

NATIONAL STUDENT COUNCILS OF YMCAs and YWCAs

Below you will find information about the seven major organizations in the current drive toward extending civil rights to all citizens. You may wish to write to them for information.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
20 W. 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Roy Wilkins - Executive Secretary

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was founded in 1909 by sixty Negro and white citizens to work for full equality for American Negroes. Today, it is the nation's largest civil rights organization with nearly 400,000 members in 49 states and the District of Columbia. The Association's program today makes four main points: (1) enforcement of constitutional rights in both state and federal courts; (2) enactment of laws at all levels of government to protect civil rights and ban racial discrimination; (3) educational projects to create a climate of opinion favorable to equal rights and human brotherhood; and (4) direct action such as selective buying campaigns, sit-ins, picketing, and demonstrations.

N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.
10 Columbus Circle, New York 19, N. Y.

Jack Greenberg - General Counsel

The N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense and Educational Fund is currently handling virtually all of the civil rights cases in the South (with the exception of government-directed voting suits). This includes cases arising out of the civil rights activities of all the major organizations, including CORE, the N.A.A.C.P., the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and cases growing out of community action such as the Albany (Georgia) Movement, as well as individually initiated actions. Since its formation in 1940, the Fund has been responsible for most of the major cases resulting in decisions establishing basic principles of civil rights in education (Brown v. Board of Education), voting (the White Primary cases), transportation (the Freedom Rider cases), housing and recreation. The Legal Defense Fund has more than 120 cases now pending in state and federal courts, involving representation of more than 6500 individuals.

Congress of Racial Equality
38 Park Row, New York 38, N. Y.

James Farmer - National Director

CORE (The Congress of Racial Equality) is a national, interracial civil rights organization using the methods of nonviolent, direct action. Since 1942 it has pioneered in the development of these methods to end discrimination in public accommodations, employment, housing, and education. CORE has trained many of the Southern student sit-in leaders in nonviolent direct action. CORE initiated, organized and directed the Freedom Rides which desegregated transportation terminals and brought renewed vigor to the civil rights movement in the hard core areas of the deep South. In the North, CORE has developed action techniques to combat discrimination in apartments and home developments. CORE now has 61,000 members and some 75 chapters.

Southern Christian Leadership Conference
334 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta 3, Georgia

Martin Luther King, Jr. - President

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference was organized in 1957 by 100 Southern clergymen who were involved in nonviolent protest movements. Presently, SCLC is composed of 85 local affiliates - each bearing its own name and determining its own policy within the framework of nonviolence. SCLC also assists in local movement which calls for help in voter registration, direct action or leadership training (through the Citizenship Education Program). The goal of SCLC is to redeem the soul of America by securing the right of the ballot for every American citizen, and working toward the integration of the Negro into every aspect of American life.

Youth Emergency Fund of the National Council of Negro Women
1318 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Dorothy I. Height - National President

Heads of national women's organizations affiliated in the National Council of Negro Women have set up a Youth Emergency Fund to coordinate their efforts to undergird the work that must be done by those on the front lines of the freedom struggle. Women's groups in the immediate communities where demonstrations are under way band together to give the services needed. Their task is fourfold (1) to administer to the needs of youth, to relieve human suffering; (2) to maintain a vigilance on the jails, particularly the facilities for women; (3) to give assistance to young people away from home, especially girls and (4) to serve as local counterparts for constant contact and services as the needs of youth arise. Such needs as food, clothing, housing, personal assistance and personal necessities are provided in the effort to alleviate human distress.

National Urban League, Inc.
14 E. 48th Street, New York 17, N.Y.

Whitney M. Young, Jr. - Executive Director

The Urban League, founded in 1910, is a professional community service agency which seeks to secure for Negro citizens equal opportunity in employment, education and youth incentives, housing, health and social welfare, in order that they may share equitably in the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. It is interracial in its staff and volunteer leadership and operates in 65 strategic American cities, serving 77% of the urban Negro population. The League is nonprofit and nonpartisan and employs the methods of fact-finding, public education, negotiation and persuasion to achieve its goals.

Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (1960) SNCC
6 Raymond Street, Atlanta, Georgia

James Forman - Executive Director

The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee grew out of a meeting of Southern students called by SCLC, to become a direct action coordinating agency of the sit-in movement. It functioned originally as a loosely-knit, decentralized coordinating unit composed of representatives from the 13 Southern states, the U. S. National Student Association, the National Student Christian Federation, with observers from other interested organizations. In the summer of 1961 its objectives were redefined to promote a future program of mass action and a concentration on voter registration.