The NIH Record

Blind NINCDS Employee Receives DHHS Award

David Kerr, an NINCDS employee who lost his sight after a prolonged battle with diabetic retinopathy, was honored as DHHS Outstanding Handicapped Employee of the Year during a ceremony held Oct. 10 celebrating National Employee the Handicapped Week. Mr. Kerr, who serves as the NINCDS management analyst, said, "I know that the future looks bright for me because of this award." (See Award, Page 12)

CFC Kicks Off $22.1 Million Campaign

The kick-off for the NIH CFC campaign will be held at noon on Oct. 29, 1986. It will be the traditional Health's Angels Walk/Run started in front of the Bldg. 1. Not quite so traditional will be a CFC Kick-Off Parade preceding the 3-mile run and 1-mile walk. It will feature the Wooton High School Band and other area high school bands, clowns, fire engines and the Baltimore Oriole's Bird mascot. The parade will begin at Convent Drive and Center Drive and proceed past the ACRF to the front of Bldg. 1.

Celebrities participating in the event include WMAI radio personality Johnny Holliday as Master of Ceremonies, and Under Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services Don M. Newman, an avid exerciser who will run the course.

Dr. John D. Mahoney, NIH Associate Director for Administration, will serve as NIH's CFC coordinator and Dr. William F. Raub, NIH Deputy Director, as vice-chairman. In addition to the awards previously announced for the runners, there will be promotional prizes for walkers including a coupon for a free pair of Rockport Walking Shoes and twelve copies of a walking book by Rob Sweetcall, who recently completed a walk across the continental U.S. Four hundred copies of a walking guide by Rockport Shoes will also be distributed.

The goal for CFC for 1987 is $22.1 million.

This total is distributed among over 600 agencies from Easter Seals to one of the newest, the Friends of the Clinical Center which supports the Patient Emergency Fund. Remember that you can designate any of these organizations to receive your donation, but most importantly—remember to give.

NIAID Announces 5-Year $4.4 Million Grant To Fund AIDS Data Coordinating Center

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases has announced the award of a 5-year, $4.4 million contract to establish an AIDS Clinical Trials Coordinating Center (ACTCC) at Research Triangle Institute (RTI), Research Triangle Park, N.C. Under terms of the contract, RTI will coordinate and analyze all information reported by NIAID's recently established AIDS treatment evaluation units (ATEUs) on their AIDS experimental treatment studies.

The 14 ATEUs will receive $100 million over a 5-year period through contracts awarded to 14 medical centers in 8 states, to conduct clinical trials of experimental agents in the treatment of AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and associated opportunistic infections and cancers. Initial plans call for the testing of several antiviral drugs, including AZT (azidothymidine) and agents for use against opportunistic infections.

In a press conference held June 30 to announce the ATEU contracts, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, Director of NIAID, said, "The AIDS treatment evaluation units will comprise a network that will provide significant research advantages and speed the evaluation of drugs with therapeutic potential against AIDS. We will be able to facilitate collaborative studies between institutions, and rapidly compare research findings by means of a computerized data base system."

RTI will develop and maintain the database system and will arrange for professional staff, including a physician, to make periodic site visits to each participating unit in order to monitor accuracy of data, as well as compliance with protocols and regulatory requirements.

RTI will also provide technical assistance in the design of data forms and computer training of staff at the ATEUs and will design and implement an inventory tracking system for dispensing of experimental drugs used in the studies.

Reports on the progress of all ongoing studies will be provided to a data and safety monitoring board. □