

# PEARL BUCK SCHOOL

4900 WEST AMAZON DRIVE, EUGENE, ORE. - TEL. DI 5-5641

May 23, 1962

A COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

DIRECTOR:  
(MRS.) ELISABETH WAECHTER, F. A. A. M. D.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, Head  
Department of Genetics  
School of Medicine  
Stanford University  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

It is with great pleasure that we read about the grant made by the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Foundation for a new center for research in mental retardation. Mr. Waechter and I wish to congratulate you and Stanford University to this outstanding and encouraging success which will mean much in the struggle against mental retardation.

Because we read in "Children Limited" that the work at the new center shall be devoted not only to medical research but also to educational projects we are personally interested in the possibility of cooperating in your efforts.

There are two aspects in which we would be particularly interested.

My husband, who has studied school and institutional facilities for the retarded for many years and is the architect for the recently constructed Pearl Buck School, would like to offer his assistance as a consultant on your building problems.

I myself, having worked for more than thirty years in the field of mental retardation, feel qualified to advise on some of the educational problems with which you may be faced. Over the years I have devised some educational playmaterials and learning tools for the so-called trainable child. Our school, of which I enclose a plan, photograph and descriptive information, was designed to serve also for purposes of university instruction and research. It is very successfully functioning as a school and is used by University of Oregon students and student nurses for observation, field experience and other limited training. Perhaps some liaison could be established which may support you in your work.

To get you introduced to our background I am enclosing a few data. We plan to visit California on a short trip soon. However, the only date we could stop in Palo Alto would be on Saturday, June 9th, late in the afternoon or early evening, depending on how good time we'll make while driving. If you could spare a little time on that date we would appreciate much to see you. If that is the case we would be grateful for your immediate advice.

Sincerely yours, *Elisabeth Waechter*

E. Waechter

SPONSORED BY ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.