

## The City of Harrisburg Bureau of Police

McCormick Public Services Center 123 Walnut Street Harrisburg, PA 17101-1614

Office of The Chief of Police

March 4, 1998

Mr. Dinich
Alliance for the Mentally Ill
of Pennsylvania
2149 North 2nd Street
Harrisburg, PA. 17110

Dear Mr. Dinich:

Allow me to take this opportunity to express my full and continued support of the mental illness awareness training program between the Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Pennsylvania and the Harrisburg Bureau of Police.

Review of evaluations of classes already held indicate that training has been well received and fully met our expectations. Thus far, your staff of trainers have apparently done an outstanding job.

As you may know, this agency is fully committed to the community policing concept. To that end, we are in the process of a structural reorganization designed to ensure that more officers have the opportunity to walk within their assigned districts. The training provided by your organization is intended to assist us in this very important effort. As our officers become more visible, they interact with more people and, coincidentally, more people with mental illness.

I firmly believe that the education of police officers in the causes and treatment of mental illness is of paramount importance. Therefore, I look forward to a continued joint effort between our organizations to promote and achieve greater understanding and better treatment of individuals with this disease.

Peter J. Prooks
Acting Chief of Police

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