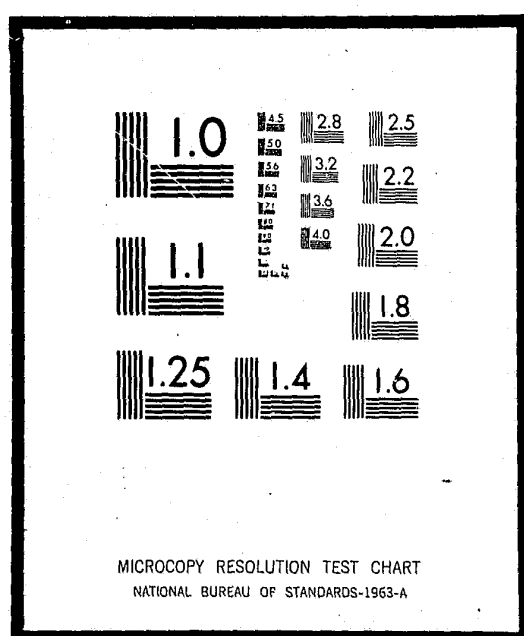


PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

# NCJRS

This microfiche was produced from documents received for inclusion in the NCJRS data base. Since NCJRS cannot exercise control over the physical condition of the documents submitted, the individual frame quality will vary. The resolution chart on this frame may be used to evaluate the document quality.



Microfilming procedures used to create this fiche comply with the standards set forth in 41CFR 101-11.504

Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

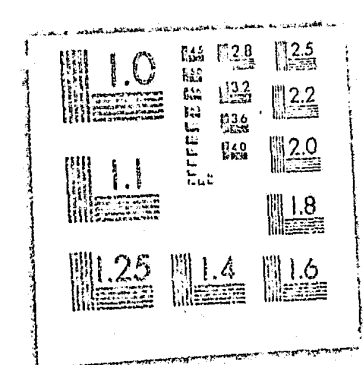
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

Date filmed

1/28/76

19423  
2561

1 OF 1  
PBB  
235 815



PB-235 815

REHABILITATION PROCESS IN CORRECTIONAL  
WORK RELEASE

North Carolina Division of Vocational  
Rehabilitation

Prepared for:

Social and Rehabilitation Service

September 1973

DISTRIBUTED BY:

**NTIS**

National Technical Information Service  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield Va. 22151

17:207

PB-235 815

FINAL DRAFT

REHABILITATION PROCESS IN CORRECTIONAL WORK RELEASE

Project Number 12-P-55897/4-01

N. C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

September 24, 1973

ja  
Reproduced by  
NATIONAL TECHNICAL  
INFORMATION SERVICE  
U S Department of Commerce  
Springfield VA 22151

|   |  |  |                        |
|---|--|--|------------------------|
| BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA SHEET  |  | 1. Report No. 12-55897-001<br>SRS-               | 2. PB 235 815          |
| 4. Title and Subtitle<br>REHABILITATION PROCESS IN CORRECTIONAL WORK RELEASE  |  | 5. Report Date<br>SEPTEMBER 1973                 |                        |
| 7. Author(s)  |  | 8. Performing Organization Repr. No.             |                        |
| 9. Performing Organization Name and Address<br>NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION<br>P. O. BOX 26053<br>RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611   |  | 10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.                   |                        |
|   |  | 11. Contract/Grant No.<br>12-55897               |                        |
| 12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address<br>Social and Rehabilitation Service<br>U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare<br>Washington, D. C. 20201   |  | 13. Type of Report & Period Covered<br>FINAL     |                        |
| 15. Supplementary Notes   |  | 14.  |                        |
| 16. Abstracts<br>THIS PROJECT INVESTIGATED THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RECIDIVISM AS A MEASURE OF SUCCESS OF INCARCERATION IN PREVENTING FUTURE CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR. SEVERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOSTERED WORK RELEASE PROGRAMS, AND EACH PARTICIPATING UNIT Housed ITS OWN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNSELORS. COUNSELORS AND JOB DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS OBTAINED ADEQUATE PLACEMENT FOR INMATES AND PROVIDED SUPPORTIVE COUNSELING. HOWEVER, THE PROJECT WAS TERMINATED FOR LACK OF FUNDS, AND NO SIGNIFICANT DATA IS INCLUDED. |  |  |                        |
| 17. Key Words and Document Analysis. 17a. Descriptors<br>CRIMINALS; INMATES; PRISONS; WORK PERFORMANCE  |  |  |                        |
| 17b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms   |  |  |                        |
| 17c. COSATI Field/Group   |  |  |                        |
| 18. Availability Statement<br>Releasable to the public. Available from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22151.   |  | 19. Security Class (This Report)<br>UNCLASSIFIED | 21. No. of Pages<br>15 |
|   |  | 20. Security Class (This Page)<br>UNCLASSIFIED   | 22. Price<br>\$4.00    |

REHABILITATION PROCESS IN CORRECTIONAL WORK RELEASE<sup>1</sup>

Project Director . . . . . Thomas R. Gaines  
 Grantee Agency . . . . . N. C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
 Demonstration Grant No. . . . . 12-P-55897/4-01

<sup>1</sup>This investigation was supported, in part, by Demonstration Grant No. 12-P-55897/4-01 from the Division of Research and Demonstration Grants, Social and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Washington, D. C., 20201.

## INTRODUCTION

Demonstration Grant Number 12-P-55897/4-01 was awarded the N. C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the project entitled "Rehabilitation Process In Correctional Work Release". Through this project, an application of the rehabilitation process to the correctional work release programs was effected. The rehabilitation process including vocational evaluation, diagnosis, training, treatment, and vocational placement was applied to the selection of job opportunities for inmates within selected units of the North Carolina Department of Corrections.

Background Information --- At the actual time of this project's implementation (10-1-72), there existed no significant data which was exactly indicative of its efforts. The N. C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services had been involved with the North Carolina Correctional process for the five (5) previous years. During that period of time, it had been noted that many offenders were given work release privileges and had jobs chosen for them, with the inmate's concurrence, generally without adequate diagnostic evaluation, job planning, or vocational planning. This project was intended to allow for the necessary staff to carry those functions out and thereby determine if the rehabilitation process could actually benefit the correctional work release program.

At the time this project was implemented, the N. C. Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services had enjoyed a good working relationship with the North Carolina Department of Correction. There was and is in existence a cooperative agreement between the two agencies which clearly delineates each parties' responsibilities.

The rehabilitation process is a time proven success in restoring people to full participation in society and in the field of employment. The rehabilitation process has been equated to the scientific method applied to a social problem. Therefore, it seemed reasonable to expect this process to have application to the correctional work release process.

Statement of Problem --- Recidivism has historically been used as a technique of measuring the effectiveness of incarceration in preventing future criminal behavior. More recently, however, many penologists have come not to agree with this technique. Thus, the intended applications and outcomes of this demonstration project were:

- (1) *To utilize a full range of evaluation, counseling education, vocational, and job placement techniques in order to ascertain the effect on both the inmate's and society's well-being.*
- (2) *To test the attitude that employment is not the real problem in an offender's life style, but his employability.*
- (3) *To utilize job opportunities which would minimize the inmate's abilities to obtain jobs which are competitive, provide meaningful income levels, and have career progressions.*

The aforescribed applications/outcomes should have established the following significant determinations/findings:

- (1) Provide the necessary data to design an advanced casework methodology in which an offender's vocational plans could be designed according to those factors which might contribute to his success, thus, better success from the incarceration period should be achieved.
- (2) A net reduction in the number of families drawing public assistance due to the breadwinner being incarcerated.
- (3) An increase in the number of inmates going on to work release programs after receiving job training and education.
- (4) An increase in the number of offenders being released who have quality jobs and thereby earning good incomes.

In order to realize the accomplishment of the goals of this project, the following objectives (immediate) were set:

- (1) Increase the number of inmates who receive evaluation, diagnostic services, job planning, vocational training, educational and job placement services which are based on the inmate's skills, abilities and interests.
- (2) Increase job skills and job opportunities for the offender population.
- (3) Decrease the number of inmates being placed on jobs which are not commensurate with their skills, abilities, and interests.

Setting --- This project was introduced initially to three selected correctional units located within the North Carolina Department of Corrections' South Central Area (geographic). These units were the McCain Correctional Center, McCain, North Carolina (Area Reception Center); the Robeson County Unit, Lumberton, North Carolina; and the Richmond County Unit, Rockingham, North Carolina. Each of these units had work release programs in existence at the time of the project's implementation.

One Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor was housed in each of the aforescribed units and one secretary was located in the McCain Center. The decision as regards locations chosen for the project's coverage is twofold:

- (1) As McCain is the area's point of reception for the inmate population, it was obvious that our diagnostic/evaluation process and subsequent referrals to the other two Rehabilitation Counselors should transpire at that point.
- (2) The Robeson and Richmond County Units are the two largest work release units in the North Carolina Department of Corrections' South Central Area and, consequently, a majority of inmates processed at reception (McCain) are transferred to these two units.

Shortly after we had established Vocational Rehabilitation offices in the aforementioned units, however, it was decided that (1) we could serve a greater number of inmates and (2) the project would thereby have more

credibility if we provided coverage to every unit in the correctional South Central Area which had work release programs. The Rehabilitation Counselor at the McCain Center (reception) had begun to initiate diagnostic work in the cases of many inmates not being transferred to either the Robeson or Richmond Units, but to other units in the South Central Area.

As this project officially began October 1, 1972, we added three additional work release units on November 1, 1972, to, as described above, expand the scope of the project. Therefore, the counselor in the Robeson County Unit began also serving the Scotland County and Bladen County Units and the counselor in the Richmond County Unit added the Anson County Unit to his area of coverage. (Please note attached "Flow Chart")

Methodology --- As previously mentioned, the McCain Correction Center served as the Department of Corrections' point of reception for those inmates classified to the South Central Area. At this point in flow, psychological and medical assessments were rendered the inmate and here he awaited transfer to the appropriate unit in which he would spend his sentence while under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections. Ideally, the Department of Corrections desired to "house" inmates as close as possible to their home communities and, to the extent possible, in the unit which could best meet the inmates' needs as regards programs and job opportunities. The term "ideally" is used in the strictest sense as very seldom did the two housing reasons hold true, particularly the latter. The Department of Corrections'

South Central Region covers, for the greater part, rural communities without abundance of "career" job opportunities. Also, often a correctional unit selected for a particular inmate might be full and thereby void of bed space. He, therefore, would be transferred to another unit because the continuous flow at the reception center negated the possibility for his remaining there to await a "place" in the unit initially tapped for his incarceration.

When an inmate had been ascertained as potentially eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services at McCain (reception) and upon his having been transferred to one of the five other units receiving project coverage, his case was transferred to the appropriate project Rehabilitation Counselor in O2 (referral) status. The Rehabilitation Counselor at McCain did not (1) have enough time to work with an inmate client in order to affect a rehabilitation plan prior to his being classified to another unit and (2) the psychological evaluations provided at McCain were of such poor quality that our staff had to obtain further and more extensive evaluation after receiving cases transferred to them. At this point, following further evaluation, the inmate/client would be interviewed and, based upon the diagnostic data (including medical, social, vocational, psychological, and educational) and determine the eligibility or ineligibility of each offender.

It must be explained at this point that the project Vocational Rehabilitation staff worked harmoniously with the appropriate administrative and program staff in the respective correctional units in behalf of the inmate/client. Each Rehabilitation Counselor became established as a participating

member of the Inmate Classification Committee in each correctional unit. It was in this vein that the counselor served in an advocacy role for the inmate/client thereby fostering more objective considerations and/or decisions regarding preparation for and actually placing clients in work release programs and jobs. Because it was rather obvious that inmates had previously been placed on jobs for work's sake rather than for the therapeutic and long-range value of commensurate placement, our staff injected the well-being of considering the "total" person need into the decision-making process as regards jobs chosen for the individual client/inmate.

Once work release privileges had been granted a individual client/inmate, our project Rehabilitation Counselor(s) worked closely with a respective unit's Job Development Specialist in seeking appropriate placement for the inmate. Again, knowledge of his abilities, skills, interests, and previous successful experiences served as our basis for seeking appropriate placement.

Upon placing the inmate/client on a job in the community, the appropriate Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor followed the case along with supportive counseling. There were many cases whereby the Rehabilitation Counselors purchased placement equipment, tools, and work clothes. There were also cases whereby an inmate/client was placed in a study release program in order that our project sponsor specific training activities with reference to the inmates' vocational future.

Explanation of Termination --- At this point in this final report, I feel it best to explain why the project was terminated prior to its completion and why there exists no significant nor comparative data.

As previously mentioned, the project was actually launched on October 1, 1972, although it was scheduled to begin June 15, 1972. The reasons causing the delay in implementation were (1) "last minute" approval of the project grant; (2) recruitment activities for experienced Vocational Rehabilitation staff; and (3) a change in the project directorship (from Bob H. Philbeck to Thomas R. Gaines).

Understandably, it took a period of approximately eight (8) weeks to acquaint the project staff with the correctional system environment and vice versa, and the purposes and objectives of the project proper. During this period of orientation, a data report system was established which served a feedback to the Project Director.

As the Project Director began preparation of the progress summary report due on February 15, 1973, the bottom fell out of the project. As a matter of procedure, I contacted the "third-party" in the project (Department of Corrections) to obtain documentation that it would provide its 10% matching share (\$8,703.00) necessary for the project's continuation in fiscal year 1973-74. I was informed that the Department of Corrections did not anticipate having available state funds with which to provide its matching share for the fiscal year in mention. I was further informed, however, that a diligent attempt would be made to identify the

necessary funding prior to my submittal of the progress summary report.

On the arrival of the due date for the progress summary report, I had not received a commitment from the third-party. Having been granted approval from project officials in Washington, D. C., for delaying the report's submittal until such time that I had received the commitment necessary, I again emphasized to the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections the imminent danger which our project faced without his agency's commitment. Shortly thereafter, I was firmly and finally informed that there was no way the third-party could provide its matching share of state funds necessary for the project's continuation. This knowledge was gained during the first week of March.

Since it had become obvious that the project was very meaningful and could potentially result in the establishment of more worthwhile Vocational Rehabilitation/Correctional programs not only in North Carolina, but nationally as well, I began to explore other funding opportunities.

Upon learning of the difficulty I was having in identifying a third-party funding source for the project, the project staff became most apprehensive concerning the uncertainty of the project's future. By April 1, 1973, the staff resigned themselves from the project and were transferred into other full-time and stable Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services positions. Therefore, a letter outlining our

request and purposes for official termination of the project was submitted to Washington effective June 30, 1973. Therefore, this final report deals with a project which was in effect from October 1, 1972, through April 1, 1973, a period of six (6) months rather than the proposed three (3) year period.

Data --- Following, data regarding the project's accomplishments toward its stated objectives is provided. It should be obvious that the short duration of the project prohibited the advent of appropriate research efforts.

Number Served --- At the time of the project's termination, 148 inmate/clients were being served by Vocational Rehabilitation. Of this total, 60 cases were transferred to the two outlying Rehabilitation Counselors by the Rehabilitation Counselor at the McCain Center (reception). 67 cases were transferred to the units served by the project from other points of reception in the Correctional system. Additionally, 21 cases incarcerated in the units served by the project at implementation were determined eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation services by our project staff.

Number Placed in Work Release --- Of the 148 being served by Vocational Rehabilitation through the Demonstration Project, 60 had been placed in work release jobs.

Number Maintaining Work Release Jobs Following Release --- Of the 60 placed in work release, 12 were released and maintained those jobs in which they had been placed during the work release process while the project was in operation.



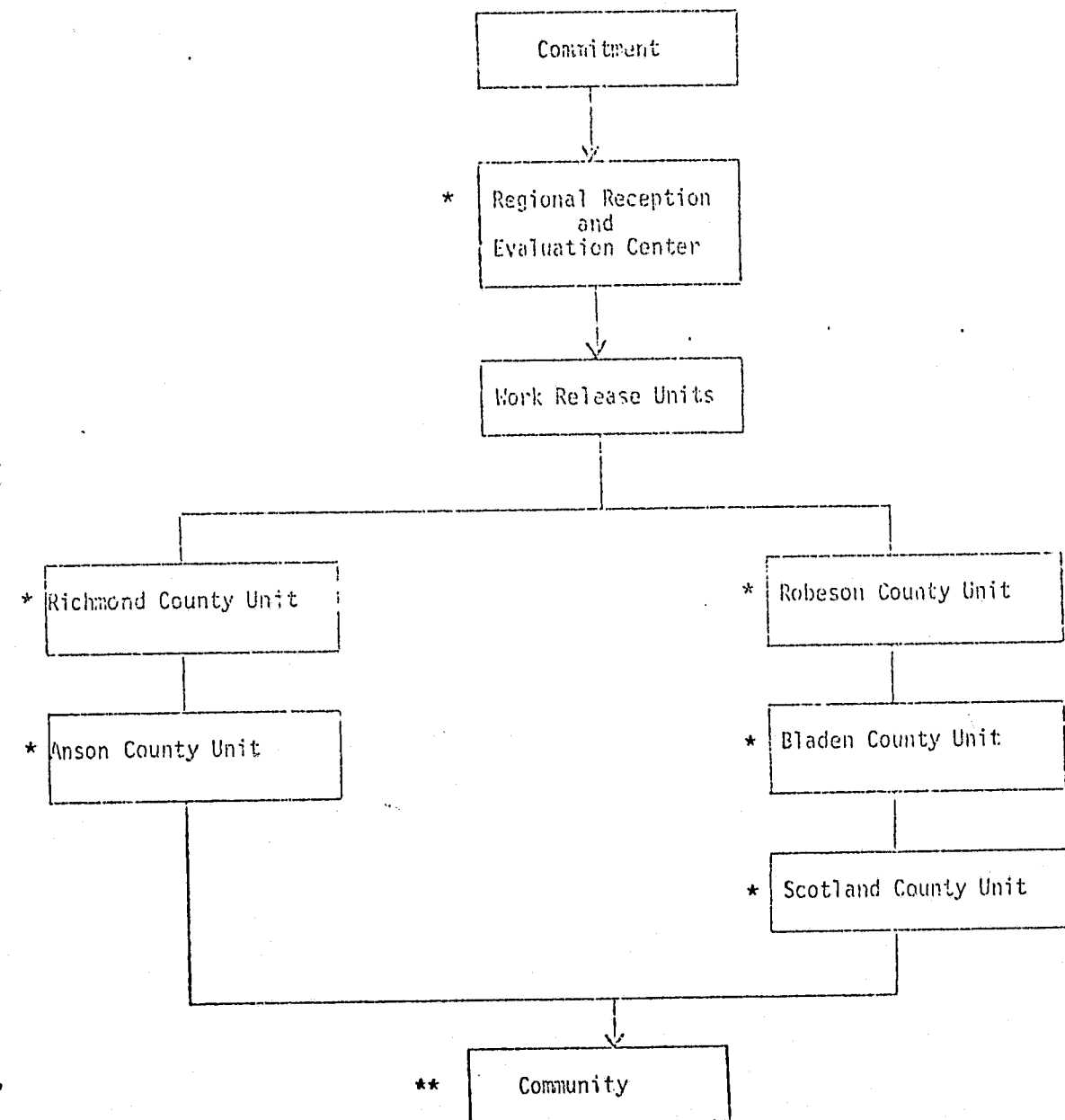
Number Receiving AFDC Grants --- Of the 60 placed in work release, 31 inmate families were receiving AFDC Grants.

Number of AFDC Grants Reduced and/or Discontinued --- Of 31 families receiving AFDC Grants, 24 had their assistance reduced while the inmate/breadwinner was in the work release program and two (2) families had AFDC Grants completely discontinued. These developments were of course based on the earning level of the inmate/breadwinner.

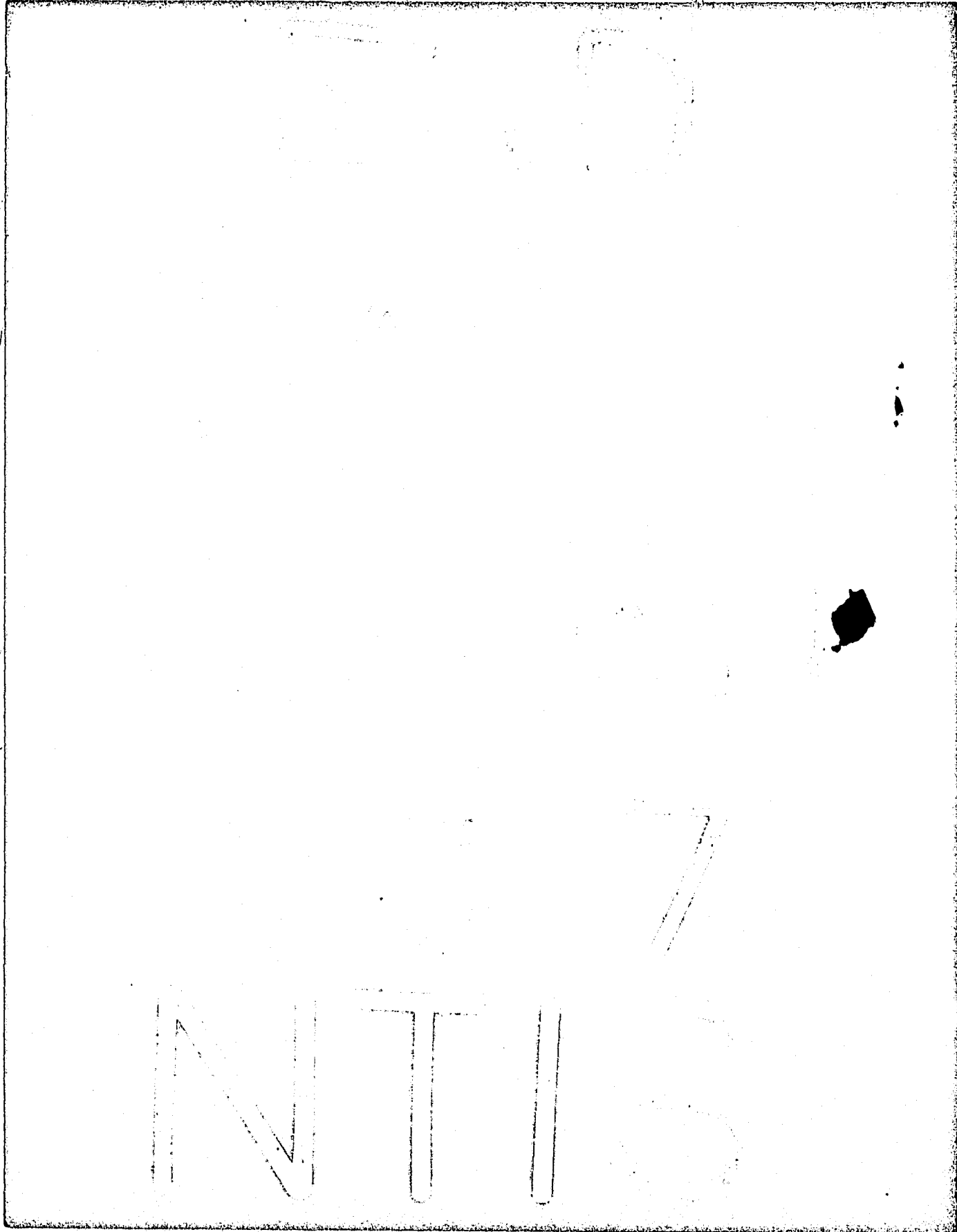
Summarization --- It is the opinion of every person who was associated with this project that its purposes and objectives would have positive effects as regards futuristic planning for Correctional/Vocational Rehabilitation programs. The goals and objectives of the project were visualized as being realistically attainable and each staff person felt a tremendous let-down caused by our inability to obtain continued funding.

The dollars spent in providing the variety of Vocational Rehabilitation services through this project were certainly not wasted. Conversely, the application of Vocational Rehabilitation services to the incarcerated offender population should and does have lasting and meaningful effects in the great majority of cases receiving same. The real sadness of this project is that we did not have the full opportunity to demonstrate the evidence of the true worthwhileness of Vocational Rehabilitation services in Correctional work release programs.

12  
FLOW CHART



\*Units which have VR staff sponsored under this project  
\*\*Units which have VR coverage from Section II funds



**END**