

is a large turn-out for the remaining sessions. In order to provide help on the 24-hour basis to disturbed people. we will need a lot of

IN A NUTSHELL
MPA NEWSLETTER #4

Editors Stan Mailey and Lanny Beckman
General Manager: Sir Figby Snort

June 26/71
3191 West 10th
phone: 738-1422

CONTACTCOMMUNICATECOMFORTCONTACTCOMMUNICATECOMFORTCONTACTCOMMUNICATE

PICNIC JULY 1st

July 1st is an important day: it's the day we move into the farmhouse, we'll be having a picnic at the farm that day, and last and not least it's Dominion Day. Everyone is welcome on the picnic. We'll meet at MPA House at 10 in the morning and then all go out together to the Matsqui farm. Bring your car here if you have one, and blankets and food and children and your psychiatrist if he's available.

CRISIS TRAINING PROGRAM

The first training session with Dr. Ali Ghaed on June 16th was a huge success. Over 65 people turned out who wanted to volunteer time in the future to give support at MPA House to people going through emotional crisis. Obviously Dr. Ghaed can't train 65 people by himself, so he has gotten about 5 other psychiatrists to help him in the training program. They will be having a meeting soon to plan the training sessions which will probably include lectures, discussions, role-playing, listening to tapes etc. The psychiatrists will let us know when the next volunteer-session will be -- probably in the first week in July. Everyone will be notified in plenty of time. Please plan to attend.

FIXING UP THE FARM HOUSE

It was decided at the last General Meeting that Stan Mailey would be the Director of the farmhouse. He and a few others will be moving there July 1st to get the house ready for use as a half-way house for upset people. We already have most of the furniture, paint and lumber to fix up the house. It will probably take a month and we hope to be ready for full operation by August 1st. Stan would like a few more people to work with him during July getting things ready. You can live there rent free in a beautiful country setting, and be involved in meaningful work with several other members. If you're interested in spending a month in the country, contact Stan at the house.

HOUSING PROGRAM

Perhaps one of the most important things MPA can do is help people with their housing situation after they've gotten out of the hospital and completed their stay at one of our Centers. This might mean helping people get set up in co-op housing, or helping them find a family to live with. There are other possibilities which members should be thinking about. The period just after patients get out of hospital is especially crucial. Half of the patients who commit suicide do so within 3 months of getting out of hospital, so it is really important that MPA help people during this crucial period. If you would like to move into a co-op with other MPA members, or would like to help people with housing problems, contact George Laurie, the co-ordinator of the Housing Committee at MPA House.