

January 15, 1965

TO: Friends of SNCC

FROM: Mike O'Gorman
570 ~~560~~ Sunshine Dr.
Concord, California

SUBJECT: FAST FOR FREEDOM

The Contra Costa Youth Coordinating Committee is sponsoring a nation-wide "Fast for Freedom" to commemorate the Supreme Court decision on desegregation of public schools on May 17, 1954. High school students will be asked to forego their lunches during the week of May 17 and to donate their lunch money to SNCC. This "fast" can, with your help, become both a beneficial fund raising event for SNCC and a stimulating activity for high school students. We are asking you to initiate this drive in your area.

Here, briefly, is what we would like you to do: As soon as possible, appoint someone to lead the drive. If there is an established high school or youth Friends of SNCC group, ask them. If not, try another established high school or youth group that would actively support it. If this fails, seek individuals who, with your help, can seek others and form a committee to work on the project.

The first step is to draw up a list of the schools in the area and begin seeking contacts in each one. These people will be asked to help get further contacts and help direct the "fast" at their own particular school. Note: We are centering the drive around the high schools, as we are a high school group sponsoring it, and most of our contacts lie there; but if you wish to spread the drive to other students and non-students, we will not discourage it.

Please write to us as soon as possible and tell us the following:

Can you help
If so, who will be directing the drive
Are you sticking to the high schools
How many schools do you have and can count on having contacts in and
how many not
Generally, what you have done and what you expect.

If you express interest, you should receive from us the detailed explanations and suggestions on seeking participants, and exactly how the fast will be conducted and how the money will be collected.

Important: Please tell us of any individuals or groups you know of outside of your area that will help.

You should then have plenty of time to prepare for the "fast." I hope you can help us make this a successful project. Always feel free to write us. We will answer any questions you have.

Thank you,

Mike O'Gorman, Co-Chairman
Contra Costa Youth Co-ordinating Committee
Mt. Diablo Friends of SNCC
Fast Co-ordinating Group