



PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON HEALTH

Report to the President

Washington, D. C.
November 10, 1964

PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON THE
1965 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM ON HEALTH

November 6, 1964

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

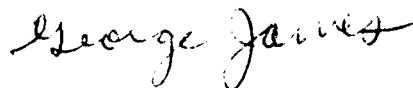
The Task Force on Health respectfully submits the attached report for your consideration.

In our deliberations, we have been mindful of your request that we advise you of our Nation's needs in the field of health.

This report and our recommendations therein focus on what in our judgment are today's most significant problems in bringing the promise of good health to all our people. The problems are complex and not capable of easy resolution. Within the time we have had allotted we have sought to concentrate only on those issues of highest priority. We believe that this report describes a program which will go far toward achieving major health advances for the Nation.

We appreciate the opportunity to contribute in some measure to that goal.

Respectfully yours,



George James, M.D.
Chairman

Robert C. Berson, M.D.
Ray E. Brown
Caldwell B. Esselstyn, M.D.
Raschi Fein, Ph.D.
Colin MacLeod, M.D.
Herman Somers, Ph.D.
William Stewart, M.D.

Expensive Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures

Progress in medical knowledge requires an increasing number of very expensive highly technical equipment and services essential to the proper care of certain patients. These include such services as the artificial kidney, open heart surgery, and cranial arteriography.

It is not desirable for each hospital to have such facilities, equipment, or services, but it is essential that every patient requiring these expensive procedures and services have access to them.

Recommendations

We recommend that:

1. A GRANT PROGRAM BE DEVELOPED TO CONSTRUCT, EQUIP, AND ASSIST IN THE OPERATION OF A NETWORK OF CENTERS TO MAKE AVAILABLE HIGHLY COMPLEX AND EXPENSIVE DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC PROCEDURES TO ALL WHO NEED THEM.