

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.