

WILMINGTON MEDICAL CENTER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES

M E M O R A N D U M

CONFIDENTIAL

April 18, 1968

To: Charles L. Reese, Jr.  
Ralph K. Gottshall  
Norman L. Cannon, M.D.  
Eugene B. Crawford, Jr.

From: Ernest C. Shortliffe, M.D. *ES*  
Administrative Vice-President

On Thursday, April 18th the Subcommittee of the G.W.D.C. Health Committee (the subcommittee specifically concerned with "the Southbridge Project") was called into session by Monsignor Thomas Reese. Those attending were:

Mrs. Patricia Bennett, Assistant to Dr. Duncan  
Mr. Jan DeLong of the Health Facilities Planning Council  
Jack Gelb, M.D. of the County Medical Society  
Charles Guernsey of the County Planning Office  
Mrs. Thelma Klaver  
Mr. Robert Norris  
Mrs. Arva Jackson of the G.W.D.C.  
Ernest C. Shortliffe, M.D.

The committee was meeting to prepare a recommended course of action for the consideration of the Health Committee of G.W.D.C. which is chaired by Mr. Sam McKay.

After much discussion the committee adopted the following general position:

1. An attempt should be made by a small group from the Subcommittee to meet with Southbridge neighborhood residents and other leaders in Southbridge to begin initial exploration of the



desire of the local residents themselves as far as a neighborhood health center is concerned.

2. While the Wilmington Medical Center should stand ready to work with and cooperate in the development of such a program, the Medical Center should not undertake the project until there is a clearly demonstrated desire in the Southbridge community for such a service.
3. That the physician group which has been discussing the possibility of volunteer service in such a center should be asked to continue their discussions but to defer from any direct action unless and until they are asked to act either by the Medical Center or the neighborhood residents themselves.

The substance of the report will be presented to the parent committee on April 26th. Shortly thereafter it is anticipated that the initial meeting will be arranged.

Comment:

I am in agreement with the position taken by the Subcommittee. It is essential that local community participation precede any action on the part of other community leadership.

Further progress will be reported when appropriate.

ECS:ne

Confidential copies to:

✓ Allston J. Morris, M.D.  
Clifford T. Foster