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Assuring Competent Professional Services
Joanne Potts, Executive Director

June 27, 1985

# Wisconsin Akoholism & Drug Counselor Certification Board, Inc.

To: Board of Directors
Wisconsin Alcoholism & Drug Counselor Certification Board, Inc.

The Investigatory Committee having heard testimony into the alleged misconduct of Dawn Shaw on June 26, 1985 pursuant to the notice to all parties now makes the following:

#### Findings of Fact

- 1. From pre-enrollment information, ACCEPT is "an intensive three day experience for adult children affected by having lived in a chemically dependent family system". There is nothing in the ACCEPT pre-enrollment literature which states that this is to be a drug-free weekend, nor that it is a therapy weekend.
- 2. Dawn Shaw stated this was a treatment weekend held at NOVA which is a drug-free facility.
- 3. Dawn Shaw, Jim Shaw and Steve Ware all described the ACCEPT program as therapy.
- 4. The testimony reflected that ACCEPT is an outpatient program.
- 5. Dawn Shaw was the group leader during the weekend. There were no other professionals involved.
- 6. ACCEPT registered clients as outpatients, yet ACCEPT literature, available to the Committee, does not indicate that participants are outpatient clients.
- 7. One-to-ones were done on all 12 clients. One-to-ones were done by Susan M. Griffith, counselor trainee at Terra Programs, Inc.. Ms. Griffith was not aware of the purpose of the one-to-one interview.
- 8. Dawn Shaw stated that individual treatment plans were not written. Some clients in the ACCEPT weekend "experience" had no active treatment plans.
- 9. Dawn Shaw stated that some discharge summaries were not written.
- 10. No weekend plan (agenda) was presented by Dawn Shaw.
- 11. From the information presented, the ACCEPT program has not met the outpatient standards for either Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Mental Health.
- 12. From the record, Dick Nooe came to the ACCEPT weekend "looking put together and in control".

- 13. Dick Nooe stated that spersonal goals for attending CEPT were:
  - a. To persue his professional interest in approaches used for treating adult children of alcoholics.
  - b. Personal interest because of step-father's alcoholism.
  - c. To examine his own use of alcohol and restoril.
- 14. Dick Nooe was not informed of the drug-free requirement prior to attending.
- 15. Participants were made aware of the drug-free requirement upon arrival.
- 16. Dawn Shaw stated that she had "heard rumors of Dick Nooe's using".
- 17. Dick Nooe stated that he requested permission to use his medically prescribed, restoril, to assist him in sleeping during the weekend.
- 18. Dawn Shaw recommended that Dick Nooe go off the restoril for the weekend.
- 19. Dawn Shaw did not consult with a psychiatrist or other medical personnel regarding Dick Nooe's medication and/or deteriorating emotional state.
- 20. Testimony indicates that Dick Nooe brought up his drug use within the group setting.
- 21. Testimony indicates that a discrepancy exists between the one-to-one directions and Dawn's testimony regarding the pursuit and discussion of alcohol use by the group.
- 22. Dawn Shaw offered Dick Nooe an assessment. The assessment was done on an individual basis away from the total group by the trainee, Susan Griffith.
- 23. With Dick Nooe's permission, Dawn Shaw read the results of the assessment to the total group.
- 24. Testimony indicates that Dick Nooe was crying, distraught and incoherent during the course of the weekend and after returning home.
- 25. Dick Nooe stated that it was recommended that he go almost immediately to Ashland Memorial Hospital for 28-day treatment.
- 26. Dawn Shaw stated that she recommended that he go to Ashland for a 10-day comprehensive assessment for alcoholism because Dick was too well known in the Fox Valley.
- 27. There was insufficient evidence to support the complaint of Lila Ireland.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

Therefore, the Investigatory Committee finds that Ms. Shaw:

- 1. operated a program below Outpatient Program Standards.
- 2. demonstrated poor clinical judgment by:
- 3. a. not informing the participants prior to attendance that ACCEPT was a therapeutic group.

- b. not having individual treatment plans.
- 3. c. not having discharge summaries on all clients.
  - d. not having a written screening process.
  - e. not having a written grievance process.
  - f. recommending Dick Nooe go off restoril without consulting a physician.
  - g. not having a structured orientation.
  - h. not consulting with a psychologist or psychiatrist during the ACCEPT weekend regarding Dick Nooe's deteriorating emotional state.

Accordingly, the Investigatory has found this behavior to be in violation of the WADCCB Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct, specifically:

#### 1. QUALITY OF CARE: CODE OF CONDUCT

- A. That I have a commitment to provide the highest quality care for those who seek my professional services.
- ${\tt D.}$  That I will seek the advise and counsel of colleagues and supervisors whenever such consultation is in the best interests of clients.

#### GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE

- C. Participating in misrepresentation.
- D. Not providing clients with accurate and complete information regarding the extent and nature of the services available to them.

#### DECISION

Based on the above findings and conclusions, Dawn Shaw is hereby reprimanded for his unprofessional conduct.

In addition, the Investigatory Committee recommends that the Board of Directors of the WADCCB forward to the State Program Surveyor within the appropriate Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Community Services region and the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse the program information gathered concerning the ACCEPT Program.

Chairperson

Investigatory Committee

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Wisconsin Alcoholism and Drug Counselor Certification Board, Inc.