College moving ahead in serving handicapped

Clackamas Community college is "noticeably ahead" of other academic institutions meeting the requirements of new federal rights law regaring services for handicapped ersons, according to College epresentatives who attended a cent workshop on the ossiation.

Judy Peabody, project directr for the disadvantaged and andicapped at the College, aid "several activities are leady underway" here to beter serve handicapped studen-

The College was represented

at the workshop by John Hakanson, College president; Len Monroe, dean of student services; Don Fisher, planning officer; Judy Smith, coordinator of the College RSVP program, and Judy Peabody.

The workshop, to help postsecondary educators understand the new handicapped civil rights act, was sponsored by Project HEATH. "It was aimed at clearing up misconceptions concerning this recent federal legislation," Peabody said, "as well as pointing out vague areas of the law yet to be reconciled."

Study examines student services

The Clackamas Community tollege Handicapped Self-waluation Committee, comosed of students and staff, has ompleted its study of services by handicapped students at the College.

The study was conducted to ad out if the College is comying with the Rehabilititation at of 1973 which says that no undicapped person should, ecause of a handicap, be scriminated against under my program receiving federal ands The committee is now seeking final input, suggestions, comments and criticisms of its tentative copy before making a more formal and complete copy of the study results.

An advisory committee of students and staff is now being formed to oversee the program being developed and to make sure it is meeting the needs of students. The committee also will evaluate what is being done to meet federal regulations. Nominations are now open for members.

Peabody said the legislation, formally called Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, states that "no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of handicap in the areas of academics, employment or access to public buildings. The law includes a timeline for compliance, Peabody added.

Peabody said more detailed information about the legislation will be provided to the College staff in the coming weeks.

Peabody said several activities are already underway at Clackamas regarding College compliance with the legislation.

"These include the appointment of a compliance officer, the completion of a campus-wide self-evaluation, the beginning of an advisory committee as a next step toward implementation, advanced work on improved campus accessibility and barrier removal," she said.

In addition, she said, Dr. Hakanson has been appointed president of the Association of Colleges of the Columbia Encouraging Special Services to the Handicapped Persons.

"Those of us who attended

"Those of us who attended this conference were pleased to detect that our College is noticeably ahead of other institutions in meeting the challenge of this law," Peabody added.



Photo by Kelly Laughlin

Handicapped students like Susan Bowles, pictured above, will find going to school easier after the College complies with the Handicap Civil Rights Law.

Crisis line to serve all needs

y Don Ives

A forty-eight year old man a alone watching television in is dirty apartment. His life had not held promise, now it was one. He lost his marriage two ears before, his job yesterday, imongst the trash on the beer mined carpet lay a loaded 22 alber revolver. Picking it up, a fired five shots into the alevision screen. Then, being it against his own head a fired the final shot that ented his life.

A sixteen-year-old was ming aimlessly down the ighway with an undecided estiny. He was both homeless not friendless. His last dollar at been spent on gas, night as approaching with no place 1 siep. He hadn't eaten a neal in days. He thought of aling his parents, but finally ecided against it. They wildn't understand. In a fit of meliness and depression, he wildenly accelerated and served towards the guard rail. Second later he was gone, stined for eternity.

A nineteen-year-old college is sat alone in her room. Her which had just called. They wildn't be seeing each other with, he didn't say why. He sall that she had lived for in past two years. She had woted all of her time to him, had no other real friends.

She felt worthless and alone. Her body rocked with sobs as she pulled open her dresser drawer. Beneath the clothes lay a jar full of sleeping pills. Beside the pills lay a small piece of paper, with the words "Crisis Line" scrawled across it. She hesitated a moment, then picked up the receiver and began to dial. A calm female voice answered on the first ring . . "Clackamas County Crisis Line." Twenty minutes later she hung up the phone

with a new lease on life

These situations, although purely fictional, show a clear reflection of reality. The Clackamas County Crisis Line is a new volunteer program designed to help people in any kind of crisis, large or small.

According to Cathy Rode, Crisis Line Coordinator, the program provides a "general problem line" for people in trouble. The idea is certainly a good one. But. Rode said, there is a drastic shortage of volunteers to work on the line at present.

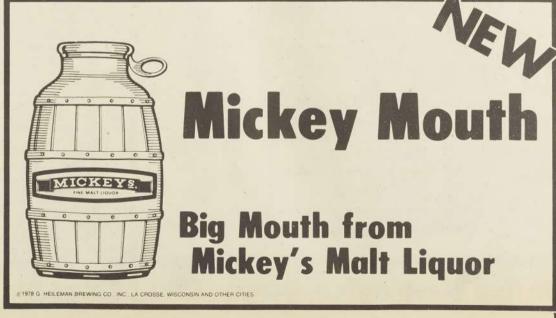
In order for the Crisis Line to work effectively, it should be available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The program, which began operation last Thursday, is now providing service from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. Without more volunteers, they will be forced to stay at this level.

"Volunteers are not expected to have experience," Rode said. "We are just looking for

good listeners with a positive

attitude about life."
Volunteers will be trained to react to virtually any kind of emergency, calmly and efficiently. Training sessions in suicide, rape, child abuse, domestic violence, drug abuse and alcohol abuse will be provided.

provided.
Students who are interested in saving lives and serving others in their community should contact Rode at the Community Action Center, 655-8640.



ednesday, Feb. 14, 1979

Page 3