



to abolish racial discrimination by direct, nonviolent methods

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Mr. Richard Haley
CORE Southern Regional Office
2209 Dryades Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Dick:

I've been concerned for some time about the community center program. From the reports we've been getting for Meridian, this center seems to have leveled out at a very low level of efficiency of service to the community. Others are not really functioning at all. This may be far too harsh a judgment, but it seems the only possible one from the reports we have received. On the other hand, when the Meridian center was run by Mickey and Rita, it functioned very efficiently. This may be because they were trained, as well as enthusiastic and creative. It seems to me that we must provide either training in group work methods for our task force members or we must send creative group workers down, but we cannot allow the buildings to become empty shells.

I've been meeting with some people from the National Association of Social Workers, and we have the germs of some ideas and would like your ideas about this situation. Perhaps we can work them out at the staff meeting in New Orleans.

Cordially,

Marvin Rich, Director
Community Relations

/b