geography, social structure, history and personalities. Development is as much to do with overcoming restraints to progress as having good ideas and the resources to implement them. Nevertheless, the vital importance of adequate funding for mental health services is imperative. It is much more likely that progress will be made if all involved have a common purpose and make the contribution towards the whole which is uniquely theirs to contribute.

Overhasty closure of existing mental hospitals without providing suitable alternative resources both in the community and other hospital settings should be deplored.

The policy of realisation of assets from the sale of psychiatric hospital buildings and land returning to the mental health services must be enforced.

Examples of good practice are found in every health district in the UK. Many are recorded in the reports of the Good Practices in Mental Health project* and others by the Health Advisory Service† which keeps an information file on good practice. Both bodies may be consulted on specific issues.

*Good Practices in Mental Health, 380–384 Harrow Road, London W9 2HU (telephone 01–289 2034). †Health Advisory Service, Sutherland House, 29–37 Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey (telephone 01-642 6022).

April 1987

APPENDIX I

Attendance List

Al-Anon Family Group 61 Great Dover Street London SE1 4YF

Alzheimer's Disease Society 3rd floor, Bank Buildings Fulham Broadway, London SW6 1EP

Anorexic Family Aid Anorexic Aid and National Information Centre Sackville Place, 44 Magdalen Street Norwich NR3 1JE

Association to Combat Huntington's Chorea 34a Station Road Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 1AP

Association of Carers London House 243-253 Lower Mortlake Road Richmond, Surrey

Depressives Associated PO Box 5 Castletown, Portland, Dorset

Drug Line 9a Brockley Cross Brockley, London SE4

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society Broadway House The Broadway Wimbledon SW19 1RL Families Anonymous 88 Caledonian Road London N1 9DN

Mental Health Foundation 8 Hallam Street London W1M 6DH

National Autistic Society 276 Willesden Lane London NW2 5RB

National Council for Carers and their Elderly Dependents 29 Chilworth Mews London W2 3RG

National Schizophrenia Fellowship 78 Victoria Road Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4NS

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children 67 Saffron Hill London EC1N 8RS

North West Fellowship 46 Allen Street Warrington, Cheshire WA2 7JB

RESCARE Lindens Chichester Road Dorking, Surrey RH4 1LR

The Royal College of Psychiatrists