

# How Diesel Plant Helps Addicts: Workers Are Better Prospects

By CHARLES VARKOLY

Joseph Hansen (not his real name) was in his mid-20s and hooked on heroin when he began working as a machine operator at GM's Detroit Diesel-A Allison plant in Redford Township.

His habit undetected by fellow employees and plant supervisors, he had been working there 2½ years when things suddenly went from bad to worse.

Already he was spending \$7,000 a year just to support his habit when his wife finally got fed up and divorced him. Then he lost his house, car and his furnishings.

If Hansen had been unemployed or perhaps working elsewhere, he might today be another of heroin's many fatalities.

Fortunately, he was working for one of the few industries in the country that has recognized and started combating drug abuse among its employees.

Today, after voluntarily committing himself to a drug rehabilitation program which promises anonymity, Hansen is back on the job making a clean, unfettered living for himself.

Diesel's program, still termed experimental by its founder, Dr. R. G. Wiencek, was launched in the summer of 1970. In fact, it was the first industrial rehabilitation program in the nation, he said.

Dr. Wiencek was then medical director at the plant and has since been promoted to assistant medical chief for General Motors.

His interest in the medical field had not waned, however, and the doctor still manages to oversee it five days a week, on a half-day basis.

In a recent interview, Dr. Wiencek explained how the program works and told why he believes industry offers one of the most promising

avenues for drug rehabilitation.

Unlike the unemployed and the young, industry workers are better prospects for rehabilitation, Dr. Wiencek believes.

"The fellows are older now and just want to get off," said the doctor, who estimates the average age of his patients to be 24½.

Too many industries today, he believes, still take a moralistic, punitive approach to drug offenders. Supervisors are told to watch for drug offenders and to issue strong warnings with threats of dismissal. But such efforts often are unsuccessful, he said.

"I think all too often we have a tendency to support the stereotype of drug addicts," he said. "Everyone likes to think in universal ideas."

"But I think that we are really dealing here with a different type of addict."

"The individuals we deal with are earning a living, trying to maintain a family life and a more normal kind of lifestyle."

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DR. R. G. WIENCEK

he and one other staff member know who is involved.

Even the identities of those who dropped out were not disclosed to management. The doctor warned them, however, that if they were caught using drugs again, their jobs would be in danger.

"To date, some 70 employees have voluntarily entered the program, most of them heroin addicts. Usage of Methuquinone, more commonly known as 'quads,' has also been increasing, he said.

Prompt action is promised employees, and there is no waiting period.

"We have been able to take care of every employee in a matter of days."

Once the individual reports to the plant's medical department, he is given a confidential interview with Dr. Wiencek or the medical department supervisor.

During the interview, the employee outlines his history of drug abuse. Doctors then describe the program, in-

form him of the plant's role in his treatment and tell what is expected of him.

Following the interview, an appointment is made for an "intake evaluation" by the most suitable program.

"Those employees with a soft drug dependence are assigned to one of several private psychiatrists who are particularly interested in their treatment," he said.

All undergo individual psychotherapy and attend group psychotherapy sessions each week.

Employees addicted to heroin for more than two years receive a complete physical and psychiatric evaluation at the City of Detroit Drug Rehabilitation Center.

After that, they are assigned to a local drug treatment center. Most are sent to a local hospital for two weeks where they are withdrawn from heroin and put on methadone.

Immediately afterwards, said Dr. Wiencek, they re-

turn to work and continue their therapy at a local center, which includes psychosocial counseling and group psychotherapy.

"The whole object is to reorient them to a lifestyle free of drugs," Dr. Wiencek emphasized. He added that local treatment centers gradually reduce the dosage of methadone.

Follow-up is insured, he said, because employees stay right on the job and continue attending counseling sessions. "They're anxious to prove to us they're staying clean."

Already 13 employees have withdrawn completely, and because of the plant's intensive publicity campaign, 31 more persons have entered the program since March.

While the program is a big asset to the employees, it is also self-serving, the doctor said frankly. Industry benefits because in a short period of time it regains a fully productive worker.

In studies at the plant, the doctor tried to determine the effect of treatment on job performance.

Using nonaddicts as a control group, his studies showed that addicts before treatment had twice as many occupational injuries as non-addicts. Addicts also took 19 days of "incidental absence" compared to 16.5 for nonaddicts.

What's more, he said, addicts visit the medical department 15 times more often for nonoccupational complaints. And they also lose 25 times more days on disability.

Following five months of drug treatment, however, a different picture emerges. Occupational injury rates drop to the same level as nonaddicts and visits to the medical department for non-occupational complaints are only slightly higher.

And as for management, Dr. Wiencek said: "I feel that this program is something that is necessary and will continue. These people, after all, need help."

As for management, he remarked, "A company's drug policy will be as individual as its products and services."

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## Write Your Lawmaker

Want to tell your lawmaker how to vote? Got a problem? Need a speaker for your club? Congressmen, legislators and county commissioners read their mail pretty carefully and listen to the voters' problems. Clip and save this directory of addresses and phone numbers, marking the official who serves your area.

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Washington: Senate Office Building, 202-225-4822.  
District office: 438 Federal Building, 226-3184 or 226-3188.  
Hon. Robert Griffin, R-Mich.  
Washington: Senate Office Building, 202-225-6221.  
District office: 1035 Federal Building, 226-5020.

**CONGRESS**  
2nd District-Hon. Marvin R. Eash, R-Ann Arbor. Includes Livonia, Plymouth City and Township.  
Washington office: 412 Cannon Building, 202-225-4401.  
District offices: 15273 Farmington Rd., Livonia, 261-6080.  
200 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, 1-885-0618.  
15th District-Hon. William D. Ford, D-Taylor. Includes Garden City, Westland and Canton Township.  
Washington office: 125 House Office Building, 202-225-6261.  
District office: 3718 Newberry, 8-22, Wayne, 722-1411.

17th District-Hon. Martha Griffiths, D-Detroit. Includes Redford Township, Farmington City and Township, Lathrup Village and Southfield.  
Washington office: 1538 Longworth Office Building, 202-225-4981.  
District office: 14615 Grand River, Detroit, 773-6991.

**STATE SENATE**  
12th District-David Plawecki, D-Dearborn Heights. Includes Redford Township.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-3543.  
Residence: 1157 N. John Daly, Dearborn Heights, 562-0320.

13th District-William Faust, D-Westland. Includes Garden City, Westland and Canton Township.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-7350.  
Residence: 8228 Ravine Cr., Westland, 722-9833.  
14th District-Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth. Includes Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-7808.  
Residence: 670 S. Sheldon, Plymouth, 455-0646.

15th District-Daniel Cooper, D-Oak Park. Includes Southfield.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-7848.  
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**STATE REPRESENTATIVES**  
33rd District-William Keith, D-Garden City. Includes Garden City.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-0849.  
Residence: 5684 Henry Rd., Garden City, 421-4178.

34th District-John Bennett, D-Redford Township. Includes Redford Township.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1779.  
Residence: 10052 Mercedes, Detroit 48239, 937-1099.

35th District-R. Robert Oake, R-Northville. Includes northern and eastern Livonia.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1707.  
Residence: 48525 Eight Mile, Northville, 349-2319.

36th District-John Marks, D-Westland. Includes southwest Livonia and northern Westland.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-3816.  
Residence: 8426 Teri Dr., Westland, 425-0762.

37th District-Thomas Brown, D-Westland. Includes southwest Westland, southeast Plymouth Township and Canton Township.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1706.  
Residence: 1917 Eagle Ct., Westland, 721-1125.

62nd District-Raymond Smic, R-Ann Arbor. Includes Plymouth City and Township.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1792.  
Residence: 2050 Winsted, Ann Arbor, 768-9919.

64th District-Raymond Baker, R-Farmington. Includes Farmington City and Township and western Southfield.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1713.  
Residence: 32718 Grand River, Farmington, 478-0776.

67th District-Joseph Forbes, D-Oak Park. Includes eastern Southfield and Lathrup Village.  
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-0478.  
Residence: 24541 Harding, Oak Park, 398-0068.

**OAKLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
15th District-Ullian Moffitt, R-Birmingham. Includes western Southfield, northeast Farmington Township, Wood Creek Farms, Franklin Village and eastern Bingham Farms.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 6828 Cathedral Dr., Birmingham, 628-9783.

20th District-Lawrence Pernick, D-Southfield. Includes northeast Southfield.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 29315 Pine Tree Dr., Southfield, 356-5145.

21st District-Alexander Perinoff, D-Southfield. Includes northeast Southfield.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 18615 Greenfield Dr., Southfield, 356-7205.

24th District-Lawrence Pernick, D-Southfield. Includes western Farmington Township and Quakertown.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 29422 Loom Dr., Wixom, 624-1058.

25th District-Patrick Nowak, R-Farmington. Includes north-central Farmington Township.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 33742 W. 12 Mile, Farmington, 478-8515.

27th District-Wilbur Brotherton, R-Farmington. Includes Farmington City, southeast Farmington Township and southwest corner of Southfield.  
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.  
Residence: 23622 Beacon Dr., Farmington, 474-0913.

**WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
18th District-Richard Manning, D-Redford Township. Includes Redford Township and eastern strip of Livonia.  
Office: City-County Building, Detroit, 224-2365.  
Residence: 26371 Barbara, Detroit 48239, 531-8665.

19th District-Mary Dumas, R-Livonia. Includes Livonia.  
Office: City-County Building, Detroit, 224-5025.  
Residence: 17659 Loveland, Livonia, 522-0898.

20th District-Tom Taylor, D-Westland. Includes Garden City and Westland.  
Office: City-County Building, Detroit, 224-5025.  
Residence: 35121 Senabum, Westland, 722-4018.

27th District-Brian Arrowsmith, R-Wayne. Includes Plymouth City and Township and Canton Township.  
Office: City-County Building, Detroit, 224-5025.  
Residence: 4802 S. Wayne, Wayne, 728-7775.

## Jury Size No Factor In Case Outcome?

Two University of Michigan studies support the view that reduction of jury size from 12 persons to six will not affect the outcome of court cases.

Based on actual cases at the Wayne County Circuit Court, where civil juries were reduced from 12 members to six in 1970, there were "no statistically significant differences" between verdicts reached in the two jury settings, the studies show.

In mock trials conducted at the U-M, there was "no significant differences" in the verdicts and fact-finding capacities of six and 12-member panels. The study also found that reduction of jury size did not serve to hasten jury deliberations.

In the mock trials the six-member juries were found to "participate rather than remain silent significantly more often" than the 12-member juries.

Findings of the studies are announced in the spring issue of the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform, a student-edited legal journal of the U-M Law School. The survey of cases at the Wayne County court was supported by a grant from the American Bar Foundation.

The studies were undertaken to determine the effects of a 1970 U.S. Supreme Court ruling which permitted the use of fewer than 12 jurors in a criminal case.

In one study Joan B. Kessler, a U-M doctoral student, in speech communication, found a "statistically significant difference" in jury participation, with 12-member juries being much more likely to have 100 per cent participation in the deliberation process.

Mrs. Kessler's study included experiments with a total of 144 undergraduate U-M speech students, who served on six and 12-member panels in deciding a videotaped mock trial.

The study also found "There were no significant differences between the verdicts, time of deliberation and numbers of issues discussed in the two different-sized panels."

The other study, conducted by Lawrence R. Mills, a U-M law student, found "no statistically significant differences" in the proportion of verdicts rendered in favor of plaintiffs and defendants, and in the amounts of money judgments that were awarded.

Hamilton International Corp., of Farmington, whose principal subsidiary is Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America, has reported gains in revenues and net income for the first quarter of 1973.

For the period, ended March 31, Hamilton reported net income before realized investment gains, of \$588,000, compared with \$389,100 for the same period in 1972.

Net income after realized investment gains, was \$500,600, compared with \$294,800 or, after dividend requirements on the company's four per cent convertible preferred stock, eight cents per share in 1973, compared with five cents per share in 1972.

Revenues for the first quarter of 1973 were \$7,463,500, compared with revenues of \$7,175,800 for the previous year.

Results for 1972 have been restated to conform with a change in accounting methods from statutory to "generally accepted accounting principles" (GAAP), as recently set forth by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' audit guide for stock life insurance companies.

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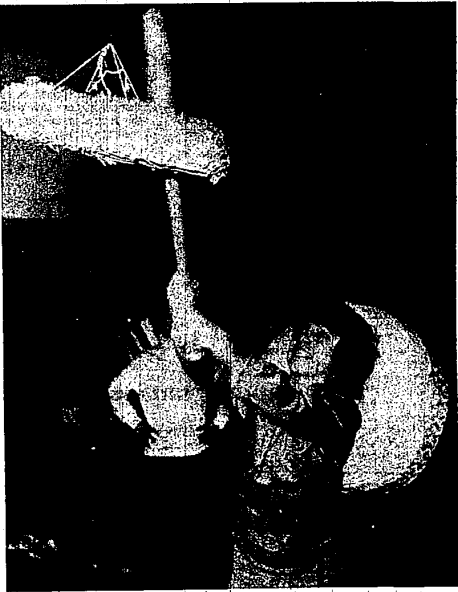
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The course is designed for volunteers who help meet the manpower needs in rehabilitation work of courts and social agencies. These men and women volunteers work with troubled juveniles, young adults charged with misdemeanors and family unit-seeking guidance.



SMASHING TIME—Sixth graders at Livonia's Jackson Elementary School 32025 Lyndon, recently staged a Mexican fiesta as part of their study of Mexico and Latin America. Chris Delabbio demonstrates his enthusiasm for the project by taking a hefty swing at a pinata. The fiesta included a variety of Mexican foods prepared by parents. (Photo by Craig Bowles)

## Oakland To Train Volunteers

A training course for volunteers working in person-to-person relationships will be offered beginning June 21 by Oakland University's Division of Continuing Education and the Oakland County Juvenile Court.

The course is designed for volunteers who help meet the manpower needs in rehabilitation work of courts and social agencies. These men and women volunteers work with troubled juveniles, young adults charged with misdemeanors and family unit-seeking guidance.

The new eight-week course is open to prospective and experienced volunteers. Sessions will be held weekly on Thursday evenings at the Oakland University campus in Rochester. Tuition of \$20 includes course materials.

Sessions will focus on the possibilities and realities of affecting change in clients. Course participants will explore the skills necessary for planned change and the dynamics of volunteer-client relationships.

Instructors will be Raymond J. Sharp, coordinator

of volunteer services, Oakland County Juvenile Court, and Dr. Ralph Schillace, assistant professor of psychology, Oakland University.

Costs of this pilot program are being covered in part by a grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, U.S. Department of Justice.

The course is entitled "The One-to-One Volunteer: A Basis for Effecting Behavior Change." For more information and to register, contact OU's Division of Continuing Education.

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