Correspondence – American Heart Association

Folder Citation: Collection: Records of the 1976 Campaign Committee to Elect Jimmy Carter; Series: Noel Sterrett Subject File; Folder: Correspondence – American Heart Association; Container 77

To See Complete Finding Aid:
http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/library/findingaids/Carter-Mondale%20Campaign_1976.pdf

American
Heart
Association

44 East 23rd Street
New York NY 10010

Telephone
212 477 9170

Cable
Amheart New York

Governor Jimmy Carter
1974 Campaign Chairman
Democratic National Committee
P.O. Box 1524
Atlanta, Georgia 30301

6 Aug 74

Dear Governor Carter:

Thank you for your letter of July 24, 1974 to Dr. Hundley. We too believe that voluntary health organizations can be helpful in the development of public policy options. We also agree that this role has too often been overlooked.

The American Heart Association has recently celebrated its 25th Anniversary. As part of this milestone we set "prevention" as our priority for the next quarter century. A similar dedication to preventive medicine would also be appropriate for the federal government.

It is clear that the incidence of heart disease and stroke can be dramatically reduced by early detection of risk factors and their modification. The same may be true of many other dread disorders.

National health policy unfortunately has emphasized and continues to emphasize problems of acute care. Commitment to preventive medicine has been greatly lessened in industrialized nations with the elimination of mass epidemics like yellow fever. Then too, in the case of "modern epidemics" like hypertension (i.e., high blood pressure) the cost of preventive medicine may seem prohibitive. Nevertheless, the ultimate rewards both in terms of economic benefit and alleviation of human suffering would be well worth the investment.

Please let me know if you would like me to further elaborate my thinking.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Ross, M.D.
President

RSR/M2/vc

Chairman of the Board
Ross Reid

President
Richard S. Ross, M.D.

President-Elect
Elliot Rapaport, M.D.

Immediate Past President
Paul N. Yu, M.D.

Immediate Past

Vice Presidents
Sidney Arbeit, M.D.
Richard W. Booth, M.D.
Robert H. Clark, Jr.
William B. Dulany, Esq.
John T. Fitzpatrick
Edgar Haber, M.D.
Ceylon S. Lewis, Jr., M.D.
William Luikart, M.D.
Gardner C. McMillan, M.D.
Mrs. M. Jeanne Pontious
George V. Tharp
C. Basil Williams, M.D.

Treasurer
John S. Andrews

Secretary
Mrs. Mary Ripley

Executive Vice President