



# **Commonwealth Fund records, Child Health Demonstrations, SG 1, Series 9**

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Commonwealth Fund
<b>Title:</b>	Commonwealth Fund records, Child Health Demonstrations, SG 1, Series 9
<b>ID:</b>	FA281
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1921-1928
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.14 Cubic Feet 3 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

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## Biographical/Historical note

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The Commonwealth Fund was established in 1918 with an endowment of \$10 million from Mrs. Stephen V. Harkness for "benevolent, religious, educational and like purposes." The early grants supported a variety of programs while generally promoting welfare, especially child welfare. Several grants were made in the field of medical research, but the Board of Directors decided in 1920 that this field was already sufficiently supported by other philanthropic organizations.

Despite this decision, by the mid-1920s the chief interest of the Fund had become public health, including mental hygiene, community health, rural hospitals, medical research, and medical education. Other grant areas included war relief, educational and legal research, child welfare, and international medical fellowships.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The Commonwealth Fund announced its Child Health Program on June 29, 1922. The goals of the five year program were "safe-guarding the health of the mother-to-be, laying a good health foundation for children in the early sensitive and formative period of their growth and health supervision and the formation of the essential health habits in school children." The responsibility for the conduct of the

demonstrations rested with the American Child Health Association, which had been recently formed through the merger of the American Child Hygiene Association and the Child Health Organization of America. The Child Health Demonstration Committee of the Commonwealth Fund oversaw the program, with Barry C. Smith chairman and Courtenay Dinwiddie executive director. Other notable participants in the program include Philip Van Ingen, Richard A. Bolt, L. Emmett Holt, Sally Lucas Jean, Livingston Farrand, Donald B. Armstrong, and Barbara S. Quin.

The initial demonstrations were conducted in a city from the Upper Mississippi Valley, the general qualifications being that the population range between 15,000 and 25,000 and the infant mortality rate be approximately 100 per 1000 live births. Twenty-nine cities applied to host the demonstrations, with Fargo, North Dakota, being chosen. The first director of the Fargo demonstrations was Dr. William J. French, former Director of the Child Welfare Commission of Delaware. Subsequent demonstrations were held in Athens (Clarke County), Georgia; Rutherford County, Tennessee; and Marion County, Oregon.

The records of the Child Health Demonstrations consist of the files of the Child Health Demonstration Committee, and the documents relating to the four series of demonstrations. Included are annual reports and research statistics, on-site investigations regarding possible participants, and final report statistics. In the general files are internal memoranda, committee meeting minutes, correspondence, statistical summaries, and weekly reports concerning field observations of the demonstrations.

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## File Plan note

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Former Classification: IX; IV 4B 4;

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Medicine, Rural
- Medical research
- Mental health
- Medicine -- Scholarships, fellowships, etc.
- Child psychology
- Child welfare
- Education, Rural
- Hygiene
- Law
- Legal issues
- Legal research
- Medical education
- War relief
- United States
- Public welfare
- Public health
- New York (State)
- New York (N.Y.)
- Child mental health

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances	
Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, December 29, 1921-December 12, 1922	box 1	folder 1-2

Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, January 18, 1923-December 27, 1923	box 1	folder 3
Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, January 5, 1924-December 29, 1924	box 1	folder 4-5
Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, January 3, 1925-December 24, 1925	box 1	folder 6
Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, February 11, 1926-December 27, 1926	box 1	folder 7
Child Health Demonstration Committee - General Files, January 5, 1927-December 7, 1928	box 1	folder 8
Child Health Demonstration Committee - Research Unit Report, 1924	box 1	folder 9
Child Health Demonstration Committee - Research Unit Report, 1925	box 1	folder 10
Child Health Demonstration Committee - Site Selection Investigations - First Demonstrations, June 1921-November 1922	box 1	folder 11
Child Health Demonstration Committee - Site Selection Investigations - Southern Demonstrations, March 1923-August 1923	box 1	folder 12-13
Child Health Demonstration Committee - Site Selection Investigations - Western Demonstrations, October 1923-November 1923	box 1	folder 14
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - Annual Report, October 1, 1923-September 15, 1924	box 2	folder 15
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - Annual Report, October 1, 1924-September 30, 1925	box 2	folder 16
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - Annual Report, January 1, 1925-December 31, 1925	box 2	folder 17
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - Annual Report, January 1, 1926-December 31, 1926	box 2	folder 18
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - Annual Report, January 1, 1927-December 31, 1927	box 2	folder 19
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - General Files, December 28, 1922-August 16, 1923	box 2	folder 20
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - General Files, May 28, 1924-November 1924	box 2	folder 21
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - General Files, January 6, 1925-November 20, 1925	box 2	folder 22
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - General Files, February 22, 1926-December 3, 1926	box 2	folder 23
Fargo Child Health Demonstrations - General Files, October 2, 1927-April 17, 1928	box 2	folder 24

Athens Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1924-December 31, 1924	box 2	folder 25
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1925-December 31, 1925	box 2	folder 26
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1926-December 31, 1926	box 2	folder 27
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1927-December 31, 1927	box 2	folder 28
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Health Education and Physical Education, Dental Service, Sanitation Service, Laboratory Service	box 2	folder 29
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Medical Service; Time Distribution and Salary Cost, Health Examinations-Defects and Corrections, Communicable Disease Control	box 2	folder 30
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Athens Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Public Health Expenditures, A.P.H.A. Appraisal Scores	box 2	folder 32
Athens Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Vital Statistics, Communicable Disease Statistics, Special Studies of Mortality Rates	box 2	folder 33
Rutherford County Tennessee Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1924-September 1924	box 3	folder 34
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Rutherford County Tennessee Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1926-December 31, 1926	box 3	folder 36
Rutherford County Tennessee Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1927-December 31, 1927	box 3	folder 37
Rutherford County Tennessee Child Health Demonstration - Community Organization of Rutherford County	box 3	folder 38
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Rutherford County Tennessee Child Health Demonstration - Study of Public Health Activities in Rutherford County, Tennessee, 1926	box 3	folder 46
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Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1925-December 31, 1925	box 3	folder 49
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Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1927-December 31, 1927	box 3	folder 51
Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Annual Report, January 1, 1928-December 31, 1928	box 3	folder 52
Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Health Education Service, Dental Service, Sanitary Service	box 3	folder 53
Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Medical Service; Time Distribution and Salary Cost, Health Examinations-Defects and Corrections, Communicable Disease Control	box 3	folder 54
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Marion County Oregon Child Health Demonstration - Final Report - Public Health Expenditures, A.P.H.A. Appraisal Scores	box 3	folder 56