

REPORT ON ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT/LONG TERM CARE CENTERS

PART TWO: RESULTS OF SURVEY ON USE OF CENTERS

INTRODUCTION

Early in 1995 the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse completed a survey of 188 dioceses regarding their use of centers for assessment, treatment, and long term care of priests involved with sexual abuse of minors. A total of 145 dioceses replied to this survey. Of these, 127 dioceses indicated that they have used such centers, and 18 replied that they had no need of them.

In the survey questionnaire the bishops were asked 1) to give the names of institutions or centers being used, 2) to indicate their level of satisfaction with the services received - on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high) - and 3) to offer whatever comments seemed indicated.

The overall results indicate that the bishops have used 40 centers for assessment services, 27 for treatment, and 12 for long term care. There was considerable overlap within all three categories. In several instances the center consisted of a designated professional in a diocese, or a diocesan institution. For some respondents a six or seven month session for an offender in an institution was considered long term care.

Only centers used by at least **three** dioceses are covered in this report. For all centers listed, statistics are given on the number of dioceses using them specifically for assessment, for treatment, or for long term care.

The mean level of satisfaction (maximum is five) is also indicated for each center in each category. **One factor not controlled in this reading of the level of satisfaction with a facility is the time period (three, five, or ten years ago) when it was used by a reporting diocese.** New programs and approaches are evolving almost on a yearly basis. The experience of the past decade has influenced very much the style of caregiving for many centers.

Following this information there is a sampling of typical comments offered by the respondents regarding the service received from each center.

SECTION ONE - ASSESSMENT SERVICES

According to the survey 15 centers have been used by at least three dioceses for assessment services.

Note: These 15 institutions are presented in alphabetical order.

**1. Behavioral Medicine Institute of Atlanta
3280 Howell Road NW, Suite T30
Atlanta, GA 30327**

Used by 5 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.8 out of 5 as indicated by 5 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Comprehensive evaluation with well validated tests. Very good reports with recommendations, usually sent to us within 4-5 days.

There may be some controversy over the therapy(ies) employed, but this was the only center out of about 10 we contacted who would accept a priest before the court case was settled.

Have developed their own screen for testing. May be somewhat invasive physically in order to secure results.

**2. Isaac Ray Center
1720 West Polk Street
Room 107
Chicago, IL 60612**

Used by 5 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.3 out of 5 as indicated by 4 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Issac Ray is a very professional institution. It has a large staff of experts who do an extremely detailed assessment. It usually only takes two to three weeks to get a priest in for evaluation. There is no feedback session for diocesan officials. One problem has been the length of time it takes to get a written report. The fact that it is not a Catholic institution can add credibility

to the testing.

Very good assessments, no in-hospital or day care facilities. Good individual and group work. Good after care/monitoring program. No religious affiliation - but they understand the issues.

3. Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
600 N. Wolfe Street/Meyer 4-113
Baltimore, MD 21287-3130

Used by 3 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Used both for evaluation and treatment.

4. Progressive Clinical Services
4243 Hunt Road
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Used by 3 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 2.7 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Limited use. A little slow in getting evaluation back.

**5. Saint Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, MD 20746-5294**

Used by 81 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.4 out of 5 as indicated by 75 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Assessments are extremely thorough, perceptive and conducted with dignity. The summary session with a diocesan representative is well conducted and provides good direction. Highly professional.

Environment very institutional, and the "downtown" environment less than happy, but the program is holistically sound.

The staff have shown great professional care and compassion and have been cooperative with the diocesan bishop and vicar for clergy.

The program at St. Luke's has been the most intense, satisfactory program we have experienced. The follow-up is exceptional as well.

Very intense; some question as to whether they work out of the addiction mode too much.

P.R. Problem: because of its association with sexual abuse issues, priests may refuse to go there.

Good but very expensive.

While we have had good experience with their assessments, we seldom use them for initial assessment any longer, preferring to hold them for treatment (we separate the two).

A comprehensive, careful, forthright effort that is confronting, when needed.

While the entire program is very professional and tough, the leaders seem to project a slightly unrealistic expectation of success for perpetrators.

It is comprehensive, decisive, and gives clear direction. St. Luke Institute makes a great effort to understand how important the role of the diocese is as both the final supervisor as well as a caregiver for the priest. Provides an extensive, comprehensive, and clinically sound aftercare.

The demands placed on patient are appropriate.

They have done thorough evaluations. The only difficulty has been the length of time it sometimes takes to schedule an evaluation.

6. Servants of the Paraclete

P. O. Box 10

Jemez Springs, NM

Used by 35 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.6 out of 5 as indicated by 31 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Compassionate. Forthright. Willingness to diversify according to particular case.

The staff is professionally very competent. The environment is comfortable and home-like, and the program holistically very good. The integration of spirituality seems to be particularly good.

While we have sent several priests there for treatment in the past, we have not found the facility that satisfactory in providing us with information which was adequate for follow-up, and little or no aftercare.

They have some personnel problems - seem to be getting squared away.

Not real happy with them. Reporting to me was deficient. Poorly prepared for reporting sessions. Their objectives were not in concert with this diocese. We have not used this facility for a number of years.

They have served our needs for 15 years, with NO recidivism.

The main purpose seems to be to get the priests back into active ministry, regardless of results. Tends to be an advocate for the patient.

Very good - thorough - adequate reporting. Tendency to put all through their extended program without offering other options.

Very cooperative with the diocese while assisting the priest client.

**7. Servants of the Paraclete
St. Michael's Community
13270 Maple Drive
St. Louis, MO 63127-1999**

Used by 23 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.7 out of 5 as indicated by 21 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Compassionate. Forthright. Willingness to diversify according to particular case.

The evaluation seemed to be thorough and insightful.

They did not seem to challenge the priest enough. They were not consistent in their contacts with the diocese. They are not too expensive.

We utilized this facility twice. The first assessment recommended in-patient treatment, which was done. The second assessment recommended follow-up psychiatric care, not in-patient treatment. Both assessments were clinically sound, perhaps less directive, particularly regarding communication to the priests. Relationship with the diocese, satisfactory; could be more comprehensive. Aftercare satisfactory.

The testing seems to correspond with that which is done by other facilities. The feedback and recommendations are helpful, but give the client more responsibility for choosing treatment rather than recommending a specific course of action.

We have utilized this facility for seven years. Contact persons have changed over that time frame. We have found also that the quality of the assessment has varied quite a bit.

**8. Servants of the Paraclete
The Albuquerque Villa
2348 Pajarito Road, S.W.
Albuquerque, NM 87105**

Used by 7 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.8 out of 5 as indicated by 5 respondents.

COMMENTS:

The Albuquerque Villa has been very accommodating getting our priest in right away. The evaluation is good but not as clinical and detailed as the other two we use. There is a very welcoming spirit and there is a strong emphasis on priestly spirituality.

I do not intend to use the Paracletes in future.

**9. Shalom Center, Inc.
Rt. 2, Box 2285
Splendora, TX 77372**

Used by 5 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.8 out of 5 as indicated by 4 respondents.

COMMENTS:

A small low key facility. Competent in its professional outreach. Good relation with local bishop. Good reporting back. Difficulty in continuity of administration. Recommend highly.

Pastoral setting, in suburbs of Houston. Two-week evaluation period. Spiritual dimension. Holistic approach. Undergoing change in administration. Perhaps not best for severe cases.

Sometimes too eager to "excuse" priest offender.

10. Southdown

**1335 St. John's Sideroad East
Aurora, ON L4G 3G8
Canada**

Used by 21 U.S. dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.8 out of 5 as indicated by 17 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Staff is very hospitable and accommodating. Evaluations are comprehensive and directive.

I have been very pleased with their treatment, their accountability to the bishop, and especially now their newly developed after care program.

We found them too optimistic in their reports thereby instilling false hope in the client.

I find Southdown less thorough in their reporting to bishops, both in assessment and in treatment.

A comprehensive, clear and helpful effort for persons who are well-motivated.

We have used them three times recently. I have been pleased with their feedback and holistic approach.

First case at Southdown. Thus far we are very satisfied. Reports from others are very favorable.

11. St. Louis Consultation Service

**1100 Bellevue Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63117**

Used by 4 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 5 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

I am extremely satisfied with the work that they have accomplished.

They have dealt with many priests and have a good grasp of our particular vocation. Their assessments are realistic and recommendations have been helpful.

**12. The Institute of Living
400 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106**

Used by 23 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.4 out of 5 as indicated by 22 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Wonderful program, great reception and communication. Very thorough and good follow-up.

Experience has been extremely mixed.

Slow in forwarding results of evaluation. Lack of good progress reports. Did not foster sense of responsibility or realistic sense of need (for client) to contribute to cost of care or even work for continued salary upon return.

This facility is very accommodating in accepting priests on short-notice. The assessment is broad and employs many professionals. A major drawback is expense.

A comprehensive and supportive effort which oversteps boundaries in becoming an advocate for priests in terms of their future ministry.

Good and balanced evaluation.

13. The Menninger Clinic
Box 829
Topeka, KS 66601 0829

Used by 3 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.7 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Have used for evaluation only.

14. The New Life Center
P.O. Box 1876
Middleburg, VA 22117

Used by 7 dioceses. For assessment services, the mean level of satisfaction is 4.4 out of 5 as indicated by 7 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Personalized treatment for client and relationships with bishop's office.

The evaluation is very insightful and most helpful. The limitation would be that it is done by only one psychologist and a religious sister who deals with the spiritual side of the person's life.

Some clergy have difficulty with not wearing clerical garb or functioning as clerics while there.

Evaluations were on target. However, we have a question about the facilities.

15. Villa St. John Vianney Hospital
Lincoln Highway at Woodbine Road
P. O. Box 219
Downingtown, PA 19335

Used by 20 dioceses for assessment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.5 out of 5 as indicated by 17 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Excellent out-patient evaluation and assessment; staff is able to get to the heart of the matter.

The experience was positive although the priests found it rather institution-like.

The process seems professional, thorough, and helpful. Some of those evaluated claim the outcome is always the same: inpatient treatment is necessary.

Very conscious of good communication with the diocese.

They are often booked up.

SECTION TWO - TREATMENT SERVICES

According to the responses received from the bishops, 10 centers have been used by three or more dioceses for treatment purposes, and all 10 are included in the assessment category described above. As will be apparent in Section Three, some of these 10 also give treatment in a long term care context.

Note: The institutions are presented in alphabetical order.

**1. Behavioral Medicine Institute of Atlanta
3280 Howell Road N.W., Suite T30
Atlanta, GA 30327**

Used by 4 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.5 out of 5 as indicated by 4 respondents.

COMMENTS:

At the time of our need for this treatment, this was the best (and only?) treatment available. It seemed to work well for our patient.

Excellent short term intensive therapy with good follow-up referral.

Director is involved with the treatment of a number of professionals involved in child abuse and uses intense cognitive and behavioral modification therapy -it is not residential care but out patient.

**2. Saint Luke Institute
2420 Brooks Drive
Suitland, MD 20746-5294**

Used by 61 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.2 out of 5 as indicated by 54 respondents.

COMMENTS:

St Luke's is a top-flight center, treating the whole person. Our priests have been treated with respect as they are challenged. The staff have been very helpful and supportive to us on the diocesan level and keep us informed periodically during the priest's treatment. The continuing care program is

An excellent follow-up to the intensive treatment and enables the priests to establish at home the necessary supports and groups that will challenge him and call him to accountability. The staff is very personable and returns phone calls promptly. They are most cooperative with us on the diocesan level.

Therapy generally lasts 6 to 9 months. All candidates have benefited significantly. They also provide an after care plan and periodic renewals at the Institute.

We have been very pleased with St. Luke's especially the regular contact and progress reports and the follow up program which is excellent. One priest complained that the spirituality is weak.

Direct Feedback: Less than desired. Progress reports tend to be vague and imprecise.

The morality of one of the therapies used is questionable; some of the staff do not seem to understand the nature and theology of priesthood; professionalism of some of the staff is questionable. This is recent experience.

Good communication with the diocese; helpful aftercare program; we especially like SLI because its treatment is eclectic and multidimensional.

Success was achieved in addressing the alcoholic addiction but other problems were not addressed very effectively.

Most often successful in breaking through denial and helping a man understand the progress he has made in addressing the allegations. Fair living environment.

Also used for other than clients involved in sexual abuse of minors.

3. Servants of the Paraclete
P.O. Box 10
Jemez Springs, NM

Used by 36 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.0 out of 5 as indicated by 28 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Most of the men we have sent for treatment have returned with the ability to function in restricted ministries.

The staff is very accommodating and most communicative in sharing information. Recently there has been some major staff turnover.

Their spiritual dimension is very important.

We sent them two priests, who had been arrested, for treatment until they were remanded to jail.

Feedback sporadic. Ability to process/integrate diocesan concerns is lacking. After care sporadic.

Good availability, wide range of programs and placement. Good reporting and involvement with sponsoring bishop. Low rate of rehabilitation success.

I would rate the treatment process as average. We were involved with the Servants at a time their administration was in a state of disarray, and I believe their internal problems had an effect on the quality of care they were offering.

Too much unsupervised leave in first six months. Better for treating clients with sexual problems with adults than pedophiles.

They have served our needs for 15 years, with NO recidivism. Good after care program.

**4. Servants of the Paraclete
St. Michael's Community
13270 Maple Drive
St. Louis, MO 63127-1999**

Used by 21 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.6 out of 5 as indicated by 17 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Well rounded approach to therapy to blend science and spirituality. Willingness to work with, not for diocese.

These people have done some very good work with us.

The treatment seemed to be effective, but one case relapsed.

We have utilized this facility for seven years. Contact persons have changed over that time frame. We have found also that the quality of the assessment has varied quite a bit.

They have been consistently very good.

This program perhaps could be more aggressive. There are also some concerns about the advice which is given to the client regarding the sharing of information with superiors.

While priests who have been for treatment at St. Michael's are satisfied, we have a concern over the thoroughness of the periodic reports we received from St. Michael's.

Overall good program.

**5. Servants of the Paraclete
The Albuquerque Villa
2348 Pajarito Road, S.W.
Albuquerque, NM 87105**

Used by 7 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.3 out of 5 as indicated by 6 respondents.

COMMENTS:

We like the focus on priestly spirituality that is offered. The environment appeals to the priests and they find the atmosphere less threatening than other places. We would use the Villa for less serious cases and for vocation discernment. They have a very good follow up program and involve the diocese throughout the process of treatment and follow up.

**6. Southdown
1335 St. John's Sideroad East
Aurora, ON L4G 3G8**

Used by 15 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.5 out of 5 as indicated by 11 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Effective with people who are motivated to address their problems. Their summaries are sometimes vague and can be evasive in defining the progress a person has made regarding the allegations. Good living environment. Unmotivated persons have returned with no greater insight into their difficulties.

Too early to measure new therapeutic plan for clients/patients.

I have had two priests there for treatment. I do not believe they confront the issues strongly. Reports to the bishop are not thorough or timely.

Holistic, great emphasis on physical well-being. Seems to be weak regarding more comprehensive psycho/social integration. More integration as regards both male and female religious clients.

7. St. Louis Consultation Service
1100 Bellevue Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63117

Used by 4 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 5 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Six month program; out patient program available where appropriate. We have been pleased with the treatment received by priests for a number of issues, including sexual abuse issues.

Follow up to St. Louis Medical Center treatment, 4-6 months, wholistic, effective, sensitive, day hospital with residence at Wounded Brothers Project (see below) - Reasonable cost.

8. The Institute for Living
400 Washington Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Used by 15 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 3.9 out of 5 as indicated by 12 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Generally, we have been satisfied.

Long term, balanced program with more developed spiritual dimension.

Long term in-patient coupled with on-going out-patient therapy with a willing participant can produce results. Cost is exorbitant.

The treatment never seems to end, with little progress toward return to normal activity.

This institution deals with professionals in all walks of life (clergy, religious and lay) and yet shows a deep respect for those who have committed themselves to a religious vocation.

9. The New Life Center
P. O. Box 1876
Middleburg, VA 22117

Used by 3 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.7 out of 5 as indicated by 3 respondents.

COMMENTS:

Timely progress reports. Good communication of concerns. Good follow-up in after care.

10. Villa St. John Vianney
P. O. Box 219
Downingtown, PA 19335

Used by 17 dioceses for treatment services. The mean level of satisfaction is 4.2 out of 5 as indicated by 17 respondents.

COMMENTS:

This is a psychiatric hospital, more restrictive than (other) facilities. We have been very pleased with the quality of their care.

Staff and therapists have understanding of nature and theology of priesthood. Vocation of priest is respected; good communication with diocese; in some cases, I find final recommendations need to be more realistic, but staff is open to discussion on this point.

The staff is helpful and communicative. A concern about the average length of stay being overly lengthy has been addressed. Present average: six months.

They have a monthly conference call with staff and bishop and client. These discussions are very direct and positively aggressive. I find this program excellent.

Used also for other than clients involving sexual abuse of minors.

This facility is specifically directed to caring for men and women committed to religious vocations. The treatment is compassionate and yet methodical and focused on dealing with the person's issues. There is a good respect for the person as one who committed himself/herself to a religious vocation.

SECTION THREE - LONG TERM CARE

Of the 145 dioceses reporting in this survey 61 had a response in this category. Of this number, 28 indicated that they had no need for this type of care for priests involved in sexual abuse. Of the remaining 33 dioceses, 11 reported that the care is provided within their own institutions and resources.

As noted in the introduction to this report, some dioceses consider a six or seven month stay as long term care. Six institutions described in the first report on centers in Restoring Trust (November 1994) were mentioned in this survey as supplying some form of long term care:

- St. Luke Institute
- University of Minnesota Program
- Southdown
- The Albuquerque Villa
- St. Michael's Community
- Villa St. John Vianney

The results of the survey show that there are four other providers that have been used by at least three dioceses for long term care:

1. Different centers directed by the Servants of the Paraclete were mentioned by 19 of the 61 respondents in this long term care category. In addition to the Paraclete centers commented on in sections one and two of this report, another one was mentioned seven times in this section on long term care:

Our Lady of Guadalupe Retreat Center
39100 Orchard Avenue
Cherry Valley, CA 92223-3750

This institution is described in Part One of this report.

One survey respondent commented:

We have only one person in custodial care and that is of very recent origin. We have placed him with the Servants of the Paraclete at their facility in Cherry Valley, CA. To this point the placement seems to be working well.

2. Four dioceses made reference to the Wounded Brothers Project, Evergreen Hills Homes residential program at Cedar Hill, MO. It is now known as:

**RECON
P.O. Box 220
Dittmer, MO 63023**

This center is described in Part One of this report.

Comments:

At present we believe this to be both a spiritually and clinically sound environment for the priest who is no longer able to function publicly, but desires some continued fraternity in a setting that maintains one's priestly identity.

A new program. Too early to evaluate.

3. Another center for long term care identified in the survey and used by three dioceses is the

**Vianney Renewal Center
6476 Eime Road
P.O. Box 130
Dittmer, MO 63023**

One respondent commented:

Custodial care is good. However, therapeutic care is minimal. There is openness to addressing issues which may arise.

4. Shalom Center, described in Part One of this report, was also listed in the survey as being used for long term care.

CONCLUSION

In the survey on the use of centers the bishops were invited to offer "Other Comments for the Committee". Here are some typical samples of some of the comments offered by thirty-seven respondents:

Diocesan decisions regarding prognosis and future ministry are critical and difficult. This needs further discussion.

Big issue: no center is able to offer much help in determining the truth about allegations.

It is sad when someone is healed but cannot be returned to ministry because of scandal or risk.

Results vary by individuals and the level of integration or non-integration into the program.

I believe that it is important to match the individual to the facility because each has its own strengths and weaknesses.

Most vexing issues are around those who cannot be returned to ministry. Also, justice regarding how the diocese can be responsible but share responsibility with the priest, i.e. counseling costs for the victim, expenses for the priest's therapy, ...

It would be good if the bishops could work together in developing a strategy on a regional basis, regarding the care, development and future provision for priests who will no longer serve in pastoral ministry as a result of their misconduct.

It is often extremely difficult, if not impossible, to find a facility that will take a priest immediately for evaluation. Yet, in some cases this is essential.

It is our experience that not even the best treatment can reshape the personality and psychological make-up of an individual who is not personally motivated to change. In this instance, the best we can hope for is an arrest of the behavior in question.

I would judge it a true gift to the Church if a monastic community could be found that would have and care for alleged offenders needing extended therapy.