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CLOSURE OF THE OWATONNA STATE SCHOOL--

A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF THE STUDENTS

MINNESOTA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

MENTAL RETARDATION PROGRAM OFFICE

MARCH, 1971

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I. INTRODUCTION

The 1969 Minnesota Legislature provided for the closing of the Owatonna State School on June 30, 1970. This Legislature also provided for the opening of the Minnesota Learning Center on July 1, 1970.

Please note the companion report prepared by the Minnesota Learning Center.

This is a report of a follow-up study done on all students who were at the Owatonna State School during the period of closure. Although the closing process (development of plans and procedures) was started early in 1969, for the purposes of this study of students the closure period was considered to be late August, 1969, through June 30, 1970. There were 158 students in residence during that period of time.

Starting in August, 1969, the Owatonna State School staff and consultants completed multi-discipline evaluations on each student. These written evaluations were sent to the responsible county welfare departments, the Minnesota Department of Education Division of Special Education, and the Department of Public Welfare Mental Retardation Program Office-Guardianship Services. A case planning conference was then held at the Owatonna State School on each student. The conferences were completed in mid-October, 1969.

Present at each conference were: 1) one or more staff members of the responsible county welfare department, 2) a representative of the Minnesota Department of Education Division of Special Education, 3) a representative for the Department of Public Welfare Mental Retardation Program Office, and all Owatonna State School staff who worked with the student, including the assigned representative of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. No conference was held without

this minimum attendance. Also attending some conferences were special teachers from the community, staff of the Department of Corrections, a representative of the Minneapolis Association for Retarded Children, and Regional Representatives of the State Department of Public Welfare.

These multi-discipline, multi-agency conference teams discussed and agreed upon the needs of each student and where these needs could best be met. On the students for whom such conferences were held, the following recommendations for re-placement were made:

<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
To be placed at the Minnesota Learning Center-----	64
To live independently and work or be trained for work-----	20
To be placed in a foster home and work or be trained for work-----	18
To return to his own home and work or be trained for work-----	13
To be placed in a foster home and attend school-----	11
To return to his own home and attend school-----	11
To be placed at the Cambridge State Hospital-----	6
To be placed at the Faribault State Hospital-----	5
To be placed in a private residential facility-----	2
To be placed in a residential sheltered workshop-----	1
To be placed at the Minnesota Security Hospital-----	1
To be placed at the Anoka State Hospital-----	1
To be placed in an MR Unit of the Fergus Falls State Hospital-----	1
To be placed at the Willmar State Hospital-----	1
To be placed at the St. Peter State Hospital-----	1
To be placed at the Minnesota Valley Social Adaptation Center-----	1
	<u>Total--157</u>

One student entered after the conferences were completed, making the total of students in residence 158.

It was understood that several factors could change these recommendations prior to the ultimate re-placement date of June 30, 1970: 1) The student's behavior and his needs could change during this time. 2) The state and private residential facilities recommended to receive students could disagree with the recommendations made. 3) The county welfare departments could find that the recommendations could not be fulfilled due to lack of resources, inappropriate recommendations, or relatives' or students' refusal to accept the re-placement recommendation.

Considering that the students at the Owatonna State School ranged in age from eight through twenty, ranged in mental levels from high moderately retarded to low dull-normal, and ranged in needs from extreme need to continue in a state residential facility to those ready for permanent community living, the project of proper re-placement of these students during this short period of closure seemed monumental. The responsibility for re-placement of students into the community was that of the county welfare departments. The county welfare departments also were involved in transfers of students to other state residential facilities, as the relatives had to be counseled on the recommendation.

However, by Spring of 1970, the main problems still unsolved related to a very few students who had been recommended for placement into the Minnesota Learning Center whose needs had changed enough to make such transfer questionable, and a few parents who did not approve of the re-placement plan into the Minnesota Learning Center and wished alternate plans made. These problems were solved and some plan had been made for each student by June 30, 1970.

Closing a state residential facility with re-placement of 158 students was expected to have some impact upon the students and their communities. A follow-up study conducted about nine months after the closing might answer the following questions:

- 1) In relation to the resident students, was the closure procedure appropriate and successful? What errors can be seen in retrospect?
- 2) Where are these students now? Have they made successful or unsuccessful adjustments to their re-placements? How closely were the case planning conference recommendations followed? How many students needed to be re-placed after the initial placement? How many are in school? How many are employed? What public funds are being used for them? Were the

responsible county welfare departments able to plan for their students in their home areas, or were placements in urban areas necessary?

Questionnaires covering these areas were sent to the responsible county welfare departments for completion on each student. There was 100% cooperation by the welfare departments, and a completed or partially completed questionnaire was returned on each student in the study. The following report is based entirely on the material secured from these questionnaires.

It is hoped that this report will be of interest to those persons, agencies, and organizations who were involved in the closing of the Owatonna State School, as well as to those currently working with these and similar students.

QUESTIONNAIRE - FOLLOW-UP ON FORMER OWATONNA STATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

County of Responsibility: _____ DPW # _____

Name of Former Student: _____ Birth date: _____

Degree of Retardation: Moderate _____ Mild _____ Borderline _____ Dull normal _____
(Please refer to DPW Manual VII-7312.01)

Types of Placement	Placement recommended at Owatonna conference	Initial Placement	Current Placement
Own Home			
Relative's Home			
Foster Home			
Group Home			
Private Institution (Designate by name of facility)			
State Institution (Designate by name of facility - include Minnesota Learning Center)			
Other			

If additional placements have been made, please use back of sheet. If the placement was different from that recommended at the Case Planning Conference, please state reason.

Community Resources Used for this Former Student: Mental Health Center _____,
Vocational Rehabilitation _____, other work training _____, public
school (designate regular or special class) _____,
other _____.

Employment of Former Student: employed at odd jobs only _____, employed part
time _____, employed full time _____. Type of work _____.
Approximate monthly earnings _____.

Expenditure of Public Funds for this Former Student: General Assistance _____,
Aid to Disabled _____, Cost of Care _____, Medical Assistance _____,
AFDC _____, Other (specify) _____.
Total expenditure of public funds from time of placement until Feb. 1, 1971:
(Complete if possible) _____.

Do you feel that the Owatonna Case Planning Conference recommendation was:
highly appropriate _____, reasonably appropriate _____,
inappropriate _____?

If this former student was placed and remained in the community, do you con-
sider his adjustment to be: satisfactory _____, unsatisfactory _____?

Please use back of sheet for additional information or comments.

Agency Completing Questionnaire

Return to:

Mental Retardation Program Office, DPW. Attention: Shirley Bengtson

II. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS INVOLVED IN STUDY

This distribution is done according to county of responsibility. "County of responsibility" is the county of settlement determined at the point of commitment to state guardianship as mentally deficient or as dependent and/or neglected for those students who are under these types of guardianship, and it is the county of residence for those students who are not under guardianship.

<u>County</u> ----- <u>Number of Students</u>	<u>County</u> ----- <u>Number of Students</u>
Hennepin-----49	Stearns-----2
Ramsey-----21	Wadena-----2
Mower-----8	Washington-----2
Dakota-----7	Winona-----2
St. Louis-----6	Benton-----1
Freeborn-----5	Cottonwood-----1
Cass-----5	Fillmore-----1
Anoka-----4	Isanti (YCC)-----1
Carlton-----3	Lake of the Woods-----1
Wright-----3	Lincoln-----1
Aitkin-----2	Marshall-----1
Blue Earth-----2	Martin-----1
Brown-----2	McLeod-----1
Clay-----2	Mille Lacs-----1
Clearwater-----2	Morrison-----1
Faribault-----2	Polk-----1
Le Sueur-----2	Redwood-----1
Lyon-----2	Red Lake Agency-----1
Olmsted-----2	Sherbourne-----1
Otter Tail-----2	Steele-----1
Rice-----2	Watsonwan-----1
	<u>Total--158</u>

Summary: The 158 students involved in this study originated from 42 counties. The general distribution was rather even throughout the state. 56% (88) were from counties other than Hennepin and Ramsey. 44% (70) were from the Hennepin-Ramsey area, with 31% (49) from Hennepin County.

III. STUDENTS RECOMMENDED FOR RE-PLACEMENT INTO THE MINNESOTA LEARNING CENTER

A. Students Placed into the Minnesota Learning Center

A total of 66 students were recommended for placement from the Owatonna State School into the Minnesota Learning Center. This group consisted of the 64 who were recommended for this transfer by the case planning conference teams and two whose recommendations were made after the case planning conferences were concluded. According to the questionnaires completed by the county welfare departments, 56 of this group of 66 entered the Minnesota Learning Center. Entrances were spread over the summer of 1970 due to students' summer vacations in the community.

The 10 students who did not enter the Center, why they did not enter and their placements, will be reported on later.

County-----Number of Students

Hennepin-----	22
Ramsey-----	8
St. Louis-----	3
Dakota-----	3
Cass-----	2
Anoka-----	1
Blue Earth-----	1
Brown-----	1
Clay-----	1
Faribault-----	1
Freeborn-----	1
Le Sueur-----	1

County-----Number of Students

Lyon-----	1
Marshall-----	1
McLeod-----	1
Otter Tail-----	1
Polk-----	1
Red Lake Agency-----	1
Redwood-----	1
Rice-----	1
Sherbourne-----	1
Wadena-----	1
Watsonwan-----	1

Total--56

Age of Students

8-13-----	8
14-16-----	30
17-20-----	18

Sex of Students

Male-----	43
Female-----	13

Mental Levels of Students (according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----	7
Mild retardation-----	29
Borderline retardation-----	17
Dull-normal mentality-----	3

CWD Evaluation of the Case Planning Conference Recommendation

Highly appropriate-----	42
Reasonably appropriate-----	13
Inappropriate-----	0
No evaluation-----	1

B. Students placed at the Minnesota Learning Center Who Have Been Discharged

These students were transferred from the Owatonna State School into the Minnesota Learning Center, and they were discharged from the Center prior to the date of this study (February 1, 1971). This report does not include students who entered the Center from the community and who have been discharged during this period. That group will be reported on in the companion report prepared by the Minnesota Learning Center.

<u>County</u> -----	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Hennepin-----	2	8-13-----	1 Male-----
Ramsey-----	2	14-16-----	3 Female-----
<u>Total</u> -----		4	

<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)	<u>CWD Evaluation of the</u> <u>Case Planning Conference Recommendation</u>
Moderate retardation---	0
Mild retardation-----	2
Borderline retardation--	0
Dull-normal mentality--	2
	Highly appropriate-----
	2
	Reasonably appropriate---
	1
	Inappropriate-----
	0
	No evaluation-----
	1

Current Whereabouts of These Students

Placed into his own home-----	1
Returned to MRDC and then transferred to Red Wing Training School---	1
Transferred to the Cambridge State Hospital-----	1
Transferred to the Minnesota Security Hospital-----	1

C. Students Recommended to be Placed at the Minnesota Learning Center Who Did Not Enter

The Owatonna State School Case Planning Conference recommendation for the following students was placement at the Minnesota Learning Center. For various reasons including change in needs, involvement with the Courts, parental disagreement, these students did not enter the Minnesota Learning Center.

C. Students Recommended to be Placed at the Minnesota Learning Center
Who Did Not Enter (Cont'd)

<u>County-----</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Hennepin-----	4	8-13-----	2
Ramsey-----	2	14-16-----	5
Wright-----	1	17-20-----	3
Stearns-----	1		
Winona-----	1		
Mower-----	1		
<u>Total-----</u>	<u>10</u>		

Mental Levels of Students
(according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----0
Mild retardation-----3
Borderline retardation--5
Dull-normal mentality--2

CWD Evaluation of the

Case Planning Conference Recommendations

Highly appropriate-----6
Reasonably appropriate-----3
Inappropriate-----0
No evaluation-----1

Current Whereabouts of These Students

Returned to own home-----6
Placed in private residential facility--1
Placed in foster home-----1
Placed in community, currently
in jail or workhouse-----2

Current Adjustment of Students

Satisfactory-----7
Unsatisfactory-----3

D. Summary: Students Recommended For Placement And Students Placed Into
The Minnesota Learning Center

Sixty-six students from 26 counties were recommended to be re-placed from the Owatonna State School into the Minnesota Learning Center. Fifty-six of these 66 entered that Center. Over one-half of this group came from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, with the rest of the students coming from all parts of the state.

D. Summary: Students Recommended For Placement And Students Placed Into The Minnesota Learning Center (Cont'd)

77% of these students who entered the Minnesota Learning Center directly from the Owatonna State School were male, and 23% were female. 87% were between the ages of 14 and 20, with 13% under age 14. 85% were mild to borderline retarded, with 13% having IQ's in the moderately retarded range and 2% having IQ's in the dull-normal range.

The county welfare departments felt that the recommendations made at the Owatonna State School case planning conferences were highly appropriate in 77% of the cases, and reasonably appropriate in 23% of the cases, with no inappropriate recommendations.

IV. STUDENTS PLACED INTO OTHER STATE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>County</u>
Faribault State Hospital	5	Hennepin--4 Dakota----1
Cambridge State Hospital	6	Wright----2 Washington--2 Anoka-----1 Stearns----1
Brainerd State Hospital	1	Cass-----1
Anoka State Hospital	1	Hennepin---1
Rochester State Hospital	1	Freeborn---1
Minnesota Valley Social Adaptation Center	3	Freeborn---1 Lincoln----1 Martin-----1
St. Peter State Hospital (Recommendation--Willmar State Hospital)	1	Stearns----1
Fergus Falls State Hospital-MR Unit	1	Otter Tail-1
		<u>Total</u> -----19

Age of Students

8-13-----1
14-16-----5
17-20-----10
over age 20--3

Sex of Students

Male-----12
Female-----7

Mental Levels of Students
(according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation---5
Mild retardation-----9
Borderline retardation--4
Dull-normal mentality---1

CWD Evaluation of the
Case Planning Conference Recommendations

Highly appropriate-----8
Reasonably appropriate---10
No evaluation-----1

IV. STUDENTS PLACED INTO OTHER STATE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES (Cont'd)

Two students recommended for placement into a state residential facility did not enter: One recommended for placement into the Rochester State Hospital went to his own home; one recommended for placement into the Minnesota Security Hospital went into the community. One student was recommended and placed into her own home and later entered the Brainerd State Hospital. With the exception of these three students, the original recommendations were followed closely. There were remarkably few changes from the original recommendations on the specific facilities these students should enter.

V. STUDENTS PLACED INTO PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

<u>Facility-----</u>	<u>Number of Students-----</u>	<u>County-----</u>
Outreach Community Center-----	4-----	Hennepin---1
Minneapolis, Minnesota		Anoka-----1
		Dakota-----1
		Mower-----1
Pettit Children's Home-----	1-----	Stearns---1
Sauk Centre, Minnesota		
Lake Park--Wild Rice Children's Home---	1-----	Hennepin---1
Fergus Falls, Minnesota		
St. Coletta School for Exceptional-----	1-----	Ramsey-----1
Children, Jefferson, Wisconsin		
Reaney Heights Board and Care, Inc.---	1-----	Ramsey-----1
St. Paul, Minnesota		
Greenbriar Home-----	1-----	Ramsey-----1
St. Paul, Minnesota		
McCrossan's Boys Ranch-----	1-----	Wright-----1
Sioux Falls, South Dakota		
		<u>Total-----10</u>

<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>	<u>Current Adjustment of Students</u>
8-13-----2	Male-----7	Satisfactory-----6
14-16-----2	Female-----3	Unsatisfactory-----1
17-20-----4		Unreported-----3
over age 20---2		

Mental Levels of Students
(according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----1
Mild retardation-----6
Borderline retardation---3

CWD Evaluation of the
Case Planning Conference Recommendation

Highly appropriate-----3
Reasonably appropriate-----3
Inappropriate-----1
No evaluation-----3

Five students were recommended for placement into private residential facilities, and ten students were so placed. The five recommended for other placements included: two recommended for placement into their own homes, one recommended for placement into a foster home, one into a group home, and one into either the Minnesota Learning Center or a foster home.

VI. STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN MISCELLANEOUS RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>County</u>
Minnesota Residential Diagnostic Center (YCC)	1	Ramsey-----1
Workhouse	2	Ramsey-----1 Hennepin---1
Jail	1	Mower-----1
		<u>Total-----4</u>

The student now at the Minnesota Residential Diagnostic Center came to the Owatonna State School from YCC. She is a 16 year old of dull-normal mentality. The three students in the workhouse and jail are ages 18, 19, and 20. All three are male. Two of these three young men were recommended for placement from the Owatonna State School into the Minnesota Learning Center, but the recommendation was changed prior to the closing of the Owatonna State School.

VII. STUDENTS PLACED INTO THE COMMUNITY

Excluded were those students who are currently in state or private residential facilities, plus those currently in miscellaneous residential facilities.

The following pages contain breakdowns of this group of students who were placed into the community.

County-----Number of Students

Hennepin-----	19
Ramsey-----	7
Mower-----	6
St. Louis-----	3
Carlton-----	3
Cass-----	2
Clearwater-----	2
Aitkin-----	2
Dakota-----	2
Freeborn-----	2
Olmsted-----	2
Anoka-----	1
Benton-----	1
Brown-----	1
Clay-----	1

Age of Students

8-13-----	4
14-16-----	16
17-20-----	46
over age 20---	2

Mental Levels of Students (according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----	9
Mild retardation-----	27
Borderline retardation-----	20
Dull-normal mentality-----	12

Placements-----Number of Students

Own home-----	46
Independent living-----	9
Foster home-----	8
Relative home-----	3
Group home-----	2

County-----Number of Students

Cottonwood-----	1
Faribault-----	1
Fillmore-----	1
Isanti (YCC)-----	1
Lake of the Woods-----	1
Le Sueur-----	1
Lyon-----	1
Mille Lacs-----	1
Morrison-----	1
Rice-----	1
Steele-----	1
Stearns-----	1
Wadena-----	1
Winona-----	1

Total-----68

Sex of Students

Male-----	53
Female-----	15

CWD Evaluations of the Case Planning Conference Recommendation

Highly appropriate-----	29
Reasonably appropriate-----	31
Inappropriate-----	4
No evaluation-----	6

Current Adjustment of Students

Satisfactory-----	45
Unsatisfactory-----	17
Unreported-----	6

A. Students Placed Into Their Own Homes

<u>County</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Hennepin	16	Freeborn	1
Ramsey	6	Le Sueur	1
Mower	6	Mille Lacs	1
Cass	2	Olmsted	1
Clearwater	2	Rice	1
Aitkin	1	Steele	1
Carlton	1	St. Louis	1
Clay	1	Wadena	1
Dakota	1	Winona	1
Fillmore	1		
		<u>Total</u>	<u>46</u>

<u>Ages of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>	<u>Current Adjustment of Students</u>
8-13	Male	Satisfactory
14-16	Female	Unsatisfactory
17-20		Unreported
over age 20		

<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)	<u>CWD Evaluation of the</u> <u>Case Planning Conference Recommendations</u>
Moderate retardation	Highly appropriate
Mild retardation	Reasonably appropriate
Borderline retardation	Inappropriate
Dull-normal mentality	No evaluation

Of these 46 students, 20 were placed into their own homes although other recommendations had been made at the case planning conferences. Five of these students were recommended to be transferred to the Minnesota Learning Center; one was recommended for transfer to the Rochester State Hospital; and the balance were recommended for placement into relative, foster, and group homes rather than into their own homes. Eleven of these students are making satisfactory adjustments, and nine are making unsatisfactory adjustments. Although not followed, only one of these case planning conference recommendations was evaluated as inappropriate.

B. Students Placed Into Relatives' Homes

<u>County</u> ----	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Carlton-----	1	8-13-----0	Male-----2
Hennepin-----	1	14-16-----0	Female-----1
St. Louis-----	1	17-20-----3	
<u>Total</u> ----	3		

Current Adjustment of Students

Satisfactory-----3
Unsatisfactory-----0

Mental Levels of Students
(according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----0
Mild retardation-----0
Borderline retardation---2
Dull-normal mentality----1

CWD Evaluation of the
Case Planning Conference Recommendations

Highly appropriate-----1
Reasonably appropriate-----2
Inappropriate-----0

Even though the county welfare departments evaluated the case planning conference recommendations as highly or reasonably appropriate, all three of these students had been recommended for placement elsewhere than into relatives' homes. One had been recommended for return to his own home; one was recommended for placement into a foster home; and one was recommended to be placed into a group home. All students are reported to be making satisfactory adjustments.

C. Students Placed Into Foster Homes

<u>County</u> ----	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Hennepin-----	2	8-13-----0	Male-----4
Aitkin-----	1	14-16-----4	Female-----4
Brown-----	1	17-20-----4	
Carlton-----	1		
Olmsted-----	1		
Stearns-----	1		
St. Louis-----	1		
<u>Total</u> ----	8		

Current Adjustment of Students

Satisfactory-----6
Unsatisfactory-----1
Unreported-----1

C. Students Placed Into Foster Homes (Cont'd)

<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)	<u>CWD Evaluation of the</u> <u>Case Planning Conference Recommendations</u>
Moderate retardation----1	Highly appropriate-----5
Mild retardation-----5	Reasonably appropriate----1
Borderline retardation--1	Inappropriate-----1
Dull-normal mentality---1	No evaluation-----1

Two students were placed into foster homes located in counties other than the county of responsibility: Aitkin placed in Pennington, and Brown placed in Douglas.

Two students were placed into foster homes when other placements had been recommended at the case planning conferences: One, recommended for placement in his own home, is making an unsatisfactory adjustment; and the other, recommended for placement at the Minnesota Learning Center did not have his adjustment reported.

D. Students Placed Into Group Homes

<u>County</u> -----	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Faribault-----	1	17-20-----2	Male-----1
Lyon-----	1		Female-----1
	<u>Total</u> -----2		

<u>Current Adjustment of Students</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
Satisfactory-----2	
Unsatisfactory-----0	Moderate retardation-----1
	Mild retardation-----0
	Borderline retardation---1

CWD Evaluation of the
Case Planning Conference Recommendations

Highly appropriate-----1
Reasonably appropriate-----1
Inappropriate-----0

E. Students Placed Into Independent Living Situations

<u>County-----</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Anoka-----	1	8-13-----	0
Benton-----	1	14-16-----	0
Cottonwood-----	1	17-20-----	9
Dakota-----	1		
Freeborn-----	1		
Isanti (YCC)-----	1		
Lake of the Woods--	1		
Morrison-----	1		
Ramsey-----	1		

Total---9

<u>Current Adjustment of Students</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
Satisfactory-----	5
Unsatisfactory-----	1
Unreported-----	3
	Moderate retardation-----
	0
	Mild retardation-----
	3
	Borderline retardation---
	5
	Dull-normal mentality----
	1

CWD Evaluation of the
Case Planning Conference Recommendations

Highly appropriate-----3
Reasonably appropriate-----5
Inappropriate-----0
No evaluation-----1

Four of these students are known to be involved in vocational training in this state and in Wisconsin. Two are known to be employed and self-supporting. One female has married. Two students have incomplete reports.

Three of these students are living in counties other than their counties of responsibility, having moved into Anoka, Sibley, and Blue Earth Counties.

VIII. COMMUNITY RESOURCES USED FOR STUDENTS

The following is a tabulation of the community resources reported to have been utilized for treatment, training, and education of those students who were not transferred directly from the Owatonna State School to the Minnesota Learning Center or to other state residential facilities, a possible 83 students. This tabulation does include those who were placed into private residential facilities.

It is expected that more resources were used than were reported as 1) all resources used might not have been known or reported by the county welfare departments completing the questionnaire, and 2) the questionnaire did not include all possible resources.

A. Use of Mental Health Centers

<u>County-----</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>		
Mower-----	2	8-13-----	0	Male-----	6
Aitkin-----	1	14-16-----	1	Female-----	1
Benton-----	1	17-20-----	6		
Cass-----	1				
Faribault-----	1				
Rice-----	1				
<u>Total-----</u>					7

Mental Levels of Students (according to IQ scores)

Moderate retardation-----	0
Mild retardation-----	1
Borderline retardation-----	4
Dull-normal mentality-----	2

B. Use of Public Schools

<u>County-----Number of Students</u>	<u>Age of Students</u>
Hennepin-----13	8-13-----4
Ramsey-----2	14-16-----16
Aitkin-----1	17-20-----2
Carlton-----1	
Clay-----1	
Clearwater-----1	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Mower-----1	Male-----17
Stearns-----1	Female-----5
Winona-----1	
<u>Total-----22</u>	

<u>Type of Classes</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
Regular class-----2	Moderate retardation-----3
Special class-----20	Mild retardation-----12
	Borderline retardation-----5
	Dull-normal mentality-----2

Twenty of the Owatonna State School students who were placed into the community or into private residential facilities are currently age 16 or younger. Three of this group of 20 are not reported to be in public school. One, age 16+, is working full time. One, age 16+, is working occasionally. One, age 16+, is working part time plus being involved in a work training program.

Several students have combination programs of classes, work training, and work.

One student is living in a county other than the county of responsibility-- Stearns in Carver.

C. Use of Work-Training Programs

(Students currently in state and private residential facilities are excluded from this tabulation.)

1. Students involved in programs of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<u>County-----Number of Students</u>	<u>County-----Number of Students</u>
Ramsey-----8	Dakota-----1
Mower-----6	Faribault-----1
Hennepin-----4	Fillmore-----1
Aitkin-----2	Freeborn-----1
Olmsted-----2	Lyon-----1
Benton-----1	Rice-----1
Blue Earth-----1	St. Louis-----1
Carlton-----1	Stearns-----1
Clay-----1	Steele-----1
Clearwater-----1	Wadena-----1
	<u>Total-----37</u>

<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
14-16-----4	Male-----27	Moderate retardation-----4
17-20-----32	Female-----10	Mild retardation-----13
over age 20--1		Borderline retardation--15
		Dull-normal mentality----5

2. Students involved in work-training programs other than programs of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

<u>County-----Number of Students</u>	<u>Ages of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>
Ramsey-----2	17-20-----7	Male-----7
Benton-----1		
Dakota-----1		
Freeborn-----1		
Le Sueur-----1		
Olmsted-----1		
<u>Total-----7</u>		
	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)	
	Moderate retardation-----0	
	Mild retardation-----1	
	Borderline retardation--4	
	Dull-normal mentality--2	

Total Students Involved in Work-Training Programs-----44

C. Use of Work-Training Programs (Cont'd)

Of the 68 students placed from the Owatonna State School into settings in the community, 44 are involved in some type of work-training. Twenty of this 68 are under age 17. Others are employed without, or after, completion of such training.

Several of these former students are reported to be involved in combinations of school and work-training.

Only one student is reported to be living in a county other than the county of responsibility. (In this study, Outreach Community Center was considered to be a private residential facility, so those former students are not included in this tabulation although they are involved in work training. This Center received a total of four former Owatonna State School students.)

IX. EMPLOYMENT OF FORMER STUDENTS

<u>County-----Number of Students</u>	<u>County-----Number of Students</u>
Hennepin-----9	Cottonwood-----1
Ramsey-----7	Le Sueur-----1
Mower-----6	Mille Lacs-----1
Aitkin-----2	Morrison-----1
Anoka-----2	Olmsted-----1
Carlton-----2	Rice-----1
Freeborn-----2	St. Louis-----1
Benton-----1	Stearns-----1
Cass-----1	Steele-----1
Clay-----1	Wadena-----1
Clearwater-----1	
	<u>Total-----44</u>

<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
14-16-----6	Male -----41	
17-20-----35	Female-----3	
over age 20---3		
	<u>Amount of</u>	
	<u>Employment</u>	
	Odd jobs---17	Moderate retardation-----6
	Part time--12	Mild retardation-----12
	Full time--15	Borderline retardation--17
		Dull-normal mentality----9

Support Supplemented by Public Funds
(Other than DVR funds)

<u>Type of Assistance-----</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
AFDC-----	3
Aid to Disabled-----	3
General Assistance-----	2
General Assistance plus Medical Assistance-----	2
Aid to Disabled plus General Assistance-----	1
Child Welfare-----	1

Total former students employed-----44
Total employed students receiving supplementary support from public funds----12

Earnings of former students ranged from \$275.00 per month to negligible amounts.
Amount of earning was so poorly reported that a meaningful report could not
be made.

The majority of these former students who are now employed are also involved
in work-training and/or school programs as reported earlier.

X. PUBLIC FUNDS USED FOR FORMER STUDENTS

Students currently in state residential facilities are not included in this tabulation. Employed students receiving supplementary support from public funds are included in this tabulation. Funds issued by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation are not included.

<u>County-----Number of Students</u>	<u>County-----Number of Students</u>
Hennepin-----11	Brown-----1
Ramsey-----6	Faribault-----1
Mower-----3	Fillmore-----1
Aitkin-----2	Freeborn-----1
Carlton-----2	Lyon-----1
Clearwater-----2	Stearns-----1
Dakota-----2	Wadena-----1
Olmsted-----2	Winona-----1
St. Louis-----2	Wright-----1
Blue Earth-----1	
	<u>Total-----42</u>

<u>Age of Students</u>	<u>Sex of Students</u>	<u>Mental Levels of Students</u> (according to IQ scores)
8-13-----4	Male-----27	Moderate retardation-----6
14-16-----14	Female-----15	Mild retardation-----19
17-20-----22		Borderline retardation--12
over age 20---2		Dull-normal mentality----5

<u>Type of Assistance-----Number of Students</u>
General Assistance-----12
AFDC-----11
Aid to Disabled-----7
Child Welfare-----6
Cost of Care-----2
General Assistance and Medical Assistance-----2
Aid to Disabled and General Assistance-----1
Medical Assistance-----1

Of the 83 former students now in the community and in private residential facilities, 42, or 51%, receive some form of Public Assistance. The amount of assistance given was so poorly reported that figures are not included in this report. The range was from full support to minimal, occasional assistance.

XI. SUMMARY---COMMENTS AND FINDINGS

Transfers from the Owatonna State School into the Minnesota Learning Center and into other state residential facilities were accomplished with few problems.

A high percentage (31%) of the students transferred into the Minnesota Learning Center were from Hennepin County. This percentage is in general accord with the population concentration of the state.

There was a higher rate of placement into private residential facilities than had been anticipated. This can be accounted for to some degree as Outreach Community Center, a partially residential sheltered workshop, was considered in this study to be a private residential facility. If it had been considered to be a community setting, the rate of placements into private residential facilities would have been very little higher than anticipated.

Very few students were placed into counties other than their own. There was no large number placed into the urban areas, although some private residential facilities and work-training programs in the urban areas were used. It would appear that the responsible county welfare departments were able to find or to create appropriate settings for nearly all their students. The communities apparently were able to absorb these former students with little assistance from other communities and with few, if any, major problems.

There were so few re-placements made after the initial placements that no separate tabulation was made. The replacements made were mainly between foster, relative, and own home. It would appear from this that the initial placements were sufficiently carefully made that re-placement was not necessary. The time allowed for re-placement after the case planning conference recommendation--about eight months--may have been a major factor here.

Eighty-three former students were placed into the community or into non-state operated residential facilities. Forty-nine (71%) of these 83 students were reported to have made satisfactory adjustments, and 22 (25%) unsatisfactory adjustments. The balance were unreported. These students were placed originally at the Owatonna State School as, not only were they mentally retarded, but also their problems were severe enough to warrant treatment in a state residential facility. Although there are no known community studies on these types of students to compare with, it would appear that the adjustments of these students is about what could be expected if good work was done on re-placement, programming, and supervision in the community.

The case planning conference recommendations, although deviated from to some extent, were rated very highly by the county welfare departments. 147 of the 157 case planning conference recommendations were evaluated. 86 (58%) were rated as being highly appropriate. 53 (37%) were rated as reasonably appropriate. 8 (5%) were rated as inappropriate.

All students were accounted for as being in school, or being in work-training, or being employed to some extent from occasional work to full employment.

Programs of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation plus other work-training programs were reported as being used extensively for these former students. This would indicate that the county welfare departments and DVR have worked closely together on work-training and work placement for these teenage and young adult retardates. It is of interest that the moderately retarded of employment age appear to have been fully involved in work-training and employment. They were not excluded due to their lower IQ scores.

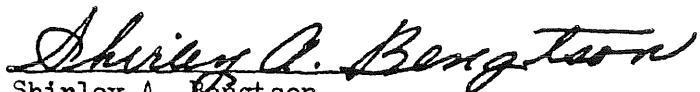
Use of public funds was found to be gratifyingly low for those students who are employed or employable. On the overall picture, 51% of the students

placed back into the community and placed into private residential facilities were reported to be receiving some amount of public funds. Public funds used for those in state operated facilities and by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation must also be recognized.

In summary, it appears from this study that the procedures used for the closure of the Owatonna State School, in relation to the students, were appropriate and generally successful. Problems which did arise could have been anticipated as, in most cases, they were due to the original complexity of the student and his situation.

It appears from this study that good work was done by all concerned with this project of closure of the Owatonna State School.

Respectfully submitted
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