"Committed" to being heard

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A voice indefinitely "Committed" to being heard

TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS

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Check out Committed to being heard on the following website:
http://www.cure-sort.org/mn---committed-to-being-heard.html

Memo Regarding "ViaPath Tablets"

By Terry L. Branson

Today (2-19-25) a memo was circulated to all the clients throughout all M$OP facilities by the following: Terry Kneisel, Facility Director Moose Lake; Bonnie Wold, Facility Director St. Peter and Paul Rodriguez, Facility Director CPS.

After years of discussion and careful consideration, M$OP has made the difficult decision not to move forward with the ViaPath (GTL) tablets. While we were excited about the possibilities these devices could offer, they ultimately did not align with our original expectations. We understand this may be disappointing news, and we appreciate the patience shown throughout this process. At this time, we do not plan to explore other options, but we remain open to future technologies that may better meet our needs.

Editor's Comments about this Memo

The above staff have made it very clear time and time again that they do not want anyone civilly committed to the M$OP facilities to have internet access of any type. Even though this has become the most important venue for communicating with anyone.

It is common knowledge that those who create policies and procedures only provide certain contracts to vendors who are willing to comply with MSOP's draconian policies and practices. Those listed above (and others) have knowingly and intentionally chosen to keep everyone civilly committed in the dark ages when it comes to technology. All they have to do is allege there is some concern involving securi-

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➥MISSION STATEMENT➥

This newsletter has the full intent and purpose of presenting a continuous uncensored, thought provoking informative service within the space it resides in. Its functions are to spread a message which offers a better understanding of what transpires within the Minnesota Sex Offender Program ("M$OP"). We believe every individual ultimately possess a natural ability to overcome every negative force which impacts their daily life. Through understanding and obedience of Universal Law we are afforded a more informed "freedom of choice". Freedom of choice allows each of us to encircle ourselves with those who share the same interests and values. Freedom of choice is making decisions for yourself; decisions which does not inflict harm upon another human being.

Disclaimer:

Statements, viewpoints and opinions expressed in articles, letters to the editor, or from other writers, are those of that individual author; and **do not** reflect the position/opinion of this newsletter. All submissions become the property of "Committed" to being heard and may be eligible for reprint without that authors consent.

Guidelines: This newsletter will attempt to perform research, conduct interviews and gather information in an effort to create content that will inform and educate its readers about activities, events of interest which transpire throughout the M$OP's detention facility. We possess the right to not publish any submitted materials. As editor(s), We may edit any submitted materials to bring the material into conformance with acceptable journalistic standards to the best of our knowledge, ability, and/or available space. This newsletter reserve the right to publish employees name based upon their relevant involvement to the circumstances pertaining to identified articles. All articles submitted for publication must include the authors first and last name. The editor(s) reserve the right to submit questions for reader's views and comments on any subject matter published within these pages.

Minnesota Constitution
ARTICLE I – BILL OF RIGHTS

Sec. 3. **Liberty of the press.** The liberty of the press shall forever remain inviolate, and all persons may freely speak, write and publish their sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of such right.

Thought for the Month

Winds following one upon the other:
The image of THE GENTLY PENETRATING.
Thus the superior man
Spreads his commands abroad
And carries out his undertakings.

Sun/The Gentle, pg. 221, of the "Book of Changes" by Wilhelm/Baynes

Commentaries
By: Terry Branson

- *Core group participation is down drastically. It's not the clients who aren't attending these core groups but clinicians. There aren't enough clinicians to attend these core groups and out of the 8 core groups scheduled so far only 2 have met the 2 staff requirement to hold the once a week group.*
- *Apparently there is a new requirement involving county payments for those each county commits. Should the bill be signed by the governor the counties will have to pay 40% of the cost for each person it civilly commits. Frankly I believe each county should have to foot the entire bill when they choose to commit someone indefinitely.*
- *If the legislature is truly interested in finding and exposing fraud, then why aren't they doing a thorough investigation into the Minnesota Sex Offender Program? How does a facility that doesn't provide mental health treatment bill medical insurance proclaiming M$OP is considered an institution for mental diseases (IMD) for purposes of health care coverage, we have been notified by the DHS Eligibility Policy Manager that M$OP clients should be reviewed for State Funded Medical Assistance (IM).* ***How is this not fraud?***

(Memo continued from page 1)

ty and whatever technological advance is available is denied to those being detained. They don't have to prove that there is an actual threat to the security of the facility; all they have to do is allege there is a threat.

The real threat to the security are those who are in charge of this facility. It is my belief that these are highly intelligent individuals who fully comprehend how to violate the rights of Minnesota citizens on a daily basis. I mean they have to be highly intelligent as they are getting away with continuously punishing Mn. citizens who have already served their prison sentences.

I believe that they are defrauding MN. taxpayers out of billions of dollars through alleging that the treatment being provided is necessary to change the criminal behavior. Yet they don't actually provide treatment based upon the medical model approach. (see CTBH Issue 19; 19 October 2024; pg. 11). Of course there is no constitutional right to treatment, nor is their a right to treatment (in the state of Minnesota) that will specifically address your treatment needs. And, in Minnesota, the courts continuously order unqualified attorneys to represent those civilly committed

(What (who) is my somehow? continued on page 5)

Have you finished reading your copy of "Committed" to being heard?
Why don't you give it to someone you know; let them read it; and keep sharing it. Leave it behind at the laundry mat, grocery store, bulletin board, or courthouse. Why not mail it to a friend. If you are interested in getting your own copy you can leave me a voice message at 218-351-1900 ext. 97666 or you can write me at the address listed on the front page. Your support is greatly appreciated.

"Theft"
By: Terry L. Branson

A Patient Concern was brought to the administration regarding J-Pay and that J-Pay is sending music on USB Drive Stick. We want to transfer it to the new device, once approved. Don't want to have to rebuy music that was already purchased. $1000's spent.

The response provided by M$OP staff is "The kiosk machines will be removed sometime next week. Clients are encouraged to use up their funds as there will be no refunds given for those with less than $5.00 of credit on the account."

I question how many of these guys have less than $5.00 on their J-Pay accounts and are not going to be receiving a refund? Where is this leftover balance going that remains in each of these individual accounts? And, how much is this leftover money going to add up too, overall? Why can't this money be refunded back to the individual patients MSOP accounts?

I'll tell you why? It's just another way for this administration to take away from those who apparently don't have the same rights as every other citizen in this country to be refunded their money. In other words those staff who are in charge of these services want to find another way to screw over the patient population and literally steal from them for their own personal benefit. Is this money going into another one of MSOP's secret accounts that at some point will pay for yet another "secretly held" staff appreciation event?

The following individuals from the **Administration level** are listed as being in attendance of the above meeting**:** Sue Johnson – Special Services Program Manager; Lonnie Danielson-Physical Plant Director; Ann Linkert – Assistant Facility Director; David Averill- Clinical Program Manager; Nick Budnick-Rehab Services Supervisor; Terry Kneisel-Facility Director; Anthony Herring-Security Program Manager; Krista Steen-Rehab Services Supervisor; Jordan Goodman – Residential Program Manager; Kathryn Schesso-Associate Clinical Director and Sonja Bjorklund- RN Supervisor.

What I immediately notice is that there is not one single individual who is a representative of the patient population attending these meetings. There is a list of seven clients who are listed as patient representatives, and out of the issues raised on the agenda not one item was supported by the individuals at the administrative level. This is an ongoing theme when it comes to the issues raised at these so called unit rep. meetings.

At least the administration is being transparent when it comes to stealing a patients money from a vendor that the administration ended a contract with after patients invested thousands of dollars to purchase music. Standard practice here at MSOP!

(Memo continued from page 3)

knowing that these attorneys have only one true concern. Getting another paycheck!

But back to the main topic. How long has those promising the patient population been paying GTL for a contract that they had no true plans of providing tablets to the population? What contractor did those decision makers utilize to install all these chargers into every unit throughout the facility? Was any of the contractor a member of their family?

Somebody profited off of these decision makers issuing a contract in behalf of the state of Minnesota which they knew would never be honored. How much money did these contracts cost Minnesota taxpayers?

It is apparent that there is no oversight committee when it comes to the decision makers in charge at the Minnesota Sex Offender Program. The state of Minnesota doesn't have money to promote education, but they have more than enough money to continuously detain non-criminals at M$OP for the purpose of preventative detention.

I know why MSOP's administration really doesn't want anyone in here to have internet access. They don't want us to have the ability to contact the media or other interested parties on the mistreatment that happens on a daily basis throughout this facility. They (the M$OP administration) wants to continue keeping their secrets as secret as possible and for as long as possible.

It's common knowledge that criminals hide their criminal acts from others for as long as possible so they can continue violating others constitutional rights.

Why can't property scan Amazon packages for contraband?

By: Terry L. Branson

Another issue brought up at the Unit Rep. meeting was: Allow for ordering from Amazon/third party vendors. Use x-ray machine for added security. Their response was: "***The property policy was recently updated and Amazon will continue to not be allowed due to security weaknesses.***"

Hold the phones! The administration is openly admitting that there is weaknesses in their security system when it comes to incoming packages? Yet, they have on multiple occasions taken my personal property out of my cell and sent it through this same x-ray machine to check for contraband. As everyone knows I call bullshit when something doesn't add up. **Bullshit**! It's my belief that Amazon won't provide any form of kickback to the administration and that is why patients can't order anything through Amazon. Because if the x-ray machine can be used to check for contraband in my property, then it surely could be used on orders from Amazon!

Minnesota's Financial Woes

By: Terry L. Branson

Today, (March 7, 2025), I heard Gov. Walz talking about the financial woes of Minnesota and blaming President Trump for cutting federal spending and his imposing tariffs on Canada.

Frankly I think my President should do even more to cuts when it comes to federal spending in the state of Minnesota. I also think that Gov. Walz is only blaming President Trump for Minnesota's financial woes due to his own inability to curb the financial spending that all demoncrats are known to waste.

How else is the Minnesota Sex Offender Program continuing to exist? It's my belief that it can only continue existing as long as there is fraudulent billing by alleging that the program is an institution for mental disease when there is no mental health treatment being provided at this program.

I continue bringing this issue up in this newsletter in hopes that someone will have the gumption to contact DOGE (Elon Musk) and inform him of the fraudulent billing that has been going on for decades. All he needs to do is ask for Minnesota Department of Human Services form DHS-4145-ENG, I'll even sign a consent for release of information if need be.

Running out of food

By: Terry Branson

The kitchen knows exactly how many "prisoners" are being housed here at MSOP every day. It's posted on a white-board in the staff office.

So how is it that they ran out of food when serving lasagna? Then all at once they start serving lasagna again 15 minutes later? And, again they run out. Where did they get this lasagna that they started serving after they ran out? Was this leftovers from a previous meal that had been stashed in the freezer?

If MSOP is appropriated funding for meals - on a daily basis, then how is it that the kitchen doesn't prepare enough food for that daily menu?? Where is all the extra money going that is allocated for that meal? Perhaps staff's appreciation meals?

What's up with all the contraband notices?

By: Sixx|R

M$OP has been giving numerous contraband notices to detainees who ordered items from approved vendors. The excuses for these notices are that the ordered items were not shipped by the company. Instead, vendors such as Wal-Mart contract with third-party vendors to ship their products. M$OP deems these companies as non-approved vendors and all items shipped in such ways as contraband. But could there be a more devious intention at play here? Is the M$OP documenting that copious amounts of contraband is entering their facilities which has triggered all of the recent creations and enforcement of punishing policies?

Multifaceted Institutionalization

By: By: Sixx|R

M$OP policies reinforce institutionalization rather than deinstitutionalization. There are many factors to these practices, which have been historically enforced in the program. The number one factor is the very real threat and act of punishment. If one or the majority do not conform to the actions of conformancy, punishment quickly follows.

This punishment is enforced through staff practices of restricting a detainee to their cellblock, and denying access to programming and services such as vocation, recreation or the ability to socialize with other detainees that reside on other cellblocks. These punishing actions reinforce status degradation where fearful detainees perceive they are reenacting the perceived moral integrity of their captors. Belittlement and ostracizing behaviors are acted out when detainees impulsively start rumors and stimulate gossip, tearing down their fellow detainees – all for nothing other than to have something to complain about. As well as to think they are placing themselves on some imaginary "moral" pedalstool.

There is a serious and heinous compounding factor at play here. What staff and detainees say about others is reflected in the security and clinical notes which alleged a detainee has issues or problems that need to be addressed.

These issues or problems pose a real life threat in that they deny a detainee of being of sound mind. Rather, it is recorded that the detainee has ongoing (serious/severe) treatment needs to address. These alleged "needs" are reviewed and recorded in examination reports authored by the administration clinical leadership which is then reviewed by the Special Review Board (SRB) Treatment clinical/psychologist and SRB forensic examiner.

The damaging report outcomes reflect that the detainees petition for transfer to a lesser restrictive setting ("CPS"), or progression to the next phase are deemed, through alleged professional judgment, as being "premature."

A process that takes 2 to 3 years or sometimes 5 amounts to several sentences which completely negates all the time and effort a detainee puts into identifying, addressing and mitigating the perceived risk alleged by all those in positions of authority.

It's no wonder the vast majority of the population severely struggles with hopelessness and in the process. Have conformed to the M$OP employee culture of status degradation.

We literally are our worst enemies.

Not your punching bag.

By: Sixx|R

She said, "*I'm tired of being everyone's punching bag.*" Yet she would go out of her way to help almost anyone who sought her wisdom and guidance. Relentless resiliency. She seemingly demonstrated such effortless poise in the face of such enormous, daily adversity. And I struggle with such a surmounting degree of contrition. . .

I cannot say if there was anything to be learned from this which wasn't already known. All of those on the outside may have no real ideas of what we experience on a daily basis within these solitary confinement walls.

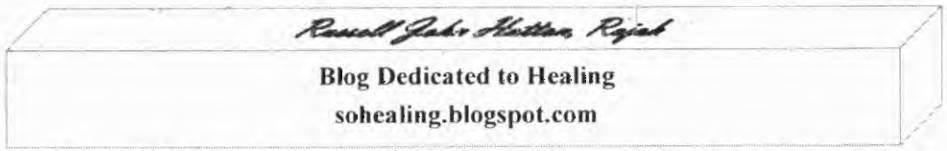
You may read these articles and many others similar to it. But until you take that step to do something courageous, something that puts you out of your comfort zone, and start asking the difficult questions. The majority of society will remain unknown as to the irreprehensible, inhumane punishment we are subjected to on a daily basis.

I grow tired of hearing these M$OP staff say, "I know what you're going through," "I see it. . . (unjustified punishment, lack thereof humane treatment, etc.) and yet, what Albert Einstein remarked all those decades ago "It is difficult to get a man to understand anything if his paycheck depends on him not understanding it." rings true.

A lot of people in here are waiting for the "change" that is to occur when Direct Care and Treatment takes over, and there are too many rumors flying around to give any attention to. The distraction (and endangerment) of hope.

As for myself, hope for change without a plan is hopelessness. . . If nothing changes with the incorporation of an (DCT) "oversight board", then we can expect more of the same punishment from different faces, names and titles.

I had this goal in mind. . . To set a precedence that almost anyone could follow in getting fully discharged from this program. The program design is intentionally flawed. Not just in Minnesota, but throughout the country. The political, judicial system and forensic want to claim the vast majority are too dangerous for society. I call bullshit. I am going on eighteen years of this extended punishment for a technical violation of probation. And there are many others and will continue to be many more who are railroaded into the M$OP on the same excuses.

The objective was to demonstrate that this "risk" everyone keeps wanting to sustain, has been identified, addressed and mitigated. The Special Review Board validated these facts on September 20, 2024 when they opined that I am behaviorally stable and have made significant treatment progress; but foremost, that all dynamic risk factors have been mitigated., which warrants a reduction in custody.

The facts and data (clinical progress notes) exist throughout the records. Not just in the last few years, but throughout the entire eighteen years I have been illegally, unconstitutionally detained in the M$OP.