

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
ALFRED ADLER MENTAL HYGIENE CLINIC, NEW YORK¹

DANICA DEUTSCH, *Executive Director*

We can look back on a year of great activity marked by outstanding cooperation of our old and new staff members, in spite of the strain caused by the prolonged illness and final passing of Raissa Adler, the revered widow of the founder of our school. Supported by the efforts of Sydney M. Roth, Chicago, a library is being established in her memory.

The year's work started with preparations for being hosts to the Sunday meetings of the three day Conference of the American Society of Adlerian Psychology, commemorating "Fifty Years of Adlerian Psychology," in which all of our colleagues participated in some way.

In the year beginning June 1, 1961, we rendered the following services: 627 initial interviews with social workers, 882 psychiatric interviews, 3555 individual sessions with psychologists and therapists, and 360 group psychotherapy sessions. 49 children were seen who had been referred for problems, and at least as many "children visitors" were invited for play and art therapy sessions, to gain a better picture of sibling relationships. We endeavored also to extend the mothers' group sessions wherever possible into family therapy sessions where all members of the family are seen together.

Ralph Abramson joined our staff in October as director of social services. In addition to his professional efficiency we have gained, through his former contacts, the possibility of extending our services to two organizations in the field of rehabilitation.

We wish to emphasize the help received from the growing Women's Division. They organized a series of lectures, as part of a mental hygiene program, on "Understanding Human Nature." Under the chairmanship of Dr. Alexandra Adler these lectures, which started in February, were presented by the staff of the Clinic and the Institute. They drew a large audience from the community and were so much appreciated that they will be continued this fall.

The Women's Division also organized a special group for mothers who wanted to learn about educational methods. A few of them then found that they could use the help of the Clinic.

The slogan of the Women's Division, "No child in need of help will be turned away because of lack of funds," inspired them to untiring efforts in fund raising, so that we are supported in the basic principles on which our Clinic is founded.

All of this correlates with the following quotation from an official report to the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene: "The spirit of this clinic is clearly its most outstanding asset. This is a service, whose professionals are by no means perfunctory. . . . Obviously, there is, and is bound to be, patient response."

¹Condensed from the report to the General Membership Meeting of the Individual Psychology Association, New York, June 28, 1962..