

STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

FARIBAULT STATE HOSPITAL

FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA 55021

(507) 334-6411

August 4, 1971

Relatives and Friends of Residents of the Faribault State Hospital

Re: EMERGENCY ALERT

Dear Friends:

We face the real possibility of an emergency at the Faribault State Hospital. A significant number of employees may go out on strike because of the salary dispute left unresolved by the Minnesota Legislature. This letter is being sent to all the listed correspondents of the residents to inform you of the situation and to get your help.

We have been informed by Local Union #607 that a strike vote is scheduled for Thursday evening, August 5. At this time we do not know if a strike will occur, when it would begin, how many employees would be involved or to what extent the care of the residents would be affected. We do know that it would constitute an emergency and we must prepare as best we can for that possibility.

We will do everything possible to provide and insure proper care of all residents but you are advised that this may be no more than basic survival or custodial care. If a strike occurs (and it could be as soon as next week) we will be looking to you for help. For many of you we would hope you would be able to take your relative home temporarily. We particularly ask those of you who have provided vacations in the past to consider this possibility. For others of you we realize that home care is impossible or very impractical; from you we would appreciate any other care suggestions you have. From all of you interested relatives and friends we ask that you be available for consultation and assistance in planning with us should we be unable to maintain an acceptable care level here.

This letter may be alarming. The prospect of a strike is alarming! Our primary concern is the welfare of the residents and we hope by alerting you and doing some planning we can arrange for the satisfactory care of every resident.

If you can help as we have suggested or you have questions, please respond promptly by letter or phone to your Unit Social Worker (if you know his or her name) or to Mr. Dean K. Nelson, Director of Social Services.

Sincerely,

r. Harold S. Gillespie

Administrator

HSG:DKN:ad

cc: County Welfare Departments