

New Haven Freedom Center
Mississippi Council of
Federated Organizations
404-A Yale Station
New Haven, Conn.

June 13, 1964

Mr. Ladislaus Michalowski
380 W. Main St.
New Britain, Conn.

Dear Mr. Michalowski:

The Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations faces two major crises this summer. Having taken the most significant step of planning a program for hundreds of out-of-state college students, teachers, doctors, lawyers, and others which will have an enormous impact on the educational and attitudinal patterns of Mississippi Negroes, the Council is faced with the almost certain prospect of mass arrests and harassment. It is indeed difficult for the current State government to accept this program since, in a real sense, it represents a threat to the White Southern Way of Life. This, then, is one major impending crisis.

The other crisis currently confronting the Council is financial. I am sure you can understand that a project of this scope and size is incredibly expensive. The Freedom Schools cost \$4,000 apiece and there are to be over twenty of them. Scholarships for southern Negro students who wish to work with the Mississippi Summer Project but require some salary so that they can return to school in the fall amount to over \$80,000. Capital costs for the Community Centers spread out over the State to provide such diverse services as job training, day-care, health education, libraries, and recreation, will run upwards of \$50,000. And finally, normal administrative costs, including particularly an enormous projected telephone bill, will come to close to \$10,000.

These costs are above and beyond the large sums of money which we expect we will have to borrow for the purposes of paying countless bonds for those arrested.

These expenses are, in toto, overwhelming. We are hopeful, however, that there will be enough persons such as yourself, who realize the crucial importance of a program like the Mississippi Summer Project and would be utterly discouraged to see it fail for want of funds. We do not expect it to fail but we are now in a position where we may be forced to borrow

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✓ money to supplement that which has been raised. We do not want to be forced to do this of course.

✓ I hope very much that you can interest some of your friends, neighbors, and business acquaintances in providing support for the Mississippi Summer Project. For your interest thus far we are truly grateful. For your success on our behalf, our sincere good wishes.

Thank you again for getting in touch with the New Haven office. I look forward very much to meeting your daughter at the orientation session in Oxford, Ohio.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Bingham
Stephen Bingham
Director, New Haven

Enclosures