

National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

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Dear Friend:

On my visits through urban and rural communities throughout this country, I have talked with families with no income at all, the employed and underemployed, all ethnic groups- black and white. And still the shocking facts remain- we continue to jeopardize the future of our nation. Our children are blighted and crippled by the devastating effects of acute hunger and chronic malnutrition. As Dr. Margaret Mead pointed out, "we need to face the simple facts: the American people are less well- nourished, as a whole, than they were ten years ago".

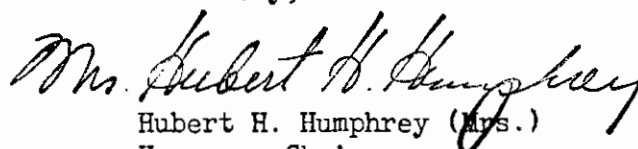
This is a complex situation. Geographic, economic and cultural patterns must be taken into consideration. Desperate situations exist in urban and rural ghettos, in Appalachia, on Indian reservations, in isolated mountain areas of the southwest. A nationwide nutrition survey has been initiated- it is essential, but children cannot wait until it is completed. Mental retardation, chronic infection and slowed learning rates are the only reward for their patience.

I have read the National Council of Negro Women's 1968 report on a program conducted in Mississippi to combat hunger and malnutrition. I learned that after three days of hearings, it was clear that people could feed themselves given the tools of production- seeds, livestock, tillers and land. The enclosed brochure describes some of the recent gains the people have made in three rural counties: Sunflower and Bolivar Counties, Mississippi and Macon County, Alabama with the help of NCNW.

This is one approach to feeding hungry children carried out with dignity and determination. There is still much to be done. I believe it is worthy and deserving of your support. Your tax-deductible contribution to NCNW can help feed thousands of hungry children in Mississippi and Alabama who cannot afford to wait much longer for your response: \$15,000 will help provide one food production center building; \$500 will supply material and equipment for community cooking and food preservation; \$100 will help to purchase sow ration for the livestock program and \$56.70 will purchase disposable diapers for one month for twenty babies in a day care center.

Won't you give today?

Sincerely,



Hubert H. Humphrey (Mrs.)
Honorary Chairman
NCNW Committee on Children

HHH:fm
Enc.