

MONADNOCK REGION SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, INC.

Swanzy Homestead Offices
RR1 Box 261B
Keene, New Hampshire 03431
357-3007

6852

Rev. Msgr. John Quinn
Diocese of Manchester
153 Ash Street
P.O. Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

March 11, 1988

Dear Jack,

During a meeting that I had with Bishop Gendron yesterday, the issue of my leave of absence and priestly faculties arose as an area of concern. As you may remember, I have been on leave of absence from the Diocese since last June. Though I do have faculties for weekly ministry at Spofford Hall Rehabilitation Center, I have not been available for ministry on any other level in the diocese.

Bishop Gendron has extended my leave of absence for another year at my request. During this meeting I have also requested that the Bishop consider changing my status in the diocese officially from "Leave of Absence" to "Special Assignment." The reason that I requested this change in status is that I wish to be available for service in the diocese for weekend coverage as situations may arise. As I indicated to the Bishop, it is not my intention to solicit weekend ministry since my current position already entails a full week, but I do wish to be available for service if requested by the diocese or by a specific pastor for a short term commitment.

The Bishop has indicated that he is agreeable to this, however he has requested that I contact you to describe my current employment and ministerial status in order that you may advise him further prior to his making a final decision in this matter. I would be pleased to meet with you in person if you wish, but I thought it may save you some time if I put this information in writing and then discuss with you any questions or concerns you may have.

Currently, I am the director of the Monadnock Region Substance Abuse Clinic. This is an outpatient clinic providing treatment for those experiencing problems related to the use of alcohol and/or other drugs. This agency is a private, not for profit corporation under contract with the New Hampshire Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention. Seventy percent of our funding is connected to this contract. Other funding sources are the Monadnock United Way, Cheshire County and charges for client services. Fees are on a sliding scale basis, and treatment is available regardless of ability to pay. We do no fund raising

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other than the writing of these grants. The state contract is renewed annually.

The clinic's central office is in Keene with branch offices in Peterborough, Winchester, and the Cheshire County House of Correction in Westmoreland. My own responsibilities include staff supervision, quality assurance, public relations, program development and overall maintenance of the agency. Twenty-five percent of my time is spent in direct client service at the House of Correction.

In addition to this position I am the Executive Vice-President of the New Hampshire Association of Chemical Dependency Service Providers. This is also a non-profit corporation that oversees issues of uniform treatment quality, certification requirements and program development in alcohol and drug treatment programs throughout the state.

With Bishop Gendron's permission I have also been involved in pastoral care at Spofford Hall Hospital on a weekly basis. I celebrate liturgy there on Tuesday evenings along with penitential services and spiritual direction for individual patients.

I have enclosed information on the clinic's programs and board of directors for your information. If you have questions or need clarification on any issue, please feel free to contact me at my office [REDACTED] or at home [REDACTED] at any time.

Since Bishop Gendron has asked to also speak with Dr. Guertin-Ouellette regarding my request I am sending a copy of this letter to him. I look forward to hearing from you or the Bishop at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Gordon J. MacRae
Fr. Gordon J. MacRae

cc: Bishop Gendron
Henry Guertin-Ouellette