



CITIZENS FOR BETTER CARE
1425 Bridge St. N.W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504
(616) 453-4087

August 23, 1978

I have worked with and under the supervision of Marianne Karth since March of this year. As Chapter Director, Marianne was responsible for overseeing the daily operation and all functions of Citizens for Better Care in Grand Rapids.

Though I did not work with Marianne from the beginning of the establishment of a CBC office in June, 1977, it is very evident that without her commitment, enthusiasm, ability to take leadership, organizational skills, and drive to move on to accomplish the organization's goals, Citizens for Better Care would not have grown past its very initial stages.

Marianne was responsible for functions such as: supervising staff and office volunteer help, maintaining records of all services rendered, bookkeeping and financial reports, making contacts with other agencies in the community, fund raising - including grant writing - worked with a Board of Directors, established several committees to help with various activities, set up an independent office, obtained office equipment, began the patient advocate program in the Grand Rapids community, participated in, trained and supervised volunteers in the publication of A Guide to Nursing Homes in Kent County, made presentations to the community through the media, and many other activities which demanded her immediate attention through the course of operating the Citizens for Better Care office daily.

In all, Marianne seemed to enjoy her work very much. Her willingness to take charge and her dedication were essential, considering the amount of work needed to be completed by a staff of two persons. For nine months of Marianne's Directorship she worked alone and was solely responsible for all activities.

Marianne enjoys learning. She enjoys organizing ideas and approaches difficulties with a systematic problem-solving approach. She willingly shares information and enjoys teaching others skills she has benefited from and found useful.

I have learned a great deal from Marianne - the six months that I have worked under her supervision have been positively challenging. She is an accepting, open person, whom I have enjoyed and found fun to work with.

Sincerely,

Linda L. Van Portfliet
Linda L. Van Portfliet
Patient Advocate Director

LVP/gmf