



HEALTH BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES AND HOSPITAL INSURANCE

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

VICTORIA, B.C.

IN REPLY REFER TO FILE No.

July 6, 1973



Mr. Lanny Beckman
Project Co-ordinator
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman;


Re: Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

This will acknowledge and reply to your letter of June 19, 1973.

Our delay in reply has been due to the need to discuss your operation before the Community Care Facilities Licensing Board on June 26, 1973.

The Board has directed me to advise you that your operation does not fall under the terms of reference for licensing purposes and therefore does not require a licence.

Yours very truly,


C.W. GORBY
Executive Officer
Community Care Facilities Board

CWG/ae

c.c. Miss Irene Fairley



MENTAL HEALTH BRANCH

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA



June 22nd, 1973

Mr. Dick Betts,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Betts:

Thank you for sending along to me a carbon copy of your June 13th, 1973 letter to the Honourable Dennis Cocke which you wrote in reference to Ms. Rosemary Brown's comments regarding critical or negative reports which may have been made to this Department about the Mental Patients Association.

I would be pleased to meet with you at any convenient time to discuss this and your programme, but I would like to assure you that we are completely unaware of any negative or critical "feed-back". Any reports which we have received from time to time have always been positive and supporting of the work you are doing. Therefore I would like to allay any concerns you may have.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'F. G. Tucker'.

F. G. Tucker, M.B., B.S., C.R.C.P., M.Sc.
Deputy Minister of Mental Health



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND HOSPITAL INSURANCE

VICTORIA

April 3rd, 1973

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Thank you for your letter of February 23rd, 1973 advising that the Department of Manpower and Immigration has declared that the Mental Patients Association is eligible for a three-year grant. I am very pleased with this development and feel sure it is reflective of the very good work you are doing with ex-mental patients.

One of the largest problems faced by someone who has been mentally ill is to obtain gainful employment, not just because this will provide him with the necessary funds to maintain himself but, more importantly, because it reinforces his sense of self-worth which is so crucial to the rehabilitation of someone who has suffered with a mental disorder. It is therefore a matter of vital necessity for an ex-mental patient to obtain employment. The job-training components which is a part of the Mental Patients Association Programme is therefore seen to be a vital link back to the community, particularly since the work your co-ordinators are doing deals with the day-by-day realities of life in our metropolitan environment. Since your co-ordinators are ex-mental patients themselves they are deeply aware of the distresses which are borne as a component or an aftermath of mental disorder. They are therefore in a unique position so as to empathetically assist recently discharged mental patients with their rehabilitation.

/2.....

Mr. Lanny Beckman

April 3rd, 1973

- 2 -

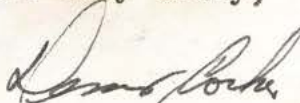
There is no doubt that the work of the Mental Patients Association meets a great need, particularly since the supply of mental health professionals is limited and the demand for service is so great. It is therefore of vital importance that volunteers undertake services which complement those of the professionals. In this way the Mental Patients Association's contribution has become very significant. I am also sure that the people who work with you in the provision of care to mental patients through the Mental Patients Association are gaining considerably in their total life experience and that this ought to be of value to them in their individual future employment.

There are many ways in which the programme of the Mental Patients Association is of help and of course the primary and most important of these is the service to the patient. However, the total value to Society is broader than this in that the work of the mental health professionals is broadened and extended through your collaborative efforts. This results in a more efficient use of personnel as well as resulting in pronounced cost effectiveness. For all of these reasons I am very hopeful that the Department of Manpower and Immigration will review your application for a three year grant in a favourable way.

I have discussed your letter with Dr. F. G. Tucker, Deputy Minister of Mental Health, Mr. A. Porteous, Assistant Deputy Minister of Mental Health, each having received a similar letter from you, and they have asked that I inform you of their concurrence with my foregoing remarks.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,



Dennis Cocke
Minister



G. BONHAM
M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER

CITY OF VANCOUVER
CANADA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
453 WEST 12TH AVENUE
VANCOUVER 10, B.C.

TELEPHONE 873-7011

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

January 22, 1973

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

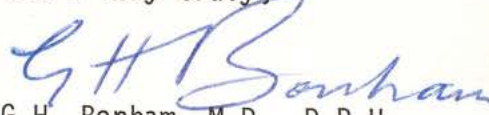
Thank you for your letter of January 4th requesting information concerning our mental health planning and offering the assistance of your Association.

The Minister of Health has authorized a mental health planning staff to begin gathering data on needs and services in each area of the Metropolitan Vancouver region. When this staff is assembled it would be to their advantage to accept information from sources such as yours and you can be assured that I will refer your offer to this planning staff.

We are still wrestling with the means by which we may, in fact, study the needs and develop services in consultation with community groups. Until this mechanism is established we are unable to effectively study and plan services. At this time we do not have a report or study, but it is our intention to develop such reports when staff is appointed.

I would like to thank you very much for your interest and assure you that we will be in touch with your organization. There have been many persons on our staff who have given support to your efforts and you are to be congratulated for the very great progress you have made in providing for persons who have such great needs.

Yours very truly,


G.H. Bonham, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Health Officer.

GHB:mk



PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

MENTAL HEALTH BRANCH

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
VANCOUVER XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

3405 Willingdon,
Burnaby 2, B.C.

March 1st, 1973

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Ave.,
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman: -

Thank you for your letter of February 23rd, 1973. I am naturally very pleased to hear that M.P.A., has a reasonable opportunity to acquire some financing on a three-year basis which should enable the organization to plan more effectively than past short-term grants have made possible.

In view of the known high rate of unemployment amongst those suffering from mental disorders, especially those who have been in-patients in mental health facilities, any arrangements which enable the Mental Patients Association to stabilize its program for assisting this group must be most welcome. As I think you are aware, I was very impressed during my visits to your facilities by the orientation and training in work attitudes and accent on skills and strength in surviving the difficult early phases of employment situations which seem to be an integral part of your program. It is clear that while getting a job is very difficult for large numbers of ex-mental patients, the difficulty is further aggravated by the high rate of failure in jobs that have been found by many of this group if they do not receive support and guidance to enable them to ride out the difficulties of the early weeks and months of a regular employment situation. This seemed to be one of the areas in which your organization has been particularly successful in supporting and guiding the members.

Self-help and mutual support in a group setting is, of course, of recognized value. It does, however, have not only its limitations but indeed, its dangers. Again, during my visits to the Mental Patients Association, I was impressed by the readiness which your Association showed in calling for guidance from appropriate professionals, as I believe that a reluctance to maintain these effective working relationships with professionals in the field has been responsible for the failure of some other groups who in the past have tried to carry the entire load solely on the basis of their own past experiences. The mutual support and trust which



can be developed amongst members of an association such as your own is, of course, a valuable treatment tool which the members of such an association are in the best position to provide to the professional, but which can be used by the group so very much more effectively when professional guidance in the skill of using it is recruited.

You have solicited my comments regarding the value of M.P.A. services and I can express my opinions in summary. I appreciate the value of the Mental Patients Association and its work. Real down-to-earth life situation experience is gained by many people in the process of helping one another. The skills of professionals which may not be available in quantity directly to every member can be accepted and diffused and directed to the membership at large and this is economic and effective means of the distribution of professional services through non-professional groups which has many times been demonstrated in other situations especially by the use of appropriately prepared volunteers in a variety of treatment and supportive situations. The Association's programs for its members in training them in the realities of survival in socially and economically difficult situations have I know, been of great value in sustaining many people and enabling them to reach a point at which they could improve their own situation and move to a self-sustaining position which they had not been able to achieve before. These are items which it is difficult, if not impossible, for a formal organization with bureaucratic structures to impart to those who need it, and indeed, those who need it most are often unable to accept it from a service delivery system which they see as "bureaucratic and impersonal". The actual work that you are doing, coupled with your meticulous bookkeeping and record-keeping which you were so willing to throw open for me, indicate a combination of effectiveness, responsibility, and I suspect, economy, which seem to me to fully justify continuing the attitude of support to your organization which you are aware I have in the past expressed at the time that I recommended to the Provincial Secretary the continuation of the small grant which you were then receiving, and indeed, recommending to him that an increased and improved system of financing should be considered by him.

If you feel that the opinions expressed by me can be of any assistance to you in seeking other grants and sources of financing you are, of course, entirely at liberty to use this letter or copies of it to support such requests.

Yours very truly,



H.W. Bridge, M.B., M.Sc., C.R.C.P.(C),
Coordinator of Adult Psychiatry.

HWB/MS

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**THE WOODLANDS SCHOOL**NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.
CANADAMarch 14 19, 73Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.Attention: Mr. Lanny Beckman, Project Coordinator

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to hear that Mental Patients Association has an opportunity of getting a long-term grant to sustain your service programs. This will enable you to consolidate and expand into other areas. This kind of financial security is so necessary for a society which needs to consolidate its present program, and to expand to meet the ever increasing need for more help and meeting people's problems. Your excellent record of good use of money, responsible management, of services provided on a shoe-string budget, and of help and support for deeply disturbed people more than justifies your application, which is supported by myself and many other professionals in the field. The grant could be justified on the savings of public funds that would have been spent on hospitalization of the many people your organization enables to remain in the community.

Expansion in the area of finding jobs for ex-patients and preparing them for work again, would be a most useful service. Mental patients have a very high rate of unemployment; most do not find jobs in the competitive job market. Often the first rehabilitation efforts will be made in helping others, as many ex-patients have unique experience in this, and are highly motivated to do so. This often uncovers a real talent, and such people should be encouraged to continue, and to swell the ranks of the volunteer para-professional bodies who are helping meet the great demand that professional services could never expand sufficiently to meet. Experience of working with M.P.A. can lead to raised self esteem, a place in society, a stronger identity, and increases the persons motivation to work and so his future employability.

...2/

Another area which needs attention is poor quality of life of the mentally retarded after being discharged from an institution. They seldom have the capacity or initiative to organize on their own behalf, yet many are emotionally stable and could be supported in the community more easily than many ex-mental patients. They too require hostels, and a sense of belonging and having somebody to turn to in time of need, and more job preparation than is currently available. Many of the retarded who are perfectly capable of working if properly supported, are in fact on welfare, and liable to remain a burden in public funds for some time to come, because of the very poor organization of rehabilitation services in this Province.

In conclusion, I think M.P.A. does a very worthwhile job in the community, that they provide excellent value for the money they get; that they manage money very well; that they should be encouraged to expand further into the area of employment. I recommend the society be given the necessary grants to accomplish their aims.



P.A. Lavelle M.B., Bch., D.P.M.,
F.P.C.P. (C)

PAL/lh

E. E. LEYLAND, M.B., B.S. (London)

PSYCHIATRY

1235 WEST PENDER STREET
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

March 8, 1973

Department of Manpower and Immigration
1155 West Pender Street
Vancouver 1, B.C.

Dear Sir:

RE: THE MENTAL PATIENTS ASSOCIATION

As is well known, mental patients have a high rate of unemployment. Sometimes the problem arises, in the beginning, from his own anxieties, difficulties with certain types of people, difficulty in accepting certain responsibilities or working with certain types of framework. On the other hand, the return of the mental patient to society, he then finds his fears, uncertainties and anxieties then interfere with his effectiveness and efficiency. Over and above this is the observation that the mental patient, current or ex is, by the fact of being labelled as such, immediately in a disadvantaged position.

What then can be the function of the Mental Patients Association in relationship to the patient and his work? The Provincial Mental Health Service, i.e. the Professionals, are in constant short supply as evidenced by the frequent statements. The Mental Patients Association, if nothing else, is a source of actively interested paraprofessionals who are in the unique position of having gone through it and out the other side. In other words, they "know" what the problem is. The Mental Patients Association, then, by involving the patient in the running of his own organization is improving his "peopling" skills, and thereby indirectly, his self-esteem. Confronting him with those real-life, everyday decisions is logically the best human training for his return to Society as a self assumed productive person.

Who knows, at some future date, the Mental Patients Association might be given sufficient funds to go further and offer specific job retrainings, over and above the general human ones.

Working from the grass roots up, they do an impressive job and deliver where the help is most needed. All this on a minimal budget.

Hopefully they will be given a 3 year grant which would certainly offset

Department of Manpower
and Immigration

March 8, 1973

that sense of temporariness that frequent requests for funds must induce.
The 3 year grant would enable them to get on with that very useful, effective
and worthwhile job they do for themselves.

Yours sincerely,



E. E. Leyland, M.B., C.R.C.P.(C)

EEL:sm

P. SOMMERFREUND, M.D., F.C.C.P.

217 - 3195 GRANVILLE STREET

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

TELEPHONE 732-8122

Mar. 6, 1973

Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th St.
Vancouver, B.C.

Attn. Mr. Lanny Beckman.

Dear sir,

It is with distinct pleasure that I write this letter of support to you and you may use it as you see fit.

I have had opportunity to observe the workings of M.P.A. for over a year and wish to state the following facts. The M.P.A. is doing a service to both former mental patients and society in general by calling upon volunteers, non-professionals and Para-professionals to work with mental patients. A Most important advantage is that they are using the mental patients for self-help and help to other patients. Need I stress the success of this method in Alcoholics Anonymous and other similar organizations.

By stressing self-management in their houses many patients are eased into managing their own homes and learning

P. SOMMERFREUND, M.D., F.C.C.P.

217 - 3195 GRANVILLE STREET

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

TELEPHONE 732-8122

- 2 -

new skills. I have personally observed at least two male patients during this time who became completely self-sufficient and most of all, self-supporting. Both had been on welfare before.

I honestly think that money spent in this project will save money in the short and long run, in welfare payments, use of expensive institutions and the use of the time of expensive specialists. During this year I have seen a number of patients who greatly reduced the use of drugs and/or completely stopped such use. I was impressed with their improved sense of self-worth and with it self-confidence resulting in independence.

Yours sincerely





Canada
Manpower
Centre

Centre de
Main-d'œuvre
du Canada

Manpower
and Immigration

Main-d'œuvre
et Immigration

Your file

Votre référence

Our file

Notre référence

75.

549 Howe Street
Vancouver 1, B.C.

8 March 1973

Mental Patients Association
1982 W. 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been asked by the Mental Patients Association to provide a letter verifying the following points.

1. Ex-mental patients have a very high rate of unemployment; most do not find permanent jobs without special help.
2. That there is a growing need for para-professionals to be working in the community.
3. Ex-patients do possess unique experience and can help others who are undergoing emotional stress.
4. There is a job training component in working with MPA; former patients are prepared for employment in a regular situation and working with MPA increases their future employability.

It has definitely been my experience at Canada Manpower and elsewhere that former mental patients face a formidable problem in seeking permanent employment. I do believe that organizations such as MPA perform an invaluable service to the community in providing a "half way" house situation for former patients many of whom, without group support, would have no alternative but to return to hospital.

I personally have been associated with MPA since 1968 and have found that the employment experience they offer ex-patients is a legitimate one that prepares them for work on the regular labour market. I have also found that MPA is a responsible community organization whose service is both theoretically and practically viable.

Yours sincerely,

D. E. Paterson
Manpower Counsellor

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT201-1271 Howe Street,
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

6th March 1973.

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I am pleased to hear that the MPA may be eligible for a three-year grant from Manpower. The constant necessity of searching for funds is a detrimental drain on the energies of people who should be concentrating on rendering a service.

I have no hesitation in endorsing the services offered by the MPA although I am afraid I have not the knowledge to be able to relate statistically to the question of employment. It is certainly true that the general public, including employers, lack knowledge about mental health-illness. For many people, the only information they have is the kind of sensationalism that gets into newspapers. Needless to say, this is not conducive to having ex-mental patients hired. I do have personal knowledge of working with people in a mental-health setting. From this I can vouch for the fact that very often someone who has successfully come through a period of mental and/or emotional turmoil is a more sensitive person and more able to assist others having the same difficulties, than one who has not had the experience.

Co-ordinators at MPA, in addition to learning therapeutic skills, also gain much management experience, planning group recreational activities, acquiring and maintaining houses, running farms, contact with landlords, employers, government officials, management of budgets, co-ordination of staff and their functions. All of these skills are readily transferable to the general job market.

Hoping this letter is of assistance, I remain

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lynn Foster'.

Lynn Foster, RSW, MSW
Social Development Officer.

LF/em



Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
Vancouver 9,
British Columbia.

March 2nd, 1973.

Dear Lanny,

In reply to your letter of February 23rd, I am most happy to support your application for a grant from the Department of Manpower & Immigration.

I have been familiar with the activities and goals of the M.P.A. for several years now, and have been very impressed with the work it has done.

Having been active in the labour relations field since 1958, I am very much aware of the problems that an ex-mental patient has in obtaining employment. If they are honest on the application form, the company automatically eliminates them as a potential employee. If they are dishonest and lie about their health, mental or otherwise, they are forever subjected to the threat of discharge for having lied if they are ever found out.

In meeting with the members of the M.P.A., I have been very impressed with the fact that ex-mental patients seem to be in an excellent position to help those who have recently been released from some kind of psychiatric treatment, institutionalized or otherwise. Having gone through the trauma of treatment and adjustment, ex-mental patients are more empathetic to the needs of their fellow-sufferers.

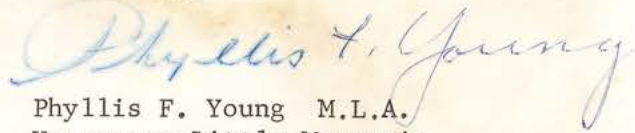
- 2 -

Mr. Lanny Beckman

The M.P.A. has sought out employment opportunities for its clientele, and I believe that such a grant would accelerate such a programme and the educational benefits thereof.

My very best wish to all of the M.P.A.ers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phyllis F. Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing "Y" and "G".

Phyllis F. Young M.L.A.
Vancouver Little Mountain

PFY/jm



March 13, 1973

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

In reply to your letter of February 23, I would like to verify the following points:

- 1) Ex-mental patients have a very high rate of unemployment; most do not find ongoing jobs in the competitive job market;
- 2) What with the exorbitant demand on mental health professionals, there is growing recognition of the need for non-professionals, para-professionals and volunteers to perform services complementary to those of professionals;
- 3) In many cases, ex-patients possess unique experience and ability to help others who are undergoing emotional stress;
- 4) There is a job-training component in working with MPA; coordinators work in actual life-situations in which essential "helping" skills are learned;
- 5) Finally, the experience gained in working with MPA increases the person's future employability in other, related jobs.

The MPA provides a very valuable service to the community and deserves all financial help possible in order to carry on their work.

Yours truly,

Rosemary Brown, M.L.A.
(Vancouver-Burrard)

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

March 5, 1973

To Whom It May Concern:

Dear Sirs:

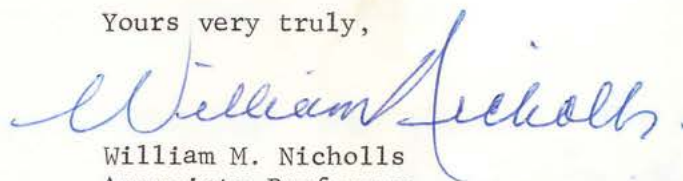
Re: Mental Patients Association

On November 2, 1972, Mr. Barry Coull of the Mental Patients Association was invited to make a presentation on the history, goals, organization and service programme of that organization to a class in community organization and social planning at the School of Social Work. There was a full discussion, questioning and analysis of the Association, and a frank consideration of the underlying principles, leadership structures and ways in which problems had been handled. This was very well received by the class members - predominantly social work students, but also others from the School of Community and Regional Planning and from Nursing, all in their graduating year.

As a self-help association, the Mental Patients Association evidently has been close to the needs of ex-mental health patients, and has sought through mutually supporting activities to build confidence, reduce loneliness and dependency for its members. The organization has secured outside referrals, support and encouragement, but has maintained its separate operation, using a high degree of participation by members as a means of sharing responsibility. Much patience has been required; the process of involvement is regarded as central and a great deal of personal commitment has been shown.

My impression is that the Mental Patients Association by innovation and persistence has demonstrated it is able to provide important, and otherwise largely neglected services in an area where self-help and direct supporting relationships are basic to rehabilitation. I would therefore support the application of the Mental Patients Association for a grant to enable it to sustain its service programmes.

Yours very truly,



William M. Nicholls
Associate Professor

WMN/cs

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

Social Service Department

March 7, 1973.


Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.Attention: Pam LaFreniere

Dear Miss LaFreniere:

I have been referring patients intermittently to the Mental Patients Association over the past two years. I feel that M.P.A. is extremely useful in serving as an after care resource for patients being discharged from hospital. As you are aware, there is a desperate shortage of such accommodation for patients, and M.P.A. has certainly met a community need in this respect.

If the Department of Manpower and Immigration are considering giving you a three year grant, please pass on to them that I would heartily support such a move.

Yours sincerely,


Ralph Buckley, M.S.W.
R.S.W.

Social Service Department

LRB/nm



BRITISH COLUMBIA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
"THE MAPLES"

3/2/73

To Whom it May Concern:

Dear Sir

I have been advised that the Mental Patients' Association is eligible for a three-year grant under its service programme. I am encouraged to hear this and would support MPA's request for financial aid.

It seems important to me that MPA provides a complete and valuable service to the community at large. A service which is available and hourly. Terms is by many professionals are willing to work. Also, as a self-help type of organization MPA contributes by helping people to develop skills for employment with similar experience. This seems to be the programme for health services in the area.

I would be glad for MPA to carry on the work.

Sincerely,
Caroline Haxell
Consultant Psychologist
The Maples.



March 1, 1973.

Mr. Lanny Beckman
Project Coordinator
Mental Patients Assn.
1982 W. 6th Ave.
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I am pleased to be able to offer the Mental Patients Association my support in their application to the Department of Manpower and Immigration for a three year grant.

It is well-known that individuals who have experienced adjustment difficulties to the extent that they have required clinical treatment have often been frustrated in their attempts to find suitable employment when they re-enter the job market. This is particularly true of alcoholics. Approximately 60% of all alcoholics who seek treatment at out-patient clinics are unemployed and it has always been considered to be crucial for their continued sobriety that employment (or retraining) be secured as quickly as possible.

It is my understanding that the provincial government as part of a reorganization of the delivery system for Health and Welfare services (including mental health and drug-alcoholism programs) intends to encourage the development of local self-help groups and, as well, to employ as many non-professionals as possible.

In the field of alcoholism, alcoholics who have discontinued drinking have been used at all levels in the treatment process. This has been possible largely through the experience they have gained while members of Alcoholics Anonymous - one of the earliest established self-help groups. For some kinds of services, their enthusiasm, dedication and their ability to relate to other alcoholics have made them definitely preferable to professionals.

While the practice of employing alcoholic counsellors has been somewhat of a tradition in this field, and in the recent past programs have been initiated to have former welfare recipients become case-aids or occupy

other Welfare positions, there has been no similar development within the area of mental health. It is for this reason that I would encourage any program which would allow individuals who have had such problems gain experience in providing assistance to others who have similar problems. I believe that within a very short time the more formal treatment agencies will come to recognize a need for a substantial number of experienced non-professionals.

Lots of luck with your project.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R.E. Cutler".

R.E. Cutler
Director of Research

pb/REC

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

Social Service Department

March 6, 1973.

Department of Manpower & Immigration
549 Howe Street
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sirs:

RE: THREE YEAR GRANT TO MENTAL PATIENTS ASSOCIATION

I am writing this letter to support the Mental Patients Association's application for funding. I am a social worker at the Health Sciences Center Hospital, University of British Columbia and was previously employed at Gordon House Neighborhood Services. From my work with mental patients and ex-mental patients, I can definitely say that unemployment is a major problem for ex-mental patients and their families.

Often ex-mental patients very much need non-alienating work where they can relate to people on the job. Because of their own experiences, some ex-patients are well suited to work in the community mental health field as volunteers and non professionals. The ex-mental patient is in a unique position to help others who are going through stressful situations.

Working for M.P.A. would give an ex-mental patient varied work experience, therefore improving his chances of gaining future employment.

The present M.P.A. services are helping fill an important need in the community. The three year grant would sustain these services while providing valuable employment training and experience.

Sincerely,

Marsha Enomoto

Marsha Enomoto, M.S.W.
Social Service Department
Health Sciences Center Hospital

ME/nm

LEBLANC & COMPANY

TELEPHONE 731-4628

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

RAYMOND L. LEBLANC, B.A., LL.B.
 KENNETH S. SPECHT, B.A., LL.B.
 R. DALE CARR-HARRIS, B.A., LL.B.
 ASSOCIATE COUNSEL
 CYRIL J. McGUIRE, LL.B.

SUITE 101-2515 BURRARD STREET

FILE NO.

VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

March 14, 1973

Canada Department of Man-
 power and Immigration

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: The Mental Patients' Assoc-
iation of Vancouver (M.P.A.)

This is a letter in support of a grant to sustain the service programs of The Mental Patients' Association, and is written at their request.

Since October of 1972, I have been a general advisor to the M.P.A. and have undertaken legal matters on behalf of individual members of this organization. In addition, because of my interest in the work M.P.A. has been carrying on, and my belief in its social importance, I have attended a number of their meetings and have had numerous contacts on both a professional and personal level with many of the members. Based on this experience, I wish to make the following points with respect to the employment problems, employability and need for employment of these persons.

1. Although ex-mental patients tend to be above average in intelligence, skills and training, they have a very high rate of unemployment; most do not find on-going jobs in the competitive job market.

.....2.

Page 2.

2. Because of the excessive demand on mental health professionals, there is a need for non-professionals and para-professionals to perform services complimentary to those of the professionals.
3. Ex-mental patients often possess unique experience and ability to help others who are undergoing emotional stress. In many cases, hospitalization with its disadvantages for the individual and the community has been avoided by early contact between persons undergoing emotional crisis and members of M.P.A.
4. There is a job-training component in working with M.P.A.; co-ordinators work in actual life-situations in which essential "helping" and problem-solving skills are learned. They also learn skills in dealing with people and in making contact with community organizations and agencies which are appropriate and relevant to given situations.
5. The experience and self-confidence gained in working with M.P.A. increases the person's future employability in other related or unrelated jobs.

The problem of public financial cost and loss of productivity resulting from institutional mental health care has been of increasing concern for decades. The Mental Patients' Association of Vancouver, has shown initiative and responsible management in establishing a viable alternative to institutionalization in many cases. They have also demonstrated their value in rehabilitating ex-mental patients and re-establishing them as part of the work force in the community. The correlation between mental ill health and unemployment has been repeatedly documented. It is therefore, my carefully considered judgment that funding of this organization

.....3.

by the Department of Manpower and Immigration could be a vital contribution to the reduction of unemployment in Canada.

Sincerely yours,

R. Dale Carr-Harris

R. DALE CARR-HARRIS
B.A., LL.B., of the
British Columbia Bar

RDCH:roj

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY LEGAL ASSISTANCE SOCIETY

257 East 11th Avenue
Vancouver 10, British Columbia
Telephone Number 872-0271

IAN WADDELL B.A. LL.B., LL.M.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
Legal Director

DOROTHY JAQUES B. SC., LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
(Also Of The Alberta Bar)

DAVID MOSSOP B.A. LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

DENNIS MURRAY LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

2nd March, 1973

Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
VANCOUVER 9, B. C.

ATTENTION: Lanny Beckman
Project Co-Ordinator

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I understand that MPA is eligible for a three-year sustaining grant from the Department of Manpower and Immigration. I am writing to you in support of your application for a grant and would hope that you will pass this letter on to the appropriate authorities.

I am sure the department knows the history of the MPA and what the MPA has been doing in the past little while. Everyone in the community knows or should know the need for services to ex-mental patients.

I am sure the Department would be interested in problems of employment of ex-mental patients so I need not comment there. There is a growing recognition of the need for para-professionals and volunteers to perform services complementary to those of professionals. This is true of the health profession, especially mental health, just as it is true for the legal profession, where through our office, we have been developing the use of para-professionals. We find that community people who have experienced legal problems whom we have helped can in some instances be useful to our organization to

Mental Patients Association
2nd March, 1973
Page Two

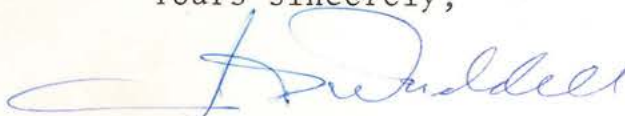
help others going through the same problems. I am sure that this would be especially true with ex-patients; they know what it is like to go through the emotional stress.

The MPA is quite clearly recognized in the community as far as I am concerned. It is a well-run, energetic, relevant organization and I would think that any experience gained in working with the MPA would increase a person's future employability. As well, I would stress the savings to the public in the long run as a result of programs such as that of the MPA.

I have personally been involved in activities with the MPA including one seminar entitled "Mental Patients and the Law" and have been, frankly, impressed.

If I could be of any further assistance either to MPA or the Department of Manpower and Immigration, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



IAN G. WADDELL,
Legal Director

IGW/sp

SIDNEY FILKOW
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR

1414 LABURNUM STREET
VANCOUVER 9, B. C.
TELEPHONE 732-6659

March 13, 1973

Vancouver Mental Patients Association Society
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Sirs:

As you know I have worked with many of your co-ordinators in connection with various legal matters and research projects since the inception of your organisation. From my experience in this regard and from my knowledge of the general duties and functions of the co-ordinators I know that they gain valuable skills in research, writing, organisation, administration and communicating effectively with officials and the public.

On many occasions when I have attended your drop-in centre I have observed former patients and co-ordinators assisting someone obviously undergoing emotional crisis. These crisis situations were always successfully resolved because, I am sure, of the personal background and understanding on the part of those assisting as well as their experience in having handled such situations on previous occasions.

For these reasons I have no hesitation in stating that in my opinion those working with the Mental Patients Association gain valuable and unique experiences which greatly enhances their employability in other related jobs. In addition I believe the self-confidence and self-reliance which is also achieved greatly increases their employability in general.

Yours truly,


S. Filkow

BOLTON, RUSH & CLAGUE

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

P. MICHAEL BOLTON
STUART RUSH
IAN W. CLAGUE1105 DOMINION BANK BUILDING
207 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER 3, B.C.

TELEPHONE (604) 687-2708

March 7, 1973

Mental Patients Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
Vancouver 9, B.C.Attention: Mr. Lanny Beckman

Dear Sirs:

It has been brought to my attention that the Mental Patients Association has been contacted by the Department of Manpower and Immigration regarding the possibility of a three-year grant to sustain the services of the M.P.A. for a further three years. I am writing this letter to you to express my support as someone who has been involved with the Mental Patients Association for obtaining this grant from the Department of Manpower and Immigration.

I have been involved with the Mental Patients Association in many ways. I have taught three separate classes on mental patients and the law and have had several members of the Mental Patients Association attend these lectures to give their views on the necessary changes in the mental health law to the classes. I have assisted members of the Mental Patients Association in obtaining their legal rights as mental patients. I have acted on behalf of referrals from the Mental Patients Association in the criminal courts and in proceedings under the Mental Health Act.

My experience with mental patients and with the Mental Patients Association has led me very strongly to believe that among ex-mental patients there is great difficulty for these patients to obtain employment in the job market. There is a regrettable societal bias against hiring ex-mental patients and an unnecessary fear of recurring problems among employers.

Mental Patients Association
Att'n: Mr. Lanny Beckman

March 7, 1973
Page 2

From my understanding of the community interaction of ex-mental patients at the Mental Patients Association and the therapy and experience which they derive from this interaction, I believe that ex-mental patients can assist each other in a considerable way to help other people with emotional problems or who find themselves in stressful situations to overcome these situations. In this sense I believe that the experience of those of the Mental Patients Association for ex-patients is quite unique. While there is a therapeutic aspect to this type of interaction there is also a job training aspect as well. I believe that those persons who have worked in the past with the Mental Patients Association on a volunteer basis and on a hire basis work in real situations in which their own personal skills and experiences are vital to the assistance which they can give to other people. Obviously, an extension of the work which is performed at the Mental Patients Association in helping ex-patients not only gives the person a sense of self worth, but also provides certain skills and understanding which are transferrable to other jobs and job situations and thus make the person more employable in other job areas.

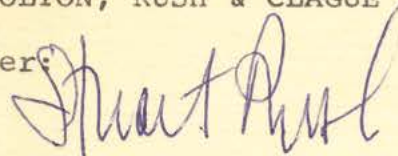
I think what the Mental Patients Association is attempting to do is demystify the necessity of professional treatment for mental patients and to move into a wide field of volunteer and lay service for ex mental patients. Naturally, the field of a para-professional as it relates to ex mental patients and as I believe the Mental Patients Association views it, is different from yet complimentary to those of professional people in the field. Again, I think this job experience is worthwhile and transferrable to other job fields.

I hope that you will consider the points which I have made in this letter very carefully and I would be most appreciative to talk to anyone who might need further explanation of these points. I would once again reiterate my support for the Mental Patients Association and the work it is doing for its mental patients and for the need for continuing funding for their programs.

Yours very truly,

BOLTON, RUSH & CLAGUE

Per:



Stuart Rush

SAR/ch

G. BONHAM
M.D., D.P.H.
MEDICAL HEALTH OFFICER



HEALTH UNIT 5
2610 VICTORIA DRIVE
VANCOUVER 12, B.C.
TELEPHONE: 872-2511

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

March 17th, 1973

Department of Manpower,
549 Howe Street,
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Mental Patients Association, Vancouver

We are writing in support of the Mental Patients Association's application for a three year grant.

As community workers with the Metropolitan Health Service in local areas of Vancouver we are frequently made aware of persons whose needs are not being met by the existing, more traditional framework of social and/or health services. Among these persons, ex-mental patients form a particularly vulnerable group. The competitive job market is not readily accessible nor always suitable to this group, resulting in a high rate of unemployment. Most existing mental health services focus on intervention at a time of crisis and on treatment. Few services possess either the flexibility or the manpower resources to meaningfully assist the ex-mental patient in the difficult process of assuming responsibility and acquiring satisfaction in the small, vital matters of every-day living.

The Mental Patients Association contributes uniquely in Vancouver towards the solution of the above mentioned problems. At a time when there is growing recognition of the need for a variety of helping persons to augment and complement services provided by professionals, M.P.A. offers a number of settings where concrete helping skills are learned.

Many ex-mental patients, from what they have learned in their own experience are in a position to give positive, pragmatic assistance to others undergoing emotional stress. The M.P.A. community's emphasis on taking responsibility both for one's personal life decisions, and directly in the functioning of the organization increase the person's employability.

It is indicative of the strength and skilled management of M.P.A. that it has been able to offer concrete and innovative service despite the drain on energies associated with precarious funding. We would like to affirm our support for a more solid arrangement to permit the continued existence of this essential organization.

Yours sincerely,

Norma Perryman

(Mrs.) Norma Perryman
Social Work Consultant
Health Unit 5

per Mish Vadasz, Senior Social Worker
Wilna Thomas, Unit 1
Deanna Silvester, Unit 2
Linda Carkner, Unit 3

NJP:vb

RAYMOND PARKINSON, B.A., M.D., (U.B.C.)
PSYCHIATRY

1235 WEST PENDER STREET
VANCOUVER 1. B.C.

March 14th, 1973.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mental Patients Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver, 8. B.C.

Attention Mr. Lanny Beckman.

Dear Sir,


Thank you for your request for my statement as to the role served by the Mental Patients Association.

I am pleased to lend my support for any request asking government to assist your operations in the mental health field. I feel there is a role for non-professionals and consumers in the health and welfare field to offer the services you do to the community and persons with mental health problems. Self help operations are a vital link in the various levels of care needed to make good mental health care a reality.

I hope you continue your operations and get financial support as your association serves a useful purpose.

With best wishes for the future.

Yours truly,


R. Parkinson, M.D.

RP/JM

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

Social Service Department

March 16, 1973.

Mr. Lanny Beckman
Project Coordinator
Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.

Dear Lanny:

I was very happy to learn that the Mental Patients Association is eligible for a three-year grant and do hope for your sake and the patients' sake of the Health Sciences Center Hospital that you will receive it.

From the number of patients I have been referring to the M.P.A. over the past 2 years (the drop-in center, the homes, and the farm) you will have gathered how important your outfit is to our discharge plans.

One of the numerous problems facing the ex-mental patient is to be accepted by his community and I feel that your cooperative living homes perform an extremely useful function by constituting a supportive bridge from the hospital to the "open" community. While in the house, the ex-patient can use his experience to help others who find themselves in similar difficulties. Not only does this transaction help those undergoing emotional stress but the realization that he is of some use is of great benefit to the ex-mental patient.

Of course the greatest difficulty encountered by the ex-patient is when he tries to enter the labor market. There he finds himself in open competition with applicants for the same job who are not handicapped by a hospitalization to a psychiatric facility. Again the M.P.A. fills a gap in this area. It supports the ex-patient during this traumatic period and assists him to deal with the stresses inherent in looking for work and dealing with prospective employers. The M.P.A. job-training component can be of immense value.

Mr. Lanny Beckman

- 2 -

March 16, 1973.

These are just a few disjointed thoughts I had why your good work has to carry on.

Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely yours,



Mimi Rosenbluth
Social Worker
Social Service Department
Health Sciences Center Hospital

AR/nm

March 16, 1973.

Department of Manpower and Immigration,
549 Howe Street,
Vancouver 1, B.C.

Attention: Mr. Frank Hatcher

Dear Sir:

RE: Mental Patients' Association,
1982 West 6th Avenue,
Vancouver 9, B.C.

The Mental Patients' Association has requested our endorsement of an application for a three year grant from you to sustain their service programs. We enthusiastically support this application and we are particularly pleased to see the potential involvement of your Department with Mental Patients' Association.

Employment and vocational opportunities, in our experience, are extremely important factors related to both causative and rehabilitative components of mental and social disorders. Lack of vocational skills and opportunity seem to be very common etiological denominators for the psychiatric patient we work with in the hospital. We note that a very high percentage of these patients are unemployed and many are unable to compete in the open job market. For most of these patients, rapid recovery is often accompanied by an opportunity to become involved in an activity which enhances the patients sense of being useful and helpful to others. In this sense we feel that much of the funds expended on programs such as, for example, the Vancouver Opportunities Program are recovered by reduced health costs related to decreased psychiatric hospital admission.

The value of non-professional, para-professional and volunteer involvement, based on our experience with several projects within the hospital, has been clearly demonstrated. It has become equally clear to us that mental health programs warrant broader community participation and responsibility than can alone be provided by health professionals.

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Manpower and Immigration
Attention: Frank Hatcher

Page 2
March 16, 1973

We have been particularly impressed with both the responsible manner Mental Patients' Association has been managed and with the very relevant and effective service it has provided. We do feel, however, that it would benefit substantially with more salaried organizers and coordinators, especially if the movement continues its present rate of growth. Such an input would, for one thing, significantly enhance the ability of Mental Patients' Association to complement and respond to other mental health programs and resources. In addition to these kind of assets to MPA as a whole there would seem to be many positive features in store for the salaried co-ordinators and organizers in terms of job training and career development. Many of the skills learned in this type of work are applicable to a wide variety of fields.

We wish MPA success in its application for your support.

Yours truly,

Robert J. Marcus, M.S.W.,
Director,
Social Service Department.

KH/cd

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
Health Sciences Centre Hospital

March 19, 1973.

Government of Canada,
Department of Manpower and
Immigration,
Vancouver, B. C.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Re: The Mental Patients Association.

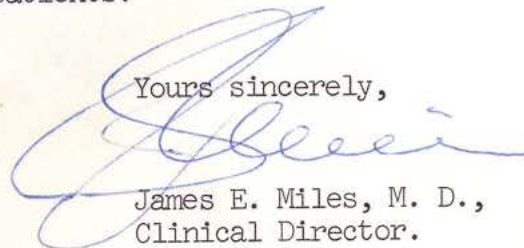
The Mental Patients Association is, in my view, a very welcome development in society. Although like all organizations it has had its growing pains, it represents a valuable and long overdue step in the humanizing of the whole treatment process in Psychiatry.

What I see as the essence of the Mental Patients Association is the "taking of responsibility". Traditionally, mental patients have been the passive recipients of treatment. This stance is not only potentially demoralizing and demeaning, but is also not conducive to effective treatment. By banding together to seek redress of long-standing grievances, they are also coming to terms with the whole issue of being active participants in the treatment process.

There is absolutely no question in my mind that treatment effectiveness is directly related to the degree to which the patient can accept the need for treatment. Further, the Mental Patients Association is an attempt to restore a measure of dignity to a section of society that has long suffered from a lack of it.

As a clinical supervisor of a 22-bed in-patient psychiatric unit, and the Clinical Director of the Health Sciences Centre Hospital, one of our major and persistent problems is appropriate discharge planning. Patients have great problems in finding suitable accommodation, and in locating appropriate employment. The unemployment rate is markedly higher among those who have been mentally ill, and I would strongly support any program which would provide socially useful and personally rewarding work for mental patients.

Yours sincerely,



James E. Miles, M. D.,
Clinical Director.

JEM/hcf.

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE**
NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.

March 21st, 1973

Department of Manpower and Immigration

Re: Mental Patient's Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to convey my enthusiastic support of the Mental Patient's Association. I have had contact with M.P.A. through my job with the Provincial Mental Health Branch.

The social and occupational systems which M.P.A. have evolved are often the only viable alternatives for people who cannot survive the traditional socio-occupational institutions. The assault of socio-emotional difficulties often render people unemployable. They are unable to adapt to the pressures demanded by employers unless they are given support, encouragement and training which is provided by such as M.P.A. This nurturing cannot be given by professionals with over-extended caseloads and limited resources. M.P.A. has volunteered to provide a "people caring" resource which our organizations cannot. Their people work hard at all hours to help each other get going again, often salvaging and maintaining people who would otherwise be abandoned to the rolls of the unemployed on social assistance - more misery!

I would encourage you to support the Mental Patient's Association so that even more of their energy can be directed into their "people work". The returns are compounded for us in Mental Health as they are for you in Manpower.

Yours sincerely,

Thekla Cuff
Thekla Cuff
Mental Health Nurse

TC:ami

Norman Dueck, R.S.W.
1375 W. 10th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.
March 20, 1973

Lanny Beckman
Project Coordinator
Mental Patients Association
1982 W. 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B. C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I hereby register my support of your program, in the hope that it may prove useful in your negotiations with the Department of Manpower and Immigration.

Having worked out of a mental hospital in Manitoba, and being currently involved with Mental Health Centre programs in B.C., I am well aware of the difficulties ex-mental patients face upon re-entry into the community. The two crucial areas, of course, are employment and community acceptance and support. I am all too well aware of the debilitating effects of the often successive job refusals and aloneness of a "single-room occupancy" existence, which in my experience, are leading causes of re-hospitalization.

It is therefore with considerable pleasure that I have watched the Mental Patients' Association struggle to its feet on one strength of people whose first-hand experience with hospitalization has given them the unique advantage of mutual understanding and support. In my view this is particularly commendable for two reasons. Firstly, ex-mental patients are thus providing a safe and comfortable community in an otherwise often rejecting society.

Secondly, by conceiving and maintaining the organization and its multiplicity of creative and therapeutic programs on their own initiative, the ex-patients are meeting their need to face responsibility, and to achieve something independently and to their own credit. Thus, by being a non-professional organization, M.P.A. is in a unique position to nurture the confidence and personal and social progress of its members.

I would like to point out also that M.P.A.'s emphasis on para-professionalism and "people helping people" is in line with current proposals on the re-organization of provincial and national health services towards increased decentralization and cost-saving community priorities. In my association with M.P.A. I have personally observed a number of instances where processes and supports facilitated by the organization have definitely forestalled hospitalization.

.../2

Besides the preparation which the M.P.A. experience provides for members to provide helping services to each other and people with difficulties generally, M.P.A. also introduces its members to financially gainful pursuits such as farming, production of artifacts, etc. And obviously, it provides the supportive base from which members are encouraged to seek entry into the competitive job market.

M.P.A. is an innovative effort to deal with personal and social ills which leads in a direction congruent with modern views and literature regarding "client involvement" and community therapy.

I give M.P.A. my full support, and am anxious to see it as stably funded as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Norman Dueck

Norman Dueck, R.S.W. ^{p.s.m.c.s.}

ND:cc



CITY OF VANCOUVER
CANADA

SOCIAL PLANNING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

453 WEST 12TH AVENUE, EAST WING
VANCOUVER 10, B.C.
873-7011

March 20, 1973

YOUR FILE _____

OUR FILE _____

Mental Patients Association
1982 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear MPA:

You have requested a letter of support for your worthy efforts. I trust the following observations will be of some assistance to your cause.

It is a known fact that all aspects of Mental Health Services have been inadequate in British Columbia. If they have been inadequate during a person's disability, what does the ex-mental patient face in the community. Unemployment is now 'seasonally adjusted' to 8.3% of the labour force. This, of course, does not include those receiving welfare -- in many cases the last refuge for ex-patients.

The MPA has come along at a time when professional people in many fields are beginning to come back around to the 'pull yourself up by the bootstraps' approach; that is, people with like problems facing or having faced like circumstances can be of tremendous mutual assistance. This confidence and skill-building process is an area that has yet to be fully explored or exploited in helping those with special needs.

Social workers have long verbalized the need to start with the person 'where he is'. The program proposed by the MPA does more than say it -- it does it. It provides people with opportunities to help others while helping themselves. There is the potential of the snowball effect, of helping others gain self-worth, confidence and skills to assume similar responsibilities or move on to other vocations.

At a time when we are just on the forefront of knowledge-building, learning what is and is not effective and with whom, this particular program is worth the money. It is also worth examining beyond the

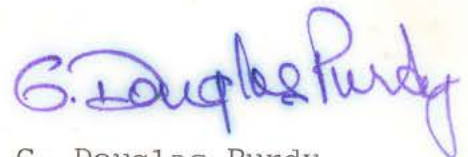
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simple allocation of funds. Its value must be documented. Assistance must be available within Manpower to open vocational opportunities with employers when ex-patients are ready. Both Manpower and ex-patients themselves have a shared role and responsibility to expand these horizons.

I encourage the funding of the program. But, I also look beyond that to the time when, possibly over-optimistically, we have an excellent program and the funds are exhausted. In too many cases, there is insufficient assistance or support to take it beyond the original 'experimental' or 'three-year-program-then-termination-whether-its-good-or-not' syndrome.

Let all levels of government keep this in mind. Administratively, at the civic level, you have our support.

Yours sincerely,



G. Douglas Purdy
Social Planner

GDP:il

OUR FILE NO.
Notre référence

Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C..


TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Mental Patients' Association has received financial support from the 1971 - 72 Local Initiatives Program.

One of the factors in the acceptance of the Mental Patients' Association application was that of Community benefit, and more specifically, assistance to ex-mental patients. To date the M.P.A. project has met with the acceptance of the Department to the extent that it was offered two extensions of funding, one in May for the summer, and a second in September for October and November. The M.P.A. project centered on the expansion of services which, at the time of application, were, in part, merely embryonic. Subsequently, with few adjustments, these programs have expanded, thus the community benefit factor has proven itself.

Should the Mental Patients' Association apply for a grant under the 1972 - 73 Local Initiatives Program, the Department would be interested in reviewing its application.

Yours truly,


G. Hutchison,
Project Officer.

GH/lm

Whonnock United Church
27091 River Road
Whonnock, B.C.
November 9, 1972

Dr. Larry Beckman
Mental Patients Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 3, B.C.


Dear Mr. Beckman;

As per our conversation of November 4, 1972, please be advised that it is a pleasure to write a letter of general endorsement for the Mental Patients Association.

I consider this project to be a very worthwhile social endeavor in that badly needed services are being provided in the neglected area of aftercare. I am pleased to see that M.P.A. are providing this service in a very effective manner by emphasizing self-help alongside community development. As a sociologist and theologian, I am quite concerned about the extent of alienation that exists among people in our society. One primary cause, as I see it, is the lack of community support for the individual. In order to develop good mental health, people must live in a community of which they feel an integral part. M.P.A., as I have experienced it, seems to be evolving into a supportive community that will meet many of the needs of ex-mental patients. It is a project that certainly merits the support of both the Church and the Government.

I understand that you are applying for a government grant. Let me say that I have been quite impressed with the way in which funds have been administered. I have noted at business meetings that there is much concern about delegating funds in an effective manner. People seem to be concerned that funds be appropriated wisely, and accounted for in an efficient manner.

I feel that M.P.A. is fulfilling a need in the community in a very positive way, and, I have confidence in your ability to administer funds responsibly. Therefore, I support your application for continuing support.

Yours very truly,


Rev. Peter R. Stinson
Minister

VANCOUVER COMMUNITY LEGAL ASSISTANCE SOCIETY

527 E. Broadway
Vancouver 10, British Columbia
Telephone Number 872-0271

IAN WADDELL B.A. LL.B. LL.M.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
Legal Director

DOROTHY JAQUES B. SC., LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
(Also Of The Alberta Bar)

DAVID MOSSOP B.A. LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

October 4, 1972

Mental Patients' Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Attention: Lanny Beckman

Dear Sirs:

I understand that the Mental Patients' Association is applying for renewal of certain grants and I am writing to you to support any applications you may make.

Unquestionably, it seems to me, the M.P.A. is fulfilling a need in the community. There appears to be very few after care programs in the mental health field. Certainly none that involves the former mental patients as the program at M.P.A. does.

I have taken part in meetings at your house on West 10th, and also at the People's Law School lectures on mental patients' problems. In the lectures, I was specifically impressed by the participation of the people who had experiences in mental institutions. I was also impressed by their energy and it seemed to me that the project was being well coordinated and directed. The size of the membership also impressed me, which I understand numbers 350.

If I can be of any further support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



IAN G. WADDELL
Legal Director

IGW/clk

BOLTON & RUSH

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

P. MICHAEL BOLTON
STUART RUSH

11th FLOOR, DOMINION BANK BUILDING
207 WEST HASTINGS STREET
VANCOUVER 3, B.C.

TELEPHONE (604) 687-2708

October 10, 1972

Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Attention: Lannie Beckman
Project Co-Ordinator

Dear Sirs:

I was pleased to receive your recent letter outlining the expansion of services provided by the Mental Patients' Association and as well to see that you were seeking to renew some of your grants to continue your after-care programs.

I feel that it is absolutely necessary that after-care facilities be provided for patients from mental institutions. I think the M.P.A. provides a necessary sorely needed community service for those in the community with psychiatric problems. I believe that the M.P.A. is addressing itself to the real and solvable problems for ex-patients and I feel that it is fulfilling an essential need in the community.

From those individuals whom I have met and know the M.P.A. have every reason to believe that they are capable and willing to administer the grants necessary for the development of M.P.A.'s programs.

I strongly support your further applications for continuing support for your programs and if I can be of any further help for either your organization or the members of it I would be most happy to be contacted.

Yours very truly,

BOLTON & RUSH

Per:



Stuart Rush

SAR/ch



Vancouver Opportunities Program

1439 COMMERCIAL DRIVE • VANCOUVER 6, BRITISH COLUMBIA • 255-9336

November 2, 1972.

Re: The Mental Patients Association's
application for funds.

To Whom It May Concern:

During the last year and a half we have seen that the Mental Patients Association is providing a real service to the community by providing after-care services, and preventative help, to people who are suffering emotional distress.

They have demonstrated a high level of responsibility in the administration of their previous funding, and the administration of their services.

We know the need that MPA is attempting to satisfy, we know how crucial that need is, and we endorse their application for funds to continue, and to expand.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "E. Heustis".

(Mrs.) Emily Heustis
Chairman

EH/ks



October 3, 1972

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Thank you for your letter of September 29, 1972.

In my opinion, the Mental Patients' Association has fulfilled a very useful need in the community and the group that I have met has my absolute confidence so far as their ability to administer funds and carry on the organization is concerned.

Any support that I can extend to your organization now and in the future will certainly be done.

Yours truly,

Harry Rankin

Harry Rankin
Alderman *H.*

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE WOODLANDS SCHOOL

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.
CANADAOctober 11 19, 72

Mr. L. Beckman
Project Co-ordinator
Mental Patient's Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:


Thank you for your recent letter.

I was very pleased to hear of the continuing growth of the Mental Patients' Association. Your progress over the past two years is nothing short of astounding. It is hard to credit that so much has been achieved for so small an expenditure. This is a tribute to your responsible management of funds, and to the attitudes of participation and self help generated by your association which have stimulated the goodwill of others. Your management of funds has been excellent, and I have confidence that on the basis of this, further funds will be forthcoming.

Considering the paucity of other after care services in the province, I feel that your group are providing crucially needed services in the badly neglected area of after care. The scarcity of professional personnel will continue to leave large gaps in this area for many years to come. It seems to me that it is only through development of lay associations that the need can be met. Results of other lay self help groups, eg. Alcoholic Anonymous, Synanon, etc. have been better than those achieved by professionals in those areas, and there is a growing feeling that the combination of high-costing professionals, who have comparatively poor results in certain areas (eg. Alcohol, drugs, follow up treatment and mental patients, etc. to name only a few) no longer makes economical or professional sense and cannot continue unchallenged. Therefore, experimental programs such as Mental Patients' Association deserve our utmost support.

I wish you continuing success in your endeavours.

Yours truly,


Peter Lavelle, M.D.

PL/lh

EARL D. HARDIN, M.D.

PSYCHIATRY

TELEPHONE:
876-1133

SUITE 705
750 WEST BROADWAY
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

November 8, 1972.

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: The Mental Patient's Association

This is to commend the Mental Patient's Association, and to endorse requests the group is making for grants to continue and further their efforts.

It is obvious that there is a substantial place in the total field of mental health care for a self-help organization. I believe that this particular association has been extremely effective in some instances where more conventional psychiatric approaches were offering limited objectives. The Mental Patient's Association provides an opportunity for persons with psychological and social disabilities to make gains with a large measure of dignity and initiative.

I think the organization's leaders have a reasonable set of working hypotheses and have a great deal of capability. It seems to me they have been responsible and diligent in their dealings with the more conventional personnel and facilities operating in the mental health field in this area.

I hope the Association will continue to have the financial wherewithall to sustain itself and grow.

Sincerely yours,



Earl D. Hardin, M.D.

EH/cd

CITY OF VANCOUVER
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
453 W. 7th AVE.
VANCOUVER 10, B.C.

METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICE OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Administrative Offices
~~453 West Broadway~~
Vancouver 10, B.C.

November 3, 1972

Telephone ~~873-7391~~
File No. _____

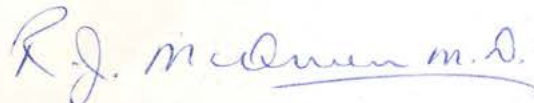
Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman,

I enjoyed meeting with your workers the other day and to hear of the progress which your association is making. I understand your association is presently doing research and evaluating its functions. I hope you will share your reports and evaluations with those of us who have been following the progress of the Mental Patients' Association. An annual review of this nature is useful to all of us in the "helping" sphere.

I feel that the Mental Patients' Association is providing a service in the community which is not being provided by others, and in this respect would support the request for funds as long as the association continues to function within the framework of its constitution.

Yours sincerely,



R.J. McQueen, M.D., D.Psych., C.R.C.P.(C).,
Director, Mental Health Services.

RJM/MJB



CITY OF VANCOUVER
CANADA

SOCIAL PLANNING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

453 WEST 12TH AVENUE, EAST WING
VANCOUVER 10, B.C.
873-7011

November 8, 1972

Dear Reader:

Re: Mental Patients' Association

I am writing to express strong support for the endeavours of the Mental Patients Association. The Province of British Columbia has been very weak in developing facilities, programs and resources to meet the needs of those suffering mentally and emotionally.

My personal bias had tended towards the development of a strong community mental health program. The Mental Patients' Association meets this need and in fine style. Better still, the momentum is coming from the "experts", those who have experienced mental and emotional difficulties.

With assistance, the Mental Patients' Association has proven itself capable of developing a viable organization with a range of strengths and abilities, particularly in program development and management of funds.

This is not to provide the illusion that Mental Patients' Association is perfect. Like all operations, mistakes are made and are experienced. But it is viable, it is strong because the people both give it strength and from it receive their strength.

This alone is sufficient for it to merit my support. I hope you feel it merits yours financially and otherwise.

Yours truly



G. Douglas Purdy
Social Planner



October 20, 1972.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Mental Patients' Association is performing a valuable service and should receive any support which you are able to give them. As their Legislature representative I have found that they are indeed evolving into a real community capable of meeting the many social, emotional and practical needs of its members.

I have every confidence in their ability to administer funds in a responsible manner and I fully endorse and support their application for continuing support.

Rosemary Brown

Rosemary Brown, M.L.A.
(Vanc-Burrard)



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, BURNABY 2, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA; 291-3111

November 6, 1972

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have been in close touch with the Mental Patients' Association since the time of its initial organization and am happy to state that they have been doing an excellent and responsible job in a pioneering area where the need in this community is great.

This is an unusually democratic group which manages to preserve, in spite of a rather heavy turnover, a sort of intelligence and innovative flexibility which is rare, and to do this furthermore with modesty and consideration for others. They have come to enjoy a high regard from all quarters.

These people have a high degree of integrity and have thoroughly demonstrated responsibility and competence in the management of funds. I regard the MRA as a proven experiment, highly deserving of continuing support.

Yours very truly,

Fred J. Brown, Professor

~~BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION~~

FJE/pp



CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION
SOCIÉTÉ CENTRALE D'HYPOTHÈQUES ET DE LOGEMENT

Ste. 240, 2609 Granville St.

British Columbia Regional Office • ~~2286 West 10th Ave.~~ • Vancouver 9, B.C.

Bureau de la région de la Colombie-Britannique • 2286 ouest, 12e Avenue • Vancouver 9, C.-B.

October 30, 1972.

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I am pleased to endorse the good and effective work the Mental Patients' Association is attempting to carry out with those in need via a variety of services in the community. In working with you concerning housing needs and ways these can be met, I have been able to see the real contribution the Association is making and how responsibly it goes about this. I have no question at all about its ability to administer various funds, including those from the public sector. Consequently, I support any applications you might make for continued financing and funding of the work of the Association.

Yours sincerely,



Roland Hennessey,
Social Development Officer

RH/jb

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT201-1271 Howe Street,
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

4th October 1972.

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
VANCOUVER 8, B.C.

Dear Lanny:

Further to your letter of September 29th and my subsequent visit to the M.P.A. drop-in/crisis centre, I am pleased to write this letter of support.

There is no doubt in my mind as to the need in this community for residences and a drop-in/crisis centre for people on their way back from hospital-dependency to community-independence. I was impressed by the constructive attitudes of the people I met, and their determination to not foster dependency. It is apparent from the use made of your facilities that you are fulfilling a human and community need.

The financial support you have received and the appropriate use you have made of funds from the Secretary of State and other departments would seem to be adequate proof of your financial responsibility. The initial grant received from the Secretary of State in the spring of 1971 was used as intended, to start the drop-in centre. Further grants through our Opportunity for Youth Program were applied for and received each summer, although I understand that the summer of 1972 grant was returned in favour of a Local Initiatives Program extension.

I have no hesitation in supporting your application for continuing support and hope that this letter will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Foster, M.S.W., R.S.W.,
Social Development Officer.

LF/em

E. E. LEYLAND, M.B., B.S. (London)

PSYCHIATRY

1235 WEST PENDER STREET
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

October 6, 1972

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

From long association with the problems of mental patients in this area, (approx. 20 years) and from long intimate knowledge of the lack of real facilities available for such people (other than specific hospitalizations), I know the M.P.A. fills a real need.

Apart from Riverview, apart from the acute beds (all too few) in various other hospitals; community type out-patient, or after-patient, or preventive care is practically non-existent. The Mental Patients' Association single handedly attempts to fill this large gap. Considering their resources, they have done remarkably well.

The Mental Patients' Association fill a significant need in the community and they do this on a shoe-string budget. I feel that continuing and hopefully increased support would be efficiently and "usefully" used.

Yours sincerely,



E. E. Leyland, M.B., C.R.C.P. (C)

EEL/jl

VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL  Vancouver 9.B.C. Canada. 876-3211

February 17, 1972.

Mr. John York
Public Relations Officer
Mental Patient's Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. York:

Thank you for your offer to speak to our patients and staff about the services offered by the Mental Patients Association.

As I indicated to you, there has been a steadily improving liaison between our psychiatric facilities (in-patient and out-patient) and your association during the last six months. Many of our patients have made use of the recreational services, the accommodation resources and the "drop-in" facility which is offered. It has been our experience that many of the social isolated and lonely young people who receive Vancouver General Hospital psychiatric services, are also helped through participation in and utilization of M.P.A. programs.

We look forward to hearing your presentation in the near future.

Yours very truly,



Mrs. M. Russell, RSW
Social Service Department

MR/me



COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS

323 Chapel St. • Ottawa 2, Canada

COMPAGNIE DES JEUNES CANADIENS

323 rue Chapel • Ottawa 2, Canada
K1N-7Z2

October 18th, 1971.

Mental Patient Association,
c/o Mrs. Alberta Levitan,
2525 Ontario Street,
Vancouver 10, B.C.

ATT: To whom it may concern.

RE: Your project proposal to
the CYC Council.

Dear Sir,

The following certifies that the Council of the Company of Young Canadians has studied with great interest your project proposal, at its September 17th meeting.

Therefore, the Council allocated to your project, upon the staff's recommendation, a 9 month contract extension for the two (2) volunteers present and two (2) volunteers for a six month period, both cases are effective October 1st, 1971.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Yours truly,


Jean-Bernard Daudelin,
Council Secretary.

JBD:hc

cc. A. Levitan.

WELFARE AND REHABILITATION
DEPARTMENT



CITY OF VANCOUVER
CANADA

TELEPHONE: 731-9155

1530 WEST 8TH AVENUE
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

February 22, 1972

Mr. Barry Coull
Mental Patients' Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Coull:

I have read your report of February 3, 1972 and have a copy of Mrs. Keays' letter to you dated February 8, 1972.

I am very pleased to see the tremendous benefits that are being derived from the cooperative working arrangement between the V.O.P. and your association. The results are indeed remarkable and I believe you would agree with our point of view that the V.O.P. is one of the most realistic and effective programs in Canada in helping many people to get back into society in a meaningful and satisfying capacity.

Keep up the good work. You can count on our full support.

Yours very truly,

W. N. Boyd,
Director.

WNB/hl
CC: V.O.P.
Mrs. Keays

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

RIVERVIEW HOSPITAL

ESSONDALE, B.C.
CANADA

February 25, 1972

Mr. John York
Mental Patients Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. York:

This letter, I hope, will serve to confirm and support some of the points that we discussed in our meeting of February 23rd. Following our meeting, I have read again the "Policies, Principles, Goals and Progress Vancouver Mental Patients Association", dated April 16, 1971.

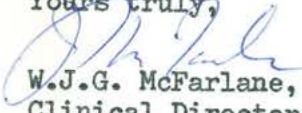
On the basis of our discussion and of these ~~written~~ policies, I believe that your association can help fulfill a useful role for certain persons in their transition from the hospital to the community, particularly in the areas of activity, social interaction, and at times residential accommodation. In addition to assistance in community resettlement, I believe such services may also be helpful, in conjunction with formal psychiatric treatment, for selected persons as an alternative to hospitalization.

I understand that contacts have already been made by some of our hospital social workers and by some of the staff of our Home Treatment Services on behalf of individual persons, with regard either to community resettlement or social support as an alternative to hospitalization. I personally would support such contacts.

With regard to visiting privileges, I believe that it is appropriate for members of your association to visit individual patients at this hospital with whom you have been associated prior to treatment, or for whom we have made a referral. It will be necessary, however, for such visits to conform to the hospital visiting hours, in order not to disrupt treatment programs at the hospital. I should caution that for valid clinical reasons visiting privileges for a particular patient may be restricted, although such situations are unusual. As with other groups, if we consider that a particular member of your association should not visit, we must reserve the right to refuse visiting privileges, but in such cases we would contact your organization with reasons for such a situation.

I do wish to support you in your objectives and wish you every success. I believe that you are attempting some very important work for which a very valid need exists in our community. I believe that you should work in close conjunction and liaison with professionals in the field of psychiatric treatment, so that our objectives and efforts may complement each other.

Yours truly,


W.J.G. McFarlane, M.D.
Clinical Director.

E. E. LEYLAND, M.B., B.S. (London)

PSYCHIATRY

1235 WEST PENDER STREET
VANCOUVER 1. B.C.

April 7, 1972.

Mr. Jon York,
Mental Patients Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Mr. York:


May I, once again, congratulate you on the work being done by your organization. I speak from a special position in that I was once actively involved with the Canadian Mental Health Association.

I now know that self-help organizations, created and organized by patients themselves, serving their own needs, are of far greater value than organizations that try to do the same job from the outside.

The Mental Patients Association fills a very vital and real role, and who better than the patients themselves would know this.

Again, with best wishes and the stongest hopes for a fruitful continuation, I remain,

Yours sincerely,



E. E. Leyland, M.B., B.S., C.R.C.P. (C) F.A.P.

EEL*bw

COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS

323 Chapel Street
Ottawa, Ontario
KIN 7Z2

COMPAGNIE DES JEUNES CANADIENS

323, rue Chapel
Ottawa, Ontario
KIN 7Z2

June 5, 1972

Mental Patients' Association
3191 west 10th avenue
Vancouver 8, B.C.

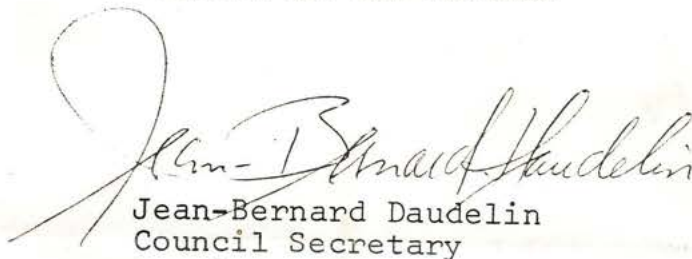
Attention: Mr. Lanny Beckman

RE: your one-year program extension

The CYC Council at its May 6-7 meeting studied your request.

CYC Council approved a one-year program extension. The same four volunteers will be working on the project and the project will terminate April 30, 1973.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.



Jean-Bernard Daudelin
Council Secretary

JBD:mm.

c.c. Alberta Levitan

EARL D. HARDIN, M.D.

PSYCHIATRY

TELEPHONE:
876-1133

SUITE 705
750 WEST BROADWAY
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

February 11, 1972

To whom it may concern:

Re: Mental Patients' Association

I understand that the Mental Patients Association is making an application to the Opportunities For Youth Program for a grant to hire up to fifteen young people for the summer.

I would like to recommend approval of their application as I believe the organization to be responsible and their activities to be worthwhile.

Yours truly



Earl D. Hardin, M.D.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

FACULTY OF LAW

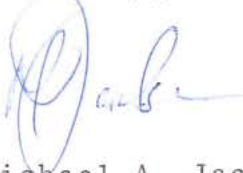
11th February 1972

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I should like to offer my support to the application being made by the Mental Patients Association to the Opportunities for Youth Program.

I am aware of the objectives and activities of the organization and feel that they are deserving of support. The services MPA is providing to former mental patients are urgently needed in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. A. Jackson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael A. Jackson,
Assistant Professor

MAJ:kma

METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICE OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Administrative Offices
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver 10, B.C.

February 11, 1972

Telephone 876-1313

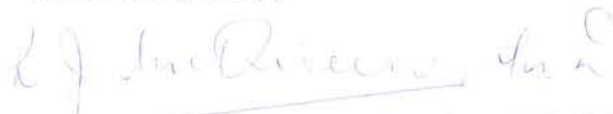
File No.....

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Coordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman,

I am aware of the facilities and program being sponsored by the Mental Patients' Association. I feel that they are providing a service and meeting community needs and that they are functioning within the framework of their constitution. I would support their request for funds from the Opportunities for Youth program as long as they are able to maintain this level of service.

Yours sincerely,



R.J. McQueen, M.D., D.Psych., C.R.C.P.(C).,
Director, Mental Health Services.

RJM/MJB

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
Health Sciences Centre Hospital

February 17th, 1972

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing to support the application of the Mental Patients Association for a grant from the Opportunities for Youth Program.

Over the past year I have had the opportunity to familiarize myself with the activities of the Mental Patients Association. I believe that they are providing vital services to the community and I am confident that they will continue to administer their funds in a responsible manner.

Yours truly,



R.P. Uhlmann, M.D.

RPU:jm

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

February 21, 1972

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been familiar with the works of the Mental Patients' Association since its inception early in 1971. I believe that the people leading this agency are doing a fine service in the area of after-care for mental patients and the M. P. A. is a valuable community resource for professionals to refer patients to.

I understand that the Mental Patients' Association has applied for an Opportunities for Youth Grant, in order to develop their programme. I do support the Mental Patients' Association application and will appreciate any positive consideration of their application.

Yours very truly,



Ali Ghaed, M.D.

MAG/gh

cc

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

March 21, 1972

Mr. Lanning Beckman
Mental Patients Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Lanny:

Now that the academic year is almost over at U.B.C. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you and M.P.A. for the rewarding experience you have given the senior students in my psychology class in letting them do research at M.P.A. and serve as volunteer helpers. Being deeply concerned with human beings, my psychology students were genuinely impressed with the work and dedicated sacrifice of M.P.A. in helping others in distress.

As you know, I have been in favor of the aims and goals of M.P.A. since we first discussed them, before M.P.A. became a reality. What is really remarkable, though, is the degree of success you and your staff have been able to achieve in making M.P.A. a reality, particularly in view of the enormous financial and other difficulties you have had to face in getting started. I feel, though, that your efforts have been rewarded. I believe, as do many other professional mental health workers in the field whom I have spoken to, that M.P.A. has made a unique and very necessary contribution to the mental health problem in British Columbia. I want you and M.P.A. to know that you can count on my continued support.

With best regards,

Claude

Claude de Martino, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor and
Chairman of Clinical Training

The Secretary of State



Le Secrétaire d'Etat

Canada

Ottawa, Ontario
April 21, 1972

Lanny Beckman
2504 York Ave.
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Re: 510-0035

Dear Mr. Beckman:

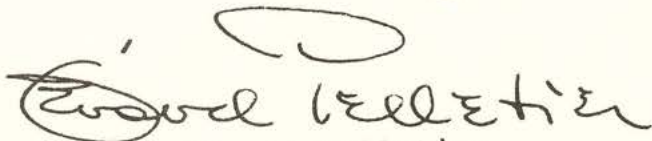
I am pleased to inform you that the project your group submitted to the Federal Government's Opportunities for Youth Programme has been approved.

Opportunities for Youth 1972 received over 19,000 excellent proposals from which only a relatively small selection could be made. The proposal that your group submitted met the criteria of Opportunities for Youth and the financial resources allocated to your region permits us to assist you with your project.

Enclosed are two copies of an agreement which sets out the activities to be funded, the positions involved, and the terms of the arrangements between project participants and the Department of the Secretary of State. Opportunities for Youth project officers are prepared to give you any further assistance you may need in the implementation of your project.

I wish you every success with your endeavours this summer.

Sincerely,


Gérard Pelletier



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF VANCOUVER • CANADA

RONALD THOMPSON, J.P.
CITY CLERK

DOUGLAS H. LITTLE,
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

April 13, 1972

Mr. B. Coull, Executive Director,
Mental Patients Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B. C.

Dear Mr. Coull:

I wish to inform you that Vancouver City Council on March 28th, 1972, upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, approved a grant of \$4,500 to your organization.

Yours faithfully,

CITY CLERK

RHenry/rc

VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL  Vancouver 9, B.C. Canada. 876-3211

February 17, 1972.

Mr. John York
Public Relations Officer
Mental Patient's Association
3191 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Mr. York:

Thank you for your offer to speak to our patients and staff about the services offered by the Mental Patients Association.

As I indicated to you, there has been a steadily improving liaison between our psychiatric facilities (in-patient and out-patient) and your association during the last six months. Many of our patients have made use of the recreational services, the accommodation resources and the "drop-in" facility which is offered. It has been our experience that many of the social isolated and lonely young people who receive Vancouver General Hospital psychiatric services, are also helped through participation in and utilization of M.P.A. programs.

We look forward to hearing your presentation in the near future.

Yours very truly,



Mrs. M. Russell, RSW
Social Service Department

MR/me

RS



March 29, 1972

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Co-ordinator,
Mental Patients' Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Further to our telephone conversation, the grant for your organization went through on Tuesday and while it is only \$4,500, I am sure that you appreciate the fact that it is up considerably over last year.

We are pleased with the work that you are doing and I believe it would be worthwhile, during the course of the year, for your organization to keep in touch with the Director of Social Planning and Community Development, Mr. Maurice Egan, and give him some progress reports on what you are doing. As you know, Council relies heavily on the Director of Social Planning for evaluation of projects, which we must do, and while many organizations are extremely well motivated, they sometimes fall short of their objectives. A little P.R. work with Mr. Egan - and by that I do not mean making something out of nothing - would be the best thing you could do in relation to your grant next year.

Best personal regards.

Yours truly,

Harry Rankin

Harry Rankin
Alderman