

May 10, 1973

Mr. J. K. Epperson
Jack Epperson Crane
Service Incorporated
4300 Southwest 75 Avenue
Miami, Florida

Dear Mr. Epperson:

The Governor has asked me to respond to your telegram supporting the Dade County Seed Program. The Comprehensive Health Planning Council of South Florida Board of Directors, on April 20, recommended to the State Drug Abuse Program the Seed Program be issued a license. This license has been issued by Mr. Frank Nelson, Director, State Drug Abuse Program.

Please be assured the Governor shares your concern for adolescents and drug abuse. In fact, the Governor is appointing a task force to examine the State's standards and procedures for the issuance of licenses for drug abuse treatment programs. They are to advise him whether these standards and procedures are sound and reasonable, and if not, make specific recommendations for changes.

If our office can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services
Advisor

DRB:lp

Telefax

1040am
4-18-73

Apthorp

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MD62 CSP
31200 TERN MIAMI FL 80 04-28 1010A EST
VERNON RUBEN ASKEW
ASSE FL

CD IS DESPERATELY NEEDED IN DADE COUNTY PLEASE BE ADVISED
ONE HEALTHPLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS
[NICE OF THEIR OWN THAT THEY WOULD POSSIBLY BE GIVING
CONSIDERATION MANY PARENTS AND YOUTH ORGANIZATION FEELINGS
INING DEEPER IN SUPPORT OF THIS PROGRAM THAN ANYTHING
SEEN CURRENTLY PLEASE EXPRESS YOUR FAVOR OF LICENSING
CD LET THE RECORD IN BROWARD COUNTY BE YOUR GUIDE SHOWING
: POSITIVE GOOD RESULTS OF THIS PROGRAM
: PPERSON JACK EPPERSON CRANE SERVICE INCORPORATED

*cc Gov Askew
m. Hair*

May 10, 1973

Mr. Gordon C. Anthony
2740 Southwest 6 Court
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Dear Mr. Anthony:

I am responding to a copy of your letter of April 17, 1973, to the Health Planning Council of South Florida, sent to the Governor.

The Comprehensive Health Planning Council of South Florida Board of Directors, on April 20, recommended to the State Drug Abuse Program the Seed Program be issued a license. This license has been issued by Mr. Frank Nelson, Director, State Drug Abuse Program.

Please be assured the Governor shares your concern for adolescents and drug abuse. In fact, the Governor is appointing a task force to examine the State's standards and procedures for the issuance of licenses for drug abuse treatment programs. They are to advise him whether these standards and procedures are sound and reasonable, and if not, make specific recommendations for changes.

If our office can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services Advisor

DRB:lp

RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

APR 23 9 33 AM '73

Beecher

2740 S. W. 6th Court
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
April 17, 1973

Health Planning Council of South Florida
3000 Biscayne Boulevard
Miami, Florida

Re: Drug Abuse Program
"The Seed"

Gentlemen:

C
O
P
Y
It is extremely difficult for me to believe the Health Planning Council of South Florida that is made up of a group of citizens from Dade County would question the workings of The Seed.

I have a step daughter on the Seed program in Broward County, Florida. I cannot begin to inform you of how much help she has received. I have placed this girl's life in the hands of The Seed. I made my decision because I love her very much.

I have seen hundreds of kids who have received The Seeds help not to mention the number of parents I have talked with that have advised me of the help their kids received.

I know of no other program that has helped as many kids as The Seed.

I believe the only individuals that would not want to see this wonderful programs work continue would be certain Doctors of Psychiatry, other Drug Rehabilitation Programs, Drug Addicts, and the Mafia, all of which would receive financial gain.

How could the Health Planning Council of South Florida consider denying our children this help?

I love you.

Gordon C. Anthony

Gordon C. Anthony

CC: Governor Reuben Askew

Oruon C. Anthony
740 S. W. 6th Court
Fort Lauderdale, Florida



Governor Reuben Askew
The Capitol Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

June 2, 1973

Mrs. Marilyn M. Fitzgibbons
8030 Southwest 99 Street
Miami, Florida

Dear Mrs. Fitzgibbons:

Governor Askew has asked me to respond to your telegram of May 24 supporting the Seed Program in Dade County and extending an invitation for one of his staff to attend an open meeting.

We most regret, because of the Legislature in session, we cannot send a representative to this meeting, but would welcome the opportunity to attend as soon as possible after the session is over.

Please be assured the Governor shares your interest and concerns in securing the best possible drug abuse treatment programs for the adolescents in the State of Florida.

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services Advisor

DRB:lp

THA089(1100)(2-116730E 144)PD 05/24/73 1100
ICS IPMBNGZ CSP
3052792799 TDBN MIAMI FL 68 05-24 1100A EST
PMS GOVERNOR ASKEW
TALLAHASSEE FL

Apthorp 11:31 pm

MAY 24 1973

THERE IS ONLY ONE DRUG REHABILITATION PROGRAM THAT WORKS AND
THAT'S OUR OWN DAY COUNTY SEED I HAVE FOUR CHILDREN ON THE PROGRAM
THE YOUNGEST OF WHOM IS 12 AND HE BEEN ON DRUGS FOR 2 YEARS
THAT CHANGES IN MY CHILDREN ARE FANTASTIC AND I THANK GOD FOR
THE SEED PLEASE OF ONE OF YOUR MIAMI PEOPLE ATTEND A OPEN MEETING
MONDAY OR FRIDAY NIGHTS LOVE YOU

MARILYN M FITZGIBBONS

GOVERNOR
MR. APTHORP
MR. HAIR

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

DATE: June 13, 1973
TO: Margaret Miller, HRS
FROM: Linda Pyle
SUBJECT: HRS Drug Abuse Advisory Council

SOURCE:

PLEASE

- ACKNOWLEDGE, STATING THE GOVERNOR HAS TAKEN UP THIS MATTER WITH YOU
- SEND COPY OF YOUR LETTER TO THIS OFFICE
- DRAFT REPLY GOVERNOR MIGHT MAKE
- FURNISH THIS OFFICE WITH NECESSARY INFORMATION TO RESPOND TO LETTER
- FURNISH THIS OFFICE WITH A REPORT ON THE MATTER
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- RETAIN ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE
- RETURN ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE
-

REMARKS:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DATE: 6/18/73

TO: Linda Pyle

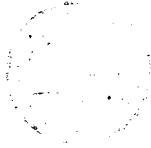
FROM: Mrs. Margaret E. Miller
Executive Assistant

SUBJECT:

-
- Prepare reply for Mr. Roberts' signature
 - Please handle appropriately
 - For your information

Comments:

We are returning the attached correspondence
to your office per your request.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

From the desk of

DAVID BEECHER

June 12, 1973

Jim,

On several occasions, as you can see by the dates of our buck slips, we asked HRS to respond to letters regarding the Seed Program that were controversial. We have handled those letters that were routine, but felt that the nature of these letters required HRS response. After not hearing from HRS, and in following up our request, the following explanation was given to us: "Mrs. Miller did not know how to answer them because she did not know what has been done on the advisory council, so she has said to just file them. She did not see at this point that they needed a response". (Cindy Bond, Ms. Miller's Secretary related this after checking with Margaret). In particular, I would like to point out that the letter from Elenewski literally blasted the Governor and stated he placed political pressure for the licensing of the Seed Program.

The John Maroney letter was sent over to HRS prior to April, but returned with a memo from Jack Sisson to you stating that they had responded several times to his letters and saw no need to respond again.

over

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Linda spoke to Margaret Miller and explained that we felt if they would draft a response for the Governor that was in the same text as DFS' response maybe the man would not continue writing. Again, upon following up on this because we had not heard from them, they simply restated they did not see any reason to further write this man a response. They have written him several times before. It did not seem to matter whether we had asked for this draft for the Governor's signature or not.

June 20, 1973

Miss Sharon Good
1250 Northeast 132 Street
North Miami, Florida 33161

Dear Miss Good:

Governor Askew has asked me to respond to your letter of May 26, 1973, supporting the Dade County Seed Program. Please allow me to apologize for the delay in doing so.

On May 18, 1973, Governor Askew appointed a statewide Drug Abuse Advisory Council to examine thoroughly the State's standards, as well as the licensing policies and procedures for drug abuse programs. Dr. Everett Shockett was appointed regional chairman for Miami. This advisory council will advise him whether these standards and licensing policies and procedures are sound and reasonable and if not, make specific recommendations for changes. After such time as the examination is completed, a select sub-committee will become involved in the reviewing of actual drug abuse programs in the State of Florida to insure their compliance with the State's standards, not only in program content but residential facilities as well.

Please rest assured the Governor shares your concern for our youth today and drug abuse.

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services Advisor

DRB:lp

Log #73-1150

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

DATE: April 5, 1973

TO: Mrs. Margaret Miller, HRS

FROM: David R. Beecher

SUBJECT: "The Seed" Program - Drug Abuse

SOURCE: Letter from Sharon Good

*Letter dated
Mar 28*

PLEASE

- ACKNOWLEDGE, STATING THE GOVERNOR HAS TAKEN UP THIS MATTER WITH YOU
- SEND COPY OF YOUR LETTER TO THIS OFFICE
- DRAFT REPLY GOVERNOR MIGHT MAKE
- FURNISH THIS OFFICE WITH NECESSARY INFORMATION TO RESPOND TO LETTER
- FURNISH THIS OFFICE WITH A REPORT ON THE MATTER
- FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- RETAIN ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE
- RETURN ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE
-

REMARKS:

mp

Dave Becker

Honorable Governor Askew
State of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida

RECEIVED
MAY 15 1973
MAR 33 9 24 AM '73

March 28, 1973

Dear Governor Askew:

I am an eighteen year old student with a brother who got into trouble with drugs and his schooling. He was put into the program called THE SEED. Since then I have been very interested in this program and its problems.

As you probably already know this program's license in Dade County is being withheld because of what I think are excuses to keep out a good thing in Dade. Art Barker, head of this program, has worked long and hard for the so far high accomplishment record of a 95% cure for those kids that have drug or attitude problems. When I say 95%, and I'm not kidding around if you check the records, this means those SEEDLINGS are the ones, of the 95%, that don't, after being on this wonderful program, return to drugs or that continue along the wrong road. And to me that's a pretty "decent" amount.

As a student myself I can see the changes other students are going through times that are hard for them and their parents. My wish is to pass this through the committee and lets get the show on the road. Lets clean up Dade where one of the biggest problem of drugs, crime resulting from drugs, and other problems exists. This program is certainly not the complete total solution to all the problem, but it is the biggest and most successful solution in the greatest while.

I would sincerely hope that at least someone of your standing can see the problem as it lies and I believe it's time everyone did something about it.

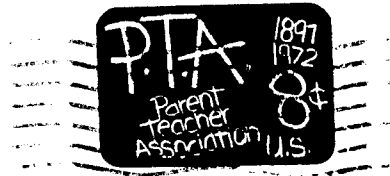
I truly thank you for your time and mostly for your ears and eyes as they are what it takes to help our whole of Dade County and THEN the world.

Yours Very Truly,

Sharon Good

carbon copy to Mayor Orr

Sharon Good
1250 NE 132St
North Miami, Fla.
33161



HONORABLE GOVERNOR ASKEW
STATE OF FLORIDA
THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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ZIP 32304

western union Mailgram



DAVID R BEECHER
SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISOR OFFICER OF THE GOVERNOR STATE OF FLORIDA
TALLAHASSEE FL 32304

I WILL REMIND YOU OF YOUR LETTER DATED JUNE 2 1973 I WONDER
IF YOU EVER FOUND IT CONVENIENT AFTER THE EXTENDED SESSION OF
THE LEGISLATURE TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SEED YOU MUST
BE AWARE THAT WE HAVE BEEN SQUEEZED OUT OF DADE COUNTY AND WE
ARE NOW POOLING AND RUNNING OUR CHILDREN TO OUR NEIGHBORING
COUNTY OF BROWARD I AM STILL HOPING THAT YOU WILL SEE YOUR WAY
TO SEND A FORMAL REPRESENTATIVE TO ONE OF THE OPEN MEETINGS
IN AS MUCH AS OUR GOVERNOR STRIKES ME AS A MAN WHO GETS THINGS
DONE AND DOES NOT BACK DOWN IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY OUT OF
4 CHILDREN ON THE PROGRAM I AM PROUD TO SAY I HAVE 3 WHO HAVE
GRADUATED FROM THE PROGRAM BUT I STILL ENLIST YOUR SUPPORT FOR
THE REST OF THE CHILDREN ALL OVER FLORIDA AND ELSE WHERE WHO
CAN BENEFIT FROM THE SEED PROGRAM

MRS MARILYN FITZGIBBONS

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SEED FILE

F1
Fitzgibbons, Marilyn

July 3, 1974

Mr. Paul T. Schabacker
Associate Executive Director
Comprehensive Health Planning
Council of South Florida
3050 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 601
Miami, Florida 33137

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting information concerning the SEED Drug Rehabilitative Program.

In accordance with your request I am enclosing the following documents: a report prepared at my request by a committee of the Florida State Drug Abuse Advisory Council, the findings of Addiction Consultation and Evaluation, P.C., a consulting firm with whom the committee contracted; and the committee's critique of the Addiction Consultation and Evaluation, P.C.'s findings, prepared by Mr. Stephen Glenn, a committee member.

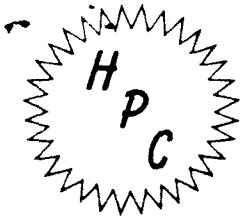
Your interest in this matter is greatly appreciated, and with kind regards,

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services Advisor

DRB/ma

Attachments



Comprehensive **Health Planning Council** of South Florida

3050 biscayne boulevard / suite 601 / miami, florida 33137 / phone 305 / 573-0220

May 28, 1974

BERNARDO BENES, PH.D.
PRESIDENT

W. C. McCUE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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BERNARDO BENES, PH.D.
RUFUS BROADAWAY, M.D.
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L. RUSSELL NORTON
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M. ATHALIE RANGE
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MICHAEL SHORES
DON SHOEMAKER
ROBERT S. SUMMERS
CHARLES F. TATE, JR., M.D.
CHARLOTTE TATRO, PH.D.
ROBERT TRIMBLE
REGINALD R. WALTERS
WINSTON W. WYNNE
MURRAY ZEDECK, D.O.

Mr. David Beecher
Office of the Governor
State Capital
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Mr. Beecher:

Wood McCue, this agency's Executive Director, has informed me that he shared some thoughts with you recently about the ACE Consultant Firm's report and the Ryder Committee Report about "The Seed, Inc." He also indicated that you indicated that your office had prepared some responses to that report and might be willing to share copies of them to this office. I would appreciate receiving copies of this material to the extent it is available and shareable.

Sincerely,


Paul T. Schabacker,
Associate Executive Director

PTS/dsv

Please send the report with you.

The Health Planning Council is a voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to assisting the community in identifying and meeting its health needs through research, coordination, goal-setting and implementation.

July 23, 1974

S. B. Sells, PhD.
Professor and Director
Institute for Behavioral Research
Texas Christian University
Fort Worth, Texas 76129

Dear Dr. Sells:

Judge Herboth S. Ryder has requested that I send you information concerning the SEED Drug Rehabilitation Program.

In accordance with his request I am enclosing the following documents: a report prepared at the Governor's request by a committee of the Florida State Drug Abuse Advisory Council; the finding of Addiction Consultation and Evaluation, P.C., a consulting firm with whom the committee contracted; and the committee's critique of the Addiction Consultation and Evaluation, P.C.'s findings, prepared by Mr. Stephen Glenn, a committee member.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

David R. Beecher
Social Services Advisor

DRB/mb

Enclosures

As you recall, in July, 1973, you appointed a subcommittee of the State Drug Abuse Advisory Council, chaired by Judge Herboth S. Ryder, to review the licensing standards and procedures of the State Drug Abuse Program. They were asked to look at these particularly as they related to The Seed, Inc., and to review The Seed for compliance or non-compliance with State standards. Dr. Jaffee, with the Special Action Office in the White House, suggested the subcommittee contract with Addiction, Consultation and Evaluation (ACE) which is based in Washington, D.C. to assist with these reviews as an objective and knowledgeable outside consultant.

The consultant's report is now complete and because of its content, we would like to bring it to your attention. The subcommittee has not yet decided to what extent this report will be incorporated into their recommendations.

A summary of the consultant's report follows:

I. Analysis and Critique of the Licensing Standards Manual:

A. Review of Licensing Procedures and Licensing Standards Manual

ACE finds the licensing procedures used by the State to be generally "viable and effective", although they may rely too heavily on the objectivity and competence of the Regional Coordinators. The manual is generally found to be "innovative" and "sound".

B. Recommendations

Several specific recommendations are made to strengthen the structural organization of the manual and make it more consistent with new Federal funding criteria. The major recommendation is a redesignation of the types of treatment programs to provide for more clarity.

II. On-Site Evaluation of The Seed Program

A. Overview of The Seed Program

A detailed investigation of The Seed was made including on-site observations of the treatment process and foster homes, as well as a thorough review of the central record keeping system and other prior evaluations of The Seed. Interviews were conducted

to get a multiplicity of opinions concerning the program. Staff and current Seed clients and foster parents were interviewed as well as dissatisfied ex-clients and friends of ex-clients. Likewise, local school and other officials were interviewed.

The ACE Report gives a detailed narrative of the history and organizational structure and functioning of the program and the treatment process.

B. Evaluation

ACE finds The Seed to be "an effective program with criticisms regarding lack of professional staff and poor staff training to be either irrelevant . . . or unfounded." It "appears to be a well-run competently organized program," which is "achieving remarkable success with a large number of clients." ACE documented The Seed's performance through a study based on a random selection of a one-month sample of admissions and verified an 88 percent success rate for those clients. This is an excellent rate of success.

In examining some of the charges against the program, ACE could find no evidence that Seed clients were physically abused, but the use of locks on doors and windows in the foster homes was verified. Other rumors of mistreatments and emotional dysfunctioning, etc. proved to be unfounded. In the interviews (summaries of which are contained in the report) even those people who dislike the method of treatment, agreed it has helped many people. The accounting firm of Bissel, Hunt and Hollis confirmed that the CPA audit of The Seed was adequate.

III. The Seed License in Dade County

A. History

A careful review of the events surrounding the licensing controversies in Dade and Broward Counties was made. The documents (memos, letters, etc.,) involved are included in the report.

After controversy arose over the continued licensing of the Broward County Seed Facility, a "blue ribbon" committee was appointed to evaluate the program in August of 1972. This evaluation did not involve the Dade County Facility, whose license application was received in November of 1972, but the two issues are closely related.

B. Conclusions

It is the opinion of the ACE Report that both in the evaluation of the Broward County Facility and in the handling of the license application for the Dade County Facility "a number of public officials have been acting in a discriminatory manner against The Seed."

1. Although the license review performed by the blue ribbon committee was within the rights of the State, and possibly justified by public controversy, it was misrepresented as being a standard review which all programs would have to undergo. In fact, there is no evidence that such a review was made of any other program. This could be viewed as "selective enforcement of regulations."
2. Secondly, the objectivity and methodology of the committee's report "are questionable by professional standards. The style of evaluation evidenced by this report is patently unacceptable by professional standards and opens the report to questions of objectivity at the least."
3. The Dade County controversy was largely due to a preconceived negative bias on the part of Mr. Charles Lincoln, the Regional Coordinator for the State Drug Abuse Program in Dade County. "It is quite clear from documentation dated 7-18-72 and 7-19-72 that Mr. Lincoln's chief concern was to keep The Seed out of Dade County." It appears that this preconceived attitude was based on hearsay or dislike for Mr. Barker, since no in-depth evaluations had yet been concluded.

4. At that time "the public posture of Mr. Frank Nelson regarding The Seed" was "at odds with the apparent attitudes and maneuverings of some of his staff." This raises questions concerning his ability to control his staff and his judgement in allowing Mr. Lincoln to remain in his position.

IV. Overall Recommendations

- A. The Licensing Standards Manual should be modified as outlined in the report.
- B. The Seed should be required to have clients sign a consent to treatment form. This form should contain adequate information about the program and state that it does not constitute a legal contract.
- C. Effectiveness evaluations should be conducted on a yearly basis for all licensed programs by someone other than the Regional Coordinators. These evaluations should commence immediately.
- D. A review should be conducted covering the make-up and authority of the Regional Councils and the qualifications and supervision of Regional Coordinators and State Office personnel.

These findings were presented by Dr. Richard Katon, President of ACE at the recent meeting of the subcommittee. Some members of the subcommittee felt that the report showed a bias in favor of The Seed and raised questions concerning its objectivity. Dr. Katon answered each question fully and stated that these were the true findings of the review.

MEMBERS OF DRUG ABUSE STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL
SUBCOMMITTEE

Judge Herboth S. Ryder, Chairman

Daniel Seckinger, II, M.D., FMA Ad Hoc Committee on Drugs

Mr. George H. Sheldon, Hillsborough Association for Retarded
Children, Inc.

Mr. Edgar C. Booth, Attorney

Mr. Willis Booth, Special Agent, Department of Law Enforcement

Mr. Steve Glenn, Director, United State Office of Education

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Children, Inc.

Mr. Edgar C. Booth, Attorney

Mr. Willis Booth, Special Agent, Department of Law Enforcement

Mr. Steve Glenn, Director, United State Office of Education

Judge Joseph DeRocher, Circuit Court

August 26, 1974

Mr. David Ryan
2115 Okalossa Street
Tampa, Florida 33604

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Your recent letter to Governor Askew concerning the Seed program has been referred to me for reply.

As you requested, I am enclosing a copy of the report which a subcommittee of the State Drug Abuse Advisory Council made at the Governor's request. This report includes a review of the State licensing procedures and standards, as well as a review of Seed, Inc. I am not aware of any formal psychiatric studies into possible side-effects of this program.

Under Chapter 397, Florida Statutes, the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Drug Abuse Program licenses all Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Programs in the State.

I am not familiar with Mr. Barker's educational background, but I feel sure he would be happy to provide you with any further information you desire.

It is my hope that this information will prove helpful to you.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Armstrong
Administrative Assistant

BA/jh

Enclosure

Reuben D'Askew
Office of the Governor
The Capitol,
Tallahassee, Fla. 32304

8-5-74

Send him a copy of

Send report from Bonnie

~~Dianna Young~~

~~Frances Dotti~~

Call for the report

Call P. D. Young

Dr. P. D. Young from Bonnie
American Psychiatric Study
in their fields
The text of my handwritten
We has Occasional professor's
to the text of my handwritten

David Ryan
2115 Okaloosa St.
Tampa Fla. 33604

Reuben D' Askew
Office of the Governor
The Capitol

REC 2 / 59 AM '74
GOVERNOR

Dear Sir,

Recently the Sub-Committee of the Florida State Drug Abuse Advisory Council finished thier study of the Seed. If this report is public domain could you tell me how I might obtain a copy.

My own observations of graduates of the Seed leave me with doubts as to the merit of the program. The rehabilitation techniques used by Mr. Barker seem to intense for an adolescent.

If it is not included in the report could you tell me if there has ever been a psychiatric study to look for possible side-effects to the program. Also, does Mr. Barker have any training in psychology or rehabilitation or any related field.

Could you also tell me which state and federal statutes regulate such an organization as the Seed.

Thank you for any help you can give me.

Sincerely yours,

David Ryan