NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

20 years of Progress...

a Prologue to the Future!
21st Annual Convention
National Association for Retarded Children

Commemorating:
20 years of Progress...
a Prologue to the Future!

HOTEL LEAMINGTON
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
OCTOBER 28-31, 1970
Recently I came across an anonymous quotation in a reference book that set me thinking. 

"If the past had a tongue," it said, "what tales it could tell!"

How applicable this is to parents and families of retarded persons from the beginning of time!

If the past could speak—what frustrations, what heartaches, what feelings of utter helplessness could it record? What ignorance on the part of the public! What lack of consideration on the part of legislators and educators! What sense of futility for the retarded themselves!

Fortunately, for humanity, there was enough representation from among those individuals most closely affected to give voice to the MR story...and to carry it personally to this great city of Minneapolis as recently as the year 1950. Those delegates who pioneered for the rights of the retarded are, indeed, deserving of the heroes' place in our brief, but exciting and meaningful history.

Their voices blended together at that time in a common cause which has become the unnamed theme song of the National Association for Retarded Children and its state and local members during twenty years of slow but measured progress.

It has taken two decades to lay the mere groundwork on which to insure a more promising future for our society's retarded population.

We have made dramatic strides as we moved full circle to Minneapolis and back in twenty short years. But progress is relative. We still have a long way to go! Let us commemorate the past only long enough to gather strength and to reaffirm our purpose through harmonious interaction and exchange of ideas. Then, with the knowledge that so long as there are still over six million persons grappling with retardation today, we have not the right to gloat too much.

Francis E. White
President
Through the years...

We can stand up straight and throw our shoulders back and say now it is time to do something for the mentally retarded child, and unified in spirit and in purpose, our voice will be heard. (1950)

ALAN SAMPSON  
First President

We must show the American people that this problem is not only helping the child; it is a national problem. It involves the family, the community, the churches, the institutions, the whole economy of the United States... (1952)

WOODHULL HAY  
Second President

The fact that our program is ready to spring into full bloom necessitates all to work more untiringly than ever before. There is no substitute for spirit and enthusiasm. This, plus a unified effort, will soon bring the public to realize that a mentally retarded child has the right to be part of this world. (1953)

GILBERT HANKE  
Third President

It has been said that to send an idea, it must be wrapped up in a person. You, as individuals, must carry that idea, plant it and nurture it wherever you go, because through you individually, and through our component groups nationally, we are on the threshold of great things. (1955)

MARTIN PAPIES  
Fourth President

Celebrities in many categories have used their talents in behalf of the retarded of all ages. These have included among others, five presidents, a vice-president, a senator, authors—parents, stars from the world of entertainment—and the most truly representative of all—our own annual Poster Children.
Today we can acknowledge the fact that many national spokesmen for the mentally retarded have come forth. We have the clear, steady voices of all the parents and friends of the retarded; the members of our Association; the officers, staff and Board members of NARC. We can point with pride to the increasing crescendo of the voices of our state and national legislators. (1956)

CLIFFORD MACDONALD
Fifth President

It is now time that we ring down the final curtain on an era of ignorance, prejudice, and misunderstanding, and raise it on a new era dedicated to hope, understanding, and realistic evaluation to the end that our children may attain their rightful heritage. We must bestow upon our mentally retarded children that respect, that human dignity, that importance which is their birthright. (1958)

ALTON LUND
Sixth President

NARC was created to help the mentally retarded and the potentially mentally retarded everywhere—those who are with us, those to come, and those in whom this condition may yet be prevented. Nowhere is our commitment as an organization to this principle more clearly expressed than in our dedication to research, whose benefit will be felt by many who will never thank us. (1956)

DR. ELIZABETH BOGGS
Seventh President

"I dream of the day when every retarded child and adult in every community in every state—indeed, the world—will be given the dignity and respect that is their God-given right." (1962)

VINCENT J. FITZPATRICK
Eighth President
We no longer stand alone. The very fact that much has been accomplished in behalf of the mentally retarded stands as dramatic evidence of the tremendous support and assistance which we have received from the great number of people who have joined us in our endeavor. (1964)

JOHN G. FETTINGER
Ninth President

Ways must be found—indeed will be found—to prevent mental retardation. This is our ultimate goal. It may not be achieved in our lifetime, but what we do now—the research facilities we help to establish, the preventive measures we support—will hasten the day. (1966)

THOMAS A. TUCKER
Eleventh President

"If there is one thing I would like most to do, I think it would be to effect an acceptance of realization of the concepts that NARC is "we": that is to say that it is the same people, and the same "we" who make up the local units and the state units and the national organization." (1967)

BERNARD M. FINESON
Twelfth President

Now that retardation is recognized as one of the world's most serious unconquered problems, our programs must be kept alive and vital. The loved ones of those families who, 20 years ago, started the crusade in their behalf, have long since grown but the fight against retardation continues beyond the realm of the purely personal. (1968)

ELEANOR ELKIN
Thirteenth President
The Magnificent Oscar-winning Barbra Streisand is serving as honorary chairman for National Retarded Children's Month after completing a very successful "run" as chairman of Membership Month earlier this year. Her interest in the field of mental retardation heightened when she met and spent considerable time with two mentally retarded youngsters who appear with her in a 1970 series of color television spots.

1970 POSTER CHILD
AMBASSADOR FOR SIX MILLION — Roberta Scott, 13, of Wichita, Kansas, is 1970 Poster Child for the National Association for Retarded Children and its over 1,500 member associations throughout the country. Mildly retarded, Roberta, through understanding parents and special education tailored to her own individual needs, has the promise of many good things ahead. She is accomplished in music and is adapting well to her studies. During November, National Retarded Children's Month, she will make many personal appearances and her picture will be seen by millions on posters and on television with Barbra Streisand, National Honorary Chairman.

KENNETH ROBINSON
1970 YOUTH-NARC PRESIDENT
The year 1970 has been an exciting one for YOUTH-NARC and for its president, "Kenny" Robinson. The dynamic young man was chosen from 10,000 high school students nominated by their principals as America's outstanding teenager by the Outstanding American's Foundation, Inc. He was elected also to the Executive Committee of the United States Youth Council, and will be co-chairman at a session of the White House Conference on children in December. He continues to serve as a trustee of the National Assembly for Social Policy and Development. NARC President Francis White said of young Robinson's accomplishments, "NARC is fortunate, indeed, to have been able to capture for our cause the imagination and energies of our youth as represented by Ken. Within the short span of four years, the membership of YOUTH-NARC has reached truly significant proportions . . . ."

GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS:
Welcome to all attending the 1970 NARC Annual Convention. The Minneapolis ARC together with the St. Paul ARC and the Minnesota ARC take great pleasure in having you here in the Twin Cities area. It is appropriate that we commemorate twenty years of progress in the location where we held our first annual convention.

Many things have changed since then. From a small group of 42 persons NARC has grown into a nationwide organization with more than 1500 units and hundreds of thousands of members. The Twin Cities, themselves, have undergone a complete face lifting and I hope while you are here that you will have an opportunity to see many of our fine buildings, our lovely lakes and to participate in many of the activities which constantly go on around us.

There are also a great many facilities available for the mentally retarded, and I sincerely hope you will be able to see some of these. All of us from the three organizations named above are very pleased to act as your hosts this year, and we want you to remember that Minnesota is the land of 10,000 lakes and has many joyful opportunities. Please come back whenever you can.

Sincerely,

C. W. Aurand, Jr., Chairman
1970 Annual NARC Convention
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20 years of progress


1952 Research Advisory Board established. Publication of CHILDREN LIMITED begun.

1953 NARC incorporated in Tennessee.

1954 First National Retarded Children’s Week proclaimed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

1955 Memberships reach 29,000. Three-year survey of research into causes of mental retardation inaugurated. Tuesday's Child, NARC's first film, produced.

1956 NARC's "Federal Program of Action in 1956-57 for America's Retarded Children and Adults" espoused by Congressman John E. Fogarty.

1957 First 14 State Associations become State Member Units.

1958 MENTAL SUBNORMALITY published, the result of the three-year survey into the causes of retardation. Study of fees in institutions released by NARC Public Information Committee. First Research Professorship awarded. Congressional testimony given on bills to expand teaching and research in the education of mentally retarded children, increased appropriations for vocational rehabilitation, and additional grants to states for maternal and child health programs. Distinguished Professor and Distinguished Scholar Awards established.

1959 Decade of Decision, landmark Report to White House Conference on Children and Youth on accomplishments and prospects published.

1960 NARC co-sponsored National Conference on Research in Rehabilitation of the Mentally Retarded.

1961 Constitutional amendment provided for mandatory support of NARC by Member Units. President's Panel on Mental Retardation established.

1962 NARC receives International Award from the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation for "outstanding leadership in the field of mental retardation." Also receives Distinguished Service Award from the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

1963 NARC leadership participates in White House Conference on Mental Retardation, President John F. Kennedy's mental retardation legislation supported. NARC joins International League of Societies for the Mentally Handicapped.

1964 Memberships reach 100,000. Study of fees and standards in residential facilities completed. NARC convenes First Inter-Organization Conference on Mental Retardation with representatives of 25 national organizations attending. NARC convenes conference on the Role of the Residential Institution in Mental Retardation Research.

1965 Participation by State and Local ARCs in Comprehensive State Planning, Advertising Council Mental Retardation Campaign begun. NARC provides 1,000,000 booklets for distribution by President's Committee on Mental Retardation. Three-Year Campaign to Employ Mentally Retarded Persons launched. Employment film, "Selling One Guy Named Larry," produced. Policy of obtaining rather than providing service affirmed by 14th Annual Convention.

1966 NARC joins with Public Health Service in nation-wide attack to eliminate measles.

1967 NARC establishes a National Board of Advisors consisting of 26 distinguished members. NARC research grantee developed quick test for toxoplasmosis.

1968 NARC launches a major campaign to eliminate the dehumanizing conditions in institutions for the mentally retarded. Thousands of young people unite as Youth-NARC to bring added strength to our efforts to gain for the retarded the right and opportunity to develop and live to their fullest potential.

1969 Policy Statement on Residential Care distributed. National Conference on Residential Care is held in Houston. NARC, as member of Task Force, participates in White House Conference on Nutrition. NARC participates in a new Accreditation Council for facilities for the Mentally Retarded. NARC holds architectural conference in Washington, D.C. Under a grant from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration of HEW, NARC joins with Urban League and Family Service Association of America in tri-agency project to assist low income families to develop a family and community climate in which retarded individuals will have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

1970 This was a year of unprecedented involvement with other organizations in various prevention programs, such as rubella campaigns, residential programs, case finding, and work with community action groups in an effort to eliminate or alleviate poverty conditions.

1970 NARC extends successful program to promote training and employment of the mentally retarded under Department of Labor grant for on-the-job training.
The National Association for Retarded Children at its 21st annual convention honors MARY ELIZABETH SWITZER. Miss Switzer, a long-time friend of NARC, recently retired as Administrator of the Social and Rehabilitation Service to become Vice-President of the World Rehabilitation Fund.

One of the several major social achievements during her administration of the federal-state program, was the rehabilitation of more than 240,000 disabled Americans a year, 23,000 of whom are mentally retarded.

For donating her time and support and for giving so much of her beauty, talent, poise and personality to humanitarian efforts in behalf of the retarded the National Association for Retarded Children extends a special thank you to PAMELA ANNE ELDRED, MISS AMERICA, 1970.

For his leadership and personal warmth, dedication and obvious deep interest in the growth and success of YOUTH — NARC, and for his performance in the television special, "Teacher, Teacher" — the National Association for Retarded Children extends heartfelt gratitude to DAVID McCALLUM.
NARC has its roots in those small clusters of parents who, as early as the 1930s, began to form local groups to share problems, and to seek answers to questions about their retarded children. After World War II, many more groups were formed and the desire to establish relationships emerged.

In 1950, 42 parent representatives met in Minneapolis determined to unite their efforts. Building on their personal sorrows, disappointments and frustrations, and motivated by the belief that the mentally retarded can be helped, they became spokesmen for a better life for all retarded persons.

The struggle ahead was formidable. The whole country needed awakening to the huge problem. Myths about the mentally retarded needed to be replaced by knowledge and acceptance—gaps in service filled with programs of diagnosis, education and care. These new programs were not to come easily, for two decades of depression and war had blighted creative approaches and drastically curtailed the recruitment of young professionals.

With the inspiration reinforced in Minneapolis, the organization, originally called the National Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children, began to develop. Independent groups all over the nation joined the original forces.

The first years saw significant achievements, with the business of the Association carried on solely by volunteers. Then the resources, though meager, were found for a national office, and it was opened in 1954 in New York City with a small staff.

Since that time—and a name change to "National Association for Retarded Children"—effective local associations representing retarded persons have organized in every corner of the land and 50 vigorous State Associations constantly press for public awareness and programs on a statewide basis. Working as a team—local, state and national Associations have accumulated strength to combine with the initiative of the organizations founders. The impact is unmistakably encouraging...in securing new legislation, comprehensive planning, public information programs, and in obtaining funds for residential care, buildings, special education and a whole range of community and national programs.

NARC's past and current effort demonstrates the constructive role that citizen action has played in the mental retardation movement. Voluntary efforts are needed even more in the future if further advances are to be assured.

Twenty years after its small but meaningful beginning, NARC comprises 1,450 local units and 39 State Member Units, well over 150,000 memberships representing an estimated 250,000 persons.

Relocation of its national headquarters from New York to the Greater Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Area was a climax of NARC's 20th anniversary year.
A PROLOGUE TO THE FUTURE

PHILIP ROOS, Ph.D.
Executive Director, National Association for Retarded Children

William Shakespeare tells us that "what's past is prologue" and I don't think any of us would wish to argue his point.

Certainly, the National Association for Retarded Children, in its 20 short years of existence, has set the pace for the next two decades. There is little doubt that it will continue to grow, both in membership and professional expertise, and that this growth will result in national and international impact.

However, as we expand, we cannot afford to become bogged down by provincialism and fragmentation. The mission we have chosen—that of serving the interests of all the retarded—is too comprehensive for that. We must work together selflessly with our mutual objective kept always in the forefront. This applies not only to NARC's family of associations, but to cooperative interaction with other agencies and organizations with allied interests.

As we plan for the future, we should be stimulating professional interest and commitment with a truly multi-disciplinary approach, we should encourage various professionals concerned with services germane to mental retardation to work cooperatively with each other and to share executive and administrative responsibilities.

Our priorities will not change noticeably in the next few years, but our attitudes and our methods dealing with them can greatly expedite their fulfillment.

There will be continuing advances in research in all facets of mental retardation which will serve to illuminate current vast areas of ignorance. But new findings are meaningless unless they are implemented in programs and services ... and there must be increasing decentralization of these services so that they are within easy access of most families.

Major changes in residential services are an important "must" in future planning. But these, to be effective, must reflect a marked de-escalation of the traditional large residential facilities in favor of smaller, decentralized services offering community based programs.

Expansion of educational services serving a wider range of ages and ability levels remains high on the list of priorities. Particular emphasis must be given to new programs for young retarded children and for the severely and multiply-handicapped of all ages.

Vocational opportunities and conditions for the retarded should be significantly increased with higher employment rates in more diversified and complex jobs.

New strides must also be made in prevention, with provision of services to poverty areas.

With unified efforts, mentally retarded children and adults will gradually be recognized as human beings and accepted into the mainstream of society. Their human rights will be acknowledged including their needs for intimacy and sexual expression.

To accomplish this is our declared objective. Our means to that end is the abandonment of the destructive models of retardation which have so seriously impeded progress to date. In their place we must present in all our programs and services, a developmental model which gives recognition to the fact that all retarded persons have potential for growth and development. Only then can we sincerely help them optimize their human qualities.
CONVENTION CHAIRMEN

Arrangements
Spain Chairman
Calvin W. Aurand, Jr.
Art Exhibit
Mrs. Roland E. Rustad, Jr.
Mrs. Thomas E. Young, Jr.
Banquet
Mrs. Evelyn Carlson
Mrs. Dora K. McGregor
Coffee Breaks
Mrs. Betty Nelson
Convention Headquarters
Mrs. Ernest Naiditch (MARC Women’s Auxiliary)
Film Room
Dr. Charles Fecht
Finance
Robert L. Jensen
Hospitality
Mrs. Russell Harrier
Mrs. Robert Keenert (Women’s Association of Allied Beverage Industries, Inc.)
Information
Mrs. Robert Bowman
Luncheon
Mrs. Marie Nelson
Program Equipment and Meeting Room Needs
Marvin J. Nealy
Registration
Mrs. John L. Coleman
Signs
Harley Davidson
Special Transportation and Business Session Hostesses
Mrs. Mark Wilson (United Airlines Clipped Wings, Twin Cities Chapter)
Tours
Mrs. J. Austin Bouley
Miss Sue Melko
Program
Chairman
Mrs. Kermit Charron
Committee Members
William G. Ervin
Mrs. Paul Jenkins, Jr.
Miss Linda Tilman
Joseph T. Weingold

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Francis E. White
Sr. Vice President
Arthur Hull Hayes
Regional Vice Presidents
James L. Koos
North Central
Mrs. Lloyd Palm
Southwest
Mrs. Russell Chadwick
Northwest
Marion R. Smith
Southeast
Mrs. E. E. Searcy
South Central
Mrs. Wilbur P. Ulle
Northeast
Secretary
Mrs. John E. Mason
Treasurer
Robert L. Jensen
Past President
Mrs. Philip Elkin
Member-at-Large
Edward A. Voorhees
Executive Director
Philip Roos, Ph.D.

HOST CHAPTERS

Minneapolis Association for Retarded Children
St. Paul Association for Retarded Children
Minnesota Association for Retarded Children

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Richard J. Rothmund, Executive Director
Minneapolis Association for Retarded Children
Robert Tuttle, Executive Director
St. Paul Association for Retarded Children
Gerald F. Walsh, Executive Director
Minnesota Association for Retarded Children

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Program Services
Brian McGann, Ph.D.
Assistant Executive Director
Robert Luckey, Consultant
Gene Patterson, Consultant
Mike Stumbaugh, OJT Project Director
Membership Services
Victor Hinojosa, M.D.
Assistant Executive Director
Albert Scardino, Membership Coordinator
Raymond Pothemus, Membership Assistant
Ronald Goughenheim, Youth Consultant

Resources Services
Jermie Roos, Assistant Executive Director
Janie Schinning (Mrs.), Consultant

Governmental Affairs
Cynthia Sturdevant (Mrs.), Director

Public Information
Frederick Wieting, Director
Ben Kemper
Editor, Mental Retardation News
Virginia Root (Mrs.), Consultant

Regional Affairs
Samuel Kaminsky
Community Affairs Director N.E.
Max H. Harrington
Regional Representative S.E.
Brock Scott
Regional Representative N.C.
Bob R. Rundell
Regional Representative S.C.
Gordon Christian
Regional Representative S.W.
Charles Hensley
Associate Representative S.W.

Administrative Operations
James McKenna, Director

Financial Operations
Warren Striebel, Director
Clifford Winn, Manager

* Effective as of Nov. 1, 1970