

Spellman, M.


CHARLES R. DREW POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL

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OFFICE OF THE DEAN

April 11, 1972

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.
2600 South Michigan Blvd.,
Suite 303
Chicago, Illinois 60616

Dear Leonidas:

Through an odd circumstance, I didn't receive your letter of March 14, until April 6.

The materials from you were not only documentary but insightful assessments of recurring crises within the Cook County Hospital. The statement of testimony before the Illinois Legislative Investigating Commission was a cogent account of the admixture of inhumanity and public service that are intertwined in the history of Cook County Hospital.

The identification in your letter of the contemporary "threat" is a very perceptive analysis of challenges which confront a similar enterprise in the urban setting. Even now I am unable to project the essential institutional alliances or even the attributes of leadership, apart from commitment to and faith in the fundamental purpose. Provident Hospital as the focus about which to assemble a County-community health center complex is an attractive proposal. You should be enabled to build upon the resources of Provident's rich history and substantive achievements. Either within the constellation of an area health education center or as a medical school affiliate, the new institutional form to which we are referring is, I believe, viable and able to serve larger community or regional needs.

Dr. David Ulmer, Chairman of the Department of Medicine, has assumed his post here and is available, if you wish to

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explore with him a collaborative effort involving Drew School and The American College of Physicians in sponsoring postgraduate educational opportunities for minority physicians.

With sincere appreciation for your kindness and counsel.

Cordially,



Mitchell W. Spellman, M.D.

MWS/gc