Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc.

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March 24, 1966

Dear Friend:

We call your attention to the enclosed brochure, an appeal for help from Operation Freedom.

Operation Freedom raises money to meet emergency needs---food, clothing, and shelter---of people in the South who are subjected to economic pressure because of their stand for human rights. There have been several articles about this in recent issues of The Southern Patriot.

Right now Operation Freedom faces an emergency because there are more calls for help than it can meet with current income. There is good reason for this. The Southern struggle is at a crucial point, although not as much in the headlines as in the past. Rights won on paper must now be secured by the efforts of thousands of people at the local level in communities across the South.

The people are standing up. Negroes are running for office in all of the states. They are enrolling their children in all-white schools in the most remote areas. But many of those who take a stand are fired from their jobs, put off the land, have all credit cut off. These people go to Operation Freedom for help.

Neither SCEF nor any other civil-rights organization is set up to provide adequate individual assistance in the many such situations that arise. Therefore, we look to Operation Freedom to help meet the human needs that result from the struggle.

Most of you who will receive this letter are supporters of SCEF; some of you have already contributed to our work for 1966; others will be receiving our appeals during the year. We need and appreciate your continuing support for SCEF's own program of pioneering and seed-planting along the new frontiers of the Southern movement. It is unusual for an organization to appeal also for help to another organization. We are doing it in this case because the emergency is so great and the need so elemental; this is a matter of food for the hungry and shelter for the homeless. We believe you will also want to help meet these needs. We call your attention to the fact that contributions to Operation Freedom are tax-exempt.

Yours for freedom,
Carl & Anne Braden
Carl & Anne Braden,
Executive Directors

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