



NORTH FLORIDA CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROJECT
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TO: Mr. Spiver Gordon, Field Secretary
Mr. Richard Haley, Southern Office Director, CORE

FROM: David S. McVoy, Task Force, Quincy, Florida

DATE: November 16, 1964

SUBJECT: Progress report for Gadsden county for the period
from November 5 to November 15, 1964

November 5 and 6 were spent in compiling statements concerning election day harassment and intimidation for the FBI and the Justice Department. A complete check of each of the precinct transportation team leaders was made, and complaint form collected. Also, a report from each area was made on money collected for gas for election day:

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|--|---------|-------------------|----------|
| Total spent on gas in Quincy | \$92.22 | | |
| Donated directly to filling stations | 33.97 | | |
| Donated to NFCEP | 26.24 | | |
| Donated by Civic Interest Group of Gadsden County | 53.47 | | |
| TOTAL SPENT | \$92.22 | TOTAL CONTRIBUTED | \$113.68 |

As I was at the CORE conference in Durham, N. C. from November 6 to November 8, nothing was done in Quincy during this period.

November 9, 10 and 11 were spent in planning programs for Gadsden County and Quincy. On November 9th, Mr. Elzie Carrol, a local volunteer, was to go to trial for an alleged election law violation. Mr. Coe, who came from Pensacola to handle the case, had the trial postponed until January of 1965.

On November 11 the task force was able to persuade Mrs. Stevens, a local resident of Quincy, to rent us the top floor of a large building on South Adams St., in the heart of Quincy. We were able to rent 6 rooms, one of which is being used as an office for NFCEP, one for the office and press room for the Florida Free Press, and the remaining four rooms were rented to Quincy CORE for use as a small community center. One of these four rooms is presently being used as a library, another as the Quincy CORE office, and one as a meeting and recreation room. The fourth room is unused as of now. The new center has attracted much attention in the community, and already over 300 people have visited us for information on CORE. The Quincy chapter has added several new members to its rolls, and many others have

volunteered their services to the task force. We are beginning to attract support from the lower economic levels of the community, and yet we are not losing support from the professional and business community. It seems that this location, in the Negro business area of town, provides a place where those who fear reprisals from the white community can come without danger.

The task force, together with Quincy CORE, has started a program of community organization, with a pilot program called "Operation Dialogue" planned to begin next Monday. The program involves door-to-door canvassing and conversation with residents of an area of Quincy comprising about 500 houses, and around 1200 potential voters. Canvassers will attempt to determine what issues are prevalent in the minds of the residents of this area and once each house has been covered, an issue, such as improved police protection of the area, or new streetlights, or paved streets, will be chosen. A second canvass will then be conducted, informing residents of a public meeting to be held at a centrally located church. At this meeting plans will be discussed, and proposals as to how the community can tackle their problems will be made. If, for example, paved streets emerges as the main issue, a loosely organized group, formed around this issue, could be organized, and officers elected in the public meeting mentioned above. Membership cards could be printed, and dues could be in the amount necessary to pave one street every 3 or 6 months (Quincy requires that residents pay a portion of street paving costs). The officers of this group could then meet with officers from other area groups to tackle problems concerning the entire Quincy Area.

If the pilot project is successful, those who have participated could carry the plan, altered in accordance with knowledge gained in the pilot project, to their individual areas of town. The success of the project can be gauged probably within a month, when the public meeting will be held.

The task force and local volunteers also did fund-raising in Quincy, and collected approximately \$80 on the 13th and 14th of November through speaking in bars and nightclubs and through door-to-door soliciting.

Respectfully submitted,

David S. McVoy
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Task Force, Florida