

J Whyte AUDIO 1

I discovered that there was quite a different plan, originally designed, which would have left people an hour from care, but would have left them in villages, people with mental illness, in villages of about 100 to 300 people in group home type settings of 10 to 30 people per setting.

If we had done that in 7 communities in Saskatchewan in 1957, we would probably be, in 1975, doing another round of deinstitutionalization. What happened was that, in the late 50's and early 60s, people were being sent out into group homes, often with landladies in a community, sometimes with their own families, often with people who weren't really prepared for persons who had been institutionalized for long periods of time.