

INFORMATION SHEET FOR NCC VOLUNTEERS IN MISSISSIPPI

Offices of the Delta Ministry

Greenville - 721 Nelson Street, phone 335-1213; mailing address, P. O. Box 457; after hours, phone 334-4935; Rev. Warren McKenna, Project Director

Hattiesburg - 522 Mobile Street, phone 584-7720; after hours, phone 582-1869; Rev. Robert Beech, Project Director

McComb - 626 Wall Street (corner of Dinwiddie & Wall), phone 684-1721; after hours, 684-9414; Rev. Harry Bowie, Project Director

*Greenville*

General Information

Clothing: For men, suits, clerical collars if usually worn; also informal clothing

Expenses: Each volunteer is responsible for his own personal travel expense. Maximum expense while on the project in Mississippi should not exceed \$20.00 per week.

*Edwards Jackson*

Housing: Arrangements for housing will be made by the staff of the Delta Ministry.

Transportation: Volunteers may fly directly to Hattiesburg or to Greenville on Southern Airways; bus or train service is available to McComb from Jackson or New Orleans.

Bail: Arrangements for \$500.00 bail is mandatory for all volunteers.

*McComb*

*Hattiesburg*

*3 copies will be enclosed*

THE DELTA MINISTRY

A PROJECT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN MISSISSIPPI

Application form for short-term service

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Office) \_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone) \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

DENOMINATION \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_ RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION \_\_\_\_\_  
High School \_\_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate School \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCES (name and address and title)\*

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*If you know someone who has been to Mississippi under NCC auspices, please list his name as one reference.

CONTACT FOR BAIL (in case of arrest)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone) \_\_\_\_\_

TIME AVAILABLE - please specify dates - one week indicates 7 days spent in Miss.

- One week \_\_\_\_\_
- Two weeks \_\_\_\_\_
- Three weeks \_\_\_\_\_
- One month \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE ALL THREE FORMS AND MAIL TO:

Mrs. Thelma Barnes  
The Delta Ministry  
P. O. Box 457  
Greenville, Mississippi

## RELATIONSHIP OF SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERS TO THE DELTA MINISTRY

1) All Short-term volunteers will be assigned to work under the direction of a member of the staff of the Delta Ministry. The director of the Delta Ministry project where the volunteer is assigned will be responsible for the following:

- a) Housing arrangements for volunteers;
- b) Orientation of the volunteer to the specific problems and programs of that particular area;
- c) Assignment and supervision of the volunteers working on his project;
- d) Evaluation of the work of the volunteers.

2) Volunteers should recognize that, while they are working in Mississippi under the direction of the Delta Ministry, they represent and are in effect a part of the Delta Ministry. Thus their actions and statements should reflect and be sensitive to the programs which are being pursued by the Delta Ministry on their project and in the state. Thus they should carefully weigh what they say or do when in Mississippi and upon returning home in order that they may present a considered and accurate picture of the Delta Ministry.

3) It is also important that volunteers clearly recognize the necessity of project directors being able to assign them according to the "needs in Mississippi" rather than on the basis of what volunteers may feel is the proper utilization of their time. In this respect it is necessary to understand that much of the work that needs to be done is neither heroic nor sensational. Frequently the witness that is required is simply to be the "arms" and "legs" for hard work. It is required that volunteers who come to Mississippi be willing to accept direction from the staff.

4) If, at any time, the director of a Delta Ministry project determines that the continued presence of a volunteer endangers the volunteer or the program, he may request the volunteer to return home.

5) Short-term volunteers must assume responsibility for the following:

- a) Travel expenses;
- b) Available bail money of \$500.00
- c) Expenses while in Mississippi (approximately \$20.00 per week)

6) Why are volunteers needed? What are some of the ways in which they might be used?

- a) Canvassing would be their most significant function. <sup>Volunteers</sup> Men are needed to talk to people - in depth - about who they are and how they can bring about the changes necessary in the creation of a free society. The purpose of this kind of canvassing is not simply to inform local people about the programs, but to help eradicate the effects of years of brain-washing. It is to stimulate involvement through one-to-one and small group contact.

(RELATIONSHIP OF SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERS TO DM - 2 -)

- b) White community contact - as dictated by local situations - is another important role of the short-term volunteers. The alienation of the white community from itself, as well as from the black community, cannot be ignored if we are serious about a ministry of reconciliation. We must challenge the twisted ideas and values of the white community - in love - if we are concerned about the well-being of all of God's people.
- c) Simply being the presence of the Body of Christ cannot be over-stated as a reason for having volunteers in Mississippi.
- d) Volunteers are also valuable in the dissemination of ideas and knowledge about current and/or on-going programs.
- e) Volunteers can also lend assistance in the efforts to organize the Negro community for some cohesive pattern of action.
- f) There are also many small duties or tasks which could be assigned to the volunteers.
- g) Volunteers are very much needed for emergency situations which may arise from time to time in Mississippi. They might be called upon as a deterrent to series of violent incidents or to participate in necessary demonstrations.