

C.O.R.E. 1965

While C.O.R.E. has existed in New Orleans, since 1960, we cannot say that it has done its best to provide what might be considered the motivating force of a Movement, which is badly needed here.

The New Orleans Project cannot boast of any great strides or accomplishments in the race for equality; at best we can say we are settling in the community. We have managed to establish contact with a number of people who will work with C.O.R.E. and have generally made our presence known. Also, an office location has been sited and, hopefully, will be functioning within the next week.

What we need now is an organization with striking force in every conceivable area. Categorized, there are approximately three slots: administrative, actionists, and organizers, all of which are important to a city like New Orleans, and all closely related.

Instead of the usual type of emotional build up towards demonstration to express our dissatisfaction, we would like to build a firm foundation of people using hard, cold logic to deal with the presently existing powers. For instance, a group of people could build a community organization that would eventually be able to function independently, financially and otherwise, without depending upon the white community handouts to maintain existence. However, there are two possible areas of concern. First, what is the role of an organizer, how will he differentiate himself from the role of an officer of the organization we are trying to build? Second, what is to be the nature of the organization, its functions and its structure?

The Purpose...

1. Attack the problems now existent in our society to which we haven't yet been able to solve; those problems that local C.O.R.E. chapters cannot deal with, such as retraining programs through the Federal Government; mass organization concerning political and civic responsibilities. These are things which C.O.R.E. chapter should not and cannot do.

2. To give the community a fair opportunity at guiding itself, once all the facts are made known. We must work with this thought in mind at all times.

3. The basis for building this kind of organization is to organize around the problems that the people of New Orleans think important.

4. Drawn from each individual, through informal discussion, what problems he believes are really confronting him.

The Organization...

1. Must be a frame through which programs can be channelled and community ideas will be absorbed. For example, each area may be interested in working a community project that relates to its area and not city wide. This can only be done by allowing people to organize around their need in creating a structure that they are comfortable within.

2. It is hoped that the organization will be composed of people actually representing other people. Perhaps this can be achieved through block clubs, community clubs, area groups or precincts. Anyway there are people who want to work.

3. It has to become self-supporting in a short period of time to prevent dependence on anything other than itself. (See Finance)

The Organizer...

1. The organizers must see themselves as such and not as community leaders.

2. Their job is two-fold: help organize and train people to organize: to help themselves. Eventually, organizers will not be needed at all; the people will run their own organization.

3. This means that organizers cannot present solutions to problems, but can only direct people toward finding their own solutions.

PROGRAM

I. Public Accommodations...

Systematic testing of the public accommodations section of the Civil Rights Act. If we are to have equal access to public accommodations we must prove that this is no "pater law", but one of reality.

II. Employment Bank...

To really deal with the Civil Rights Bill and the Poverty Act, an unemployment bank will be operated by organizers and community representatives. It will provide training for youth with Job Core, and retraining for adults. We will push for fair employment at all levels of business.

III. Welfare Committee...

New Orleans has many poverty stricken families that need assistance in the form of food and clothing; we should provide some aid through public interest.

IV. Research Committee...

This committee (composed of college students) will gather and study information on Federal Programs, Civil Rights Bills, City Government and Corporations that influence the change of city, political, economical spheres.

V. Voter Registration...

C.O.R.E. is now on a block-by-block campaign to bring people together to talk about local problems and how the Vote can solve them. Only by standing together can the vote be powerful, and it IS a power that no man can take from us.

We realize that the above program is a massive one, but one that can and must be accomplished. We openly ask for your financial assistance to reach our goal of equality.

To further understanding between C.O.R.E. and the New Orleans community, one of our representatives would like very much to speak with you or your group in order to discuss your aid and possible participation in our program.

Project Director
New Orleans C.O.R.E.
Matt Suarez

BUDGET

Freedom House Rent	\$100.00 per month
Light and Gas	15.00
Phone	<u>12.00</u>
	\$127.00 per month
Office Rent	\$100.00 per month
Supplies	230.00
Light and Gas	30.00
Phone	50.00
Transportation	100.00
Petty Cash	<u>100.00</u>
	\$580.00 per month
Staff Persons (3) \$50 per week	\$150.00
	<u>x4</u>
	\$600.00 per month
Monthly Budget	\$127.00
	580.00
	<u>600.00</u>
	\$1,307.00
Year's Operation	\$15,684.00
Initial Expenses	
Freedom House furnishings	\$150.00
Phone deposit (two - office and house)	125.00
Supplies	300.00
Office Repairs	100.00
Light and Gas deposit (Freedom House)	40.00
Incidentals	<u>50.00</u>
	\$765.00
1st month's budget	1,307.00
	<u>765.00</u>
	\$2,072.00