

Dr. YOLLES. In terms of community health center staffing, the States are beginning to comment about the shortness of the time with the very rapidly decreasing rate of Federal support, and there has been some talk of the need for a longer period, hence the approach in this legislation for an incentive that continues for a longer period before tailing off after 8 years.

Mr. ROGERS. I thought this might lay a basis for the comprehensive mental health and mental retardation. That is why I wanted to make the record clear that we need it.

Specialized facilities: Do you mean we are going to start building homes or housing for homeless alcoholics?

Dr. YOLLES. These are treatment facilities for the homeless alcoholics so that he can be kept in the treatment atmosphere, so that we can reach him. As you know, these homeless alcoholics are a transient group, and the biggest difficulty in maintaining them in treatment is that they move on to some other place as they feel like it. Most communities do not have the facilities to maintain them in a treatment environment. These funds would provide basic residential areas for them to live, such as "Halfway Houses."

Mr. ROGERS. Hostels?

Dr. YOLLES. Hostels, yes.

Mr. ROGERS. I would like to know more about that.

Dr. LEE. We feel this would be related to purchase of some existing facilities and remodeling, rather than building new facilities, except where this was essential.

Mr. ROGERS. How long are you going to give him a home?

Dr. LEE. We would hope for some it might not be too long. Some could be returned to the community and in some cases to their own families.

Mr. ROGERS. Suppose he doesn't want to stay there, except overnight?

Dr. LEE. You can't require them to stay, but by providing this environment, and the support of services, we would hope they would stay and that this would be a much more productive approach than periodically sending them to jail.

Mr. ROGERS. Has this been tried in any of the other cities where you have any considerable number of homeless alcoholics?

Dr. YOLLES. It has been tried on an experimental basis. As you know, the District of Columbia is trying it at the present time. These programs are experimental. They offer hope of success, especially in working with the skid row alcoholic, as he is called. When a community treatment program becomes involved with the individual and works with him, it is remarkable how many of these individuals can be brought into treatment.

Mr. ROGERS. How many do you estimate there are?

Dr. YOLLES. Nobody knows for sure, but somewhere between 250,000 and 500,000, primarily in the large cities.

Mr. ROGERS. If you would, let us have a rundown of what research has been done in this area.

(The following material was received by the committee:)