

To: COFO Staff and Community Leaders  
Re: Freedom Candidates

Four Negroes are running for Congress in Mississippi this year. These candidates are in a sense our candidates, and we must therefore do all we can to wage an effective campaign for them.

The candidates are the following:

Second Congressional District: Fannie Lou Hamer of Ruleville. She is running against the Democratic incumbent, Jamie Whitten.

Third Congressional District: James M. Houston of Vicksburg. He is running against the Democratic incumbent, Robert Bell Williams.

Fifth Congressional District: Reverend John E. Cameron of Hattiesburg. He is running against the Democratic incumbent, William Colmer

U. S. Senate: Victoria Jo Gray of Hattiesburg. She is running against the Democratic incumbent, John C. Stennis.

These persons are entered in the June 2, 1964, primary election. This means we have little more than a month to do what we intend to do for them.

The following are necessities:

- 1) The formation of a campaign committee in every community. This committee will be responsible for the following arrangements:
  - a) Fund drives, b) Speaking places, and c) Publicity.
- 2) Daily door-to-door canvassing talking about the candidates and telling the community who they are and that they are coming to the community soon in order to speak.
- 3) People should speak about Mrs. Gray and her campaign at every meeting throughout the state.

If these three things are done and done well, there will be a fairly respectable campaign undertaken by us for the candidates. Furthermore, the campaign will utilize very little of our own money-- which we don't have anyway!