

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 337, September 01, 1971]

ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, there is urgent need to spread the benefits of medical science especially in the remote and isolated areas of the country;

WHEREAS, in the fulfillment of this task, the cooperation and voluntary assistance of private medical practitioners and hospitals are extremely necessary; and

WHEREAS, on their own initiative the Philippine Medical Association and the Department of Health through joint efforts have formulated a Medical Assistance Program that would fulfill the needs specified above;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby create a Medical Assistance Program Task Force (hereinafter referred to as "Task Force") which shall undertake the foregoing responsibilities.

The objectives of the Task Force are:

- 1) Extension of medical care to all residents in an evolutionary way within our economic means and capability as a nation;
- 2) Providing the people of the country a practical means of helping themselves pay for adequate medical care.

To attain the aforementioned objectives, the Task Force shall have the following functions and powers:

- 1) To formulate policies, administer and implement the Medical Assistance Program as jointly agreed upon by the Philippine Medical Association and Department of Health;
- 2) To establish the provincial, city and municipal Medical Assistance Councils;
- 3) To provide guidelines for and review implementation and administration of Community Health Fund schemes;
- 4) To set up the requisites and procedures for the registration of beneficiaries under the Medical Assistance Program;
- 5) To devise control measures to prevent abuses of the Plan;