

2-6-70
2011 Seward
Evansville, Ill.
60202

Dear Mrs. Wms

I haven't rec'd your letter as yet but at any rate I won't be able to come. My husband was in a car accident and is hospitalized. I can't leave him now.

Please see to it that Mr. Cheek receives this money order as installment on the fine if they will not release my bond money. If they do release the bond advise him to add whatever fine costs necessary.

In any case tell him to go ahead with what we planned on Sunday as far as

the fine is concerned.
I hate to bother you
with this but I do
not know his address
and the time is
very close. In the
event that ~~you~~ you
or he should need
to call me my
phone no. is 869-3598
area code 312.

Thank you,
Ernestine

M. Ford
Miller Avenue
Chaffee, New York
14030

October 5, 1971

Dear Idessa,

Today I ran across your Christmas card from last December and I got to thinking about how friends hear from each other so seldom-Christmas, New Years etc. It seems a shame that so many people who have worked together in days past in the Movement lose track of each other.

I don't believe I have seen you since June of 1966 when we met on the Tougaloo College grounds the night before we marched on Jackson on the final leg of the Meredith Mississippi March. I think I may have told you on previous occasions of correspondence that since then I have participated only as a resident of Resurrection City, sent some money to Greene County, Alabama and marched in a couple of Peace demonstrations in Washington, D.C. and one here in Buffalo, New York. I guess that I have become an old retired war horse. Lately, I have received a request from a man in Mississippi for help in getting started with a Co-Op project in his county. I called the New York N.A.A.C.P. of which I am a life member and through them, I was able to refer him to his local N.A.A.C.P. However, they are slow in getting started at this local office. They are under-staffed and need help. This man wants me eventually to come down there and help out. At the moment I really don't know what I could do as there is presently no organization and no money. We will see what happens after the local lawyer takes the necessary steps.

I would like to hear from you when it is convenient to you as regards what is happening in Alabama these days. Is Roosevelt still working in the Movement? I hope he is doing well. Also that you and your husband are in good health.

Best regards,

Mac Ford

M. Ford
Miller Avenue
Chaffee, New York
11430

October 8, 1971

Dear Idessa,

Today I ran across your Christmas card from last December and I got to thinking about how friends hear from each other so seldom-Christmas, New Years etc. It seems a shame that so many people who have worked together in days past in the Movement lose track of each other.

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Best regards,

Mac Ford

1010 Bragg Street
Montgomery, Alabama
January 25, 1971

Mr. Grover Smith, Jr.
Field Labor Director, NAACP
1630 4th Avenue No.
Room 625 Masonic Temple
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Mr. Grover Smith, Jr:

This letter is being written relative to your letter of January 6.
It is true that I am now employed by O E C. My first job was that
of a Teacher's Aide, now I have been transferred to Social Service
Case Aide which I enjoy thoroughly. I am indeed grateful to you
for whatever influence you might have used in helping me to secure
this position.

Yours truly,

Idessa Williams

Mrs. Idessa E. Williams

Well, I've been
keeping busy making contact
around here that can help
with either housing or money
for transportation and tuition.
So far I'm doing quite well.

I did. I must admit
I got turned down officially
by the Highland Park School
Board as far as raising
tuition is concerned, but
they will help with the
formalities of registration,
and will each be available
personally as services of

J. Q. BRISBEN
784 E. 100TH PLACE
CHICAGO, ILL.
60628



Mrs. Idessa Williams
1010 Bragg St.
Montgomery, Alabama 36108



AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

125 WASHINGTON AVENUE, SUITE 214

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

TELEPHONE: 205-269-2761

January 27, 1976

Mr. Leonard Bush
Headstart Director
Montgomery Community Action Agency
419 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Dear Mr. Bush:

The Alabama Community Relations Program of the American Friends Service Committee is beginning an effort to define some of the attitudes, policies and practices that cause hostility and alienation between students and educators that result in disciplinary suspensions and in some cases violence in our public schools.

From our experience to date and from studying the limited research in this area, we are sure the problem does not lie in one area. That is, with students alone, with educators alone or with parents/community alone. The question is what are the root causes of increasing disciplinary problems and increasing rates of suspensions.

When students are out of school they are not learning. When students are "turned off" to school they are not learning at their capacity. What are the problems, the causes of these problems, and what are some solutions that can remedy the situation. These are question to which we are addressing ourselves.

Mrs. Williams of your agency, as you know, is a strong solder in our community, and is familiar not only with this and other problems in the community, but is also acquainted with many of the leaders in the community that must be involved if change is to take place. We need the assistance of Mrs. Williams. And we are requesting that you please give every consideration to the question of making it possible for her to give a few hours a week to this effort.

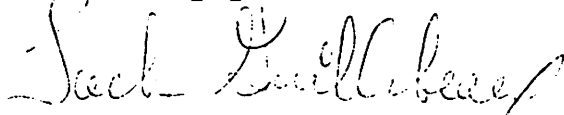
As you well know, many of the students that are affected by problems in public schools are students that were given a Head Start by your agency. Several days ago from Lee county came the report from the Head Start program there that Head Start parents were complaining about their children being suspended from school. These parents were also concerned that Black students were being hurt by these actions more than Whites.

Mr. Leonard Bush
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January 27, 1976

In your own agency, I am sure that parents in your program have had to deal with this problem. We are organizing a team of concerned citizens to begin to evaluate this problem and point out solutions. Mrs. William would greatly aide this effort.

We hope that you will give this request consideration and find it possible to give it your support. If you have questions, please give me a call. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Guillebeaux".

Mr. Jack Guillebeaux, Director
Alabama Community Relations Program
American Friends Service Committee

AJG/abr

CC: Mrs. Idessa Williams
Mrs. Rita Clark

WELCOME



MONTGOMERY HEADSTART WORKSHOP

IDESSA WILLIAMS

TOURIST AND CONVENTION DIVISION
MONTGOMERY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dear _____

At the present time I am a Social Service Case Aide Worker. This job gives me the opportunity to work with Headstart children their families and other economically deprived individuals. Up to this time shoes for these children were funded by O.E.O. however due to a cut back in the budget these shoes are no longer available. It would be greatly appreciated if you would use whatever influence you have in your area to provide some shoes and clothing for these needed individuals. Any packages may be sent C.O.D., directly to our main office (the above address).

Yours truly,
Mrs. Idessa E. Williams