

NOTES FOR GOVERNOR EDWARDS
MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY
SEPTEMBER 3, 1976 TAPING

As Governor, and also as one of your fellow citizens, I welcome the opportunity to participate in this tremendous effort in behalf of the men, women, and children of South Carolina who have been stricken by muscle disease. I've met many of these patients, and that's why I am personally grateful for what Jerry Lewis and all the rest of you are doing to help them. I want to commend the people of South Carolina for your generosity, which you demonstrate so willingly each year at telethon time. We are a significant part of this Coast to Coast effort against a common enemy. Surely, anything that cripples and destroys our children is our enemy. But MDA researchers, who are working so diligently to probe the mysteries of Muscular Dystrophy and related disorders, are moving closer and closer to the answers. One reason they are making progress is that so many of us in South Carolina have taken the time to care and to give. Making this year's telethon a success means that the search can be continued even more intensively -- and that MDA can extend its program of community and patient services even more widely. A research project funded by MDA in our area could be the one that leads to a cure. May I urge that all of us -- young, old, parents, children -- join together in Telethon '76 to make it the most successful united effort we have ever known. I want to be part of the coming victory -- don't you? Please call in your pledge, and help MDA continue searching for the answers while it cares for the patients. Thank you.