

# Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc.

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February 1, 1964

Dear Ed:

You wrote me back before Christmas and I am very embarrassed that I have not answered. I have been be-set by personal problems as well as the usual work, but will not burden you with details or lengthy apologies.

The main purpose of this note is to say that if you are still wanting to work for SNCC and have not yet heard anything definite from them, you must get in touch with Sam Shirah right away. He was here yesterday, and he has worked out some really exciting plans for his project. At least I think they are exciting and I think you will too. He will be needing a number of field workers.

He told me he was planning to call you and perhaps you will hear from him before you get this letter. However, I know that he was leaving here to dash back to Atlanta for a meeting and then had a meeting in New York and life was pretty hectic. That is why I suggest you taking the initiative if you do not hear from him. You can tell him that I suggested you do this, if you want to.

If you have trouble finding Sam or pinning this thing down, please feel free to call me collect and I'll see what I can do to expedite things for you. I know Sam is looking for field workers and, it is ridiculous for you not to be in on the ground floor of this if you still want to be.

I understand your financial problems, and I suspect that you are right that some of the kids do get help from their families and that's how they are able to live. I think when you talk to Sam you'll just have to talk to him straight about this and the fact that <sup>you</sup> will not be able to depend on outside help.

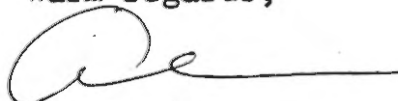
As I think I've told you before, I think I also understand as not everyone can what you had to go through and are going through with your family. I've been all along this road myself. The only thing that I can say is what I believe I said to you before, or at least I've said it to a number of young people: that in the long pull, if there is a relationship between parent and child, a thing of this kind does not break it. It seems to break it perhaps for a time, and there was a time when I seemed to <sup>be</sup> completely alienated from my family. In the end however I think a new and better relationship built on true mutual respect

of each other as individuals is built---that is, of course assuming that there was a good relationship there to began with. If there was not, I am not making light of this fact and that is hard to bear too, but in that situation the relationship would have broken down with or without the factor of the integration movement.

I do hope I can see you soon. Perhaps if things work out that you are going to Atlanta you can route yourself through Louisville so we can have a visit.

I hope you will forgive me for being so long in writing and I guess it would have been longer ~~except~~ *except* that thing about Sam came up and I felt you should know about it right away. Hope to do better next time on coorespondence.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Anne Braden', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Anne Braden