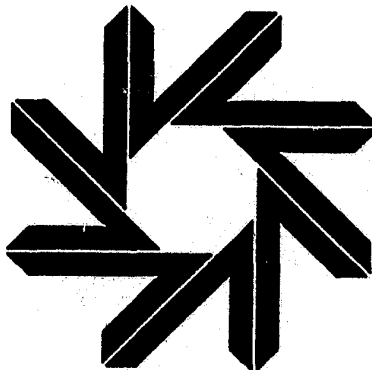


**HOUSE OF THOUGHT -
Therapeutic Community**

Profile Report and Plan for Evaluation



**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
DIVISION OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION
RESEARCH AND REPORTING UNIT**

62622

January, 1979
Report No. 7832

NCJRS

NOV 2 1979

ACQUISITIONS

CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	i
INTRODUCTION	1
Summary	1
Purpose of Report	2
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	3
Program Summary	3
Residential Population	7
Organization	10
Recruitment	10
Community Physical Structure	12
Staff/Resident Staff Organization	13
Treatment Activities	16
PROGRAM EXPANSION	21
Proposed Relocation to North Housing Unit	21
Expansion to Other Facilities	24
PROPOSED EVALUATION PLAN	27
Evaluation Goals	27
Previous Evaluations	27
Proposed Evaluation Design	29
APPENDIX	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff and residents of the House of Thought community must be acknowledged for their patience and invaluable assistance during this project. Particular acknowledgement is extended to Mr. Gerald E. Deans, Director of the House of Thought.

This author also appreciates the assistance given and interest in the program from the institutional staff at the James River Correctional Center, the North Housing Unit at Powhatan Correctional Center, and other personnel within the Division of Institutional Services and the Division of Program Development and Evaluation.

Graphics in this report were done by Ms. Sharon Struble, Illustrator with the Research and Reporting Unit.

This report was prepared by Jeffrey Schaffer, Researcher. Inquiries concerning this report should be directed to:

Virginia Department of Corrections
Research and Reporting Unit
4615 W. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23230

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Summary

The House of Thought is a therapeutic community servicing the inmate population of the Virginia Department of Corrections. The program is currently operating at the James River Correctional Center located approximately 25 miles west of Richmond, Virginia, in Goochland County.

Maximum capacity of the House of Thought is presently designed for 25 residents. Community activities and operational objectives are supervised by a staff of five: the Director of the House ("Corrections Treatment Program Supervisor") and four staff counselors (three "Rehabilitation Counselor B" positions and one "Corrections Rehabilitation Counselor").

House of Thought residents and staff presently occupy approximately half of the top floor of Housing Section "D". This area includes living quarters, office space for staff and resident-staff, and activity rooms. Interfacing between House of Thought residents and general population is limited to general recreation periods, work and/or study assignments, meals, and medical services.

There are no official post assignments for institutional security staff within the House. This factor, combined with the program's multifaceted activities and approaches, categorizes the House of Thought as a unique correctional situation within the Department.

This report will detail the following:

1. purpose of this report,
2. program description (including program objectives, organization, and treatment activities),
3. proposed program expansion,
4. considerations for monitoring and evaluating the House of Thought Program.

B. Purpose of Report

The Division of Institutional Services within the Virginia Department of Corrections is currently preparing plans for relocating and expanding the House of Thought program. In order to facilitate the relocation and expansion of the community and its services throughout the correctional system, a descriptive report is required.

Prior to this effort, the House of Thought did not have a formal report outlining the structure, levels of activities, and stated objectives of the community. Much of what the House has accomplished has therefore been limited to personal contacts or by word of mouth.

The Research and Reporting Unit within the Division of Program Development and Evaluation was contacted in October, 1978 in order to prepare this overview of the House of Thought. A request for developing a plan for monitoring and evaluating the program was subsequently added.

The information in this report concerning the House of Thought was obtained from direct observations of daily activities and program operations. A series of intensive interviews with program staff was also conducted during the field work phase.

In addition, information relevant to preparing this report was extracted from numerous reports and file information provided by program staff. Appropriate source material will be cited in the body of this report.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Program Summary

The House of Thought is a correctional program for inmates committed to the care and custody of the Virginia Department of Corrections. This program uses a therapeutic community concept. Therapy or treatment activities are operationalized through total involvement in the community. Intensified treatment is generated during specific scheduled activities (specifically the "groups") and during encounters between the staff and with other House residents.

Directed treatment employs a variety of psychological approaches. Transactional Analysis (also referred to as T.A.) techniques predominate.

The House of Thought was modelled after the Asklepieion therapeutic community treatment concept. Asklepieion was originally started at Marion Federal Prison in the late

1960's by Dr. Martin Groder, a staff psychologist at the facility.

According to House Director Deans, Asklepieion was initially a "one-man" show, staffed by Dr. Groder. The target clients were the inmates at the Marion facility. Dr. Groder's conceived treatment model was a blend of Transactional Analysis and techniques evolved from Synanon (a treatment program for substance abusers based in California and previously studied by Dr. Groder).

Dr. Groder intended his program to reduce recidivism by using this therapeutic community concept. He also wanted to demonstrate that inmates are treatable, that the "character disorder" diagnosis of inmates may be inappropriate. Specifically, classical psychological literature had stated that persons with pronounced anti-social (and other "character disorder") behavior are not amenable to treatment.

The Asklepieion Foundation is a national, non-profit organization of Asklepieion programs (of which the House of Thought is an affiliate). Asklepieion affiliates presently include programs based in U.S. Bureau of Prisons institutions and in correctional facilities in Minnesota, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, North Carolina, and in five other states.

The House of Thought was initially started up as a drug abuse rehabilitative/prevention program in 1974. Start-up costs were assumed through a \$55,955 grant from the Virginia

Division of Justice and Crime Prevention. Eligibility criteria for participation in the program during the tenure of D.J.C.P. funding (1974-1976) included the limitation that residents have a history of drug abuse. Table 1 lists the current budget for the House of Thought:

TABLE 1

Budgeted Allocations for FY 1978-79

Personnel and Fringes (present salaries)	\$76,530
Staff Development	1,415
Contractual Services	2,100
Supplies and Materials	135
Equipment Repair and Replacement	<u>600</u>
Total	\$80,780

While under D.J.C.P. funding, the program goals, broken-out as "agency" and "program" goals, included the following:

Agency Goals:

1. To provide rehabilitative services to a maximum of 25 correctional clients within the program.
2. To reduce the amount of drug usage by program participants.
3. To reduce the rate of recidivism among graduates of the program.

Program Goals:

To provide a daily program which will be intensive and will meet the needs of the clients within the program.

The Action Grant Application (#74A2490E) specified two program objectives:

1. A statistically significant reduction in the use of proscribed drugs by program participants when compared with a control group.
2. A statistically significant reduction in the recidivism rate of graduates of the program when compared with a control group, the goal now being for more than 80% of the graduates to remain drug-free or less than a 20% recidivism rate.

Now that the House of Thought is no longer specifically targeted for inmates with a history of drug abuse, the above goals and objectives are no longer appropriate. The House of Thought staff and Division of Institutional Services management should therefore develop a new set of goals and objectives.

This new set of goals and objectives should be tailored to reflect changes in inmate eligibility criteria and performance standards for management considerations. They must also be designed to be measurable for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

In the absence of formal goal and objective statements, the House of Thought staff have nevertheless expressed goal and objective sentiments concerning the House community and treatment activities. At the present time, the expressed

intent of the House of Thought includes the following:

Goals:

1. To provide diversified treatment services to a maximum of 25 residents within the program.
2. To provide diversified treatment services to non-resident program participants on an out-patient basis.
3. To reduce the rate of recidivism among ex-residents of the program.
4. To provide training in group counseling for departmental staff.

Objectives:

1. To screen and recruit eligible and acceptable inmates throughout the Virginia Correctional System.
2. To negotiate and maintain personal contracts with residents to ensure acceptable program performance.
3. To successfully guide residents, through total community involvement and group participation, through all program phases.
4. To conduct and maintain follow-up data concerning program ex-residents.

The above goal and objective statements are by no means exhaustive. They must be refined in order to meet performance standards and evaluation considerations.

B. Residential Population

The maximum capacity of the House residential community had been fixed in 1974 to house 25 residents. This figure has remained unchanged. The program has been running at capacity during the field work phases of this project (November-December, 1978).

It was stated in the previous sub-section of this report that the House of Thought was originally funded to treat inmates with a history of substance abuse. The restrictions attached to D.J.C.P. grant funding limiting eligibility solely to drug and alcohol abusers have been relaxed. However, the House Director stated that inmates with a history of substance abuse remain the principal target population for program participation.

The following is a breakdown, by offense type, of the current residential population at the House of Thought:

TABLE 2

Population Breakdown of
House of Thought Residents
by Offense Type

<u>Offense Type</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Armed Robbery	10	40%
Robbery	2	8%
Breaking and Entering	4	16%
Grand Larceny	1	4%
Murder, First Degree	1	4%
Murder, Second Degree	1	4%
Possession with Intent to Sell (Marijuana)	2	8%
Possession with Intent to Sell (Preludin)	1	4%
Sodomy	1	4%
Rape	<u>2</u>	<u>8%</u>
Totals	25	100%

As of December 1978, those House of Thought residents committed for a drug related offense constituted 12% of the total House population. Residents committed for armed robbery are the dominant group at the present time. Consideration is not given for suitability/acceptability and eligibility requirements concerning offense type. The exception to this is admitting residents charged with sex offenses. According to Director Gerald Deans, the three residents who were committed for sex offenses comprise a "trial basis" for permitting sex offenders residence in the community in the future. Consideration may be given to expanding the number of sex offenders participating in the program in the future if the proposed expansion of the House of Thought is accepted. Staff will have to be trained. The House Director and staff stated that acquiring treatment technology, via training, would be essential for servicing sex offenders in the House program.

In addition to the shift from restricting residence to substance abuse offenders, the profile of the "typical" resident has altered. House Director Deans stated that the current type of resident is older than the previous typical client. The House also receives a considerable number of recidivated inmates. In the words of the House Director, "... we are dealing with the harder, less likely to succeed inmate."

C. Organization

This sub-section of this report deals with the following program aspects:

1. recruitment of residents,
2. community physical structure,
3. staff and resident/staff organization.

RECRUITMENT

Placement of inmates into the House of Thought community can originate from referrals or through participation in associate programs at other institutions. The staff of the House of Thought control entry of prospective clients in both cases.

Referrals can be made directly to the House through counselors, superintendents, and other personnel within the Department of Corrections. Inmates who write letters expressing interest in the program are also considered.

Prospective candidates (through referrals) are then interviewed by a visiting interviewing team from the House at the candidate's institution. This interviewing team is comprised of a counselor and one or more House residents.

Screened candidates accepted by the House team must then be transferred into the general population at the James River Correctional Center before formal entry. Before formal entry (as a resident) into the House, the candidate

must be introduced to the community and be prepared, via pre-entry processing. Failure to complete pre-entry processing, a veto to House entry by the staff, or a change in attitude towards participation in the program by the candidate can disqualify that candidate from program residency.

The second means of entering the program is through participation in an associate program at another institution. These inmates initially sign up for participation in Transactional Analysis courses. Participants are initially told that a possible outcome of their group participation is entry into the House of Thought.

One benefit of this pathway into the House is that associate program participants, unlike referrals, can be transferred directly into the House of Thought. A precondition for direct transfer again is acceptance by community residents and staff and completion of pre-entry processing.

The House Director stated that entry through prior associate program participation is the preferred mode. Referrals transferred to the general population at the James River facility may be contaminated by attitudes and behavior patterns counterproductive to those of the therapeutic community.

These inmates may therefore choose not to be considered for residency. In addition, inmates at other institutions may

request transfer into the House in order to move to an institution in the Richmond metropolitan area. It is the expressed belief of the House Director that candidates transferred to James River Correctional Center for program entry who are later determined by the staff not to be acceptable should be transferred out of James River. This change in procedure may provide the necessary deterrent and reduce total processing activities.

As of December, 1978, 25 out of 120 total community residents (20.8%) have entered the House through participating in an associate program.

COMMUNITY PHYSICAL STRUCTURE

The House of Thought occupies approximately one-half of the second floor of Housing Section "D" at the James River Correctional Facility. Figure 1 provides a simplified sketch of the floor plan for the House of Thought.

The reader will note that the House has a single entrance (located in the south-eastern corner). The floor plan also reveals that, barring the lack of a food preparatory/storage area, the House facilities, from a physical perspective, can boast as being a self-sufficient, as well as a self-contained living unit. This provides ample justification for the designation of "community".

The availability of staff office space and the Group Activity, Recreation, and TV Rooms permit all House related

activities to be conducted here. The necessity for these areas, in addition to adequate bedrooms, has been a consideration in determining a suitable site for relocation. This factor will be discussed in Section III, "PROGRAM EXPANSION" of this report.

STAFF/RESIDENT STAFF ORGANIZATION

Figure 2 details the Staff/Resident Staff Table of Organization. The Director and four Counselor positions are Department of Corrections employees. The Clerk and remaining job titles are House residents.

HOUSE OF THOUGHT - COMMUNITY HOUSING PLAN

Fig. 1

CAPACITY: **25**
 ROOM OCCUPANCY:
 As indicated

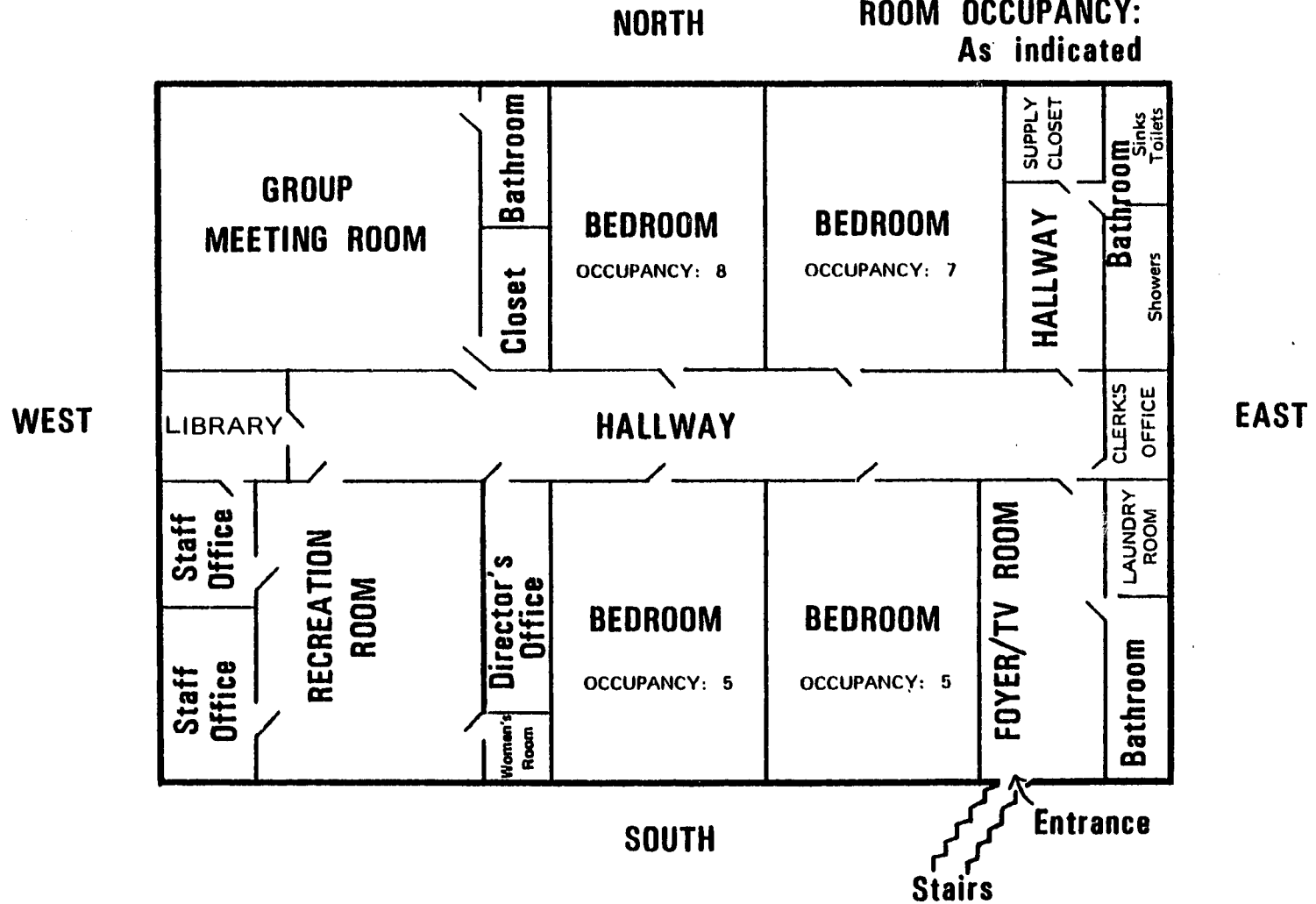
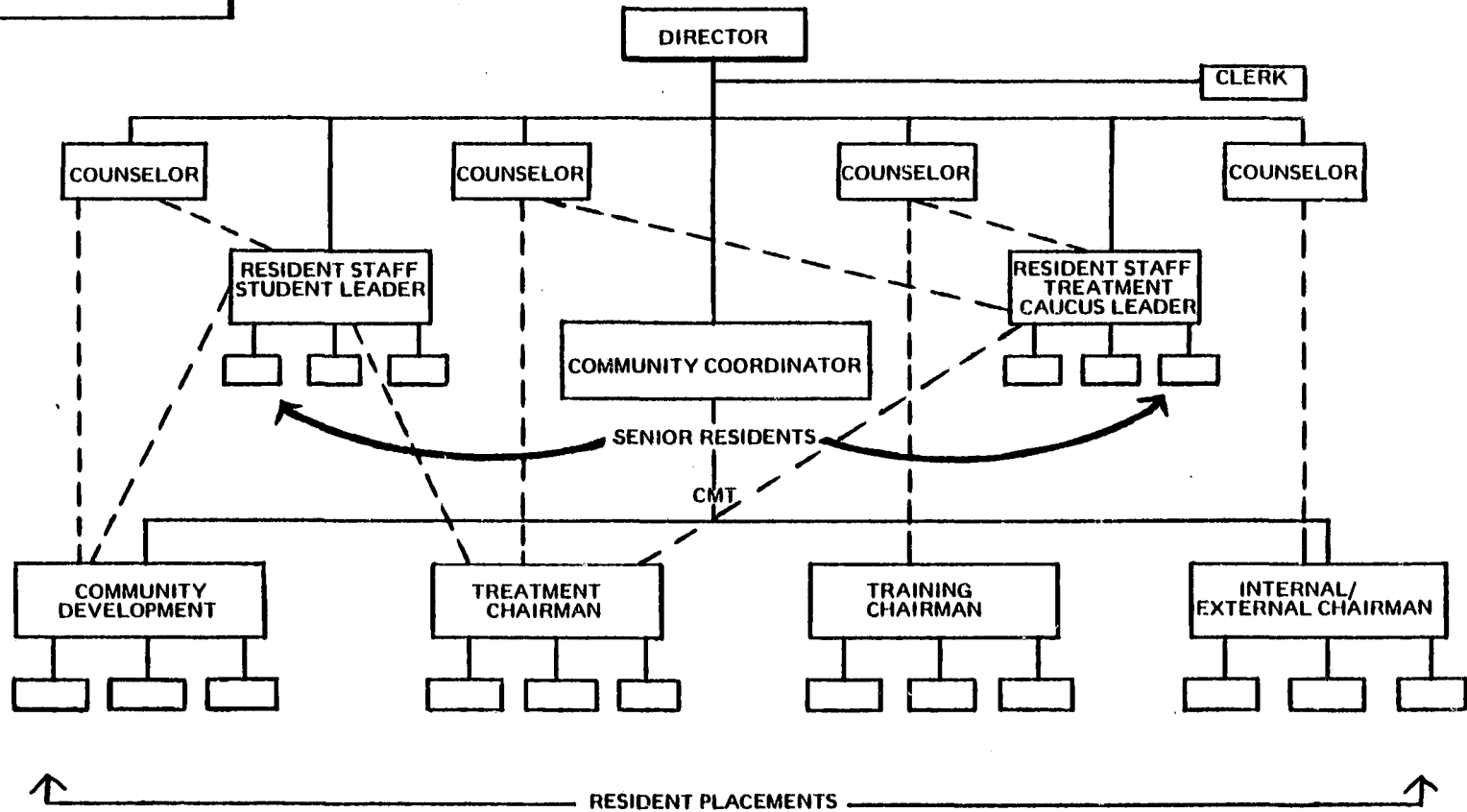
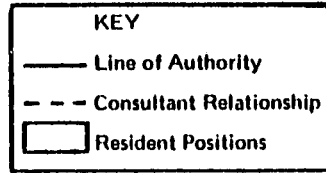


Fig. 2

HOUSE OF THOUGHT Organizational Chart



Residents apply for one of the eight jobs. Appointments are made by the House staff. Four of the positions are paid positions:

1. Community Coordinator
2. Resident Staff Student Leader
3. Resident Staff Treatment Caucus Leader
4. Clerk

All other resident leadership positions (see Fig. 2) comprise the Community Management Team (C.M.T.) This unit is responsible for the integral mechanics of the daily operation of the community, the mechanics of recruitment, and long-range planning functions. A list of specific job responsibilities for Community Management Team positions is included in the APPENDIX of this report.

The blank boxes under the Resident Staff Student Leader and Resident Staff Treatment Caucus Leader positions indicate there are a total of six resident slots, three under each Leader. Senior House residents occupy these positions. Each group of three residents acts as an advisory board and adjunct staff to their respective Leader. Other resident placements are made to the remaining resident staff positions by House staff.

D. Treatment Activities

The philosophical basis of maintaining this or any therapeutic community is that the client, through personal commitment and participation in the program, will achieve

improvement. The House of Thought community, through the apparatus of participation in group activities and personal interactions, effect attitudinal and behavioral changes in residents.

The typical prison culture, according to House of Thought philosophy, can instill or reinforce anti-social behavioral tendencies: the "doing your own time" pattern, mistrust of others and self, etc. The House, operating as a 24-hour community, compels the individual to subject his person to close introspection and the scrutiny of others, to encourage and reinforce positive change.

The principal tools for effecting change at the level of the individual resident are the Treatment Groups and total involvement in the community.

Other than the four paid resident positions, the remaining 21 House residents are assigned to an institutional job or attend educational classes during the morning hours, Monday through Friday. The afternoon hours, usually from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, are reserved for treatment group activities.

The principal six groups are supervised by House staff. Four of these six are referred to as "Tim's" or "Linda's" Group, depending upon the counselor assigned to supervise that group.

These four groups include the following types of activity:

1. Tim's Group

This is basically a psychotherapy group. In technique it is a mixture of Transactional Analysis, Gestalt, and other psychologically based approaches.

The goal of this group is to assist resident participants to resolve their individual past social and psychological problems. Group participants are then assisted in relating this problem solving activity to their present and anticipated future problem situations.

2. Milton's Group

This group is a planning session. It is geared primarily for those residents preparing to exit from the community and the correctional system.

The focus of this group is the "how to's" of making it. Particular areas discussed include career development and counseling.

3. Joan's Group - Psychodrama

The group leader attempts to create a drama based upon a resident's perceptions of his past personal experiences. The leader, assisted by resident participants, uses the information generated

for problem solving, particularly for instructing participants on present and future occurrences of a similar nature.

4. Linda's Group

The group is a creative workshop environment.

Its two impacts include the following:

1. to foster creativity
2. to make residents become aware of their innate creativity.

The group leader also works on fringe elements concerning occupational therapy.

Assignment to one or more of the above four groups is predicated upon the individual's needs and time constraints. Participation by all residents in the fifth principal treatment group, the "Game", is mandatory.

The Game is a controlled confrontation activity. It was derived from the Askelpieion model originally developed at the Marion Federal Penitentiary. Specific rules of group activity have been modified by the House.

Residents and staff may be "indicted" by another resident or staff for actions considered by the complainant to run counter to House philosophy, rules, or personal desire. Similarly, laudatory remarks (called "strokes") may be freely offered. Staff are present to facilitate group

dynamics. A specific Game session is usually directed by a member of the Treatment Committee (See Fig. 2). Special Game sessions can be called at any time by any resident or staff.

The remaining principal treatment activity is called a "Contract Group". In these sessions a resident states what he wants to see changed in himself and his relationships with others.

These two areas of inquiry focus upon elements in a resident's "Contract for Personal Change". Residents also develop a personal set of goals in addition to the House of Thought Basic Rules Contract (signed initially by the resident listing required House rules). Contract Groups are therefore held to discuss a resident's fulfillment or discrepancy in achieving his contract or to negotiate a new contract.

Copies of both contracts are included in the APPENDIX of this report.

All of the above six groups are generally scheduled to meet once a week. The Game, however, can be convened at any time (at night, weekend, etc.).

In addition to the above, the House of Thought is engaged in other types of activity, such as training for other Departmental staff and pre-planned social activities.

The House regularly conducts training for anyone interested in the House program and its techniques.

Principal participants at the training sessions include counseling staff from other correctional institutions, probation and parole staff, and personnel in mental health fields.

Social gatherings include picnics on the institutional grounds between residents and their family members. Social programs are also scheduled at the institutional dining hall for House residents and their guests.

In addition to the resident treatment and other activities listed in the above, mention must also be made of House of Thought outpatients. The House presently serves 12 inmates who are housed at the James River facility on an outpatient basis. These inmates attend an informal Transactional Analysis instructional package approximately three times a week. There are a total of 16 basic T.A. courses included in this package. They are primarily designed to prepare the participant for House residency.

III. PROGRAM EXPANSION

A. Proposed Relocation to North Housing Unit

In April of 1978 the Director of the House of Thought proposed a plan for expanding the therapeutic community. This plan, submitted to the Division of Institutional Services, proposed expanding the community capacity from 25 to 87 residents by relocating the House to the North Housing Unit at the Powhatan Correctional Center.

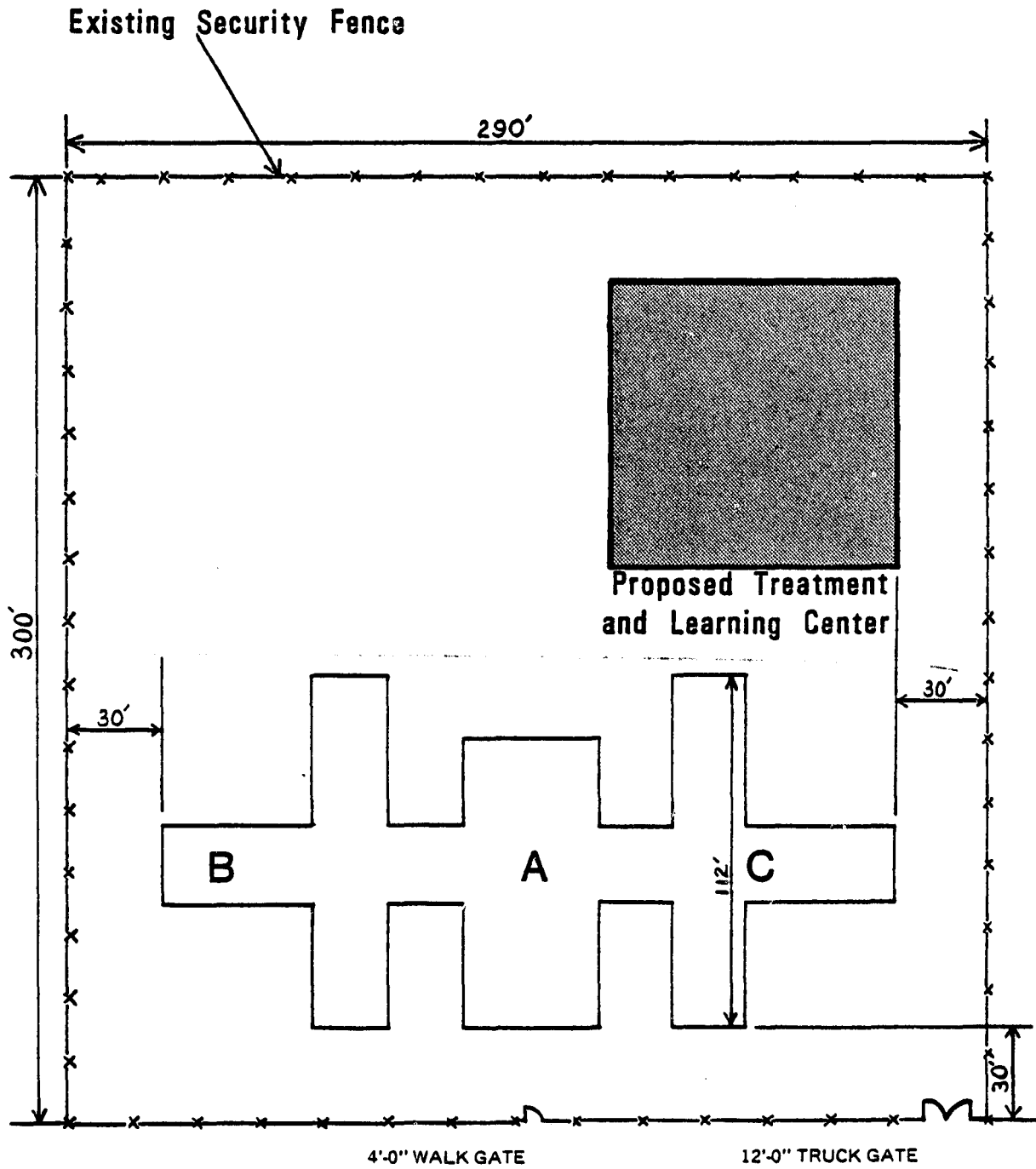
The plan is a companion document to a proposal for expanding the therapeutic community concept throughout the adult institutional complex. Relocation of the existing community to the North Housing Unit is the first of three phases for this proposed programmatic expansion. This aspect will be discussed in the next sub-section of this report.

The North Housing Unit was constructed in 1976. Its present rated capacity is 100 inmates. With the minor renovations required, maximum capacity of the relocated House of Thought will be fixed at 87 residents.

In the opinion of House staff, the North Housing Unit is ideally suited for an expanded community. The present physical structure will only require relatively low-cost modifications for adaptability to program needs. Secondly, the relocated House will still be central to the James River, Powhatan, Powhatan Reception and Classification, and Deep Meadow facilities. These four institutions by far comprise the largest and most centralized inmate population within the Virginia correctional system. The availability of institutional and cadre job assignments, to which most House residents are presently assigned in the morning hours, will be continued. These two factors were decisive for proposing relocation to North Housing.

Figure 3 provides a simplified sketch of the North Housing Unit. The center area, marked by the letter "A", presently contains a food preparatory, recreation, and

Fig. 3
NORTH HOUSING UNIT
WITH PROPOSED BUILDING



office-space areas. Areas "B" and "C" are presently dormitory areas.

Capital outlay funds will be required for constructing a proposed Treatment and Learning Center. This building will provide space for group meetings, internal and external staff development, vocational and educational programs, a library and study area, and related office space. The Department of Corrections is currently exploring the availability of one-time Federal grants for construction costs.

Additional information concerning this proposed relocation, such as staff requirements, program objectives, and a proposed projected line item budget for the first year are included in the "Proposal for Expansion of Therapeutic Community at North Housing Unit", a report prepared by the House Director. The reader is advised to consult this report for specific additional information.

B. Expansion to Other Facilities

The House Director issued a companion report to the expansion proposal on May 2, 1978. This report, entitled "Expansion of the Therapeutic Community Concept", details subsequent phases (Phases II and III) for a system-wide expansion of the therapeutic community concept. The following brief excerpts summarize the report:

Phase I involves expanding the capacity of the Central House of Thought Program at the

North Housing Unit and designating a full time coordinator at each of the Associate Programs. This phase would also include training of interested field unit counselors and selection of several personnel who would implement associate programs at field units.

Phase II involves full implementation of a less intensive therapeutic community at Staunton. This therapeutic community would service inmates who are first offenders, have short sentences and/or have less severe behavioral disorders. During this phase one or two field unit counselors would be designated as associate program staff on a semi-permanent basis. At this time the nucleus street program would be initiated. In addition, the training of staff at the Chesterfield Community Correctional Unit would begin so that the Work/Study Release Support Program could be implemented.

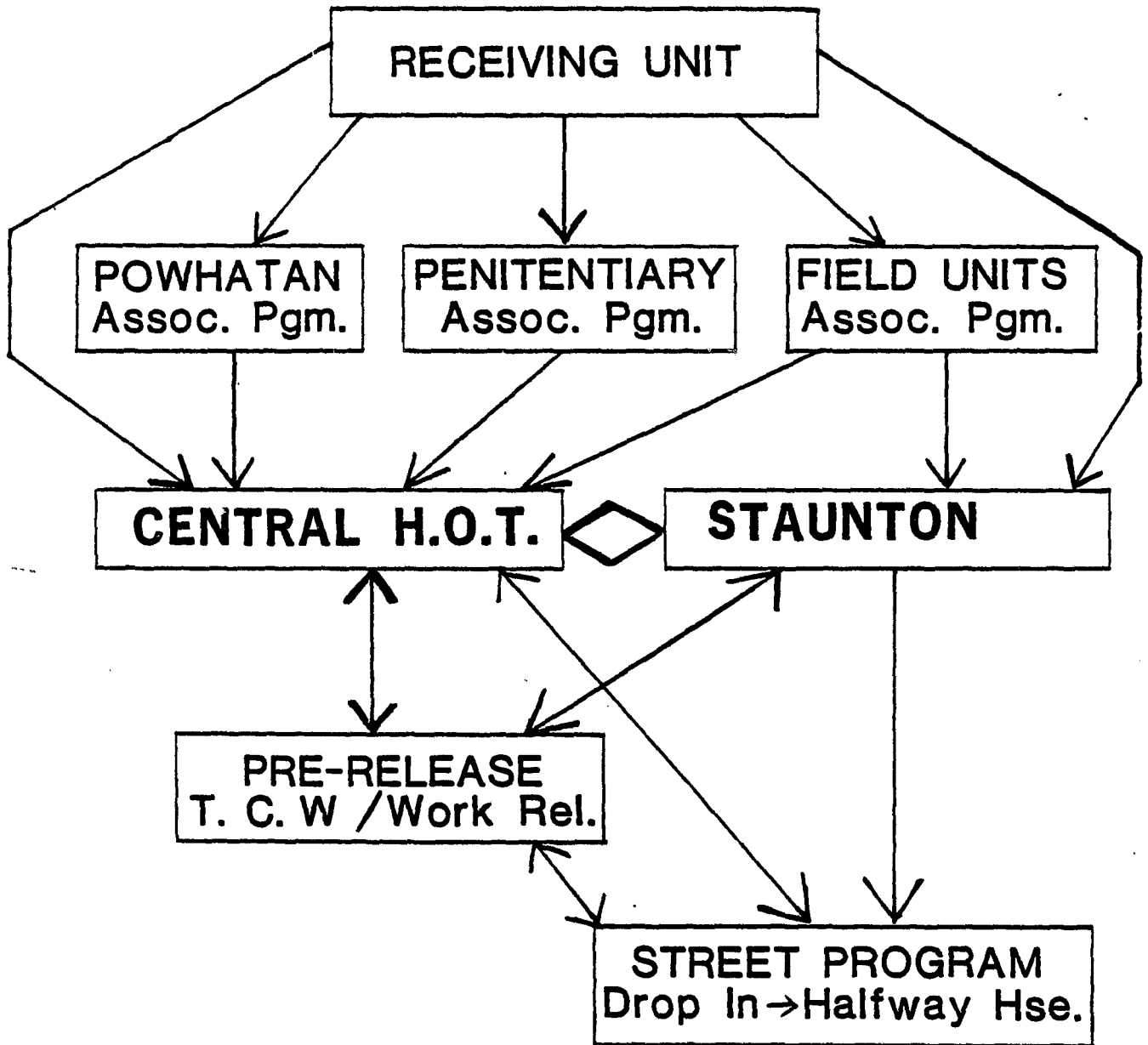
Phase III of the plan would include expanding the Street Program to a full residency Halfway House designed to service parolees from the Staunton Therapeutic Community, Central House of Thought Therapeutic Community or Work/Study Support Program. The entire program would be evaluated at this time and consideration would be given to expanding services to other institutions such as Bland, Women's Farm, Women's Halfway House, St. Brides, etc.

Figure 4 depicts what the internal flow of clients serviced by the House of Thought will be if the proposal is installed throughout the system. The reader must keep in mind that the present structure of associate therapeutic programs in other institutions provides some of the framework for an expanded program.

It is again suggested that the reader consult the May 2, 1978 report directly for additional information.

Fig. 4

PROPOSED PLAN-HOUSE OF THOUGHT



IV. PROPOSED EVALUATION PLAN

A. Evaluation Goals

The ultimate goal of evaluation is to determine if program objectives have been met. Evaluation can therefore be an indispensable tool to management in determining whether or not a program should be continued, modified, or terminated. Evaluation is especially important when considering program expansion on a magnitude such as the plans for a systematic therapeutic approach proposed by the House of Thought.

This section of this report will discuss previous evaluations of the House of Thought program and present a proposed evaluation design.

B. Previous Evaluations

The House of Thought program has previously been evaluated. The community, while funded by the Division of Justice and Crime Prevention, was evaluated by consultants hired by D.J.C.P. in June, 1976 and again in March of 1977. Since the program is an Asklepieion affiliate, representatives of the national Asklepieion organization have also visited the House on a consultantship basis, usually semi-annually, since 1975.

However, the most extensive series of evaluation activity was conducted by Kirk-Butler and Associates, Inc. These activities were initiated in October of 1976 and continued through January, 1977.

The Kirk-Butler organization identified and described House residents in terms of biographical, intellectual, personality, and vocational characteristics and compared them with a control group of drug offenders. Thus, tests found that House residents exhibited improvements after House of Thought treatment compared with a control group.

These findings, however, only concerned attitudinal changes. They did not track behavioral differences, ultimately derived from recidivism computations or from institutional records.

House staff have also maintained file and follow-up information for currently participating residents and ex-residents. Follow-up information concerning ex-residents is particularly of interest to the House staff for self-evaluation purposes.

One House staff member has been designated to conduct follow-up activities for ex-residents. These activities basically consist of the following:

A request form, formally designated by the House as the "Follow-Up Report" (see APPENDIX) is sent out to parole officers assigned to supervise residents released from the House on parole. The forms are sent out on a monthly basis for one year. Completed forms are sent back directly to the House of Thought and placed on file.

According to the House staff, this procedure has not been working efficiently in recent months due to reorganization of the Department of Corrections on July 1, 1978. The House previously had an agreement with the Parole Board for follow-up processing. Due to the reorganization, this commitment and follow-up activities will have to be reestablished.

For ex-residents transferred from the House to other institutions, the same "Follow-Up Report" is used. In these cases, contact is made with the counselors assigned to the ex-residents at each institution. The forms are then sent to the counselors for completion. The House has received an approximately 80% return rate on this type of follow-up reporting.

C. Proposed Evaluation Design

Future evaluation of the House of Thought program should be based upon clarification and refinement of program goals and objectives. The decision has not been made whether future evaluation of the House program will be based on changes in attitude, changes in behavior, or a combination of the two. Leaving the focus or problem statement of the evaluation an open question, it is nevertheless possible to select a formal research design. Selection of specific data elements would obviously be made after the program focus is elucidated.

The Kirk-Butler evaluation examined changes in attitude attributable to participation in the House compared with a control group of non-participating inmates. They used research procedures referred to by Campbell and Stanley (Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs for Research, 1963) as "quasi-experimental."

Although their testing was done over a period of time, their comparative analysis is akin to the research design referred to by Campbell and Stanley as the "Nonequivalent Control Group Design." This design is graphically represented below:

$$\frac{0}{0} \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad X \quad \text{---} \quad \text{---} \quad \frac{0}{0}$$

where,

X refers to treatment
 0 refers to an observation or test

This is a quasi-experimental as opposed to a true experimental design. That is, assignments to the control and treatment groups are not made randomly.

This design is perhaps the most widely used in applied social research. Among its advantages, it has received fairly high marks from Campbell and Stanley in terms of "internal validity". It is also one of the least expensive and least time consuming methods to employ.

Again, it does not matter what data elements (that is, attitudinal versus behavioral characteristics) are to be examined. The design is suitable for either impact perspective.

If positive attitudinal change due to program participation is the (or part of the) desired impact, then replication of the Kirk-Butler evaluation series is a possibility. Using the nonequivalent Control Group Design format, the Kirk-Butler organization administered a series of psychological tests to House residents and a control group of selected inmates. The tests administered included the following:

1. The 16 Personality Factor (PF) Questionnaire - a factorially derived questionnaire designed by Cattell (1970) to tap 16 basic personality dimensions.
2. Rotter's Internal-External Locus of Control (IE) Scale - designed by Rotter (1966) to tape an internal versus an external dimension of the individual.
3. Spielberger's State-Trait Anxiety Scale (1970) - constructed to tap both state anxiety (how anxious are you now in this situation) as well as trait anxiety (how anxious you are generally)
4. Co-Resident Evaluation - an instrument designed by Kirk-Butler (October, 1975) for their evaluation of the House of Thought.

Kirk-Butler, however, in their November, 1975 report ("House of Thought Therapeutic Community Evaluation Program: Selected Change Measures") did not recommend continuance of Spielberger's State-Trait Anxiety Scale due to its inapplicability to the majority of House residents.

Pertinent data would be captured via the particular psychological test used.

If positive and accentuated changes in behavior is the desired impact, different data elements will be required. The Nonequivalent Control Group Design can still be used.

In 1974, Professor Ronald J. Scott of Virginia Commonwealth University developed a plan for evaluating Virginia's community correctional centers. The plan is entitled "Evaluating Community Correctional Centers in Virginia: An Evaluation Design and Data Collection Procedure Manual" (August, 1974).

This document advocates examining changes in behavior as the only suitable impact of community correctional programming. More importantly, it identifies the data elements required for an evaluation. These elements include the following:

BACKGROUND DATA

1. I.D. #
2. Classification
3. Institution Location
4. Offense
5. Sentence
6. Committing City or County
7. Date of Birth
8. Date Sentenced
9. Race
10. Marital Status

11. Educational Level
12. Employment at Time of Arrest
- *13. Religious Affiliation
15. Prior Felony Convictions
16. Misdemeanant Convictions
17. Juvenile Record
- *18. Date of First Contact with Criminal Justice System
19. History of Drug Use
20. History of Alcohol Use
21. Military Experience
22. Type of Military Discharge
- *23. Psychiatric History
24. Intelligence Level

INSTITUTIONAL DATA

1. I.D. #
2. Institution Paroled From
- *3. Final Institutional Work Assignment
- *4. Participation in Vocational Training
5. Participation in Work Release
6. Participation in Study Release
7. Status of Educational Programming Participation
8. Educational Attainment While Incarcerated
- *9. Disciplinary Record
10. Date of Parole

With the exception of the few items marked with an asterisk (*), all the above data elements are maintained on the Department of Corrections' Offender Based State Correctional Information System (OBSCIS). Therefore, there exists a centralized repository for obtaining the overwhelming majority of items required for an evaluation focusing on changes in behavior. Interference with the daily operation of the House of Thought due to data collection would be minimized by using OBSCIS facilities. The "leg work" of actual data collection would also be substantially reduced.

Pertinent parole information is available from the Division of Community and Prevention Services, a newly created division assuming previous probationary and parole services.

One word of caution must be mentioned concerning OBSCIS files. OBSCIS information, according to Electronic Data Processing Unit staff, is not amenable to analysis using conventional statistical packages, such as SPSS or SAS, without elaborate programming. Computer analysis could be relatively expensive. Consideration of the benefits of evaluation compared with cost factors must ultimately be made.

Nevertheless, data for evaluative purposes is available. The evaluation design, such as the design illustrated in the above, is more than compatible with the data available and easily understandable.

APPENDIX

JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:
COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT TEAM H.O. T. T.C.

I. Community Coordinator job responsibilities:

- A. Chair C.M.T. meetings
- B. Follow-up on C.M.T. and C.M.T. committee responsibilities
- C. Present C.M.T. proposals to staff
- D. Report C.M.T. or community issues not resolved to staff
- E. Role model for community
- F. Facilitate afternoon schedule
- G. Report day to day activities to staff
- H. Sit in on staff debriefs

II. Community Development Chairman responsibilities:

- A. Set up interviews for inmates to become students with one counselor and one resident
- B. Set up file for each accepted student
- C. Keep statistics on progress of individuals through the program
- D. Keep attendance records for students
 - 1. On bulletin board
 - 2. Student phase books
- E. Record quiz results
 - 1. Evaluation sheets
 - 2. Student phase book
- F. Set up interview for residency
 - 1. Make personal observations
 - 2. Assign big brother with consent of CMT for Resident History meeting and preparation for TA test
 - 3. Assign counselor to check file and have meeting
 - 4. Set up meeting with director
 - 5. Set up time for interview
- G. Keep record and statistics on feeder programs and other camps.

III. Internal/External Chairman responsibilities:

- A. Maintenance of House and Schedules
 - 1. Trash - front and back
 - 2. Clothes pick-up
 - 3. Supplies
 - 4. Wake-up
 - 5. Coffee (guest in house)
 - 6. Clean-up areas
 - 7. Communications desk

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT TEAM PAGE (2)

- B. General inspection of House
- C. Bulletin Board cleanliness
- D. Make and keep community flow chart
- E. Pull-up and consequence book
- F. Calling group - before and after breaks
- G. General correspondence of community
(other than training)

IV. Training Chairman responsibilities:

- A. Administer TA test to perspective residents
- B. Assign Team Leaders and Trainers
 - 1. Prepare outline for presenting lessons
 - 2. Make sure trainer has selected proper material
 - 3. Provide menu for advanced resident trainees
- C. Supervise Team Leaders
- D. Assign new residents to a team
 - 1. See that new residents are prepared for training
 - 2. Keep check on new resident progress
- E. Training of residents
 - 1. Advance didactic information
 - 2. Seminars
- F. External Training
 - 1. Receive and make requests
 - 2. Determine who will perform training
 - 3. Monitors and maintains training in feeder program
 - 4. Coordinates training (giving or receiving)
 - 5. Maintain log of all training given and received.

V. Treatment Chairman responsibilities:

- A. Work with Comm. Dev. Chairman in progress of resident trained
 - 1. Assist in arranging academic plans (G.E.D. or higher)
 - 2. Setting up tutoring for those who desire it
- B. Keeping records in individual files
 - 1. Egogram
 - 2. Drivers checklist
 - 3. Observation by other community members
(positive and negative lay)

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT TEAM PAGE (3)

- C. Keep community contract book
 - 1. Take contracts during group (syn, games, others, etc.)
 - 2. Keep community aware of contract commitments
 - 3. Keep treatment records and log
- D. Evaluate program for responsibilities
 - 1. Set up phase system and evaluate
 - 2. Clean house for movement into another phase and receiving privilege
- E. Administer Kirk-Butler testing
- F. Coordinate data for Kodap
- G. Library
- H. Trouble shooter for community problems (Residents & staff)

VI. Community Clerk

- A. Set up time for interview for prospective students
- B. Take minutes of all C.M.T. meetings
- C. Maintain an inventory of all office supplies
- D. Keep visitors and open House log
- E. Take care of external mailing correspondence and communications for staff and C.M.T.
- F. Upkeep of events calendar
- G. Upkeep of file cabinet

HOUSE OF THOUGHT THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY
JAMES RIVER CORRECTIONAL CENTER
STATE FARM, VIRGINIA 23160

HOUSE OF THOUGHT BASIC RULES CONTRACT

1. I will not buy, sell, hold, or use illegal drugs, including alcohol and drugs not prescribed for me, while participating in the House of Thought nor will I participate in any way with procuring of these substances by or for others.
2. I will have neither heterosexual nor homosexual sex while participating in the House of Thought, except while on furlough.
3. I will do no violence nor make any threats of violence, either physical, verbal, or psychological, while participating in the House of Thought.
4. I will not behave in any covert way while participating in the House of Thought. I will not involve myself with illegal or covert activities with members of the general population nor otherwise set myself up for disciplinary action by the J.R.C.C. staff.
5. I will keep confidential, everything said and done within the House of Thought, excepting information which can be gotten through public information sources.
6. I will confront all evidence of unproductive behavior in others and am willing to be confronted on all evidence of unproductive behavior on my part, while participating in the House of Thought.
7. I will participate in urinalysis when required.

I have read, or have had read to me, all of the above rules. I understand them and I am willing to abide by them. I understand that the consequences of breaking any of these rules will result in suspension from the House of Thought.

Witness: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

HOUSE OF THOUGHT THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY
JAMES RIVER CORRECTIONAL CENTER
STATE FARM, VIRGINIA 23160

FOLLOW-UP REPORT

Please answer the following questions for the purpose of follow-up information regarding former residents of the House of Thought T.C.

Reporting Period _____

Name: _____ Number: _____

Probation and Parole District: _____

Release Date: _____ M.E.D.: _____

1. Client's present address and phone number: _____

2. Employment: _____

Please Check one: Full-time ____; Part-time ____; Student ____;
Semi-skilled ____; Laborer ____; Professional ____; Unemployed ____.

3. Urinalysis: Has urinalysis been taken this month ____ yes ____ no.

If yes was it ____ Positive ____ Negative.

4. Home Status: Is client living alone ____; W/spouse ____;
W/family ____; In halfway house ____; In drug program ____.

Does the Home appear stable _____.

5. Has a major or minor violation report been submitted on this client during the reporting period: YES NO

(Circle One)

6. Has the client been arrested during this reporting period? YES NO (Circle One)

If yes, please state charge, court and disposition _____

7. Any further comments you would like to make regarding supervision (motivation, adjustment, attitude, etc.)

END