

**NEW YORK COUNTY DISTRICT BRANCH – AMERICAN  
PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION**

The Oskar Diethelm Library  
DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
525 East 68th Street  
New York, New York 10065

Arranged and described by:  
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**Provenance**

The records of the New York County District Branch-American Psychiatric Association were given to the Archives of Psychiatry (now the Oskar Diethelm Library), New York Hospital-Cornell Medical in 1973. The predecessor organization is the New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry. For the most part, this collection consists of records commencing in 1961. Records prior to 1961 probably do not exist.

The collection is comprised of 2.8 cubic ft. housed in seven .4 cubic ft. boxes.

**Restrictions**

Box 2, Series III, folder 4 is restricted from use to protect the identity of individuals mentioned.

**History**

The New York County District Branch-American Psychiatric Association was founded in 1922 as the New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry and became an affiliate society of the American Psychiatric Association in 1947. It was known as the New York County District Branch from 1952-1958 and thereafter was designated as the New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry, New York County Branch, American Psychiatric Association.

The organization is now known as the New York County District Branch-American Psychiatric Association. According to its constitution, the District Branch was organized for educational and scientific purposes and engages in activities to advance the art and science of the psychiatric field. Activities are focused around the continuing psychiatric education of the membership. The

District Branch functions as a component of the American Psychiatric Association and fulfills the objectives, functions and activities of the APA. The District Branch serves New York and Richmond Counties in New York State.

The officers consist of a President, President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. General meetings of the membership are held annually.

### **Scope and Content**

The records of the New York County District Branch-APA have been arranged into six series. The names of the series and the years they encompass are as follows:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Years</b>
I	Constitution, Programs and Reports on History of the District Branch	1927-1985
II	Correspondence	1963-1972
III	Committees	1953-1973, 1988
IV	Executive Council minutes	1960-1974
V	Assembly of District Branches	1961-1972
VI	Publications	1970-1988

The collection covers the years 1927-1988 with the bulk from 1961-1974. In general, the series have been arranged either chronologically or alphabetically.

Copies of the Constitution, bylaws and meeting programs are housed in the series CONSTITUTION, PROGRAMS AND REPORTS ON HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT BRANCH (Series I, 1927-1985, 4 folders). Dr. Marie-Louise Schoelly's report written for the 50th anniversary of the founding of the District Branch provides information on changes that have occurred over the years.

Most of the CORRESPONDENCE (Series II, 1963-1972, 1 box) emanated from the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Sidney Malitz. The correspondence relates to the general operation of the District Branch. There are also official letters written by the president and distributed to the entire membership. These are followed by lists of names of the presidents-elects and presidents. Because there are so few financial records, official accounting financial reports are included in this series.

Numerous committees comprise the District Branch, however only a few COMMITTEES are represented in this collection (Series III, 1953-1973, 1988; 1 box). There are many versions of

the constitution and bylaws during the period of revision (1962-1964). The Ethics Committee material (Folder 2:4) is restricted to protect the identity of individuals mentioned therein.

The Executive Council recommends the admission or rejection of applicants to the District Branch; recommends disciplinary measures relative to members; appoints and sets salaries of such personnel as auditors, accountants and attorneys; adopts a budget, and controls the funds; approves publication of its proceedings and other papers; and considers proposed amendments to the constitution and bylaws. The Executive Council is composed of the four officers of the District Branch, the two immediate Past-Presidents, and seven voting members. The collection contains EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (Series IV, 1960-1974, 1 1/2 boxes). Meetings are held frequently during the year.

The ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT BRANCHES (Series V, 1961-1972, 2 1/2 boxes) is the body composed of approximately 75 district branches of the APA across the country. The Assembly was designed to provide a greater voice in the governance of the national organization. The Council of the New York State District Branches represented the State in the Assembly of District Branches. The Committee of Delegates consisted of 11 district branches in New York City and was a loose confederation. Later the organization changed and was based on a more formal structure. The Council of Delegates was a confederation of district branches in New York State.

PUBLICATIONS (Series VI, 1970-1988, 1 box) consists primarily of newsletters published by the District Branch. Two membership directories and a few reports prepared by other organizations are included.

## **Inventory**

### **Box 1**

#### **Series I – CONSTITUTION, PROGRAMS AND REPORTS ON HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT BRANCH**

Folder 1	Constitution and bylaws	1942-1985
2	Annual meeting programs, lists of members	1927-1959
3	Correspondence, reports and related material pertaining to the history and growth of the District Branch	
4	"The New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry is Fifty Years Old" Paper by Marie-Louise Schoelly	1972

## Series II CORRESPONDENCE

5	General correspondence	1963
6	General correspondence	1964
7	General correspondence	1965
8	General correspondence	1966
9	General correspondence	1967
10	General correspondence	1968
11	General correspondence	1969
12	General correspondence	1970
13	General correspondence	1970
14	General correspondence	1971
15	President's Letters, Abraham N. Franzblau	1971-1972
16	List of presidents-elect, District Branches	1963
17	List of APA Committee Liaison Committee members to the District Branches and District Branch presidents	1966
18	Correspondence re: finances, statements of income and expenses	1963-1967
19	Miscellaneous correspondence, statements, programs	1970-1972

## Box 2

### Series III COMMITTEES

Folder 1	Financial reports	1962-1967
2	Financial reports	1968-1972
3	Committee on Constitution	1964-1973
4	Ethics Committee <b>RESTRICTED</b>	1972
5	Committee on History of Psychiatry	1962-1970
6	Committee on Hospital Psychiatry. Directory of In-Patient Psychiatric Services in Metropolitan New York	1970-1971
7	Ad Hoc Committee on New York Regional Office	1965
8	Nominating Committee	1988
9	Committee on Psychiatric Acute Care. Directory of Psychiatric Acute Care Services in New York and Richmond Counties	1971-1972
10	Committee on Revision of Constitution and Bylaws	1962
11	Committee on Revision of Constitution and Bylaws	1964
12	Committee on Revision of Constitution and Bylaws	1963-1964
13	Lists of committees and their members	1953-1972

**Box 3****Series IV EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**

Folder 1	Minutes	1960
2	Minutes	1961
3	Minutes	1962
4	Minutes	1963
5	Minutes	1964
6	Minutes	1965
7	Minutes	1966
8	Minutes	1967
9	Minutes	1968
10	Minutes	1-6/1969
11	Minutes	9-12/1969
12	Minutes	1970

**Box 4****Series IV EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**

Folder 1	Minutes	1971
2	Correspondence and reports	1971
3	Minutes, Code of Procedure	1972
4	Reports	1972
5	Minutes	1973
6	Minutes	1974

**Series V ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT BRANCHES**

7	New York State District Branches. Transactions of the Committee of Delegates	1960
8	New York State District Branches. Transactions of the Committee of Delegates	1962
9	New York State District Branches. Transactions of the Committee of Delegates	1963
10	Council of New York State Branches. Transactions of the Committee of Delegates	1964
11	Council of New York State Branches. Transactions	1965
12	Council of New York State Branches. Transactions	1966
13	Council of New York State Branches. Transactions	1967

**Box 5****Series V ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT BRANCHES**

Folder 1	Minutes	1961
2	Minutes	1962
3	Minutes	1963
4	Minutes	1964
5	Minutes	1965
6	Minutes	1966
7	Minutes	1967
8	Minutes	1967
9	Minutes, reports	1968
10	Minutes	1968

**Box 6****Series V ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT BRANCHES**

Folder 1	Minutes	1969
2	List of officers, board of trustees, members of councils, committees, etc.	1969
3	Minutes, Procedural Code	1969
4	Minutes	1970
5	Minutes	1970
6	Minutes	1971
7	Minutes	1971
8	Minutes, Procedural Code	1972
9	Minutes	1972

**Box 7****Series VI PUBLICATIONS**

Folder 1	Newsletters	1981-1984
2	Newsletters	1985-1988
3	Membership directories	1970-1973
4	Reports by other organizations re: ethics, community mental health centers	1972
5	Announcements of meetings	1989-1990