

Besides your neighborhood centers, what are you doing in the way of health care and could you outline specifically the program? As I understand you are picking out a thousand families to give maximum health service to, is that correct?

Dr. ENGLISH. Yes, ma'am. I think Portland, Oreg., is an interesting example of a program. As you know, the Kaiser health plan has been providing very high quality medicine there for a long time. What they have offered to do is to extend their health services to poor people and it is just question of our helping out financially, so that those people can have the same quality of health care.

Mrs. GREEN. Would you go into the statistics? Is it true that you have 1,000 families for comprehensive health care?

Dr. ENGLISH. Could I ask Dr. Frankel to respond to that? I think he knows that program.

Dr. FRANKEL. You are correct, Congresswoman Green, that there are a thousand families initially to be selected, almost self-selection in this situation, who will be worked right into what would be the middle-class framework of a group practice under the Kaiser Foundation in Portland and we think that this is a particularly innovative and interesting thing to incorporate into a middle-class environment the opportunity for poor people to obtain the services.

Mrs. GREEN. I was particularly anxious to know how the thousand families will be selected. You said that they will be self-selected. What do you mean by that? And will you also outline the extent of the health care to be provided? Does that include everything up to major surgery?

Dr. FRANKEL. It will include everything this first year that would normally be in a comprehensive health program except dentistry, because Kaiser has not over the years developed dental programs within its prepayment system. However, we have been carrying on. It will include mental health, for instance. A certain number of hours for this group have been set aside in the psychiatric clinics of Kaiser Portland for this purpose.

It will certainly include all preventive services, all treatment services, and all rehabilitative services necessary for this group. The selection will be through the community action agency, the local community outreach. Several people in the local community are being selected and will be trained for outreach and they will select from among the most needy families within the community somewhat self-selected, as I have said, because those who come forward will be given some preference. However, they will all have to be among the most needy families and the program is capable of enlargement after there has been some experience with this first thousand families.

Mrs. GREEN. All right. If an announcement appears in a newspaper within a day or two that complete health services are available to 1,000 families in Portland, if you applied to the community action program, then what is the next step from there?

Dr. FRANKEL. Well, in the first place we hope that we don't get 1,200 on the first day that the applications are opened up. However, what will happen is that the families will be screened and enrolled based upon their need.

Mrs. GREEN. What is the need? What is your criterion for need? There are more than 1,000 families that could stand comprehensive health care in Portland.