

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,
1956-present

University Relations

12-19-1974

13 from Western Montana observe Washington's mentally retarded services

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "13 from Western Montana observe Washington's mentally retarded services" (1974). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 31945.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/31945>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.



IMMEDIATELY

sale/ch/rb
12-19-74
local + cs + ht +

13 FROM WESTERN MONTANA OBSERVE
WASHINGTON'S MENTALLY RETARDED SERVICES

MISSOULA--

Thirteen persons from western Montana were in Spokane, Wash., Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 16-17, to observe the services offered for the mentally retarded. The purpose of the trip was to secure information which may be helpful in planning and developing similar programs in Montana.

Among the services observed were prevocational training, group homes, intermediate care facilities, adult education, recreation, preschool training and institutional programming. The visit to Spokane was arranged and sponsored by Community Resources for the Deinstitutionalized Child, a research project of the Department of Social Work at the University of Montana in Missoula.

Of particular interest to the Montana group was learning the purposes and studying the operations of Spokane's Developmental / Disabilities Case Services office, which assists retarded persons and their families obtain needed services.

The Spokane office carries major responsibility for admissions to and placement from Washington's institutional programs, and is active in the planning and development of needed community-based services. Over the past four years, the utilization of community services for the retarded has reduced the need for institutional care by one-half, according to Dr. Charles Horejsi, who was among those who went to Spokane. Horejsi is a researcher and associate professor in the Department of Social Work at the University of Montana in Missoula.

Those from Missoula who observed the services for the mentally retarded in Spokane were: Clark Anderson, program director, Western Montana Regional Community Mental Health Center; Ann Berkley, research assistant, UM Department of Social Work; John T. Collins, district supervisor, Rehabilitative Services; Father George Dumais, director, Vanier House; Horejsi; Vivienne Hunter, director, Opportunity Foundation Sheltered Workshop, and Jean Parker, coordinator, Western Montana Child Development Center.

Others from western Montana who made the trip to Spokane were: Clyde A. "Mike" Chaffin, director, Flathead Industries, Kalispell; Russ Rieben, Kalispell, board of directors, Flathead Industries; Art Howard, president, Ravalli County Association for Retarded Citizens, Corvallis; Merrilee Hall, social worker, Boulder River School and Hospital, Boulder; Don Waldren, assistant superintendent of schools, Libby Public Schools, Libby, and Gordon Livingston, director, St. Joseph's Convalescent Center, Polson.

##