IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

NATHALIA GRISWOLD, et. al.)

Plaintiffs,

NO. CIV 77-144 PHX CAM

PRETRIAL ORDER

JIM RILEY, et. al.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Defendants.

Following pretrial proceedings in this cause pursuant to Rule 42 of the Court, IT IS ORDERED:

This is an action for certain declaratory and injunctive relief based upon alleged violations of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment, the Eighth Amendment, \$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1976.

The action involves six named mentally retarded plaintiffs residing at the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge (ATP-C) and a proposed plaintiff class of all residents of ATP-C. Plaintiffs contend that the conditions at the Training Program result in harm to, and deterioration of, the physical and mental health of the residents. Plaintiffs contend that defendants fail to provide adequate care, habilitation, and treatment to the residents of ATP-C. Defendants deny these contentions and contend that the complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted or in the alternative, the Court should abstain.

The Plaintiffs are: Nathalia Griswold, Richard Beasley, Roger Mark, Kenneth McKinney, Charles Ashenfelter, and Paul Skogan. Plaintiffs Motion to Certify the Class consisting of all residents of the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge has not yet been ruled upon.

Jim Riley, Brian Lensink, Ed Crowley, The Defendants are: and Bruce Babbitt. .

Statement of Jurisdiction:

Plaintiffs contend that 42 U.S.C. 1983 and 28 U.S.C. \$82201 and 2202 authorize their action for declaratory and injunctive relief to redress deprivation, under color of state law, of alleged rights secured by the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, by \$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and by the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 6010. Plaintiffs also contend that the amount in controversy exceeds \$10,000 exclusive of interest and costs.

Defendants contend that Plaintiffs have failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted or, in the alternative that this Court should abstain.

If Plaintiffs' contentions are true, this Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §\$1331 and 1343.

III.

The following facts are admitted by the parties and require no proof:

- A. Most residents of the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge lack the capacity to request release.
 - 1. Of the 624 residents, 250 residents have been adjudicated incapacitated or are minors and thus have no legal capacity to determine their residence nor legal capacity to request release.
 - 2. Most of the remaining residents lack the capacity to request release due to mental retardation and any existing capacity to request release by any particular resident is seriously hindered by his current placement in the Training Program.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

The parents of minor residents and guardians of residents can request release of their child or ward.

- Most residents of the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge are restricted in their choice of living arrangements.
 - 1. Most residents, due to mental incapacity or legal minority, lack the capacity to choose where to live.
 - Parents of minor residents and guardians of residents are empowered to choose alternative living arrangements.
 - For those residents who have families, their families are unwilling or unable to to have residents live at home with their families.
 - A shortage of alternative community based services severely restricts the alternatives available to residents, parents and guardians.
- The physical structures, i.e. buildings, at the Train-C. ing Program at Coolidge have a significant effect on the kinds and levels of services which can be and are provided to the residents.
 - Department Regulation No. R6-6-107 lists the capacity of the Training Program at Coolidge as 350 people. The present population is approximately 625 residents. result overcrowding:
 - (a) Affects the behavior of the residents in a detrimental way.
 - (b) Either increases the possibility of physical injury by residents

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

upon other residents or increases the possibility of physical injury to residents caused by other residents or by self-abuse.

- (c) Causes lack of privacy.
- (d) Makes certain habilitation techniques more difficult.
- The sleeping areas for residents typically consist of large open areas with hard surface walls. There may be 30 residents in one room, with their beds three to four feet apart. The sleeping areas lack decorations, furniture other than beds, and storage areas for individual belongings.
- The dayrooms, or living areas, are typiз. cally barren with hard surfaced floors and ceilings, little furniture and poor lighting.
- The bathroom facilities, despite a longterm renovation program, are generally unsuitable for both ordinary living and habilitation purposes. The equipment rarely provides for handicapped residents. Soap and toilet paper is often not available. Toilet stalls often Privacy is generally unavailable. lack doors.
- Bathroom facilities in each cottage do not meet standards involving privacy or sanitation of the Bureau of Mental Retardation set forth in the Standards for Services for Developmentally Disabled Persons, Draft 1, January, 1977, \$2.5.1.3.11 through \$2.5.1.3.12.1.

- (a) Some residents are locked inside their cottages without access to the outside.
- (b) There are improvements necessary to enable the physically handicapped residents to move about as freely as possible.
- D. There is insufficient staff to provide a level of habilitation which meets the recognized needs of the residents. There are insufficient staff to protect residents from physical injury.
 - 1. Defendants recognize the need for additional direct care staff: Each budget prepared by ATP-C Management in recent years has requested an increase in direct care staff.
 - 2. Direct care staff, in addition to caring for the residents, are responsible for routine housekeeping chores in the residential building. Recent employment of housekeeping personnel through a one-year federal grant, however, has partially solved the problem for the day shifts.

3. Defendants in interrogatories revealed the following staff/resident ratios on selected dates: (See attached copies of answers to interrogatories 15(c) and 15(d)). (Attachment "A").

- 4. Minimum standards for staffing of residential facilities for the mentally retarded have been established in similar lawsuits:
 - (a) The court in <u>Wyatt v. Stickney</u>, 344 F. Supp. 387, 390, employed the standards of the joint commission on accreditation of hospitals. The ratios for direct care staff to residents are as follows:

Mild 1:2.5
Moderate 1:1.25
Severe/Profound 1:1

- (b) The settlement in New York Association for Retarded Citizens v. Rockefeller, 357 F. Supp. 752 (EDNY 1973), 393 F. Supp. 715 (EDNY 1975), established the following standards for direct care staff.
- 1) Each resident at Willowbrook shall receive appreciable and appropriate attention each day from the direct care staff in his living unit whose primary responsibility shall be the care and development of each resident. To this ends, appropriate provisions shall be made to ensure that direct care staff are not required to perform routine housekeeping chores, except during the 3rd shift (night).

2) Direct care staff shall participate in the inter-discipinary team decision-making process and individual care, development and services programming, as described in Section D, with the responsibility for individual residents set forth in that section.

- 3) Willowbrook shall employ and maintain sufficient therapy aides at the grade 7 and 9 levels to ensure that the following number shall be present and on duty:
 - a. During the hours of the day and evening when residents are awake.
 - 1. One therapy aide
 for every four residents in buildings
 primarily for residents
 who are children, nonambulatory or multiplyhandicapped, and for
 those residents receiving
 intensive psychiatric
 care.
 - 2. One therapy aide for every sixteen adult residents presently residing in buildings 19 and 32.
 - 3. One therapy aide for every resident receiving an intensive behavior modification program.

6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	

5. Absenteeism among the direct care staff compounds the problem of adequate staffing.

- 6. Defendants admit that the actual staff/resident ratios are insufficient to minimally protect the physical and mental health of the residents.
 - (a) The low ratios in certain cottages prevent adequate personal care of the residents. An example is the fact that residents have been observed being fed in a supine position; this technique may have dangerous consequences.
 - (b) The low staff ratios in certain cottages may lead to regression in the residents' living skills.
 - (c) The low staff/resident ratios increase the possibility of physical injury to the residents from self or others. During March 1977 and August 1977, residents suffered the following physical injuries:

Injuries to the:	March 1977	August 1977
Head Face Mouth Teeth Hands Arms Feet Legs Neck Chest Abdomen	March 1977 69 95 35 1 57 94 39 43 18 14 6 32	August 1977 67 112 27 2 44 94 34 44 24 14 8 29
Back Buttocks Geńitals	8	14

(d) A higher staff/resident ratio would allow many residents to live in a less restrictive environment. With additional staff, both the environment at ATP-C itself could be made less restrictive and residents could be taught necessary skills to live in the community. Qualifications for direct care sta

7. Qualifications for direct care staff specify no particular training or experience in mental retardation or health care but, rather, require only an eighth grade education. On the job training is limited and does not meet, even marginally the training standards of the Accreditation Council for Services for Mentally Retarded and Other Developmentally Disabled Persons (AC/MR-DD), Standards for Services for Developmentally Disabled Persons, Draft 1, January, 1977.

- E. The habilitation programs at ATP-C are inadequate to meet the recognized needs of the residents.
 - 1. The programs offered the named plaintiffs are examples:
 - (a) Mr. McKinney, who has severe constriction of all limbs, receives physical therapy from a para-professional for ½ hour per day, five days a week, and this time is shared with another resident. There is little record keeping to show any progress in this program.

(b) Mr. McKinney attends sensory stimulation for 2 hours a day. This program is conducted by a staff member with no professional (including intensive in-service training) training in sensory stimulation. The staff member has a high school education. Mr. McKinney is in a class with four other severely disabled persons.

- (c) The cottage programming from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. and 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. to teach Mr. McKinney self-help skills (such as eating and dressing) lacks both sufficient staff to provide individual attention and recordkeeping to chart progress.
- (d) The programs for the other named plaintiffs, including the readiness, sensory stimulation, cottage programming, and recreation programs suffer from the same defects: insufficient staff, inadequate record-keeping, lack of trained staff, lack of sustained, consistent programming.
- (e) Roger Mark, Charles Ashenfelter,
 Richard Beasley and Nathalia Griswold
 are in need of structured behavior
 management programs with a proper
 monitoring system in order to reduce
 inappropriate behavior. None of
 these plaintiffs receive such programming.

2. There is insufficient physical space
and equipment for habilitation programming
particularly for vocational training and
training in life skills such as cooking,
housekeeping, washing clothes, etc.

- F. Physical and chemical restraints are used to control the behavior of some residents.
 - 1. ATP-C uses physical restraining devices to prevent residents from harming themselves or others. These devices include bubble jackets, hand and feet restraints, helmets, mittens and face masks.
 - (a) The use of such restraints impedes participation in habilitation programs. Individualized treatment plans can be devised to control or eliminate most maladaptive behavior. There are established techniques to deal with such behaviors which interfere less with a residents' freedom of action than do physical restraints.
 - (b) The use of physical restraints hinder residents from participating in whatever habilitative programs are available.
 - 2. Two hundred fifty-one residents out of six hundred twenty-four regularly receive psychotropic (i.e. phenothiazines or so called "tranquilizers") medication.
 - (a) The medication practices at ATP-C do not meet the minimum

28

29

30

31

32

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

standards established in the AC/MR-DD standards. The standards are set forth below:

- 1.4.6.5* Medication is not used as punishment, for the convenience of staff, as a substitute for a program, or in quantities that interfere with an individual's developmental (C 2.3.1.11.1-4, R 2.1.8.8) program.
 - 1.4.6.5.1* Psychotropic or behavior-modifying drugs are used only as an integral part of an individual program plan that is designed by an interdisciplinary team to lead to a less restrictive way of managing, and ultimately to the elimination of, the behaviors for which the drugs are employed. (R 2.1.8.8.1) Each program plan utilizing a psychotropic drug:
 - 1.4.6.5.1.1* Specified the behavior to be modified, a time-limited (no more than 30 days) prescription by a fully licensed phsyician, and the data that are to be collected in order. to assess progress toward the treatment objective; (R 2.1.8.8. 1.1 r)
 - 1.4.6.5.1.2* Documents the fact that any potenttially harmful effects of the drugs employed have been carefully weighed against the harmful effects of the

behavior for which the drugs are given, and that the harm-ful effects of the behavior clearly outweigh the potential-ly harmful effects of the drugs; (R 2.1.8.8.1.2)

- 1.4.6.5.1.3 Includes explicit provision for gradual diminishing of dosage and ultimate discontinuation of the drug. (R 2.1.8.8.1.3)
- 1.4.6.5.2 The individual's record contains written authorization for the use of
 psychotropic medication signed by the
 individual, if competent, or by the
 individual's parents or guardian.
 - 1.4.6.5.2.1 Individuals of legal age who are mentally competent to understand the purpose and nature of the treatment participate in the plan for psychotropic drug therapy, give their permission for such treatment, and are allowed to discontinue the treatment under medical supervision at any time.

 (R 2.1.8.8.3)
 - of an individual for whom psychotropic medication is proposed are informed, both orally (by conference, if possible) and in writing, of the drugs to be administered. Such notification:

· 23

1.4.6.5.2.2.1 States in a simple, nontechnical, and comprehensible manner the drugs to
be administered, their
expected benefits, and their
possible hazards;

- 1.4.6.5.2.2.2 Is given in such form as is
 necessary to communicate the
 information effectively;
 notice to persons have perceptual or language impediments
 is given by a method or in a
 language that is comprehensible
 to them.
- 1.4.6.5.2.3 Individuals or parents and guardians have the right to refuse the outlined course of psychotropic medication, in which event the agency has the right to appeal the matter to a court of competent jursidiction for adjudication.
 - (b) Residents on phenothiazines are evaluated at least every three months regarding dosage level. This evaluation includes an examination by the medical doctor of the residents as well as laboratory testing and a review of the patient's needs. There is also daily observation of the residents by the staff.
 - (c) Psychotropic medications tend to suppress the alertness and, therefore, the learning ability of mentally retarded persons.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

(d) Hazardous side effects which can result from the use of psychotropic medication include, but are not limited to: hypersensitivity to sunlight; a ataxia (inability to maintain balance and gait); gingivall hyperplasia (a gum tissue marked by inflamation, bleeding and increased growth); and tradive dyskinesia (a condition marked by difficulty in performing voluntary movement, protrusion of the tongue, puffy cheeks, and chewing movements; there is no known treatment and the onset of this condition is subtle and may be difficult to recognize, particularly in a crowded situation with inadequate staff).

- Every resident at ATP-C could benefit from services provided in a less restrictive environment than that found at ATP-C.
 - A few cottages are kept locked (or were kept locked at the time the suit was intiated) at all times with the residents having no access to the outside.
 - There is insufficient equipment such as wheelchairs to allow physically handicapped residents mobility and freedom of movement.
 - There are architectural barriers to the freedom of movement.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Few ATP-C residents are using community services. This is due mainly to the physical isolation of ATP-C and the small population of surrounding communities.

- (a) Only two of the minors who reside at ATP-C attend public schools.
- (b) Only eleven residents receive vocational training outside of ATP-C.
- (c) Local community recreation services are utilized only in a limited way due to transportation and staffing problems.
- (d) Because of their residence in a public institution, plaintiffs are not eligible for certain federal funds such as social services through Title XX of the Social Security Act, and Supplemental Security Income Benefits.
- If community alternatives were available, most ATP-C residents could live outside the institution.
 - (a) Alternative community residential programs must be developed and ex-This will take both time and panded. money.
 - (b) The full range of services necessary to meet the needs of mildly and moderately retarded person presently

ROBERT BECKETT, ATTORNEY LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILIT ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS, INC. SEIO SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85040

is available in Maricopa, Pima,
Santa Cruz, Yuma, Coconino,
Yavapai, Pinal and Gila. Such
programs and facilities have the
capacity to expand. Appropriate
services can be provided for all
retarded persons, including those
who are severely and profoundly
retarded and multiply handicapped.
This will take both time and money.

(c) Current plans are to move approximately half of the current population of ATP-C into community alternatives by 1981.

VI. CONTESTED FACTS

- A. Overcrowding makes habilitation in certain cottages, including Cardinal and Palo Verde, impossible.
- B. The inadequate physical environment at the Training Program has had the following effects on the residents: regression in the development of skills, psychological and physical harm, development of aggressive and other maladaptive behaviors, subjection to excessive dosages of tranquilizing medication, subjection to physical restraining devices for control purposes. Conditions at ATP-C result in harm to its residents.
- C. There is no on-cottage programming available during the evening hours or weekends to teach Kenneth McKinney or other residents self help skills. Lack of such programming substantially reduces any effectiveness the programming provided during weekdays might have.
- D. The programs provided the named plaintitfs are ineffective.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

E. Physical restraints are used as resident management device in lieu of the development of adequate programs.

- Staff are not trained to observe positive or aversive affects of the drugs.
- G. Given adequate resources approximately 300 residents of the Training Program can be transferred to community based facilities, including the Training Programs at Phoenix and Tucson by October 1, 1980.
- H. The residents of ATP-C are confined in fact by rules. regulations and practices of the Defendants.

Arizona Revised Statutes provide the basic framework through which the named plaintiffs have been admitted, may be diseharged, may be permitted to make visits outside ATP-C, and may be returned to the ATP-C if their departure is not authorized. A.R.S. 36-561, 36-565, 36-566, 36-567.

While the named plaintiffs live within ATP-C grounds, defendant Jim Riley and his employees determine the cottage in which the named plaintiffs will live, determine when and in what fashion the cottages will be locked, determine whom plaintiffs will live with, determine what the physical condition of the cottage will be, determine what property will be available to the named plaintiffs, determine what visitors will be permitted to see the plaintiffs, and determine the procedure under which such visitors can see the plaintiffs (currently all visitors must be identified as authorized visitor and must receive a pass permitting visits to cottages), determine what physical, medical, and psychological care is given to the named plaintiffs, determine what program is offered. Defendant Riley determines through policy when and how residents may be physically and/or medically restrained. Defendant Riley and his employees determine for many residents the time they will rise in the morning and the time they will sleep at night. In essence, Defendant Riley and his employees exercise complete control over the residents' lives.

SERVICES PROJECT FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARGED CITIZENS, INC. 5610 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 95040 (602) 243-1787

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Plaintiffs are aware that Defendant Riley and his employees have issued numerous policies concerning the above but are not in possession of these policies other than one regarding the use of physical and medical restraints.

Residents of ATP-C cannot effectuate their own release

A.R.S. 36-466 requires that aperson may be discharged by the director upon written request signed by"the person, his parents, guardian, or legal custodian of the mentally retarded person". None of these named plaintiffs are able to exercise their personal right to request their own release because of mental incapacity for the reason stated in Plaintiffs Answer to Interrogatory #126.

Roger Mark, Vicki Turnbow, Charles Ashenfelter, Kenneth McKinney, Paul Skogan, and Richard Beasley presently have no parents or guardian able to exercise the parental or guardian authority to request release. The next of friend for these plaintiffs is currently seeking the appointment of the Public Guardian. Ms. Doris Griswold is the guardian of Nathalia Griswold.

The guardian of Nathalia Griswold and any future guardians of the other named plaintiffs are not presently able to exercise the guardian's right to request the release of the plaintiffs because there are no available alternatives.

Plaintiffs can bring this lawsuit because their guardian and next of friend here can act to enforce the personal, human, constitutional and statutory rights of the named plaintiffs to decent humane care and treatment.

In 1976-77, approximately 233 children resided at According to defendants recitals in its budget request for 1978, 47 of these children receive less than 2 hours a day of educational services, 86 received only 2-4 hours a day while 36 Without commenti received more than 6 hours (See Attachment "Y"). on the quality of the education provided, plaintiffs know that almost every child in ATP-C needs a full day school program and is in a full day program. able to participate

Plaintiffs are aware that the discrepancies in prevocational and vocational programming are similar to those found in educational programming for children as stated above. These discrepancies are compounded by the fact that, at the present time, clients who have personal funds are able to buy needed habilitation and stimulation (i.e. companions, tutoring, etc.). Residents without such personal funding, but with similar or greater needs, are not provided a similar level of service.

Defendants offer to some residents of ATP-C the opportunity to transfer to appropriate living arrangements operated or funded by the defendants yet deny other residents the same opportunity.

K. Defendant, Bruce Babbitt, receives federal funds under the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 6010.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

В.

Are the plaintiffs involuntarily confined at ATP-C? Plaintiffs contend that both legally and factually they They contend that they are involuntarily confined by the State. lack the capacity to request release under A.R.S. \$36-566.

Defendants contend that if plaintiffs' allegations are true they are entitled to discharge under A.R.S. \$36~566(A) because they are no longer benefiting from the care and treatment available at the Center or, in the alternative, that plaintiffs may request discharge under subsection (B) of that statute. In answer to plaintiffs' contention of lack of capacity, defendants would point out that just as this lawsuit has been filed on behalf of plaintiffs, request for discharge can be made on behalf of plaintiffs.

Does the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States guarantee to residents of a state mental retardation institution the right to receive care and habilitation in that setting which is the least restrictive of their personal liberty?

Plaintiffs contend that where the state undertakes to provide care and treatment to these mentally retarded residents, the least drastic means for achieving the purpose must be utilized. The least drastic means is that which is least restrictive of these residents' liberty. Case law supports the rights of these residents to community based services close to families and friends.

Defendants contend that where the state undertakes to provide care and treatment to the mentally retarded there is no constitutional right to the least restrictive alternative. case, an institution may in fact be the least restrictive alternative for some people.

Whether Plaintiffs' confinement deprive them of equal D. protection of the law in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Plaintiffs contend that where a person's fundamental right of liberty is affected by a classification, equal protection requires that the classification be subject to rigid scrutiny and justified by a compelling state interest.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Plaintiffs further contend that since the classification of persons who are confined is based on their need for treatment, confinement of plaintiffs without treatment deprives them of equal protection of the laws.

Plaintiffs further contend that by withholding from plaintiffs the normal protections and services which it extends to its other citizens through exercise of the police power and parens patriae function, the state deprives plaintiffs of equal protection of the laws.

Defendants contend that there is no fundamental right involved here since plaintiffs are not confined by state action.

Defendants contend that Plaintiffs' argument regarding tre ment and equal protection is not comprehensible and thus is invalid

Defendants contend that the State does not withhold from plaintiffs "the normal protections and services which it extends to its other citizens through exercise of the police power and parens patriae function". On the contrary, the State has voluntarily undertaken to provide additional services to plaintiffs above Plaintiffs, and beyond the services provided to other citizens. Plaintiff for example, receive medical care provided by the State. are not denied equal protection of the law.

Does the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, through the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment, guarantee to plaintiffs the right to be protected from harm?

Plaintiffs contend that the constitutional prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment includes protection from physical injuries, access to sanitary bathroom facilities, protection from neglect and protection from conditions which cause regression or prevent development of an individual's capabilities.

Defendants contend that the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment does not apply to plaintiffs' situation, which is neither criminal nor quasi-criminal. Defendants also contend that none of the plaintiffs is "punished".

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Does \$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. \$794, require defendants not to deny services to the residents of ATP-C which are equally as effective as those services provided other citizens in Arizona and which are provided in the most integrated settings appropriate to the residents' needs?

\$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides in pertinent part:

> No otherwise qualified handicapped individual ...shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance (29 U.S.C. 794).

Plaintiffs contend that they are denied many benefits that the State of Arizona and its political subdivisions offer its people: residential services including nursing and personal care homes, and educational, vocational, mental health, counseling, recreation and physical therapy services.

Plaintiffs further contend that the scant services offered by the Training Program are grossly inadequate and ineffective, unequal to services offered to other citizens, and not provided in the least restrictive, most appropriate setting.

Plaintiffs contend these allegations constitute a violation of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Plaintiffs contend case law establishes that \$504 supports a private cause of action when administrative remedies are not effective and have been exhausted as has occurred in this case.

Defendants contend that \$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides for no private cause of action, and in any case, defendants are not discriminating in violation of \$504.

Does the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C.§6010) guarantee the residents of the Training Program at Coolidge a right to treatment in the least restrictive setting appropriate to the residents' needs?

The Bill of Rights Act explicitly reocgnizes that:

- 1. Persons with developmental disabilities have a right to appropriate treatment, services and habilitation for such disabilities.
- 2. The treatment, services, and habilitation for a person with developmental disabilities should be designed to maximize the developmental potential of the person and should be provided in the setting that is least restrictive of the person's personal liberty.
- 3. The Federal Government and the State both have an obligation to assure that public funds are not provided to any institutional or other residential program for persons with developmental disabilities that:
- (a) does not provide treatment, services and habilitation which is appropriate to the needs of such person; or
- (b) does not meet the following
 minimum standards;
 - i. Provision of a nourishing, well-balanced daily diet to the persons with developmental disabilities being served by the program.
 - ii. Provision to such persons of appropriate and suffi-

cient medical and dental services.

- iii. Prohibition of the use of physical restraint on such persons unless absolutely necessary and prohibition of the use of such restraint as punishment or as a substitute for a habilitation program.
- iv. Prohibition of the excessive use of chemical restraints on such persons and the use of such restraints as punishment or as a substitute for a habilitation program or in quantities that interfere with services, treatment, or habilitation for such persons.
 - v. Permission for close relatives
 of such persons to visit them
 at reasonable hours without
 prior notice.
- vi. Compliance with adequate fire and safety standards as may be promulgated by the secretary.

Plaintiffs contend in their amended "Complaint" that defendants fail to provide treatment, services and habilitation appropriate to the needs of mentally retarded persons. Plaintiffs further allege defendants excessively use chemcial restraints and fail to provide adequate and sanitary bathroom facilities.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Defendants contend that 42 U.S.C. \$6010 contains nothing to suggest that it provides plaintiffs with the standing or right to compel the provision of increased services by the State. Rather it is clear from the very words of the statute that if anything can be characterized as a remedy, it is that:

> The Federal Government and the States both (3)have an obligation to assure that public funds are not provided to any institutional or other residential program for persons with developmental disabilities that --

[fail to meet certain enumerated standards].

Should the Court Abstain in this matter?

Defendants contend that the Court should abstain for two reasons. First, plaintiffs are entitled to release from ATP-C If plaintiffs disagree with defendants' inunder A.R.S. \$36-566. terpretation of this state statute, the question should first be addressed by the Arizona courts, which have never construed the If it is held to create a right to release, then there statute. is no involuntary confinement under the facts here alleged. in turn obviates the necessity for this Court to address the federa constitutional claims.

Second, the Arizona legislature is currently in session and two bills have been introduced which, if passed, should elimina or at least materially alter plaintiffs' federal constitutional and statutory claims. The first bill appropriates an additional 1 to 1-1/2 million dollars for the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge. The second bill is a sweeping revision of the mental retardation statutes which will provide a state statutory basis for many, if For reasons of federalnot most, of plaintiffs' legal assertions. ism and comity the State must be given an opportunity to put into effect its program.

The gravamen of the complaint herein is funding, pure and simple. From beginning to the end the pleading alleges insufficient staff, facilities and programs. Plaintiffs' requested

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

remedy for the alleged insufficiency is more staff, facilities and The only way for defendants to provide more staff, programs. facilities and programs is to spend more money -- State money. Plaintiffs ask this Court to order defendants to spend State funds. Such an order would be in violation of the Eleventh Amendment.

Plaintiffs contend that the prerequisite of abstention is the presence of an issue of state law, the resolution of which may eliminate or materially alter the federal constitutional question. Defendants raise no state law issue. Abstention is not applicable.

The Eleventh Amendment is not a jurisdictional bar to The courts, in suits seeking to protect the the litigation. constitutional rights and the physical well-being of persons, have consistently found the Eleventh Amendment not to be a bar to action directed against individuals who are state officials.

Plaintiffs acknowledge the efforts of the defendants to improve conditions for the residents of ATP-C. Plaintiffs also know that the named plaintiffs continue to live in conditions little or no better or worse than the conditions existing on February 28, 1977, when the suit was initiated.

VII.

The following additional issues of fact are deemed material by the Plaintiffs:

NATHALIA GRISWOLD

Miss Griswold does not receive special exercises and/or physical therapy for her leg. Nor is Miss Griswold provided any general recreation or exercise programming.

- The following additional issues of law are deemed material by the Defendants:
 - If this Court holds that plaintiffs have a due process right to treatment

in the least restrictive setting suitable to their needs, what standards of treatment are constitutionally required?

Defendants, of course, continue to contend that there is no constitutional right to treatment in the least restrictive environment. Defendants further contend that if there were such a constitutional right, it would not be a right to the most ideal treatment possible. Thus this Court, if it finds a right, must also set out the "minimum" constitutional standards for adequate habilitation of the mentally Wyatt v. Stickney, 344 F. Supp. 373, at 395 (M.D. Ala. 1972); see also, New York State Association for Retarded Children, Inc. v. Carey, 393 F. Supp. 715, at 718 (E.D.N.Y. 1975).

Plaintiffs contend that the issue defendants now raise is one of remedy for the plaintiff class. Should the Court find that the conditions at the Training Program do not constitute treatment and the Court finds a right to treatment, the minimum standards ordered by the Court will provide relief to this plaintiff class.

3. Are defendants in violation of the constitutional standards discussed in the above issue 2?

Defendants, of course, continue to contend there is no constitutional

right to treatment for plaintiffs. Defendants further contend that if the Court finds such a right, defendants meet minimum constitutional standards.

Plaintiffs contend this is a fact question.

Plaintiffs contend that the conditions at
the Training Program do not constitute
treatment.

4. If this Court holds that the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United State guarantees to plaintiffs the right to be protected from harm, what standards are to be used to define cruel and unusual punishment in relation to plaintiffs?

Defendants, of course, contend that the Eighth Amendment does not apply to plaintiffs. Further, defendants contend that even if the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment were theoretically to apply to plaintiffs' non-criminal circumstances there have been no factual allegations which even originally give rise to a cruel and unusual punishment issue. Any standards set by the Court would be the most blatant form of dictum.

Plaintiffs contend they will show that conditions at the Training Program at Coolidge constitute cruel and unusual punishment in that residents are subject to physical and mental injury, to neglect, to conditions causing regression or which prevent development of an

ROBERT BECKETT, ATTORNEY
LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS, INC.
\$610 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85040

18.

individual's capabilities, and are forced to use bathrooms lacking sanitation and privacy. If the Court finds the condition constitutes cruel and unusual punishment, the Court will develop relief to correct these conditions. This is a relief question.

5. If the Court finds in plaintiffs' favor on the Eighth Amendment issue, are defendants in violation of the constitutional standards discussed in question 4?

Defendants continue to contend the Eighth

Amendment cruel and unusual punishment

provision has no application to the facts

here. Defendants further contend if the

Court finds such an application, defendants

meet minimum standards.

Plaintiffs contend this is a fact issue:
Are plaintiffs subject to cruel and
unusual punishment?

6. If this Court finds that \$504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 29 U.S.C. \$794 provides a private cause of action, what kinds and levels of services to plaintiffs are required by the statute?

Defendants contend that \$504 requires only what it says: plaintiffs may not be "excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of nor be subjected to discrimination under" any federally

ROBERT BECKETT, ATTORNEY EGAL SERVICES PROJECT FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS, INC. 5610 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE, PROFENIX, ARIZONA 85040

funded program "solely by reason of his handicap" (Emphasis added). There is no requirement of extra services. For example, if vehicular transportation is required for anyone who wishes to participate in a certain program, a non-ambulatory person is no more entitled to free transportation than is an ambulatory person. Or for example, if certain services are available only in the large metropolitan areas of the State handicapped rural residents are no more entitled to that service than are non-handicapped rural residents.

In short, plaintiffs have no more a right to adequate services than do all other Arizona residents. Yet plaintiffs appear to argue that \$504 requires the State to meet their needs whether or not the State is meeting the needs of the rest of the State's population.

Plaintiffs contend this is an issue of law as set forth in the Contested Issues of Law Section VI, F.

7. If the Court finds for plaintiffs on the \$504 issue, are defendants in violation of the standards set by \$504?

Defendants contend that otherwise qualified plaintiffs are not, solely by reason of their handicaps, excluded

from, nor denied the benefits of, nor subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Because its resources are finite, the
State must always choose among alternatives in offering services.

Defendants contend, however, that
they do not illegally discriminate
against plaintiffs in the provision
of benefits.

Plaintiffs contend that defendants' argument here belongs in the \$504 issue as set forth in the Contested Issues of Law Section VI, F.

8. If this Court finds that the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, 45 U.S.C. \$5010, grants plaintiffs a right to treatment in the least restrictive setting appropriate to the residents' needs enforceable by a private cause of action, is there any remedy beyond a cut-off of federal funds to ATP-C?

Defendants contend that paragraph 3 of this Act makes it clear that if any remedy at all was contemplated, a cut-off of funds is the remedy. A reading of the entire act, however, makes it clear that the section is advisory only, an expression of Congressional sentiment.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

Plaintiffs contend that the Act provides a remedy that as long as defendants receive federal monies they must provide care and treatment of plaintiffs in the least restrictive setting.

VIII.

The following witnesses will be called by the parties upon trial:

a) On behalf of Plaintiffs:

Fred Girardeau

Barney Moore

Helene Kaplan

Molly Stainbrook

Nancy Stanley

Doris Griswold

Gladys Owensby

Richard Sprague

Marshall Abbott

Johnna Miller

Dave Rasey ·

John Sullivan

Sue Summers

Kathleen Pemberton

Joseph Pensis

Judy Smith

Bernie Ross

Judy Roberts

Brenda Garcia

b) On behalf of Defendants:

James Boyd, M.D.

Milton Robinson, M.D.

Mary Slaughter

1

2

Robert Harmon 3 Katie Richards Frank Menolacino, M.D. 5 Ron Barber 6 Jerry Dandoy 7 Sue Elliott 8 Ed Crowley 9 10 IX. 11 No depositions will be offered. 12 Χ. 13 The following exhibits are admissable in evidence in this 14 case and may be marked as evidence by the clerk: 15 16 (1) Plaintiffs Exhibits: 17 a) 1978-79 Budget Request b) BMR Preliminary Budget Call 1978-79 18 19 c) Budget Preparation 1978-79 20 d) Second Budget Review 1978-79 21 e) BMR FY 1978-79 Budget Request (Including addendum documents) 22 f) 1977-78 ATPC Budget Request 23 g) BMR Budget Request 1977-78 24 h) ATPC FY 1977-78 25 i) ATPP FY 1977-78 26 j) ATPT FY 1977-78 27 k) 1976-77 ATPC Budget Request 28 1) Budget request BMR FY 1976-77 29 m) 1975-76 ATPC Budget Request 30 n) 1975-76 BMR Budget Request 31

Brian Lensink

Jim Riley

6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
19 20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

31

32

1

2

3

4

5

n)	ATPC Monthly Incident/Injury Printouts
Γ,	prepared by Pacific State Hospital for
	the month of January 1975 through the
	month when marked in evidence by the
	clerk.

- q) Letter dated November 9, 1977 to Mr. Jim Riley, Superintendent, from William W. Wollender, Deputy State Fire Marshall, Office of the State Fire Marshall, Industrial Commission of Arizona.
- r) Letter undated but marked as received by ATP-C Superintendent's Office, January 9, 1978 to Mr. Ennis T. Ashbey from Roy Gregles, Chief, Safety Education and Training, Office of Occupational Safety and Health, Industrial Commission of Arizona.
- s) Letter dated September 22, 1977 to Jim Riley, Superintendent, from John H. Beck, Chief, Bureau of Sanitation, Divsion of Environmental Health Services, Arizona Department of Health Services.
- t) Letter dated January 11, 1978 to Jim Riley, Superintendent from Robert J. Ross, State Fire Marshall.
- u) Interrogatories First and Second Sets of Plaintiffs' Interrogatories to Defendants.
- v) Case records of name Plaintiffs.

(2) Defendants' Exhibits:

- a) Schedule of reduction of residents.
- b) Plans for residents who are leaving ATP-C.
- c) Plans for placement of staff freed up by reduction in population.
- d) Plans for utilization of space freed up by reduction of residents.
- e) Plans for utilization of new staff.
- f) Plans for renovation and remodeling.
- g) Human Rights Committee policy.