

May 26, 1965

Mr. Tom Hayden
194 Ridgewood Avenue
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Tom:

Well, after much discussion, trial and tribulation, plans have at last been finalized for SNCC's program for a Residential Freedom School. We have enclosed a prospectus so that you may get a better idea of the program and the reasoning behind it.

We are writing to you because of your involvement in the ghetto community of Newark and because of your experiences in this area.

We would like very much to have 4 young people from Newark as participants in this program. We feel that the teenagers who will be present at the "school" could benefit from the experiences of those coming from Newark and vice versa -- particularly in that other northern youth will be interested in the notion which has been created in Newark.

We have been asking that the preparation for the program be a community effort wherever possible and that the community from which they come be asked to help with the cost of transportation of the students. In this way you might involve the total community in this project, which would be followed up upon the return of the students when they would be able to relate to the community their experiences and feelings about the school. We would like the selection of those going to be up to the teenagers themselves. You should discuss with them the type of program they will be involved in and some of the questions they might want to discuss during the 6-week period. You should also begin to discuss with them what it means to them to plan their own program and to set their own rules. For it will take awhile to break down that, by now, well-enforced barrier that they are too young and "not qualified" to take on the responsibility of planning their own school.

We will need to know the names addresses and ages of the 4 who will be coming by June 10 in order to send them information and to get to know them a little.

If you have any questions at all or ideas which might be used in this program,

please include them in your return letter. Address the letter to:
Judy Richardson; 8¹/₂ Raymond Street; Atlanta 14, Ga. If the question
needs an immediate reply, call and leave word for her and she will try
and return the call on SNCC's special WATS line.

Thanks alot and expect to hear from you in the next few days...

Sincerely,

Judy Richardson
Sherron Jackson
Nancy Cooper

enc.

cc: Lucia Hatch
Prin. Freed. Center
170. Witherspoon St.
Prin., N.J.