

GERSTEIN CENTRE

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July 10th, 1989.

Board of Directors

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Co-Directors

Barbara Fitchette

Mr. David Reville, MPP Room 348 Legislative Building Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 1A2

Dear Mr. Reville,

I am very pleased to welcome your participation in the first training program for staff of the Gerstein Centre. The mobile crisis team will be prepared to offer service starting on Monday, August 28th on a round the clock basis for discharged psychiatric patients in crisis and living within the City of Toronto. We will provide further details at the training session on Friday, August 18th.

The three week orientation and training will be in the boardroom of the Girl Guides of Canada at 50 Merton Street (487-5281). Merton Street is south of Davisville, just east of Yonge.

The format for the mornings (9:30 - 11:30) will be a panel presentation for the first hour, followed by a refreshment break and another (45 minute) opportunity for the staff to discuss any questions less formally with individuals from the panel.

Please refer to the enclosed agenda outlining the topic. If I have arranged with you to receive our staff at co-ordinated site visits in the afternoon (linking our services with yours) please ensure that the arrangements have been made. Also, if you have any training handouts, I can have them photocopied for distribution. Written information describing your program would also be helpful.

If you have any need of audio visual equipment or any questions, please call me or Paul Quinn. We look forward to seeing you on August 18th. Thank you again for your much appreciated support.

Yours truly,

Barbara Fettette

Barbara Fitchette,

Co-Director

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please cal

## THE GERSTEIN CENTRE

The concept of the Gerstein Centre was initiated in 1982 when a proposal for a community-based crisis centre was submitted to Dr. Reva Gerstein. At Mayor Arthur Eggleton's request, Dr. Gerstein chaired "The Mayor's Action Task Force on Discharged Psychiatric Patients" and conducted a two year investigation into the situation surrounding discharged psychiatric patients living in the City of Toronto. The Task Force Final Report concluded that hundreds of psychiatric patients are discharged every year into an already overloaded social support system. When they find themselves in a state of crisis, usual coping mechanisms often break down and urgent assessment and intervention is needed, but seldom readily available.

The Gerstein Centre is a pilot project in Toronto, designed to provide a safe and supportive environment for the psychiatrically disabled who are in crisis. Clients will be received at the Gerstein Centre on a referral basis, mainly through a "mobile team" working from a base facility in downtown Toronto. The client's immediate and short term needs will be identified, and trained staff will assist the client to meet those needs at the Gerstein Centre, in the community or at other agencies. All services will be provided within a time limited basis in a supportive, "home-like" atmosphere, and clients will have access to the Gerstein Centre on a 24 hour, seven days/week, voluntary basis.

The Board of Directors of the Gerstein Centre is presently working closely with the Ministry of Health to enable the Gerstein Centre to begin operations in the Fall of 1989. The Board is chaired by Dr. Gerstein and is comprised of professionals in the field of mental health, representatives of social and government agencies, and concerned private individuals. Implementation of the Centre is being co-ordinated by Marilou McPhedran and Susan Bowen. We are currently establishing linkages with other community agencies and hospitals in Toronto, and we are negotiating with the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto for the site of the Gerstein Centre.

There is a very real and urgent need in Toronto for a facility which can provide a safe environment where those in crisis can be given the opportunity to stabilize and to find help to assess their problems to find workable solutions. The Gerstein Centre is such a facility.

TOPIC: Alternative Perspectives

Friday, August 18, 9:30 - 11:30

Rationale: awareness

advocacy

community development

gaps in service

Presenters: Laurie Kociol - Self-Help Clearinghouse

Pat Capponi - Board of Directors

Dr. Ty Turner - Clarke Institute

Keith Barrett - Community Worker

David Reville, MPP - TBA

AFTERNOON:

Emergency First Aid (Part 2)

no visits

Street Health - later date

Central Neighbourhood House - later date

Last Quarter: 23rd New Moon: 1st First Quarter: 9th Full Moon: 17th New Moon: 31st		10	2	Thursday	Friday	Satu
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6	7	BORIENTATION  DR REVA GERSTEIN  PAT CAPPONI-BOARD  BARBARA FITCHETTE  PAUL QUINN	MEG SEARS - BOARD	DR. B. BUCKINGHAM - BOARD, TEH	TORNNE COOPER PUBLIC  OR OUCHTERLONY WELLESS  HOSPITAL  2 St. Jemes Town	12
	Civic Holiday  14 CASE MANAGEMENT  SHEETL LINDSAY - CRCT  SYLVIA MEFALL ARCHWAY	15 EMERGENCY SHELTERS NALINI SINGH - NELLIE'S SCAMP - RENOU	16 SYSTEM	DENNIS LONG- BUARD FRANK CASWELL - DETOX	HEALTH CENTRE  BETTY JORDAN- STREET  HEALTH  TERNATIVE  PERSPECTIVES  INT CAPPONI  LAURIE KOCIOL-SEIF-HELP	19
3	JOHN LOEWEN CENTRAL	TONY BOSTON - DIX ON HALL PEGGY ANN WALFOLE -STREET HAVE	MARY BETH VALENTINE -PATIENTS ADVOCATE MARILOU MCPHEDRAN- BOARD PAT (ARRELY)	COOWNOG -	CREARINGHOUSE  DR TY TURNER - CLARKE INSTITUTE  KEITH BARRETT - COMMUNITY  WORKER  DAVID REVILLE M.P.P.	
- U	ESLIE MORRIS CR.CT.  ANID WHITE - SUPPORTIVE	P.C. GORD BARRATT	E 0.00	DANA MARES	25 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PHILLIP ABRAHAMS -BOARD CONSULTANT - TRA BARBARA FITCHETTE PAUL SUINN	26
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Last Quarter: 23rd New Moon: 1st First Quarter: 9th Full Moon: 17th New Moon: 31st		1•	2	3	4	5
6	7 Civic Holiday	8	3 apartments 3  Boarding Homes 3  (MHPS)  Ballantyne House 2  Houselink 2	Basic First Aid	Visits with Public Health (10) Norses later date: Street Health	
13	Hostel Program 3  Central Toronto 3  Vouton Services 3  Archway 2  Central Link 2	Area welfare 2 Officer Dixon Hall 2 Nellie's 2 Rendu House 2 Street Haven 2		170 # staff  A. P. F Detox 2  St Mike's Detox 2  Donwood 2  Jean Tweed 2  Habbard Light	18	19
20	21	22 # staff 51 Division (tour) 5 14 Division (tour) 5	Hong Fook 2 Centre for Spanish 2	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31•		