

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

6 Raymond Street, N.W. Atlanta 14, Georgia

688-0331

March 2, 1965

Dear Alicia,

After the recent staff meeting here at Gammon Seminary Barbara Jones went to work in the field at McComb, Miss. I have moved to Atlanta and am trying to learn how to do her job.

According to Barbara's records you are now seeing that the following people receive support:

Karen Koonan Patricia McGauley	Indianola	
Joe Schwartz	Hattiesburg	
Russell Allen	Greenville	
Barbara Schwartzban		
Sam Hampton	Charleston	
Jimmy Jones	Tallahatchie	(Charleston)
Lee Arthur McCowan		
Jimmy Ross	Laure1	
Billy Brooks	Moss Point	
Bruce Maxwell	Mayersville	
Joe Maurer	Aberdeen	
Eddie Brooks	West Point	
Charlie Horowitz	Jackson	
Idell Craft	Greenwood	
Charles Nelson (Ber	1)	
Hartfield	Laurel.	

Each of them receive \$10.00, 1 believe.

Betty has asked me to try to answer your letter of February 23 since she is just swamped with work since the staff conference. I don't know what to say to the sorority girls except that it takes a lot of understanding when you're dealing with people who find it very difficult to communicate with you for a lot of reasons. I guess they feel the girls wouldn't understand and so why bother -- maybe this is in the back of their minds. I would imagine that it's very hard for people with the background these girls have to even imagine what it means to be black and in Mississippi. Maybe the volunteers don't yet realize their own worth, either. and can only communicate needs about material things to their sponsors. I really don't know what the answer to this problem is except that it will take a lot of patience, understanding

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and education for the young ladies.

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Perhaps one of the best things that could happen would be if one of the volunteers could visit the campus and talk to them themsel 2, but that takes too much money.

Perhaps the girls could imagine they didn't have anything (any material things) and then try to live on \$10 a week for a couple of weeks, I mean buy food and everything with just that amount of money; and if they ran out of money, just not eat. No car or anything. And no hope of getting anything. It's really very depressing and it destroys your dignity to be hopelessly broke. Maybe it would give them greater understanding and greater patience. It would also be a sort of lesson in what poverty--hopeless poverty--really means to people who are forced to live in it.

I probably haven't been much help to you, but I can sympathize with the problem you have. At one time I was as niave as you can imagine about politics and civil rights; I have also been a volunteer. In between was a lot of soul searching and a lot of learning to catch up on.

One other thing is that I have a letter from Joe Schwartz in Hattiesburg who says that he usually receives a \$10 money order from xox the Madison Society of Friends (Mr. Cyrus Walker) but he also got one from you. Nevermind--Betty just came back from lunch and told me she had gotten this straightened out.

One other thing you might tell the sorority girls is that projects really do need cars. But evidentally they have taken about all the responsibility they are able to take. They may suggest to the Friends of SNCC that they (FOS) raise money and get the project a car. Cars sometimes are a matter of life and death and are always essential to reaching people in rural, outlying parts of the county.

I am sending you a copy of the SNCC plans for '65 and when the final report is out I'11 send you a copy of that.

Let me know how you make out with that problem--I'm interested in knowing what happens.

"One Man, One Vote"

Freedom, Margaret

Margaret Lauren