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# V minute news

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February 18, 1970

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## A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO IMPROVE PATIENT CARE

California has more nursing and convalescent homes (extended care facilities, referred to as ECFs) within its boundaries than any other state. LA County alone has more ECFs (around 400) than any other state than California. Heart disease, cancer, stroke and related diseases affect 75 to 90 percent of all patients in ECFs. Those facts are taken from the Proceedings of the Arrowhead Conference on Education and Training in ECFs held in July, 1969. The Conference focused on the less than ideal conditions that exist in these facilities and recognized the need for improvement in the quality of health care available in ECFs.

Education and training programs designed to develop restorative nursing skills in ECF personnel have, for the most part, been limited and inaccessible in the Los Angeles area. The Los Angeles Geriatric Extended Care Conference Group of the California Nurses Association is therefore proposing a series of courses to develop and improve skills in restorative nursing techniques in providing care for patients with long-term illnesses and/or conditions.

To fill this educational need, an 18-24 hour course is proposed, to be presented at least three times a year in the various communities in and around the Los Angeles area. The location would vary, depending on the availability of local community clinical laboratory facilities. The course content would include such subjects as positioning, range of motion, transfer techniques, skin care, bowel and bladder training, teaching self-help, and use of adaptive and assistive devices. Each course would be open to 28 participants from post-acute hospital nursing care settings in the greater LA area. The course, which would be administered and presented under the auspices of a known and respected educational agency, is expected to be self-supporting through participant fees.

The course prospectus has been presented to the ECF Education and Training Planning Committee who are following up on the recommendations of the Arrowhead Conference of July. This problem-solving group includes

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representation from: American Cancer Society (LAC Branch), California Association of Nursing Homes; California Regional Medical Programs, Areas IV and V; Geriatric/Extended Care Conference Group of the California Nurses Association; LA County Health Department; LA County Medical Association; LA County Heart Association; TB and Respiratory Disease Association of LA County. If approved, it is anticipated that the training course will be implemented through the same group.

AREA V is represented in this effort by KAY D. FULLER, RN, CLYDE E. MADDEN, ACSW, and DOROTHY E. ANDERSON, MPH. Area IV RMP members are Sheila Cadman, RN and Al Torribio.

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#### ANTELOPE VALLEY HEALTH COUNCIL....

is experiencing good acceptance of its health needs survey, reports DOROTHY E. ANDERSON, MPH, who attended the Feb. 11 meeting. From early returns, it would appear that 20% of the Antelope Valley residents go out of the area for medical care and hospitalization. The community survey will be published in local newspapers for broad exposure and cross section response.

RMP and COMP have been requested to contact their counterparts in Kern County and Bakersfield to invite participation, cooperation and coordination as health resources for the Antelope Valley people.

A.V. Health Council is supporting the request of Antelope Valley Hospital for an expansion of 19 psychiatric beds.

The Rehabilitation Center at Mira Loma Hospital has been "site visited" and anticipates accreditation in due course.

County Supervisor Dorn is to visit A.V. area soon to study health needs.  
(continued next column)

The Rotary and Kiwanis Service Clubs in Antelope Valley are cooperating in a community drug abuse prevention program.

Evidence of interest in working together and signs of much friendly cooperation were noted amongst members of the community.

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#### AREA V CANCER COMMITTEE....

which met on Feb. 4, heard an excellent presentation by JOHN K. FINDLY, on the activities of the Los Angeles County Cancer Society and how it is changing to meet the needs of the community. A request from Alhambra District Health Office for RMP involvement in a Pap smear program was referred to EDWARD G. JONES, MD who is in charge of an ongoing program for the training of Pap smear technicians at LACO/USC Medical Center. DR. FRED GEORGE discussed a proposed seminar for radiologists.

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AREA V REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS  
CALENDAR  
February 1970

Thursday, February 19

AREA V Indian Planning 8:00 p.m.  
RMP Conference Room

Friday, February 20

COMP-L. A. Administrative Committee 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.  
Los Angeles

February 23-March 6

AREA V CCU Community Training Pacoima Memorial Hospital

Wednesday, February 25

AREA V Social Workers Committee 8:00 a.m.  
RMP Conference Room

AREA V Staff Meeting 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 26

COMP-L. A. Health Manpower 12:00 noon - Los Angeles

CRMP Program Direction 6 p.m. - San Francisco

Friday, February 27

COMP-L. A. Mental Health 10:30 a.m. - Los Angeles

AREA ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS FOR 1970

March 17\* May 12 July 14 September 8 November 10

\*Please note that the AAG meeting was moved from March 10 to March 17.

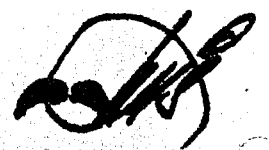
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN'S MEETINGS FOR MARCH, APRIL, MAY

March 6 March 20 April 3 April 17 May 1 May 15

STAFF MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGES--CHECK WITH OFFICE FOR LATEST INFORMATION

## "COSAS EN EL EASTSIDE"

By Luis A. Pingarron



LAC Health Department took a giant step recently towards increasing its popularity with the ELA community when a group of community people were included in the Board which interviewed candidates for the vacant post of District Health Officer of the Northeast Health Center. The choice of the Board--Larry Cosgrove, M.D., who has been Acting DHO for some months now--also has the warm approval of the Chicanos.

It looks as if the run-down condition of the Ferris (ELA) Health Center might get some attention as a result of some of the comments made during the health survey and conferences. Arnold Martinez was instrumental in getting Supervisor Debs, Dr. Gerald Heidbreder and L.S. Rollinger out to inspect the premises which are in terrible shape and are entirely inadequate for the number of programs conducted there.

A meeting held at White Memorial Medical Center to talk about community health efforts has produced some definite action: Dr. David Hernandez, Chairman of the Department of Community Medicine, has organized a group of doctors who are prepared to give professional assistance to LUCHA (League of United Chicanos to Help Addicts) in the operation of their narcotic withdrawal clinic which has been operating without medical help for the past six months. Dr. Hernandez also outlined plans for a Screening Clinic, a Planned Parenthood Clinic and a proposal for allied health training, and asked for assistance in recruiting community people to work for these programs. There is also talk of an educational program for the personnel of White Memorial and other health service institutions on the health needs of the Mexican American community. Residents of the community are to be used in this program, along with professionals.

It was suggested that one very concrete way to improve relations between White Memorial and the ELA community would be for some consideration to be given Ed (Moe) Aguirre's hospital bill which is estimated to be building at the rate of \$130 per day. Ed (who currently heads LUCHA but receives no compensation) received a head injury and was unconscious for several days. I am happy to be able to report that Ed is beginning to recover and that the hospital administration agreed that such a valuable member of the community should be given some assistance. They have agreed to waive the first \$2500 of Ed's hospital expenses. Anyone else who wants to help Ed with the other medical and rehabilitation expenses should send a check to "The Ed Aguirre Fund" c/o Bobby Parra, LUCHA, 920 South Atlantic, East Los Angeles.

## A HEALTH TASK FORCE

for the Westside Pasadena area has been appointed by the Community Planning Council, Pasadena-Foothill Area, with whom AREA V has been working. The Task Force plans to concentrate on quantity of care and the delivery of services to an estimated 17,000 residents in the target area. Short-term solutions which presumably can be achieved through the best use of existing resources were recommended. Mrs. Dorothy Matthiessen is Chairman of the group which is made up mainly of professional people from health, welfare and law enforcement agencies. A representative of the Pasadena Community Human Needs Organization is to be asked to join the community. When actual planning begins, residents of the area will also be involved. Health surveys of other communities and the experience of other areas in the development of health centers are being studied by committee members. Meetings of this group have been attended by DOROTHY F. ANDERSON, MPH, TONI MOORS, and MALD W. PETIT, MD.

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GLADYS ANCRUM, DrPH, is serving as a member of the LACO Heart Assn. Nursing Committee which is planning a program for "Three Days of Cardiology for Nurses" sponsored by the American Heart Assn., L. A. Co. Heart Assn. and UCLA. The program is to be conducted in Alabama, Kansas City, Washington and Jacksonville during 1970. A Los Angeles meeting is proposed for September of 1971.

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## INDIAN HEALTH

A formal request for funds to establish a health facility, with an information and referral service as the first step, has been received from the United American Indian Council which describes itself as:

"A non-profit association whose specific and primary purposes are: To act as a coordinating council for all member Indian organizations concerned with the welfare, health, education recreation of the American Indian and with the administration of all self-help programs, independent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; to enable urban Indians to coordinate their skills and activities, to promote the general welfare of the American Indian; to broaden the appreciation of Indian culture, especially among the Indian people; and to seek out and administer funds to which Indians are entitled. The UAIC of L. A. represents more than fifty tribes of American Indians and combines twenty organizations of Indian groups, all urgently in need of assistance in developing health services for their people."

UAIC Health and Clinic Committee states that the clinic and referral service would be a basic source of information to document specific health needs of the very large Indian population in the L. A. area. Volunteers and resource people are to be utilized in the proposed facility which they hope to establish in the southeastern part of Los Angeles.

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# **V** minute news

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## **Committee Chairmen**

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