

The Medgar Evers Fund, Inc.

150 East 52nd Street, New York, New York 10022 (212) 421-2120

April 27, 1970

Dear Friend:

Now that the euphoria of our victory in Fayette has begun to evaporate, we are settling down to the hard work of building a new society here. It is going to be even harder than I imagined because the local resources are so meager.

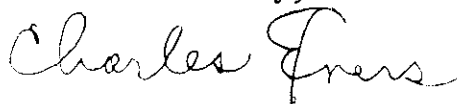
But you can be sure that in six months or a year, the skeptics will be back in Fayette to see just what "miracles" Charles Evers and his black administration have wrought. Unless we can get substantial help from our friends across the nation, there are not going to be any "miracles." The plain fact is that the poverty of our people is simply too great to expect them to produce the funds, equipment and know-how which will reverse almost four centuries of deprivation.

For this reason, I have joined with my late brother's wife, Myrlie, to found The Medgar Evers Fund, which has tax deductible status. Our hope is that the Fund will serve as a relevant tribute to my brother Medgar by mobilizing the funds needed to transform Fayette and surrounding Jefferson County into the kind of community upon which so many millions of Americans have pinned their hopes. I know there is not much time to prove that blacks and whites, even in Mississippi, can work together to share justly in the fruits of freedom. But I am determined to give it the fullest possible test because I believe in what our nation stands for, even if it sometimes falls behind in practice.

I cannot do it alone. I need your help now. We are trying to raise \$100,000 to launch the Fund, so that we can ultimately raise several million dollars in Federal and private grants. Our aim is to provide every citizen of our community--black and white--with decent medical care, adequate education, jobs and training, modern sanitation and sewage, good housing, old age care and recreation. None of these may seem startling to someone who lives outside Mississippi, but they are almost unheard-of dreams to my people here.

I am asking you to make a substantial contribution today to help us begin. If you can afford \$500 or \$50 we will be grateful-- but even \$10 will help. We urgently need the help of every decent American who feels--as I know you do--that the Fayette experiment must work.

Sincerely,



Charles Evers

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