

November 7, 1964

Mrs. Lee Bankhead
P.O. Box 141
Cleveland, Miss.

Dear Lee,

Thanks for the letter. I'm not sure if this is what you want, but ~~I~~ I'll do my best. The stuff that's enclosed is the stuff we usually send to people. I have a list of "needs" which I prefer to the one on the back of the letter, but we're out, and the ~~mm~~ mimeograph machine is out of commission, so this will have to do. That's all the stuff we have about making contributions.

About the ~~mm~~ rules of raising money, it's simple in appearance, but complicated in reality. The rule is that field people CANNOT raise money on their own (the rule is actually that we in Jackson can't ~~either~~). However, until Atlanta and Jackson can actually provide the stuff that the projects need, I feel that we really don't have any right to prevent people from trying to solicit what they need. So you have to use your best judgement. If you know of people who have money, and would give it to us, use the following guide: Did you make these contacts through SNCC, or are they people who already contribute to SNCC? If so, you really shouldn't ask them for money, because it's robbing Peter to pay Paul, and it could result in misunderstandings, and in people getting angry and refusing to give anything at all. However, if the contact is not anybody who knows SNCC, or would be likely to give to SNCC--if it's really YOUR contact, and not SNCC's, I personally don't see anything wrong with asking. You're lucky in Cleveland, because Amzie Moore, Cynthia Washington, and (I think) Lois Rogers all have contacts of their own, and you yourself probably do if you have lived in New York. If you get any substantial contributions, either in money or supplies, you should in all fairness report it to us in Jackson, so that we can have a good ~~and~~ idea of what each project needs.

I hope this answers your questions satisfactorily. If not, ask again and I'll have another try at it. The main thing to keep in mind is that this is a relatively new problem, and we really don't have a hard-and-fast policy to deal with it.

Yours truly,

Lois Chaffee