

May 31, 1956

412 E 47th Street

Chicago 15, Ill.

Dr. John D. Wilson
5918 Brush Street
Detroit 2, Michigan

Dear Dr. Wilson:

I have your letter of May 11th, the contents of which indicate you are planning a program for young people. I appreciate your invitation but my interest in the problem of narcotic addiction has been largely at the administrative level and as a coordinator between various professional people who are interested in the problem. That is to say that I took the initiative in establishing medical counseling clinics for the city of Chicago and to spear head the raising of money for the same and to coordinate the techniques of the psychiatrist, the social worker, the probation officer and law enforcement officials. I have given lectures but they have either been to lay adult groups or to professional groups, such as I have described above. I believe that for your meeting the person who would be best fitted would be a psychiatrist who has had experiences in counseling young people, particularly with reference to narcotic addiction.

As you may know, my professional field is internal medicine. I got into the field of narcotic addiction as a civic venture at the time when I was president of the Cook County Physician's Association. While I have given it some study my orientation is as described above. There is a Dr. Walter Adams of 6 East Garfield in Chicago who works with our narcotics group. There are other psychiatrists here, all of whom are white. In Detroit there should be people who could furnish this kind of program to you connected with the Mayor's Committee on narcotic addiction. I have met some of those people because they sent a group over to study our plan. If you should want one of the workers in that group you undoubtedly could reach them through the Mayor's office.

If I can be of any further service along this line please let me know.

Yours very truly,

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.
Coordinator
Medical Counseling Clinics