

LEONARD T. FIELDING, M. D.

PRACTICE LIMITED  
TO PSYCHIATRY

SUITE 309  
OAKDALE MEDICAL CENTER  
3366 OAKDALE AVENUE  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55422

OFFICE HOURS  
BY APPOINTMENT

588-0796

MEMORANDUM

April 15, 1970

To: Eric Errickson, Institutional Program Coordinator  
Roger Johnson, M.D., Medical Director

From: Leonard T. Fielding, M.D., Psychiatric Consultant

Subject: Cedar Building Residents' Performance on the Internal Token  
Economy Program

I think I have mentioned that we have been working on a token economy internally in Cedar Building. The methodology described can be found in Building Block # 4. Prior to its initiation, many of the girls had been well-trained to approach the staff by name regardless of the order in which the girls were called.

Mrs. Seimers, Mrs. Bettin, and Mrs. Tonjum report that the status at the present time shows the following:

Beginning with 25 individuals (upstairs Cedar dwellers) there are presently 24 who consistently respond by approaching the caller when called by name in the dayroom area. Subsequently, they accept and retain the token,

Following this, they move 97 feet down the hall and sit down and remain quiet in benches in the hallway area near the "company store". They remain quiet throughout a 10 minute delay period until the company store is opened.

Because of the usual staff shortage, the token economy acceptance-movement-retention program was attempted by a single staff person operating as the caller, token-giver and company store operator. The results show that the behavior is, in this regard, sufficiently well-trained so as to allow the entire sequence to be operated with only one person. The Cedar staff's success now presents an opportunity for the staff and residents in the building to move into individually designed token economy (reinforcer) programs.

We had been planning on the use of some of the Green Acres Unit personnel in Cedar following the general conceptual outline of Dr. Johnson's memo. If the staff assignment areas are ever sufficiently resolved, the Cedar staff are ready to roll.

Eric, would you ask Val Blomquist to contact Mrs. Seimers in regard to the availability of any small non-consumables for the company store?

LTF/em