

Dr. Estes,

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If the last paragraph of this resume meets with your approval,
I will send it, with a cover letter offering to appear at announcement,
to Dr. Davis -
DHE

Community Health Care Delivery Model: Resume, 5-1-70

The Department of Community Health Sciences at Duke has received support from the Rockefeller Foundation to establish and study a different form of health care delivery. This program will attempt to integrate the activities of existing components of the medical care system in such a way that selected indigent populations will receive better medical care than they now receive.

A mechanism based not on an elaborate clinic structure, but rather on a series of carefully cultivated personal interfaces between local neighborhoods and physicians. This interface will be provided by two levels of assistants: (a) local residents (neighborhood health workers) with on-the-job training in first aid, observation, and communication with the health care system, and (b) a physician's assistant who can become an extension of the physician in gathering data, performing tests, and carrying out therapeutic instructions. Our "clinic" will be a highly mobile physician's assistant who has the immediate backing of experienced physicians, and the more remote backing of hospitals.

To date, data have been gathered, on the basis of which two study areas have been selected: (1) the Black community of Bragtown (urban), and (2) the area in and around Rougemont (rural). Representatives from the Department has met on three occasions with leaders of the Bragtown community to explain the objectives of the program and to solicit recommendations from them concerning the selection of neighborhood health workers. One health worker and a physician's assistant have been employed to work with the program. A health status survey of the population of the Brag-

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town area will begin within two weeks.

A sick person in the study population who does not know how to get appropriate medical care will have ready access to a mechanism which can help him to solve this problem. This program will counsel the patient concerning services and facilities that exist, but will not make the patient's care selection for him.

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