Minutes of the Meeting in Dr. Engberg's Office to consider trailing of patients for details in the buildings. June 25, 1952

PRESENT: Mr. Chapman  Mr. Hustad  Mr. McQuoid
Miss Crawford  Mrs. Kenny  Mrs. Parson
Mr. Conrad  Miss Kuntze  Mies Peterson
Mrs. Franks  Mr. Lehtinen  Mr. Roewer

ABSENT: Dr. Bruhl  Mr. Roby

Dr. Engberg presided and explained the purpose of the meeting: The possibility of giving some training to the patient helpers in the building. From this experience we will know whether it is something we can carry into other areas and other divisions. Dr. Engberg called for reactions of the various members present,

Mr. Conrad felt that if we had better details, the aides could spend more time in the dormitories while the patients work at their tasks elsewhere in the building.

Mrs. Kenny said that she felt that we should give the plan a trial; set up aims and objectives, starting out with a very small group. She would like to work with a group of personnel and see what could be done.

Mr. Lehtinen felt that some training program should be instituted.

Mr. Busted agreed with Mr. Lehtinen that some program is needed.

Miss Peterson agreed with what already had been said and added that we know that the low-grade patients can be trained but that they need to be trained,

Dr. Engberg announced that Mr. Roewer has been asked to give thought to the trainable program and if he could give his help to the aides in the buildings as an advisor and to give teaching assistance to the aides. Mr. Chapman was asked for his comments. He thought that the general idea is desirable and that one problem is having ward personnel find time to do this, and would need someone to give it a little direction.

Mies Crawford felt that the Nursing Personnel will carry the ball but that they would need real help from Mr. Roewer. She emphasised the necessity of some form of record. a short note of what they had done, what seemed to have been accomplished, and how much time had been spent.

Dr. Engberg pointed out that there are essentially two programs:
  1. Service Training for the details in a building.
  2. Training for patients in a building.

He said patients details would be trained so that we can pick up patient helpers to be utilised and also to eliminate certain other patients who cannot do a task.

Mrs. Franks said that when she tests some of these patients, she has observed that most of them object strenuously to caring for other patients. She suggested a supervisory patient detail position. Miss Crawford felt that the only key to this situation is some economical incentive. Dr. Engberg explained that we have a patient payroll and this is now a Patients' Program function.
The following committee was appointed:

Mrs. Parson, Chairman
Miss Kuntze, CO-Chairman
Mr. Madow
Miss Peterson (at request of Miss Perkins)
Dr. Bruhl
Mr. Hustad
Mr. Lehtinen
Mrs. Kenny
Mr. Roewer

Dr. Engberg felt that there should be an analysis of each of the jobs to be done in the building, and then start with that which most likely accomplish good results.

Mr. Roewer suggested badges or ribbons for each different type of work performed, which was discussed by the members present and some felt this would be too competitive or cause too much pressure. Dr. Engberg felt that this should be considered seriously by the committee before it was started and believed that payroll for patients could better serve this purpose.

Dr. Engberg stated that the Physician will have to play an active part in this project. It will be Mrs. Parson's and Miss Kuntze's responsibility to get the group together. The function of the committee will be to give thought to objectives to be accomplished; to start at some point and then report. Dr. Engberg stated his opinion of the functioning of the committee and industrial training of patients in the building by the aides as distinguished from the education of the patients by the school department. Dr. Engberg stated that Mr. Roewer would be a valuable resource to the aides in explaining to them the techniques to use in teaching the patients.

Dr. Engberg reminded the members present that we all work under medical direction, that close teamwork in the building would be needed to carry out this plan; Mrs. Parson was told that this might need to be tried over the period of a year or two and we would then know whether it could be tried in other areas. Mrs. Parson said that as Chairman of the committee she wished everyone to know that their criticism and suggestions would be welcome at any time.

Meeting adjourned.

Marjory Foster, Recorder