## Charlotte Council on Alcoholism, Inc.

## ALCOHOLISM INFORMATION CENTER

1127 EAST MOREHEAD STREET . SUITE 304 . CHARLOTTE, N. C. 28204 . TELEPHONE 375-5521

February 3, 1967

The Honorable Pat Taylor Wadesboro, North Carolina

Dear Pat:

Sorry you could not be with us at the meeting. The committee did real work and the reports eliminated nearly all controvery, at least in the open meeting.

I think we need continuing study committees composed of the same type of persons as produced this report.

- 1. Alcoholism Education
- 2. Treatment and Rehabilitation
- 3. Needed legislation.

These meetings were the first real bridges across the no man's land which exists between the state hospitals and local programs. Some state hospital employees have met with us from time to time but this is the first time we played hard nose games with the top men on ideas and philosophy.

I was somewhat appalled at the proposed budget, especially the fourth ARC, and am glad you veto this fourth one. Two million for hospitals and about a half million to support local rehabilitation efforts was a complete imbalance.

Last year we never failed to secure an admission to ARC at Butner for any client in Mecklenburg but the total was only thirty-six for the year. Wilmith Hospital in our county, for alcoholics, has over 2,000 admissions a year. Forty per cent are local county admissions and all need follow-up treatment after release from Wilmith. Most can not leave town for a month, timewise as well as moneywise. Only three to four per cent of persons who need rehabilitation get to the ARC's and some of these are running away, not seeking help.

Day rehabilitation units without hospital beds can give services at about ten per cent of the cost of hospital care. Every major city should have one operated on a local basis by the community. The size should be according to the population of the area, not build to treat



(Cont'd)



The Honorable Pat Taylor February 3, 1967
Page Two

a hundred at a time.

Thanks for your help. Your chairmanship of the board is the best thing that has happened to us in our field of work during the decade.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. KELLERMANN