

January 3, 1968

MEMORANDUM

TO: URBAN COALITION STEERING COMMITTEE

FROM: TASK FORCE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING

SUBJECT: TASK FORCE PROGRAM AND OBJECTIVES

The organization of the Task Force on Equal Opportunity in Housing launched the program for achieving metropolitan open occupancy in our nation's urban centers. The initial activity of the Task Force has concentrated on planning for a national action conference to be held in Chicago, January 18, 1968.

Invitees will include all local coalition representatives and related individuals in housing, home finance, real estate, construction, insurance and fair housing groups. Task Force Co-Chairmen James Cook and Whitney Young, Jr. will address the opening session and the luncheon session respectively.

Four concurrent workshops have been planned for the Action Conference:

- I. Fair Housing Legislation
 - a. Securing federal, state and local laws
 - b. Strengthening existing fair housing laws
 - c. Effective enforcement
 - d. Meaningful use of administrative powers
--federal, state and local.
- II. Suburban housing development for low and moderate needs.
- III. Role of voluntary programs to achieve fair housing.
- IV. Strategy of metropolitan coalition for fair housing.

The January 18th conference is viewed as the Urban Coalition's stepped-up efforts in behalf of equal opportunity in housing. Outstanding experts on the above topics are being recruited for participation in the workshop sessions. It is expected that attendance at the conference will approximate 300 persons.

Of necessity this Task Force must relate not only to the other Task Forces in a traditional sense, but of more importance is its relation to the Task Force on Housing, Reconstruction and Investment since the latter includes housing as an important element in its framework.

It is probable that none of the Task Forces have as much of a metropolitan outreach as the Task Force on Equal Opportunity in Housing. Hence, the need to identify, mobilize and activate all of the resources beyond the central city in behalf of the Task Force's goals.