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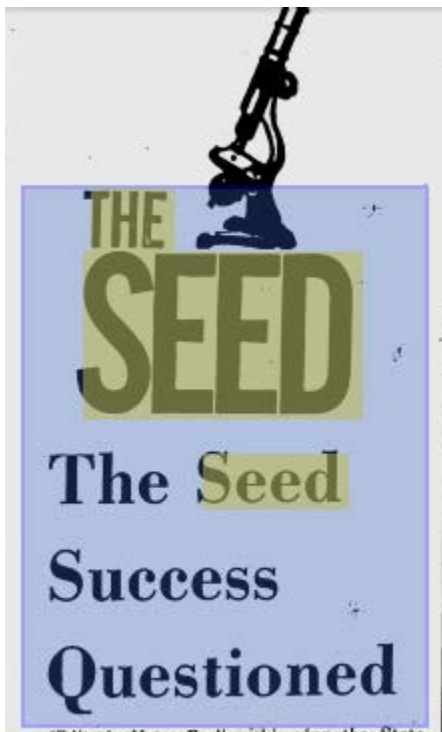
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(Editor's Note: Earlier this year the State Drug Abuse Advisory Council commissioned a Washington, D.C., consultant firm to conduct a study of The Seed's drug rehabilitation program in Florida. Yesterday we told you of the firm's findings. Today you will read how the majority of council members feel about the consultant's findings. Friday you will read the council's minority report.)

KAY MASTERS
Staff Writer

Use of unsupervised foster homes and possibly deceptive success claims are two major areas of concern of a State Drug Abuse Advisory Council subcommittee studying The Seed.

The council was formed last year by Gov. Reubin Askew to look into The Seed and its licensing problems in Dade County. The Seed now is located in Broward, Pinellas and St. Lucie counties. The Dade location closed in September 1973 and participants were transferred to the Broward site.

The council's majority report, prepared by Hillsborough Circuit Judge Herboth Ryder, is based on a study done by a Washington consultant. It is, however, critical of some of the study's findings.

Ryder's first criticism of the consultant firm's study is the 82.3 success rate credited to The Seed. The Addiction Con-

Ryder's first criticism of the consultant firm's study is the 88.3 success rate credited to The Seed. The Addiction Consultation and Evaluation, P.C. (ACE) study does not include 21 Seed admissions who left the program after less than eight days in its figures for the randomly selected month.

The percentage figure also does not include those who pulled out of The Seed or were referred to other agencies, the report says. Five per cent of all Seed clients had not used drugs, nine per cent only tried them and 27 per cent used them occasionally for a total of 41 per cent with "no significant life style commitment to drugs," the report adds.

A report done by one of the main consultants to the council noted that "given 100 persons under 21 years of age who try drugs, 78 of that number will stop of their own accord during early to moderate stages. Of the remainder, two or three will eventually become dysfunctional and the remaining 20 will reach various levels short of dysfunctional involvement and will cease only under pressure.

"Thus, as The Seed refers dysfunctional addicts, we find its percentage of graduates by its standards and criteria, considering the age group it serves and the percentage of graduates from other unique non - stereotyped programs about the country, quite reasonable but not extraordinary," Ryder's report says.

The report also is critical of the study's judgment of The Seed's standards against stereo - typical classical program designs.

designs.

"The Seed is neither a stereotyped program methodology nor is it assessable by those standards due to its uniqueness," Ryder's report says.

"According to ACE, The Seed, over the course of its three-year history, has treated about 5,000 persons," the report says. "One must compare The Seed not with stereotyped classical treatment programs and methadone programs as did ACE, but with similar non - stereotyped programs which address a similar population group.

"For example, the SPARK program in New York, PRIDE in Dade County schools, DASEIN in Miami, PREHAB in Arizona and DARTE in Michigan also have no difficulty in recruiting truly voluntary clients and also are working beyond their designed capability," it says. "It should also be noted that the SPARK program in New York arrived at its original, static capacity of 1,000 clients in only two months. We find that PRIDE in Dade County schools has enrolled a total of 5,000 clients and 1,300 peer counselors (13 - 18 - year - old staff members) in approximately 12 months preceding Jan. 31, 1974."

Ryder's report indicates "grave concern" at the present classification of The Seed as a "non - residential treatment center."

"Every Seed client is required to participate in the program on a 24 - hour basis, seven a days a week, and as a part of the conditions of that treatment, must reside at night for an

gram on a 24 - hour basis, seven a days a week, and as a part of the conditions of that treatment, must reside at night for an extended period in a foster home somewhere in the community," the report says. "This foster home is not the client's home; it is the home of another Seed client. The Seed Inc. is a "non - residential" program with a required residential component and does not use its facilities as a residence. Thus the program is not classified under the existing standards of the (Standards) Manual (for Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Centers in Florida)."

Ryder's report includes three specific recommendations for The Seed.

It suggests written procedures and standards to be "developed and judiciously implemented by The Seed" with regard to foster homes in the following areas:

—An inspection of fire, health and safety requirements to be conducted before a client is placed in a foster home.

—A determination to be made in each case as to the suitability of the particular foster family for the client.

—A procedure through which emergency information can be received by the client in a foster home to be established. Proper safeguards should be taken to protect the anonymity of the foster parents and to insure the continuation of volunteer foster care.

The report's second recommendation is for The Seed, as well as all programs, to have "identifiable professional support staff available in each community where it maintains a

facility."

The third recommendation is for The Seed, which has isolated itself from the mainstream of the drug rehabilitation community by failing to establish and maintain a cooperative and working relationship with that community to establish such a relationship.

The Ryder report agrees with the ACE study's statements about problems with the drug abuse office's regional coordinator in Dade County, delays in the normal licensing procedure and recommends review in this area.