

October 11, 1964

Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Senzibar
4900 Woodlawn
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Senzibar:

Recently I asked about where we could possibly find architects, and I was told by some old SNCC members that you were ~~an~~ long-time supporters of SNCC, and also, coincidentally had an architect in the family. I hope you will be interested in our problem.

We are engaged in a long-term program of community development, built around Community Centers. These centers, described in the enclosed report if I can find one, will offer educational and recreation programs to all ages, and hopefully in the future, will provide the impetus for anti-poverty and community development programs with government financing. In most parts of Mississippi, the "egro community has no suitable place for a community center as we envision them, so most of our projects have plans to build centers. These centers must be large enough to hold the following: a small library, one or two classrooms, depending upon the size of the community the center services, a room large enough to hold meetings, dances, etc. and an office for voter registration activity. All over the state we have groups canvassing their towns for suitable lots, writing to friends trying to raise money, and coming to us asking for architects.

I would be very grateful if you could take some time, come to Mississippi and give us a little technical advice on planning centers in general, and assist as many local communities in designing their centers as you would have time for.

I'm also enclosing material on our "Adopt a Freedom Center" campaign. We're trying to promote exchanges between our projects and sympathetic groups in the "North for mutual exchange of experience and insight and for financial support. If you belong to or know of a group (or can organize one) of people who would be interested in this kind of program, please pass it on to them. We would like as many friends to present this program to their friends as possible. Thank you for any assistance in this direction, as well as for your specialized talent.

Yours truly,

(Miss) Lois Chaffee