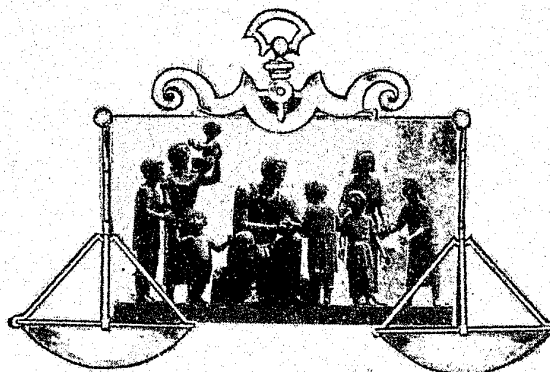


Child Advocacy Unit



SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

1977-1978

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Defender

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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

In the First Annual Report of the Defender Child Advocacy Unit, it was stressed that we were only in our embryonic stages and that Child Advocacy was a developing area of law. However, through our efforts over the past two years there has been tremendous growth and development and the concept of Child Advocacy has taken hold. Thus, as we enter our third year of existence, we can proudly report that Child Advocacy has become an accepted and approved legal practice in Philadelphia's Family Court.

Judges in Philadelphia's Family Court have become and continue to become more sensitive to the rights of children and their need for independent legal representation. This became evident as the judges rotated through the various sections of Family Court and applied the Standard that "wherever there is a divergence of interest between a parent and child, the child should be represented by his or her own attorney". As a result, the Child Advocacy Unit's caseload has increased tremendously, and is now, not only appointed to represent children in abuse and neglect cases, but also to cases in Domestic Relations, Adoptions and Adult Court where children were victims of crime.

There were many new and unexpected developments in the second year.

Nationally, an awareness as to the work of the Philadelphia Child Advocacy Unit created interest and inquiry which demanded

reply. Recently, the National Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Office (NJJDP) of the United States Department of Justice asked that we file a proposal with regard to a National Demonstration Model. This has been done and an Evaluation Team is presently being selected by NJJDP. It is anticipated that target cities will be selected throughout the United States for replication of the Philadelphia Child Advocacy Unit. Child Advocacy Units will be tailored to meet the needs of the specific target area.

In our second year, we negotiated with the County Mental Health Office and were contracted to represent children in mental health commitment proceedings. In this area, the monitoring of our clients through the mental health stream requires a great deal of work. The rendering of accountability for mental health services to our clients is time consuming and demands particular expertise. Presently, we are the only attorneys with experience in legally representing children in mental health commitments, and our services are beginning to take effect and become recognized in the mental health community. Our goal is that this "effect" will be constructive.

Also, the Administrative Judge of Family Court involved us in the legal representation of donors in bone marrow transplant cases at Philadelphia's Children's Hospital. The legal questions involved here are interesting. In a bone marrow transplant procedure the donor must be a sibling. As a result, the parents are

placed in the difficult position of giving consent for surgical procedures for two children; for one which was given a negative medical prognosis, and for the other who would receive no benefit from the surgical procedure. In developing it's legal representation for donors, the Child Advocacy Unit devised the following standards;

1. The Child Advocate's position was not to give consent to participate in the surgery on behalf of the donor but to validate the consent which the parents were giving on behalf of the donor-client as being non-discriminatory to the client.
2. It was vital for the Child Advocate's investigations to reduce the risks to the donor-client to an absolute minimum.
3. Along with the medical assessments of the Bone Marrow Transplant Team, that independent medicals and psychiatrics should be done on the donor.
4. The referring physicians, whether in Philadelphia or in other cities should give written commitment to any follow-up therapy or medical care which might be needed by the donor in the future as a result of being involved in the procedure.
5. To be sure the hospital insurance covered any contingencies affecting the donor as a result of participating in the procedure.

The Child Advocacy Unit has also been involved in appeals to the Supreme Court and Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Our work in this regard has earned the recognition and respect of the said courts. Presently, we are involved in a case which has been appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

During the second year we also began receiving invitations to conferences and Universities to lecture. We participated in many workshops. We contributed our resources to; groups in Philadelphia and all over the country by consulting and advising with regard to individual cases; groups who were endeavoring to do what our Unit does in this and other jurisdictions. We developed papers on procedures and emphasized the need for specialized training for attorneys and social workers in Child Advocacy.

We gave workshops to doctors, social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists on their professional contribution and how to testify in Dependent Court.

The second year has been a busy one for the Child Advocate, Mrs. Alice Tuohy O'Shea. She has lectured at local law schools and universities. Mrs. O'Shea has been selected as a member of the faculty of the National College of Juvenile Justice at the University of Nevada in Reno, Nevada, and lectures on Child Advocacy throughout the country under the auspices of the College. Recently she was appointed to the Forensic Section of Hahnemann Medical College and has become active in the Forensics field.

The above is just a sampling of the accomplishments and expanded directions taken by the Unit during its second year. We are gratified and encouraged by the recognition which has been given to the Unit and its work during the past year.

As increased and ever-changing demands were placed on the Unit, internal reorganization became a constant requirement. The Child Advocacy Unit staff now consists of; the Child Advocate; four attorneys; the Director of Social Services; two social workers; three social service student interns; two investigators and; two secretaries.

One of the basic conclusions of our second year had to do with our commitment as a multidisciplinary Unit. We came to see the Unit not as a legal Unit supported by social service, psychological, psychiatric and investigative disciplines but in the light of a marriage of all of these disciplines in legally servicing the legal and human rights and best interests of children. Each case presented in court represents a consensus of all disciplines needed to solve the totality of the human and legal needs of the child.

The multidisciplinary approach of the Child Advocacy Unit can best be illustrated by referring to the chart on the following page;

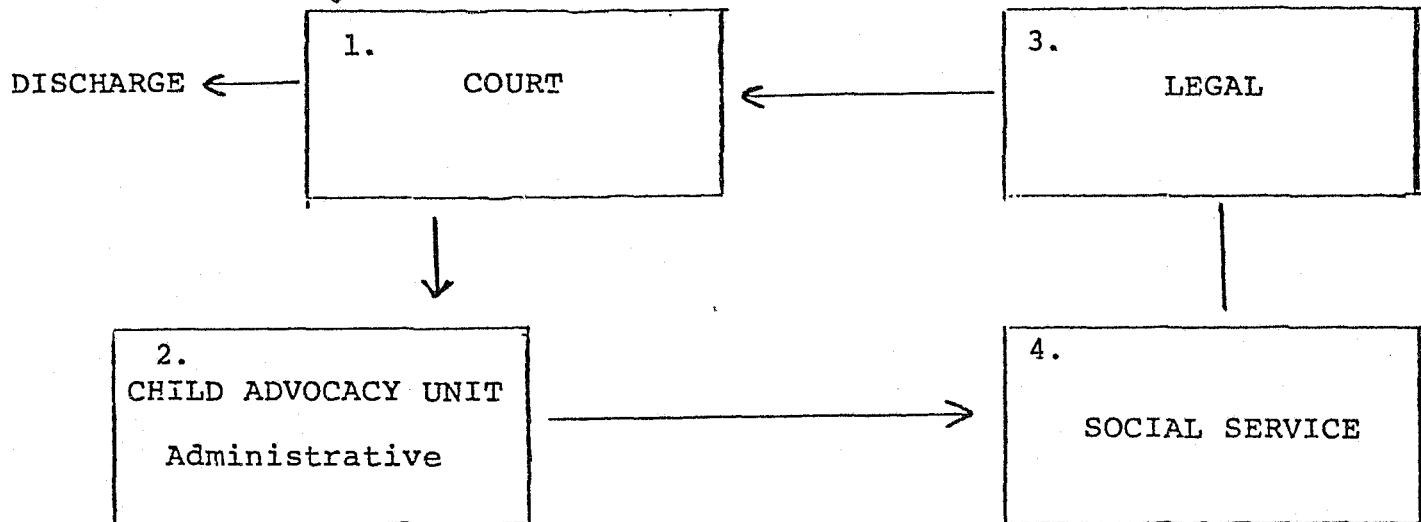
TYPE OF CASES

(Non-Delinquent)

INPUT OF CASES

Dependent, Adult Court, Referral
Abuse, Neglect, Mental Health
and Mental Retardation, Adoption,
Status Offenders, Domestic Relations
(Custody, Support), Abandonment, Deprivation

INPUT



1/

Court Appoints CAU

3/

Investigation and Evaluation of Facts of Cases; Dispositional Recommendations; Resource Referral Information (i.e., for DPW and various social service agencies, updates

2/

Case assigned and routed to Social Service and Investigators Request for reports, N.P. studies Consent forms, clerical work, Statistics

4/

Court representation and Preparation in Detention Full and Review Hearings

Cases which are referred to the CAU or cases in which we are appointed to represent children are non-delinquent cases. These cases consist of abuse and neglect, mental health and mental retardation, status offenders, domestic relations (ie., custody, support, divorce) and adoption.

As shown on the diagram, these are the types of cases in the court in which we work has jurisdiction. As the varying type of cases are funneled into court (Number 1), the CAU may then be appointed to represent the child. It should be emphasized that we may not take outside court referrals or walk-ins. In all cases that we represent children, we are court appointed.

After court appointment, the case is referred to the CAU administrative section (number 2). The administrative section is responsible for routing the cases to social workers and investigators. The administrative section is responsible for all clerical duties (ie. typing, filing, etc.), requesting reports, N.P. studies for the Unit. Administration is also responsible for keeping statistics for the Unit for monthly and annual reports.

Cases are routed to social services (Number 3). Social service is responsible for evaluating and investigating the facts. Social service interviews all parties and witnesses to the case, if possible. Social service also makes recommendations for dispositional decisions in court, as well as provide the legal component with possible social service referrals for the client and for his family.

The legal component (Number 4) will represent the client in court. Employing the reports and information gathered by the social service, this component, the legal section will protect the interests of the child, while attempting to maintain the family unit. The attorney will attempt to effecuate the recommendation of social service component.

At this stage the Unit is back in court where a disposition is made by the judge. At this point there may be a discharge from the court system or continued involvement. In either case the CAU will continue to monitor the case. If the case is not discharged the case will flow through the Unit as before, except there will be a follow-up on the court disposition to see of the court's order has been carried out.

In carrying out our work, we see Child Advocacy as that task of the law which solves problems and balances out differences. We have come to see our prime responsibility as first - the personal safety of the child; second - the stabilizing of the family unit; thirdly - if the second isn't possible, the most stable placement for the child, beginning with extended family then foster placement and all else failing, a residential school; fourthly - to monitor, as often as is consistent with personnel availability, needs of the child.

As we entered our third year, it was clear that the need for independent legal representation for non-delinquent children was no longer a question. The effectiveness of the Child Advocate in

protecting the rights and best interests of the child has shown constructive results. In monitoring our child-clients progress under court dispositions, few of our clients were turning delinquent. In our infancy we cannot prove that we are preventing juvenile delinquency. However, we can show that of our almost 3,000 representations this year, less than a dozen children have gone delinquent.

For as we assess the past two years and project for the future, we see the following:

- Increased caseloads (1977-78, 41% increase over 1976-77)
- Increase in personnel
- Bone Marrow Transplant cases now a part of our regular practice
- The conviction that many delinquents come from broken homes caused a greater concentration on the development of new techniques to solve the distressing problems for children who were victims as pawns and trophies in divorce actions. The Child Advocate has been particularly effective in this legal area. These cases are time consuming and painstaking and require more time, expertise and bodies in our social service department
- Adoptions also require a great deal of time and are the cases which are taking us to the Superior Court, Pennsylvania Supreme Court and we are presently before the United States Supreme Court on an adoption case.
- The Mental Health Contract has not changed our responsibilities since we have, since 1974 represented mental health children. However, with the official status and additional clout, we are presently involved in assisting State and county facilities in providing a higher quality and heretofore non-existent service. It is moving slowly but compatibly and inexorably to meet undeniable needs.

- New perspectives are being explored through the negotiations and development of the National Project.
- In an effort to minimize costs and because of proven effectiveness we hope to enlarge student participation in the Unit.
- We are endeavoring to develop greater specifics in handling case specialties, isolating concepts and developing a Unit philosophy.
- More specifics and sophistication of professional on-the-job training techniques.
- We are seeing the great value and unique effectiveness of the multi-disciplinary Unit. We no longer see ourselves as a legal unit supported by social service, psychology and investigative disciplines but as a Unit in which these disciplines are "married" to present the best possible case to project the legal and human rights and the best interests of the child-client.
- We are constantly evaluating and readjusting to meet changing needs. But fearing complacency with the status quo we keep looking at ourselves and endeavoring to improve techniques of case evaluation and needs for ongoing training of all professionals in the Unit.
- Personnel needs are staggering. There has been no change in social service personnel when there has been a 60% increase in our caseloads.

As we go into our third year, funding problems continue to plague us. However, since 90% of the cases we represent are mandated cases, the City's responsibility, through its courts, to provide independent legal representation to non-delinquent children where there is a Judicial determination of a divergence of interest between parent and child, is clear. The City is presently evaluating legal services to children and is accepting that responsibility. The Child Advocacy Unit will continue to seek funds from the private sector to develop specialization in specific

areas of Child Advocacy not yet approached.

During the past year the Honorable Nicholas Cipriani made the statement that the Child Advocacy Unit is making parents, hospitals, schools, mental health facilities and social agencies give an accountability of their services to children. We feel this key statement does in fact epitomize the work of the Child Advocate.

We look forward to further growth and acceptance. Our continuing task is to share with others our legal, social and mental health discoveries to the end that our citizens of the future, our most precious minority, may be assured the growth and development necessary to reach responsible adulthood.

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TOTAL CASES	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
IN PROCESS	144	113	177	434
NEW CASES	33	53	48	134
TOTAL CASES	177	166	225	568
TOTAL HEARINGS	204	211	268	683

AGE BREAKDOWN BY CASE

TOTAL

LESS THAN ONE MONTH	0	0	0	0
" " SIX MONTHS	6	6	5	17
" " ONE YEAR	16	16	21	53
" " TWO YEARS	7	12	20	39
" " FOUR YEARS	22	17	24	63
" " SIX YEARS	16	17	22	55
" " EIGHT YEARS	20	12	27	59
" " TEN YEARS	21	14	17	52
" " TWELVE YEARS	25	24	30	79
" " FOURTEEN YEARS	23	21	33	77
" " SIXTEEN YEARS	12	20	22	54
" " EIGHTEEN YEARS	9	6	4	19
" " UNKNOWN	0	1	0	1

TOTAL

177

166

225

568

197 -7

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF CASE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
ABANDONMENT	28	7	6	41
ABUSE	26	36	63	125
ADOPTION	0	0	0	0
CUSTODY	14	27	24	65
EDUCATION	21	2	18	41
MENTAL HEALTH	11	8	6	25
MENTAL RETARDATION	1	0	1	2
NEGLECT	64	76	99	239
SEXUAL ABUSE	9	7	2	18
STATUS OFFENDERS	3	3	6	12
TOTAL	177	166	225	568

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

MARITAL STATUS	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
MARRIED	77	57	91	225
UNMARRIED	75	87	101	263
SEPARATED	6	10	11	27
DIVORCED	2	1	2	5
WIDOWED	5	5	10	20
DECEASED	1	1	2	4
UNKNOWN	11	5	8	24
TOTAL	171	166	225	568

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHIN A FAMILY				TOTAL
ONE	53	50	67	170
TWO	27	25	25	77
THREE	12	8	18	38
FOUR	6	8	5	19
FIVE	0	3	5	8
SIX	1	1	3	5
SEVEN	1	0	0	1
EIGHT	1	1	1	3
NINE	1	1	2	4
TEN	0	0	0	0
ELEVEN	0	0	0	0
TWELVE	0	0	0	0
THIRTEEN	0	1	0	1
UNKNOWN	2	0	3	5

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

SEX	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
MALE	83	82	101	266
FEMALE	94	84	124	302
TOTAL	177	166	225	568

RACE	TOTAL
CAUCASIAN	117
NEGRO	363
ORIENTAL	0
HISPANIC	50
MIXED	11
UNKNOWN	27
TOTAL	568

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF HEARING	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
DETENTION	13	23	27	63
10 DAY	5	2	15	22
FULL	114	91	125	330
REVIEW	28	29	48	105
P. O. MOTION	17	17	10	44
HABEUS CORPUS	0	4	0	4
TOTAL	177	166	225	568

1977-78

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DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN

NON-COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
CONTINUANCE				
Parties failed to appear.....	11	43	28	82
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	2	18	17	37
By request/application.....	14	10	20	44
For further testimony.....	24	6	12	42
For testing and investigation.....	14	11	16	41
For treatment/counseling.....	18	12	4	34
For full hearing/disposition/memorandum.....	5	5	7	17
For Department of Public Welfare to plan/refer..	3	8	5	16
REVIEW.....	19	10	4	33
PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION OF COURT.....	24	3	8	35
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	0	5	7	12
CUSTODY				
Awarded to parents.....	5	9	6	20
Awarded to relatives.....	5	8	11	24
Awarded jointly to parents and grandparents.....	0	0	3	3
Awarded to caretaker.....	1	0	1	2
DISCHARGE COMMITMENT.....	2	1	7	10
DISCHARGE SUPERVISION.....	3	1	1	5
DISCHARGE/WITHDRAW PETITION.....	1	0	4	5
PARTY TO RELIST.....	5	2	0	7
TOTAL.....	156	152	161	469

1977-78

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DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
<u>TEMPORARY COMMITMENTS</u>				
CONTINUED				
For 10 day/full hearing.....	7	14	19	40
Parties failed to appear.....	2	3	9	14
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	2	1	4	7
For investigation/testing.....	4	4	11	19
For treatment/counseling.....	5	5	1	11
By request.....	0	0	1	1
For testimony.....	0	1	3	4
For Department of Public Welfare to complete plan.	1	0	0	1
RELEASE TO PARENT/S.....	1	4	4	9
PARTY TO RELIST.....	2	2	4	8
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	1	0	0	1
REVIEW.....	0	1	1	2
TOTAL.....	25	35	57	117

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS CONTINUED	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	TOTAL
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FULL COMMITMENTS

CONTINUED

Parties failed to appear.....	0	0	0	0
Party to relist.....	11	6	7	24
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	0	0	0
By request/application.....	0	0	0	0

REVIEW.....	1	9	4	14
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RESIDE WITH

Parents.....	0	4	0	4
Relative.....	1	0	1	2
Caretaker.....	0	0	9	9

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO COMPLETE PLAN.....	4	0	10	14
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BY AGREEMENT (SOLE DISPOSITION).....	0	1	2	3
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TREATMENT/VISITATION.....	0	0	11	11
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TESTING/EVALUATION/LEGAL ARGUMENT.....	1	2	2	5
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TOTAL.....	18	22	46	86
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MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENTS.....	5	2	4	11
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TOTAL DISPOSITIONS

204

211

268

683

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TOTAL CASES	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
IN PROCESS	172	122	132	426
NEW CASES	55	49	63	167
TOTAL CASES	227	171	195	593
TOTAL HEARINGS	274	197	234	705

-20-

AGE BREAKDOWN BY CASE				TOTAL
LESS THAN ONE MONTH	.....	0	0	0
" " SIX MONTHS	.....	5	10	9
" " ONE YEAR	.....	18	12	19
" " TWO YEARS	.....	19	7	16
" " FOUR YEARS	.....	17	19	20
" " SIX YEARS	.....	19	13	14
" " EIGHT YEARS	.....	22	10	11
" " TEN YEARS	.....	26	9	15
" " TWELVE YEARS	.....	33	19	24
" " FOURTEEN YEARS	.....	32	34	24
" " SIXTEEN YEARS	.....	28	30	33
" " EIGHTEEN YEARS	.....	7	8	10
UNKNOWN	.....	1	0	0
TOTAL				593

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF CASE	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
ABANDONMENT	7	5	4	16
ABUSE	61	33	43	137
ADOPTION	0	0	0	0
CUSTODY	26	16	30	72
EDUCATION	35	25	25	85
MENTAL HEALTH	7	6	9	22
MENTAL RETARDATION	3	0	3	6
NEGLECT	71	77	62	210
SEXUAL ABUSE	12	3	5	20
STATUS OFFENDERS	5	6	14	25
TOTAL	227	171	195	593

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

MARITAL STATUS	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
MARRIED	90	44	64	198
UNMARRIED	94	56	79	229
SEPARATED	6	23	17	46
DIVORCED	8	7	4	19
WIDOWED	9	11	6	26
DECEASED	3	6	1	10
UNKNOWN	17	24	24	65
TOTAL	227	171	195	593

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHIN A FAMILY				TOTAL
ONE	68	53	64	185
TWO	34	14	24	72
THREE	20	13	20	53
FOUR	8	12	12	32
FIVE	5	6	8	19
SIX	1	3	2	6
SEVEN	0	0	0	0
EIGHT	1	1	0	2
NINE	0	0	0	0
TEN	0	0	0	0
ELEVEN	0	0	0	0
TWELVE	0	0	0	0
THIRTEEN	0	0	0	0
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0

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SEX		OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
MALE		114	86	106	306
FEMALE		113	85	89	287
	TOTAL	227	171	195	593

RACE					TOTAL
CAUCASIAN	.....	70	69	59	198
NEGRO	.....	127	94	103	324
ORIENTAL	.....	0	0	0	0
HISPANIC	.....	22	3	5	30
MIXED	.....	2	0	3	5
UNKNOWN	.....	6	5	25	36
	TOTAL	227	171	195	593

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF HEARING	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
DETENTION	16	27	30	73
10 DAY	4	10	12	26
FULL	134	68	119	321
REVIEW	45	55	22	122
P. O. MOTION	23	5	6	34
HABEUS CORPUS	5	6	6	17
TOTAL	227	171	195	593

1977-78

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DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN

NON-COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
CONTINUANCE				
Parties failed to appear.....	34	19	13	66
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	9	2	10	21
By request/application.....	12	11	15	38
For further testimony.....	6	8	11	25
For testing and investigation.....	29	26	22	77
For treatment/counseling.....	6	2	6	14
For full hearing/disposition/memorandum.....	11	12	10	33
For Department of Public Welfare to plan/refer..	4	1	5	10
REVIEW.....	11	23	10	44
PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION OF COURT.....	4	7	9	20
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	17	9	4	30
CUSTODY				
Awarded to parents.....	11	3	4	18
Awarded to relatives.....	15	8	8	31
Awarded jointly to parents and grandparents.....	2	0	0	2
Awarded to caretaker.....	2	2	1	5
DISCHARGE COMMITMENT.....	3	2	2	7
DISCHARGE SUPERVISION.....	4	1	6	11
DISCHARGE/WITHDRAW PETITION.....	15	2	8	25
PARTY TO RELIST.....	5	1	2	8
TOTAL.....	200	139	146	485

1977-78

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DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
<u>TEMPORARY COMMITMENTS</u>				
CONTINUED				
For 10 day/full hearing.....	10	11	16	37
Parties failed to appear.....	2	2	9	13
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	2	2	4
For investigation/testing.....	20	9	13	42
For treatment/counseling.....	1	1	4	6
By request.....	0	2	0	2
For testimony.....	2	3	0	5
For Department of Public Welfare to complete plan.	0	0	5	5
RELEASE TO PARENT/S.....	1	3	1	5
PARTY TO RELIST.....	5	1	1	7
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	0	1	1	2
REVIEW.....	2	0	1	3
TOTAL.....	43	35	53	131

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS CONTINUED	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
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FULL COMMITMENTS

CONTINUED

Parties failed to appear.....	0	0	0	0
Party to relist.....	10	4	4	18
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	0	0	0
By request/application.....	0	0	0	0
REVIEW.....	2	7	1	10

RESIDE WITH

Parents.....	7	0	2	9
Relative.....	1	0	10	11
Caretaker.....	0	1	1	2

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO COMPLETE PLAN.....	0	1	3	4
BY AGREEMENT (SOLE DISPOSITION).....	4	0	3	7
TREATMENT/VISITATION.....	2	0	4	6
TESTING/EVALUATION/LEGAL ARGUMENT.....	0	6	0	6
TOTAL.....	26	19	28	73

<u>MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENTS</u>	5	4	7	16
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TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	274	197	234	705
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1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TOTAL CASES	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
IN PROCESS	171	115	194	480
NEW CASES	59	90	68	217
TOTAL CASES	230	205	262	697
TOTAL HEARINGS	264	254	303	821

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AGE BREAKDOWN BY CASE				TOTAL			
LESS THAN ONE MONTH		0	6	0	6		
" " SIX MONTHS		7	3	17	27		
" " ONE YEAR		17	16	17	50		
" " TWO YEARS		19	24	14	57		
" " FOUR YEARS		20	15	25	60		
" " SIX YEARS		28	19	15	62		
" " EIGHT YEARS		21	14	25	60		
" " TEN YEARS		24	14	22	60		
" " TWELVE YEARS		23	28	18	69		
" " FOURTEEN YEARS		30	33	42	105		
" " SIXTEEN YEARS		28	32	55	115		
" " EIGHTEEN YEARS		13	1	12	26		
UNKNOWN		0	0	0	0		
TOTAL				230	205	262	697

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF CASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
ABANDONMENT	9	10	7	26
ABUSE	45	49	47	141
ADOPTION	0	0	0	0
CUSTODY	26	17	30	73
EDUCATION	24	46	64	134
MENTAL HEALTH	10	11	18	39
MENTAL RETARDATION	2	1	1	4
NEGLECT	91	51	72	214
SEXUAL ABUSE	5	6	11	22
STATUS OFFENDERS	18	14	12	44
TOTAL	230	205	262	697

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

MARITAL STATUS	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
MARRIED	88	64	76	228
UNMARRIED	18	73	105	196
SEPARATED	10	12	25	47
DIVORCED	43	13	10	66
WIDOWED	11	9	12	32
DECEASED	2	0	3	5
UNKNOWN	58	34	31	123
TOTAL	230	205	262	697

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHIN A FAMILY	TOTAL
ONE	167
TWO	90
THREE	65
FOUR	52
FIVE	16
SIX	7
SEVEN	5
EIGHT	4
NINE	2
TEN	2
ELEVEN	0
TWELVE	0
THIRTEEN	1
UNKNOWN	14

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

SEX	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
MALE	115	113	146	374
FEMALE	115	92	116	323
TOTAL	230	205	262	697

RACE	TOTAL
CAUCASIAN	252
NEGRO	383
ORIENTAL	0
HISPANIC	21
MIXED	9
UNKNOWN	32
TOTAL	697

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF HEARING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
DETENTION	37	48	37	122
10 DAY	6	24	10	40
FULL	115	99	139	353
REVIEW	58	27	56	141
P. O. MOTION	9	6	17	32
HABEUS CORPUS	5	1	3	9
TOTAL	230	205	262	697

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN

NON-COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
CONTINUANCE				
Parties failed to appear.....	31	30	36	97
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	6	0	6
By request/application.....	10	13	11	34
For further testimony.....	13	5	12	30
For testing and investigation.....	16	17	38	71
For treatment/counseling.....	6	0	2	8
For full hearing/disposition/memorandum.....	4	10	3	17
For Department of Public Welfare to plan/refer..	12	13	7	32
REVIEW.....	22	28	27	77
PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION OF COURT.....	22	10	14	46
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	2	8	9	19
CUSTODY				
Awarded to parents.....	17	13	11	41
Awarded to relatives.....	13	0	15	28
Awarded jointly to parents and grandparents.....	0	0	0	0
Awarded to caretaker.....	0	0	1	1
DISCHARGE COMMITMENT.....	2	0	8	10
DISCHARGE SUPERVISION.....	4	1	0	5
DISCHARGE/WITHDRAW PETITION.....	15	9	3	27
PARTY TO RELIST.....	0	1	4	5
TOTAL.....	189	164	201	554

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

<u>COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>TEMPORARY COMMITMENTS</u>				
CONTINUED				
For 10 day/full hearing.....	19	31	23	73
Parties failed to appear.....	2	0	2	4
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	7	6	5	18
For investigation/testing.....	3	2	6	11
For treatment/counseling.....	11	8	1	20
By request.....	1	0	0	1
For testimony.....	1	0	0	1
For Department of Public Welfare to complete plan.	0	1	0	1
RELEASE TO PARENT/S.....	0	3	2	5
PARTY TO RELIST.....	2	4	0	6
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	0	0	1	1
REVIEW.....	1	2	4	7
TOTAL.....	47	57	44	148

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS CONTINUED	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	TOTAL
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FULL COMMITMENTS

CONTINUED

Parties failed to appear.....	0	0	0	0
Party to relist.....	5	11	10	26
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	0	0	0
By request/application.....	0	0	0	0

REVIEW.....	6	3	4	13
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RESIDE WITH

Parents.....	1	0	4	5
Relative.....	1	2	2	5
Caretaker.....	0	2	0	2

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO COMPLETE PLAN.....	5	2	8	15
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BY AGREEMENT (SOLE DISPOSITION).....	0	5	7	12
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TREATMENT/VISITATION.....	7	0	5	12
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TESTING/EVALUATION/LEGAL ARGUMENT.....	0	1	5	6
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TOTAL.....	25	26	45	96
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MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENTS.....	3	7	13	23
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TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	264	254	303	821
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1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TOTAL CASES	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
IN PROCESS	194	239	255	688
NEW CASES	72	60	89	221
TOTAL CASES	266	299	344	909
TOTAL HEARINGS	295	369	368	1032

AGE BREAKDOWN BY CASE				TOTAL
LESS THAN ONE MONTH	0	2	3	5
" " SIX MONTHS	8	8	9	25
" " ONE YEAR	18	18	25	61
" " TWO YEARS	20	24	22	66
" " FOUR YEARS	29	31	24	84
" " SIX YEARS	17	25	26	68
" " EIGHT YEARS	22	25	32	79
" " TEN YEARS	26	36	36	98
" " TWELVE YEARS	22	34	36	92
" " FOURTEEN YEARS	46	38	50	134
" " SIXTEEN YEARS	46	44	56	146
" " EIGHTEEN YEARS	12	14	24	50
" " UNKNOWN	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	266	299	344	909

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF CASE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
ABANDONMENT	4	3	14	21
ABUSE	57	54	64	175
ADOPTION	1	0	0	1
CUSTODY	29	25	30	84
EDUCATION	57	62	71	190
MENTAL HEALTH	8	17	34	59
MENTAL RETARDATION	3	2	0	5
NEGLECT	95	109	105	309
SEXUAL ABUSE	2	11	4	17
STATUS OFFENDERS	10	16	22	48
TOTAL	266	299	344	909

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

MARITAL STATUS	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
MARRIED	82	92	80	254
UNMARRIED	104	122	141	367
SEPARATED	12	29	63	104
DIVORCED	13	9	4	26
WIDOWED	8	16	19	43
DECEASED	6	2	2	10
UNKNOWN	41	29	35	105
TOTAL	266	299	344	909

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHIN A FAMILY	TOTAL
ONE	251
TWO	121
THREE	68
FOUR	56
FIVE	17
SIX	9
SEVEN	4
EIGHT	6
NINE	1
TEN	1
ELEVEN	0
TWELVE	2
THIRTEEN	0
UNKNOWN	8

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

SEX	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
MALE	140	154	185	479
FEMALE	126	145	159	430
TOTAL	266	299	344	909

RACE	TOTAL
CAUCASIAN	238
NEGRO	526
ORIENTAL	0
HISPANIC	54
MIXED	12
UNKNOWN	43
TOTAL	909

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

TYPE OF HEARING	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
DETENTION	32	24	81	137
10 DAY	16	19	16	51
FULL	132	170	146	448
REVIEW	67	73	99	239
P. O. MOTION	9	13	2	24
HABEUS CORPUS	10	0	0	10
TOTAL	266	299	344	909

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN

NON-COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
CONTINUANCE				
Parties failed to appear.....	21	48	45	114
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	2	14	2	18
By request/application.....	30	33	17	80
For further testimony.....	6	9	4	19
For testing and investigation.....	28	22	27	77
For treatment/counseling.....	1	1	4	6
For full hearing/disposition/memorandum.....	5	5	7	17
For Department of Public Welfare to plan/refer..	16	16	4	36
REVIEW.....	43	35	51	129
PROTECTIVE SUPERVISION OF COURT.....	10	16	8	34
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	12	9	4	25
CUSTODY				
Awarded to parents.....	6	12	3	21
Awarded to relatives.....	8	11	11	30
Awarded jointly to parents and grandparents.....	0	0	0	0
Awarded to caretaker.....	1	3	0	4
DISCHARGE COMMITMENT.....	7	5	22	34
DISCHARGE SUPERVISION.....	1	4	4	9
DISCHARGE/WITHDRAW PETITION.....	6	7	16	29
PARTY TO RELIST.....	9	4	8	21
TOTAL.....	212	254	237	703

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

<u>COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>TEMPORARY COMMITMENTS</u>				
CONTINUED				
For 10 day/full hearing.....	26	13	29	68
Parties failed to appear.....	0	1	0	1
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	2	1	3
For investigation/testing.....	5	5	7	17
For treatment/counseling.....	2	5	0	7
By request.....	0	0	19	19
For testimony.....	0	0	1	1
For Department of Public Welfare to complete plan.	2	4	2	8
RELEASE TO PARENT/S.....	1	1	6	8
PARTY TO RELIST.....	0	6	2	8
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO SUPERVISE.....	2	4	0	6
REVIEW.....	2	22	31	55
TOTAL.....	40	63	98	201

1977-78

PH-75-C-4B-5-456

DISPOSITIONAL BREAKDOWN CONTINUED

COMMITMENT DISPOSITIONS CONTINUED

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

TOTAL

FULL COMMITMENTS

CONTINUED

Parties failed to appear.....	0	0	0	0
Party to relist.....	10	5	1	16
Parents to obtain an attorney.....	0	0	0	0
By request/application.....	0	0	0	0

REVIEW.....	9	13	10	32
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RESIDE WITH

Parents.....	2	1	0	3
Relative.....	0	8	0	8
Caretaker.....	0	0	0	0

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE TO COMPLETE PLAN.....	6	12	2	20
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BY AGREEMENT (SOLE DISPOSITION).....	4	3	0	7
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TREATMENT/VISITATION.....	4	0	3	7
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TESTING/EVALUATION/LEGAL ARGUMENT.....	2	3	1	6
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TOTAL.....	37	45	17	99
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MENTAL HEALTH COMMITMENTS.....	6	7	16	29
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TOTAL DISPOSITIONS

295

369

368

1032



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
517 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107

FRANK J. MONTEMURO, JR.
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
FAMILY DIVISION

(215) MU 6-2600

February 1, 1979

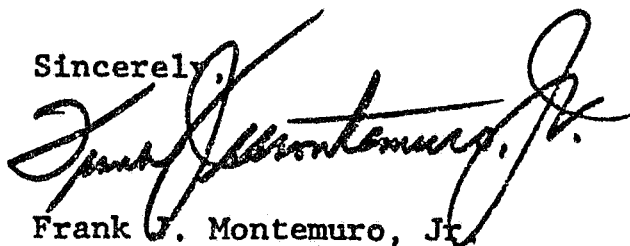
Mrs. Alice Tuohy O'Shea
Defender Child Advocate
Child Advocacy Unit
Room 234
1801 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

I know that the occasion of presenting your annual report will bring forth a wealth of support in terms of statements commending your efforts. Perhaps my thoughts as I appraised the Child Advocacy Unit's relatively short span of existence best summarize its impact.

It was difficult to reflect upon a time when the unit was not in existence. It would be equally difficult to conceive of a time in the future when its services were not available to meet the needs of the Court and those of the children.

Sincerely,



Frank J. Montemuro, Jr.

FJM, JR:M



THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
864 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA 19107

J. SYDNEY HOFFMAN, JUDGE

January 30, 1979

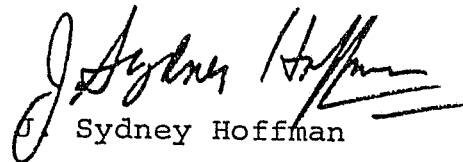
Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esquire
Defender Association of Phila.
Room 234 Family Court Bldg.
1801 Vine St.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

Although I am somewhat removed from the day-by-day function of the Family Court, I have still kept abreast of many of its activities.

The Child Advocacy Unit has made an enormous contribution in preserving the basic and constitutional rights of children who are so badly in need of a spokesman. I believe that your organization is bringing a new dimension into Family Court Law. Your endeavors have my continued support and co-operation.

Sincerely yours,


J. Sydney Hoffman

JSH:ers



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS

PAUL A. DANDRIDGE, JUDGE

229 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107
MU 6-7902

February 8, 1979

Dear Ms. O'Shea:

I am writing to express my continued endorsement of the Child Advocacy Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia.

The Child Advocate has appeared before me on a number of occasions, representing dependent children or children in the mental health system. The Advocate does an excellent job in representing the child's position in these matters.

In addition to representing the child as advocates before the Court, they also provide a service in monitoring Court dispositions so that the Court has additional assurance that its decisions are being effectively carried out on behalf of the child.

They have been exceptionally helpful in working toward solutions to resolve many of the distressing family problems to further ensure the safety of children in their own homes as well as foster homes.

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq.
February 8, 1979
Page Two

I appreciate having the Child Advocate Program available and hope that their staff is expanded and that the Program continues.

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely yours,

Paul A. Dandridge
PAUL A. DANDRIDGE

PAD:g

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq.
Child Advocate Unit
Room 234
1801 Vine Street
Phila., Pa.



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
ROOM 258 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107

NICHOLAS A. CIPRIANI
JUDGE

January 22, 1979

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq.
Child Advocacy Unit
Suite 234, 1801 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pa., 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

I am writing to you as Defender Child Advocate of the Child Advocate Unit in Philadelphia.

In January 1974, I was assigned to the Court which hears cases of Dependent Children. At that time there were no established Child Advocate Units. In many cases the children were unrepresented. In the years following, I have seen the development of the concept of the Child Advocate, as well as the creation of your unit.

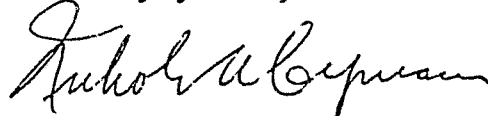
Based on my experience, I heartily endorse Child Advocacy for the protection of the interest and rights of children. Our system is an adversary system, and someone should be on hand so that children are properly represented.

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq. page 2 January 22, 1979

As a result of your representation of children in which you investigate the facts and in some cases interrogate the children, you are able to present a more complete picture for the Court. More especially, in seeing that proper care and services are provided to the children by all who are responsible, you have provided accountability on the part of the responsible persons to promote the interests of the children.

Your work has resulted in protecting and promoting the welfare of the children.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nicholas A. Cipriani". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nicholas" being more prominent.

NICHOLAS A. CIPRIANI

NAC:jc



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGE'S CHAMBERS
510 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107

JAMES L. STERN
JUDGE

December 22, 1978

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq.
Defender Child Advocate
Defender Association of Philadelphia
Room 234 - 1801 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

Your representation of children and that of your associates is both necessary and welcome in dependency cases. Your expertise, your understanding, fairness and devotion to your responsibility is most helpful and is required if the court is to reach just determinations in such matters.

The Defender Child Advocate in my experience is energetic, untiring and indispensable.

Sincerely yours,

James L. Stern

JLS:drb



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGES' CHAMBERS

EVELYN M. TROMMER
JUDGE

December 26, 1978

FIVE PENN CENTER PLAZA, 10-C
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esquire
Child Advocacy Unit
Room 234, 1801 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

It is with much enthusiasm that I, once again, extend my congratulations and appreciation to the Child Advocacy Unit for providing a vital and invaluable service to the Family Court of Philadelphia. The in-depth investigations and multi-disciplinary approach of the Unit have aided me in coming to decisions in many difficult cases. Your staff has provided the Court with a holistic view of the problems, and their sensitive, practical recommendations have proven extremely valuable in arriving at decisions.

I have repeatedly appointed the Child Advocate in child custody cases, which are perhaps among the most agonizing type of case to decide. The dedication and fine work of the Unit have frequently succeeded in working out settlements between the parties, but in any event have always made my decisions more enlightened ones.

It is my sincere hope that the Unit continues to receive the support it needs and the recognition it deserves to effectively perform its very important and difficult task.

Respectfully yours,

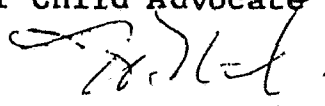
Evelyn M. Trommer
EVELYN M. TROMMER

EMT/bc

MEMORANDUM

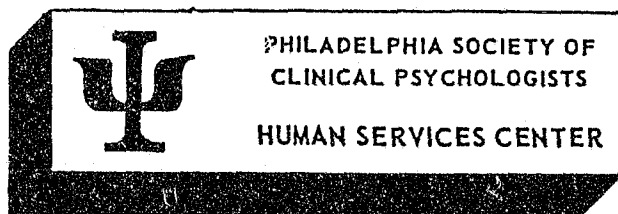
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

DATE January 23, 1979

TO : Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Defender Child Advocate
FROM : Judge Harvey N. Schmidt 
SUBJECT: Child Advocacy Unit's Second Annual Report

The Child Advocate is a most important and necessary part of our system. It serves a much needed purpose giving support and protection to the children and valuable direction and guidance to the Courts. I strongly advocate and support the continuance of the Child Advocate program.

HNS:ms



BOX 27014

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19118

PHONE: 836-9196

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January 18, 1979

Alice Tuohy O'Shea
Child Advocate Division
Public Defenders Association
1801 Vine Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

I want to thank you for your participation in the Psychology and Law Conference, co-sponsored by the Human Services Center of the Philadelphia Society of Clinical Psychologists and the Department of School Psychology, Temple University, on December 8, 1978.

The feedback I've received was extremely positive and from my own perspective your presentation enriched in depth and breath the entire program.

I'm pleased that you shared and contributed in the professional development of our fellow colleagues.

Sincerely,

Sidney Portnoy, Ph.D.
Chairman, Psychology Law
Conference

SP:df



THE HAHNEMANN MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL OF PHILADELPHIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION CENTER

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT INPATIENT SERVICES
ST. LUKE'S & CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
4TH FLOOR, 8TH & GIRARD AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19122 (215) 978-5460

Jan. 11, 1979

Alice Tuohy O'Shea, Esq.
Defender Child Advocate
Family Court Bldg.
Room 234
1807 Vine St.
Phila. 19103

Dear Mrs. O'Shea:

I am writing to let you know how helpful the Child Advocate's office has been to the staff of this unit. We have often consulted with members of your group to obtain help in providing for an adequate treatment plan. Our children are typically severely disturbed and from indigent families so that obtaining adequate services for them becomes a thorny problem. On these occasions the Advocate serves as a potent force to speak for the child's needs and without whose help we would be at an impasse.

You, personally, have been especially helpful to us. We have found you to be knowledgeable, available, sympathetic and concerned. We all depend greatly on you and the services provided by your office.

Sincerely yours,


Ellen H. Sholevar, M.D.
Director

EHS/mb

END