

We Demand:

JOBS AND INCOME FOR ALL

At a living wage, without discrimination in hiring, under safe conditions, with equal pay for equal work.

STOP PICKING OUR POCKETS!

Roll back and freeze prices. Put a moratorium on debts for the unemployed.

ADEQUATE SOCIAL SERVICES FOR OUR COMMUNITIES!

Stop the cutbacks. Respect our right to good health care, day care and schools, clean neighborhoods, and adequate welfare.

Come to the Hard Times Conference and be heard!
Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1976
Chicago, Illinois

Hard Times Conference Board
(partial listing)

Helen Ackley
Long Island Committee for Justice

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United Bronx Parents

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Annie Stein
People Against Racism in Education

Arnold Townsend
WAPAC



I am very interested in the Hard Times Conference. Please send me more information.

I want to help sustain the work of the conference. Enclosed is \$

Our organization would like to become a sponsor of the Hard Times Conference and be listed on all future literature.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

HARD TIMES CONFERENCE
156 5th Ave. Rm. 411
N.Y.C., N.Y.



These are hard times and everywhere people are struggling. We are being hit on the job with massive layoffs, wage freezes, speedup, and deteriorating health and safety conditions.

In our communities we face the closing of playgrounds, hospitals and fire houses. Our children are packed in forty or more to a class room. Bilingual education programs are being wiped out. Inflation continues to grow as rent, transit fares, recreation and food prices keep rising, and the government tells us that the way to whip it is by vetoing the school lunch program or by hiring us to work at less than the minimum wage. We face cutbacks in welfare, daycare, social security and the other social services for which we fought so long because they tell us there is just no money; but the largest part of our tax dollar continues to pour into the Pentagon.

We are being forced to do without while the factories and farms that could give us jobs and meet our needs run at only 75% of capacity. The banks are getting paid ever higher interest rates by the cities while city

workers are laid off because they say there's no money for wages. The oil companies are reaping huge profits by making us pay for the energy crisis they created. They are trying to put the burden of their depression on our backs.

The bosses are using this crisis to attack all the rights we have struggled for over the years. Our right to control our own communities is being undermined by increasing State or Metropolitan control of cities. When we make our unions fight for us, they are attacked. Our long struggle for non-discriminatory hiring practices are being set back through discriminatory layoffs.

We have responded with rallies, wildcat strikes, sit-ins and work stoppages. In the mines of West Virginia we are fighting for our right to strike. In Boston we are fighting for the right of Black and other Third World children to attend the school of their choice. Each community and work place has its own story to tell of the hard times and the way people are fighting back. But these are national problems and we need to confront them nationally.



keeping us divided and powerless to fight back. They are trying to stop us from building the fighting movement that can take the depression off our backs and make them foot the bill for their economic crisis. They are determined to turn us further against each other: white against Black and other Third World people, men against women, the employed against those on welfare, U.S. workers against workers in other countries and undocumented workers who are here from other countries. Whenever they can get away with not hiring someone because of the color of their skin; whenever they can pay women less than men for the same work; whenever they can come into our work places and deport our co-workers; whenever they can do any of these, it is a defeat for us all. It is crucial that we overcome racism and the other divisions among us to build the unity necessary to give the depression back to the bosses.



HOW CAN WE BRING NATIONAL ATTENTION AND SUPPORT TO OUR LOCAL PROBLEMS AND STRUGGLES?

HOW CAN WE INTERVENE POWERFULLY IN THE CRISIS?

HOW CAN WE GET THE DEPRESSION OFF OUR BACKS?

To help answer these questions we call for a Hard Times Conference, a national gathering bringing together the many forces hit by this crisis; those in struggle against the budget cuts, speedup, unemployment, drugs and prisons. The conference will highlight for the whole country what we are doing locally. It will be a place to join forces in a national campaign that can strengthen each of our struggles.

THIS IS A TIME FOR DECISIVE ACTION!

It is a time when the U.S. government and the big businesses that control it and who profit from our work and suffering are facing serious setbacks around the world. In the face of a determined struggle, they are losing their power to rob other nations of the fruits of their labor and their natural resources. At home their hope is to keep their profits up by

HARD TIMES ARE FIGHTING TIMES!

The Hard Times Conference will be an important step in building this unity. It will be part of a national campaign to fight back. By focusing on those issues that most affect us all: jobs, prices and community services, we can make demands, hold nationally coordinated demonstrations and work together in a more powerful way.

Many of us remember the depression of the 30's and understand how important organization and unity were in winning social security, unemployment insurance and in building the unions. Our struggles of the sixties for civil rights and against the Vietnam war show the same lessons. Our situation is not a hopeless one. The demands we are making can be obtained. Our long history of struggle proves it. If we join together and fight, we can win.