

THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL IMPROVEMENTVictoria
British Columbia

November 18, 1971

Mental Patients Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, British Columbia.

Dear Sirs:

I am pleased to advise you that your request for a monthly payment for staff has been approved under provisions of our Activity Centre program.

Information about the details of the payment will reach you shortly.

Please express to each member of your Association my personal appreciation for your outstanding work on behalf of handi-capped persons.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. A. Gagliardi", written over a horizontal line.

P. A. GAGLIARDI
Minister



VICTORIA

June 17th, 1971.

Mr. Lanny Beckman,
Project Director,
Mental Patients Association,
3191 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver 8, British Columbia.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of May 18th, 1971, in which you requested a grant to assist the work of the Mental Patients Association.

The Provincial Government has approved a grant of \$250.00 a month to assist your Association in the work which you have outlined in your letter.

A cheque in the above amount will be forthcoming for the month of June 1971 within the next ten days or two weeks.

I would appreciate monthly reports from you, to be sent to my Deputy, Mr. L. J. Wallace, and upon receipt of satisfactory reports this grant will be continued on a monthly basis.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. J. Wallace".

Provincial Secretary.



Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

Manpower
and ImmigrationMain-d'œuvre
et ImmigrationCanada
WorksÇa
marcheLocal Initiatives
ProgramProgramme des
Initiatives Locales

7 Dec 1971

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

Attn: Mr. L. Beckman
Project Director

Subject: Project Ref.# 51163

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to inform you that the above project submitted on behalf of the group you represent has been selected as one to receive support from the Government of Canada under the Local Initiatives Program. As explained in the information to applicants which you received along with the application forms you completed, each project which is approved becomes the subject of a formal agreement between you representing the applicant and the Government of Canada. This formal agreement includes the undertaking on your part that the project is of a nonprofit nature and that it is designed to create additional employment and to contribute to community betterment.

On this basis and on the basis of your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out in the attached Schedules A & B, the Department of Manpower and Immigration will make a contribution to the project not to exceed \$ 36,380.00. If you agree with the provisions of these schedules and are prepared to comply with them, please have the original copy of this letter and of Schedules A and B signed in the places provided and return them as soon as possible. In this connection the signatories for a group or organization which is not formally incorporated must be of the age of majority of the province in which the project will be carried on. This agreement will be completed promptly if you sign these documents without making any alterations in their present form or content.



CANADA

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

(CITIZENSHIP)

MINISTRE D'ÉTAT

(CITOYENNETÉ)

HOUSE OF COMMONS

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

O T T A W A, K1A 0M5
May 21, 1971

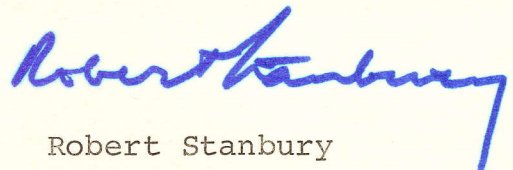
Mr. L. Beckman,
Mental Patients Association,
2249 York Avenue,
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

I am very pleased to inform you that a grant of \$1,500 has been approved for the Mental Patients Association to help establish a drop-in centre for patients and ex-patients.

This service you will provide will benefit not only the participants but the community at large by helping them to better understand the ability of mental patients to contribute to society. This is a most commendable project and I wish you the best of luck with it.

Sincerely,



Robert Stanbury

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA IN THE LOWER MAINLAND OF B.C.
4010 VICTORIA DRIVE, VANCOUVER 12, B.C. — TELEPHONE: 872-2578

30

October 5, 1971.

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

Dear Larry:

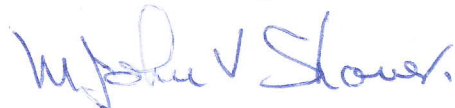
The National Board of Evangelism and Social Service has been moving slowly and our own efforts have been part of the slowness - BUT it has moved nonetheless.

Enclosed is their cheque in the amount of \$1,000 to you which they have asked us to pass on so we can feel a little thrill about having a part in it.

We are so glad it came through.

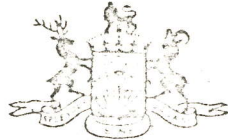
It seems they would appreciate a receipt which should be mailed to:
Board of Evangelism & Social Service,
85 St. Clair Avenue East,
Toronto 7, Ontario.

Yours sincerely,



M. John V. Shaver.

enc.
MJV/jp



THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND HOSPITAL INSURANCE

VICTORIA

June 28th, 1971

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

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Thank you for your letter of May 18, 1971, and the attached brief concerning the Mental Patients Association.

Your request for assistance was considered in conjunction with other Departments of Government, and as you have now been advised by the Honourable W. D. Black, Provincial Secretary, the work of your Association will be supported by an operational grant.

May I extend to you my congratulations for undertaking this very worthy activity and to wish you and your colleagues every success in the development of this innovative approach to helping the mentally ill.

With kindest regards,

Yours truly,

Ralph R. Loffmark,
Minister.





BRITISH COLUMBIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION - B.C. DIVISION

ACADEMY OF MEDICINE BUILDING
1807 WEST 10TH AVENUE, VANCOUVER 9, B.C.

E. C. MCCOY, M.D.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
D. M. BOLTON, M.D.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
R. G. WILSON, M.D.
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
J. B. PAUL
SECRETARY-TREASURER
D. BAIRD
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

TELEPHONE:
736-5551

Lanny Beckman,
Project Director,
Mental Patients Association,
3191 West Tenth Avenue,
Vancouver 8.

March 25, 1971.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

In reply to your letter of March 22, I am pleased to inform you that at the General Meeting of the Section of Psychiatry, B. C. Medical Association on March 15, 1971 the following motion was passed: "The Section of Psychiatry supports in principle the objectives and activities of the Mental Patients Association".

The minutes of this meeting will not be approved until the next meeting, called for April 19.

Yours sincerely,

F.W. Hanley

F. W. Hanley, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer
Section of Psychiatry
B. C. Medical Association

FWH:ep



PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

BURNABY MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE
3405 WILLINGDON AVENUE
BURNABY 2, BRITISH COLUMBIA

January 28, 1971

Mr. Lanny Beckman
2249 York Avenue
Vancouver 9, B.C.

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share your ideas about the possibility of creating a self help group of people who have had problems in living, in the past, or at present. I read your letter to the U.B.C. Alumni Association with interest, and certainly share your feeling about the actual need in this field of the patient population themselves helping each other in whatever way they can.

I see great advantage in a voluntary group of patients, or ex patients, without any professional group, except maybe in the capacity of general advice and consultation in program planning, etc, if needed. I am of the opinion that patients and ex patients are able to help each other, as they have a special insight into all varieties of life problems through sheer experience. In fact, this is a very good idea, since it would reduce the excessive dependency on professional groups, and enhance the individual's self worth, and self confidence.

I do hope that you and your friends will succeed in establishing such an organization, and wish you good luck.

Yours sincerely,

Per: Mrs. J. Agostini
Dr. Ali Ghaed.

AG:ja



ALDERMAN



CITY OF VANCOUVER
CANADA

March 23rd 1971

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

Attention: Mr. Lonny Beckman
Project Director

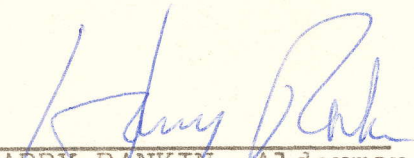
Dear Mr. Beckman,

Further to our telephone conversation this letter is to inform you that I have gone over your objectives carefully and in my opinion your association is a most helpful organization for the patients who have left Crease Clinic or any of the other institutions and require some 'half-way house' before entering society.

I believe your association is doing a good job of work in outlining the assistance that you will be giving these patients and I believe it is essential that such a service be set up in the City of Vancouver.

I have no hesitation in giving you support in terms of any assistance I may be able to supply to your association.

Yours very truly,


HARRY RANKIN, Alderman
of the City of Vancouver.

HR/rs

March 20, 1971

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Mental patients Association is attempting to fill in a critical gap in services now available to persons experiencing mental or emotional upheavals. At present, the choice is between a trip to the drug store for pills which might help avert a disasterous breakdown (but which cannot do anything to "cure" the individual) and a period of confinement in a mental institution, which is bound to leave the individual stigmatized, possibly for the rest of his or her life.

The MPA is trying to provide a third choice. By establishing a halfway house~~x~~ where persons going through these difficulties may seek help. There, these persons will find that they can talk over their problems with others who know, from personal experience, what is going on. The technique of using "experts" to deal with various problems is well-established. Until recently, however, it was not applied in the field of mental health.

I have visited the house which has been rented for this purpose by the Mental Patients Association. I have also talked at considerable length with the principles involved. I am quite satisfied that the undertaking is both responsible and serious. The need for such an undertaking should be apparent, particularly in Vancouver where the suicide rate has risen 30 per cent in the last decade. Through the work of this group, many of these types of tragedies will hopefully be avoided. I sincerely endorse the work of the Mental Patients Association and urge you or your organization to assist them in any way possible.

Bob Hunter

Bob Hunter,
Columnist, The Vancouver Sun



PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

BURNABY MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE

3405 WILLINGDON AVENUE
BURNABY 2, BRITISH COLUMBIA

August 31, 1971.

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

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Thank you for your letter of August 20th re the current status of your association. I understand that you are now in the process of applying to the B.C. Government for a larger grant to assist you in extending your facilities to serve larger numbers of people. Through my contact with yourself, and some of my professional colleagues, I believe I have some understanding of what you are trying to accomplish and how you are going about it, and can only say that I hope the Government can see its way clear to providing you with a major increase in their assistance as I believe you will use the funds wisely and to good results. You are to be congratulated for the initiative and enthusiasm you have brought to a long neglected area of patient services, and I believe you have only to point out to the Government the extent to which your services are now being used, and the obvious savings these services represent in dollars as well as human suffering over traditional in-patient care, to receive their enthusiastic support. You have shown yourselves a responsible organization and I am sure you will use the funds appropriately.

Best wishes for continued success.

Very truly yours,


Wm. C. Holt, B.A., M.D., C.R.C.P.(C)
Director,
Mental Health Centre, Burnaby.

WmCH/cd



METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICE OF GREATER VANCOUVER

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

August 23, 1971.

Telephone 876-1313

File No.

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

Dear Mr. Beckman:

Mr. Jim Karpoff and myself want to thank you for the time you spent with us on August 3, 1971, at which time you clarified for us the objectives and activities of the Mental Patients' Association, the purpose of the residential home and the future plans for your Association.

Both Mr. Karpoff and myself support wholeheartedly the objectives and activities of the Mental Patients' Association and feel that you are performing a great deed in our community. We recognize that your facilities are limited and require expansion, both in terms of staff and facilities, if they are to be more available to meet the demands placed upon your Association by the large number of ex-patients.

We understand that you are making a further submission to the Provincial Government for increased funds and we certainly wish to add our support to such a submission.

Yours sincerely,

R. J. McQueen M.D.

R. J. McQueen, M.D., D. Psych., CRCP(c)
Director of Mental Health Services.

RJM/gt

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE HOSPITAL
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

August 19th, 1971

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

During the past year, I have become familiar with the work being done by the Mental Patients Association. I have also participated in training patient volunteers for Crisis Intervention Service through the Mental Patients Association. In addition, I have spent some time at the house run by the M.P.A. and have dealt with some of the acute psychiatric problems that presented there. I have spoken at some length with the leadership of the M.P.A. and have been quite impressed with their abilities. The M.P.A. is obviously a responsible organization and is providing a much-needed service to Vancouver. I have watched the M.P.A. grow from a beginning organization to a greatly expanded one and I am presently aware of the need for increased facilities and increased funds and staffing to provide those facilities. I have been informed that the M.P.A. is applying to the government of British Columbia for a Grant increase. I wish to write this letter in support of this increase in funds for the M.P.A. I am confident that the funds would not only be used wisely, but will greatly benefit the community as a whole and especially those deriving benefit from the M.P.A. services. There is no question in my mind as a psychiatrist that an organization such as the M.P.A. keep chronic patients and acutely disturbed people from occupying expensive hospital services for long periods of time. They provide a real halfway house service at a considerable reduction in price.

I am hopeful that those responsible for providing an increase in funds to the M.P.A. will consider my remarks in support of them.

Sincerely,



Ralph Peter Uhlmann, M.D.
Resident Psychiatrist,
Health Sciences Centre Hospital.

RPU:amcb

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
SECRETARIAT D'ÉTAT

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

Suite 201, -
1271 Howe Street,
VANCOUVER 1, B.C.

August 18, 1971

Dear Mr. Beckman:

This letter concerns the approach which the Mental Patients' Association is making to the Government of British Columbia regarding funding of the Association.

It is not my mandate or purpose to suggest what the Government of British Columbia should do in this subject area; however, I can reiterate what my Department has done, and our reasons for doing it, in the hopes that such information will be of assistance to you.

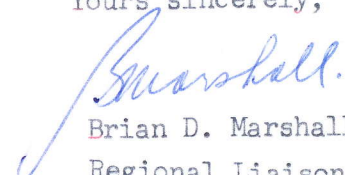
You will recall our conversations and exchange of correspondence in January regarding the plans of M.P.A. We examined your brief from the viewpoint of support for voluntary initiative seeking to meet community needs. The negotiations eventually resulted in a Citizenship Development grant in the amount of \$1,500 towards the initial setting up of a Centre by and for ex-mental patients and others experiencing similar hardships of adjustment and loneliness. This struck us as a vitally needed service and indicated a wish to help people achieve some responsibility and control over their own lives.

The M.P.A. also received a grant, in the amount of \$5,280 under the Opportunities for Youth program of the Department. This was the "Summer Crisis Project". It is an opportunity for young people to identify and serve in an area of community concern. You have a copy of the purposes of the project as outlined in the Agreement form.

I believe that the assistance provided so far is tangible evidence of the Department's interest in the subject area, and recognition of the very useful role M.P.A. is playing in it. My colleagues and I were impressed with the operation and with the degree of commitment put forth by those associated with M.P.A. The potential of M.P.A. is very great.

We wish you every success with your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely,


Brian D. Marshall,
Regional Liaison Officer,
Citizenship Development

BM/hs

EARL D. HARDIN, M.D.

PSYCHIATRY

TELEPHONE:
876-1133

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

August 31, 1971

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

Gentlemen:

This is to support your application to the provincial government for a grant for additional operating funds.

It is extremely heartwarming to see a self-help organization of this sort begin to provide such an important service to the community.

From my vantage point as psychiatrist of a few of your members, I have admired the way in which you are taking a responsible attitude toward other people with emotional disabilities. You have been careful not to over-reach yourselves or take on more than you ought to. You have won the support of many professionals, some of whom have been to the Mental Patients' Association House to give lectures and conduct seminars.

It is quite possible the services you are prepared to offer will save thousands of dollars of professional working time and tens of thousands of dollars in hospital costs even in the next two or three years.

The services will not conflict with services now offered to the community and instead will fill gaps. It is quite possible that the projects being undertaken will eventually prevent a great number of the repeated readmissions that are precipitated by so many chronically disabled patients.

I sincerely hope that the provincial government will view the current request favourably and will support the concept of salaried or grant-supported individuals from within your ranks supervising these important services.

Yours sincerely,



Earl D. Hardin, M.D.

EDH/mk

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
Health Sciences Centre Hospital

August 26, 1971

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

Dear Lanny:

Thank you for your letter of August 17, 1971. You have asked me to write, in good conscience, my opinion about the Mental Patients' Association and its contribution as a half-way house and/or crisis centre for the emotionally and mentally ill people in this community.

As you are aware, I organized a preliminary training programme for your volunteers in July of this year and about 80 to 100 people had an average of 4 hours of instruction, demonstration - discussion, with a professional person in that course. Besides that I have been occasionally involved with your people when they bring a patient to the Health Sciences Centre Hospital and some of my patients are involved with you.

I believe the people involved at the Mental Patients' Association are responsible and the organization is dependable. Your function is certainly needed and it contributes to the health and welfare of a number of both the volunteers and help seekers involved.

I have heard that great demands have been placed upon your association by the people in and out of crisis. Since you have mentioned that you are asking for a larger contribution from the British Columbia Government, in order to deliver more needed services, I do not hesitate to make a positive recommendation to the Government in support of your application.

The idea that such a government contribution would save more of the public funds by keeping more people out of the hospital is not the basis of my recommendation since I do not know that answer. I do think that your contribution should not be judged solely for its money saving potential, but for the comfort it provides people and the means for which it allows others to help their fellows.

...2

Mr. Lanny Beckman
August 26, 1971
Page 2

I find your application for \$1,000. per month from the British Columbia Government to be a reasonable amount and I support your application.

Sincerely,



Ali Ghaed, M.D.

MAG/gh

cc

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

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DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

September 21, 1971

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

To Whom It May Concern:

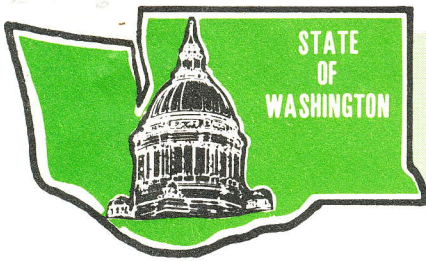
I am writing this letter in support of the Mental Patient's Association. I have had occasion to become familiar with the activities of M.P.A. both by being a resource person in their self-help training programs and through feedback from former patients that are involved with M.P.A. I understand that they are applying to the B. C. Government for a grant to expand their resources. I strongly support M.P.A. and feel that they would use the funds in the best manner possible to maximize the benefits for all involved in their patient community. Being familiar with what it costs the B. C. Government to treat patients at the Health Sciences Center, I feel that the M.P.A. is one of the best investments one can make in preventive mental health care.

Cordially,



Lee Pulos, Ph.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

LP:sr



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

SIDNEY E. SMITH
SECRETARY

DIVISIONS
HEALTH
INSTITUTIONS
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

DANIEL J. EVANS
GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF INSTITUTIONS SERVICE DELIVERY
P. O. BOX 94008
~~FORT STELLACOOM, WASHINGTON 98404~~
712 South 14th Street
Tacoma, Washington 98405

THOMAS G. PINNOCK
ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY

August 23, 1971

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In a recent trip to Vancouver we visited the Mental Patients' Association headquarters and had an opportunity to discuss the program with several residents and the Project Director, Lanny Beckman. We left with the impression that this is both a commendable and rather unique undertaking.

Although I am not well acquainted with mental health programs in B.C., I gained the impression from talks with people at MPA and the Vancouver Neighborhood Services Association that aftercare and rehabilitation services for ex-mental patients are similar to those in most states of the United States--that is, there essentially are none. This state of affairs is most unfortunate from both humanitarian and economic standpoints. With all the problems confronting societies it seems that facilities for enabling ex-patients to get on their feet after hospitalization are hardly even a matter for consideration. At best, hospital treatment seldom accomplishes more than reducing the more acute symptoms. A majority of patients leave hospitals with the same psychological and social propensities for future breakdowns which brought on the reactions that necessitated hospitalization in the first place. Given support, and needed help soon enough and over a realistic time period, a majority of the ex-patients could become useful, self-sustaining citizens. Methods for accomplishing such ends are known. Although they are rather costly, they would more than pay for themselves in reduced costs of mental illness and revenues gained to say nothing of humanitarian benefits.

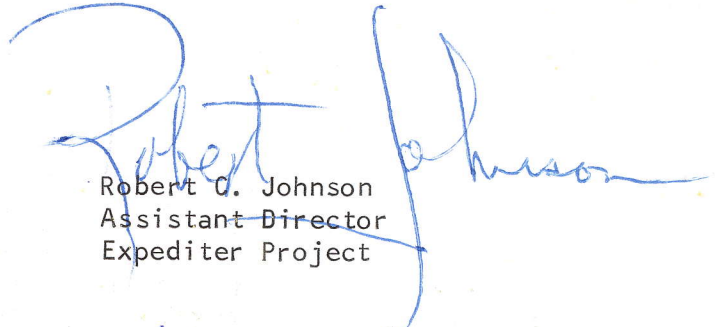
The MPA project impressed us as an excellent beginning. First things need come first; certainly a suitable play to stay, good food, companionship, mutual self-help, opportunities for constructive use of leisure time and assistance during crises are essential aspects of any aftercare and rehabilitation program. As far as we could ascertain, MPA provides all these things. What it lacks is sufficient capital to

extend such vitally needed services to the many more ex-patients that are attempting to survive on their own. We endorse the program and decidedly recommend that it receive the support necessary to extend its desperately needed good work.

Sincerely yours,



H. J. Wahler, Ph.D.
Director, Expediter
& RECOVER Projects



Robert C. Johnson
Assistant Director
Expediter Project



Ken Uhrich
Training Coordinator
Expediter Project

HJW/RCJ/KU/irr

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE FOUNDATIONS

Professor and Director,
Robert J. C. Harper, Ph.D.



BURNABY 2, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Telephone 291-3111 Area code 604

August 19, 1971

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

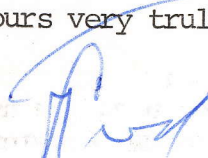
Dear Lanny,

As you know, I have watched with great interest the development of your (plural) Mental Patients' Association from its genesis in your head. From the outset I was convinced that it was an important idea; but since novel plans have normally a high mortality rate in practise I have been observing with friendly doubts. Your accomplishments to date have therefore been a pleasant surprise. I am particularly impressed with the responsibility and efficiency which you all have managed to combine with your (singular) impressively non directive and people-oriented mode of operation.

I wonder at this stage how you will now be able to cope with the crisis of success which has developed.

I hope that your application to the Provincial Government for an increase of funds will be seriously considered. This would surely be the simplest solution. The savings in public funds which you people effect by keeping each other out of hospitals certainly should be an impressive argument, even apart from the fact (which I believe you can substantiate) that for many people the approach of the M.P.A. is a more effective one.

Yours very truly,



Professor Fred Brown

FB/el

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA IN THE LOWER MAINLAND OF B.C.
4010 VICTORIA DRIVE, VANCOUVER 12, B.C. — TELEPHONE: 872-2578

September 3, 1971.

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

Dear Sirs:

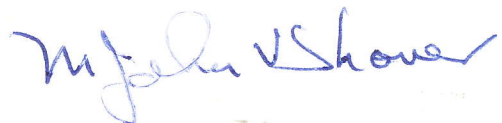
This letter will describe our interest and relationship of your Association. You already are aware of this but its written version may be of some help to you.

The Metropolitan Council is now that arm of our church which acts as a kind of local investigation whenever appeals for funds are made to the National Office of our Board of Evangelism and Social Service. Such an appeal went forward from the Mental Patients Association and we were asked to make such an investigation.

The concept and program of the Association appealed to us in the first place. We are committed ourselves to this kind of self-help group. We appreciated the fact that the program got underway so quickly with and without extensive financial backing. We were concerned that the program, while involving the self-help principle, not put itself in a position where it was outside professional back up. Our enquiries lead us to believe that the professional back up was taken care of.

As a result of our investigation we recommended support of the request to our Board and I, therefore, feel that I can pass this word on to you. According to our lights and knowledge we would commend this programme and its needs to whomsoever is presented with a request for help.

Yours sincerely,



M. John V. Shaver.

MJVS/jp