

PSYCHIATRIC/PSYCHOLOGICAL REFERRALS AT WINLATON

The present procedures relating to referrals to consultants from the Children's Court Clinic at Winlaton are as follows:

1. All recommendations for referral to the Children's Court Clinic staff are discussed at the Classification & Review Meeting to decide if a referral is appropriate. (In cases where there is an urgency to the problem, a request can be made directly to the nursing sister who contacts the Clinic by 'phone.)
2. Recommendations for psychiatric/psychological referral may come from
 - (a) within the institution - e.g. Youth Officer staff, teachers, nursing sister, L. & R. Unit staff, girl herself, etc.;
 - (b) outside the institution - e.g. Regional Worker, Y.W.S., hostels, C.C. Clinic, parents, Magistrate, etc.
3. A written referral is done in each case, outlining the specific reasons for the referral, relevant history and questions to which answers are sought. (The proforma currently used is inadequate and is under revision by the Clinic staff.) Referrals may be directed to specific members of the Clinic team, depending on the nature of the problem.

Responsibility for writing referrals rests with

- A. L. & R. Unit staff when the request for psych. assessment comes from a Regional Worker;
- B. Chief Youth Officer when the request for referral originates elsewhere.

Written referrals are distributed as follows:

1. C.C. Clinic staff
 2. Green File
 3. T.I.F.
4. Written reports from the Clinic staff are submitted to the stenographer at Winlaton for typing and distribution as follows:
 1. Deputy Superintendent (Case Planning) who will arrange for perusal by appropriate Superintendent, and then place report on Green File.
 2. Head Office file.
 3. Nursing sister for psychiatric file (at Winlaton).
 4. Children's Court Clinic.
 5. Chief Youth Officer, to be filed on T.I.F.
 6. Winlaton School.
 7. Regional Worker in appropriate cases.
 5. Current arrangements for attendance by Clinic members are as follows:

Monday	- Mr. Michael Groome, psychiatric charge nurse
Tuesday	- Ms. Barbara Halford, clinical psychologist
Wednesday	- Dr. Tony Chandrasekara, psychiatrist
Thursday	- Ms. Barbara Halford
Friday	- 'Phone contact only.

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6. A card index system is kept in the Clinic interviewing room, to which relevant staff have access to ascertain in doubtful cases exactly which Clinic worker is involved and when the girl was last seen. This is an aid to Clinic staff as well ~~as~~ in cases where more than one team member is involved.
7. The Clinic staff act as consultants to the institutional staff, and their expertise provides valuable input into decisions concerning the treatment and management of the youth at Winlaton. Recommendations made by the Clinic staff are fully considered by the Classification & Review Committee. However, the Committee may choose not to accept these recommendations in the light of overall case planning and treatment considerations.
8. Clinic staff are encouraged to be involved in case discussions at Classification & Review Meetings, but are often precluded from doing so by workload pressures and scheduling difficulties.
9. It is the role of the Children's Court Clinic to oversee and supervise all psychiatric/psychological treatment at Winlaton. All referrals to outside psychiatrists, M.H.A. clinics or other similar community agencies, are to be handled by the C.C. Clinic staff in order to facilitate careful screening and avoid inappropriate referrals.
10. Meetings are held every 3 months (approx.) between Clinic staff and Winlaton medical and senior level staff to examine policies, procedures and any problems affecting psychiatric services at Winlaton.

MM/go 16.1.79