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UNITED



BLACK COALITION

HISTORY OF THE UNITED BLACK COALITION

The United Black Coalition was formulated on January 24, 1973 around the crisis of December 4, 1972 in which two STRESS officers were shot and the following police harassment of the Black Community in order to locate suspects. The current police community relationship, in relation to the crisis, has caused respective members of the United Black Coalition to throw aside their various political and social philosophies and put more emphasis on the behavior of the Detroit Police Department in general and the origin, purpose, and practice of STRESS. The U.B.C. sees STRESS as originally conceived and designed to combat street crimes. The name itself represents Stop The Robberies Enjoy Safe Streets. Under the concept mentioned STRESS receives in some instances the approval of some portion of the Detroit citizenry. However, the general community has shown strong disagreement with its concept and "murderous" work style.

Therefore U.B.C. demanded the following:

1. Abolishment of STRESS.
2. Thorough investigation of police harassment cases following Dec. 4th incident.
3. Suspend any further approval of appropriations to STRESS until completion of investigations. No private or Federal funds.
4. Request State and Congressional hearings.
5. Independent commission into police harassment.

OFFICERS

Elliott Hall ESQ.....Co-Chairman
 Sam Simpson ESQ.....Co-Chairman
 Daisy Elliot.....Recording Secretary
 W. Stuart House.....Treasurer
 Ron Scott.....Coordinator
 News Staff...Kesho Imani, Shirley Jones, Sandra Gourbert,

OBJECTIVES

1. The abolishment of STRESS
2. The establishment of a community-wide defense fund.
3. The development of a 24-hour legal hot-line.
4. To establish a Black communications network.
5. To build a permanent apparatus for the purpose of improving Black life in Detroit.
6. To promote the spirit of unity and Black love so that we might begin to move toward mutual prosperity and liberation.

Membership and Accountability in the U.B.C.

The U.B.C. is open to any group or individual dedicated to the principles of self-determination for the Black community. As a coalition we will coordinate all activities around the given issues and each individual or organization will be held accountable to the coalition's decisions. We believe that only through a coalition (the merging of all resources) can Black people in the city of Detroit "institute a plan of survival" against corporate financed monsters as:

1. Regionalism (Tri-county government)
2. Appointment of Recorder's court judges
3. Tri-county finance of Public Services such as water, busing..

All these will cut the quantity and quality of control and services of Black people in Detroit. More important, it will put the financial burden of the tri-county government on Black people.

We the members of the Black community through our political representatives (judges, state repretatives, government officials, and civil servants) must coordinate our goals, aims and aspirations so as to make those political positions effective in our fight for survival and power.

U.B.C. Relationship to Other Coalitions

STRESS is a political issue and there are many organizations and individuals who will be moving for its abolishment. But because of the magnitude and relationship of STRESS to the people who control the city, no now Black organization can tackle STRESS successfully.

The Labor Defense Coalition who has for years been doing much of the ground work on this issue can not single handedly abolish STRESS. It can because of its fine legal council challenge STRESS in the courts.

The Coalition to Abolish STRESS a student orientated group can not single handedly attack STRESS even though it has successfully organized High school and college students in Detroit, to demonstrate against STRESS.

And finally the Northwest Detroit Coalition a group of whites dedicated to the abolishment of STRESS can not single handedly dissolve STRESS, they can only give support to the efforts of the Black community.

STRESS can only be dissolved by a organizational comproable to the political machine in Detroit, that gives it, its power.

The U.B.C. has the potential power or cnallenging STRESS and its concepts. Because it is compromised of dedicated Blacks in the political apparatus of Detroit.

LIST OF SIGNATURES

- Elliott Hall ESQ. President of N.A.A.C.P. Edward Glenn, Cotillion Club
 Samuel Simpson ESQ. Wolverine Bar ASS. Guardians of Michigan
 Hon. Jonh Conyers Hon. Coleman Young Hon. Alma Stallworth Black Panthers
 Frank Ditto Dr, Claud Young Dr. Tom Green Homer Waterman Dr. Peter Stron
 Conrad Mallet Rev. Donald Scavalli Hon. Raymond Hood Lonnie Peek
 Garland Jagers Barbara Mays Loretta Ackers Larry Nevels Jamer Williams
 Garri Adeogun Barry Hankerson John Reynolds Ass, of Black Social Workers
 Black Causes, Inc. The Lancers Club Al Dunmore Robert Millendee ESQ.
 African People's Party ASS. Of Black Studnets Pan-African Congress

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THE COALITION REPORT

This is the first in a regular series of Newsletters which will keep you informed on the progress of the "United Black Coalition." Stress has become the kind of issue which will require nothing less than broad collective action moving in a political fashion. Historically it has always taken a crisis to bring us together in the black community. STRESS was the crisis...Now that we are together we must realize that while STRESS is still a reality there are many other deadly issues which also require our immediate attention. Drugs and crime are both serious concerns in our midst. Any discussion of the two will ultimately focus on the question of the police. While the police are the ones legally charged with the task of abolishing crime and drug traffic, we realize that despite all of the so-called super police activity in our community, including STRESS, crime and drugs flourish and crime and drugs kill Black people.

The UNITED BLACK COALITIONS first task is to unify movement of Black organizations and individuals who will work to guarantee the immediate survival of black people. we will promote the longer range goal of controlling those institutions which currently contain, blind and oppress us all. We further believe that those of us (organizations and individuals) who have been the most affected and impinged by the harsh realities of Black life in De Detroit, America and the world, must build a joint effort which can insure the safety and prosperity of every Black man, woman and child.

Our specific goals are as follows:

1. The abolishment of STRESS.
2. The establishment of a community-wide defense fund.
3. The development of a 24-hour legal hot-line.
4. The establishment of a black communication network.
5. To build a permanent apparatus for the purpose of improving black life in Detroit.
6. To promote the spirit of unity and black love so that we might begin to move toward mutual prosperity and liberation.

REPORT ON THE COMMON COUNCIL BUDGET HERARINGS

On April 26, 1973 the Common Council reviewed the different city agencies budget request. When the budget of the police department came up (the largest budget of some 79 million dollars) certain Black members on the Common Council had a bad case of lock-jaw. Our only female member asked a few questions and requested that she recieve a copy of the actually amount of money allocated to the STRESS unit. The other Black members "fiddled" around with the question of intemization of the total police department budget, as if knowing where the money went in the department would keep young Black youth from the claws of STRESS agents. The following Monday's Public Common Council hearing were very unattended. The United Black Coalition urges all members of the Black Community to watch the steps of the Common Council in the up comming approval or disapproval of the Police Budget.

For any further information call or write the United Black Coalition:
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