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POVERTY AREAS

Checkups On Health Offered Free

Think you might have emphysema? Diabetes? High blood pressure?

These and other diseases will be the objects of a city wide "search and destroy" mission sponsored by public and private health agencies.

Called "Health Fair," the project is being conducted in 10 Atlanta neighborhoods throughout the summer. The free-of-charge program is designed primarily for poverty areas or areas served by a service center of Economic Opportunity Atlanta (EOA).

But the search certainly isn't restricted to these areas, according to a spokesman for the Fulton County Health Department, which is participating in the program.

The first neighborhood to receive the special medical check-ups was the Central City area. Some 250 persons were checked for high blood pressure, diabetes, tuberculosis, syphilis and chest diseases such as emphysema and bronchitis.

The health department spokesman said the project, in its first year, is "just getting rolling. He said the project will pick up momentum as more and more persons learn of it.

Mrs. Helen Howard, director of the Vine City Foundation, said she expects more than 1,000 to show up for the health tests in the Nash-Washington neighborhood on Tuesday.

The health department spokesman said the program was "a cooperative movement" which depends on the neighborhood residents themselves for its success.

IF A PERSON is found to have any one of the ailments, he is first referred to his own physician for medical treatment. A person who has no family doctor is referred to health agencies or Grady Memorial Hospital, the health department representative said.

Other participating agencies include the Fulton County Medical Society, the Georgia Department of Public Health, the American Red Cross, the Atlanta Tuberculosis Association, Model Cities, the Atlanta Diabetes Association and the City of Atlanta.