

To The Honorable Walter H. Reynolds, Mayor  
To The Honorable The City Council

Annual Report of the  
Director of Public Welfare for the  
Twelve Months Ended September 30, 1954

155

To The Honorable Walter H. Reynolds, Mayor, and the Honorable the City Council of the City of Providence:

In compliance with the ordinances of the City of Providence, I transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Public Welfare for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1954.

#### FOREWORD

The following pages present an accurate and detailed accounting of expenditures and an analysis of the General Public Assistance case load. The figures speak for themselves. While it may be gratifying from a monetary point of view to note a continuing decline in our annual expenditures, since the high point reached in the fiscal year ended in 1950, there is cause for reflection.

During the month of September there were seven hundred and ninety persons in the City of Providence who were receiving assistance under the Aid to the Disabled program. This is financed by the Federal and State governments. It started functioning in May of 1951 and has steadily absorbed recipients who prior to its inception were, or would now be, a responsibility of the General Public Assistance program. On the basis of September expenditures by the State, costs <sup>to</sup> of the City of Providence, in the absence of an Aid to The Disabled program, would be increased in excess of six hundred thousand dollars annually.

Another factor in our declining expenditures is the "Pooled Fund" medical care program of the State Division of Public Assistance. This provides for payment for medical services received by all active recipients of the state-federal financed forms of assistance. Prior to July 1, 1952 General Public Assistance met the costs of hospital care for these persons in addition to meeting obligations in behalf of its own recipients. This did run between two and three hundred thousand dollars annually. Since the advent of the "Pooled Fund" plan our

experience, up to this time, has been that expenditures by General Public Assistance for hospitalization are less than fifty percent of what they formerly would have been.

For counsel, understanding, and encouragement I am indebted to Your Honor and to you Gentlemen of the City Council. I am likewise grateful to all staff members of the Department for their efforts and loyalty.

Respectfully submitted,

*James V. Mc Govern*  
Director of Public Welfare

IN CITY COUNCIL

FEB 17 1955

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

*W. Everett Wheelan*  
CLERK

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1954

	<u>Personal Services</u>	<u>Services Other Than Personal</u>	<u>Materials &amp; Supplies</u>	<u>Special Items</u>	<u>Equipment Outlay</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Welfare Activities						
Welfare Administration	\$ 37,796.20	\$ 529.06	\$ 514.44			\$ 38,839.70
General Public Assistance Administration	195,811.21	49,070.44	7,656.54		5,167.94	257,706.13
General Public Assistance Home Relief		<u>195,901.16</u>	<u>120,346.83</u>	<u>1,241,333.02</u>		<u>1,557,581.01</u>
Total Welfare Activities	\$233,607.41	\$245,500.66	\$128,517.81	\$1,241,333.02	\$5,167.94	\$1,854,126.84

Details of Expenditures

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1954

Welfare Activities

Welfare Administration

Personal Services

001 Salaries - Permanent Positions	\$35,124.20	
002 Salaries - Temporary Positions	2,672.00	
Total		\$37,796.20

Services Other Than Personal

109 Fees Not Otherwise Classified - Including	4.00	
Automobile Registration and Licenses	121.85	
115 Transportation of Persons - Conventions	260.00	
117 Travel Subsistence - Conventions	143.21	
144 Repairs to Automobiles and Trucks (Municipal Garage)		529.06
Total		

Materials and Supplies

211 Motor Fuel	446.02	
212 Lubricants	24.24	
213 Tires and Tubes	44.18	
Total		514.44

Total Welfare Administration

\$38,839.70

Details of Expenditures

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1954

General Public Assistance - Administration

Personal Services

001 Salaries - Permanent Positions

Total

\$195,811.21

\$195,811.21

Services Other Than Personal

102 Medical Services

111 Telephone and Telegraph

112 Postage, Freight and Express

114 Automobile Allowance

116 Transportation (Social Workers)

118 Travel Subsistence - Other

121 Printed Reports

131 Heat, Light and Power

134 Water - Payments to Water Supply Board

141 Repairs to Office Machinery, Furniture and Furnishings

149 Repairs to Other Equipment

150 Repairs to Buildings

151 Maintenance and Servicing

163 Rental of Other Equipment

164 Rental of Equipment (Public Works Revolving Fund)

181 Laundry and Cleaning

183 Dues and Subscriptions

199 Miscellaneous Services Not Otherwise Classified

Total

5.00  
7,112.83  
1,448.66  
300.00  
869.55  
150.00  
253.85  
3,413.45  
112.86  
117.15  
81.69  
32,987.60  
30.00  
300.00  
202.50  
93.00  
101.75  
1,490.55

49,070.44

Details of Expenditures - continued

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1954

Materials and Supplies

201 Stationery, Printed Forms and Office Supplies	\$2,069.11	
202 Small Tools and Shop Supplies	4.00	
232 Pharmaceuticals	29.85	
241 Fuel	4,431.83	
244 Household Supplies and Minor Equipment	795.93	
266 Lumber and Hardware	91.79	
267 Paint and Painter's Supplies	177.73	
268 Plumbing and Electrical Supplies	12.50	
274 Water Meters and Meter Parts	31.20	
299 Miscellaneous Materials and Supplies	12.60	
Total		7,656.54

Capital Outlay

501 Office Furniture, Machinery and Equipment		
Total	<u>5,167.94</u>	<u>5,167.94</u>

Total - General Public Assistance - Administration		\$257,706.13
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Details of Expenditures

For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1954

General Public Assistance - Home Relief Grants

Services Other Than Personal	
102 Medical Services	\$33,930.00
116 Transportation	123.93
169 Rentals Not Otherwise Classified	2,967.04
184 Hospitalization	139,894.03
185 Burials	18,927.66
199 Miscellaneous Services Not Otherwise Classified	58.50
Total	<u>\$195,901.16</u>

Materials and Supplies	
204 Wearing Apparel and Personal Supplies	9.75
231 Medical, Chemical and Laboratory Supplies	3,958.37
232 Pharmaceuticals	14,532.96
241 Fuel	2,129.54
242 Food	99,666.21
244 Household Supplies and Minor Equipment	50.00
Total	<u>120,346.83</u>

Special Items	
351 Cash Direct Relief	<u>1,241,333.02</u>
Total	<u>1,241,333.02</u>

Total - General Public Assistance - Home Relief Grants

\$1,557,581.01

GRAND TOTAL - WELFARE ACTIVITIES

\$1,854,126.84



BUREAU OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Record of Cases  
Oct. 1, 1953 to Sept. 30, 1954

Non-support of Families.....	199
Non-support of Parents.....	5
Minor's Permit to Marry.....	8
Illegitimacy.....	123
Report on Reciprocal Legislation.....	51
Lawyer's Referral.....	21

Cash Received

Non-support arrangements	\$33,115.11	Warrants issued	63
Illegitimacy payments a/c	16,807.00	Arraignments	55
Final settlements on		Appeals	7
Illegitimacy cases	4,300.01	Trials	28
Hospital payments in		Cases closed	180
Illegitimacy cases	<u>2,780.60</u>		
TOTAL	\$57,002.72		

DEXTER ASYLUM

Table showing by months the number of persons admitted, the number discharged, the number of deaths, and the total number remaining, both men and women.

For the Fiscal Year 1953 - 1954

<u>1953</u>	Admitted	Discharged	Died	Remaining	Men	Women	Native Born	Foreign Born
October	0	2	0	45	28	17	34	11
November	1	0	1	45	28	17	34	11
December	0	1	0	44	27	17	33	11
<u>1954</u>								
January	0	0	0	44	27	17	33	11
February	1	0	0	45	28	17	34	11
March	0	1	0	44	27	17	33	11
April	0	0	1	43	26	17	32	11
May	0	0	1	42	25	17	31	11
June	0	0	1	41	24	17	30	11
July	0	0	1	40	24	16	29	11
August	0	0	0	40	24	16	29	11
September	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	38	24	14	29	9
Total	2	5	6					

There were two less persons admitted during the past year than in the previous fiscal year; three more discharged and the same in the number of deaths.

DEXTER ASYLUM

A table showing the total expenditures, the total receipts and the net expenditures of the Institution every three months during the Fiscal Years 1952 - 1953 - 1954.

Fiscal Year 1953 - 1954

<u>Quarter Ending Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Institution Expenses</u>	<u>Other Receipts</u>	<u>Board of Residents</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>
December '53	\$23,985.75	\$ 5.54	\$1,840.78	\$22,139.43
March '54	26,320.68	5.93	1,733.78	24,580.97
June '54	24,373.87	5.62	1,716.03	22,652.22
September '54	<u>25,666.40</u>	<u>34.72</u>	<u>1,691.62</u>	<u>23,940.06</u>
Total	\$100,346.70	\$51.81	\$6,982.21	\$93,312.68

Fiscal Year 1952 - 1953

December '52	\$ 23,741.58	\$ 6.38	\$2,726.75	\$21,008.45
March '53	23,400.91	13.40	1,657.78	21,729.73
June '53	21,736.52	9.52	2,000.78	19,726.22
September '53	<u>22,636.52</u>	<u>6.40</u>	<u>1,710.78</u>	<u>20,919.34</u>
Total	\$91,515.53	\$35.70	\$8,096.09	\$83,383.74

The Statistics for Dexter Asylum for the Fiscal Year 1953 - 1954

The number of residents October 1, 1953	47	
" " " " admitted during year	<u>2</u>	
Total		49
The number of residents discharged	5	
" " " " died	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>
" " " " remaining Sept.30,1954		38

Average Number of Residents 42

Total Expense of Dexter Asylum for Fiscal Year	\$100,346.70
Received for Board of Residents	\$6,982.21
Other Receipts	<u>51.81</u>
Total Receipts.....	<u>7,034.02</u>
Net Expense.....	\$ 93,312.68