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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

BUREAU OF HEALTH RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

TO COORDINATORS OF REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS, REGIONAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED WITH ARTHRITIS

Subject: Report of the Arthritis Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri, January 19-20, 1975

This transmits a copy of the conference report for your information. The report was developed from verbatim tapes and notes produced during the conference, and incorporates suggestions and inserts recommended by conference participants. A chronological, transcript style has been employed in preparing the report to reflect the perspectives of the participants, and the scope of their deliberations. We believe that the contents will interest a broad spectrum of people concerned with the problems of arthritis.

The conference was convened as a cooperative activity of grant and professional organizations to improve communications among the directors of funded arthritis programs and projects, and to facilitate joint response to common problems of the pilot program. At the time of the conference, the pilot arthritis program had only one year's grant support available, and the effects of legislation very recently enacted were unknown. This legislation is: P.L. 93-640, "The National Arthritis Act of 1974"; and P.L. 93-641, "The National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974." In June 1975, funds for a

year's continuation support of the pilot arthritis program were authorized from the supplemental appropriation to the Bureau of Health Planning and Resources Development, Health Resources Administration.

A primary concern of the conferees is that the experiences of the pilot arthritis program be documented to preserve them for future investigators, and programs which may develop under the new legislation. A contract has been placed with the Mountain States Health Corporation, Bosie, Idaho, to provide program documentation, and assessment. For this activity, the Contractor is employing the resources of the Public Accountability Reporting Group, a unit of the National Association of Regional Medical Coordinators, with the cooperation of the American Rheumatism Association, and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

The Regional Medical Programs in which pilot arthritis activities have been supported for one, or both of the grant years, are:

Alabama	Mississippi
Albany	Mountain States
Arizona	New Mexico
Arkansas	North Carolina
California	North Dakota
Central New York	Ohio Valley
Colorado/Wyoming	Oklahoma
Georgia	Puerto Rico
Greater Delaware Valley	Susquehanna Valley
Hawaii	Tennessee Mid-South
Intermountain	Texas
Iowa	Tri-State
Kansas	Virginia
Metro. Washington	Washington/Alaska
Michigan	Western Pennsylvania
	Wisconsin

We have arranged for the retention of a limited supply of the conference report ^{by} with the Arthritis Foundation. Requests for additional copies should be addressed to:

The Arthritis Foundation
475 Riverside Drive
New York City, New York 10027

Eugene Rubel

Enclosure