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ANCHER NELSON  
DISTRICT 2 - MANKATO

NORTHLANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

District 2 is situated within the Northlands Regional Medical Program, which comprises the State of Minnesota. Under a \$529,250 planning grant, the Program is moving ahead rapidly, having already recruited a staff of 17 which will increase to over forty by the end of the year. In addition to the 33-member Advisory Group, over 20 people are serving on five planning committees, and nine feasibility studies are investigating such areas as coronary care units, rural health needs, continuing education, and health manpower.

The Minnesota State Medical Association Foundation is the Coordinating Headquarters for the Northlands Regional Medical Program, and Dr. J. Minott Stickney, a past President of the Minnesota State Medical Association, is the Program Coordinator. Coordinators for the Mayo Clinic Foundation, University of Minnesota College of Medicine and the Minnesota Heart Association have also been named.

More specific details on the Northlands Regional Medical Program follows.

March 1968

NORTHLANDS REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

REGION: State of Minnesota

COORDINATING HEADQUARTERS: Minnesota State Medical Association Foundation

STARTING DATE: January 1, 1967

FUNDING:

Current Award: \$529,250  
Current Request: \$100,000

Projected Next Year: \$1,000,000

OPERATIONAL STATUS: Expected to begin in Fiscal Year 1969.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR: J. Minott Stickney, M.D.  
Past President  
Minnesota State Medical Association

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Winston R. Miller, M.D.  
Former Director, St. Paul Medical Center  
St. Paul, Minnesota

ADVISORY GROUP:

1. Chairman: O.L.N. Nelson, M.D.
2. Membership: 33  
Medical Center 5, Practicing Physicians 13,  
Hospital Administrators 4, Voluntary  
Health Agencies 2, Public Health Officials 1,  
Other Health Workers 3, Public 3, Other 2

In 1966 the Minnesota State Medical Society initiated a regional medical program by appointing a Coordinating Committee consisting of representatives of medical institutions, official and voluntary agencies, medical societies, and hospital organizations. This Coordinating Committee had the responsibility for engendering local and state cooperation for the Regional Medical Program. This effort has been most successful because a creative working relationship among the providers of health services has been developed.

Organization and Staffing

As of January 1, 1967 the professional staff of the Northlands Regional Medical Program consisted of 17 persons; 10 part-time and 7 full-time. It is projected that during the calendar year of 1968 the professional staff will increase to 44. On the professional staff are physicians, hospital administrators, statisticians, medical sociologists, and lab technicians. A coordinator and associate coordinator have been appointed. Subregional coordinators at the Mayo Clinic Foundation, the University of Minnesota College of Medicine and the Minnesota Heart Association have been named.

### Organization

Five working committees composed of 24 members have been appointed in the areas of planning, project review, personnel, inter-regional activities, and intra-regional activities. Each committee has an input in the review process, but the Project Review Committee has the expressed responsibility for the technical merit of each operational project that is developed. Before a project can be submitted for funding it must be cleared first by the Executive Committee which is made up of a member from each of the participating agencies. The Regional Advisory Group then becomes the last body that must review and approve proposals.

### Regional Advisory Group

The Chairman of the Advisory Group sits with the Executive Committee and 24 of the 34 members of the Advisory Group participate actively in the deliberations of the working committees. Aside from the approval of the original grant application, no formal action of the Advisory Group has as yet been required.

The Regional Advisory Group arranged three sub-regional meetings in the spring of 1967. Representatives from the Boards of Directors, the Administration and the Medical Staffs of all hospitals in the state were invited to the meetings. The Regional Advisory Group used this opportunity to inform the members of the health community of the goals and objectives of the regional medical program.

### Subregionalization

Subregionalization is one of the major issues being focused upon by the core staff. The initial data indicates that from 7 to 9 subregional patterns are in existence.

### Planning Activities

The planning process began on January 1, 1967. The planning program was initially centered around the recruitment of staff, the specification of goals and objectives, the involvement of the health community in regional medical program activities and the delineation of administrative guidelines and procedures. After these objectives were accomplished, it was decided to begin several planning projects including the following:

- (1) Plan for State-Wide Program for Intensive Coronary Care Units,
- (2) Rural Health Care Study,
- (3) Study in Postgraduate Education in Pediatric Cardiology,

Planning Activities cont'd.

- (4) A Study to Determine Feasibility for Collecting Data and Integrating Care of Pediatric Solid Tumor Patients in the Northlands Medical Region,
- (5) A Survey of Existing and Potential Resources Relating to the Care of Patients with Stroke in Minnesota,
- (6) Development of Background Data Papers to Clarify the Medical Care Picture in the Upper Midwest,
- (7) Development of a Minnesota Health Personnel Databook,
- (8) Survey of the Continuing Medical Education of Physicians in the Minnesota Region,
- (9) Evaluation of TV Program, "Monday for Medicine."

Feasibility Studies

Several feasibility studies have been or will be initiated within the next several months. They include: (1) Developing Programs of Continuing Education for Practicing Physicians, (2) Investigating the Use of Medical Records for Assessing the Quality of Medical Care, (3) Feasibility of Telephone Transmission and Computer Analysis of Multi-Channel ECG, and (4) Computer Analysis of the Care of Coronary Artery Disease.

March 1968

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING FOR REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS

IN MINNESOTA

Chairman

O.L.N. Nelson, M.D.  
Minnesota State Medical Association  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. David Anderson  
Austin Clinic  
Austin, Minnesota

Mr. Harry Atwood  
Northwestern National Life Insurance Company  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. Robert N. Barr  
Minnesota State Department of Health  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Harold W. Brunn  
Minnesota State Medical Association  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dr. Lee Christopherson  
Neuropsychiatric Institute  
Fargo, North Dakota

Dr. Charles F. Code  
Mayo Foundation  
Rochester, Minnesota

Mr. Donald Dunn  
Minnesota Hospital Association  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. Paul Ellwood  
American Rehabilitation Foundation  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. Ivan Frantz  
University of Minnesota  
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Rochester, Minnesota

Dr. Robert J. Goldish  
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University of Iowa School of Medicine  
Iowa City, Iowa

Dr. T. H. Harwood  
University of North Dakota School of Medicine  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Mr. Paul Hofstad  
Lake Region Hospital  
Forgus Falls, Minnesota

Dr. Robert B. Howard  
University of Minnesota College of Medical Sciences  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. Arnold J. Kremen  
American College of Surgeons  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mrs. Sally Luther  
Administrative Assistant to Governor Rolvaag  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dr. A. B. Magnusson  
Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association

Dr. W. F. Mazzitello  
Minnesota Heart Association  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dr. J. P. Medelman  
Minnesota State Medical Association  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Miss Minna Moehring  
Minnesota Nurses Association  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dr. George Murphy  
Gunderson Clinic  
LaCrosse, Wisconsin

Mr. John M. Musser  
Weyerhauser Corporation  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Mr. Stanley Nelson  
Minnesota Hospital Association  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Robert Olson  
State Federation of Labor  
Duluth, Minnesota

Mr. Jack Rivall  
Minnesota Hospital Association  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. J. B. Rutledge  
Minnesota State Medical Association  
Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Dr. Donald Stewart  
Minnesota Cancer Society  
Crookston, Minnesota

Dr. J. M. Stickney  
Minnesota State Medical Association  
Rochester, Minnesota

Dr. H. M. Swanson  
Mason City, Iowa

Dr. Bernard H. Trygstad  
Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association  
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

Dr. J. P. Whisnant  
Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, Minnesota

Mr. Stephen Maxwell  
Municipal Judge  
Saint Paul, Minnesota