E000591

Q. What is the status of the Seattle Emergency Services project?

A. Early in 1969, the Washington/Alaska Regional Medical Program proposed the conduct of "A Community Approach to the Therapy of Life Threatening Arrhythmia and Acute Myocardial Infarction Outside the Hospital" - Project #27 - Mobile Coronary Care Unit.

The goal of this project was to study the feasibility and efficacy of operating mobile units staffed and equipped to handle acute, potentially lethal arrhythmias and to function as coronary care units outside the hospital. Its objectives were: (1) operate the system and access the effect of the Mobile Intensive/Coronary Care Unit (MI/CCU) system in sudden death, in acute myocardial infarction, and in other life threatening situations for which it has been utilized; (2) determine the feasibility and efficacy of operating a MI/CCU without immediate attendance of a physician, utilizing trained, experienced firemen who have access to medical direction by radio transmission of voice and electrocardiogram; (3) study the demography of the local sudden death population and utilize these data in an effort to improve the MI/CCU operation, and to better define the potential value of this MI/CCU system in the community; (4) continue to expand efforts in education, both at the professional level and to the general community.

The project was funded for the period 7/1/69 - 12/31/71 as a demonstration activity

Initial 7 months (7/1/69 - 1/31/70)	\$108,623 (Direct and Indirect costs)
12 months (2/1/70 - 1/31/71)	97,700
11 months (2/1/71 - 12/31/71)	51,702
Total	\$258,025 (RMP funds)

Also during this time, the project received additional money from the State of Washington, Department of Health and the Washington State Heart Association.

Since the termination of RMP funds as of 12/31/71, the project has been relying solely on local support such as fund raising campaigns, etc. There has been tremendous success in raising money by the people in Seattle for continuation of this project.