

Council of Federated Organizations

(601) 352-9605

Jackson, Mississippi 39203

March 6, 1964

United Federation of Teachers
c/o Mrs. Norma Becker
52 West 9th Street
New York, New York

Mrs. Becker:

You already know about COFO's plans for a special project in Mississippi this summer. One of the main aspects of the projects will be the Freedom Schools Program. Bob Moses has suggested that this would be a project that would capture the imagination of teachers, such as yourself.

The idea is that you make a special mailing using the enclosed material to present the summer project and the Freedom Schools with the suggestion that each chapter of the UFT adopt a school (there will be about twenty to twenty-five schools). This would mean that the chapter would be responsible for the total school in one particular town -- it would provide staff, funds, equipment, everything.

In this way, the UFT chapter could develop a relationship with that community that would hopefully extend beyond the short summer. Personal attachments would develop and the first hand information that would be available to them could be the groundwork for long-term and creative relationship between a Mississippi town and a UFT chapter.

I will be anxious to hear how you feel about this idea, and to receive copies of any material you release in regard to the suggestion. UFT chapters which are interested should be appraised of the fact that the total expense of such a project for the full two-month term is estimated at about \$6,000. We plan also for each school to employ about fifteen student staffers who would work with four or five professional educators.

Saron Henry
President

Robert Moses
Program Director

David Daniels
Assistant Program Director

Congressional District Coordinators

Frank Smith, 1st
Columbus

James Jones, 2nd
Greenwood

John Harris, 3rd
Vicksburg

Thomas Swann, 4th
Hattiesburg

Lawrence Cayot, 5th
Batesburg

State Office Coordinator
Charles Cobb, Jackson

Welfare and Relief Committee
Wesley Potts, Clarksdale
Annelle Pender, Greenwood

Political Program Committee
Lawrence G. Cayot, Hattiesburg

Student Committee
Ben R. E. T. Smith, Jackson

Volunteer Program Committee
John Harris, Jackson


page two

For additional information for specific planning of the project
I am responsible:

John O'Neal, Coordinator
Summer Educational Program
Council of Federated Organizations
1017 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi

As you can judge from the enclosed material, time is extremely
important as we have only three months to actuate the project.

Yours for Freedom,


John O'Neal, Coordinator
Summer Educational Program

Encl.

JO/na