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MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

TO : Acting Director, DRMP

DATE: September 11, 1974


FROM : Acting Chief, GM

SUBJECT: Initial Response to Proposed HRP Organization

The description of the proposed organization is apparently based on several assumptions which have not been stated specifically. Important considerations are not known such as: the size of the HRP regional office staff, the basic manner in which they will function, the extent that grants and contracts will be used to augment their direct operations. Otherwise the proposed organization appears to adequately and appropriately provide for the centrally planned and coordinated conduct of four specialized activities administered by a centralized operations group through the regional offices.

At this stage, the proposal does not indicate where several staff specialists would be assigned. Specifically, management information, grants management, contract administration, and public information. Where these functions should be assigned depends to a large extent on the manner that the administrative specialties will be called upon and the emphasis placed upon each by HRA and the new HRP bureau.

The description of the basic functions that are to be assigned to the Office of Management Resources and Planning indicates that all administrative functions would be centralized within it. Would this be true of an active public information program that would help explain complicated regulatory programs to unsympathetic, well organized, health interest groups? Similarly, the provision of extensive grants and contract management assistance could better be provided from within the Operations Division so as to be one organizational element closer to the task oriented generalists in the regional offices. The extensive use of contracts by all of the Divisions would indicate that contract administration should be located centrally in the Office of the Director. A combination of these two possibilities would indicate that grants and contract administration should be combined as they have been at the H and HRA levels and assigned to the Office of the Director which is in keeping with the Departments current interest on the improvement of grant and contract management.


G. Lee Teets

cc: Acting Dep. Dir., DRMP