

Grant

November 17, 1967

Mr. Victor Johnson  
Chairman, Board of Trust

Dr. Robert S. Anderson  
Acting President  
Meharry Medical College  
Nashville, Tennessee 37208

Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to inform you that the Board of Directors of The Commonwealth Fund, at its meeting on November 9, 1967, voted an appropriation of \$700,000 to Meharry Medical College in support of the Medical College's proposed developmental program in the basic sciences. This appropriation is limited to the main endeavor described in your revised proposal, submitted to the Fund under date of September 7, 1967; namely, the expansion and improvement of graduate-level education in the basic sciences. This appropriation is to be allocated equally between the private financing required for capital costs and annual operations specified in the budget for this program, and is to be payable under the following conditions: (a) \$350,000 for building renovation, construction, and equipment, payable when the balance of the \$1,346,554 in required private funds has been raised; and (b) \$350,000 for the salaries of basic-sciences faculty members and related supporting staff, payable at the rate of \$70,000 a year for five years, when the balance of the \$1,443,000 in private funds needed for this period has been raised. This appropriation is further conditioned upon filling the positions of President and Dean with permanent appointments.

We are making this appropriation in recognition of Meharry's vital role in the education of Negro physicians and in improving the quality of health care in the United States. The comprehensive developmental program which you have submitted to the Fund has been carefully considered; we believe it constitutes a sound, feasible design for the Medical College's overall improvement. We also believe that the keystone of this program is the expansion and improvement of graduate-level teaching in the basic sciences.



We extend our best wishes for success in carrying out your excellent plan, and we would appreciate receiving reports from time to time on progress toward meeting the conditions of our appropriation.

The Fund plans to refer to this appropriation in a news release scheduled for Friday A. M., November 24, 1967. You are free to make announcement on the same date or at any later time.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

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