

Charlotteans for a Free Southern Africa

P.O. Box 35674

Charlotte, N.C. 28235

Dear Friends:

We would like to take a minute of your time to tell you about a very unusual refugee camp. It is the **Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College** in Tanzania. After the Soweto uprising in 1976, sparked by student protests against inferior segregated education that was forced upon them, many young black South Africans fled the brutal oppression that followed and went to Tanzania, itself a poor developing country in southeast Africa. The government of Tanzania offered an extensive tract of land as a site for a refugee camp.

The camp became a school to educate fleeing young South Africans so that a core of black South Africans are ready and trained to participate in various agencies of government, industry, and commerce once apartheid is finally abolished. With help from UNESCO and a number of Western European countries---particularly Scandinavia, Great Britain, and Germany---the students themselves built what is now the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College. It is named after a young man executed by the South African government in 1979.

The school's medium of instruction is English. There are classes for kindergarten through high school and the more promising students are given university scholarships to study overseas. The school combines rigorous academic studies with vocational training in areas as diverse as carpentry, bricklaying, farming, as well as garment making. All students must participate in some form of manual labor in addition to their scholastic activities.

The school has its own hospital, now staffed by a doctor, four nurses, a medical technologist, and a paramedical group which includes two dental technicians. The farm operates with modern farm machinery and animal husbandry techniques, and is quickly moving toward the goal of total food self-sufficiency.

But the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College still needs help. Every day more and more young people come to the school as the repression and strife grow in South Africa. And this is why we are contacting you. The school presently caters to approximately 1000 students and urgently needs material aid and funds. The Solomon Mahlangu Freedom School is one bright spot, one encouraging development in today's rapidly changing world. In troubled southern Africa, the school is a positive, constructive effort to prepare for a peaceful transition from the evil system of apartheid to a just, democratic, and non-racial South African society.

We, the undersigned, are working to assist South Africans to achieve the goal of a just, non-racial, and democratic post-apartheid South Africa. We have launched a campaign to help meet the ongoing financial and material needs of the school. We are asking your support for our efforts to further the works of the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College by having your organization 'adopt an item.' For example, the school desperately needs approximately 520 pairs of shoes for men, women, and children. Your organization would commit to supplying a certain number of shoes to meet that particular need. A list of items that are needed is enclosed. **OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE \$25,000 IN FUNDS AND MATERIAL AID BY AUGUST, 1988.**

An issue group of the Charlotte Organizing Project

If your organization is interested in having a speaker or viewing a videotape about the school, you can contact the Charlotteans for a Free Southern Africa at the above address or by calling 597-7467. Please call in your pledge today. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Charles Adams

Mr. Charles Adams
United Rubber Workers, Local 850

Robert L. Albright

Dr. Robert Albright, President
Johnson C. Smith University

Don Baker

Mr. Don Baker

George E. Battle

Rev. George Battle
Gethsemane AME Zion Church

Calvin A. Hood

Rev. Calvin A. Hood

Ms. Mary Clarke

Ms. Mary Clarke, President
Charlotte, NAACP

Clifford A. Jones, Sr.

Dr. Clifford A. Jones, Sr.
Friendship Baptist Church

Art Korthauer

Rev. Art Korthauer
Peace Commission
NC Episcopal Diocese

Ron Leeper

Mr. Ronald Leeper
City Councilman

Marc Wilson

Rabbi Marc Wilson
Temple Israel

Nasif Majeed

Mr. Nasif Majeed

Julia Maulden

Ms. Julia Maulden

Joan Maultsby

Ms. Joan Maultsby, Executive Director
National Conference of Christians and Jews

John McDonald

Mr. John McDonald
McDonald's Cafeteria

Douglas Spears

Mr. Douglas Spears

Vivian Smith

Ms. Vivian Smith
Chi Eta Phi

Lem Long

Mr. Lem Long

Robert Seigel

Rabbi Robert Seigel
Temple Beth El V'Shalom

Edward Newberry

Rev. Edward Newberry

Norris Frederick

Dr. Norris Frederick
SANE

LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED URGENTLY

1. Intensive Care Skin Lotion, Deodorants
2. Toys
3. Track Suits (150 small, 300 medium, 150 large)
4. Pairs of socks (Knee length)
5. Tennis shoes (Sizes 4 - 10)
6. Shorts and vests or T-shirts
7. Soccer Shoes (Sizes 4 - 10)
8. Lawn Tennis Raquets (50 junior, 50 senior); Lawn Tennis Nets
9. Basketballs, Volleyballs, Soccer Balls; Soccer Post Nets
10. Ankle High Tennis Shoes (Sizes 4 - 10)
11. Table Tennis Bats, Balls, and Nets
12. Softballs, softball gloves and uniforms
13. Face guards, chest guards, and shin guards
14. Jumping ropes
15. Boxing Gloves
16. Spike Shoes (Sizes 4 - 11)

 I (WE) "ADOPT" _____ ON THE MATERIAL LIST ABOVE.

OR HERE IS MY DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100
 \$ _____ OTHER

No amount is too little, or too large. Every penny counts. Please ask a friend or associate to contribute to this worthy campaign.

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER () _____

Make checks payable to:

Charlotteans for a Free Southern Africa
 P. O. Box 35674
 Charlotte, NC 28235

All contributions are tax deductible.