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GEIGER-GIBSON CHC

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Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center

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GEIGER-GIBSON COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE CENTER CO-FOUNDER

DR. COUNT D. GIBSON, JR.

Dr. Count D. Gibson, Jr. looks to the future of community based health care with a sense of optimism, "there is an important role of the the health center in the education and training of the young health professional. Health care centers can also lead the way in strengthening the role of primary care providers."

A co-founder of the Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center, Dr. Gibson saw an immediate need for local health care facilities in Boston's Columbia Point community of the early '60s. "The area was deprived in terms of consistent, affordable medical services," says Gibson, "and we needed to develop an institution to really respond to the community's needs."

Dr. Gibson's center has adapted to the changing population and social conditions that its community has faced. The Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center has survived in the face of some early racial conflicts, crime, and financial instabilties. Today the health center is thriving and in a state of growth. The current patient mix includes a range of income levels: families and business people come to the center for medical care.

Currently a Stanford University professor in the Department of Health Research and Policy, Dr. Gibson thinks one of the most important outcomes of community based health care is

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the inevitable collaboration between medical provider, patients and community. He now looks at the conceptual role of health care in society ... and wonders how health care centers will relate/grow with other welfare institutions in the future.

Count D. Gibson, Jr., has been on the medical staff of Stanford University Hospital since 1969, was a delegate to the White House Conference on Health in 1965 and the White House Conference on Civil Rights in 1966. Presently, Gibson serves as a member of the Board of the Drew Health Foundation and acts as a consultant on a range of areas including: primary care, neighborhood health centers, consumer involvement in health care, and relations between university medical centers and communities.

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