

Houston, Texas,
October 13, 1928.

HOUSTON NEGRO HOSPITAL

Dr. Laurence C. Jones, Principal,
Piney Woods School,
Piney Woods, Miss.

Dear Sir:

About four years ago a client of ours became impressed with the urgent need of a hospital for negroes in this city. As a result he contributed funds for the erection of such a hospital (the City of Houston furnishing two blocks of ground, suitably located). Carefully thought out plans and specifications were worked out for a fireproof building and improvement of the grounds. The building was completed and the institution opened on June 19, 1926.

The object in the mind of our client was to help the negro to help himself. Accordingly we were asked to study such plans of organization of like institution as were available, and after doing so to formulate a financial plan that would support the institution. After deliberate consideration a plan was adopted as shown by the enclosures herewith for your information.

1st: Copy of agreement intended for signature of the organizations that would undertake to secure individual memberships;

2nd: A form of subscription for individual signatures;

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- 3rd: A form for membership cards;
- 4th: A copy of the charter;
- 5th: Copy of agreement entered into between the City of Houston and the Hospital corporation;
- 6th: A recent photograph of the building.

As you will see from the papers submitted, the plan contemplates that all physicians, surgeons, nurses and attendants are selected from the negro race, functioning under the general direction of a white advisory committee, the latter to be composed of citizens (other than physicians) in sympathy with the work and familiar with the donor's aims.

So far the negroes of Houston have not been aroused to the importance of this institution and of the opportunity to demonstrate for the race that they are capable of maintaining it. We are not yet willing to concede that they have failed, and will not do so until every opportunity has been given.

Assuming that your institution would be interested in all this and seeing to it that your people are aroused to the opportunity given them, we are submitting this to you in the hope that after you have given such careful consideration, you will delegate representatives to come here who, after calling on us, will meet influential members of your own race for the purpose of arousing their interest in the use and support of this institution; making it not only of paramount value to themselves but

