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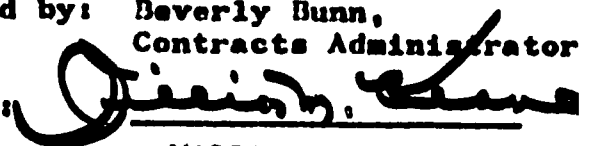
**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

**APPLIED HEALTH/NUTRITION PROJECT**  
**(30 June 1976 - 30 December 1976)**  
279-11-995-035

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**  
**YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC**

**Grant No. AID NE G 1255**

**Date:** January 30, 1977  
**Submitted by:** Beverly Bunn,  
Contracts Administrator

**Approved:**   
**William M. Keane**  
Program Director

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SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Applied Health/Nutrition Project  
(30 June 1976 - 30 December 1976)

Yemen Arab Republic

Grant No. AID NE G 1255

I. INTRODUCTION

As early as June 1974 CRS was supporting a nutrition development program covering Hodeidah and parts of the Tihama area in the surrounding desert. This program was instituted by a nutritionist serving at Al Olofy Hospital, staffed by CRS volunteers, and utilizing the hospital as a base for classes for mothers.

From the pilot project, seeded with \$20,000 from private donors, educational materials and a vehicle for transportation into the nearby villages was purchased. Local salaries were also payable from this fund.

PL 480 food was contributed for demonstration purposes and used in recipes taught the women.

The aim of the two-pronged project was, and is, to teach mothers hygiene and nutrition practices and to supplement such lessons with nutritious food; the second thrust was a training program for health-nutrition auxiliaries to expand and continue the work.

On June 20, 1974 a proposal was submitted to USAID for a three-year program covering costs of personnel, expatriate and local, training of nutrition specialists, including scholarships outside the country, commodities and operating expenses.

Following three subsequent revisions to conform with long range country planning and USAID requirements, a three year grant was approved.

On June 30, 1976, pursuant to the authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the Agency for International Development granted to Catholic Relief Services - United States Catholic Conference the sum of \$193,824. This sum was to apply to commitments made in furtherance of the grant objectives during the period June 30, 1976 through October 30, 1979.

This nutrition education program is expected to span a period of three years, for a total grant of \$434,065. Added to this is supportive resources of the government of the Yemen Arab Republic estimated at \$40,220 and of CRS estimated to be \$104,430, for a grand total of \$578,715.

## II. PREPARATORY ACTIVITY

Only upon receipt of the signed grant was it possible to initiate any project activities.

### A. Release of Funds

Additionally, the state of development of the country and the peculiar bureaucratic structure resulted in a necessity of a formal meeting between the Ministry of Health officials, World Health Organization representatives, USAID/Yemen and CRS/Yemen program officers and the Project Manager, before the necessary letter of agreement from the Yemen government could be obtained. Although the highest priority was placed on this activity by various government ministries and municipalities who gave assurances of support, including actual assistance, the shortage of labor qualified to assign to the project by the Yemenis make them reluctant to obligate the very scarce personnel they cannot be certain will be available.

The Yemeni were only willing to commit this support at the time the funds were definitely assured. The USAID was only willing to commit the funds at the time this support was definitely assured. This impasse was resolved on August 1, 1976 with the meeting and a letter of agreement.

Satisfied that the Yemenis supported the program, and in receipt of the commitment letter, funds were released by AID/W after August 1, 1976.

Planning for a Five-Year Plan in the health sector is underway and it was agreed this project fit into the overall objectives, and other activities would be coordinated with it.

An advance was authorized by CRS and funds were obtained in Yemen on October 1, 1976.

### B. Procurement of Commodities

Procurement of commodities had begun in the executive offices of CRS/NY several months earlier with advice on choice of vehicles to be ordered. A problem of port congestion resulted in a wait of 5 months at sea to unload, 71 per cent surcharges, or offloading in a distant port in another country, so efforts were made to obtain vehicles in Saudi Arabia or Djibouti in F.T.A.I.

The necessary approval to deviate from the contract by purchasing outside the country was obtained, and the scarce vehicles were located and a purchase order placed in

in Jeddah. The payment was wired from Sana'a but due to communication difficulties, not delivered, and the vehicles were subsequently sold to another. Others from available sources were not expected to arrive for several months, so request for orders were made to CRS executive office in the U.S. After the order is placed a delivery time of 6-9 months must be anticipated.

The clause requiring use of American manufactured vehicles is crippling and is preventing implementation of certain aspects and seriously delaying others. Efforts to obtain an amendment to the contract so that available foreign vehicles might be purchased immediately were unsuccessful.

### C. Recruitment of Personnel

The recruitment of personnel had begun with in-country contacts known earlier, and were in the negotiating stage in December 1976. A nutritionist and an educator are expected to be contracted.

Two Peace Corps volunteers have been assigned and are acting as educators.

Recruitment of local personnel is hampered by lack of education and skills, and the high cost of obtaining the few for whom all businesses and ministries compete. For this reason counterparts and trainees vacancies still exist.

The inflation rate, cost of living, and wages for qualified people increased at an average of 60% in 1976, making many budgetary estimates obsolete, including salaries and stipends.

The training Course for Nutrition Specialists was authored by the nutritionist who is the Project Manager, and approved by the Health Manpower Institute for certification. In accordance with a national plan of recognition this certificate will hold unique value.

### III. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES OF PROJECT STAFF

Sr. Rosita Lusch, Nutritionist and Project Manager transferred her activities from the completed CRS pilot project to the procurement of equipment and recruitment of personnel and trainees.

A reporting and bookkeeping system was devised in cooperation with CRS administrative staff.

Meetings were held with the Governor of Hodeidah, Ministry of Health and Health Manpower officials to advise them of developments, and to seek assistance in searching for counterparts and trainees.

She finalized arrangements for office space, a classroom and a workroom in the Health Center in Hodeidah, provided by the Yemen government, and located garaging for securing vehicles.

She also designed Base Line Data Sheets, Growth Charts, and Registration Cards and arranged printing.

Ms. Jean Chappell, a Peace Corps volunteer, serving as an Educator, was teaching classes, in Arabic to nutrition specialists and mothers. Classes were begun in September 1976 with an average of 202 women per week attending.

Ms. Chappell obtained the typing of course material, made educational posters and supervised the distribution of foods.

Ms. Zeinab Ahmed Mohamed Jabal, a Nutrition Specialist, to be trained as a possible counterpart, was teaching classes to mothers under the supervision of the Educator.

She also weighs and measures the children, records information on the growth charts, and prepares registration cards for the mothers.

Ms. Nihma Ahmed Ali, a Nutrition Specialist, to be trained as a possible counterpart acts in the same capacity as Ms. Zeinab.

Mr. Saif Abdul Salem serves as a driver, who collects the trainees from their homes and chaperones them to and from the clinics to satisfy family concern.

He also distributes food, utilizing a ticket system to assure authorized collection only. He acts as a general overseer of the Yemeni personnel.

Ms. Miriam Ahmed Gasseem, a trainee, assists the Nutrition Specialists, and attends classes.

Ms. Fatma Hassen and Ms. Fatum Khalid are cleaners and food packagers, taking the food from the bulk packages and dividing it into small bags for distribution at the Mother's Classes.

Mr. Mohamed Selman and Mr. Mohamed Mohamed are watchmen for the office and the vehicles, respectively.

Slots still being recruited are:

- (1) Nutritionist/Educator
  - (2) Educators
  - (1) Office Assistant
  - (1) Secretary
  - (3) Drivers
  - (1) Cleaner
- expatriate
- local

IV. DATA ON TRAINING COURSES

A. Nutrition Specialist

Simultaneously with a one-year course in Practical Nursing, obtained through auspices of YARG, or following it, trainees receive a basic Health-Nutrition Course of one year, taught under this program.

A Course of Study for Health/Nutrition Specialists has been authored by the Project Manager, Nutritionist Sr. Rosita Lusch. SEE ATTACHMENT 1.

One new trainee has enrolled in the Practical Nurses Course and may become a candidate for Nutrition Specialist.

Three graduates have obtained certificates as Nutrition Specialists from the class instituted under the CRS pilot project. One of these will work in Sana'a when the center opens there, assisting the nutritionist.

The small stipend offered is preventing the entrance of more trainees. Local girls with no education are receiving three times the pay this project offers from the banks.

B. Mothers Classes

A base center has been established at a Health Center in Hodeidah, and in six other villages:

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| Hali        | Shiharia       |
| Qalla       | Hawag          |
| Medina Umal | Harat Al-Yemen |

At these clinics "Lessons for Mothers," a series of nineteen lessons ranging from "The Importance of Cleanliness" through "Body Building Foods" to "Pregnancy and Midwifery Practices" are given.

These lessons were authored by Sister Rosita, and utilize cooking demonstrations, flip chart lectures, flannel boards, film and slide shows. SEE ATTACHMENT 2.



Base Line Data Sheets SEE ATTACHMENT 3, Growth Charts SEE ATTACHMENT 4, and Registration Cards SEE ATTACHMENT 5 are prepared for each mother and child.

The child's place on the Harvard Scale is indicated by a colored card as follows:

70-60% ile and below	= red
70-80% ile	= blue
80% ile - Standard	= yellow
Standard	= green

A corresponding colored registration card is given to the mother, but kept in the respective clinic file, which is kept in the center.

Green cards are given to children over 2 years of age - unless they fall in the 60% ile area.

Special severe cases are kept in a special file and are seen at close intervals for counseling and weighing.

This card system has been operative only for 2 weeks and significance cannot yet be determined, however registration to date is as follows:

red cards	= 29
blue "	= 19
yellow	= 30
green	= 27

#### V. STATUS OF EQUIPMENT AND COMMODITIES PROCURED AND HOW UTILIZED

##### A. Vehicles

Orders have been placed and delivery is awaited, not expected for 6-9 months because of shipping time and port congestion. Two 4-wheel drive 1½ ton covered light-truck type vehicles, and one mobile unit have been ordered.

Meanwhile a loaned CRS vehicle is utilized by the Project Manager to reach the clinics.

##### B. Office Equipment

Desks, chairs, calculator, file cabinets, clocks, stationery, supplies and minor equipment have been purchased and are in use by the Project Manager/Nutritionist and the Educator in the project office.

A typewriter, English, and a photocopy machine paid for by CRS are also in use, on a loan basis.

All equipment costing \$1,000 or more will be inventoried with a list provided to AID/W, however no such purchases have yet been made.

All of these items are in use in the Hodeidah Health Center project office.

Some demonstration items such as food and educational supplies, such as slide films have been purchased, as has a slide projector. These items are used in the Hodeidah Health Center and in the six outlying clinics mentioned above.

#### VI. OUTREACH AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES LAUNCHED

Until vehicles are delivered no expanded activities into the desert villages can be possible, and concentration will be made on Hodeidah and nearby villages.

A locale for the Sana'a center has been determined and will be furnished partly by the YARG and partly by the project. It will be staffed when recruitment is completed.

#### VII. MOTHERS AND CHILDREN REACHED BY ACTIVITIES

From the date of contract signing approximately 700 new registrations for Mother's Classes have been received, with an average of 180 women per week attending classes in the seven clinics.

From September 1976, records have been detailing this information, and are reproduced herewith.

#### September 1976

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>New Regist.</u>	<u>Follow- Up</u>	<u>Cases Special</u>	<u>Avg. Women per Week</u>	<u>Class Taught</u>	<u>Food Givon</u>
All	0	0	0	29	Germs; Personal Cleanliness; A Clean Home; Safety in the Home	Wheat, WSB, Milk Oil
Health Center	23	17	5	19	Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding; Bottle Cleaning	Wheat WSB, Milk, Oil

September 1976 (cont.)

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>New Regist.</u>	<u>Follow- Up</u>	<u>Cases Special</u>	<u>Avg. Women per Week</u>	<u>Class Taught</u>	<u>Food Given</u>
Qalla	1	0	0	36	Food for Growth; Food for Protection Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding	Wheat, WSB, Milk, Oil
Medina Umal	2	1	0	33 New Reg.	Safety in the Home; A Clean Community; Food for Energy; Food for Growth	Wheat, WSB, Milk
Shiharia	1	0	0	24 New Reg.	Germs; Personal Cleanliness; A Clean Home; Safety in the Home	Wheat, WSB Milk Oil
Hawag	0	0	0	34 New Reg.	Germs; Personal Cleanliness; A Clean Home; Safety in the Home	Wheat WSB Milk Oil
Harat Al-Yemen	0	0	0	34 New Reg. Graduation 9 Mothers	Germs; Personal Cleanliness; A Clean Home; Safety in the Home	Wheat WSB Oil
TOTAL	27	18	5	202 9 graduates		

October 1976

Hali	10	11	2	29	Clean Community; Feeding Baby(Milk); Food for Energy; Food for Growth	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum
Health Center	31	28	9	17	Care of Baby; Feeding Baby; Food for Mothers; Worms	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum
Qalla	17	3	1	23	Bottle Feeding; Care of Baby; Feeding Baby	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum
Medina Umal	4	1	0	18	Food for Protection; Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding; Care of Baby	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum

October 1976 (cont.)

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>New Regist.</u>	<u>Follow- Up</u>	<u>Cases Special</u>	<u>Avg. Women per Week</u>	<u>Class Taught</u>	<u>Food Given</u>
Shiharia	0	0	0	28	Clean Community; Feeding Baby; Food for Energy	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil
Hawag	0	0	0	31	Clean Community; Food for Energy; Food for Growth; Food for Protect.	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum
Harat Al-Yemen	0	0	0	22	Clean Home; Clean Community; Food for Energy; Food for Growth	Wheat Milk Oil WSB
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>168</b>		

November 1976

Hali	4	4	1	8	Food for Protect.; Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil
Health Center	12	11	8	15	Care of Sick Child; Vaccination; Bilharzia	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil
Qalla	0	0	0	28	Food for Mothers; Worms; Care of Sick Child; Vaccination	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Sorghum
Medina Umal	0	0	0	14	Feeding Child; Food for Mothers; Worms	Wheat WSB, Oil Milk
Shiharia	3	6	1	30	Food for Growth; Food for Protect.; Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding	Wheat Milk WSB, Oil Milk
Hawag	0	0	0	31	Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding Feeding Child	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil

November 1976 (cont.)

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>New Regist.</u>	<u>Follow- Up</u>	<u>Cases Special</u>	<u>Avg. Women per Week</u>	<u>Class Taught</u>	<u>Food Given</u>
Harat Al-Yemen	2	0	0	32	Food for Protect.; Care of Baby; Breast Feeding; Bottle Feeding	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil Milk
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>158</b>		

December 1976

Hali	7	0	0	21	Care of Child in Hospital; Preg. & Lact. Mother; Weigh Babies	Sorghum wheat WSB, Oil
Health Center	32	27	10	11	Care of Child in Hospital; Preg. & Lact. Mother; Weigh Babies	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil
Dalla	4	9	0	24	Bilharzia; Care of Child in Hospital; Preg. & Lact. Mother	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil
Medina Umal	0	0	0	9	Vaccination; Bilharzia	Wheat WSB, Oil
Shiharia	7	7	0	25	Feeding Child; Food for Preg. & Lact.; Worms	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil
Hawag	26	0	0	25	Preg. & Lact. Mother; Worms; Care of Sick Child	Sorghum Wheat WSB, Oil
Harat Al-Yemen	13	4	0	32	Feeding Child; Preg. & Lact.Moth.	Sorghum Wheat
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>147</b>		

The satellite clinics served by the project have the same basic design. They are stone single level structures of 3 or 4 rooms, a covered outside waiting area, and have a 8-10 foot wall enclosing the building and providing what could be a pleasant garden area.

A doctor is in attendance 2 or 3 days per week as well as someone who can give injections. The rooms are used for examinations and drug dispensing when necessary and project workers have access to a special room where scales, measuring boards and charts are kept. Curtains are hung in the clinic rooms.

Classes at all the clinics begin between 8:45-9:00 a.m. It is necessary to be strict because the women may trickle in as late as 9:30. It has been found to be a good practice in order to teach the women responsibility.

The following impressions about the clinics have been recorded by Peace Corps Educators.

#### Clinic Harat Al-Hali

This clinic serves a fringe area of Hodeidah dominated by grass hut compounds housing Ethiopian refugees. We registered 38 women in the last classes, will graduate 23 and have to date registered 35 babies in the new program. Generally the babies look clean and reasonably healthy. The women seem to enjoy the classes and are regular in attendance. The staff is very helpful and pleasant.

#### Health Center

This main clinic, located in the Tahreer section of Hodeidah, has one day for classes and one day for special cases, sick babies and other related problems. Special cases (dehydration, malnutrition, etc.) found in other clinics are referred here. Any immediate emergencies are taken to the Pediatrics Ward in Al Olofy Hospital.

The classes are comparatively large, averaging 30 women. Most are clean and seem comfortable and their children are well cared for.

On the special clinic day most of the referrals are due to diarrhea and/or vomiting. Many times this is due to improper feeding habits and especially dirty bottles. The women are implored not to bottle feed because they generally do not clean the bottle or nipple properly. Breast feeding is insisted upon and if that is not possible to feed the child with a clean spoon. Each mother is questioned on the diet of the child to see that it is balanced and fulfills all the requirements needed to insure good health and growth. Most

of the malnutrition can be avoided if the mothers have a basic understanding of what the child needs; starting with breast milk and including proper vegetables, fruits, grains, meat, and oil which is available.

This clinic is the headquarters for the project in Hodeidah and the storage center for food. There are 3 large rooms in a clinic compound. These have been refurbished by the Nutrition Staff members (American/Yemeni) and are attractive and clean. The walls have been decorated with charts, drawings, posters, etc. to stimulate the imaginations of the Mothers and children. One room is the kitchen/work area; desks have been installed for the Peace Corps workers and the Yemeni staff and trainees. One room is the office area for the teacher and the Project Manager/Nutritionist. The third room is the teaching center for the women who come for classes and those who have special nutritional problems with their children. Here are also weighed and measured the babies who are brought to the center.

One day is set aside for special cases, however, many mothers cannot keep the days straight so we see them almost daily. Here the babies are seen individually and seen as often as necessary in order to improve the condition of the child.

#### Clinic Qalla

Qalla is one of the poorer clinics, surrounded by grass huts and low cement dwellings. At the same time it is one of the loveliest being completely covered by vines and flowers. The women are the quietest and the cleanest. They take a certain amount of pride in their appearance. The staff of Yemeni doctors and nurses are very good and conscientious in their work.

#### Clinic Medina Umal

The physical aspects of this clinic are clean, airy and open. Medina Umal means the city of the workers and is in close proximity to the Hodeidah port. The housing is new and in long neat rows of connected compounds which seem spacious from the outside.

The women are regular in attendance even though the registrations are small. The "city" itself is isolated and there is not the abundance of women available as in more populated areas of Hodeidah. Overall the families do not seem to be extremely poor. The women and children appear happy and eating well. There are 20 mothers registered, 11 will graduate and 25 babies are enrolled in the new program.

Clinic Shiharia

In the clinic of Shiharia in the eastern part of the city, the women are both poor and well off but it is not easily distinguishable because all dress carefully and cleanly and show equal concern for their children.

Clinic Harat Al-Hawag

In this clinic room running water has been installed. This addition enables the staff to give demonstrations of food preparation and personal cleanliness which is difficult in other clinic rooms. We registered 43 women, will graduate 31 and have registered 38 babies in our new program. These families are very poor. There is a high incidence of under-nourished children from Hawag. The women are steady in attendance and seem to respond well to the lessons.

The clinic staff has been measuring and weighing babies, but it was decided to enroll our mothers babies in our new program. The staff has been thoughtful and helpful.

Clinic Harat Al-Yemen

This clinic is located in a poor and dirty section of town on the sea by the fish market. The area is littered with garbage, fish heads and bones and some wild dogs. The cleanliness of the clinic is outstanding considering its environment. A number of beggars wandering around, especially when the staff is there, looking for food. Because of the large number of beggars throughout the area we do not give food to them, to avoid an increase in their number.

The undisciplined behavior of the women makes it necessary to be strict with them. When the on-time practice was initiated at Harat Al-Yemen clinic where the women are the noisiest and least disciplined of all the clinics, there were two weeks of mild hysteria but then all the women were at the clinic promptly.



**HEALTH NUTRITION PROJECT**  
**GRANT NO. AID/NE-G 1255**  
**BUDGET COMPARISON REPORT**

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>Approved First Period (16 months)</u>	<u>Expenditure, to Date (6 months)</u>
I. Personnel (A - Expatriate = 0) (B - Local = \$1,089)	\$ 77,056	\$1,089
II. Training (A - Counterparts = \$11) (B - Health/Nutrition Specialists = 0)	28,620	11
III. Local Travel & Per Diem (Transportation = \$80)	10,400	80
IV. Commodities (A - Non-Expendable = \$46,230) (B - Expendable = \$ 9,718)	55,948	4,039 (17274) (53765)
V. Other (A - Rent = 0) (B - Postage = 10) (C - Insurance = 0)	4,180	10
VI. Supplemental Support	<u>17,620</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	\$195,824	\$5,229

هيئة الأغذية الكاثوليكية الأمريكية  
**GATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**

United States Catholic Conference

P.O. Box 148 - SANA'A

Yemen Arab Republic

Cable: CATHWEL SANA'A

Telex: 218 HODSHIP YE

January 30, 1977

United States Agency for  
 International Development  
 Sana'a  
 Yemen Arab Republic

Attention: Mr. Robert Kidd

Re: Grant No. AID/NE-G 1255  
 CRS Nutrition Project  
 Semi-Annual Progress Report

Dear Mr. Kidd:

Contained in the grant Program Description, Attachment A, Section IV, C, Reports, are instructions that two (2) copies shall be provided to USAID/Sana'a, and three (3) copies to the Grant Officer at AID/W.

Enclosed please find the semi-annual Progress Report with Attachments as listed:

	Packet No. 1 <u>USAID/Y</u>	Packet No. 2 <u>USAID/Y</u>	Packet No. 3 <u>AID/W</u>	Packet No. 4 <u>AID/W</u>	Packet No. 5 <u>AID/W</u>
Progress Report	X	X	X	X	X
Attachment No. 1	X		X		
" 2	X		X		
" 3	X	X	X	X	X
" 4	X	X	X	X	X
" 5	X	X	X	X	X
" 6	X	X	X	X	X

Attachments No. 1 and 2 are in book form of which we have been supplied with only two. Due to difficulty of reproducing we are attaching one only for USAID/Yemen and one only for AID/W.

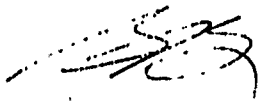
We appreciate your assistance in delivering the three packets to AID/W through the pouch, to eliminate the delay and uncertainty of the mail service in Yemen.

United States Agency  
for International Development  
January 30, 1977

Page 2

Thank you for your continuing courtesy and cooperation.

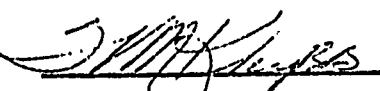
Yours very truly,



Beverly Bunn,  
Contracts Administrator  
Yemen Program

BB/dm

cc: CRS/New York Bishop Broderick  
CRS/Rome Monsignor Harnett  
CRS/Geneva Mr. Chenard  
CRS/Hodeidah Sr. Rosita Lusch

Approved: 

William M. Keane  
Program Director