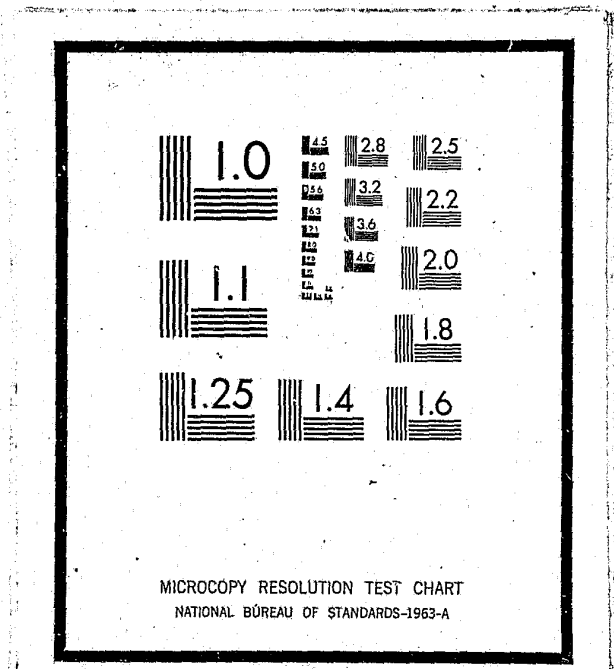


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LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531**

Date filmed 11/5/75

## MetaMetrics Inc.

~~Evaluation of the~~  
Residential Community Center <sup>of the</sup>  
Philadelphia-Adult Probation  
Department

(PH-74-C-F4-5-280)

UPDATE EVALUATION REPORT

Technical Report 3

MMI 108-74

Submitted to

Adult Probation Department  
Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas  
Frederick H. Downs, Jr., Chief Probation Officer

and

Philadelphia Regional Planning Council  
Pennsylvania Governor's Justice Commission  
Yvonne B. Haskins, Regional Director  
Hon. Paul M. Chalfin, Judge and Council Chairman

MetaMetrics Inc.  
3711 Macomb St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016

June 30, 1975

UPDATE SUMMARY

This report covers project progress since the submission of the Refunding Evaluation Report dated February 14, 1975. Section 1, EVALUATION SUMMARY, has been revised to reflect project changes and should be inserted in place of Section 1 of the Refunding Evaluation Report. Revised tables on RCC client intake and discharge are shown as Appendix D to be added to the Refunding Evaluation Report.

## SECTION 1

### EVALUATION SUMMARY

The Philadelphia Adult Probation Department Residential Community Center was launched two years ago to serve as an alternative to incarceration for adult males processed through the various components of the criminal justice system. The first clients were admitted in November of 1972 and by January of 1975 a total of 260 permanent and temporary residents had been admitted. Residents are referred to the Center from the Court, Prison, General Probation Supervision, Pretrial Services Division, Court Units, Defender's Office, Community Agencies and individuals (personal).

#### 1.1 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The Center is housed on the 4th floor of the YMCA at 1013 W. Lehigh Ave. Staffing is essentially complete with a total of 16 positions. Programming consists of provision of a residence and meals; individual counseling; group sessions; use of community resources for medical and recreational purposes; financial guidance and assistance; and employment development.

#### 1.2 PROJECT COMPLIANCE WITH EEOC

The Adult Probation Department, as a component of the Common Pleas and Municipal Courts, is incorporated in the Equal Employment Opportunity program which is on file in the Office of Court Administrator, Personnel, at 710 City Hall. According to staff and service population composition in December, 1974, the Residential Community Center is in compliance with employment guidelines.

#### 1.3 EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Data collection consisted of review of Center records, interviews with staff and residents, interviews with related programs and a follow-up on Center probationers through Probation Department folders. An Interim Evaluation Report was completed by December 27, 1974. Follow-up analysis and program comparison analysis were conducted for the Refunding Evaluation Report. Three project briefings were presented and an update interview provided project information current to June 30, 1975..

#### 1.4 PROJECT RESULTS

The Residential Community Center is accomplishing its stated project objectives. Noteworthy are the cohesion of the residents, employment placement activities, community location and relationships, response to individual requirements of a diverse resident population, high turnover of clients, flexibility to meet referral agency needs and approach to utilization of community resources. A major distinction of the Residential Community Center, in comparison with other residential projects, is the diversity of clientele. Accordingly, the RCC must be viewed as a project serving the various rehabilitation components of the system rather than strictly an Adult Probation effort.

In the case of clients referred from Probation and Pre-trial Services, performance has been acceptable. Incidents have been reduced as compared to clients not participating in the program. Appearance for trial of conditional releasees to the Center have been at the same level as other conditional releasees.

#### 1.5 PROBLEMS

The Center cost per resident year is high at \$10,400. Other residential projects in Philadelphia are at \$6,000 or lower. The operating cost per resident year of the Philadelphia Prisons is \$6,600. Factors contributing to the Center's high costs are the rent at \$8.88 per square foot, food service and staff to resident ratio. An increase in resident capacity and residents would reduce cost per resident year.

The YMCA location of the project is substandard with respect to street access, bathroom facilities, general physical condition and size. The Center has functioned well in spite of its physical facility. The YMCA Board of Managers has decided to relocate its own programs and the building will be closed unless the entire property is leased. The RCC must relocate by August 31, 1975, unless notified otherwise by the YMCA. An extensive site search is underway with over 30 contacts accomplished in May and June of 1975.

Program data and client interviews indicate that two areas require monitoring and possible program change. Client retention of jobs is low and the value of group sessions has declined according to residents.

#### 1.6 RECOMMENDATIONS

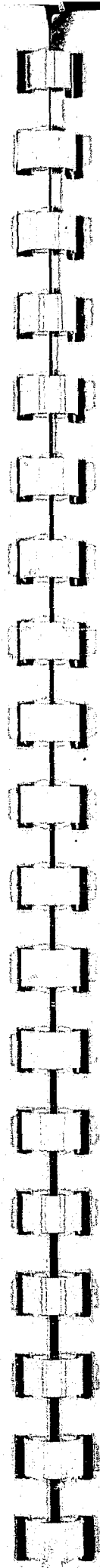
The Residential Community Center is impacting on the adjustment potential of its clients. The Adult Probation Department effort should be recognized as an experiment to

provide a residential program for male adult offenders and detentioners from several sources within the criminal justice system in addition to Adult Probation.

Because of the high rental and potentially damaging environment of the location in the YMCA, another facility should be sought for the Center irrespective of YMCA availability. In acquiring a new physical facility, the Adult Probation Department should be alert to the possibility of linking other Probation functions to the Center.

The increase in residents admitted on conditional release from Pre-trial Services indicates that a Center specializing in this clientele may be desirable. If costs are maintained at a level comparable to Philadelphia Prisons, the benefits in terms of maintaining client employment and community contacts would justify an expansion of Center capacity. At this juncture, the Probation Department, with its RCC experience, would be the appropriate governmental agency. Contracting for capacity with other non-profit agencies should also be considered.

Continuing evaluation should address the above issues. In addition, evaluation should focus on comparative program costs, refined follow-up of clients, nature of program violations and discharge and effect of length of stay in the Center. Expanded Center activities, changing staff functions and Center relocation should be monitored.



APPENDIX D

REVISED TABLES

TABLE 2-4

Summary of Clients Admitted and In Residence,  
By Quarter, 1973 and 1974 (Revised)

	<u>Admitted During Quarter</u>	<u>In Residence End of Quarter</u>
1973		
1st Quarter	36	21
2nd Quarter	12	22
3rd Quarter	17	20
4th Quarter	38	23
1974		
1st Quarter	41	22
2nd Quarter	41	25
3rd Quarter	38	21
4th Quarter	37	24
1975		
1st Quarter	44	18
2nd Quarter	49	25

TABLE 2-5

Summary of Client Discharges  
By Quarter, 1973 and 1974  
(Revised)

	Pre- Planned	Unscheduled			Total	
		AWOL	Incarcer- ated	Undesirable Other		
1973						
1st Quarter	3	2	3	6	1	15
2nd Quarter	4	3	3	1	0	11
3rd Quarter	9	2	5	2	1	19
4th Quarter	27	3	2	1	2	35
1974						
1st Quarter	23	7	7	3	2	42
2nd Quarter	28	7	1	2	0	38
3rd Quarter	25	7	6	1	3	42
4th Quarter	17	6	3	6	2	34
1975						
1st Quarter	33	7	3	4	3	50
2nd Quarter	17	11	10	1	4	43



TABLE 2-6

Distribution of Discharge Status (1)  
 1973, 1974 and 1975 (1)  
 (Revised)

	1973		1974		1975	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Pre-Planned	43	53.7	93	59.6	50	53.8
Unscheduled						
AWOL	10	12.5	27	17.3	18	19.4
Incarcerated	13	16.3	17	10.9	13	14.0
Undesirable	10	12.5	12	7.7	5	5.4
Other	4	5.0	7	4.5	7	7.5
Total	80	100.0	156	100.0	93	100.0

(1) 1st two Quarters of 1975.

**END**