2.

PARTICIPATE !

EX-INMATES - COME WORK WITH US

We have resumed our regular office hours and are again involved in many projects--some old, some new. We know you agree with what we are doing. We have received scores of supportive and encouraging phone calls. We have received many donations to our Haverford Legal Defense Fund. We are very grateful for all this, but we need something else too. We need you--we need your time, your energy, and your ideas.

We invite you to work with us. There are many things for ALMP members to do. A few of them are: staffing the office and phone lines, writing for, typing, and laying out the newsletter, preparing and distributing leaflets, contacting groups for endorsements of our boycott of SmithKline, communicating with the media, visiting inmates, helping to put together our planned drop-in center, and other forms of organizing.

Presently, the only requirement for ALMP membership are that 1) you must be a former psychiatric inmate/"mental patient" or have been subjected to involuntary psychiatric "treatment" on an "outmate" basis; 2) you must be opposed to all involuntary psychiatric intervention. We ask that before coming to one of our business meetings you first attend either an ex-inmate Open House, or if you're a woman, a meeting of the women's support group. You will be able to vote at the second business meeting you attend, but we encourage your active participation in all meetings.

For more information, please call our office between noon and 4 any weekday, or write us. Or just come to the next Open House--they are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month at 7 pm.

ALMP OPEN HOUSES

On the second and fourth Thursday of every month the Alliance holds open houses for former and current psychiatric inmates ("mental patients") who want to learn more about ALMP and its activities. The open houses take place at the Alliance's center city office (currently 16th & Sansom St., although we may be moving soon). They start at 7 p.m. and last till about 9:30.

Open houses (as opposed to business meetings) are very informal and provide the best opportunity for interested ex-inmates to meet ALMP members, check out our library and literature, rap about experiences with the "mental health" system, and discuss the Alliance's goals, activities, and beliefs in more depth than is possible via telephone and mail. We welcome the participation of all ex-"patients" (or current "patients"), no matter what your current feelings about psychiatry may be. The next two open houses will be held on October 25 and November 8. See you then!

PUBLIC MEETING
PLANS BOARDING HOME PROJECT

Since last winter the Alliance has been holding meetings for ALMP supporters who have not been incarcerated in mental institutions or been subjected to involuntary "treatment." The meetings are currently taking place about every six weeks; the attendance so far has been encouraging. The next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 1 at 7 p.m. at our center city office (16th and Sansom St.).

As a result of the last two public meetings a project has been conecived which is aimed at facilitating organizing among residents of West Philadelphia boarding homes. ALMP supporters are encouraged to volunteer to work on this project. We want to set up a meeting of boarding home residents as soon as possible. Before we can do this, we must 1) locate a meeting site in West Phila.; 2) leaflet en masse at boarding homes to inform residents of the meet-meeting; and 3) set up transportation for those who need it. For more information call Bob Harris at the ALMP office (563-3828).

Non-"patient" friends of the Alliance are also urged to help spread the word about the SmithKline boycott via leafletting and the like. See the article on the boycott and/or come to the next public meeting for more details.