

November 7, 1964

Mrs. Idessa Johnson
208 S. Edward St.
Clarksdale, Miss.

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Please accept my apologies for not answering sooner, and especially for not PRODUCING SOME MONEY sooner; I really feel bad that I haven't been able to get you some money. I reported your names and I have reminded Dave Dennis and Dick Jewett regularly since then, but the whole thing has been complicated by things happening in New York, and other problems. The first problem was that CORE went broke and didn't put anybody on staff ~~until~~ October 1, as they had promised. Then, Dave admits that he forgot about you. He has given the other people in your class 2 checks, amounting to \$20 since then, just to carry them along, until they were put on the payroll. Right now I'm trying to get you some emergency checks until they put people on the payroll. Again I apologize that I didn't get you any money before this, but I really did think that he had sent you a little bit.

The second problem is that CORE (and COFO) are in the process of changing the whole procedure of putting people on staff. They won't have any final decision for a few weeks yet, and so I really don't know what to tell you. They have changed it so that I can't just say to Dave Dennis, Put somebody on the payroll, and he says I OK, and they start getting checks. Until we find out what the new procedure is, though, I think this is the best thing to do. Write to Richard Haley, CORE, 2211 Dryades St., New Orleans, La., and tell them that you work in Clarksdale, that you would like to apply for the CORE Task Force, and that you have been working for a couple of months without money, and that you know me, and I ~~xxxx~~ asked you to write to him. ~~That~~ Jimmie Lou Tolbert should do the same thing.

Until we straighten this out about the payroll problem, please excuse the delay. If you do not want to work with us any more, please let me know, and I will understand. Also, if you have been able to get some money elsewhere, tell me, so I won't feel so bad. I will try to get you some emergency money soon. Also for Jimmie Lou.

Thanks for your patience. And again I'm sorry that I haven't been more help.
Yours truly,