



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20035

June 11, 1997

CRIPA Investigation, Rio Piedras (PR)



MR-PR-0001-0002

The Honorable Donna E. Shalala
Secretary of Health and Human Services
Washington, D.C. 20201

Re: Puerto Rico Mental Retardation Facilities

Dear Secretary Shalala:

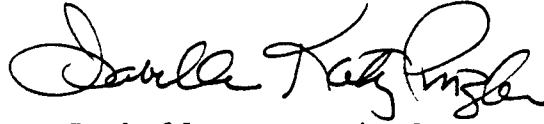
I wish to advise you, pursuant to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997h, that we are initiating an investigation of the following mental retardation facilities operated by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico: Centro de Servicios Multiples de Camaseyes in Aguadilla, Hogar de Grupo Las Mesas in Mayaguez, Facilidad de Cuidado Intermedio in Cayey, Centro de Reeduccion para Adultos in Bayamon, and Centro de Servicios Multiples Rosario Bellber in Aibonito.

We have received information that calls into question the Commonwealth's compliance with federal law at these facilities. If you have received any complaints regarding these facilities or have any other information you believe would be helpful in the conduct of this investigation, please advise us. In addition, please advise us as to whether or not these facilities are certified for participation in the Medicaid program.

We will cooperate fully with your Department in this matter and will consult with you regarding the status of our investigation. If you have any information and/or questions,

please call the attorney assigned to this matter, Richard Farano,
at (202) 307-3116. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isabelle Katz Pinzler', written in a cursive style.

Isabelle Katz Pinzler
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: Harriet Rabb, Esquire
General Counsel

Bruce C. Vladeck, Ph.D.
Administrator
Health Care Financing Administration

Mr. Robert Streimer
Deputy Director
Office of Survey & Certification
Health Standards & Quality Bureau

Mr. Dennis Hayashi
Director
Office of Civil Rights