

DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS

BOX 1 OF 16

FOLDER 35

**BLACK WOMENS COMMITTEE
PROGRAM**

EXPANSION PROGRAM FOR BLACK WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Black Women's Committee must build a broad membership which can function on a varied and broad program geared toward the interest of the community-at-large. It is proposed that from this broad membership at least the five following committees be organized to function as ad hoc committees to whatever basic program the Black Women's Committee is carrying on:

1. Education Committee
2. Artist Committee
3. Student Committee
4. Grassroot Committee
5. Fund-Raising Committee

The overall objective is to utilize and activate some of the many women who are interested in becoming a part of the Black Women's Committee and to direct as many forces as possible toward the interest and involvement of the Black community.

It is important that the ad hoc committees be organized into function-groups to get the maximum benefit from their membership because of the unevenness of development in terms of political awareness, Black nationalism, etc.

If sisters can be activated in terms of the proposed committees it will allow the Black Women's Committee to operate on many fronts by utilizing the creativity of those best suited to bring about our desired goals in any one of those areas.

PROPOSED COMMITTEES:

I. EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Black community needs a Black curriculum for Black children. The Black Women's Committee is committed to helping to bring this curriculum about. An ad hoc educational committee of the Black Women's Committee can do much at this time in the area of collecting and cataloging materials that should be in a curriculum designed to create a Black-thinking generation. Perhaps in the future this group can co-ordinate their activities with those of the Artist Committee and the two of them create books and materials for educational projects to meet the needs of educational situations throughout the Black community.

A. Proposed Activities

1. Catalog all known publications by and about Black people.
2. Catalog all materials available in the public libraries, then make a bibliography for general distribution to the community, especially students.
3. Help set up a library for the house of the Black Women's Committee.

4. Propagandize all Black teachers in the Black community in the interest of Black students, stressing the need for Black teachers to teach TRUE Black history to Black Children in defiance of public school regulations.

B. Sub-Committees

1. Health Committee

a. Utilize all medically trained people

2. Welfare Committee

a. Utilize all people interested in social welfare

1) Perhaps the best project for this committee in terms of the Black Women's Committee program would be in the area of housing. There are many families in the community who need adequate housing outside of public housing.

II. ARTIST COMMITTEE

An ad hoc committee for Black sisters who are artists can serve as a means of directing their talents toward the community. Emphasis should be placed on the need for visual and artistic aids designed for Black children.

A. Proposed Activities

1. Creatively written materials for young minds.

a. Stories and "fairy tales" designed to motivate Black children to learn how to read.

b. Stories for educational purposes, especially historical material that will give Black children knowledge of their heritage.

2. Visual Creations

a. Illustrations for the above mentioned "fairy tales", also for any other written materials.

3. Art Collections

a. Donations of artistic creations for the Black community house (4521 Oakenwald)

b. Means to expose Black community to Black art.

4. Start a crafts program in order to supply our crafts room with materials to be sold for fund raising purposes.

5. Help set up library and cultural room for the house.

III. STUDENT COMMITTEE

This ad hoc committee can provide the basis from which the student can operate in the community. It can become the basis for making the Black student relevant to the community. It can also serve as a means of bringing all student sisters together in this city which may help to co-ordinate some of the activities they are involved in on campus.

A. Proposed Activities

1. Canvas the community of Black Women's Committee
2. Tutor community children
3. Give some time to the B.C and its program
4. Work with teen-age girls in the community in terms of those interests that are peculiar to young sisters.
5. Educate themselves to the needs of the community. Re-evaluate their studies or re-direct their training where necessary to the needs of the Black community.

IV. GRASSROOT COMMITTEE OF COMMUNITY WOMEN

This committee will direct its activities to those problems in the community where the Black community house is located. It will be composed of sisters who live in that community and who are willing to deal with these problems. This committee will serve as a means of making the BWC relevant to that community and as a means whereby the community sisters can become a part of the BWC. The basic activities of this group will be defined by the needs of the community.

A. Proposed Activities

1. Work with the children
2. Help create the kinds of co-op projects to fit their needs
3. Education
 - a. Become conscious of problems that confront the community from a Black point of view
 - b. Broaden their viewpoint in the political sense
 - c. Motivate themselves to become active in the solution of Black problems
 - d. Generally help out in the house where needed.

V. FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

This committee will generate the funds needed to support the BWC until such time as it becomes self-supporting. Because of the energy and time consumed raising funds it is very important that key people do not expend it except where absolutely necessary. Sisters who do this will relieve others to work on their particular aspects of the program.

B. Proposed Activities

1. Raise money from only Black people
2. Create a consciousness among Black people of the need for financially supporting community organizations
3. Sell shares in any co-op that comes out of the community of 45th and Oakenwald.
4. Function in other committees.