

November 14, 1968

Mr. Tom Hefster
Southern Regional Director
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Mankato, Minnesota

Dear Tom:

After discussion with our staff concerning the establishment of a vocational counselor position at Faribault State Hospital, I hope that we can candidly discuss a couple of difficulties which concern our staff.

- 1) Why does DVR currently staff Faribault State Hospital with one counselor only one day every two weeks? (Other state hospitals have had different and more adequate staffing)
- 2) Should the Faribault State Hospital pay for a position which would seem the responsibility of the DVR to provide?

Going back in history it seems that during the past year the Mankato office of DVR staffed one full-time counselor, Mr. Bloomquist, at Faribault. When Mr. Bloomquist left, his replacement had his case load revised so that decreasing amounts of vocational service became available to Faribault State Hospital. The hospital staff did not understand the reason for reduction of service and this was not explained to them.

These are some problems and difficulties which pre-date our arrival on the scene but yet, nevertheless, affect relationships between the two agencies. These questions need to be answered if any meaningful relationship is to develop. Part of the difficulties has come from the hospital but others seem to stem from your agency.

Faribault State Hospital will hire a vocational counselor on a cooperative basis if the service cannot be provided in any other fashion.

Thanks for your consideration and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Eric Erickson,
Institution Program Coordinator

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cc: Dr. Johnson
Mr. Krafe