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Mayor Ivan Allen  
City Hall  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen:

I would like to congratulate you on the fine way you handled the riot last Tuesday.

I have a suggestion for you and the city of Atlanta which might further help the people in our underprivileged neighborhoods. I lived in Houston, Texas, until a year ago and that is where I saw this highly successful project. It is a plan to help people help themselves. This, in my opinion, should be the basic philosophy in helping anybody in need.

In Houston they have established Neighborhood Centers Association of Houston and Harris County. They have a fabulous program for the adults and children in many neighborhoods in Houston. The staff of N.C.A. go directly into housing projects and work with the people to help them help themselves. I could write pages about this program but if you are interested, I have a book Neighborhood Doorways by Corrine S. Tsanoff which explains the whole project in great detail. I also have a paper I wrote in college in 1963 on this subject based on personal visits to the various areas. You might be interested in seeing them as an idea for a future project in Atlanta. You might already have a similar program which I do not know about. If so, you can forget this. Or, you can borrow the book and paper if you are interested and use them for new ideas.

I hope that I can offer some help in this area of great need. If you would like to see the book and paper, please write or call me and I will bring or mail them to you.

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. Marshall S. Solomon