

OFFICE OF THE MONITOR FOR  
THE WELSCH CONSENT DECREE

LEGAL EDUCATION CENTER, ROOM 106  
40 NORTH MILTON STREET  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55104

THE COURT MONITOR WAS APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSENT DECREE IN THE WELSCH CASE APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1980.

MEMORANDUM

January 15, 1987

TO: Sandra Gardebring, Commissioner  
Al Hanzal, Assistant Commissioner  
Edward Skarnulis, Director, MR Division  
Gerald Nord, Welsch Compliance Officer  
Maureen Bellis/Beverly Heydinger, Counsel for Defendants  
Anne Henry, Counsel for Plaintiffs  
All Regional Center CEO's

FROM: Richard A. Cohen, Court Monitor

RE: Good News on Children Extension Cases

With the recent January 1987 placements of two children from Minnesota Learning Center, there is not a single child in the state hospital system I am aware of who is past his/her one-year anniversary date under paragraphs 17-20 of the Decree. This contrasts with about 10-16 children, on average, in such status between April 1984 and November 1985 as reported by this Office and the Legislative Auditor.

This wonderful development is attributable to a number of factors, not the least of which are the efforts of DHS, Regional Centers, and County personnel, Legal Advocacy, and various providers.

As I am also sure many of you are aware, and as I reported in my December 1986 Report, the number of non-paragraph 17-20 children in the seven state facilities has decreased to 66 on 9/30/86 from 292 on 9/30/82.

RAC:tk

cc. Al Mahling, MLC Director  
Colleen Wieck, Ph.D.  
Lyle Wray, Ph.D.  
Betty Hubbard, Chair, Commissioner's Advisory Committee and  
ARC-Minnesota President

Chrono 87-21