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## Forum

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# FORUM

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The Professional Rehabilitation Workers with the Adult Deaf, Inc., (PRWAD) has announced the opening of a national office in the building owned by the National Association of the Deaf at 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland. The establishment of the office centers around work, already started, on an annual compilation of research and training activities as they relate to deafness. The project will be partially supported by a grant from the Social and Rehabilitation Service of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Arthur G. Norris, of Silver Spring, Maryland, well known to deaf people, and organizations serving the deaf, has been appointed Executive Secretary of PRWAD and will serve as Principal Investigator for the project. Mr. Norris brings to the work a lifetime of experience working with deaf people. The son of deaf parents, he has taught the deaf in the Indiana and Missouri Schools for the Deaf and has served as a consultant to the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf, the Council of Organizations Serving the Deaf, and as a special assistant to the Executive Secretary of the NAD. He is a charter member of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, and has participated in numerous workshops relating to work with the deaf.

The project, which Mr. Norris is to administer will fill a need long felt by professionals who work with the handicapped. Emphasis will be placed on reporting trends and significance of rehabilitation efforts in order to provide better guidelines for the improvement of services to deaf persons.

The organization represented by Mr. Norris is presently composed of some 600 professionals working in the areas of training, psychology, psychiatry, medicine in all its branches, audiology, counseling, sociology, communicative disorders, social services and adult education. Through the coordinated efforts of the professionals PRWAD hopes to promote the development and expansion of professional rehabilitation services for the adult deaf. In

addition, PRWAD hopes to be instrumental in bringing about a better understanding of deaf people as a whole, and to encourage other professionals and students to develop techniques needed to work effectively with the adult deaf in the rehabilitation setting. Membership in PRWAD is open to rehabilitation counselors, social workers, psychologists, audiologists, speech therapists, educators of the adult deaf, research personnel and professionals in allied fields who provide services to the deaf populace.