

Inglewood Proposal

It seems to me that the question to be resolved is whether or not the NLC/USCM is willing to give staff support to a section or division of Intergovernmental Coordinators in the field of federal aid for the purpose of facilitating exchange of information on a continuing basis and organizing workshops to assist interested persons to become informed about new programs and changes in existing programs.

If such is true, it is proposed that the initial format of such a grouping within the joint NLC/USCM program would be an open roster with efforts made to identify the individual who is most directly concerned for the liaison with federal officials in the submission and review of applications.

In addition to the dissemination of information among these people, the purpose of such workshops and meetings will be to help make existing or new programs more workable at the level of implementation.

In order to provide continuity and facilitate response on urgent issues, an Intergovernmental Coordinators committee would be formed to provide a representative and an alternate from each of the federal regions. The delegate and alternate would be selected at a duly called meeting or election of the representatives on the NLC/USCM roster of federal aid coordinators from each region or, if such representatives are not so named, to be appointed from the region by the committee which is so formed. A chairman would be elected by the committee to serve as spokesman

and convener of all meetings. The committee would advise the staff on workshop attendance and request interim meetings with pertinent federal and other representatives to cover topics of concern.

The function of forming such a grouping is not to establish a new professional organization, but to identify a mechanism by which intergovernmental or federal aid coordinators can identify within the framework of the NLC/USCM. Such mechanism is also hoped to provide a vehicle for intergovernmental or federal aid coordinators to speak with a semblance of unity in reacting to staff proposals and making recommendations on federal programs.