

... now with your hand,
pull the lever down.

Council Of Federated Organizations

1017 LYNCH STREET,
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



February 24, 1964

Mr. Frederick L. Compton
413 Warwick Rd.
Somerdale, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Compton:

Please accept my apologies for not answering your letter. I received your telephone message earlier today, and that is the reason for this letter. Unfortunately, I do not have a copy of your earlier letter, because I gave it to the person who usually handles food and clothing. I assumed that he had answered it, but there must have been a mess. I won't try to elaborate. I'll try to address myself to the questions raised in your telephone message.

To get a good picture of the overall food and clothing situation, you should consult Ron Weiss, the man who didn't answer your letter. However, since he is not here today, and you indicated that you needed an immediate reply, I took it upon myself to check with a few individual projects. I asked them about their food and clothing needs, and they confirmed that they needed food and clothing. These are all projects which have a stable and fairly well-regulated system of distribution. The major responsibility for distributing clothing and food falls on local adult leaders, usually through the Freedom Democratic Party, but sometimes through an ad hoc welfare committee which prepares the food and clothing for distribution and processes applications from needy people.

There are three projects which ~~definitely~~ definitely need food and clothing for their commitments. These are McComb, Tallahatchie County and Sunflower County. The McComb people actually need it for neighboring counties rather than for the city of McComb. You should send it to the following ~~addresses~~ addresses. In McComb, send to Mr. Jesse Harris, 702 Wall St., ~~JACKSON~~ McComb, Miss. In Tallahatchie, send to Mr. Fred Mangrum, c/o Mrs. Birdie Heglar, 209 Main St. (The Fox Funeral Home), Charleston, Miss. In Indianola, send, c/o the COFO Freedom School, Indianola, Miss. (I'm not sure of the street address; the mailing address is P.O. Box 30) The person to contact in Sunflower county is either John Harris or Charles McLauren. In addition to these three project areas, I believe that the Mileston Community Center and the Shaw Community Center (Holmes and Bolivar Counties, respectively) need clothing for their distribution programs, but I was unable to confirm this on the telephone. If you have further questions, I'm sure that Ron Weiss can answer them more competently than I can.

I'm very sorry that I cannot recall the other subjects of your letter, such as the arrangements for Army trucks and Drew Pearson. I will try to stimulate Ron to dig out your letter and answer it properly. I hope that this letter will help your immediate needs, however. Thank you for your patience.

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