

the **VERA** report

November, 1970

The Organization

Vera is in the business of change - not a sweeping overhaul of society's institutions but small, meaningful changes that operate to the benefit of the individual. No one would deny that significant change is necessary in present institutions, and countless individuals and organizations have beaten their heads against the stone walls of the system. Vera, by zeroing in on specific problems and by putting the welfare of the individual first in its priorities, can look back on a record of meaningful change in the New York City criminal justice system.

One cannot, however, attribute these changes completely to the setting of practical goals. Vera's staff strives to work unobtrusively and inoffensively with executive and judicial officers to gain their confidence both in the Vera staff itself and in the changes.

(Continued on page 3)

Ford Renews Vera 5-Year Grant

The Ford Foundation recently announced a second five-year grant to Vera in the sum of \$1.5 million beginning July 1, 1971.

Ford has contributed financial support to Vera almost since the beginning, indirectly at first through the Institute for Judicial Administration specifically for the Bail and Summons projects, and since 1966 with a \$1.1 million grant for the general administration of Vera and the planning of new projects.



"Relax, Vera—it's an encounter group."

Neighborhood Youth Diversion Project

Soon after the first of the year, the first participants will be accepted in a major new Vera project - this time aimed at the juvenile in trouble with the law.

This new project, a joint effort of Vera, Fordham University's Institute for Social Research and the East Tremont Community, will offer its services to qualified young people who are recent offenders or those in danger of becoming involved with the law (primarily those from 12 to 15). The Project will seek to take advantage of the resources within the community to deal these youths through a number of activities:

1. By training a group of young adults from the community to serve as Advocate Aides under the direction of a professional staff. The Advocate Aides will be trained to assist a troubled youth with his problems by serving as counselors, mediators, and advocates. They will go into the

home, and the street, and will work with schools and agencies to get the needed services for the juvenile. They will not simply refer a young person to an agency or an institution, but rather will follow up to assure the assistance is received.

2. By applying a method for the assessment of delinquent behavior, developed by Fordham, which seeks as complete a knowledge as possible about the full range of variables which may have been involved in the behavior of the youth - cultural, social and personal. It provides a range of information not generally available in juvenile cases as they are now processed, and it attempts to make possible a more accurate assessment of the behavior in which a youth was involved and the reasons for his involvement.
3. By developing a Forum staffed by people from the community where minor offenses can be heard informally in a neighborhood setting, and where resolution of problems surrounding these offenses can be worked out and appropriate support offered.
4. By developing services not presently available in that community such as drug care, schooling and foster care.
5. By helping juveniles deal with existing agencies and by working with the community to develop other services which might be effective for local children. The Project will assume continuing responsibility for cases referred to other agencies to avoid a youngster being shunted from agency to agency which so often occurs in conventional cases.
6. By establishing a procedure for the early identification of youths who need help.

The Project expects to find juveniles in need of assistance from several sources - the Police Department, the Office of Probation, the Family Court, the schools, the community and other City agencies - but at first cases will be received only from

the Police Department and the Office of Probation. A case will be assigned to the Project only with the assurance of cooperation from the juvenile and his family.

The Project will take the form of a charitable corporation whose Board of Directors will include representatives of Vera, Fordham, the CJCC, the East Tremont Community, and possibly the professions which have experience working with delinquents.

The Project will be assisted by a Community Advisory Board consisting of 5 students, 6 adult community members, and 4 members representing organizations concerned with juveniles.

Between now and February 1, the target date for accepting the first referrals, efforts are being concentrated on hiring and training staff and locating and setting up suitable headquarters in the East Tremont section of the Bronx. John Whelan will project director, his assistant for community development will be Sandra Oliver. Jeri Thompson will be the Project's office manager and financial coordinator.

Teacher Corps Project

A 3 1/2 month planning grant has been approved by Teacher corps for the development of a proposal aimed at training teachers to work with delinquent, pre-delinquent and drug-involved youths. The objectives of the project, which is being developed jointly by the Board of Education, Vera and Fordham University, would be

1. to develop a new method of training teachers to work in correctional programs,
2. to expand the roles of teachers in public schools who deal with troubled youths, and
3. to demonstrate the feasibility of alternate systems of education within a community-based project.

Over a two-year period, Teacher Corps interns would rotate between the Board of Education's Special Schools for the Socially

Maladjusted and Vera projects (e.g., the new Neighborhood Youth Diversion Project). Fordham University would be responsible for the training component of the program which would permit interns to gain a Masters Degree in Education.

A proposal will be submitted to Teacher Corps by the end of November, 1970. If the project is funded, training would begin in the summer of 1971 and actual operation in the fall.

THE ORGANIZATION...(continued from page 1)

The Vera projects now in operation - Bail, Summons, Court Employment, Bowery, Bronx Sentencing, Appearance Control - have established themselves as important additions to the criminal justice system.

The Bail project, started by Vera in 1961, proved to the satisfaction of the courts that if judges are given verified information about a defendant's reliability and roots in the community, the courts will grant release on recognizance and that 99% of those defendants will return to court when called. The Bail project is now run by the Department of Probation.

The Manhattan Summons Project (1964) grew out of the success of the Bail Project. If verified information establishing a defendant's roots in the community could insure their appearance in court, why not release them earlier - at the stationhouse, instead of the court? This procedure was initiated for crimes involving simple assault and petty larceny in a precinct in Manhattan in 1964. In December, 1966 the Police Department assumed complete control of the project, and in July, 1967 it was extended throughout the City.

The Manhattan Court Employment Project (1968) is based on the premise that through counseling and job opportunities, an individual may be diverted from the criminal justice system. The Manhattan Court Employment staff intervenes on behalf of those defendants they find appropriate for the Project just after arrest and, if several months of successful participation in the Project fol-

low, MCEP may recommend that charges be dismissed. MCEP is now in the process of becoming separately incorporated and being funded by the City's Human Resources Administration.

The Manhattan Bowery Corporation seeks to help the homeless alcoholic by removing the responsibility for him from the police and courts and responding to the problem as a medical and social one. By providing medical care, counseling, and referral, the Bowery Project has reduced arrests of area derelicts by 80%.

Vera moved into the area of reform in police and court procedures with such projects as the Traffic Court Alert, the Appearance Control Project, and the Pre-Arrestment Processing Facility. The ACP, through the use of available communicative techniques, has been able to save the courts and the police considerable waste of time and money. The most recent development - a telephone alert procedure - has resulted in the avoidance of 2000 unnecessary police appearances and 500 civilian witness appearances.

Since drugs are a major problem in the criminal justice system, Vera developed a comprehensive experimental project designed to test the effectiveness of methadone in combination with social services called Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation.

While Vera develops and expands current projects, new ideas and directions are being sought and considered. Several new projects are just getting on their feet - Neighborhood Youth Diversion Project and Project Renewal - and new ideas are being researched - supportive work programs, drug programs, health technology. There have been and will be many setbacks, but the combination of a thorough knowledge of specific problems, the setting of practical goals, and a cooperative attitude have led to workable change and confidence in Vera as an idea and as an institution.

New City Plan for Youthful Offenders

The New York Law Journal reported in its October 5, 1970, issue that a new plan has been inaugurated for handling juvenile cases in the Family Court in Brooklyn. It

stated that "All juvenile matters before the Family Court in Kings County will be screened starting today by the Family Court section of the city's corporation counsel office in a new city-wide program intended to provide more effective Family Court operations.

"The specific program has been in active development for almost a year and this week begins county-by-county introduction into the Family Courts..."

"Under the program city attorneys assigned to the various Family Courts will fully prepare all juvenile cases for the court. They will perform investigations, interview witnesses and organize pertinent facts and the presentation of direct evidence...."

Under the old system, no one agency was responsible for preparing the prosecution of cases in the Family Court, as the district attorney does for adult offenders. Except in cases where the petitioner (the complainant) was a police officer or a teacher, there was often no attorney to present the facts. As a result, the Family Court judge was often forced to assume the dual role of questioning witnesses and adjudicating the case.

One of the major goals of the Family Court has been to assure the most constructive program for a youthful offender rather than to punish the guilty. The new procedure will continue this emphasis. Corporation Counsel J. Lee Rankin stated in the article that "...although cases will be diligently prepared and vigorously presented, the non-criminal, rehabilitative nature of the Family Court will be preserved and encouraged."

The new plan follows many of the recommendations in a January, 1968, Vera proposal for a Family Court Law Officer, prepared at the request of the Youth Services Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Updated

APPEARANCE CONTROL PROJECT - Disposition of cases in Part 1B1 through October 23, 1970.

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Cases returned to 1B1 for subsequent Appearance	42.2%	31.6%
Cases disposed of by plea or dismissal	13.5	21.3

The project has saved 4,090 witnesses from appearing, 907 civilians and 3,183 police.

The Project recently received a 4-month grant for \$35,000 from the New York State Crime Control Planning Board.

* * *

BRONX SENTENCING PROJECT - Summary of statistics as of September 18, 1970:

Cases sentenced or adjourned for supervised release in which there was a Vera Report present 1,719

Non-prison dispositions:
Cases which carried a recommendation for a non-prison sentence or an adjournment for the purpose of supervised release 899

Cases in which the court followed such a recommendation 820

Percentage of agreement between Vera and the Court on non-prison dispositions
-1st 8 months of project 83.3%
-total project to date 91.2%

Prison Dispositions:
Cases which did not qualify for a non-prison recommendation or for an adjournment for supervised release 636

Cases in which the court followed such a "recommendation" 557

Percentage of agreement between Vera and the court on the prison disposition
-first eight months 87.3%
-total project to date 87.6%

A report has been prepared of the results of

the recent research into the effectiveness of the first eight months of the project. A copy of the summary of that report is available on request.

A second research effort is being undertaken to refine the sentencing recommendation guidelines in light of the recidivism data collected in the recently completed research. The new research will also evaluate new procedures for pre-sentence adjournments in the custody of Vera and referrals to supervisory agencies such as VOI. Tony Croce will again head the research effort, assisted by Ricky Abad, who also participated in the previous effort, and Nancy Hannon.

* * *

COURT EMPLOYMENT PROJECT - Plans are well underway to separately incorporate the Project which will be fully funded by the City's Human Resources Administration. The new corporation will double the present intake capacity of the Project in Manhattan to 20 participants a week and will also expand operations to the Brooklyn Criminal Court. In addition, the Court Employment Project began to accept a limited number of female participants on an experimental basis, offering them the same range of services that are presently available to male clients.

Intensive efforts are being made to recruit staff for the expanded activities so they will be fully trained by the anticipated expansion date in early December. New staff members are:

Gene Alberico, Career Developer
Howard Bailey, Rep
Glenn Bell, Custodian
Madeleine Crohn, Administrative Assistant
Patricia Decker, Secretary
Ludwig Elstak, Rep
Anne Hayes, Assistant to Supervisor
Nancy Hechinger, Research Associate
Paul Herzich, Trainer
Eloise Hirsh, Assistant Director
Lynette Jackson, Assistant to Supervisor
Timothy Knowles, Screener
Gary Kornblith, Screener
Ronald Lewis, Rep
Lydia Martinez, Screener
Lillian Mateo, Rep

Celeste Miller, Administrative Secretary
Nancy Mosher, Screener
Daniel Noona
Priscilla Orr, Screener
Stephen O'Rourke, Screener
Skaidrite Picciotto, Screener
Mary Rothschild, Screener
Roy Schwartz, Rep
Clair Spector, Screener
Jake Tanksley, Rep
Santiago Torres, Rep
William Whigham, Screener
Marilyn Wilson, Assistant to Supervisor

The director of the new Brooklyn project will be Al Gellar, his assistant director will be Leonard Melford. Madeleine Crohn will serve as administrative assistant. Dan Freedman will be in charge of the Manhattan operation.

* * *

MANHATTAN BOWERY PROJECT - As of the beginning of October, MBP had accepted 8,134 admissions, representing the treatment of 2,950 men. New MBP staff members are:

Florence Grende, Caseworker
Richard Ermish, Medical Aide
Jack Boverland, Medical Aide
Ann Zedel, Nurse
Joseph Way, Medical Aide

New Staff

Maggie Hopp - will assist in the development of a supported work project.

Kenneth Joseph - An Urban Fellow who will work with a number of Vera projects.

Marcie Setlow - will develop a possible Manhattan Bowery facility for Manhattan's West side.

the VERA report

August, 1970



Appearance Control Project

Phase I of the Appearance Control Project, which began in January, 1970, excuses all witnesses, civilian and police, from appearing at the first adjourned date of a case in Part 1B1 of Manhattan's Criminal Court, and that date is limited to pleadings and statements.

Phase II, which began in early July and was instituted in three steps, introduced an alert procedure for police officers in Part 1B1 and in selected cases in Part 2A (only those cases emanating from 1B1). Uniformed police officers, as well as detectives, assigned to precinct duty are notified of their alert status via a mechanism closely resembling that which is used by Traffic Court Alert. Upon written notice from Appearance Control Project, The Precinct roll call officer informs the police officer of his alert date. On that date patrolmen and detectives are assigned to regular duty but must be in frequent communication with the stationhouse between 10:00 a.m. and noon. Statistics regarding tours of duty saved through the new alert procedure and the corresponding cost effectiveness to the City are not yet available. As of July 31, 2,617 witnesses excused under Phase I procedures have been spared an unnecessary trip to court. 541 of them were civilian witnesses, and 2,176 were police officers.

Three new people have joined the staff of ACP: Katherine Sullivan and Georgie DeLuca as court liaisons and Francine McAllister as secretary and office manager.

On the lighter side, a recent staff memo to ACP staff contained this notation: "The project has formerly advised West Publishing Company -- from whom we have ordered our copies of State statutes -- that the project's billing name is "Appearance Control Project", not, as our bills have been addressed, "Parents Control Project." With the new abortion law becoming effective in a few weeks, the rectification was no doubt timely.

"Staff members are urged to emphasize the first syllable of "appearance" in all telephone conversations. We have already received mail addressed to the "Virile Institute of Justice," and that coupled with "Parents Control" is too much to contemplate on one piece of postage."

Sure enough, the next call to the project resulted in the phone being answered "Ap Pearance Control Project."

Bronx Sentencing Project

Summary of Statistics: as of August 7, 1970

Cases sentenced or adjourned for supervised release in which there was a Vera Report present.

1488

Non-Prison Dispositions:

Cases which carried a recommendation for a non-prison sentence or an adjournment for the purpose of supervised release. 869

Cases in which the court followed such a recommendation. 794

Percentage of agreement between Vera and the court on non-prison dispositions.

first 8 months of project 83.3%
total project to date 91.4%

Prison Dispositions:

Cases which did not qualify for a non-prison recommendation or for an adjournment for supervised release 619

Cases in which the court followed such a "recommendation". 541

Percentage of agreement between Vera and the court on the prison disposition

87.3
first 8 months of project 83.7%
total project to date 87.4%

Comparison of the project statistics for the first 8 months with those of the totals to date indicates that in the category of non-prison dispositions we have gained significantly in the percentage of agreement between Vera Reports and the judges' sentences (83.3% as compared to 91.4%). This can be attributed to the presence of specific alternatives to prison for cases which qualified for supervised release. One alternative is the Volunteer Opportunities Incorporated community counselling program which has been in operation for approximately one year. It provides group and one-to-one counselling; employment, housing, health and other referrals to defendants. In addition, since September of 1969 we have had a narcotics coordinator who

is often asked by the court to interview defendants with a view toward adjourning their cases and parolling them for the purpose of admission to a narcotics treatment facility. These two alternatives did not exist at the beginning of the program.

At the same time the percentage of agreement for cases which the defendant did not qualify for a non-prison recommendation and was sentenced to prison has remained virtually unchanged throughout the project.

Joel Lieberman has been named director of the Bronx Sentencing Project. He was formerly the director of in-court operations for the project and replaces Andy Schaffer who has been acting director for the past few months.

Raul Rodriguez in addition to his duties as Narcotics Coordinator for the Project, has been appointed a consultant in the area of narcotics to Local School Districts 4 and 5 in Manhattan.

The Manhattan Bowery Project

This summer the Manhattan Bowery Project Out Patient Department added a new dimension to the service it provides for Bowery men. Two trips to points of interest in and around New York have been organized, one to the Bronx Zoo and the other to Lake Welsh in Harriman State Park. OPD men who participated expressed their enjoyment and additional trips are planned for the near future.

MBP has named Roger Suprenand as head social worker for In-Patients and Tom Roberson as head social worker for outpatients. New MBP staff members are William Wargo, social worker, Richard Lanham, out-patient aide, and Ofelia Solomonow, secretary.

As of August 19, MBP inpatient detoxification ward has accepted 8,789 admissions which represents the treatment of 2,876 men. The Out-patient Department offers supportive services to nearly 100 men a week, all of whom are referred to OPD from the inpatient detox program

An OPD patient visits his caseworker an average of 3 times a week to receive antabuse (a drug which if taken regularly will make you violently ill if you drink), counselling, medical care, and assistance with most any personal problem.

The Deck Clinic, which began in April, 1969, and is operated jointly by MBP, Department of Social Services and St. Vincent's Hospital, was set up to provide emergency medical care and a refuge from the street for men who do not choose to be admitted to the MBP detoxification clinic for the require five day drying out period. 200 men a week come to the clinic, two thirds walk in off the street and the other third are brought in by the rescue teams.

Project Renewal

The ten men who are participating in Project Renewal have located a house in the Prospect Park Section of Brooklyn and moved in.

Each man had agreed when he joined the project that he would move off the Bowery with the Group as soon as suitable quarters could be found. However, when the move actually materialized, the men displayed a wide range of attitude from eagerness to get away from the Bowery and all it stands for to a reluctance and at first even refusal to leave what was familiar and comfortable. Project staff working with the men came to grips with a myriad of financial, organizational and personal problems and conflicts and the move was made on August 1 with the whole group participating. MBP and Vera staff and friends contributed household furnishings to help keep the cost to the men at a minimum and to avoid as much stress as possible. By the time moving date arrived, enough household items -- beds, linen, kitchen utensils, pots, pans, etc. - had been collected to insure that the men could move in.

(additional items will be welcome, particularly blankets, pillows, small end tables, or anything. Please call Mary Davidson at 677-4630. All contributions are tax deductible.)

Sports

The Vera Vixens handed an official summons to the Criminal Court Bureau of the District Attorneys Office challenging them to an intramural softball competition. The Vixens, composed of nine distaff members of the Appearance Control Project, agreed that the District Attorneys might field a limited number of the notoriously successful Hogan's Hooligans, and that the rest of their team could be drawn from the entire staff of the district attorneys office. Nevertheless, the Vixens were declared victor by default.

The Vera Institute of Music

"Cynthia is probably the straightest, most sensitive, most decent person I have known. Vera owes her a debt for the quality of her work and the quality of her person."

Herb Sturz

"How did a girl from the Bronx ever get into country music."

Nashville Music Community

Cynthia Rosen is Assistant Secretary of Vera, Assistant Treasurer of Vera and Assistant Treasurer of MBP. Cynthia is also a songwriter.

Though Cynthia spends her working days smoothing business matters for Vera, she devotes much of her non-working hours to her music. To date, Cynthia has written nearly 70 songs. She travels to Nashville twice a year to meet with song publishers and writers and may be seen carrying her guitar and music to appointments with New York publishers.

Cynthia got an early start in songwriting. She recalls writing poetry when she was 8

and had to sit out gym periods because of an injury suffered in an auto accident. Cynthia soon became the class poet and was encouraged to keep writing by her teachers. At fourteen, she inherited her brother's old guitar as well as his interest in country music. Together, Cynthia writing the lyrics and her brother the music, they spent many hours composing. Years later, Cynthia and her brother came to a parting of their creative ways. While her interests had shifted to the modern country sound, her brother preferred the more traditional country music. This split forced Cynthia to learn to write the music to go with her words. She remembers "a great feeling of independence and creativity at being able to create the whole".

Because of the diverse nature of her job at Vera, Cynthia has a difficult time defining it. She likes to think of herself as a "tie line" between the central office and the various projects. The importance of her job is the "being in touch" -- keeping in daily contact with the projects to see that all needs are met.

Cynthia started working at Vera fresh out of Queens College, November 1, 1961. Hired as secretary to Herb Sturz, she soon became committed to the work he was doing. As Vera has grown, so have Cynthia's responsibilities. She keeps track of all Vera personnel and monies and, having worked at Vera since its inception, Cynthia says she feels "like the Vera archives."

Last year she enjoyed particular satisfaction when she was able to bring her two worlds together by performing for the men at the Dove Toy Project and spending Christmas eve singing for the men at the Bowery.

Updated

Traffic Court Alert - During the first 9 months of the third year of operation, Traffic Court Alert procedures have saved 8,771 police tours at a saving to the City of \$631,512.

New York City Youth Diversion Project - The proposal to fund this community-based facility to divert juveniles from the crimi-

nal justice system has been approved by the CJCC and will be presented to the September meeting of the State Crime Control Planning Board for funding. It is hoped that the project can begin training staff and community representatives and locate a facility this fall and be ready to begin operation by January 1, 1971.

New Staff at Vera

Sandy Murdock, a second year law student at Columbia, has been doing research for the Youth Diversion Project.

Sandy Oliver, formerly with the Mayor's Urban Action Task Force, is working on the Youth Diversion Project.

John Ruhnka will examine the new criminal procedures law to identify what changes the new law mandates for New York City criminal justice agencies.

Florence Greer will be secretary for staff members on the fourth and fifth floors.

Gary Walker is developing a proposal for a supported work project under a grant from the Dept. of Labor.

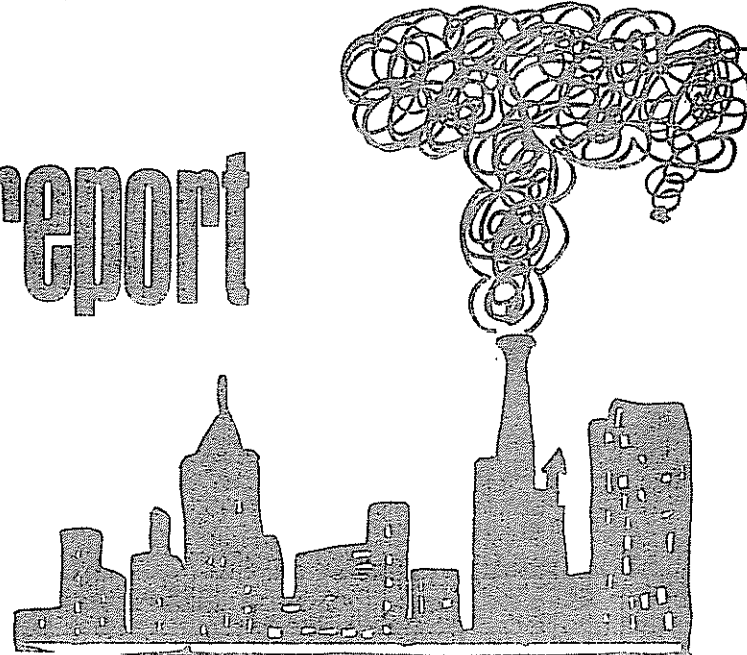
David Othmer will work in the area of Urban Technology, concentrating on health. He comes to Vera from the Institute for Politics and Planning in Washington.

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the VERA report

June, 1970



Welcome Captain Farrell

Lieutenant Michael Farrell, commanding officer of the Vera Police Liaison Office, was recently promoted to Captain.

Captain Farrell has worked closely with Vera since 1963, and he was officially assigned to the Vera office in 1966 when the Police Liaison Office was opened. At present, Captain Farrell supervises an office of 3 sergeants and one trainee.

Captain Farrell grew up in New York City. He attended Cardinal Hayes High School in the Bronx and New York State Maritime College. In November 1955 after completing one year at Fordham University, Captain Farrell "was called" into police service. He served as a patrolman in Harlem until 1957 when he was again called into service—this time the US Army. After his military duty, Capt. Farrell returned to New York, resumed his duty as a policeman, and proceeded up the ladder of success — both as a father and a policeman. Captain Farrell has five children (3 boys and 2 girls) between the ages of 2 and 10.

Captain Farrell began studying early for promotion. In 1961 he was awarded the rank of sergeant after placing first on the written exam out of 13,000 candidates. He served as unit training officer in the 46th precinct in the Bronx until March 1963 when he joined the Living Laboratory of the Police Planning Division. It was at this time that Capt. Farrell became involved in

the research and experimentation that brought him to Vera. At the Living Laboratory, he was responsible for setting up and operating new police programs in the field. He put into operation the administrative lieutenant concept whereby a commanding officer is assigned a lieutenant to help him with his administrative chores. When Vera started the Manhattan Summons Project in 1964, Capt. Farrell was responsible for structuring the field operations and for the testing and evaluation of the project.

In 1965 Capt. Farrell took the Lieutenant's exam placing 3rd in a group of 980 men. He was reassigned to the field at his new rank as Division Clerical Lieutenant of the 9th Patrol Division in the Bronx. After approximately 6 months he returned to his work at the Living Laboratory at Police Headquarters, and in April, 1966 he was assigned to Vera.

Mike Farrell has been instrumental in the operation of such Vera projects as the Manhattan Summons Project, the Traffic Court Alert, Pre-Arrest Processing, and Police Arrest. He serves Vera and the City as a consultant on all problems requiring his expertise in police matters. Most recently, the Police Liaison office has been looking into the muggings on the Bowery and the problems these muggings impose on the Manhattan Bowery Project.

Capt. Farrell enjoys his work at Vera and receives satisfaction from being able to influence the entire criminal process. Of course, he does miss field work and considers such duty the primary work of the Police Department. He is committed "to improving the lot of the Police and the victims of crime while at the same time protecting the rights of the defend-

ants." Although he feels that much progress has been made, the New York City criminal process is set up in such a way as to penalize the victim of crime. Defendant-oriented procedures have lead to this situation and he believes that some adjustment should be made. Law enforcement officials are so eager to get defendants into court that charges and evidence are not carefully evaluated. Many cases come into the courtroom when the charges should have been dismissed much earlier. Too often both the victim and the defendant are dragged into court unnecessarily.

Captain Farrell has finished all course work for an M.A. in Criminal Justice at John Jay College and expects to receive his masters degree in early 1971. We suspect that his next promotion is not far off.

Sergeant Graduates

In another development of interest in the Vera-Police Liaison Office, Sgt. Erling Johansen was recently graduated from John Jay College for Criminal Justice. Sgt. Johansen, who bears an amazing resemblance to Mayor John Lindsay (which fact he blames for his having been stoned by local residents in Queens one snowy day last February), received a B.S. degree in Police Science.

Although it is especially difficult for any police officer to pursue a degree because of his duty roster, Sgt. Johansen was able to do so while at the same time serving as President of the Viking Association.

Project Renewal

On June 1 a year-long rehabilitative work program for Bowery Alcoholics began.

Twenty men will participate, ten in the first 6 months, ten in the second. This rehabilitation program, which the men have dubbed Project Renewal, aims to develop a supportive community life situation in which the functions of normal life - employment, housing, leisure time and social life - will be resumed.

During the first months of the project the men will live together at the Salvation Army Hotel along the Bowery, but later we plan to relocate the men to several large apartments where they will be forced to live in an even more intense, more group-supportive

situation. There must be a commitment to live communally throughout the project, and the men must be willing to attend 3 Alcoholics Anonymous meetings a week, as well as participate in group therapy sessions, class instruction, weekend outings and other group activities.

The men will work 35 hours a week, with 5 additional hours to be divided between group therapy sessions and educational classes. The work the men will perform is arduous. A contract has been signed with the Mayor's Urban Action Task Force agreeing to maintain approximately 35 playlots scattered throughout the city (and more to be built later). This maintenance work will, for the first round, entail clearing the lots of a year's worth of garbage and refuse so that they can once more function as neighborhood recreation centers. The men will then be responsible for the regular maintenance of these lots. The Department of Sanitation will again this year (as they did for our lower east side lot cleanup project last year) provide a truck to haul away the collected refuse, as well as plastic bags, garbage cans, etc. On rainy days the men will be employed in miscellaneous tasks, i.e., painting the Mens' Shelter, acting as scavenger brigades for the Task Force picking up tire retreads and wooden cable spools to be utilized as play equipment in new play lots, or generally cleaning up the Bowery area. Whatever the weather, the men will be responsible for the performance of clearly defined and structured work.

The ten men will be divided into two work groups of five each. During the first month each man will take a turn serving as straw-boss, thus allowing each to try out his leadership skills and allowing project administrators to make a more perceptive choice of group leaders.

The project is being funded by two sources. The Manpower and Career Development Agency has agreed to fund part of the salaries for the men and the administrators. The contract awarded by the Task Force will fund the rest of the salaries and the other budget expenses. Two permanent staff members will administer the project, one concentrating on the group therapy and social service aspects, the other serving as administrative assistant and liaison to various groups and organizations involved in the project. During the summer they will be assisted by a second-year law student. And in reality all func-

tions and responsibilities for the project will be shared by the three.

Selection of the men has been a cooperative effort of the Manhattan Bowery Project staff and permanent work project staff from a list of 15 men, all of whom have volunteered and all of whom are out-patients at the Manhattan Bowery Project.

The purpose of such tightly scheduled and structured activity is to teach the men to assume responsibility for independent and group actions on a level which they can handle. Furthermore, it is essential that the men learn to structure their personal lives and utilize constructively their leisure time so they will not retreat from undefined time and function into alcoholic indulgence. Also, via the tightly structured activities and communal living situation the men will confront situations and relationships hitherto avoided by the predominating alcoholic state.

At the end of the six months, the first 10 men will have completed the program and, hopefully, will be prepared to accept new employment and continue in the communal apartment situation. However, we fully realize that guidance and counseling cannot be cut off at this strategic transitional point. Indeed, group and personal supports are especially necessary during this second rehabilitation phase as the men begin structuring and defining their own work lives and leisure time, using the personal security and new habits learned during the 6-month program.

New CJCC Director

Henry S. Ruth was recently appointed by Mayor Lindsay to serve as the first Director of the newly organized Criminal Justice Coordinating Council staff. Vera serves as overall consultant to the CJCC. At the time of his appointment, Mr. Ruth was Director of the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice of the US Dept. of Justice. He received his BA from Yale University and his LL.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Mr. Ruth has previously served as Deputy Director of the President's Crime Commission, was an associate professor at the U. of Penn Law School, worked with the organized crime and racketeering section of the US Dept. of Justice as a special attorney, and was an

attorney in the Office of Criminal Justice in the Deputy Attorney General's office.

Mr. Ruth has also been a consultant to the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence and the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

The CJCC, itself, was created by Mayor Lindsay in 1967 in response to a recommendation by the President's Crime Commission. The Mayor serves as chairman of the 60-member Council which is composed of an equal number of public officials and private citizens. All the City agencies involved in the criminal justice process are represented. The various Council committees work to implement specific reforms in the criminal justice system through experimentation and pilot projects. Federal Crime Control funds are now available through the State Crime Control Planning Board, and members of the newly formed CJCC staff aid the various agencies in initiating and developing possible projects.

At the present time, other staff members are: Dr. Peter Gray, Chief of Planning and Evaluation; Robert Wallace, Project Coordinator; Al Appleton, Sr. Project Planner; Al Angeloro, Project Planner; Maddy Berman and Terry Strauss, Research Assistants.

The Manhattan Bowery Project

Democratic Gubernatorial hopeful Arthur Goldberg toured the Manhattan Bowery Project on Monday, June 8.

Miss Carolyn Heft has been named Director of the Project to replace Bob Goldfeld. Miss Heft was formerly with the law firm of Shearman and Sterling. She has been a volunteer worker for Community Law Offices in East Harlem, and has spent 2 years on a project to recodify the New York State Mental Hygiene Law.

Several other people have joined the MBP staff: Kathy York, Head Nurse; John Rogan, Admissions Co-ordinator; Charles Fuller, Rescue Aide; Richard Bordas, Medical Aide.

Updated

APPEARANCE CONTROL PROJECT As of May 22, the project has eliminated the necessity for 1,840 witnesses to appear, 336 of whom

were civilians and 1,504 police officers.

The following statistics reflect the impact of the Project on Part 1B1 of the Manhattan Criminal Court:

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Cases returned to 1B1 for subsequent appearances	42.9%	23.8%
Guilty Plea	4.0%	12.0%
Adjourned to trial	25.5%	37.7%
Dismissed	8.4%	8.5%
Bench warrants and others	18.9%	17.1%

Three students will join the Appearance Control Project for the summer as research assistants: Richard Enna, Hope Schwarz and Linda Shostak.

BRONX SENTENCING PROJECT As of May 22,

Defendants sentenced with a Vera report present	1,289
Sentence reports which carried a non-prison recommendation	725
Court meted out non-prison sentences or adjourned case to a community program	625
Percentage of cases Court followed Vera recommendation	93.1%

Miss Wyneva Johnson, a senior at Wheaton College, will join the Project for the summer.

TRAFFIC COURT ALERT During the first seven months of operation in its third year, 874 police tours of duty were saved at a cost effectiveness of \$62,928.

ADDICTION RESEARCH AND TREATMENT CORPORATION 230 patients have entered treatment at ARTC. Two clinics have been completed which are comprised of therapists, counsellors and other professional staff. ARTC plans to have four clinics in operation in the near future which will greatly enlarge their capacity. Renovations of the building are nearly complete.

MANHATTAN SUMMONS PROJECT 28,185 tours of duty were saved during the first ten months of the third year of operation for a cost effectiveness of \$2,029,320.

Classified

Wanted: one refridgerator under \$50 delivered to Appearance Control Project, 155 Leonard Street. Call Margaret Conorton, 349-6180.

Wanted: Source for free plastice bags on a continuing basis for Project Renewal. Contact Mary Davidson or Tom Alverson at 533-8400.

New Staff at Vera

Michelle Brown - formerly a Program Planner with the Bureau of the Budget. Michelle will be responsible for supervising programs in several areas.

Sam Gillespie - a first-year law student at Vanderbilt Law School. Sam is developing a possible project on work release for defendants who do not qualify for ROR (release on own recognizance in lieu of posting bail) and cannot afford even a modest bail.

Debbie Smith - worked for Vera in its infancy in 1963-1964. She is presently working on the development of the Environmental Institute.

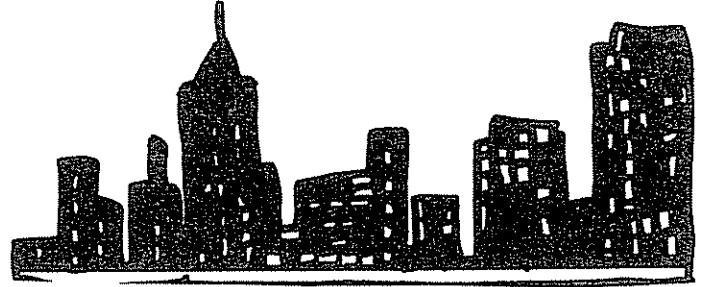
Tom Alverson - formerly a caseworker at the Manhattan Bowery Project, has accepted the position of Administrator of Project Renewal.

Mary Davidson - has spent the last three years in Brazil, primarily with the Peace Corps. She is Assistant Administrator of Project Renewal.

Alan Zitterberg - a second-year law student at Columbia, will work with Project Renewal for the summer.

the VERA report

May, 1970



The Manhattan Bowery Project

Two out patients in the Manhattan Bowery Project became the first men referred to Phoenix House last month. The two men who volunteered -- one a drug addict and an alcoholic, the other an alcoholic -- have entered the one-to two-year intensive care program that seeks to treat the patient's syndrome as well as his symptoms. Attempts have been made in the past to place men in Phoenix House, but the men have been hesitant to agree to the lengthy Phoenix House program in which they would be removed from their normal surroundings.

Phoenix House normally requires a two-week, 9 to 5 work day trial period before they will accept a patient into their clinic. However, they have waived this requirement for the Bowery men. It is too early to know how the Phoenix House referrals are faring, but it is hoped that more men will volunteer for this intensive therapy.

Vera project workers have arranged for the men in the MBP clinics to share the Department of Social Services recreation center on the 6th floor of the Men's Shelter. The center has been reserved for Bowery inpatients for one hour twice a week and will be open one evening a week from 5 - 7 for Bowery out-patients. Unfortunately participation is not as great as it might be in the

evening recreation program because the men are justifiably afraid to walk home in the area after dark.

Bowery outpatients joined with men under the care of the Department of Social Services to plan and attend a party at the "Sally" (the Salvation Army Hotel). Approximately 55 Bowery outpatients presently live there. An elected committee decorated the hall and attended to details. The party was paid for out of a self-government fund established by the men living at the Salvation Army Hotel. The fund is comprised of dues the men pay when they are working. The money is used for emergency loans, to "buy" a job, (the same as an employment fee) and, clearly, to bring some joy into the men's lives. At present, the fund is continuing to grow, proving that the men are repaying the loans and paying their dues rather than drinking up their earnings.

By all reports, the party was a success, and other activities of this kind will be planned in the future. At present, the Department of Social Services is looking into the possibility of showing Thursday night films which the Bowery patients would also be able to enjoy.

New staff

Maria Cruz, receptionist
Ann Needham, deck clinic nurse
John Wickens, rescue aid

Vera Publications

Because of the number of requests we receive from all over the country for information on Vera projects, we have begun to print a series of reports. The first report in the Series is The Manhattan Bowery Project. The second is The Manhattan Summons Project.

Copies of both reports are available to you on request. Please call or write Ann Grand at 39th Street.

Urban Technology

Vera is exploring the possibility of providing a link between sources of new technologies and areas of City government with distinct technological needs.

There are two potential projects in urban technology presently being considered. For the first one, Vera hopes to offer the City model provisions for cable television franchises. The second project, which is in its infancy, may attempt to recycle waste paper, glass and metal for the City's outmoded and overburdened sanitation system.

New staff

Rosalind Lazarus
Frank Velie
Randy Bernstein

Court Employment Project

Addiction continues to be a serious problem for the project. Despite efforts to screen out addicts during the intake process, close to one-quarter of all participants are later found to be habituated. Efforts with this group have been markedly less successful. Only 15% of the addicts eventually have the

charges dismissed on the project's recommendation. Dismissal rate for non-addicts is 47%. Addicts account for nearly half of the 13% of the participants rearrested while active in the project.

To encourage more addicts to enter residential treatment facilities, the project has refined its referral system. One project rep, Tom Turner, has been named coordinator of project dealings with such rehabilitation centers as Phoenix House, Odyssey House, Horizon House, Ardis Commune, and Exodus House. Under the new procedure, Tom Turner and the rep assigned to the addict confront him with their knowledge of his habit and urge him to accept treatment. With his consent, he is referred first to a non-residential treatment program where he meets recruiters from residential rehabilitation centers, or he may participate in group encounters. By this method, the project to date has referred 20 participants to non-residential centers, ten of whom have entered residential programs.

Finally, the Manhattan Court Employment Project clubhouse basement has been painted, and staff has installed a new juke box and new sports equipment - a speed bag and a punching bag - donated by the Madison Square Garden Boxing Association. Two reps, Nat Caldwell and Bob McGowan, are currently building a platform for live entertainment.

The project has admitted 1007 participants since its inception. The Court has dismissed the charges against 360 of them. 99 are presently active. 521 have been unfavorably terminated and 27 have been discharged because of ineligibility.

New Staff

Ed Barnett, representative
Penny Florence, screener
Nadine Lesko, from Antioch College, screener
Peter Paden, screener
Sharon Sallit, Antioch College student, screener
Priscilla Worr, a VISTA volunteer, screener
Joseph Pelletteri, representative
Joan B. Skolnick, Admin. Ass't.

Appearance Control Project

Statistics comparing the first two months of 1970 with the same period of 1969 demonstrate a dramatic change in the disposition of cases in Part 1B1 of the Manhattan Criminal Court.

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Cases returned to 1B1 for subsequent appearances	47.9%	17.0%
Guilty plea	2.8	13.6
Adjourned to trial	22.7	49.7
Dismissed	7.9	8.7
Bench warrants and other reasons	18.3	10.6

The project has eliminated the necessity for 1,035 witnesses to appear, 157 of whom were civilians and 878 police officers.

JoAnn Ferdinand joined the staff on March 19 as administrative secretary and office manager.

Bronx Sentencing Project

Andy Schaffer has been serving as acting director of the Bronx Sentencing Project since the beginning of March.

As of April 3, 1182 defendants have been sentenced with a Vera report present, of which 650 carried non-prison recommendations. The Court meted out non-prison sentences or adjourned the case to a community program in 608 or 93.5% of those 650 cases.

New staff

Reginald Savedra, interviewer
MaryAnn Brown, Project secretary
LeRoy Joyce, an employee of VOI now providing field verification services to the Bronx Sentencing Project.

Addiction Research & Treatment Corporation

200 patients are now receiving treatment at ARTC, thus completing Clinic II. The project goal is to treat 500 patients in 5 clinics.

Staff to support Clinic III is now being hired and they hope to start receiving patients in the near future.

In an effort to serve the community and to aid in preventing addiction, ARTC has offered lectures about drugs and drug abuse to local schools and churches. The availability of speakers and displays has been announced through letters to 95 public school principals and 75 clergymen in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Cumberland, Fort Green, East New York, Bushwick and Crown Heights. Eight patients, still undergoing treatment at ARTC, have been hired as community workers in the Education and Prevention Program. These men and women will speak to various groups in the area on addiction. Community workers have now addressed over 40 different groups.

New staff

Veronica Andrews - job developer
Marjorie Bogen - asst. director, staff educ.
Sue Bynum - research assistant
Russell Cox - job developer
Doris Foster - medical technician
Joseph Gabriel - maintenance
Robert Hansen - research assistant
Feurman Jones, Jr. physician
Arnold Keith - community organizer, education and prevention
Billy Lee - group therapist
Barbara Long - administrative asst.
James Malone - group therapist
Ricardo Martinez - clerk-typist
William Moore - counselor
Timothy Ortiz - security guard
Francisco Pireira - maintenance
Barbara Purvis - counselor
Sylvester Trumpet - Administrative asst.
Arnease Williams - secretary
Dorothy Williamson - switchboard operator
Melvin White - office

5 counselors hired for Clinic III:

Nolan Johnson
Winston James
Jeremy Thrilkeld
Reggie Battles
Eva Shinn

Traffic Court Alert

Traffic Court Alert has saved New York City taxpayers \$371,664 in police time for the first five months of its third year. This represents the cost to the City (salary plus fringes) of 5,162 police officers who did not have to appear in Traffic Court. That sum of money is equivalent to the yearly cost of 23 more policemen on the street

New Staff at Vera

Bob Goldfeld - Bob has been promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Vera. He replaces Ken Marion who is now Deputy Police Commissioner for Administration.

Cynthia Okrent - Cindy is secretary to Herb Sturz.

Ann Grand - is working on a supportive work project for Bowery men and also will be responsible for internal administrative duties.

Public Opinion Research. Three surveys developed by Vera with the cooperation of the City Bureau of the Budget, the Housing and Development Administration (HDA), and two opinion research firms have been administered.

One of the research firms, Louis Harris and Associates, conducted interviews in four boroughs concerning landlord-tenant relations and preferences in home renovation. 431 residents of lower middle class areas containing mixed public and private housing were canvassed. Harris interviewers also invited some respondents to air feelings about housing and reactions to the survey at community meetings in Brownsville and Upper Manhattan. A final report, "Transition Neighborhoods in New York City: The People's View of Their Housing Environment," was submitted in December 1969.

The second research firm, Opinion Research Corporation, has completed surveys on police service and narcotics in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and on health and education in the Tremont section of the Bronx. The report will be submitted this month.

Evaluation of the results of the surveys will be undertaken by Vera, with assistance from the Budget Bureau, HDA, and planners in education, health and criminal justice. Based on the evaluation a report will be submitted this month to the Fund for the City of New York outlining types of data obtainable from opinion surveys and weighing the usefulness of surveys to program planners.

Bronx Plea Negotiation Project. The Plea Negotiation Project began furnishing Legal Aid attorneys with information and social histories for use in plea bargaining sessions. Twelve defendants have been interviewed and dates for plea negotiation conferences have been set.

All Bronx Criminal Court defendants are eligible for the Plea Negotiation Project, except those charged with violent crimes or drug sale, or minor violations. A Legal Aid research associate, hired by the Project but paid by Legal Aid, interviews eligible defendants for their version of case facts and for social history. The researcher verifies this information by telephone or through a field investigator.

The research associate recommends a plea and in some cases suggests a disposition to the Legal Aid attorney who will negotiate the plea. The recommendation is based on guidelines developed by Vera's Bronx Sentencing Project. One disposition which may be recommended is referral to the Bronx Sentencing Project for its community-based services including drug treatment and job development.

At a weekly plea negotiation conference, the Legal Aid lawyer and research associate represent the defendant, and an assistant district attorney represents the government. A Vera lawyer from the project staff attends the conference. He provides the assistant district attorney with a data sheet and furnishes each side with a copy of the defendant's complete criminal record.

The Manhattan Court Employment Project. Since its inception in February 1968, the Project has admitted 968 participants, an average of ten per week.

137 are active participants.

481 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

324 have had charges against them dismissed.

The proportion of defendants against whom charges have been dismissed has increased from 25 to 30 percent in the first groups of participants to 40 to 50 percent presently.

To facilitate communication and team work a new working relationship has been established between Human Services and Career Development, two units of the Manhattan Court Employment Project. Previously, a newly admitted participant was met by his Human Services representative ("rep") and referred to Career Development for job services. The units functioned separately and communicated mainly by written narratives. Under a new case-study approach, a participant is met by a team made up of his rep and the career developer responsible for the caseload of that rep-- this approach coordinates counseling service with attention to education and employment problems.

A 23-month report on Project operations will be presented this month to the Office of Manpower Policy Evaluation and Research. Two thousand copies of the report will be printed and distributed.

The Project is studying various approaches to institutionalization and expansion. Screeners are determining how many participants might be admitted, under existing criteria, from night and weekend court. In addition to studying funding sources and possible administrative changes, consideration is being given to making more defendants eligible by altering some admission criteria such as age, sex, charges, or prior record. Such changes would require permission from the Court, defense attorneys and prosecutors.

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. This Bedford-Stuyvesant methadone project is serving 161 patients. Since Mayor Lindsay opened the center at 937 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, a second clinic has been added and a staff of 78 has been assembled.

In an effort to service the community and to aid in preventing addiction, the Corporation is preparing a campaign, "An Eye on Prevention." Block workers will canvass neighborhoods and talk with parents about drugs and drug abuse in the Bedford-Stuyvesant and Cumberland areas. Lectures in English and Spanish, the distribution of educational material through community organizations, and displays in churches and clubhouses are planned.

Professor Irving Lukoff of the Columbia University School for Social Work has been named director of the social evaluation of the methadone program. This evaluation will be coordinated with the analysis of the criminal aspects of the program undertaken by the Harvard Center for Advancement of Criminal Justice.

The Manhattan Bowery Project. The detoxification center admitted its 6,205th patient Thursday, January 29, accounting for the treatment of 2,502 individuals since the project opened in November 1967.

One floor of the Salvation Army Memorial Hotel for Men at 225 Bowery Avenue has become a "halfway house" for 35 Bowery outpatients. House meetings for all residents have been held to discuss the living facility and to plan activities. The Project's outpatient department staff visits the hotel twice weekly to supervise swimming, bowling, and other recreation for hotel tenants and sponsored a party at the hotel Friday, February 6. In addition, the Church of All Nations, 9 Second Avenue, has offered clinic outpatients the use of its pool one afternoon a week.

The Bronx Sentencing Project. The Sentencing Project provides brief social history reports and sentence recommendations to judges sitting in adult parts in the Bronx Criminal Court. As of January 16, 1970, 1,041 defendants had been sentenced with a Vera report present. Of these:

586 cases carried non-prison recommendations (unconditional discharge, conditional discharge, fine, probation, or adjournment to a community program).

548 cases, or 93.5 percent, resulted in non-prison sentences or in adjournments to community programs.

Raul Rodriguez, the Project narcotics coordinator, has been appointed a consultant to the Narcotics Addiction Control Commission. Mr. Rodriguez, a member of the Bronx Community for Narcotics Programs, was chosen with three other members to advise the Commission as to attitudes and interests of ex-addicts and community residents.

Youth Diversion Project. Vera and Fordham University are attempting to initiate a community-based alternative to the juvenile justice system in the East Tremont section of the Bronx. The project would combine aspects of the youth bureau concept and the Neighborhood Youth Forum proposal, an extra-judicial forum for dealing with the problems of juveniles. The project would use a new method of delinquency analysis. It would train community people to act as advocates for troubled juveniles. It would both use existing resources and develop services within the project.

The Manhattan Summons Project. The Summons Project substitutes the issuance of a summons in qualified misdemeanor cases for the formal procedures of arrest and detention. In the first six months of the third year (July-December 1969), 13,940 summonses were issued, an increase of 23 percent over the corresponding period in 1968, representing a savings to the city of \$1,254,600.

Traffic Court Alert. Under this system, the majority of officers scheduled for Traffic Court remains on patrol rather than automatically appearing in court; the officers are on alert and are summoned to come to court only if needed. In the first three months of the third year (November 1969-January 1970) 5,378 officers were placed on alert. 3,433 or 64 percent, were not required to appear. Cost effectiveness for the period was \$247,176.

Teacher Corps-VISTA Project. At the request of Teacher Corps and VISTA, Vera Institute evaluated a Teacher Corps-VISTA project begun in September 1968. Teacher Corps interns operated a school for inmates of the New York City Reformatory at Rikers Island and VISTA volunteers worked with those inmates to ease problems of re-entry into the community upon their release.

In the final report on the project, submitted in December 1969, Vera urged re-funding of the joint Teacher Corps-VISTA program. In the evaluation, Vera suggested modifications in preservice training, personnel policies and administrative procedures.

Appearance Control Project. This Project opened January 20, 1970, in Part 1B1 of Manhattan Criminal Court. Its aim is to reduce court delay and eliminate unnecessary appearances of the prosecution's witnesses (the arresting officer and the civilian complainant).

A Vera study of 1B1, a misdemeanor hearing and motion and all-purpose part for non-jail defendants, showed that approximately 65 percent of all cases were adjourned and in 15 percent of cases warrants were issued. After waiting through two or more calendar calls on a given date, witnesses would be told that the case had been adjourned for another day.

Two procedures are planned by the project for Part 1B1. In its first phase, the project excuses the police officer and witnesses from any appearance at the first adjourned date and, instead, limits that first date to pleadings and statements of intentions. In its second phase, the project will establish an alert system so that police officers and witnesses will be placed on alert status and will not go to court unless notified to appear.

Between January 20 and January 30, 1970, the project handled 535 cases. 209 of these cases were scheduled for initial appearance. The new procedure saved 151 appearances of witnesses---15 civilians and 136 law enforcement officials.

During the first week of project operations, 18 percent of the total caseload was disposed of through dismissals or guilty pleas, and 35 percent was adjourned to trial parts. The remaining 47 percent of cases resulted in bench warrants or in adjournments back to Part 1B1. During the second week, 18 percent was disposed of through dismissals or guilty pleas, and 45 percent was adjourned to trial parts.

The Appearance Control Project was developed by the Office of the District Attorney of New York County, the New York City Police Department and Vera Institute, with the cooperation of the New York Criminal Court.

New Staff

Manhattan Court Employment Project:

Anne Carroll, Secretary to Henry M. Aronson
Penny Florence, screener
Peter Paden, screener
Sharon Sallit, screener from Antioch College
Madine Lesko, screener from Antioch College

Manhattan Bowery Project:

Jim Spinelli, outpatient aide
Patrolman Ernest Talbot

Bronx Plea Negotiation Project:

Liz Schneider, Legal Aid research associate
Lisa Schwartzman, part-time office administrator

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation:

Counselors: William Edgecomb
Marland Jeffries, head counselor Clinic Two
Charles Martin
William Neale, head counselor, Clinic One
Henry Nealy
Leroy Smith
Claudia Tarver

Medical

Staff: Louise Martin, nurse
Maria Rodriguez, medical technician

Administrative:

Terence Kennedy, assistant director of
prevention and community relations

Appearance

Control

Project:

Martha Coleman
Pamela Loeb
Sybil Kleinrock, administrative secretary
Renee Tillman, file control clerk assigned
to the project by the Office
of the District Attorney.
Patrolman John Anderson

Bronx
Sentencing
Project:

Barnet Lenner, administrative assistant,
in-court operations.

James Nettles, a field verifier for
Volunteer Opportunities,
Inc., is shared half-time
by the Sentencing and Plea
Negotiation Projects.

Lance Liebman, an attorney, is investigating the uses
of new technology in solving urban problems.

January 1970

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. At Bedford Stuyvesant's methadone treatment center, 103 patients are active, 13 have been terminated for failing to keep up medication, and 203 are on the waiting list. One hundred more participants will become active this month, when the center's second clinic opens.

Conrad Mauge assumed the post of administrative director December 15. Mr. Mauge, who grew up in Bedford Stuyvesant, formerly worked as an administrative expert for General Foods.

Following are statistics on applicants for the methadone program, based on a sample of 100 from all who requested treatment. Applicants were:

78 percent male, 22 percent female applicants (actually accepted - 64 percent male, 36 percent female).

18 percent white; 77 percent non-white; 5 percent Puerto Rican.

41 percent Catholic; 49 percent Protestant; 10 percent other.

35 percent single; 30 married and living together; 6 percent common law; 22 percent separated; 7 percent other.

Most applicants had attended high school -- 63 percent had dropped out during high school and 20 percent had graduated. Seven percent had completed only grammar school, and 10 percent had some college training.

Applicants' ages ranged from 18 to 69, with 37 percent between 31 and 40, and 31 percent between 26 and 30. Questions aimed at determining stability indicated that 38 percent had lived at the present home address 3 to 5 years, and 22 percent had remained at the current address 1 to 2 years. 27 percent said they worked.

National Institute of Mental Health has established a data bank for NIMH- funded narcotic treatment programs. Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation will supply information and receive a broad statistical picture of addict patients and treatment results.

Manhattan Court Employment Project. After screening defendants in the Criminal Court, the Project staff, with the consent of the District Attorney, requests the Court to adjourn the case for three months. During this time participants are placed in jobs or job training and receive counseling and supportive services.

From inception in February 1968 to December 26, 1969, the Project has admitted 925 participants.

131 are active participants.

461 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

310 participants have had charges against them dismissed.

The Bronx Sentencing Project. provides brief social history reports and sentence recommendations to judges sitting in adult parts in the Bronx Criminal Court. As of December, 1969, 989 defendants had been sentenced with a Vera report present. Of these:

553 cases carried non-prison recommendations (unconditional discharge, conditional discharge, fine or probation).

524 cases, or 92.9 percent, resulted in non-prison sentences.

In cooperation with the Bronx Plea Negotiation Project, a new Vera program to begin this month, the Sentencing Project will offer defendants assistance at plea bargaining sessions.

Most cases in congested urban courts are settled by bargaining between the District Attorney and the defendant's counsel. The sentence the defendant is likely to receive if he pleads guilty -- either to the crime charged or a crime carrying a lesser penalty -- necessarily is a consideration in plea bargaining sessions. Yet, the bargainers typically know very little

about the defendant's background and are handicapped in making judgments about the sentence the defendant ought to receive or will receive at the hands of the Court. In order to give bargainers greater knowledge about the defendant's social history and a better ability to predict actual sentences under varying fact situations, the Sentencing Project will cooperate with the Legal Aid Society and the Plea Negotiation Project in presenting social history information and a projected sentence recommendation for use in plea bargaining sessions.

The Manhattan Bowery Project admitted its 6,000th patient Tuesday, January 6, accounting for the treatment of 2,455 individuals since the project opened in November 1967.

Dove Toys Project, an experimental work program employing six Bowery outpatients, will assemble its last toys by January 16, and the workshop will close. The Manhattan Bowery Project will try to help place the men in jobs and continue to offer them outpatient services and group counseling. Subcontracts for future work programs are being sought, primarily from the toy industry, and funding is being sought to help subsidize work projects until they become self-supporting.

The Manhattan Summons Project substitutes the issuance of a summons in qualified misdemeanor cases for the formal procedures of arrest and detention. In the first five months of the third year (July-November 1969), 12,002 summonses were issued, an increase of 24 percent over the corresponding period in 1968, representing a savings to the City of \$1,080,000.

Traffic Court Alert. Under this system, the majority of officers scheduled for Traffic Court remains on patrol rather than automatically appearing in court; the officers are on alert and are summoned to come to court only if needed. In the first two months of the third year (November through December 1969), 2,468 unnecessary court appearances were saved, representing a cost-effectiveness of \$177,696.

New Staff. The Manhattan Bowery Project staff has added:

Leonard Singer, casework supervisor.

Willie Eppinger, rescue aide.

Mary Knop, secretary.

Helen Greer, who has been working in the outpatient department, is now the nurse in charge of the department.

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation has hired:

Conrad Mauge, administrative director.

Robert Ford, head of social services department.

Leo Swanston, head of job development.

Addie Stewart, director of prevention and control.

THE VERA REPORT

December 1969

Manhattan Court Employment Project. After screening defendants in the Criminal Court, the Project staff, with the consent of the District Attorney, requests the court to adjourn the case for three months. During this time participants are placed in jobs or job training and receive counseling and supportive services.

From its inception in February 1968 to November 21, 1969, the Project has admitted 892 participants.

142 are active participants.

443 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

285 have had charges against them dismissed.

Justice officials from South Vietnam visited the Court Employment Project November 12. The observers were: Truong-Hoang-Dang, Chief of Criminal Affairs; Vu-Tien-Tuan, Solicitor General; Duong Duc Thuy, Presidential Adviser on Legal Matters; and Quach Tong-Duc, Chief of the Cabinet in the Ministry of Justice. The visitors, who were accompanied by State Department officials, discussed legal reform and project operations with Dan Rubenstein and Joe Olgiatti.

A French television program to be broadcast throughout continental Europe and Africa will include a report on the Court Employment Project, and interview in French with Helen Barsky, a look at reps and participants and a glimpse of the clubhouse.

Appearance Control. To eliminate unnecessary appearances of People's witnesses -- the arresting officer, the civilian complainant, and the witness for the prosecution -- an Appearance Control Project will open in January 1970 in Part 1B1 of Manhattan Criminal Court.

In this misdemeanor and all-purpose part for non-jail defendants, two procedures will be instituted. First, the People's witnesses will be excused from appearing on the first adjourned date of the case. Then, for all subsequent appearances in the case, the People's witnesses will be on alert status. They will stay at home or at work and will not go to court unless called and told to appear.

The Project, developed by the Office of the District Attorney of New York County, the New York City Police Department, and Vera Institute, with the cooperation of the New York Criminal Court, will be directed by Vera staff attorney James Lacy.

The Manhattan Bowery Project marked its second anniversary November 27. On that date total admissions to the Project reached 5,539, accounting for the treatment of 2,387 men.

Since the detoxification center opened and an emergency clinic was established to provide out-patient care for over 200 men a week, the Police Department has discontinued paddy wagon roundup arrests on the Bowery. From May through October 1968, Bowery arrests for disorderly conduct, loitering, and public intoxication totaled 2,577 during the corresponding period in 1969, arrests dropped to 478.

2,400 wooden toy trucks have been finished and packed for shipment by six Bowery outpatients participating in Dove Toys Project, a five week old experimental work program. Another 2,400 toys, the balance of the original goal of 4,800, will be completed by early January, when the first stage of the program will be evaluated.

The trucks on sale at Macy's, Abraham and Strauss, and Kiddietown, a major toy outlet in Norwalk, Connecticut. U. S. Toys will show the trucks this week in New Orleans.

The trucks, which come in three styles and retail for an average \$6 each, are on display at Vera Institute, 30 East 39th Street, and are available to staff members at a discount.

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. Since the opening of the Brooklyn Center on October 8, 110 patients have been admitted for treatment and over 500 placed on the waiting list. New applicants are no longer being accepted, but are referred to other agencies and therapeutic communities.

The patients appear daily for a dose of methadone and attend a one-hour group therapy session three times a week. About twenty participants form a group.

Of the first 95 patients admitted for treatment, the average was a 33-year-old man with a habit costing \$35 per day and more than 11 years' drug history. Twenty-five persons of the group were employed.

The first 100 patients on the waiting list will begin treatment in January, when the center's second clinic will open. When fully staffed and equipped, the center will house five separate clinics -- each with its own staff of doctors, nurses, and counselors to serve about 100 patients.

The medical director and project counselors have been speaking at local grammar schools and junior highs about drug abuse and treatment. Speaking requests have resulted from 300 letters sent out by the Project to community leaders and organizations, explaining the program and inviting visitors to the center.

Traffic Court Alert. Under this system, the majority of officers scheduled for Traffic Court remains on patrol rather than automatically appearing in court; the officers are on alert and are summoned to come to court only if needed. During November 1969, 1,865 officers were on alert and available to go to court: 579 or 31 percent were required to appear; 1,286 or 69 percent were not needed in court and remained on patrol. During this period, Traffic Court Alert saved patrol time valued by the City at \$79,732.

The Manhattan Summons Project substitutes the issuance of a summons in lieu of detention in certain misdemeanor cases. Issuance of a summons returns the arresting officer to patrol and reduces detention and prisoner transportation costs. The practice permits the defendant to retain counsel and help prepare his defense. It reduces the possibility of the defendant's losing his job, and causing his family to be placed on welfare.

The New York City Police Department announced that during the first four months of the project's third year of city-wide operation (July 1, 1969, through October 31, 1969):

23,615 arrests were made for summonsable offenses.

9,825 summonses were issued, giving a 79 percent issuance rate. This shows a 5 percent increase over summons issuance during the corresponding months of 1968, when 8,199 summonses were issued, giving a 74 percent issuance rate.

During the first four months of the project's third year, the Manhattan Summons Project saved police patrol time valued by the City at \$888,775.

The Bronx Sentencing Project continues to submit presentence reports to the court in adult misdemeanor cases. The research staff has gathered data on 344 cases sentenced after a Vera report was submitted to the court and 344 cases in which either a report was provided by the Office of Probation or no social history report was before the court at the time of sentencing. The samples will be analyzed to obtain comparative sentencing patterns and recidivism rates. Recidivism data on the project's cases might suggest modifications in the project's sentencing guidelines.

The Sentencing Project and Volunteer Opportunities, Inc. (VOI) are jointly preparing a proposal to Bronx Model Cities which will permit an expansion of the Sentencing Project-VOI programs through the hiring of additional staff from the community. The expanded program may also encompass planning activities for a broad community-based ex-offender assistance project.

New Staff. At the Manhattan Bowery Project:

Leonard Singer is a new caseworker supervisor.
Brooks Stewart is a research consultant.

The Manhattan Court Employment Project has added two new reps:

Freddie Carrero.
Clayton Bird.

November 6, 1969

Manhattan Court Employment Project. The Manhattan Court Employment Project was the topic of a day-long session of the Directors of Criminological Research Institutes October 13. In a session entitled "Anatomy of a Criminological Research Project," penologists and criminologists from the United States and abroad discussed Project operations, criteria for success, research methodology, placement and counseling, and the hiring and training of para-professionals.

"Justice Doesn't Pay," a Project brochure intended for unions and employers, has been created as a service to the Project by the advertising firm of Doyle, Dane & Bernbach. The brochure, which will be available soon, describes the Project's operations and goals and urges the labor and business communities to hire Project participants.

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. On October 8 Mayor Lindsay officially opened the treatment center at 937 Fulton Street, Brooklyn. Since that time 31 patients have been admitted for treatment, and a long list of applicants is awaiting admission. The corporation plans to admit up to 400 patients from the catchment area within the first year. When fully staffed, the center will house five separate clinics -- each with its own staff of doctors, nurses, and counselors to serve about 100 patients.

Evaluation methods are being pretested by the Harvard Center for Advancement of Criminal Justice, which will analyze the Project's impact on crime, and Albert Einstein Medical College, which will evaluate medical and social aspects of the program.

Manhattan Bowery Project. A sheltered workshop where six Bowery outpatients assemble and finish wooden toy trucks opened Monday, October 27, at 37 West 19th Street. Several major New York stores have placed trial orders for trucks which will retail for about \$6. each. The experimental phase of the work program, which is supervised by Brian Todes, is expected to last two months, with the last two weeks devoted to evaluation.

As of October 31, 1969, the detoxification center had recorded 6,224 admissions. The outpatient department continues to treat about 100 patients a week, while the deck clinic serves an average of 225 persons a week.

Public Opinion Research. In a project designed to test the use of opinion surveys as a program planning tool for city administrators, the first of three surveys has been completed.

The three surveys were designed by Vera with the cooperation of the City Bureau of the Budget, the Housing and Development Administration, and two opinion research firms.

Lou Harris and Associates is evaluating the results of an opinion survey on the issues of landlord-tenant relations and preferences in home renovation, recently conducted in a lower middle class area containing mixed public and private housing. Interviewers will soon invite respondents to small neighborhood meetings for discussion of the survey, in an attempt to learn whether persons in a group respond differently from those interviewed singly in a door-to-door canvass.

Program planners for the city are being interviewed to determine how accurate their perceptions of program needs are and how they may utilize opinion survey data.

Opinion Research Corporation will soon complete a survey on police service and narcotics in Bedford-Stuyvesant and in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. The firm is also pretesting a survey on health and education among families of the Tremont Section of the Bronx.

Traffic Court Alert Project. The Traffic Court Alert Project, operating under the auspices of the Court Delay and Sentencing Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, completed its second year of operation on October 31, 1969. The major objectives of this project are to eliminate the wasteful man-hours spent in court by members of the Police Department and to increase the efficiency of the court in the processing of traffic cases.

Statistics for the second year of operation reveal that a total of 10,370 court appearances by police officers were completely eliminated during this period, a 255% increase over

the first year's activity. In addition, officers who were required to appear had their cases expedited by this program and were returned to patrol when their presence was no longer required.

The following statistics reflect the activity for the period from November 1, 1967 through October 31, 1969, representing the first two years of operation:

- a. A total of 28,164 officers, who were scheduled to appear in Traffic Court, were placed on alert.
- b. Of these, 4,076 officers were unavailable for court due to sick leave, vacation, etc., leaving 24,088 available.
- c. Of those available, 10,798 or 45% were required to appear in court.
- d. A total of 13,290 or 55% were NOT REQUIRED to appear and remained on patrol in their commands.
- e. The unnecessary court appearances eliminated by this program represent a savings of 13,290 police man-tours, representing a cost effectiveness of \$810,690.

The Traffic Court Alert Project has resulted in improved efficiency by removing the calling and assembly of calendars from the courtroom, thus permitting the judge to devote his entire day to judicial matters. It has reduced the time spent in court by the defendant by assuring him immediate access to the court for the purposes of changing his plea or requesting an adjournment; in addition, the program expedites trials in those cases in which the defendant is ready.

For the Police, the program has saved substantial man-hours and increased the overall protection of the citizens of this City. At the present time, 57% of the officers now scheduled for trial in the various Traffic Courts throughout the city are not required to appear and remain on patrol within their commands.

Bronx Sentencing Project. The Bronx Sentencing Project provides brief social history reports and sentence recommendations to judges sitting in adult parts in the Bronx Criminal Court. As of October 24, 1969, 910 defendants had been sentenced with a Vera report present. Of these:

503 cases carried non-prison recommendations (unconditional discharge, conditional discharge, fine or probation).

471 cases, or 93.6 percent, resulted in non-prison sentences.

In order to prepare these reports, Project interviewers, verify information about a defendant's roots in the community, and present to the court a short narrative of relevant information and sentence recommendation. Through experience, the interviewers have improved markedly in their ability to ferret out accurate information about narcotic usage, family ties, and residence. In effect, the Project has gone from a screening type interview and a nearly mechanical evaluation to more intensive interviewing and an evaluation which gives the Court and referral agencies detailed information and enables them more readily to accept Project recommendations.

The Project has established a policy of field verification of family ties and residence in all cases recommended for a supervised discharge to Volunteer Opportunities, Inc. (VOI) or to a drug facility. The practice has increased the reliability of information, has begun to save interviewers' time, and has provided a possible lead-in to further use of community volunteers and ex-offenders in the project.

The Sentencing Project and VOI have begun a series of cocktail parties for Court personnel with the aim of explaining the Project to judges and attorneys and laying the ground work for a variety of dialogues between persons in the system, defendants, and community representatives.

New Staff.

Wendy Miller is coordinating the Public Opinion Research project. Mary Myers, former director of the program, is now working with Addiction Research and Treatment, but will continue to assist the evaluation of opinion surveys.

August Milton, a student at John Jay College, is a screener at Manhattan Court Employment Project.

Christy Young has joined the Manhattan Bowery Project staff as a secretary to Jane Stern Abreu.

Additions to the staff of the Bronx Sentencing Project include:

Martin Howard, enrolled in the Volunteer Opportunities, Inc. (VOI) program, who performs field verifications.

Luis Lopez, hired by Hunt's Point Multi-Service Center under an arrangement with Vera, coordinates and insures the delivery of services (job referral, health services, welfare) for defendants referred to Hunt's Point by Vera or VOI.

Linda Baker, an Urban Corps worker from Antioch College, is responsible for identification of cases, statistical and filing work, and completion of criminal records.

Larry Rabinowitz interviews defendants and works with Legal Aid and the District Attorney's office.

The staff of the Addiction Research and Treatment Center

includes:

MEDICAL Dr. Beny Primm, medical director.
Dr. Harold Tapley, assistant medical director.
Dr. Rudolf Howard, physician.
Dr. Joseph King, psychiatrist.

Walter Dry, lab technician.
Donna Easley, nurse.
Valeria Moore, nurse.
Sharon Morris, clinic secretary.
Carol Preston, nurse.
Lawrence Thompson, pharmacist.
Clemestine Walton, medical aide.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Wilfred Clarke, assistant counselor.
Clarence Coles, job development assistant.
Sandy Cooper, research assistant.
Esther Craig, bookkeeper.
Jane Done, secretary.
Leslie Fleck, administrator.
Laverne Grinnage, secretary.
Marland Jeffries, assistant counselor.
Carlyle Languaigne, senior counselor.
Melvin Madison, research assistant.
Gregor Miles, intake worker.
Mary Myers, research director.
William Neale, intake worker.
John Newman, assistant administrative director.
Eric Palmer, research assistant.
Aliceie Pilgram, switchboard operator.
Milton Richardson, head of legal services.
Cecelia Robinson, secretary.
John Thomas, intake worker.
Alease Whiteside, receptionist.

RESEARCH

Dr. Charles Arnold, Albert Einstein Evaluation Project.
Dan Rosenblatt, Albert Einstein Evaluation Project.
Suzanne Zissu, Albert Einstein Evaluation Project.

October 3, 1969

Bronx Sentencing Project. The Bronx Sentencing Project provides brief social history reports and sentence recommendations to judges sitting in adult parts in the Bronx Criminal Court. As of September 19, 1969, 718 defendants had been sentenced with a Vera report present. Of these:

403 cases carried non-prison recommendations (unconditional discharge, conditional discharge, fine or probation).

378 cases, or 93.8 percent, resulted in non-prison sentences.

Pre-Arrestment Processing Facility. New York City Police Department reported in September the results of the first six months of Pre-Arrestment Processing in the Bronx. According to the provisions of the project, officers who make arrests during the hours which require arrestment in Manhattan Night Court or Weekend Court, process the arrests at the 42nd Precinct Pre-Arrestment Facility in lieu of appearing at the Manhattan Court. The defendants in these cases are delivered to court by escort officers and are arraigned by processing officers.

6,907 arresting officers were processed, in cases involving 9,524 defendants and 3,915 civilian witnesses and complainants.

Net patrol time conserved by this project totaled 1,867 tours of duty.

Total value to the City for the first six months of operation was \$228,304.39.

While not dependent solely on the operation of Pre-Arrestment, arrests in the Bronx increased by 32 percent over the previous year. Complaints of crime recorded in the borough decreased.

A new Pre-Arrestment Processing Facility opened in Queens on October 1, 1969.

Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. Mayor John V. Lindsay will ~~the~~ open first methadone treatment center on October 7, at 937 Fulton Street in Brooklyn. The voluntary treatment program will admit up to 10 patients a week for the first four to six weeks. The patients, who will all be ambulatory, will receive medical help, counseling, and job development services. The clinic will be open daily from 8:00 A.M. to midnight, with medical staff present at all times. The project is seeking to hire former addicts and residents of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community for staff positions.

Manhattan Court Employment Project. After screening defendants in the Criminal Court, the Project staff, with the consent of the District Attorney, requests the Court to adjourn the case for three months. During this time participants are placed in jobs or job training and receive counseling and supportive services.

From its inception in February 1968 to September 29, 1969, the Project has admitted 837 participants.

152 are active participants.

414 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

252 have had charges against them dismissed.

The Project has instituted a systematic four-step procedure to follow-up dismissed participants:

1. Six to eight weeks after their final court appearance, defendants return to the Project to pick up fingerprints, which affords an opportunity to learn how they are doing.
3. Six months after a participant's case is dismissed, the Project checks with records of the Social Security Exchange to learn whether he receives welfare. Such a check in February 1969 showed that of the first 100 participants, only three received welfare -- a full stipend for one and supplementary assistance for two.
4. Periodic checks with the Bureau of Criminal Information reveal whether former participants have been rearrested.

To fulfill a fieldwork requirement four New York University sociology students have been stationed at the Manhattan Court Employment Project two days a week to help screen defendants. The course, "Preceptorial in Urban Policy," aims to provide a practical out-of-the-classroom learning experience for students and non-students, while involving the university in the community.

Manhattan Bowery Project. As of October 1, 1969, the detoxification center had recorded 5,110 admissions, which represents the treatment of 2,302 men. The outpatient department continues to treat about 90 patients a week, while the deck clinic serves an average of 225 persons a week.

Since the close of the seven-week Bowery Work Training Program this summer, four of the six participants have been hired by a Brooklyn metal parts factory. They continue living together on one floor of a Bowery hotel and receive counseling twice a week at the Project.

A sheltered workshop where Bowery outpatients will assemble and finish wooden toy trucks will soon begin production. Several major New York outlets have placed trial orders for three styles of trucks which will retail for about \$6. each. The work program, which has been developed by Ken Marion and Brian Todes, is expected to last two months, with the last two weeks devoted to evaluation.

Public Opinion Research. Three opinion surveys have been designed by Vera with the cooperation of the City Bureau of the Budget, the Housing and Development Administration, and two opinion research firms, to test the use of opinion surveys as a program planning tool for city administrators.

The surveys, varying in topic, geographic area, type of subcontractor, and survey design, will each be administered to approximately 400 respondents. A survey on police service and narcotics will begin next week in Bedford-Stuyvesant and in Bay Ridge, Queens. A survey on the issues of landlord-tenant relocations and preferences in home renovation will be conducted in a lower middle class area containing mixed public and private housing. Finally, a survey on health and education will be administered to the Tremont section of the Bronx.

New Staff.

Richard E. Ayres, who is developing ideas for a plea bargaining project.

Margaret Connorton, a research assistant, who will concentrate on the judicial process.

Melinda Woodward, who will help develop a proposal for recruiting and training former medical military corpsmen to perform routine and emergency medical services in low income areas of the city.

Marsha Blau, a staff secretary.

Evelyn Gladney, receptionist.

Five staff members have been named to the Methadone Program:

Milton H. Richardson, administrative director.

Dr. Beny Jene Primm, medical director.

Wilfred M. (Fred) Clarke, counselor.

John Newman, assistant to the administrative director.

Laverne Grinnage, secretary to the administrative director.

Additions to the Manhattan Court Employment Project staff include:

Ray Davila, representative.

Susan Adler, Human Services secretary.

Lourdes Hernandez, secretary to Daniel Friedman.

Michael Aronson, screener.

Marta Reyes, switchboard operator.

Helen Barsky, administrative assistant.

Four Antioch students assist with screening: Daniel Brustein, Tessie Jones, David Karlins, and Steven Silverblatt.

Four New York University students intern at the project two days a week, as part of a field work course in sociology: Elaine Gantz, Judy Pack, Judy Ruskay, and Linda Miller.

New staff members at the Bronx Sentencing Project are:

Raul Rodriguez, a community referral specialist, who will be working to refer addicts to treatment facilities.

Larry Rabinowitz, who has joined the in-court staff to help with interviewing, screening, and criminal record completions.

Pat Glynn, project secretary.

Research assistants Ricardo Abad and Grant Wlaker, both Fordham University graduate students, who will help to implement the project research design.

Marianne Brown, research secretary.

New staff at the Manhattan Bowery Project includes:

Arlene Kisner, a Social Services Department caseworker.

Charles Lutz, a rescue aide.

Tom Alverson, formerly a rescue aide, is now an outpatient caseworker.

September 3, 1969

Bronx Sentencing Project. The Bronx Sentencing Project research design was submitted August 29 to the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Research will be concentrated in the following areas:

the effect of the presence of Vera recommendations on sentences and sentencing patterns.

the relationship between sentences based on Vera recommendations and recidivism.

modification of guidelines in terms of sentencing patterns and recidivism.

evaluation of the community referral system.

establishment of a management and research computerized information system for the Project.

The research, which has been funded by National Institute of Law Enforcement, will be directed by Gerald S. Shattuck, Associate Professor of Sociology at Fordham University. Fordham Professor John M. Martin will act as research consultant, and Anthony Croce, a Fordham doctoral candidate, will assist in implementing the research design.

Manhattan Court Employment. After screening defendants in the Criminal Court, the Project staff, with the consent of the District Attorney, requests the Court to adjourn the case for three months. During this time participants are placed in jobs or job training and receive counseling and supportive services.

From inception in February 1968 through August 1969 the Project has admitted 805 participants.

172 are active participants

379 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

235 have had charges against them dismissed.

Failure to report to job interviews has dropped from about 22 percent of all referrals since the start of the Project to 13 percent last month. The decline is attributed to the recent redeployment of the counselors, or representatives, to field-work; this has increased contact between representatives and participants and facilitated feedback from participants to Project career developers.

Methadone Program. Milton H. Richardson, a member of the executive committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and co-chairman of the CJCC Community Patrol Committee has been named administrative director of Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation, the agency which will launch the methadone maintenance project in Bedford-Stuyvesant this fall. Mr. Richardson, a lawyer on the boards of HARYOU-ACT and Harlem Teams for Self-Help, was first chairman of the board of Harlem Assertion of Rights.

The Community Health Department of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine has undertaken the evaluation of medical and social aspects of the project. Dr. Charles B. Arnold, head of the evaluating team, recently submitted a first draft of the evaluation design.

Architect Jeh Johnson is planning renovation of the newly-leased project center, a Salvation Army owned building at 937 Fulton Street, Brooklyn.

Manhattan Bowery Project. Six Bowery outpatients cleared 70 tons of refuse from nine vacant lots on the Lower East Side last month, as part of an Outpatient Work Training Program. The cleanup crew removed rubbish from lots in the area from Houston Street to East 13th Street between Avenues A and D, while Sanitation Department trucks hauled the debris to the city dump. On rainy days the crew painted the Bowery Project recuperative ward, the recreation room, and administration wing of the fourth floor of the Men's Shelter. The men met for one hour of group counseling daily and for occasional evening and weekend sessions. At the close of the Work Training Program, the Project will place the outpatients in jobs or job training. Brian D. Todes will act as consultant in developing Bowery work programs.

Detoxification admissions reached 4,799 on August 25; the center has treated 2,224 men in 22 months of operation. The Project will soon hire a full time caseworker to expand its outpatient department.

Personnel from the John T. Lynch Company replaced Corrections officers as Project security guards beginning Wednesday, August 20. On duty 24 hours, seven days a week, the guards assist preliminary screening of admissions, inquiring into a patient's background, income, family status, and taking care of his valuables. The Community Mental Health Board provided funds for the changeover.

Neighborhood Youth Court. A proposal for Neighborhood Youth Court - an extra-judicial forum for dealing with problems concerning juvenile residents of East New York - is being developed by Vera Institute and the Youth Services Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The Court would handle certain juveniles of the Model Cities-Central Brooklyn area whose contact with the Youth Aid Division of the Police Department indicated that they were headed toward trouble serious enough to bring them to the Family Court, and who voluntarily agreed to come before the Court.

Neighborhood judges, and advocate aides would be recruited from the community and would receive para-professional training. Cases would be referred initially by the Police Youth Aid Division. Later, referrals from schools and the Intake Section of Family Court and self-referrals might be accepted.

Traffic Court Alert. Under this system, the majority of officers scheduled for Traffic Court remains on patrol rather than automatically appearing in court; the officers are on alert and are summoned to come to court only if needed. In the first nine months of the second year -- November 1968 through July 1969 -- 12,176 officers were on alert and available to go to court: 5,261 or 43 percent were required to appear; 6,915 or 57 percent were not needed in court and remained on patrol. During this period, Traffic Court Alert saved patrol time valued by the City at \$387,240. During the corresponding period of the first year of operation, from November 1967 through July 1968, when fewer precincts were participating in the Alert, 3,771 officers were available for court; 54 percent were required to appear; 46 were not required.

Manhattan Summons Project. New York City Police Department reported in August -- the results of the second year of citywide operation of the Manhattan Summons Project, which substitutes the issuance of a summons in lieu of detention in certain misdemeanor

cases. Issuance of a summons returns the arresting officer to patrol and reduces detention and prisoner transportation costs. The practice permits the defendant to retain counsel and helps prepare his defense. It reduces the possibility of the defendant's losing his job, and causing his family to be placed on welfare.

In the second year of operation (July 1, 1968, through June 30, 1969):

- (1) 59, 251 defendants were arrested for summonsable offenses -- a 23 percent increase over the 48,159 summonsable arrests of the previous year.
- (2) Desk officers disqualified 29,422 defendants from receiving a background investigation aimed at determining the defendant's roots in the community, hence reliability to return for trial. The waiver rate by desk officers dropped five percent from the previous year and reflects increased acceptance of the Summons Project on the part of police personnel.
- (3) Of the 29,829 defendants eligible for summons investigation, 2,378 lacked a sufficient score to qualify for release.
- (4) 4,766 refused the interview (the 16 percent refusal rate decreased from 22 percent the previous year).
- (5) 22,685 defendants, 76 percent of those eligible for investigation, received summonses -- an issuance rate of 10 percent higher than that of the previous year.
- (6) 1,182 jumpers, or 5.2 percent of those released, failed to appear in court on the return date. The jump rate decreased 0.1 percent from 5.3 percent for the previous year.

The Manhattan Summons Project made possible an additional 28,356 eight-hour tours of duty during its second year of operation at a cost-effectiveness of \$1,587,950.

August 1, 1969

News of Vera's projects, research, program plans, and staff will be published at the beginning of each month. The Vera Report, which has been issued in the past but dormant for a year, will be distributed to the staff, members of the Board of Trustees, and friends of the Vera Institute of Justice.

Manhattan Summons Project. The Summons Project substitutes the issuance of a summons in qualified misdemeanor cases for the formal procedures of arrest and detention. In the second year (July 1, 1968 - June 30, 1969). 22,000 summonses were issued, 55 percent more than last year. Each summons is calculated to save five hours of patrol time. Thus 13,750 eight-hour police tours were saved this year by the Summons Project, valued by the City at \$770,000.

Traffic Court Alert. Under this system, the majority of officers scheduled for Traffic Court remains on patrol rather than automatically appearing in court; the officers are on alert, and are summoned to come to court only if needed. In the first eight months of the second year --- October 1968 through June 1969 --- 8,983 officers were on alert and available to go to court; 3,830 or 42 percent were required to appear; 5,153 or 58 percent were not needed in court and remained on patrol. During this period, Traffic Court Alert saved patrol time valued by the City at \$288,568. From October 1967 through June 1968 when fewer precincts were participating in the Alert, 3,436 officers were available for court; 54 percent were required to appear; 46 percent were not required.

Pre-Arraignment Processing Facility. The center processes defendants arrested in Bronx County too late for arraignment in day court and who must be arraigned in Manhattan's Night Court. (There is no Night Court in the Bronx). Since most pre-arraignment procedures can now be completed at this center,

arresting officers, victims, and witnesses usually are free to leave as soon as the complaint is sworn to. From the project's inception on February 27 to early June, the center saved 2,399 police tours at a cost-effectiveness of \$134,373. Police arrest statistics show an increase in the Bronx in excess of 20 percent since the start of the Project.

The Administration of Justice Under Emergency Conditions. A center for supplying information regarding persons who have been arrested, hospitalized, or relocated during a civil disorder has been planned by Vera under a Law Enforcement Assistance grant. Forms have been prepared, phones installed, and volunteers recruited, and the center (Room 219 at 100 Centre Street) is ready for operation. The Police Department has cooperated with Vera staff to establish guidelines for curfew enforcement and to plan for community representatives to be stationed in detention facilities for rumor control and an information source for prisoners. A manual for center volunteers has been prepared, and pamphlet "What Happens to You if You are Arrested," will explain the rights of the accused, court procedures, bail and sources of aid and information.

Burglary Prevention. In an attempt to make retail stores less vulnerable to burglary, Vera Institute, cooperating with the Mayor's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), helped New York City Police initiate the Burglary Demonstration Project in three pilot precincts. Twelve police detectives began in March 1969 advising store owners about security measures and devices. Within 48 hours of a reported burglary, a detective, with the permission of the store owner, inspects the burglarized premises and makes specific recommendation for preventive security devices. The detective returns eight weeks later to see whether the retailer has followed the suggestions and how effective the improvements appear. Vera will assist the Planning and Detective Divisions of the Police Department in evaluating the Project in the fall.

Master Calendar Office. A broad approach to case management problems of the Criminal Court has been conceived in the Master Calendar Office, now being planned under a federal grant received through the State Crime Control Planning Board. The Master Calendar Office will relieve judges, prosecutors and legal aid

attorneys of case-scheduling duties for the various Criminal Court parts. With the experience in court scheduling provided by the nine-month Calendar Control Project, planners for the Master Calendar Office would try several ways of improving court efficiency: splitting court sessions; arranging adjournments in advance of the court date; and establishing alert systems for police and complainants.

Vera Institute and the Mayor's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council are also assisting the New York City Courts in planning for the utilization of Electronic Data Processing to simplify calendaring and reduce delays.

Bail-Jumping Study. Vera has undertaken a study of bail jumping in cooperation with the First Department of the Appellate Division, the Criminal Court, the Office of Probation, the District Attorneys of New York and Bronx Counties, the Police Department, and the Legal Aid Society. The study will be submitted to the Court Delay Committee, the Sentencing Committee, and the Criminal Justice Information System Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Part of the study is intended to relate bail-jumping rates to such variables as:

- (1) crime charged
- (2) condition of release (parole; cash bail or bond amount)
- (3) ROR rating
- (4) number of court appearances in case

Legal Intern. In an effort to expand the role of clinical education New York University Law School has begun an experimental seven-month clinical program, recommended by Vera and the CJCC, with students devoting this summer and next semester to work within the criminal justice system. Students will receive pay for their summer work and full academic credit for the semester. The Law School received \$25,000 from the Council on Legal Education and Professional Responsibility (CLEPR) to conduct the experiment, which is under the direction of Harry Subin.

Public Opinion Research. Under a \$75,000 grant from the Fund for the City of New York, Vera is exploring the feasibility of establishing an Opinion Research Center to provide feedback to City officials on programs in housing, education, crime, health, and anti-poverty. Pilot surveys, using questionnaires designed by City administrators and Vera, will be conducted by two subcontractors in selected geographic, low and middle income areas. It is hoped that the information based on the perceptions and experiences of the community residents will provide data useful to City planners in making public institutions more responsive to community needs.

Teacher Corps Program. Vera Institute has been requested by Teachers Corps to evaluate a Teacher Corps-VISTA project in New York City Reformatory at Rikers Island. Since last September, 15 Teacher Corps interns have conducted a school at the reformatory, and 25 VISTA volunteers in the South Bronx have worked with inmates before and after release to ease problems of re-entry into that community.

Methadone Project. In August 1968 Mayor Lindsay requested Vera to develop a methadone maintenance research and treatment program. Vera planners investigated federal controls over the use of methadone, and consulted physicians, officials of relevant state and city agencies, and private groups. Several meetings were held with the pioneer of Methadone treatment, Dr. Vincent Dole of Rockefeller University and Beth Israel Medical Center. Methadone treatment centers in New York and elsewhere were visited and observed.

On the basis of its investigation, Vera drafted a proposal for incorporating a voluntary methadone program which was approved by the City administration. The first treatment center is slated to open in Bedford-Stuyvesant this fall.

Methadone will be dispensed as part of three treatment plans; (1) maintenance of addicts on doses of methadone sufficient to block the effects of heroin, with no schedule for withdrawing them from methadone use; (2) methadone maintenance and planned withdrawal, probably in the second year of treatment; (3) the use of methadone as a detoxifying agent to achieve drug abstinence within a short period of time.

Project participants will be volunteers from four sources: defendants referred by the courts in a procedure similar to that of the Manhattan Court Employment Project; offenders recruited at Rikers Island penitentiary and the Women's House of Detention; addicts sought out by a street rescue team similar to that of the Manhattan Bowery Project; and addicts who seek treatment on their own.

The Methadone Project will be run by a private non-profit agency known as the Addiction Research and Treatment Corporation. Chairman of the Corporation's board of directors, Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, met for the first time, Tuesday, July 15, with board members Dr. Henry Brill, Dr. Donald Louria, Dr. James P. Curtis, Dr. Robert Morgan, Judge Edward R. Dudley, Judge Joseph B. Williams, Horace Morancie, Arthur Brook, and Herbert Sturz. Also attending the meeting were Mayor Lindsay; Jay Kriegel, assistant to the Mayor; Frederick O'Rourke Hayes, Budget Director for the City of New York; and Dr. Sidney Cohen, Deputy Director of the National Institute of Mental Health.

A sum of \$1,067,000 has been received from the National Institute of Mental Health to cover three-fourths of technical and professional staff salaries. Model Cities will supply \$150,000 and the New York City Supplementary Budget will provide an amount in excess of \$260,000. The Harvard Center for Advancement of Criminal Justice has agreed to conduct an analysis of the Project's impact on crime, and \$105,000 has been secured from the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for this purpose. Medical and social aspects of the program will be evaluated by the Albert Einstein Medical College.

Manhattan Court Employment Project. After screening defendants in the Criminal Court, the Project staff, with the consent of the District Attorney, requests the Court to adjourn the case for three months. During this time participants are placed in jobs or job training and receive counseling and supportive services.

From inception in February 1968 to July 1969 the Project has admitted 702 participants, an average of ten per week.

129 are active participants

349 have been unfavorably terminated and returned to the court process.

208 or 30 percent of the participants, have had charges against them dismissed.

Initially the Project took only defendants charged with misdemeanors and few with more than minimal records. Forty of the 100 most recently accepted participants were charged with serious crimes, and an equal number had significant prior criminal records.

The counselors--representatives, or "reps," as they are called--were redeployed to spend half their time in field-work in an assigned neighborhood, and half in the Project office. Originally, cases were divided randomly among the reps, and defendants came to the office for counseling. Under the new plan, cases are assigned by area to one of six reps with field work in Manhattan, or the Bronx or Brooklyn rep. Working in the field increases contact with participants and betters the counselors' understanding of the defendants.

In little more than one year, 40 Antioch College students have interned at the Court Employment Project, working as screeners, researchers, data collectors and systems analyzers for up to three terms of academic credit. Recently the Project's Associate Director, Dan Friedman, was appointed an Assistant Professor of Antioch College.

Bronx Sentencing Project. The Bronx Sentencing Project provides brief social history reports and sentence recommendations to judges sitting in adult parts in the Bronx Criminal Court. As of June 20, 1969, 547 cases had been sentenced with a Vera report present; of these:

311 cases carried non-prison recommendations (unconditional discharge, conditional discharge, fine or probation).

287 cases, or 92.3 percent, resulted in non-prison sentences.

The Project has received \$62,000 from the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for research funds to study the impact of presentence report procedures on sentencing decisions and patterns. Researchers hope to isolate determining factors in good and poor-risk cases in order to refine the Project's evaluation of defendants and to provide better guidelines for the judge's sentencing decisions.

In addition to compiling presentence reports, the Project, with a federal planning grant from the State Crime Control Council, is developing an experimental program to

utilize the community in devising new sentencing alternatives. The Project plans to work closely with a small number of community organizations to assist them in expanding the services they offer in job referral and counseling. Where necessary, the Project staff will help these organizations seek additional funds to expand or refine operations, and work with them to decide how cases will be followed up, how services will be delivered and how Vera and the agencies will relate to the Court. The Project then will refer participants to these community-based agencies for treatment, guidance and other services.

Recently the Project reached an agreement with Hunts Point Multi-Service Center in the Bronx by which Vera will underwrite the cost of a service coordinator, who will be a Hunts Point employee, but available full time to attend to cases referred to Hunts Point from the Sentencing Project.

Manhattan Bowery Project. Six outpatients of the Manhattan Bowery Project began cleaning up Bowery neighborhoods, launching Wednesday, July 23, an Outpatient Work Program which will run through Labor Day, and perhaps longer. In blue uniforms with red and blue MBP emblems, the men are paid to work an eight-to-five schedule. On rainy days they leave clean-up duties to paint the Project's detoxification center on the fourth floor of the Men's Shelter. The Bowery Work Program, directed by Tom Alverson, has been coordinated into the New York City Department of Sanitation's Model Cleanup Program on Manhattan's lower east side. Funded by Vera, the program hopes to demonstrate the capacity of Bowery men to maintain responsible jobs, in order to encourage the City to plan work and job training programs for Bowery men.

Admissions to the Project's detoxification center have passed 4,000. To provide outpatient care for Project patients, a small clinic began operating unofficially last August in space adjoining the recuperative ward. On Tuesday, July 22, the outpatient clinic moved to new quarters on the sixth floor of the Men's Shelter. Two nurses and one case-worker staff the clinic, which treats 100 men a day, ten hours a day, six days a week. The clinic is funded by an expansion grant received last month from the Community Mental Health Board.

St. Vincent's Hospital cooperated with the Bowery Project in opening, in April 1969, an emergency medical

clinic for all Bowery men. The clinic, funded by the New York City Department of Social Services and housed on the first floor of the Men's Shelter, is visited by about 200 men a week--half brought in by a rescue team and half who come on their own.

The limited capacity of the detoxification center permits approximately ten admissions a day to that facility. Since only cases of extreme emergency could be accepted for detoxification, many homeless alcoholics remained on the streets in visible public distress and were still subject to twice-daily paddy wagon roundups. But with the opening of the new emergency clinic, roundup arrests on the Bowery have come to an end. Bowery arrests for disorderly conduct, loitering, and public intoxication in May 1968 totaled 686; in May 1969, arrests had dropped to 118. By the end of its first two months, the emergency clinic has treated over 2,000 men.

Staff. Staff members who have recently joined the Vera Institute include:

David Blackey, assistant administrative director of the Manhattan Bowery Project.

Kenneth Demario, coordinator of Vera's evaluation of the Teacher-Corps-VISTA program at Rikers Island.

Harvard Professor Alan Dérghowitz, Vera's visiting scholar in residence this summer. He is working on his book about predictions of dangerousness and is available to Vera for consultation.

Joel Lieberman, director of in-court operations of the Bronx Sentencing Project.

Mary Myers, developer of the Public Opinion Research Center.

Tom Turner, representative with Manhattan Court Employment Project.

Roger Caban, Robert Coleman, and Ernest Torczyner: Career developers at the Manhattan Court Employment Project.

Emanuel Burke, Department of Social Services supervisor of welfare arrangements at Court Employment Project.

Brett Gorkin, John Field, and Robert Krulwich: VISTA volunteers based at the Court Employment Project for the next year.

Vera's summer assistants are:

Peter Alter, researcher at Bronx Sentencing Project.

Albert Eng, Pedro Morell, and Allen Mansfield: Urban Corps workers at the Manhattan Bowery Project.

Kent Johnson and Mel Immergut in youth services projects with Central Brooklyn Model Cities.

David Gould and Simmie Freeman, helping to complete a national survey of bail reform.

Steven Goldberg, project assistant for the Administration of Justice under Emergency Conditions.

Josie Marshall, helping to prepare the Public Opinion Research program.

Virginia Smith, Theresa Tucker, and Richard Hoe: Urban Corps workers responsible for following up the jumpers of the Manhattan Summons Project. Richard is also engaged in legal research with Vera's Police Liaison Office.

Donna Cassano, Vera's summer receptionist.

Eight students assist Manhattan Court Employment operations: Larry Jones, supervisor of screening; Dianne Nichols; Woody Vandervall; Kris Olsen; Fred Iseman; Herb Bundens; Randy Petsche; and John Dystel, a legal research assistant on loan from the office of the mayor.

August 1, 1968

Calendar Control Project

The Calendar Control Project began in the Bronx Criminal Court July 1st. The project is designed to locate cases on the calendar which are not ready for disposition and to grant adjournments over the telephone in advance of the calendar date; all parties are then excused from appearing.

In nearly four weeks of operation, approximately 85 cases have been adjourned through the Project, with the number of cases increasing from 10 during the first week to more than 30 during the fourth week.

Although the Calendar Control Project actively solicits cases only in Part 1A, some cases in other parts have also been adjourned.

Sentencing Project

The Sentencing Project began in Part 1A of the Bronx Criminal Court July 10. It provides short-form pre-sentence reports to the court on defendants convicted of misdemeanors (except for vehicle and traffic law offenses or "regulatory" offenses such as the ABC law, the Health code and the Labor law). Staff members describe the Project to defendants and interview only those who agree to participate. Each defendant is encouraged to discuss the matter with his counsel.

The short-form pre-sentence report, which includes data about the defendant's employment, family ties, prior criminal record, and the circumstances of the present offense, is verified by the project staff.

A scoring table based on the sentences other judges have given defendants with similar history and characteristics has been constructed.

When the short form pre-sentence report is given to the court, copies are also given to the defense counsel, the Office of Probation and the District Attorney.

In the first 2 1/2 weeks 37 defendants were interviewed. Of these, 27 cases were adjourned for periods ranging from two to six weeks, and sentence was passed in 10 cases.

The following table indicates the Project recommendations and the sentence received in the 10 cases.

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Actual Sentence</u>
1 unconditional discharge	1 conditional discharge
4 probation	(3 probation (1 conditional discharge)
5 no recommendation	5 prison sentences

Central Pre-Arrestment Facility

A Central Pre-Arrestment Facility is being developed by Vera, the Police Department, Department of Correction and the District Attorney's Office. The facility will be located in the Criminal Court Building at 100 Centre Street.

Defendants will be booked at precinct station houses and then brought to the facility to be fingerprinted, photographed, interviewed by Probation Department ROR investigators, and lodged with the Department of Correction. While the defendant's records are processed, he will be available for interviews by his attorney or Legal Aid lawyer. During the processing period, the arresting officer will have an opportunity to have his complaint drawn.

At present, fingerprint searches are done under the supervision of local precinct detective squads. The transfer of this function to the Central Pre-Arrestment Facility will reduce the workload of the detectives, thus giving them more time for investigations.

Legal Intern Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Under the auspices of the Legal Intern Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, four projects are operating in the City this summer which provide summer employment for law students in agencies active in the administration of justice.

Eight law students are participating in the C.A.L.S. South Brooklyn Project. Initially they are given intensive instruction in dealing with welfare, housing, consumer fraud and marital problems. This is followed by weekly seminars devoted to further instruction and discussion of specific problem areas. The objective of this project is to formulate a program for incorporation into law school curricula and to further expand legal participating in the welfare field.

The District Attorney Project provides summer experience for 10 to 20 participating law students and a number of auditing volunteers. Assistant District Attorneys from the New York County District Attorney's Office serve as instructors in the program. Students are engaged through the facilities of the Police Academy in a comprehensive study of the arrest process.

The Urban Corps Project is an interagency program concerned with the legal problems of narcotics addiction. Fifteen to twenty law students from the Urban Corps are working with the following agencies: District Attorney's Office, C.A.L.S., Legal Aid Society, Department of Correction, Department of Probation, New York City Courts, Human Resources Administration, and Narcotics Control Commission. Weekly discussion meetings center on the basic problems of addiction, federal law, pharmacology and special problems in New York.

Forty nine law students are participating in the Legal Aid Project, which began with a two-day workshop in June at the Fordham Law School. Participating students meet in small seminar groups to discuss practical aspects of representation and specific problems in the field.

Police-Community Career Development Program

On July 9, Mayor Lindsay visited Voorhees Technical Institute, where he met with trainees in the Police-Community Career Development Program. With the Mayor were Mr. Mito Brisco, Vice President of Standard Oil Company (N.J.), Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary, Human Resources Administrator Mitchell I. Ginsberg, and Mr. Saul Wallen, President of the New York Urban Coalition.

The Mayor and his guests toured the facilities with the President of Voorhees, Edwin H. Miner. They visited the automotive laboratory and computer center and then joined trainees in a classroom to discuss the program. Representatives from the Police Department units where trainees receive on-the-job instruction were also on hand for the discussion.

Manhattan Bowery Project

Plans are proceeding for the establishment of a clinic on the first floor of the Men's Shelter at 8 East Third Street (see Vera Report, Vol. 3, N. 4). St. Vincent's Hospital has submitted a proposed contract to the New York Department of Social Services for funding of the clinic.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

Through the cooperation of the Courts and the Mayor's Office, additional space on the 14th floor of the Criminal Court Building has been made available to the Court Employment Project. The space turned over to the Project makes it possible to bring the two service components of the project -- Counseling and Career Development -- together in one area.

Staff

Mrs. Patricia Bartels joined the staff July 22 as Editorial Associate.

Tom Chittenden
Helen
Mrs. Smith
John Ballentine
Jeff P.

July 1, 1968.

Bail Reform

A survey of bail reform projects and recent developments in bail legislation throughout the country will be conducted this summer by the Vera Institute. Questionnaires are being sent to State Legislative reference bureaus to inquire about bail legislation; to local District Attorneys, Departments of Probation, and Prosecutors' Offices to inquire about recently established bail practices; to judges and attorneys in local bar associations who have expressed an interest in bail reform to inquire about bail projects being planned; and to local Police Departments to inquire about the use of summonses in lieu of arrest.

A comprehensive list of bail legislation, bail projects and bail-reform interest groups will be compiled for distribution.

Manhattan Bowery Project

A joint meeting of the Manhattan Bowery Corporation and the Committee on Alcoholism of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council was held at the Men's Shelter June 21. Special guests at the meeting included Mayor John V. Lindsay, Archbishop Terrence J. Cooke, Burke Marshall, Presiding Justice Bernard Botwin and Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary. Dr. Morgan and members of the staff presented a report on project operations and proposed expansion of services.

One of the services being planned is after-care for patients following their five-day stay in the infirmary. Antabuse and other medications will be dispensed, group sessions will be held, and staff members will be available for consultation.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

As of June 28, 1968, 192 participants have been accepted into the Manhattan Court Employment Project.

New job opportunities for participants in the Court Employment Project have been provided by the New York Daily News and the Chase Manhattan Bank.

In the last two months, three participants have been employed by the Daily News as composing room helpers and mail clerks. In addition, the paper has offered to help participants become newsstand owners. The Daily News will supply the newsstand and papers and will teach merchandising to the prospective dealer-owners.

At the invitation of Mr. James Loverude, Vice President of Chase Manhattan Bank and a member of the Court Employment Committee of the C.J.C.C., representatives of the project spoke to 70 Chase Manhattan loan officers about the project and its aims. Mr. Loverude then sent a memorandum to all branches of the bank urging that interested employers be referred to the Court Employment Project.

Community Patrol Corps

Membership of the Community Patrol Corps Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council has been expanded to increase representation from the Harlem community. The Committee has met several times in the past few weeks to discuss the draft proposal for establishment of a Harlem Community Patrol Corps. The proposal is now being revised for presentation to the Mayor.

Court Delay and Sentencing Committee of the C.J.C.C.

Vera will operate two pilot projects, The Calendar Control Project, and the Sentencing Project, in the Bronx for two months this summer.

The Calendar Control Project is designed to alleviate congestion in the Bronx Criminal Court by identifying cases on the calendar which will not be ready for disposition at the scheduled time of trial, and arranging adjournments for those cases without the necessity of a court appearance by the relevant parties. It is hoped that the following benefits will result: (1) the calendar for each day would be reduced, giving the judge more time to devote to each case; (2) the judge would be relieved of the ministerial task of arranging adjourned dates; (3) police officers and witnesses would not be required to appear in cases only to have them adjourned, thus eliminating a major source of aggravation and increasing the likelihood of subsequent appearances; and (4) attorneys would be allowed to secure adjournments without a court appearance, thus saving them many hours in court.

In addition, the Calendar Control Project would provide an opportunity for all attorneys to conduct plea negotiations with the District Attorneys prior to court appearances. This would preclude the current practice of conducting negotiations in hurried whispers before the bench and would serve the following ends: (1) the elimination of court time spent in plea discussions during which time the judge is a passive observer; (2) the provision of increased time and better atmosphere for working out dispositions; (3) the opportunity to advise police officers and complainants not to appear in court when a disposition has been agreed upon; and (4) the opportunity to adjourn a case without court appearance when additional consultation is necessary before disposition.

The Sentencing Project is designed to furnish short-form pre-sentence reports to the Bronx Criminal Court for cases in which the Office of Probation is not required to do a full pre-sentence investigation and report. The goals of the project are: (1) to develop and test a practical method of providing the sentencing judge with relevant information in many misdemeanor cases in which the judge now often knows very little about the defendant's background; (2) to determine if such information affects sentencing patterns; (3) to develop ways in which community organizations can provide useful services to defendants.

Hospitalized Prisoners Study

The Police Liaison Office of Vera, in cooperation with the Department of Correction, the Department of Hospitals, the Corporation Counsel, the Criminal Court and the District Attorney's Office, is conducting a study in the guarding of hospitalized prisoners.

The function of guarding hospitalized prisoners belongs to the Department of Correction, but due to manpower shortages in that department, the Police Department now retains custody of these prisoners until the time of trial. This practice is estimated to cost the Police Department over 20,000 man-days per year.

The possibility of conducting ROR investigations of defendants in hospitals is now being studied. If the Court could grant release on recognizance or low money bail to hospitalized defendants who qualify, both the rights of the defendants would be preserved and considerable police man-hours would be saved.

New Employees

Robert Goldfeld joined the Manhattan Bowery Project in June as Administrative Director. As of July 1, Rosemary Masters will become the project's Research Director. Other new employees at the Bowery Project include: John Jones, Medical Aide; Mike Brockhues, Street Patrol; and Leigh Barnett, Receptionist.

Suzanne Ritter has recently joined the staff of the Court Employment Project as a secretary.

Summer Employees

A number of Urban Corps members have been assigned to Vera through the Police Liaison Office. They are listed here with their project assignments: Warren Marcus and John Mikals: Summons Project; John LaFemina and David Stern: Bail Jump Study; Harry Simmons and Samuel Mayerfield: Interrogation Study; Medora VonEvans: Calendar Control Project; Peter Prodis, Carol Shapiro, Allen Poper, Tom Restiano, and Elaine Patrick: Manhattan Bowery Project; Samuel Cooper, Suzanne Lynn, and Herbert Bundens: Court Employment Project.

Through the office of the Mayor and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, three Legal Interns have been given research assignments at Vera. The Interns are George Shenk, Jim Bensfield, and Dave Stewart.

In addition, several persons have been hired for summer work on special projects. Their assignments are as follows: Simmie Freeman: Bail Reform Study; Pamela Winnick: Information Booth Assistant; John Ballantine: Corrections and Rehabilitation; Jeffrey Petrucelly: Sentencing Project; Strongin Donnelly (volunteer), John Shils, Nan Aron, Deborah Huntington, and Abigail Ginzberg: Court Employment Project; Theo Jacobs and Carol Mates: Manhattan Bowery Project; Bertha Walker and John Vogel: Calendar Control Project; Alvin Joshua, Ken Hector, Michael Novick, Laurel Mamet, Jay Small, Carlo Gariffo, and Everett Hogan: Bail Jump Study; Lannie Rappaport: Bronx Bail Jump Study.

June 1, 1968

Manhattan Bowery Project

The Project staff recently operated a three-day experimental nursing station on the first floor of the Men's Shelter. The station was set up in the "deck", a large room near the entrance to the Shelter where Bowery men congregate during the day and night.

The purposes of the experiment were: (1) to evaluate the need of persons in the deck for emergency, immediate or long term medical care; (2) to determine the extent to which a nurse and the consulting services of a Project physician could deal with medical problems in the deck; (3) to test the safety and efficiency of nursing personnel working in the deck; and (4) to evaluate the need for deck supervision.

The nursing station was operated from 8:00 A.M. to midnight by members of the Project nursing staff, who were accompanied by Welfare patrolmen, Shelter attendants or Project police officers. A Project physician was on call at all times.

Approximately 150 men were treated during the three-day period. Half were given minor aid; half were given intensive interviews and medical treatment and, when necessary, were referred to a clinic for medical care or to the Shelter for social service assistance.

The most frequent problem encountered was acute alcoholism compounded by fear of impending delirium tremens. The next most frequent problems were infected leg ulcers and seizure disorders. Seventy-one of the 75 interviewed presented problems which required further attention by medical or social service personnel. A total of 46 men were referred to Bellevue Hospital or St. Vincent's Hospital for treatment and six men were admitted to the Manhattan Bowery Project for detoxification.

On the basis of the experiment, three recommendations were made: (1) effective supervision be provided in the deck area to protect the men from abuse and violence; (2) a Public Health clinic be established within the deck area, and (3) that a system be established for transporting men in need of emergency care to appropriate facilities.

A proposal to accomplish these goals is being drafted.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

As of May 22, 19 participants have returned to court for hearings. Seven cases have been dismissed upon the recommendation of Project Representatives. Adjournments were requested and granted for the remaining participants, who will continue in the Project for another one to three months before returning to court.

Manhattan Summons Project

Statistics from the Summons Project, which began city-wide operation July 1, 1967, show a continued increase in the use of the summons. Almost 1,500 summonses were issued in March. Among the factors contributing to this increase are: (1) a 6% reduction in persons refusing to be interviewed, (2) better understanding on the part of police personnel of summons procedures and (3) greater confidence that persons released on summonses will appear in court for trial. Nearly 70% of persons eligible are now being released on summonses, immediately after arrest.

Several steps are being taken to improve the operations of the Summons Project. (1) The Bureau of Applied Social Research at Columbia will analyze investigation reports of jumpers and a sample of non-jumpers to determine whether changes should be made in the point-scale system used in issuing summons. (2) Persons from Mayor Lindsay's Volunteer Program assigned to police precincts are contacting persons who have missed court appearances by telephone and letter in an effort to increase the number of persons returning for trial. (3) Field inspections will be made to precincts with below average summons activity and those with high jump rates in order to improve Project procedures.

Traffic Court Alert Project

This pilot study is a cooperative effort of the Police Department, the New York City Criminal Court, and Vera, aimed at reducing the amount of time police officers spend in court. Officers who are scheduled for trials in the Manhattan Traffic Court remain at their precinct assignments until a Police Trainee assigned to the Traffic Court notifies the precinct that the officer is needed in Court.

All precincts in Manhattan South (those south of 59th Street) and one in Manhattan North participate in the project which has

been operating since November 1, 1967. Statistics for the first six months of operation show that of the 2,966 officers scheduled to appear in Traffic Court, 1,365 were not required and thus remained on patrol. Those officers scheduled and required to appear were dispatched from the precinct to the Court. Officers from the 34th Precinct in Manhattan North, the precinct furthest from the court building, required 1 1/4 hours to arrive in court, and trials were scheduled accordingly.

Police-Community Career Development Program

Fifty young men and women -- unemployed and unskilled residents of culturally deprived areas in New York City -- are trainees in the Police-Community Career Development Program. This job training program, which will run for 6 months, is made possible by a \$125,000 contribution from Standard Oil Company (N.J.). It is designed to prepare these young people for jobs which will enable them to support themselves and which will give them an economic stake in the community. Their preparation includes 24 weeks of remedial education and vocational training at Voorhees Technical Institute and on-the-job training at job sites in the New York City Police Department. After completing training in August, each trainee will be placed in a job in private industry.

The program now in progress is a pilot study designed to test the feasibility of using municipal government as a job training ground for upgrading the skills and employability of poverty-level young people. It is geared specifically for the unemployed or underemployed person who is motivated, but due to poor skills is not employed or is trapped in a low-level job with little chance for advancement.

Development of Fingerprint Transmission Equipment

The New York Police Department now transmits fingerprints to the Central Identification Unit in lower Manhattan by messenger.

The Police Department and Vera have been working with General Precision Laboratories, Pleasantville, New York to develop a system for accelerated transmission of fingerprints by closed circuit television. At present, there is only one means of automated transmission available -- photo facsimile. This method is used by New York State Identification and Intelligence System and requires approximately 15 minutes to transmit one set of fingerprints. The proposed method of transmission via closed circuit television requires 30 seconds.

Court Delay and Sentencing Committee

This Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council will attempt to develop programs in the areas of speedy trial, plea bargaining and sentencing procedures. Initially the committee will sponsor four projects:

1. Traffic Court Alert - see above.
2. Criminal Court Alert - a plan to extend the Traffic Court alert system into other parts of the Criminal Court.
3. Calendar Control - a project designed to eliminate from the calendar those cases not ready for disposition by granting adjournments prior to the scheduled appearance.
4. Sentencing - a project designed to provide judges with verified information in a compact form. This project would utilize an adapted form of the pretrial release criteria developed by the Manhattan Bail and Summons Projects.

Staff attorneys Tom Chittenden and Bob Dobrish have been assigned to the Committee.

Family Court Project

The recently organized Youth Services Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, chaired by Rev. Donald Harrington, held its first meeting at City Hall on May.7.

Two projects are being developed by the Vera staff:

- (1) the establishment of a prosecutive office in the Juvenile Term of the Family Court (discussed in last month's Vera Report)
- and (2) the development of neighborhood-based youth residence facilities to be used as alternatives to detention in Youth House.

Lee
Henry

May 1, 1968

The Vera Report will be published on the first of each month beginning with this issue and will be distributed to Vera staff, members of the Board of Trustees and friends of the Vera Institute of Justice. It will be devoted to news of demonstration projects in operation, research being done by staff members and other subjects of interest to the readers.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

In its role as consultant to Mayor John V. Lindsay's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Vera has become involved in a number of areas of research, six of which are described below.

Community Patrol Corps

In March, Vera ran a week-long experimental Community Patrol Corps in the 28th Precinct of Central Harlem. The purpose of the Corps, as announced by the Mayor prior to the March experiment, is four-fold:

1. Crime prevention by the maintenance of a visible patrol.
2. Securing government service for the community by reporting to the appropriate government agencies, those incidents and conditions requiring corrective action.
3. Bridging the gap between the community and government agencies, particularly the police.
4. Providing employment opportunities for community youths.

The first two days of the experiment were devoted to orientation of the 42 young men who participated in the trial Corps. Members of the Departments of Police, Social Services, Sanitation, Health, Buildings, Rent and Rehabilitation provided Corps members with instruction and information designed to be useful in their patrol work.

The Corps moved to its storefront location, at 117th Street and Seventh Avenue, for patrol operations. Mayor Lindsay and Police Commissioner Howard R. Leary joined the co-chairmen of the Community Patrol Corps Committee of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Milton Richardson, Esq., and Chief Harry Taylor, in a small ceremony which marked the beginning of the Corps' street patrol. For four days, the Corpsmen successfully handled many problems involving housing and sanitation violations, street conditions, fires, street disturbances, and accidents and provided escort service and other assistance to the community. After the one-week experiment a debriefing of the Community Patrol Corps members was held.

An evaluation of the experiment is being prepared by George Nash of Columbia University's Bureau of Applied Social Research. Vera staff attorney Harold Klapper, with the assistance of Lt. Mike Farrell, Sgt. John Gilmore, Sgt. George Pascale who all contributed much time and effort to the experiment, is preparing a proposal for the establishment of a Patrol Corps.

Legal Intern Committee of the C.J.C.C.

Harold Klapper is working with Associate Director Harry Subin on Vera's participation in the Legal Intern Committee, which is attempting to provide academic credit for law students engaged in the operations of the agencies involved in the administration of criminal justice. The roles of the students will be designed to be both action and research oriented. To date the committee has stressed summer employment opportunities with possible academic components.

Court Delays

Vera staff attorney Robert Dobrish is in the process of completing a report of his study of adjournments and delays in the criminal courts of New York City.

Criminal Justice Information System Committee of the C.J.C.C.

Under the co-chairmanship of Harry Subin, and David Grossman (Assistant Director, Bureau of the Budget), this committee has been exploring the feasibility of constructing a Criminal Justice Information System which would offer all the agencies involved in the

administration of criminal justice a means of pooling and sharing data. At the last meeting of the committee, held April 23, discussion centered on the newly established New York State Identification and Intelligence System. The NYSIIS, which will not be fully operational for several years, is designed to collect criminal history and fingerprint information at the time of arrest, receive periodic reports on cases between arrest and court disposition, and receive post-conviction information regarding probation, parole and prisons.

The committee is now considering the potential uses of the NYSIIS and the Judicial Conference (another centralized information collection service) in the realm of New York City's administration of criminal justice. At the same time, a study is being made of information gathering projects currently taking place in various city agencies (notably, the Police Department, the Appellate Division of the Courts, the New York District Attorney's Office and the Office of Probation). The committee's study is undertaken to determine the status of the various projects, the funds available, and the future plans for the projects.

Correction, and Rehabilitation

Research for the C.J.C.C. in this field is being done by staff attorney Tom Chittenden, who reports activity in four areas:

1. He has studied the sentencing of misdemeanants at the Criminal Court for New York County and the Criminal Court for Bronx County for the purpose of gaining statistics and understanding the way in which sentences are determined. His study has included investigating the participation of the District Attorney's Office, the defense counsel and probation investigators in the sentencing process.

2. His present work is the development of a "short form" pre-sentence report for misdemeanants which will provide selected information to the sentencing judge, the DA and defense counsel. The short-form report is based on the studies made by Vera in bail and summons and includes a point scale as a way of recommending sentences. Successful results from preliminary testing of the short-form report have led to present efforts of designing a small pilot project to further test the form.

3. In cooperation with the Department of Correction and the Mayor's office, he has been active in drafting a work release bill for the city under which the Department will be authorized to release selected prisoners for jobs and job training in the community and for short periods of time to participate in other community activities. He recently testified before the Committee on Penal Institutions of the State Senate. The bill is now before the legislature.

4. He has also been working at Rikers Island and at several Federal prisons and community vocational training installations in an attempt to learn about the problems of job training and placement for prisoners. Consideration is being given to possible roles for private employers and unions in vocational training in prisons, work release programs and post-release employment.

Juvenile Court Project

A new area of involvement for Vera in the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is that of the administration of justice for juveniles. Barry Mahoney is Vera staff attorney for this area. He is assisted by Judith Rubenstein, who joined the staff March 15. The following is a condensation of their latest progress report.

We have been undertaking a preliminary study aimed at two objectives: (1) developing a specific proposal for the establishment of an agency which would exercise a kind of prosecutorial role in juvenile delinquency cases in New York City; and (2) identifying major problem areas in the operation of the city's juvenile system with a view to doing further research in these areas in conjunction with the establishment of a prosecutor's office in the Juvenile Term of the Family Court.

At the present time, the only "prosecutors" who appear in Juvenile Term cases with any regularity are policemen attached to the Police Department's Legal Bureau. In almost all of the other cases there is no attorney to represent the interests of the community, although where a homicide or other especially serious act is involved a judge may request the Corporation Counsel to represent the petitioner.

The judge in many cases must attempt to be simultaneously an investigator, prosecutor and judge—clearly an undesirable situation from the standpoint of the juvenile as well as the judge,

the petitioner and the community. Even where a prosecutor is present, as in cases where a city police officer is the petitioner, there is substantial room for change. It would seem that a prosecutor in a juvenile court should have responsibility to the community at large rather than solely to an individual client or department.

We are now studying how a Juvenile Term prosecutor's office should be organized and how the establishment of such an office can best be made a vehicle for further improvements in the operation of the city's juvenile justice system.

Ad Hoc Committee on the Administration of Justice Under Emergency Conditions

On March 24 Mayor Lindsay announced the formation of this committee, the members of which represent city agencies, private agencies, the Bar Association and the District Attorneys. Herbert Sturz is serving with John Wallace (Office of Probation) as co-chairman of the Sub-committee on Bail which will work out summons, bail and bail re-evaluation procedures to follow in case of emergency.

There are many possible ways in which Vera staff members could assist in the administration of justice under riot conditions. Robert Dobrish is working on a plan which calls for the establishment of an information center, manned by Vera personnel, to respond to requests for information concerning the location and bail status of persons arrested or injured, and to make referrals to emergency facilities or agencies where assistance might be obtainable.

Vera staff would be assigned to key locations and feed information to a central headquarters in the court building. The central headquarters would follow each case and would be able to locate individuals at any stage of the proceedings in order to respond to inquiries from those who come into the building or who telephone. Special phone numbers would be assigned and local groups and the mass media would be asked to publicize the number and the service provided.

Manhattan Bowery Project

Admissions to the project totaled 463 on March 25. Of this total, 61 were second admissions, 8 were third admissions and 2 were fourth admissions; this represents a recidivist rate of

approximately 15%. It is interesting to note that 41 of the 71 readmissions were self-referrals, men who returned to the project on their own initiative to seek help. This is a new and useful function the project is beginning to serve; providing Bowery men with a way to stop drinking before they deteriorate to a level where they are obviously in public distress. The majority of these men presented fewer and far less complicated medical problems than were apparent on their first admission.

The project staff has been increased so that the daily working census is between 37 and 40. Additions include: three new members of the nursing staff; two new case workers of the social services staff; and four people from the Women's Talent Corps, which is a federally funded training program for non-professional women. These four women are completing their training while assisting the staff as case aides and as recreation and art therapists.

With the cooperation of the Department of Social Services, the Bowery Project staff is exploring ways in which additional medical services can be made available to homeless alcoholics. Experimental nursing stations were set up in the first floor of the Men's Shelter for a three day period for the purpose of determining the medical and social problems encountered there and how they could best be handled. Results from that experiment will be reported in next month's Vera report.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

As of April 24, the project has taken in 105 participants. Two of these have been favorably discharged, one to attend a merchant marine training school outside of New York state and the other to pursue his college education. Six have been unfavorably discharged, four due to non-cooperation and two because they were rearrested outside of the Manhattan Courts' jurisdiction. One participant died of an asthmatic attack. If these 9 discharged participants are subtracted from the total, it leaves 96 defendants taking part in the project.

Participants receive pre-vocational orientation and counseling and referral to other project services such as housing and medical care. Thirty-nine participants have been referred to 70 jobs, resulting in 30 hirings. Twenty-six participants have been referred to 30 skill training programs, with 9 acceptances. Three participants are full-time students.

The first group of participants is scheduled to return to court on May 5 after three months with the project. Twelve defendants are due for hearings in Part III on that date. Results of the hearings will appear in the next Vera report.

Bail Jumping Study

There is at present a great concern on the part of persons involved in the administration of criminal justice that there is a large and ever-growing number of "bail jumpers", i.e., defendants who fail to appear after summons or release on recognizance, as well as those who default on cash or security bonds.

Few facts are presently available in existing court or police records, and thus Vera has undertaken a Bail Jumping Study to determine the rate of bail jumping and the characteristics and backgrounds of bail jumpers and to analyze these findings in the hope of isolating variables which might indicate likelihood of default. The study will encompass approximately 15,000 cases which arose in the Manhattan Criminal Court between January 1 and March 31, 1967. The study will be under the direction of Harry Subin; he will be assisted by Stuart Cohen, as research supervisor, and several research assistants.

Twenty-four Hour Arraignment

Harry Subin is revising his Twenty-four Hour Arraignment Report in light of comments received from the participating agencies. It is hoped that the final report will be submitted in the next month or two. We are exploring the possibility of publication.

Information Booth at 100 Centre Street

Under the leadership of Joan McCall, the Information Booth in the lobby of the Criminal Court Building has been staffed by volunteers five mornings a week for the past five months. The volunteers direct persons through the building, answer questions and seek to assist those who seem particularly troubled or confused.

Vera Personnel Policy

A personnel policy has been established in the past month and distributed to the Vera offices. Special note: Summer vacations should be scheduled with your supervisor as soon as possible.

Other Areas of Interest

Future issues of The Vera Report will discuss Vera activities in the following fields: Bail Reform, Summons, Prostitution, Interrogation, Fingerprint Transmission Equipment, Bowery Half-Way House, Police-Community Relations Questionnaire, and the Police-Community Career Development Program.

Len

Report to the Staff and Trustees of the Vera Institute of Justice

January 19 to February 28, 1968

Vol. 3 No. 2

BAIL REFORM - NATIONAL

Chicago Courts Study ROR Programs

Chicago, Illinois. Chief Judge of the Circuit Court John S. Boyle -- formerly a staunch opponent to expansion of Chicago's r.o.r. program (See Vol. 3 No. 1.) - has now appointed a committee of three judges to look into the 'possibility' of increasing r.o.r. coverage. In discussing his change of attitude, Judge Boyle said that "his attitude toward the bonds previously had been influenced by misleading statistics." It was found that the original jump rate reported as 20.5% included not only traffic cases, but, for example, many cases where a defendant who had several charges against him and failed to appear at trial was counted as a jumper equal to the number of charges against him. Judge Boyle has sent his committee to New York and Washington, D.C. to investigate r.o.r. programs. At present the Citizen's Committee for Employment has proposed an r.o.r. project modeled after Vera's program in New York. The CCE proposed that the r.o.r. investigations be carried out before arraignment rather than as presently done in Chicago, after detainment. The CCE also proposes that the courts finance the pilot project effort.

Bail Reform Proposed for State

St. Paul, Minnesota. Minnesota's Commission on Law Enforcement Administration of Justice and Corrections, Committee on Administration of Justice has submitted a proposal for sweeping reforms of the state's court system including a provision for the study and revision of the bail system. In regard to bail reform the committee recommended the study of r.o.r. programs carried out in other states and the eventual use of r.o.r. in Minnesota.

Bail Fund Planned

Garden City, New York. The Long Island Chapters of the NAACP are in the process of setting up a bail fund to be drawn upon by indigent Negroes of Nassau and Suffolk Counties who are accused of minor crimes. Although both Nassau and Suffolk Counties at present have r.o.r. programs, a spokesman for the NAACP stated that the r.o.r. programs did not provide relief quickly enough and in most cases a defendant must spend two or three nights in jail before release can be arranged. The civil rights organization has named a committee to establish criteria for selecting prospective clients. The screening of candidates will be focused on the defendant's background and finances to determine how risky a client would be.

FEDERAL BAIL REFORM

Judge Objects to Appeal Procedure

Washington, D. C. Judge Charles W. Halleck of the Court of General Sessions has raised objection to the new U. S. Court of Appeals ruling that, under the Federal Bail Reform Act of 1966, in cases of appeal on bond questions, it is the judges of original jurisdiction who must hear the case. (See Vol. 2 No. 17) Halleck said that under the present system, when a felony case has been held over for grand jury action, all the defendant's papers are transported to the District Court and as a result only a name card remains in the files at the General Sessions Court. Thus, the judge of original jurisdiction, under the new ruling, has to make bail decisions with little or no information about the case. Judge Halleck stated further, that the D.C. Bail Agency which is supposed to provide verified information about a defendant's roots in the community, does little more than verify names and addresses of defendants and employers. Judge Halleck said that under these conditions judges have difficulty imposing meaningful conditions of release.

LEGISLATION

Bail Reform Law Proposed

Sacramento, California. A bill to liberalize California's bail system was introduced into the Assembly by the Committee on the Judiciary. The proposed legislation will encourage judges to release on recognizance defendants awaiting trial. Also included in the bill is a provision for automatic review of release conditions if the defendant has not been released from jail within two days. If the defendant is not released at review hearing, the court will be required to give reasons for detaining defendant.

R.O.R. Program to be Instituted

Wilmington, Delaware. The General Assembly of Delaware recently passed S. B. 314 which provides for the establishment of an r.o.r. system in Wilmington. The program will be under the administration of the Department of Corrections and will probably employ three full-time investigators to do the r.o.r. investigations

VERA NEWS

Youth Training Program

A new program has begun to train ghetto youths for jobs in private industry. Sponsored by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, the Voorhees Technical Institute, the New York Coalition, the Police Department and Vera have undertaken a six-month program of on-the-job training and classroom study. Police Commissioner Howard Leary said the Police Department will begin by training 50 youths within the Department as key punch operators, clerk-typists and automobile mechanics' aides, earning about \$60 a week as they learn.

Revision of Penal Law and Criminal Code

Harry Subin testified before the Temporary Commission for the Revision of the Penal Law and Criminal Code for the State of New York, with respect to the bail provisions of the proposed Code. Mr. Subin told the committee that the newly proposed Code, which makes few changes in the traditional money bail system, does little to improve the present bail system in New York State. Vera submitted an alternative legislative proposal, based on the Bail Reform Act of 1965, and with the added features of limiting the permissible length of pretrial detention, permitting the court to consider dangerousness in imposing conditions of release, and permitting revocation after rearrest or flight.

Summons Project

The Police Department has issued its final report on the first six months of operation of the Manhattan Summons Project. Since July 1, 1967 there have been a total of 22,916 arrests for summonsable offenses. Of the 22,916 arrested 9,191 (40%) qualified for the summons interview. Of the 9,191 interviewed, 1,186 (12.9%) failed to qualify; 2,430 (26.44%) refused the summons; and 5,575 (60.66%) received summonses. As of December 31, 1967, there were 307 (5.5%) jumpers. Approximately 25% of those arrested for summonsable offenses over the first six months of the project received summonses.

Manhattan Bowery Project

As of February 18, 1968 343 men were approached to come to the clinic. Of the 343, 255 accepted and an additional 48 were referred from other agencies; thus, a total of 295 admissions to the Project infirmary. Of the 295 receiving treatment, 39 were referred by the Project to hospitals, 160 to other agencies, and 52 refused referral or left the infirmary before the conclusion of treatment. There were 44 readmissions of former patients.

Manhattan Court Employment Project

Vera's 'manpower project' (See Vol. 2 No. 16) began full operation this month. The project has selected approximately 28 defendants for employment counselling and placement. Defendants are screened by Vera staff prior to arraignment; if selected, a staff member notifies the Legal Aid attorney and the assistant district attorney on duty in the court of Vera's interest in the case and, with the approval of the assistant district attorney, the case is adjourned for three months and the defendant r.o.r.'d to participate in the project. Thus far, the cases have been selected from those appearing in Part III (youth) of Manhattan Criminal Court on charges including violations, misdemeanors and felonies which have been reduced to misdemeanors. To date approximately 10 defendants have been placed at jobs or in training programs.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

The Community Patrol Corps staged a one night demonstration project in Harlem. A patrol of six youths (ages 21 - 27 selected from members of local clubs and organizations) walked the streets of Harlem in an effort to observe conditions and find out how best the community Patrol can assist law enforcement efforts. Eventually it is planned that a Patrol of 30 youths working in shifts on a round-the-clock basis, will be able to assist the police in preventing crime.

Bail Jumping Study

Vera is conducting a comprehensive study on bail jumping. The study will be carried out in order to determine the exact reasons why people do not appear at trial and the actual jump rate in Manhattan. Included in this study will be the Manhattan Criminal Court and the Supreme Court cases.

Bail Legislation

The model bail legislation submitted by Vera to the Commission on Revision of the Penal Law has been introduced into the New York Assembly by Assemblyman (Congressman) Podell. It has also been requested by the Council on State Governments, for possible national distribution.

New Staff

Mr. Barry Mahoney has joined Vera as staff attorney on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Trainee Roosevelt Farrell has been assigned by the Police Department to Vera.

Report to Staff and Trustees of the Vera Institute of Justice

November 28, to December 20, 1967

Vol. 2 No. 17

BAIL REFORM - NATIONAL

Bail Fund set up for Student Protestors

Berkeley, California. A \$3,000 interest-free loan fund has been set up by the University of California Associated Student senate for those students who are arrested but don't have the money to bail themselves out of jail.

Bail OK Before Booking

Merced County, California. Considering that portion of the criminal code, which states that a person cannot exercise his right to bail until he has been booked, is unconstitutional, a lower court ruled that defendants arrested on misdemeanor charges may escape fingerprinting and photographing if they post bail before booking. The judge based his ruling on his belief that a criminal record will follow a person for the rest of life and (the judge believes) fingerprinting and photos constitute a criminal record.

Bonabond, Inc. Faces Financial Problems

Washington, D. C. Bonabond, Inc., (See Vol. 2 No. 4), an organization of ex-convicts that provides bail and counsel to other ex-convicts, is in danger of closing operations due to congressional delays in providing funds for Federal agencies. In 1967, Bonabond operated on HEW funds. The seven ex-convicts who run the organization state they will continue to work on a voluntary basis in 1968 if funds are not provided. Bonabond, Inc., in its 16 months of operation has paid bail for 350 convicts, found employment for 75 ex-convicts by under-writing the convicts' fidelity bonds, and reports that there have been no failures among the convicts Bonabond has bonded.

Citizens Contribute Funds For Bail Project

Baltimore, Maryland. The successful but financially floundering Baltimore Bail Project (See Vol. 2 No. 10) run by VISTA is scheduled to shut down shortly due to the lack of federal funds for project. Through the efforts of local businessmen, contributions

will be able to keep the project going until December 31st, at which time the federal government will decide on a request pending for anti-poverty funds to be granted to the Baltimore Legal Aid Bureau to take over the project.

A Legislative Council subcommittee has approved legislation requiring that "legal sanctions rather than bail" be used to assure court appearances by defendants in Maryland. (See Vol.2 No.12) The proposed legislation would allow for the R.O.R. of defendants upon the recommendation of "judicial officers" whose main job would be to determine under what conditions a defendant should be released. The proposed legislation has been submitted to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislative Council.

Creation of Bail Agency Planned

Montgomery County, Maryland. The County Council instructed the County Manager and judges to move toward the creation of a county bail agency to handle release on recognizance. The agency would become responsible for the pretrial bail investigation and make recommendations to the judges.

Editorial Urges Bail Reform Measures

Bayonne, New Jersey. A recent editorial in the Bayonne Facts urges immediate bail reform measures. Commenting on the present bail system in the area, the editorial states that the present bail requirement is discrimination to the nth degree -- "to penalize a man because he is not fortunate enough to have the necessary fees for bail."

People v. Gonzales

New York, New York. A highly significant bail case has just been passed upon by the New York Court of Appeals. In People v. Gonzales the defendant and others were charged with assault and robbery of an undercover police officer. The defendant and others beat the officer severely and took his gun while the policeman was holding a gun on a suspect. At issue in the case is whether the defendants knew the victim was an officer, rather than a person committing a crime. The defendant, a 19 year old Puerto Rican who has lived in New York for three years, was employed by Mobilization for Youth, contributes to the support of his family, lives with his family, has no prior record, was attending school in reading and job training and has a Mobilization for Youth social worker who is willing to supervise him if he is released. Bail, which was originally set at \$25,000, was reduced to \$1,000 which the defendant was unable to post.

A petition for writ of habeas corpus was filed in Supreme Court by Mobilization for Youth and the Legal Defense Fund. The defendant argued that: (1) the imposition of money bail on an indigent is a denial of equal protection of the laws; (2) pretrial detention is a denial of due process of the law; and (3) requiring money bail of an indigent, when other conditions at least as likely to insure his return were available, made the bail "excessive" within the meaning of the Eighth Amendment.

The Supreme Court dismissed the petition, as did the Appellate Division. On appeal to the Court of Appeals, the Court held that \$1,000 bond was not an abuse of judicial discretion and hence that it was not necessary to reach the constitutional questions.

A petition for writ of certiorari has been filed in the United States Supreme Court.

FEDERAL BAIL REFORM

Court Rules on ROR Procedure

Washington, D. C. The U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that the primary responsibility for releasing individuals from jail under the Bail Reform Act lies with the Court of General Sessions and the U.S. Commissioner. Following the recommendations of a committee set up to study problems of implementing the Act (See Vol. 2 No. 14), the District Court will no longer hold bail hearings until the preliminary procedures in the lower court and in the Commissioner's office have been exhausted. A defendant will be able to go to the District Court to seek bond modification only after a General Sessions judge or the Commissioner has refused again to grant release after the 24-hour period and has set down his reasons in writing.

Judge Criticizes Bail Act

Washington, D. C. Noting that the defendant before him had shot a man who, while out on personal bond had threatened the defendant, General Sessions Court Judge Charles W. Halleck commented to the defendant, "You may well have done the community a service." The judge later said that he had become disgusted and cynical with the system because, Halleck contended, about 15% of suspects out on personal bond are charged with new crimes before they even come to trial. "The courts are powerless under the provision of the bail act to protect society against obvious criminals."

Senate Committee Calls for Investigation

Washington, D. C. The Senate Appropriations Committee urged special studies of the Juvenile Court and the Bail Reform Acts to be undertaken by the House and Senate Judiciary Committees. A 10-member panel headed by District Court Judge George L. Hart, Jr. has been set up by the District's Judicial Council and will report by May. Chief U.S. Court of Appeals Judge L. Bazelon said that the Bail Act has proven difficult to carry out and the major complaint from police, prosecutors, judges and congressional leaders is that ROR leads to release of dangerous defendants likely to commit other crimes. The committee will present interim recommendations before its final report.

LEGISLATION

Bail Reform Measure Introduced into Legislature

Dover, Delaware. A bill to reform Delaware's bail system was introduced into the state legislature October 30, 1967. The bill, a comprehensive proposal for ROR, (See Vol. 2 No. 16) if passed would make the State Board of Corrections responsible for administering the bail law and for investigations into community ties of defendants.

VERA NEWS

Work Release

Vera has participated with the Department of Correction and the Mayor's Office in drafting legislation which will permit trustworthy prisoners at Rikers Island to be released each day to work in the community. The bill will also permit leaves for periods not exceeding seventy-two hours for emergency purposes and for employment interviews. Vera has been asked to assemble materials which will show the experience of the Federal government and other states and cities with work release measures.

Manhattan Bowery Project

The Manhattan Bowery Project now in its third week of operations reports that it has handled about 75 patients. Most of the patients stayed at the Bowery Infirmary for treatment for the full five days. All the patients who desired additional aid were placed by Vera staff with various after-care agencies.

Telephone Project

Vera's Telephone Project in the Men's House of Detention (See Vol. 2 No. 14) has been expanded. A second Vera phone has been installed on the 5th floor of the detention facility directly adjacent to the living quarters of the inmates. The purpose of the second phone is to test the necessity of getting more adequate and immediate telephone service throughout the facility. After three weeks of testing two important successes have been noted. Approximately 50% to 75% more defendants have been able to use the phone and there has been a significant reduction in time spent by Correction officers in transporting inmates to the phone.

Vera is now studying ways in which to bring about telephone service in all detention facilities in the city, possibly through the use of mechanical monitoring devices.

NEW STAFF

Robert Dobrish, an attorney, has joined the Vera staff to work on the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Bail Reform Spreads Throughout State

Maryland. Two counties in Maryland have begun to reform the bail bond system in accordance with recommendations made by the Maryland Bar Association. (See Vol. 2 No.12) In Carroll County police will continue to set bail until the county is able to set up new procedures. Magistrates in Anne Arundel County will be receiving instructions including objective standards to follow in implementing the new procedures.

A recent editorial in the Sun in discussing the new bail reform measures in Maryland states that "there should be no turning back.." The article goes on to say that in Baltimore in the state court there have been but a few cases in which ROR'd persons failed to appear as ordered, but on the other hand, Criminal Court records show that the percentage of bail jumpers is higher than the percentage of those not appearing for trial after ROR.

Detroit Bail Administration Criticized

Detroit, Michigan. The Detroit Free Press has criticized bail policy in the city during the riot. Two Detroit policemen charged with 1st degree murder of two Negro youths during the riots had bonds set at \$5,000. Each posted bail and were released. A third man, charged with rioting and inciting to riot, had bail set at \$150,000 and was remanded to jail. The police officers were charged with crimes which, if convicted, could send them to prison for life terms. The third man faced a maximum sentence of five years. All three men were regularly employed. The bail amounts reflected neither the severity of the charges nor the likelihood of flight.

Probationer Not Entitled to Bail

Jefferson City, Missouri. In an attempt to clarify the 1965 state legislation on bail in regard to probationers, state Attorney General Norman H. Anderson held that probationers arrested for violating the conditions of their probation are not entitled to bail. According to Anderson, the Constitutional guarantee providing for bail in non-capital cases is applicable only before trial and conviction; there is no constitutional right in Missouri to be admitted to bail after conviction. Any such right would have to be created by statute.

Report to Staff and Trustees of the Vera Institute of Justice

July 27 - August 11, 1967

Vol. 2 No. 13

I. BAIL REFORM

Bail Project in Need of Funds

Baltimore, Maryland. Vista Volunteers who have operated the Baltimore Bail Project since March, 1966 (See Vol. 1 No. 13), have announced that they will cease operations in Baltimore January 1, 1968. Facing possible shut down of the program, city officials are attempting to transfer the project to another anti-poverty program. The city hopes to have the program continued by the Legal Aid Bureau under an OEO grant, but OEO financing is uncertain owing to sharp cuts by Congress last fall.

Bail Reform Surveyed in Massachusetts

Boston, Massachusetts. A recent article in the Christian Science Monitor reviewed the status of Massachusetts bail reform. In effect since December 5, 1966, the Massachusetts Bail Reform Act requires "any justice, district-court clerk, bail commissioner, or master in chancery to release a defendant on his personal recognizance unless he has reason to believe the defendant will not appear in court if bail is not set." Citing an article in a current issue of the Massachusetts Law Quarterly, the Monitor states that surveys throughout the past six months have shown that practices in different jurisdictions have varied greatly. Although a survey in February showed that release on personal recognizance in the state as a whole had increased from 50.2% in October 1965 to 62.6%, some six courts required bail of 56% of those released. One study by law students working for the Voluntary Defenders Committee interviewed 148 defendants in the jails of Suffolk, Norfolk and Middlesex Counties and found that on the basis of family ties, residence, employment, etc. that at least 78% of those interviewed should have been eligible for release without bail.

The Committee on Bail of the Massachusetts Council on Crime and Delinquency now recommends that the Legislature make the Bail Reform Act permanent (otherwise it will expire next July 1) At the same time, the Committee points out that the Legislature will need to authorize additional probation officers to make the pre-bail setting investigations.

preventive detention bill offered by Sen. Daniel B. Brewster (D., Md.) as unconstitutional and unrealistic. The bill assumes that a detained person would be tried in 30 days after arrest. In fact, said Niles, it takes nearly 15 months from arrest to trial at this time. Niles blamed difficulties in administering the Bail Reform Act on this period of waiting.

Bail Review Abuses Charged

Washington, D. C. Serious abuse of the Federal Bail Reform Act by government appointed lawyers has become apparent in the D. C. Courts. The situation became so acute that late last month Chief Judge Edward M. Curran called for the Legal Aid Agency to step in and provide adequate representation for those defendants still in pretrial detention. It was found that some 10 persons a week were ending up in D. C. Jail without a fair bail hearing. The breakdown in handling cases primarily effects felonies brought before the judges of the General Sessions Court. Under the new bail law, if the judge sets money bail or orders other conditions that defendant cannot satisfy he is entitled to a review after a 24-hour period. According to the head of the Legal Aid agency, Kenneth Wood, many government lawyers are failing to take this step and the clients are being remanded to D. C. Jail with little knowledge of their rights or how to get them.

When some defendants finally submitted handwritten requests to the District Court, judges there ruled that these came to the wrong place "because the Bail Law appears to require that the General Sessions judge who had set the original bail must review the case." On the other hand, the General Sessions Judges have been throwing the review appeals back because, as far as they are concerned, "felony cases are out of their hands" after first hearing. The Legal Aid Agency will ask the U. S. Court of Appeals to clarify the law and rule that District Court judges can review cases.

Bail Act Criticized by Senate Committee

Washington, D. C. Senator Robert C. Byrd, (D.W.Va.) converted his Appropriations subcommittee hearings on the District's 1968 budget into an unprecedented "think session" on crime in the Capital. Calling on top District and U. S. Court officials and their staffs, Byrd encouraged back and forth discussion of the District crime problem.

Among the topics discussed in this area was the effect of the recent Bail Reform Act and the Criminal Justice Act. Byrd said that indications are that a high percentage of offenders of serious crimes are being released on ROR or very low bond and, in a great percentage of these cases, the accused is furnished with free legal services under the Criminal Justice Act not only for the trial in the lower court but to prosecute an appeal. Byrd continued that since the offender is free and has free counsel, he has everything to gain and nothing to lose by going to trial with the result that pleas of guilty have dropped sharply and there has been an increase in the number of jury trials creating a backlog of cases in the courts. District Court Judge George L. Hart, Jr. agreed that the Act is partially responsible for the backlog, but added that "the greater protection of the rights of the accused, the increased length of trials, the reduced number of guilty pleas and the increased number of motions are not easily amenable to change. The district court operates with an assembly line efficiency unmatched elsewhere but we need more judges and supporting personnel to handle the cases."

III. FIREARMS POLICY

Chiefs of Police Favor Gun Law Control

Washington, D. C. Quinn Tamm, executive director of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, has called for more stringent gun control laws in the United States. In an editorial in the July issue of Police Chief Magazine he said, "Law abiding citizens and the police are tired of living in a country which is becoming a veritable armed camp erupting too frequently into violence bringing death and destruction by firearms to innocent citizens." A resolution has already been adopted by the police chiefs association at its 1965 annual conference calling for an amendment to Federal Firearms Act that would restrict the "traffic in firearms moving in or otherwise affecting interstate or foreign commerce."

IV. VERA NEWS

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Vera staff members have been observing meetings throughout the City between police officials, community leaders (both young and old), and summer interns from the Mayor's Office. These meetings,

regularly scheduled and open to the public, are carried on in an attempt to better police-community relations. From listening in on the meetings, Vera hopes to find out what can be done by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in the area of crime prevention. First observations have revealed fear and distrust of police in both young and old due to long standing ghetto conditions. Vera staff feel that both police and community leaders desire cooperation on problem solving; the difficulty lies in just how to achieve it.

Interrogation Project

During the period of August 1 - 31, 1967 a survey is being conducted in all Manhattan precincts (except the 20th) to collect data on interrogations taking place throughout the borough. Information regarding the incidence of waiver of rights and requests for counsel and the results of interrogations is being collected to ascertain if the sample being tested at the 20th Precinct is representative of the entire borough.

Summons Project

Initial statistics indicates that the extension of the Manhattan Summons Project city-wide effective July 1, 1967 (See Vol. 2 No. 11) appears to have been effected smoothly and with great success. Preliminary figures on the first month's operation of the program on a city-wide bases are as follows: 505 summonses have been issued during the month of July; of the number scheduled to appear in court through July 31, 1967, 432 have appeared; only 4 defendants have failed to appear on the return date. It is anticipated that the actual number of summonses issued and the number of persons failing to appear will be slightly higher than that indicated at the present when the final tally is conducted for the month. Nevertheless, preliminary results are highly encouraging.

Telephone Experiment

Vera's telephone project has been operating for approximately one year in the Manhattan House of Detention for Men. An earlier study completed by Vera indicated that approximately 25% of those defendants permitted to use the telephone were able to raise bail and get released from detention. It is possible, of course, that a proportion of those released would have raised bail without the use of the phone. Thus, in order to test whether the phones actually aid in obtaining a speedy release, Vera, for the past

five weeks, has carried out a controlled experiment. During the experiment requests from inmates for use of the telephone have been divided into two groups; one receiving immediate use of the phone (within 24 hours); the other being delayed at least seven days. If the phone is really effective, there should be a difference of seven days on time of release between the two groups. Vera personnel have completed the data collection in the Tombs this week. The data will then be coded, processed and a report should be ready in about a month.

Court Expansion

Vera has completed a report on the expected number of arraignments for the coming year for Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island in connection with the opening of a 6:00 P.M. to midnight Arraignment Court for these boroughs. This report was prepared to aid court officials, the District Attorney's Office and the police in planning procedures and includes an hourly breakdown of number of cases to be expected during the newly extended court hours.

Traffic Court

As a result of a recent study done by Vera in Manhattan's Traffic Court, a formal proposal for innovations in that court is being prepared for submission to Judges Dudley and Massi of New York Criminal Court. Observing the procedure in Traffic Court, Vera staff noted that under the present system officers are spending a great deal of unnecessary time at court waiting for their case to be called. This is particularly true because of three reasons: 27% of the defendants fail to appear for trial, 15% of defendants request another adjournment and 13% of the defendants change their pleas to guilty. And, it is believed that these percentages will increase in the near future when a new -- easy to prepare -- universal summons form and the "not guilty by mail" program go into effect.

It has therefore been proposed that a Pilot Project be instituted in Parts 5B and 5C of the Criminal Court, Borough of Manhattan wherein certain police officers will not appear for trials until it is determined that their appearance is actually required. Instead, they will remain "on alert" for a call either at the precinct or in radioed patrol cars. After the necessity of appearance is determined a police trainee stationed at the court house will notify the officer. It is expected that the officer would be able to arrive within 1 1/2 hours of the call. Officers not needed will also be notified by radio or phone and, therefore, saved the time they would have formerly spent waiting in court.

Evaluation of the Pilot Project would be conducted jointly by the Vera Institute and the Police Department.