



# Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

360 NELSON STREET S.W., ATLANTA, GEORGIA

688-0331

100 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10011

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July, 1965

Dear Friend,

The summer southern program is in full swing. We have volunteers and staff members working in Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Tennessee and Maryland. The program is an extension of earlier voter registration, freedom schools and community organization projects on the grass-roots level.

In Mississippi, the program is being run by the Freedom Democratic Party. IF THIS SUMMER'S PROGRAM IS TO BE EFFECTIVE IN THE DEEP SOUTH, WE MUST LAUNCH A STRONG SUPPORT PROGRAM HERE IN THE NORTH.

A Northern program in support of the Summer Project cannot be accomplished without the help of people like yourself. There are three main areas in which you can help us. The first of these is to set up a network of contacts which can be mobilized in times of crisis to exert pressure on Washington-Southern State officials -- the mass media -- etc. The second is to raise money -- and the third is to "tell the story" of SNCC's work and to build a large group of New Yorkers who are aware of and interested in the Summer Project. Like the Southern program, a successful support program will rest on developing pockets of interest and concern at the neighborhood, school and office level.

One of the most effective programs in the North was run by the Parents Committee last summer. As well as spending a great deal of time in Washington, they established a telephone tree system. Whenever workers were jailed, they had their friends and Congressmen phone down to the jail. We believe this helped prevent brutality in isolated rural areas. Grass roots organization in the South must be backed up by broad-based community support in the North.

Financially, SNCC depends on a steady stream of small contributions rather than on the occasional large one. The New York High School group conducted street corner solicitations during the winter and brought in a regular amount of money. Another source of money has been the small house party, which can be done with a lot of imagination. SNCC has saleable items -- buttons, books and photographic posters. Groups have held talent shows -- hootenannies -- bake sales -- benefit bridge parties -- etc. Sometimes a Northern community has "adopted" a Southern community or a field worker. In fund-raising, as in the rest of SNCC's program, anything that works -- goes.

*"One Man, One Vote"*



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There are several Friends of SNCC groups in New York City, and several more clubs or committees which work with SNCC. Perhaps the most important thing that they do is to get the word out on what SNCC is, and to provide a way in which interested people can become involved with SNCC. Many people who are unable to come into the Manhattan office are able to participate in a neighborhood based organization.

I would like very much to hear from you about the kind of help you could give us this summer. Enclosed is a form which I would appreciate your filling out. It would be helpful if you could come into our office and talk with me about possible ways that you could participate in the program. The New York office will be happy to provide current information, brochures and speakers for your program.

Freedom,

fh/eo

Faith Holsaert