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**MENTAL HEALTH • MENTAL RETARDATION
AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY**

NEWS RELEASE

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MHMRA HOSTS FORUM TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR MEDICAL CENTER CRISIS CENTER

HOUSTON, TX--Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County (MHMRA) will be hosting two mini-forums to discuss the possibility of opening a new 24-hour Crisis Center in the Medical Center area. These forums will be held Thursday, October 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Fonteno Building, 2850 Fannin.

"We envision the Crisis Center to provide 24-hour-a-day evaluation, intervention, and stabilization services for adults and children in an acute psychiatric crisis within Harris County," said Steven Schnee, Ph.D., executive director for MHMRA. "Currently, these consumers are being treated at the Ben Taub Emergency Center. Our ultimate goal is to shift the clientele to the proposed MHMRA Crisis Center."

The focus of the forums will be to address past experiences with the public crisis intervention emergency psychiatric services of Harris County and the satisfaction with the services received. In addition, there will be discussion concerning what capabilities, functions, or services should be available through the new Crisis Center. If you are unable to attend either of the forums, but would like to respond, please submit your comments in writing to Rose Childs, Acting Deputy Director for Adult mental Health Services on or before Monday, October 24, 1994.

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