

Staff Training

A staff training program should be implemented utilizing the resources at hand in the community, i.e. educators, guidance councilors, social psychologists and psychiatrists. Training programs should be held every three months to ensure that staff are aware of new techniques of solving problems, group maintenance and performance and that they have a chance to discuss problems they have encountered in the DROP-IN CENTRE. A psychiatrist should be available to whom we can refer serious individual problems for consultation. Administrative functions should be streamlined so that staff are not spending too much valuable time in other roles.

Administration

The DROP-IN CENTRE should ideally operate from nine in the morning until midnight with a minimum of staff there continuously. We recommend that the centre operate 12 months per year because of the wide spectrum of youth who will be attending.

We recommend that the operation of the centre should be in the hands of one person who will administer the day-to-day affairs of the DROP-IN CENTRE. The administrator should co-ordinate the staff and the program of the centre.

Acquisition of Funds

We recommend that the Department of Youth grant to the DROP-IN CENTRE funds which will be budgeted by the administrator for a year's operation. The conditions under which this grant should be set up are that the Provincial agency will have no control on the internal operation of the DROP-IN CENTRE and the proposed budget will be made public. Failing this the administrator of the centre will solicit funds from interested citizens of the community with the same conditions prescribed above. Under no condition should there be any charge levied for admission to any DROP-IN CENTRE function.

Support Groups and Community Support

A support group should be formed of interested citizens in the community to act as a resource for the DROP-IN CENTRE and to foster improved community-DROP-IN CENTRE relations.

The administrator of the DROP-IN CENTRE will be hired by and will relate to the advisory group. The advisory group will be aware, however, that the DROP-IN CENTRE will remain in the hands of the youth for it is youth to whom this brief is dedicated.

Respectfully submitted,

- Gary Curran
- Jason Paikowsky
- John Gittens