

M E M O R A N D U M

November 23, 1966

TO: Irving Kaler
FROM: Grace Hamilton

Congratulations on your new responsibility as Chairman of the Community Relations Commission. There are opportunities ahead and I believe that much depends upon the quality and competence of the person selected as Executive Director. It seems to me that a first objective might be to consider someone who has had working experience with one of the better municipal community relations commissions. The difficulty is that such a person would probably require a larger salary and operating budget than is likely to be available here as a beginning.

George Culbertson, who is presently a member of the Community Relations Service staff, Washington, D.C. would be such a person. He would be excellent if available. Before going to the Community Relations Service, he was a staff member of the Pittsburgh Human Relations Commission. He was one of the founders of NAIRO (National Association of Intergroup Relations Officials). I understand that the Pittsburgh operation is among the better ones.

Mr. Joe Hendricks, who is presently Dean of Men at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, is another person who ^{might} be considered. His origins are Talbotton, Georgia and he has an undergraduate degree from Mercer with further graduate work somewhere. I understand that he was invited to be the Chairman of the Georgia Civil Rights Advisory Commission but declined. He is well acquainted with the communities in the State, is personable and bright. He is presently the volunteer Chairman of the Georgia Council on Human Relations. He perhaps would be more able to consider the position with the salary which is available.

A third suggestion is Paul Rilling, who is now the Director of the Human Relations Commission in the District of Columbia. You may remember him from his work in Atlanta 4 or 5 years ago. He served for a while as Director of Field Services with the Southern Regional Council and before that was the Director of a human relations special project of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., Southern Field.

Irving Kaler

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It occurs to me that there might be value in seeking executive direction from someone not presently associated with any of the community relation organizations or agencies working in the City for several reasons. In the first place, we have an opportunity here to add additional professional leadership to the community and; secondly, the work of the Commission will obviously require the utmost of cooperation and support on the part of all of the existing organizations and agencies interested in this field of endeavor.

I pass these ideas on for whatever worth they may be. If there are ever any ways in which I can be helpful, please call upon me.

Sincerely your friend.

GTH:eo

BCC: Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. and Dan Sweat