

## LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES — 1955

The mental patient is voiceless and voteless. The Association is a body of citizens who recognize human dignity and attempt to be the voice of the mental patient and his family and friends in Indiana.

The objectives of the Association for the 1955 session of the General Assembly:

**I. To establish a policy for our state which recognizes and respects the human dignity of the mental patient:**

The Association asks the state of Indiana to officially state its Mental Health Policy by Resolution of the General Assembly.

**II. To end the practice of putting mental patients in jails in this state:**

A. The Association supports the request of the Indiana Division of Mental Health for \$31,794,809 for rehabilitation and construction.

B. Recognizing that the above request will not sufficiently reduce 37% overcrowding and make room for the inevitable increase in older and long-term patients, the Association seeks the appropriation of funds for the construction of new hospital beds.

C. The Association seeks passage of new commitment laws which will permit temporary, voluntary, nonjudicial, and emergency commitment.

**III. To end the placement of 12 to 18 year-old mental patients with adult patients at Norman Beatty and other hospitals:**

The Association recommends the appropriation of architectural fees for the construction of a special hospital unit.

**IV. To improve the quality of service available to patients, to speed up the rate of discharge, to work toward the creation of hospitals accredited by the American Psychiatric Association, and to provide the central office of the Division of Mental Health with a staff of experts qualified to guide the staffs of the institution:**

The Association supports the request of the Division of Mental Health for \$52,152,986 for the maintenance and operation of the Mental Health Division and the ten institutions under its supervision.

**V. To accelerate and expand the opportunities for discharging patients and to make an easier transition back into the community:**

The Association recommends that the Commissioner be authorized to place patients outside the institutions and to pay for their maintenance and requests that funds be provided for that purpose.

**VI. To make possible the creation within two years of ten local community psychiatric clinics:**

The Association seeks the passage of legislation authorizing the Commissioner to make grants to approved community clinics, and the Association seeks an appropriation of \$290,000 for this purpose.

**VII. To make possible an orderly, careful recodification of the Mental Health laws of Indiana:**

The Association asks the Legislature to appoint and finance a study commission composed of some members of the Legislature and the Division of Mental Health to prepare a bill for enactment at the 1957 session of the General Assembly.

# Banquet for Legislators

*file - promotion  
America who cares*

presented by

**THE INDIANA ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH**  
615 North Alabama St., Indianapolis, MEIrose 4-4311

and its

**COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS**



**RILEY ROOM, CLAYPOOL HOTEL**

**6:00 P.M. JANUARY 13, 1955**

## PROGRAM

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### Invocation

Monsignor John J. Doyle

### Dinner

### Introduction of Guests

Frank Maidenberg, President

Gene Bodine, Arrangements Chairman

### Presentation of Legislative Aims

DeWitt Brown, M.D., Chairman, Board of Directors

### FILM: The Mental Hospital Volunteer: Someone Who Cares

introduced by Joseph R. Brown, Executive Director  
and L. C. Larson, Director, Audio-Visual Center,  
Indiana University

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### Executive Committee, Indiana Association for Mental Health

Frank Maidenberg, President

Mrs. Victor Selby, First Vice-President

E. Perin Scott, Second Vice-President

Mrs. Augustus Coburn, Secretary

Allen Clowes, Treasurer

Rowland Allen

H. E. Bodine

DeWitt Brown, M.D.

E. T. Edwards, M.D.

Miss Katherine Hamilton

Louis Nie, M.D.

Howard Rush

## "THE MENTAL HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER — SOMEONE WHO CARES"

A 28-minute 16mm sound film, made by the Audio-Visual Center of Indiana University, shows volunteer work taking place at Central State Hospital and Muscatatuck State School.

This is a student production in which the faculty and technical advisers soon came to play an unusually large role. The production started out as the usual educational job in audio-visual techniques. The enthusiasm of the student group and their faculty leaders led to many hours of overtime and intensive, unselfish work in the interest of making possible a production which would be a significant contribution to the understanding of the mental patient, the citizens organization concerned with the problem, and the volunteer who works regularly with the patients in our institutions. Because the students and faculty were inspired by the importance of the mental health problem, this is a film which should have a far-reaching effect on the welfare of the mentally ill in Indiana.

Part of a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., was used to meet the financial responsibility of the Indiana Association. Special appreciation is due Dr. C. L. Williams and Mr. Alfred Sasser for their unfailing cooperation.

### Committee of Educational Consultants

from the Indiana Association for Mental Health and  
the Indiana Division of Mental Health

John H. Geist, M.D., Chairman

Mrs. Catherine Brown

Clarence W. Efroymson, Past President

Mark Gross, Chairman, Public Relations Committee

Margaret Morgan, M.D., Commissioner of Mental Health

Mrs. Philip Reed, Norways Foundation

C. L. Williams, M.D., Superintendent,  
Central State Hospital

### FILM CREDITS

#### Production Crew

Bruce Buckley

Charles Bromley

Jerrold Kemp

Wilburt Koontz

William Wheeler

#### Audio-Visual Staff for this film:

Miss Beryl Blain, Production Adviser

James H. Cole

L. C. Larson

Malcolm Fleming

George F. Siddons

Merlyn C. Herrick

Warren D. Stevens