

210 snow building durham, north carolina 27702 (919) 682-5644

Steering Committee Julius H. Corpening, President / Howard E. Jensen, Honorary President / A. Carroll Pledger, Secretary-Treasurer / Miss Frances Jeffers, Vice President / Mrs. Dillard Teer, Vice President / M. Hugh Thompson, Vice President / Charles White, Vice President / Mrs. James E. Davis / Mrs. I. O. Funderburg / Everett Hopkins / Southgate Jones, Jr. / William B. Julian / W. J. Kennedy, III / Murray J. Marvin / James L. Nicholson, Jr. / Miss Rebecca Peebles / J. H. Phillips / Allan Preyer, Jr. / Mrs. R. P. Randolph / Frank Scott / A. C. Sorrell / Ned J. Smith / George Thorne / Howard Williams / Ralph B. Cauthen, Executive Director

October 3, 1966

Mr. R. Dillard Teer 43 Beverly Drive Durham, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Teer:

A situation of juvenile delinquency that exists in the West End Community (the section of Gerard, Kent, Estes and Jackson Streets) has been brought to the attention of the Steering Committee of the Durham Community Planning Council with the request that some action be taken to alleviate this situation. This situation was brought to our attention by Major William B. Julian of the Durham Police Department, who related that he had been informed that the neighborhood children (ages 9 to 16) have banded together to form gangs—Aces, Spades, and Whips—for the purposes of petty thievery, sexual activity, purse snatching, etc. Meetings of these gangs are held at someone's house while the adults are at work. Major Julian had been informed that it was the desire of some of the members to get out of these gangs and have a better life for themselves. Thought was given to the establishment of recreational facilities for this area.

The Steering Committee discussed this matter fully at its meeting on September 20, 1966, and felt that it was a worthy request that should be honored and dealt with by some appropriate means. Several Committee members observed that here was a local group, trying to help themselves and we should help them in this effort. Suggested was the formation of a Task Force with representatives from churches in the area, together with other community agencies, to work out a plan for meeting these needs. At the Steering Committee meeting a motion was carried that the churches of the community be asked to cooperate in taking leadership in establishing a Task Force to study this situation with a view towards correcting this problem.

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Sincerely,

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Mr. R. Dillard Teer October 3, 1966 Page 2

I am sure that these problems, which I mention, have been and are of concern to you. Could we enlist your support in sending a representative to a meeting for this purpose?

Sincerely,

Ralph B. Cauthen Executive Director

RBC/bkm

cc: Rev. W. B. Pettiway, Duke Memorial Methodist Church