


ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

February 3, 1968



MULTI-PURPOSE TRAINING CENTER

PHONE 404-523-4303

Mayor Ivan Allen
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen:

During the past six weeks, members of Atlanta University OEO Multi-Purpose Training Center have received training at the Frank Riessman New Careers Laboratory of New York University. We are excited over the possibility of the new careers strategy for moving poor people out of poverty.

Basically, the new careers idea provides an alternative avenue to the present credentials system based on high school diploma and other degrees for the achievement of professional and skilled positions. The approach requires that individuals be employed in a position with the existence of a career ladder, training and education, both in educational institutions and on the job. For individuals who have dropped out of the school system and who are hostile toward returning to it, this program seems to be a major opportunity.

While the new careers approach is being tested in several major cities throughout the country, we feel that it is advisable to make key individuals in the Southeastern Region familiar with the approach. Accordingly, the Atlanta University OEO Multi-Purpose Training Center is interested in the possibility of a joint community action agencies and industry conference on the new careers strategy. Dr. Riessman has assured us of support and participation from his staff.

This letter invites you or a designated person to serve on the planning committee for the regional conference.

The planning committee will be concerned with the following items:

1. The desirability and feasibility of such a conference;
2. The conference participants;
3. Time and place;
4. Program content; and
5. Conference follow-up procedures.



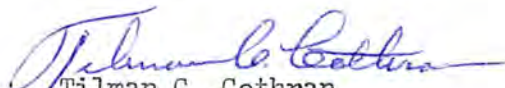
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The new careers approach seems to be an excellent strategy for cooperating with President Johnson's request of industry to employ hard core poor people, and for helping community action agencies, welfare departments, boards of education, health departments, and other large public and private agencies, to provide career ladders vis-a-vis deadend jobs for the poor.

Your early response to this invitation will be appreciated greatly.

Sincerely yours,



Tilman C. Cothran
Director Multi-Purpose
Training Center

TCC:mk

Sent to:

Mr. James Parham
Mr. W.L. Montague
Mr. Wm. Norwood
Mr. Donald Hollowell
Mr. John Dean
Mr. Clarence Coleman