

Mr. PITTMAN. There is no reason they should not if they have the desire, motivation, and willingness to do it.

Mr. ROGERS. What do you estimate the population of the alcoholics in the area served by this center to be?

Mr. PITTMAN. In the city, we carry an estimate of approximately 50,000 alcoholics, of which approximately 5,000 to 6,000 would fall into this area. Most alcoholics are not police cases.

Mr. ROGERS. Can someone come in for voluntary treatment?

Mr. PITTMAN. Not to this facility, but we have the community mental health center unit, and they are referred to them.

Mr. ROGERS. Are the 30 beds sufficient to serve the population?

Mr. PITTMAN. No, sir. We have had great financial problems in the sense of slowly but surely increasing from 24 to 30 beds, and we feel that approximately 36 to 40 beds will cover it.

Mr. ROGERS. That would be about correct for this service for this 5,000 or 6,000 patients that you feel are chronic?

Mr. PITTMAN. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. What would that ultimate cost be?

Mr. PITTMAN. Approximately \$400,000 is the estimate.

Mr. ROGERS. What is the overall population of St. Louis?

Mr. PITTMAN. 700,000 in St. Louis City.

Mr. ROGERS. If you would let us have a complete breakdown, it would be helpful to the committee.

Mr. PITTMAN. I will be glad to do that.

(The following document was received by the committee:)

PRELIMINARY EVALUATION REPORT OF "THE ST. LOUIS DETOXIFICATION DIAGNOSTIC AND EVALUATION CENTER"

INTRODUCTION

The St. Louis Detoxification Center has been in operation since November 18, 1966 under funds provided by Grant No. 93 from the Office of Law Enforcement Assistance Act, the following is a preliminary evaluation of some of the results achieved in the initial period of this operation. The underlying philosophy of the Center is a humanitarian theme which acknowledges that the alcoholic offender is a sick individual who involuntarily displays the symptoms of his disease. It has long been recognized that the "revolving door" process of arrest, incarceration, release, and rearrest has no rehabilitative effect upon the individual. Rather than achieving rehabilitation, this process caused further harm and suffering to those individuals whom we might term the chronic police case inebriate.

The Detoxification Center is a major forward-looking step in eliminating the "revolving door" process. It effectively removes these individuals from the criminal process and places them in the context of a medical, social and psychological treatment milieu. The results reported below, although preliminary, demonstrate explicitly that the Center has been successful in both goals. In addition to these long range goals, there exists a knowledge that criminally processing these individuals is a time consuming procedure which creates a heavy burden not only on law enforcement, but upon the courts and correctional systems as well.

In terms of both the grant stipulations and the continued impact of the social reform movement in this area, a comprehensive evaluation of the Center is being carried out. The evaluation can be dichotomized into the following categories. The macro-social category deals with the impact of the Center's operation on those agencies and institutions traditionally endowed with the responsibility for dealing with this social problem. This section will consist of a simple cost accounting procedure to weigh the costs of the treatment program against the costs of the continuance of the old criminal process system. Tangible gains would be in the form of patrol time saved, reduced clerical operations, adminis-