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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
 SUPERIOR COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
 Public Health and Welfare Section

IHM/TB/mr
 15 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Kanto Region Meeting of Medical Social Workers and Prefectural Health Department Officials

1. Attended subject meeting on 8 August 1950, held in the prefectural offices at Chiba City. Those present were:

Tokyo-to -

S. Yamamoto, Medical Affairs Section
 Mrs. M. Debuchi, Saginami Health Center
 Mrs. N. Ishii " " "

Kanagawa -

T. Watanabe, Public Health Section
 S. Sugimoto, Medical Affairs Section
 Miss A. Nishikawa, Kanagawa Health Center
 N. Ogiwara, Kohoku Health Center

Saitama -

Miss S. Inoue, Prefecture Health Center
 T. Kondo, Urawa Health Center

Ibaragi -

H. Sato, Medical Affairs
 Miss T. Sakamoto, Mito Health Center

Tochigi -

T. Yamaguchi, General Affairs Section, Utsunomiya Health Center
 K. Wake, Medical Affairs

Gunma -

H. Kojima, Medical Affairs
 A. Tango, Ota Health Center

Chiba -

I. Anzai, Public Health Department (Chief)
 S. Takahashi, Chief, Medical Affairs Section
 K. Shibairi, Medical Affairs Section
 I. Fukano " " "
 Hashimoto, Director, Central Health Center
 K. Nishizawa, Central Health Center
 T. Usawa, Goshi Health Center
 Miss K. Suzuki, Saisai Kai Central Hospital
 Miss T. Hino, Saisai Kai Mukojime Hospital

MR. STAMPLE - Kanto Region

2. Discussion began on Hatsu-MI 139 dated 19 July 1960, sent to the prefectural governors by Vice-Minister Kasai on the subject of "Promotion of Medical Social Work". This Hatsu-MI announced the plan for having a Medical Social Work Division in the Public Health Bureau of the Ministry of Welfare and suggested that a division of medical social work be established in the prefectural health department. The importance of maintaining liaison with other sections concerned, and all other agencies related to medical social work was emphasized. In-service training of medical social work was designated as a responsibility of this division. Another memorandum, MI-No 143 - dated 19 July 1960, (Public Health Bureau - Health Center Section) from Health Center Section Chief to Prefecture Health Department Chief, covered the same subjects as in Hatsu-MI 139, but was more specific in suggestions as follows:

That the Medical Social Work Division be placed in the section responsible for health centers.

That the persons responsible for medical social work at the health centers and in the health department be specialists in the field if possible. However, when specialists are not available, as a temporary measure, persons with social work experience who are interested in public health and medical work or persons with medical and public health experience who are interested in social work, may be placed in these positions.

That it is possible to exchange personnel between the welfare and health departments in order to obtain a person to put in charge of the medical social work division.

That it is necessary for the medical social work division to keep in close relation with other fields of social work such as the welfare department.

That a medical social work administration committee or council be organized on the prefectural level and in the health centers, composed of the representatives of hospitals, Minsai-in, etc.

That this medical social work division give guidance and training to the health center medical social workers and help in preparation of forms, filing systems, etc.

That in order to develop and improve this work, the medical social worker may be sent to nearby prefectures for observation and also regional conferences may be held.

That the general public, particularly doctors and persons concerned with medical practice, Minsai-in and those related to social work should be informed about the work to arouse interest.

3. Tokyo-to reported that in line with previous recommendations, the Division of Medical Social Work has been established in the Medical Affairs Bureau and will have supervision of development of medical social work in prefectural hospitals as well as in the health centers.

4. The presence of prefectural health department officials along with the medical social workers from the health centers lent weight to the discussion of the importance of developing supervision of medical social work from the prefectural level. Besides discussion of the organization of the prefectural medical social work division there was considerable comment on the need for training and how this could be accomplished. It was suggested that medical social workers be included in in-service training programs within the prefectures for general social workers since the basic social work techniques are the same. This led to considerable discussion of the relationship of the medical social worker to the welfare secretaries now being established by law. This involves a clarification of division of jurisdiction between welfare departments and health departments, in those cases involving both services. Close cooperation was urged so that the job functions of each could be clarified for the benefit of those in need of both services, and in order to save money and effort caused by duplication.

5. It is to be noted that the medical social workers have made real progress as indicated by this meeting and that further development in this field can contribute one of the most important links between health and welfare.

FLORENCE BRUGGER
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Organization Br.,