

The Urban Coalition Report

December 1969

The Urban Coalition Calls For Health Care Reforms

The Urban Coalition has called for a combination of national and community action to bring about sweeping medical reforms aimed at improving health care for all Americans, particularly those in the cities.

In a comprehensive 76-page report prepared by its health task force, the Coalition maintained that while the United States spends a bigger proportion of its gross national product on health than any other country, its health services are inadequate. The report, *Rx for Action*, was prepared under the direction of Dr. George A. Silver, the Coalition's Executive Associate for Health.

According to the report, Americans spend more than \$53 billion annually on a "potpourri" of public and private health programs. If these funds were spent more efficiently, the report

concluded, many more people would be served and better services could be assured for all.

Poor health affects all Americans, regardless of income, the report said. Not only the poor, but middle income families, blue collar workers, welfare mothers, and all city residents—black, white and brown — suffer from substandard health care.

Community action, according to the Coalition, can generate more immediate improvement for its citizens than almost any national effort. Local successes would also stimulate needed national reforms.

The report urged the local urban coalitions that have been formed in nearly 50 cities to establish their own health task forces. But the Coalition emphasized that the study's findings and recommendations could be used in whole or in part by any local community organization concerned with the quality of health care.

These would include local chambers of commerce, labor and religious groups, local bus-



Dr. George A. Silver, Coalition Executive Associate for Health; John W. Gardner, Urban Coalition Chairman; and Dr. Roger O. Egeberg, Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs of HEW at press conference to announce *Rx for Action*.

nessmen and women's organizations. The same consultant and technical assistance services that the national Coalition intends to make available to its local health task forces would be available to these groups. The Urban Coalition will consult with the major voluntary health organizations to obtain their cooperation.

The Coalition also plans to meet in a series of regional health conferences with local coalitions and other groups.

The report decried the lack of participation of the poor and the non-poor in health services planning and said that no serious effort had yet been taken to train individuals outside of professional groups in this area.

"In both the long and short runs," the report stated, "advances in the health field depend on the will of the American people."

The study emphasized that the "middle-class white community has been too infrequently represented in hospital board membership and in public health bodies, or even on the boards of voluntary agencies."

It said that the poor, specifically blacks, Mexican-Americans and Puerto Ricans, had been left out of the decision-making process. The Coalition urged more representation from these people on hospital boards, health and welfare councils, insurance bodies and public health advisory councils.

Following are some of the principal findings and recommendations of the report:

Malnutrition: With estimates placing the yearly cost of the consequences of malnutrition to the economy at substantially more than the \$3-4 billion needed to eliminate hunger, coalitions should work to make more of the proper food more readily available to the public.

Environment: The well-being of the urban poor is being directly threatened by bad housing and air and water pollution. Citizens groups should be formed to educate the poor on such basic matters as housing and health code requirements, their legal rights to services, safety practices and rat and vermin control.

Access to Facilities: More local money is essential to help meet the need of the many communities for more health facilities. Transportation systems and emergency ambulance services could be studied to see if they are geared to the needs of the poor.

Interpreters: Interpreters could be used in clinics and information centers for Spanish-speaking people.

Occupational Health Clinics: Hospital boards could arrange for the development of occupa-

tional health clinics to serve local industry and provide advice for health and safety programs for working people from the local community.

Manpower Deficiencies: Through the system of routine volunteer assignments, medical societies could undertake to supply doctors in areas where sufficient numbers are not available. Sub-professionals could be trained to handle many of the duties involved in health care.

The Coalition's study emphasized that many local programs could be immediately launched without waiting for action by the Federal government. But it also pointed out that effective local action will always have to be supplemented and strengthened by effective Federal action. The report called for a national system of financing medical care costs that will give every American access to services without any economic barrier.

Dr. Roger O. Egeberg, who is the Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs, commented on the Coalition's recommendations. He said: "The country should be grateful to the Urban Coalition for this type of analysis of the nation's health needs, and planning for the nation's health services.

"The Coalition's proposal recognizes that solving the medical needs of America is not the job of the Federal government alone, but also requires effort and change by everyone."

In compiling its *Rx for Action* the health task force of the Urban Coalition has laid down a battle plan for the war against poor health care in the United States.

Copies are available from the Urban Coalition, 2100 M Street, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

New Members Added to Coalition Steering Committee

Fourteen new members have been added to the Steering Committee of the Urban Coalition. The new additions to the Coalition's policy-making body include businessmen, mayors, a state senator and a physician.

The new members announced by Urban Coalition Chairman John W. Gardner are:

State Senator Joe J. Bernal of San Antonio, Texas. Senator Bernal, an educator and social worker as well as a legislator, is executive director of the Guadalupe Community Center in San Antonio.

Mayor Frank Curran of San Diego, California. Mayor Curran is president of the National League of Cities.

Hector P. Garcia, M.D., a Corpus Christi, Texas physician and a former commissioner of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Ben W. Heineman of Chicago, president of Northwest Industries Inc. Heineman is chairman of the President's Commission on Income Maintenance.

Samuel C. Johnson, president of S. C. Johnson & Son Inc. and president of the Racine Environment Committee, a local urban coalition.

Mayor Eric Jonsso of Dallas.

Stephen F. Keating, president of Honeywell Inc., and former chairman of the Minneapolis Urban Coalition.

Donald M. Kendall, president of Pepsico, Inc., and chairman of the National Alliance of Businessmen, New York.

Mayor Richard Lugar of Indianapolis.

Donald S. MacNaughton, president of Prudential Insurance Co. and former chairman of the Newark Urban Coalition.

Mayor Jack D. Maltester of San Leandro, California. Maltester is also president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

James Roche, chairman of the board of General Motors Corp., and member of the board of trustees of the New Detroit Committee, an urban coalition.

H. I. Romnes, chairman of the board of AT&T, New York, Romnes is also vice-chairman of the National Industrial Conference Board and is a member of the Urban Coalition's task force on education.

Martin Stone, president of Monogram Industries Inc. and chairman of the Los Angeles Urban Coalition.

Mr. Gardner said the Urban Coalition adds to the Steering Committee periodically to assure broad and dynamic representation from the Coalition's constituent elements—local government, business, labor, minority groups and religion.



M. Carl Holman, vice-president of the Urban Coalition for Policy and Program Development; Peter Libassi, Coalition executive vice-president; and Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, former U.S. Attorney General and chairman of the Coalition's law and government task force discuss new approaches to the reform of the criminal justice system spelled out in the Coalition's report Taking the Blindfold off Justice.

Urban Coalition Action Council Supports Welfare Reform

"The time has come to discard the existing patchwork of ineffective and in many ways destructive public assistance programs. You have the opportunity to replace them with a national system of income maintenance that will help people to help themselves but preserve individual dignity in aiding those left behind by society."

With these words, John W. Gardner, Chairman of the Urban Coalition Action Council, began his testimony last month before the House Ways and Means Committee, which is considering President Nixon's proposals to reform the nation's public assistance programs.

At the same time, Mr. Gardner said the Urban Coalition and the Urban Coalition Action Council will give the issue top priority for the months ahead. "It is of the highest importance," he said, "that such lingering myths as the one that the poor in America are people who don't want to work—able-bodied loafers—be erased and that our public assistance programs be overhauled."

In his congressional testimony, Mr. Gardner termed the Administration's reform proposals "extremely important and on the whole well designed," but suggested strengthening them at several crucial points.

"If the proposals are accepted," he said, "the Federal government will for the first time in history accept responsibility for providing a minimum level of payment throughout the nation and for financing it. I would have been very proud had I been able to establish that principle during my tenure as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. It is an historic step."

Mr. Gardner also praised the proposals for their emphasis on children, their work incentive features and their greatly broadened coverage.

"Of special significance," he said, "is the inclusion of the working poor for the first time. The complete omission of the working poor is surely one of the strangest anomalies of the present system. A society which values work should surely make some provision for the six million adults who work full-time, year-round, and yet cannot earn enough to bring themselves above the poverty line."

"The strengths of the President's proposals," he said, "could lead us on to an immeasurably sounder and more equitable system of income maintenance. But if the promise of the propo-

sals is to be realized, they must be strengthened at a number of points," among them:

1. Provision should be made for "a nationwide increase in benefits to the poverty level over a specified period of time," with the \$1,600 floor proposed by the President serving as a starting point for a phased program.

2. "Adequate provision should be made for 'one-stop' administration of the proposed Federal-state system."

3. While "the improved benefits for the aged, disabled and blind are a welcome step," Mr. Gardner's statement said, "it may be that our ultimate goal should be a single income maintenance system which provides for uniform adequate assistance for all of our impoverished citizens, including needy individuals and couples without children."

4. "Given the elasticity of its tax base, and the economies of scale and efficiency offered by Federal administration, a shift of the welfare burden to the Federal government is clearly one means of resolving the fiscal dilemmas of state and local government."

5. The work requirement provisions of the legislation "should specify job standards and wage rates for 'suitable employment.'"

Finally, he said, "I would emphasize that there must be provisions for job creation, so that the training opportunities won't be a revolving door into continued unemployment. The ideal solution is a public service employment program."

While Mr. Gardner praised the work requirement proposals, he made it clear that there are limits to what can be expected of it.

"Many Americans sincerely believe that people living in poverty are people who don't want to work—or people who don't want *steady* work," he said. "In other words, able-bodied loafers. That is a long way from the truth. Of the 25 million persons living below the poverty line, 15 million are either under 18 or over 65."

"Of the remaining 10 million, nine million fall within the scope of the Administration's family assistance proposals (as being adults in poor families that include children).

"Let us look at that nine million. The Administration estimates that 7.9 million are already working, but earn too little to bring them above the poverty level, or are the wives of such men, or are disabled, or are women who must stay home because of very young children.

"That leaves 1.1 million adults who the Administration feels can significantly help themselves and would thus be required to register

for jobs or work training—600,000 men and 500,000 mothers of school-aged children.”

Mr. Gardner also emphasized that “no welfare program can cure underlying conditions.”

“The poverty that makes a public assistance program necessary,” he said, “is rooted in a variety of historical and contemporary conditions; discrimination, the pathology of the urban and rural slum, inadequate education, insufficient job opportunities in the locality, low pay in jobs not covered by the minimum wage, inadequate social insurance benefits, inadequate provisions for manpower training and so on.”

“If we are to get to the root of the problem we shall have to do so through education, health and nutrition programs, the creation of job opportunities, the elimination of slum conditions and similar measures.”

Mr. Gardner’s testimony, delivered by Ambassador George McGhee, special representative of the chairman, elaborated on the position taken in late June by the full Policy Council of the Urban Coalition Action Council.

Copies of Mr. Gardner’s testimony and of the Action Council booklet on welfare reform “Toward A Full Opportunity” are available from the Urban Coalition Action Council, 2100 M Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20037.

Coalition Begins Probe of Credit Practices to Low Income Consumers

A preliminary study which examines efforts by commercial banks, credit unions and retailers to make credit available to low-income consumers, has been made public by the national Urban Coalition. The study, entitled, “Consumer Credit and the Low Income Consumer,” was prepared after more than five months of field and research work by William G. Kaye & Associates, consultants in the area of consumer affairs.

A major finding showed that the poor can and do pay their bills. “The low-income consumer may at times encounter some difficulty in paying bills when due, but in the end, his performance in paying his full obligation is nearly as good as his more affluent suburban counterpart,” the report said.

The 105-page study formed the basis of a November meeting called by the Coalition to look at models that may be successful in extending credit to the poor. The meeting was chaired by Edward C. Sylvester, Jr., former Assistant Secretary in Community and Field Services, Department of Health, Education and



On a recent visit to the Greater Miami Urban Coalition, Chairman John Gardner met with Coalition leaders. He is shown here visiting with some of the minority representatives of the Miami Coalition.

Welfare, and attended by approximately 100 leaders from retailing, the poor, Federal agencies and the White House, banks, organized labor, social action groups, lawyers and consumer and credit organizations.

The report will be further considered at a series of regional meetings, the first of which took place in Minneapolis, December 7-8.

Mr. Kaye, former executive director of the President's Committee on Consumer Interests, stated that "Hopefully, this report—in addition to increasing the availability of low-income credit—will shed some light on the realities and mythologies about the performance of the low-income person in seeking, utilizing and repaying consumer loans and other forms of consumer credit."

Local Coalitions Get Fund-Raising Guidelines

Fund-raising guidelines will be the subject of two national Urban Coalition conferences for local coalition chairmen, fund-raising chairmen and executive directors.

At these "how-to-do-it" sessions members of the national Coalition's Financial Development Advisory Council and other experts will share their expertise in raising money—a vital ingredient behind any successful coalition program—with local leaders.

The first conference, to be held in Philadelphia in December, is for coalitions in the northeast and southeast regions. The other is planned for January for coalition representatives from the midwest and west.

Conference speakers will highlight the keys to successful fund-raising: identifying community leaders; developing a "case"; organizing volunteers for fund-raising, and the "nuts and bolts" of solicitation.

Based on these guidelines, workshops will enable coalition representatives to pinpoint areas for further guidance and to exchange experiences.

The 29-member Financial Development Advisory Council comprises top financial development officers from colleges and universities across the country. One of its primary roles is to counsel local coalitions in organizing successful fund-raising programs. Thus far Council members have individually advised coalitions in 13 cities.

Coalition staff support for the Advisory Council and national fund-raising efforts is pro-

vided by David M. Thompson, Assistant to the Chairman; Douglas Lawson, Financial Development Officer; and Walker Williams, Associate Financial Development Officer.

Newark Love Festival Salutes "The Summer Thing"

Through efforts of the Greater Newark Urban Coalition, New Jersey's largest city had a Love Festival on October 5th. A video tape replay of the event was shown on an hour-long, prime-time, NBC national telecast on November 14th.

Based on a series of free, outdoor concerts first given in Harlem, the Love Festival was brought to Newark by WNBC-TV, which secured the help of the Harlem Festival producer, Tony Lawrence. The Love Festival was WNBC's way of honoring Newark's Recreation Planning Council, better known as *The Summer Thing*.

The Newark Love Festival turned out to be quite an autumn event. It turned on as one of the largest happenings in the city's 302-year history. Between 70,000 and 100,000 "beautiful, beautiful people" attended.

Not a single incident marred the massive outdoor spectacular held in Newark's Weequahic Park. For six hours, rock bands, folk and soul singers, comedians and mod entertainers gave performances. Twenty thousand phonograph records were given away. WNBC said the Love Festival was "a major community relations project."

The community effort grew out of Newark Coalition president Gustav Heningburg's plea to New York television stations, just 10 miles away, to devote some coverage to Newark's brighter side. The city had received considerable adverse publicity since the 1967 riot. In response, WNBC-TV Channel 4, asked Heningburg to suggest an activity worth televising that might offset coverage of Newark's problems. Heningburg's recommendation was the Recreation Planning Council or *The Summer Thing*, a program which involves ghetto youth in recreational opportunities.

The Summer Thing was born in late May as Newark looked toward another long hot summer with little in the way of programs to offer out-of-school, inner-city youth.

Supported by the Newark Coalition's Steering Committee, Heningburg put together a prestigious, five-man, voluntary group of co-chairmen. It included both deputy mayors, Paul

Reilly and Lewis Perkins. The representative of business and industry was Al DeRogatis, a Prudential Insurance Company vice president and former football great. John Scagnelli, a vice president of the Council of Social Agencies, served as delegate for more than 150 United Fund agencies and State Assemblyman George Richardson, a black legislator, represented the coalition.

Office space was donated by the Newark Housing Authority. One of the local manpower programs donated office equipment. The Newark Chamber of Commerce agreed to raise \$234,000.

The Summer Thing contacted more than 100 community organizations asking them to submit their recreation proposals. Through careful screening and much negotiation, the co-chairmen approved 29 proposals for funding.

In less than six weeks, an office was set up, a volunteer staff was secured, work began on fund raising and a directory was compiled of more than 70 community-sponsored youth programs, public and private. A communications center was established to which anyone could call on any given day and get a listing of recreational activities going on in town. The center also published a daily newsletter listing special events of the day for distribution to almost 100 points in the city. Local radio station WNJR taped and broadcasted daily events all through the summer.

By the end of the summer, the Chamber of Commerce raised almost \$200,000. The Engelhard Foundation provided the first \$1,000 and an additional \$57,000 came from the New Jersey State Department of Community Affairs.

More than 50,000 youngsters participated in *The Summer Thing*. By Labor Day, it was clear that partially-polarized Newark could get diverse people to work together and get things done well and fast.

NBC, impressed with *The Summer Thing*, looked for a fitting salute. It hit upon the Love Festival concerts in Harlem that had attracted hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Tony Lawrence agreed to get the talent and WNBC promised to film the gala for television.

The Recreation Planning Council was asked to secure a suitable outdoor location and help attract crowds that would reflect the black/white cooperation that made *The Summer Thing* so meaningful to Newark.

In a scant three weeks, hundreds of details had to be handled. For the first time, the Newark police cooperated with the Black Panthers in crowd control. The city administration and

participation of social agencies "was a joy to behold," stated Heningburg. Medical school interns worked with welfare mothers, hip teenagers manned lost and found stations with senior citizens, radical students and conservative professionals joined hands to organize shuttle buses. Ideological, age, language, and racial differences seemed unimportant and for that afternoon friendship, love and pride prevailed and *everybody* "Gave A Damn!"

Shortly after the November 14th national telecast, Gus Heningburg went down to Fayette, Mississippi to help black Mayor Charles Evers plan a Thanksgiving Day, Love Festival for his town.

New Jersey Newsphotos



Gustav Heningburg, president of the Greater Newark Urban Coalition at the Newark Love Festival.

Call For Action Director Named

R. Alexander Grant, the former national director of recruitment for VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America), has been named as the Executive Director of "Call for Action".

"Call for Action" is a project in cooperation with the national Urban Coalition, and is operated by a radio station and a staff of volunteers in a number of cities.

Mr. Grant was born in Newark, N. J. in 1933. He has a B. A. from Bloomfield College and an M. A. from Montclair State College.

In announcing Mr. Grant's appointment, John W. Gardner, the Coalition's Chairman, said the Coalition hoped to have "Call for Action" programs working in 8-10 cities throughout the country by the end of the year.

Under the project, individuals may call local radio stations for referral to the proper agencies for help with such problems as poor housing, crime, narcotics, hospital care and sanitation disposal.

"Call for Action" was begun at radio station WMCA in New York City by Mrs. R. Peter Straus, wife of the station's owner and co-chairman of the nationwide program.

The project is now on the air in New York, Chicago, Denver and Utica.

Mr. Grant's duties will include policy formulation and coordination for the various "Call for Action" projects.



R. Alexander Grant

Grass Roots News

The Greater Kansas City Urban Coalition has inaugurated a program of tours of the inner-city to give interested citizens, particularly white suburbanites, a first hand view of inner-city housing, schools, business development and recreation facilities. Small groups travel in a modified bus, are given a running description of inner-city conditions, and told of the activities of the Urban Coalition. The tours began with the Greater Kansas City Urban Coalition board of directors and has since included members of the Real Estate Board and service clubs.

The Greater Kansas City Urban Coalition has formed a women's task force, believed to be the first such among local coalitions. The task force is involved in a project with the Welfare Rights Organization and will concentrate in the housing field in 1970.

The Greater Kansas City Urban Coalition is publishing a voter information booklet for the January 20 school board elections, reviewing the qualifications of the candidates and containing their views on key issues.

The new South Bend Urban Coalition already has received preliminary reports from five task forces and this month expects final reports outlining action programs for 1970. The task forces are for education, housing, employment, racial attitudes and conflict, and youth.

Mayor Carl Stokes of Cleveland has announced plans for a "Call for Action" program on station WERE under the coordination of the Cleveland Urban Coalition. "Call for Action" programs, now in operation in several cities, enable listeners to call volunteers at the station to register complaints about deficient city services. The Cleveland program will begin early in 1970.

The Urban Coalition of Minneapolis has a new president, Phillip Harder, senior vice president of the First National Bank. He succeeds Dean McNeal, vice president of the Pillsbury Company, whose term expired.

The Mayor of Winston-Salem, North Carolina proclaimed the week of December 8-12 as "Family and Child Development Week" in conjunction with a project sponsored by the Day Care Association of the Urban Coalition with the co-operation of other child-related agencies. Symposiums on child development and educa-

tion were held throughout the week for parents, school administrators, businessmen, representatives from social service agencies and other interested groups.

The housing task force of the Greater Miami Coalition has completed development of a curriculum for a new course offered at the University of Miami on housing management. The 15-week course followed by on-the-job-training will open up new careers for disadvantaged persons in the management of housing complexes. Key feature of the plan is job commitments for those finishing the course.

The El Paso (Tex.) Urban Coalition has been holding open forums each month on problems affecting the El Paso community. The forums, officially known as Area Council Meetings for Public Information, have dealt with such matters as police protection, street paving, housing, schools and public safety.

The Riverside (Calif.) Coalition, under its vivacious and energetic executive director, Mrs. Ruth Pepe, has convinced the school system that it doesn't have to keep going to such far-away places as Arizona and Texas to hire minority teachers. Through a program set up as a result of coalition efforts five black instructors have been trained and hired from within the Riverside community.

The bail reform program of the Riverside Coalition, operating since mid-September, has reduced the average length of jail stay from 37 to 4 days. Five coalition representatives were among the Riverside officials attending the national Coalition's briefing on new approaches to criminal justice in New York in April; liked what they saw, convinced the Riverside police department to give bail reform a try and since its inception, nearly 60 persons have been released on their own recognizance under the project.

In San Ysidro (Calif.), a small, green colored stucco house has been converted into a health clinic for some 7,000 Mexican-Americans. The clinic treats about 150 persons a week and operates with one full-time nurse, Miss Jeannie Powers. The San Diego Coalition played a major role in creating the clinic and also refurbished and furnished the entire house.

In San Antonio, (Tex.) the coalition has formed a group that it calls the "clearinghouse committee." The committee is interviewing ghetto residents

to determine their major grievances. This information is presented to the businessmen on the coalition's steering committee, who then take it to the city agency that can do something about the problems uncovered in the interviews.

Three VISTA lawyers, working under a program co-sponsored by the national Urban Coalition began working in Denver in mid-October. They're working on bail reform.

"Call for Action" got off to an action packed start in Denver in late October with radio station KLZ getting about 150 calls in its first week of operation.

New Urban Coalitions

Since the end of the summer local coalitions have sprung up all over the map. The five newest are South Bend, Rhode Island, Wilmington, El Paso and Chattanooga.

Officially the South Bend (Ind.) coalition is known as the St. Joseph County Urban Coalition. The local Chamber of Commerce in South Bend is staffing the coalition while the search goes on for a full-time executive director. The coalition's chairman is Frank Sullivan, chairman of the board of Frank Sullivan Associates, an insurance firm.

Rhode Island shows there may be some advantages to being small, at least in the sense of coalition. The Rhode Island coalition is the only statewide coalition. It has an executive director-designate, Anthony Agostinelli and a president, Elwood E. Leonard Jr. Leonard is president of the H & H Screw Company, and also chairman of the United Fund Drive.

Wilmington (Del.) is looking for an executive director. Rodney Layton, a Wilmington attorney and vice-chairman of the United Fund in that city is chairman of the new coalition.

In the west Texas town of El Paso they call the coalition the Council for Social Action because that was what it was called before it became a local urban coalition in the beginning of September. Three weeks after it was recognized as a coalition by the national, William Pearson, El Paso's executive director was in Washington with 30 other local executive directors. They met with John W. Gardner.

The Reverend James I. Oliver is the chairman of the coalition, which is the third in Texas.

The others are San Antonio and Corpus Christi.

In Chattanooga they had to wait more than two years before a coalition was actually formed. Interest in creating a coalition in that southern city began with the August 1967 convocation of 1,200 of the nation's leaders that gave birth to the national Urban Coalition.

Co-chairmen of the new Chattanooga coalition are John Slack, general manager of Com-

bustion Engineering and Roy Noel, city youth coordinator. One of the members of the Steering Committee is Mrs. Ruth S. Golden, publisher of the *Chattanooga Times* and sister-in-law of Andrew Heiskell, chairman of the board of Time, Inc. and co-chairman of the national Urban Coalition.

See page 11 for complete list of established urban coalitions.

Miami Case Study

Last fall there were some 340 serious disturbances in high schools in 38 states. One of the most serious—in terms of potential consequences—occurred in Dade County (Miami), Florida, where an integration dispute at Palmetto High School threatened to escalate into a black student boycott of the entire school system.

Trouble was averted, however, when the school board asked the Greater Miami Coalition to step in, establish the facts and make recommendations. A panel of inquiry named by the Coalition did so—quickly and decisively. Its report resulted in important reforms not only at Palmetto, but at other schools in the district, prompting one newspaper editor to comment that “a major breakthrough in better race relations” had been made in Miami education.

A case study of the episode and its aftermath will be published by the Urban Coalition this year. The study will describe the dispute, its resolution, and the key role played by the Greater Miami Coalition.

Copies will be available from the national office of the Urban Coalition.



Miami Coalition Panel of Inquiry members Garth Reeves, publisher of the Miami Times; Henry King Stanford, president of the University of Miami; and John Halliburton, president of the Greater Miami Urban Coalition and a vice president of Eastern Airlines.

What They Are Saying

Frederick J. Close, chairman of the board of the Aluminum Company of America, to the annual meeting of the American Mining Congress:

“All [urban coalitions] offer the businessman a unique opportunity to involve himself in a grass-roots, down-to-earth operation that enables him to apply his problem-solving abilities to problems that demand solution as much as they often seem to defy it. They help him to really understand what the problems are and what it will take to get at them. In short, they give the businessman a chance to show that our system can work for everybody. It's a chance that many more businessmen ought to take. I think they are taking a far bigger chance if they don't.”

Ambassador George C. McGhee, special representative of the chairman, the Urban Coalition, to the St. Louis Round Table:

“A turn-around must be made and a start towards a reordering of the priorities which will bring up to adequate levels the basic requirements for our national life. In this process other public expenditures, which have hitherto enjoyed high priorities, must be reduced.”

Charles W. Bowser, executive director of the Philadelphia Urban Coalition, to a conference of the National Municipal League:

“The direct involvement of the corporate citizen in the initiation and formation of the national Urban Coalition was clear evidence that the corporate commitment to help was emanating from self-interest, rather than the traditional charitable concern. This recognition of self-interest in the solution of the nation's urban problems is, in my opinion, the most dramatic result of the urban crisis of the sixties.”

Martin Stone, chairman of the board of Monogram Industries Inc. and chairman of the Greater Los Angeles Urban Coalition, at com-

mencement exercises of Immaculate Heart College:

"Each day that we postpone reconciliation of our actions with objectives motivated by a desire to restore quality of life to our nation, we come a step closer to inevitably extremist solutions. Almost invariably we hide our heads in the sand until our problems become crises which cannot be solved without painfully extreme remedies."

Charles B. Wade Jr., vice president of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco and chairman of the education committee of the Winston-Salem Urban Coalition, at the First Anniversary Meeting of the Norfolk Urban Coalition:

"Leadership is an attitude, an ability to size up a situation, and then make a decisive move rather than sitting back and doing something after the fact. It's easy to find leaders after something happens, they rise to the occasion, but it's something else to marshal people with foresight, with the ability to see an oncoming crisis and make a concrete move for the good of the community to avoid a potential problem."

Arthur Naftalin, professor of public affairs, University of Minnesota, former mayor of Minneapolis, and Coalition Steering Committee member, to the conference of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials:

"A few months ago the housing authority submitted a request to the city council to increase from 250 to 500 the number of homes it might acquire under the low-rent housing program for scattered site housing and that acquisition be permitted citywide. The council approved the increase but refused to allow citywide acquisition, restricting the program to officially-declared renewal areas. This action struck me as a rather open act of discrimination and I vetoed the entire measure, risking the loss of the additional units. At this point our Urban Coalition of Minneapolis, in which many top business leaders actively participate, called upon the council to sustain my veto and to accede to the authority's original request. The council accepted the coalition's urging and we accomplished a social gain that simply would not have been possible without the interest of key businessmen. We may be the only city in the nation in which public housing is possible on an unrestricted city-wide basis..."

Established Local Urban Coalitions

California

Fresno
Los Angeles
Pasadena
Riverside
Sacramento
San Diego
San Jose
Stanford Mid-Peninsula

Colorado

Denver

Connecticut

Bridgeport
Hartford
Stamford

Delaware

Wilmington

District of Columbia

Florida

Miami

Illinois

Springfield

Indiana

Gary
South Bend

Louisiana

New Orleans

Maryland

Baltimore

Massachusetts

New Bedford
Pittsfield

Michigan

Detroit
Saginaw

Minnesota

Minneapolis
St. Paul

Missouri

Kansas City

New Jersey

Montclair
Newark
Plainfield

New York

New York
Niagara Falls
Westchester County

North Carolina

Winston-Salem

Ohio

Cleveland
Lima

Oregon

Portland

Pennsylvania

Erie
Harrisburg
Philadelphia
Reading

Rhode Island

Tennessee

Chattanooga

Texas

Corpus Christi
El Paso
San Antonio

Virginia

Norfolk

Washington

Tacoma

Wisconsin

Racine

Report

The Urban Coalition 2100 M Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20037

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Washington, D.C.
Permit No. 43234

Third Class

MR. DAN SWEAT
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY HALL
ATLANTA, GA 30303