

DEPARTMENT Faribault State Hospital*Office Memorandum*

TO L. Hanson, Seneca North

DATE: April 10, 1969

FROM : T. Thompson

SUBJECT: Behavior Modification Program

This is to confirm our conversation of April 9 concerning initiation of individual behavior modification programs in Seneca North. Technicians desiring assistance in implementing a behavior modification program should select one patient exhibiting an undesirable (maladaptive) behavior, or a patient with a behavioral deficit which he would like to strengthen. Technicians from the early and late shifts will share responsibility for one patient. For two weeks a baseline record of the maladaptive behavior or deficient behavior will be kept using Individual Behavior Modification Baseline sheets, by checking the patient once each half hour from 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. During this period, technicians should also attempt to observe the patient to assess the kinds of consequences of the behavior that may be responsible for maintaining it, or in the case of behavioral deficits, the kinds of reinforcers that might be effective in strengthening the behavior. Then, with your suggestions, each technician should propose a program for modifying his patient's behavior and describe the proposed program on an Individual Behavior Modification Format sheet. The proposed program must be approved by you and Mrs. Element. In the event a technician proposes using time out or interrupting meals, the Unit Physician must approve the program as well.

Both before and after initiating a program, it is essential that accurate records are kept in order to assess the effectiveness of the program. Each day, the total instances of the adaptive or maladaptive behavior should be plotted on a monthly chart by each technician. You will be responsible for checking their data recording sheets and monthly charts. The Individual Behavior Modification Format sheet, the monthly chart, and weekly recording sheets should be kept in a manilla folder for each patient.

I will be available each Wednesday to consult on your programs. Mrs. Crosby and Mrs. Anderson can be consulted between my visits. During May, a series of 5 lectures will be given on behavior modification for technicians in Seneca Building.

cc: T. Anderson
E. Errickson
R. Johnson
F. Element