

TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM

PART I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

1. Objectives

The program objective is to control and ultimately eradicate tuberculosis from the United States.

2. Operation

The program provides technical assistance and grants-in-aid for tuberculosis control activities that are carried out by means of formula and special project grants and contracts to State and local health agencies and selected private institutions.

3. History

The Public Health Service Act of 1944 authorized the establishment of a tuberculosis control program within the Service. It placed upon the Public Health Service the responsibility of administering grants-in-aid to State health departments, and of conducting demonstrations and research in tuberculosis. In accordance with this act the Surgeon General established a Tuberculosis Control Division in the Bureau of State Services of the Public Health Service and it was subsequently approved by the Federal Security Administrator. In the fall of 1960, the tuberculosis program became a part of the Communicable Disease Center and in 1962 it moved to Atlanta, Ga., as the Tuberculosis Branch. In 1963, following a suggestion of the Congress, a Special Task Force on Tuberculosis Control was appointed by the Surgeon General to consider ways and means that the Public Health Service might improve the Nation's tuberculosis control program. The task force prepared a report for a 10-year program which contained a number of recommendations, including increased grants to the States for selected activities, improvement of skills of present and prospective tuberculosis workers to meet existing and future needs, and continued and expanded research in tuberculosis. In fiscal year 1966 funds were made available by the Congress to commence the task force program at the recommended first-year level.

4. Level of operations. (See table 1.)

Program: Tuberculosis control program project grants.
Department or agency, and office or bureau: Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; Public Health Service; Bureau of State Services (Community Health).