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:
Janice Quinter
July 1988

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Constitution, Programs and Reports on History of the District Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Correspondence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Executive Council minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Assembly of District Branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Publications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 RESTRICTED  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  
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

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## Box 4
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correspondence and reports</td>
<td>1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Minutes, Code of Procedure</td>
<td>1972</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Reports</td>
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## Series V ASSEMBLY OF DISTRICT BRANCHES

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<td>New York State District Branches. Transactions of the Committee of Delegates</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Council of New York State Branches. Transactions</td>
<td>1967</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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