

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Task Force members working in Central Miss.
Prairie Opportunities, Hinds County, and Forrest Co.

FROM : Lynn Kirk

DATE: November 16, 1966

SUBJECT: Head Start funding ground rules

As I think I have told all of you, we have been working with the Head Start people in Washington to nail down the numbers of kiddies available in the four remaining Task Force areas. We now have agreement for the following: Hinds County - 875 children, Forrest County - 815 children, Prairie Opportunities, Inc. - 400 children, Central Mississippi, Inc. - 1,748 children.

Head Start is faced, however, with the problem of funding \$39 million dollars worth of projects with \$30 million dollars. We have been asked to help keep some of the costs down and have come to the following agreements - which I don't think should give us too much trouble.

- (1) The applications you are now working on should count on ten months of operation of Head Start, with six to eight weeks "lead time" built into the budget at a smaller cost. This would mean setting up an administrative budget for the first few weeks, allowing time to establish the centers, hire people, etc.
- (2) The average cost per child per year should be figured at not more than \$1,400 based on a twelve-month operation. Cutting back to ten months, with a smaller phase-in budget for two months should result in a saving something under 1/6 of the total cost.

I am sorry for the switch in signals, but the choice was to buy this proposal or to cut the number of children. From all that all of you have said, I gather that you could not face a cut in children.