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1. Assisting the business sector in developing practical techniques and mechanisms of expanding private employment opportunities for central city residents.
2. Encouraging and assisting the private sector in developing specific community-wide programs and resources necessary to make an impact on unemployment and underemployment.
3. Increasing and broadening the involvement and commitment of business, labor and civil leadership in implementing the Statement of Principles, Goals, and Commitments of the Urban Coalition.

The Task Force is taking the following actions to implement these three goals:

1. Making field visits to several communities to assess current conditions.
2. Working with local leaders in launching specific programs in three cities: Atlanta, Baltimore and Detroit.
3. Planning for a national conference of representatives from at least 50 local private employment task forces to exchange experience and enlarge the national effort.
4. Creating a Technical Working Group of key persons from personnel, labor, education, training, civic groups, and manpower research. This group will be available to both the Task Force at the national level and to local counterpart task forces.
5. Inviting additional interested leaders from business, labor, religion, education, training, civil rights, and local government to work with the Task Force.

Although the Task Force is addressing itself to problems on the national level much of the success of the program will depend on the development of local private employment task forces, and the commitments made by the private sector. Thus, the discussion on private employment might well focus on organizing the private sector for action on the local level.

The local task forces should consist of high-level leadership from a cross section of the private sector and have sufficient resources, including staff, to develop and implement programs. The task force should function as a working committee, although the actual duties may be assigned to staff personnel and specialists.

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Since each community may wish to approach the problem differently, appropriate information should be developed to assist the task force on priorities and programs. A program of action for a local task force could be as follows:

1. An assessment of the unemployment and underemployment problems in the community.
2. An inventory of manpower programs in operation.
3. Development of programs to meet the unfilled needs.
4. Continuous evaluation and reporting of the progress and problems in the community.

III. HOUSING

The Urban Coalition has two Task Forces in the housing and reconstruction area. The Reconstruction Task Force is currently developing a long-range program aimed at increasing investment in center-city areas and at expanding housing available for lower-income families. The Equal Opportunities in Housing Task Force is working out a program with local fair housing committees and with key elements in the real estate, development and mortgage institutions.

IV. PUBLIC SUPPORT

The Task Force on Communications and Public Support is currently working out a program aimed at launching a national educational campaign through the Advertising Council. In addition, individual efforts are being lunched with key elements of the mass media aimed at emphasizing the nature of the urban crisis. Local counterpart task forces can greatly assist this effort and should, if possible, directly and personally involve representatives of the mass media on a local basis.

V. LOCAL COALITIONS

See Discussion Paper and Guidelines for Local Coalitions

VI. DISCUSSION PROCEDURES

We are expecting approximately 300 participants drawn from fifty to sixty communities. Most will not have gone very far toward organizing local coalition activities. The participants will be divided into five workshop groups. Each discussion group will have a chairman and four resource consultants. It is expected that each discussion group will address itself to two topics in the morning workshops (the review of the national legislative picture affecting cities and a review of opportunities for and methods of expanding private employment) and two topics in the afternoon (housing and reconstruction problems and ways of developing public support and local coalitions).

There are only two key concerns that the National Steering Committee now has concerning local coalitions. One is that we expect them to take different forms because of local conditions and the other is that we expect their governing boards to be representative, including the elements represented on the National Steering Committee (business, labor, local government, religion, civil rights and education). Our official view is that we expect local coalitions to include leadership from the ghettos and barrios. Two representatives from local coalitions will be elected to serve on the Steering Committee by a Council of Urban Coalitions to be formed later this year.

Local coalitions, local task forces and special projects sponsored by the national task forces will provide full opportunity for the participation of interested citizens in achieving the goals of the Coalition. The posture of the Steering Committee is that we welcome support for the Statement of Principles, Goals, and Commitments and we expect local coalitions to expand on these principles through local efforts and in consultation with the National Steering Committee through the Council of Urban Coalitions.

The workshop chairmen and resource consultants should stress the importance of mobilizing national support for a greater allocation of both public and private resources to deal with the problems of the center-cities. The resource people bear an especially heavy responsibility--to interpret the enormity and complexity of this undertaking. Stress must be placed on the fact that Congress is currently not responding to the need as the Coalition sees it. While encouraging the expansion of private initiative, stress must be placed on the critical importance of public policy, equal opportunity and federal dollars.

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A sense of urgency must be maintained at the same time that recognition is given to the difficulties and negatives in the present national climate. It must be made clear that the National Steering Committee exists primarily to assist local communities to mobilize public opinion and public support for Congressional action on the one hand and a speed-up of private initiative on both the national and local levels on the other.