health at \$35.00, and at The Bridge at \$2.50. The cost of treatment at the Center is a great deal less than at Mental Health and more individuals are being treated at less cost to the county by the Center vs. Mental Health. However, it must be remembered when examining this cost data that a different clientele exists for the three organizations and that costs are not directly comparable.

Another form of treatment which also occurs is group treatment. Three groups are operational at the Counseling Center: (1) a jail group (20 individuals have been or are under treatment), (2) a prevention group (40 individuals have been or are under treatment). Seventy individuals are or have received group treatment through the Counseling Center. Again the cost of treatment at the Counseling Center and Mental Health have also been approximated for each individual. The cost at the Counseling Center is \$5.00/individual/session (3 hours long) vs. a cost of \$12.00/individual/session (1½ hours long) at Mental Health.

III. ARREST CRITERIA

Tables II, III, and IV (page 9) indicate referral, conviction, and arrest data respectively for the past two and a half years in Colusa County. Nineteen seventy-four (1974) data has been corrected (doubled) to allow for comparisons among the three years (1972-74). The data indicates a substantial increase in drug and alcohol referrals, convictions, and arrests in 1973 compared to 1972, followed by a substantial decrease in numbers referred, convicted, or arrested in 1974. This trend holds for all three categories of referral, conviction, and arrest, and for both categories drug and alcohol, as well as for adults and juveniles. Such consistency in trend indicates the validity of interpreting the data as indicating that in 1973 the increases were due to increased law enforcement, and that 1974 has seen a significant decrease in drug and alcohol violations occurring. The hypothesis that the project has had its part to do with this decrease cannot be proven, but this hypothesis is a reasonable assumption to make. The fewer individuals referred, convicted, or arrested in 1974 indicates a substantial reduction in cost of alcohol and drug "criminal" behavior to the County though the cost per person may have increased through inflation and services rendered.

IV. INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS CRITERIA

A. Degree of Community Involvement

Community involvement in community action programs through project education/training efforts is reported in Tables V and V-A (page 10) for 1972-1974. The data for the first half of 1974 has been doubled to allow for comparisons with the past two years. Initial exposure was defined as a meeting or briefing, in-depth exposure by 3 - 20 hours of exposure and intensive training by 20 - 60 hours of training and exposure.

The number of community people exposed rose dramatically from 1972 (935 persons) to 1973 (2000 persons) and then dropped back down again in 1974 (784 persons) as intensive preliminary exposure efforts were completed.

The number of persons receiving in-depth exposure also rose dramatically from 1972 (53 individuals) to 1973 (746 individuals) and then declined somewhat in 1974 (298 individuals). However the percent of those exposed receiving in-depth exposure did not decline in 1974 (38.0 percent) but instead rose slightly compared to 1973 (37.3 percent). In 1974 there was also a shift from community lay people receiving in-depth exposure to community professionals (including teachers) receiving in-depth exposure (in 1973, 21 percent of the individuals receiving in-depth exposure were professionals, whereas in 1974, 50 percent of the individuals receiving in-depth exposure were professionals). Nineteen seventy-three (1973) was the year of both maximum initial and in-depth exposure for the project.

The shift in project emphasis to intensive exposure/training is apparent in 1974. The number of persons intensively trained rose steadily from 1972 (23 persons) to 1974 (210 persons) and the percent of those intensively trained compared to those initially exposed dramatically increased 1973 (3.9 percent) to 1974 (26.8 percent). This is further reflected in the substantial increase in percentage of those initially exposed who became actively involved in the delinquency prevention program after exposure (7.0 percent in 1972, 7.5 percent in 1973, and 22.4 percent in 1974).

There has been a significant increase from 1972, when 65 individuals and 7.0 percent of those exposed became actively involved in the delinquency program, to 1974, when 176 individuals and 22.4 percent of those exposed became actively involved in the delinquency program.

B. Project Program Emphasis

Table VI (page 11) illustrates the project program emphasis in number of individuals partaking of project education/training programs.

Project program emphasis has changed over time since its inception in July 1972. Preliminary emphasis was on community awareness and community education programs which have diminished in emphasis since mid-1973 though they have not been eliminated. Training programs have increased in scope and in emphasis, especially since January of 1973 though the emphasis on who is trained and the area of training shifts with the community needs at the time.

V. CONCLUSIONS-SUMMARY

- I. The project has been very successful in significantly increasing the incidences of persons actively involved in seeking treatment for drug and alcohol problems.
- II. During the project's time-span the number of referrals, convictions, and arrests for drug and alcohol violations first through increased law enforcement efforts (1973) increased substantially, and then decreased substantially in 1974.
- III. The project has been very successful in significantly increasing the number of persons involved in community action programs designed to prevent delinquency, and the percent of those contacted who have become deeply involved in delinquency prevention has increased significantly.

TABLE I
INDIVIDUAL TREATMENT FOR DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND CRISES
(COLUSA COUNTY)

	YEAR	Colusa County Mental Health			The Bridge	Counseling Center			GRAND TOTALS	
		Drugs	Alcohol	TOTAL		Drugs	Alcohol	Crisis		
Jan-Feb	1973	0	14	14	27				41	
March-April	1973	1	4	5	48				53	
May-June	1973	0	2	2	39				41	
July-Aug	1973	7	8	15	12				27	
TOTALS										
Jan	1973									
Aug	1973	8	28	36	126				162	
Sep-Oct	1973	0	0	0	7	20	8	14	42	49
Nov-Dec	1973	1	5	6	21	37	8	36	81	108
Jan-Feb	1974	0	2	2	10	37	7	43	87	99
Mar-Apr	1974	0	1	1	15	28	21	33	82	98
May-June	1974	0	0	0	2	17	6	27	50	52
TOTALS										
Nov	1973									
June	1974	1	8	9	48	119	42	139	300	357

Correlation coefficient Counseling Center - Mental Health = .6110, Slope = 5.1
 Correlation coefficient Counseling Center - The Bridge = .7126, Slope = 2.0
 Correlation coefficient The Bridge - Mental Health = .2494, Slope = 0.1

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REFERRED TO COURT FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL OFFENSES
(COLUSA COUNTY)

YEAR	ADULT			JUVENILE			GRAND TOTALS
	DRUG	ALCOHOL	TOTAL	DRUG	ALCOHOL	TOTAL	
1972	16	1	17	1	1	2	19
1973*	14	6	20	11	2	13	33
1974**	4	4	8	2	4	6	14

TABLE III

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN JAIL, YOUTH AUTHORITY, STATE PRISON, ETC.
FOR DRUG AND/OR ALCOHOL OFFENSES
(COLUSA COUNTY)

YEAR	ADULT			JUVENILE			GRAND TOTALS
	DRUG	ALCOHOL	TOTAL	DRUG	ALCOHOL	TOTAL	
1972	11	0	11	0	1	1	12
1973*	8	2	10	3	0	3	13
1974**	0	0	0	2	0	2	2

TABLE IV

NUMBER OF ARRESTS OF JUVENILES ONLY FOR DRUG AND/OR
ALCOHOL OFFENSES
(COLUSA COUNTY)

YEAR	ALCOHOL	DRUG	TOTALS
1972	16	3	19
1973*	19	15	34
1974**	18	10	28

* Increased law enforcement in this year could account for the great increases indicated.

** Times 2 because data available for only first half of the year.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS THROUGH
PROJECT EDUCATION/TRAINING EFFORTS

Year	Number of Persons Initially Exposed	NUMBERS OF PERSONS RECEIVING IN-DEPTH EXPOSURE			Number of persons Intensively Trained	Number of Persons Actively Involved In Delinquency Program
		Total	(Lay Persons)	(Professionals)		
1972	935	53	(53)	(0)	23	65
1973	2000	746	(586)	(160)	78	150
1974*	784	298	(148)	(150)	210	176

TABLE V-A

IN PERCENTAGES OF NUMBER INITIALLY EXPOSED

1972	5.7	(5.7)	(0)	2.5	7.0
1973	37.3	(29.3)	(8.0)	3.9	7.5
1974	38.0	(18.9)	(19.1)	26.8	22.4

TABLE VI
PROJECT PROGRAM EMPHASES

TIME SPAN	NUMBER INDIVIDUALS PARTAKING OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION	NUMBER INDIVIDUALS PARTAKING OF COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAM	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PARTAKING OF TRAINING PROGRAM				
			Crises Training	Professional Training	Teacher Training	Student Training	Train. Totals
Jan-June 1972	-----	-----	---	-----	---	---	---
July-Dec 1972	120	900	20	0	0	0	20
Jan-June 1973	500	600	35	47	20	20	122
July-Dec 1973	300	360	7	20	120	155	302
Jan-June 1974	223	115	35	0	65	30	130

* Times 2 because data available for only first half of the year.

ADDENDUM

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEWS HELD

The following is a summary of interviews held by the project evaluator with personnel in the Colusa Police Department, Colusa County Mental Health, and the Colusa County Probation Office concerning the project's efficacy and relevancy these past two years.

The project is seen as very relevant in aiding in meeting the needs of Colusa County with respect to delinquency prevention and drug and alcohol abuse.

The program has handled the education and training process of both professionals and laymen very well. The focus of the program has been on young people who have experimented or are considering experimenting with drugs/alcohol. It has been effective in producing a counter-movement to the drug culture which allows young people to choose between "drugs" and "no drugs".

The program has emphasized prevention rather than treatment though greater efforts towards treatment have been occurring in the past year. The project has been most effective with the below 18 age group and less effective with young adults (18 - 25 years old). The program has had little effect on "hard core" drug problems to this date. The project has emphasized education and training and is doing an excellent job in these areas as well as in individual and group counseling of individuals in need of drug, alcohol, crisis, and personal counseling.

A change in the degree of coordination/cooperation among county agencies has occurred through the project. A much greater amount of coordination/cooperation is occurring amongst most agencies concerned with drug/alcohol problems. The project is aiding in the professionalization of modes of treatment and their availability throughout the county.

A much higher rate of acceptance of help by both young people and older people with drug/alcohol problems has been occurring now that they may use both the "system" and the project to help themselves solve their problems. The project

is being integrated in usage/support to the various county agencies.

The project has actually in the past two years established itself in the county. The emphasis is on counseling rather than on criminal behavior. It has gained the support of the county agencies previously involved and shouldering the burden: the schools, law enforcement, probation, mental health, etc. The emphasis has been more on drugs rather than alcohol and the degree of success with drugs has been higher than with alcohol.

CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

All agencies interviewed stated that the project's services were needed and utilized by them. The project has done a tremendous amount of good work and has come a long way in two years. The agencies involved believe that the project has done an excellent overall job for the county.

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