

September 20, 1968

Mr. Thomas M. Farham, Executive Administrator
Economic OPPORTUNITY Atlanta, Incorporated
101 Marietta Street Building, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Farham:

Following John Gardner's appointment as Chairman of the Urban Coalition, Acting Office of Economic OPPORTUNITY Director Bertrand M. Harding and his staff have opened up communication between OEO and the Coalition. We think this can be very productive for both sides, and look forward to increased communication and understanding.

Wherever possible, the Urban Coalition will be supporting, through mobilization of talent, publicity and other means, those programs which it feels are important to America's cities. The Coalition has expressed an interest in supporting community action agencies and it should be understood that it is not the intention of the Urban Coalition to operate programs which will be competitive with community action agencies. Hopefully the community action agency will enlist the support of the Urban Coalition wherever one exists. I am sure that you can readily think of a number of areas where cooperation might be sought. John Gardner has written the Coalition leaders locally to suggest they cooperate with you.

You have, no doubt, received materials on the Urban Coalition, and we are working to set up a continuing process whereby you can be kept informed of Urban Coalition affairs.

If you have questions or comments or need for additional materials, please let me know. I think development of the Urban Coalition provides us with a great OPPORTUNITY for increased support for our programs, and I hope that you will be able to develop a good program for cooperation wherever possible.

We would appreciate a brief summary of past or projected cooperative efforts resulting from your conferences with Mr. Dan Sweet who represents Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. in matters relating to the Urban Coalition.

Sincerely,

Thomas V. Rafferty
District Supervisor, Georgia
Community Action Division

cc: Thomas Cosgrove
Dan Sweet
SE Regional Desk
State EO Office