



BHC-MSS 0144

Guide to the Records of the Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc.

By Meg Rinn

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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc.

Title: Records of the Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc.

Dates: 1973-1982

Quantity: 8 linear feet

Abstract: The Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc. was founded in 1968. Its formation was in response to the ongoing racial turmoil in the United States at the time, and modeled on and in partnership with the National Urban Coalition. The coalition's goal was to provide communication and interaction between residents, the region, business, and government, all while acting independently. To meet Bridgeport's specific needs, there was a strong focus on education, housing, and police-community relations.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

The Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc. was founded in 1968. Its formation was in response to the ongoing racial turmoil in the United States at the time, and modeled on and in partnership with the National Urban Coalition. The National Urban Coalition was formed in 1967, as white flight, civil unrest in response to the civil rights movement, and the need for residential support and improvement combined and were coming into focus.

Bridgeport's Urban Coalition was housed in McLevy Hall, and most active from 1970 until 1976, when it seems to have disbanded. The coalition's goal was to provide communication and interaction between residents, the region, business, and government, all while acting independently. To meet Bridgeport's specific needs, there was a strong focus on education, housing, and police-community relations. These topics are strongly reflected in the subject file series of the collection, which shows the planning, research, and correspondence conducted in order to meet organizational goals.

Some of the Urban Coalitions' tangible results included partnering with Action for Bridgeport Community Development (ABCD) on Project YES, publishing minority business directories, research and solutions for education reform in the city, and creating a report on revenue sharing in Fairfield County to address inequality.

The coalition's board of directors included activists Cesar Batalla, Rev. Roger Floyd whose papers are held by the Bridgeport History Center, and Beverly Rashid who served as an executive director at the Bridgeport YWCA during the time the YWCA's mission was shifting towards social justice. Anne S. Finnie served as director for most of the organization's lifespan, and the Urban Coalition received wide support from Bridgeport businesses.

Scope and Content note:

The bulk of the collection is made up of subject files which were removed from the Coalition's offices in McLevy Hall. These subject files show the nuts and bolts of the Coalition's various projects, and focus heavily on education, police-community relations, economic development, and housing. This material can be viewed alone, or taken alongside other active organizations at the time, such as ABCD, the YWCA, and United Way, which frequently worked with the Urban Coalition to accomplish projects and implement programs. The research for General Revenue Sharing is also featured in the subject files. The collection's third series of reports and research also demonstrate the organization's interests.

The financial files reflect the general day to day work of the Coalition, and the rolodex cards reflect the large network that the organization tapped into.

Arrangement Note:

This collection has been placed into five series. The first represents subject files, arranged alphabetically. The second, finances, includes two subseries: an alphabetical subject file and a chronological group of bank statements. Series III contains reports made by the Urban Coalition and reports passed onto them, along with booklets and publications used for research. Series IV contains the papers of member Helen Wasserman, arranged by subject. Series V are original rolodex cards, kept in original order. A final series, series VI, contains a small number of miscellaneous items not filed with the original subject files.

Administrative information:

Provenance: 1976.09

Preferred Citation:

Records of the Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc. (BHC-MSS 0144), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Corporate names

Urban Coalition of Greater Bridgeport Inc.

Subject tracings

City planning

Urban renewal

Politics

Detailed box and folder listing

Box 1

Series I, Subject files

1. ABCD correspondence, 1970-1971
2. Action council, 1970-1971
3. Addresses, Urban Coalition board and committees, 1973-1975
4. Addresses, other organizations, 1970-1975
5. Administration, 1974

6. Affirmative action plan, 1974
7. Affirmative action, layoffs, 1974-1975
8. Affirmative action plan, 1974-1975
9. Annual meeting and report, 1974
10. Annual meeting and report, 1975
11. Articles of incorporation, 1968
12. Audits, 1970-1975
13. Audit materials, 1974-1975
14. Black social clubs, 1972
15. Board of Directors minutes. 1941
16. Board of directors, 1972
17. Board of directors, 1973
18. Board of directors, 1974
19. Board of directors, 1975-1976
20. Board of directors, correspondence, 1973-1975
21. Board of directors, attendance, 1975
22. Board of directors, meeting notices, 1974-1975
23. Board of directors, lists, 1974-1975
24. Board of directors, Information speakers. Undated
25. Budget, 1969-1972
26. Budget, 1973-1976
27. Budget committee and financial reports, 1973-1975
28. Budget committee meeting notices, 1974
29. By-laws, 1974
30. Charter revision, 1975
31. Committees, 1975
32. Communications committees, 1975
33. Coalitions other than Bridgeport, 1971
34. Conferences and meetings, 1970-1972
35. Conferences and meetings, 1973-1974
36. Consumer council correspondence and minutes, 1971
37. Cultural affairs and recreation correspondence, 1971
38. Economic development committee correspondence, 1974-1975
39. Economic development committee, general files, 1971, 1974-1975
40. Economic development committee, 1974-1975
41. Economic development committee, meeting notices, 197-1975
42. Economic development committee, minutes, 1972-1975
43. Economic development committee, Anne Finnie's copies, 1974-1975
44. Economic development committee, seminar, 1975
45. Economic development committee, seminar report, 1972
46. Education committee, 1972
47. Education committee, Re: cooperative education study, 1968-1970
48. Education committee, Project team, 1974-1975
49. Education committee, task force, 1970
50. Education committee, task force# 1, 1970
51. Education committee, task force, #2, 1970-1971
52. Education committee, meeting notices, 1974-1975
53. Education committee, minutes, 1974-1975
54. Education committee, correspondence, 1975
55. Education committee, Subcommittee, minorities in higher education, 1975

56. Education committee, workshop, 1973
57. Education committee, workshop transcript, 1973
58. Eighteen hundred club, 1971
59. Employment, 1975
60. Evaluations, 1975
61. Executive committee agenda, 1972
62. Executive committee agenda, mailing list, 1975
63. Executive committee agenda, meeting notices, 1972-1975
64. Executive committee agenda, minutes, 1971-1973
65. Executive committee agenda, minutes, 1974-1975

Box 2

1. Executive director job search applications, 1973-1975
2. Executive director Annie Finnie, executive committee meeting notes, 1973-1975
3. Executive director Annie Finnie, notes, 1971-1975
4. Executive director Annie Finnie, notes, 1969-1975
5. Executive director Annie Finnie, reports to board, 1974-1976
6. Executive director Walter J. Hill Jr. notes, 1972
7. Fundraising, 1970-1971
8. Fundraising, 1972
9. Fundraising, 1971-1972
10. Fundraising, 1973-1975
11. Fundraising, 1974-1975
12. Fundraising correspondence, 1975
13. Fundraising contributors, 1975
14. Goals and priorities committee, 1973-1974
15. Guardians, 1974-1975
16. "Harambee" - WICC radio shows, 1972
17. "Harambee" - WICC radio shows, 1972
18. Housing task force, correspondence, 1974-1975
19. Housing task force, minutes, agendas, and meeting notes, 1973-1975
20. Housing task force, misc., 1973-1975
21. In-school programs, 1969
22. Intern program committee, correspondence, 1974-1975
23. Intern program committee, minutes and notices, 1974-1975
24. Internal operations guide, 1974
25. Inventory. 1972
26. Manpower planning procedure, undated
27. Minorities day, 1975
28. Misc., 1968-1974
29. NAB consortium, 1971
30. National Association of Urban Coalitions directors, 1974
31. National Urban Coalition correspondence, 1973-1975
32. Neighborhood Housing Services, 1975-1976
33. Neighborhood Youth Corps, 1971
34. Nominating committee, 1974
35. Officers of the Urban Coalition, 1972
36. Organization report, 1968
37. Personnel, 1970-1973
38. Personnel - CETA, 1975. **RESTRICTED.**

39. Personnel, Neighborhood Youth Corps and others, 1975-1976
40. Personnel, on loan, 1971
41. Photographs, 1970-1975
42. Police-Community relations task force, 1975
43. Police-Community relations task force, agenda, 1975
44. Police-Community relations task force, community form, 1975
45. Police-Community relations task force, correspondence, 1973-1975
46. Police-Community relations task force, meeting notices, 1975
47. Police-Community relations task force, minutes, 1973-1975
48. Police-student seminar, 1972

Box 3

1. Project Yes notebook, 1969
2. Public relations, 1974-197
3. Radio committee, 1971
4. Regional housing committee, 1975
5. Report, six months into revitalization, 1973
6. Revenue sharing project, background information on each city and town, 1973-1975
7. Revenue sharing project, instructions, interviewers, and interviewees, 1973-1975
8. Revenue sharing project, newspaper clippings, 1973-1975
9. Revenue sharing project, project packet, 1973-1975
10. Revenue sharing project, planning and guidelines, 1973-1975
11. Revenue sharing project, questionnaires, Bridgeport, 1973-1975
12. Revenue sharing project, Fairfield, Q1-2, 1974
13. Revenue sharing project, Fairfield Qs 3-8. 1974
14. Revenue sharing project, Stratford, Qs 2-8, 1974
15. Revenue sharing project, Trumbull, Qs 1-8, 1974
16. Revenue sharing reports, 1973-1975
17. Scholarship, General, 1975
18. Scholarship, annual reports. 1972-1973
19. Scholarship, by-laws, certification of incorporation, 1971-1975
20. Scholarship, committee lists, 1971-1975
21. Scholarship, correspondence, 1971-1975
22. Scholarship, forms, 1971-1975
23. Scholarship, fundraising, 1971-1975
24. Scholarship, meeting notes, 1971-1975
25. Scholarship, lists of awards, 1971-1975
26. Scholarship, minutes, 1972
27. Scholarship, other than Urban Coalition, 1971-1975
28. Scholarship, University of Bridgeport agreement, 1971-1975
29. Scholarship applications, A, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED.**
30. Scholarship applications, B, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
31. Scholarship applications, C, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
32. Scholarship applications, D, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
33. Scholarship applications, E, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
34. Scholarship applications, F, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**

Box 4

1. Scholarship applications, G, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
2. Scholarship applications, H, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**

3. Scholarship applications, I-J, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
4. Scholarship applications, K, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
5. Scholarship applications, L, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
6. Scholarship applications, M, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
7. Scholarship applications, O, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
8. Scholarship applications, P, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
9. Scholarship applications, Q-R, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
10. Scholarship applications, S, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
11. Scholarship applications, V, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
12. Scholarship applications, W, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
13. Scholarship applications, X-Z, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
14. Scholarship applications, multiple names, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
15. Scholarship applications, list of award dollar amounts, 1971-1975 **RESTRICTED**
16. Special study committee, 1975-1976
17. Statements, public, 1974-1975
18. Summer projects, 1975
19. Taxes, 1972-1973
20. Transportation committee, agendas and meeting notices, 1973-1975
21. Transportation committee, correspondence, 1975
22. Transportation committee, minutes, 1975
23. Transportation committee, project, 1975
24. Urban homesteading, 1975

Series II – Finance

Subseries 1, Subject files

25. Administration, 1972
26. Bank statements, 1968-1969
27. Bank statements, 1970-1975
28. Ciardullo, Joe, 1973-1975
29. City National Bank, 1973-1975
30. Contributors receipts, 1972
31. Corbits studio, 1972-1975
32. Economic copy center, 1975
33. Expense account, 1975
34. Fargo, 1971-1972
35. IBM, 1972
36. Insurance, 1971-1975
37. Insurance, 1971-1975
38. MacFarlan and Fraser Inc., 1973-1974
39. Mail log, 1971
40. Mathews Company, 1973-1975
41. McQuilan/Marsh, 1975
42. Misc. bills, 1970-1975
43. Pitney Bowes, 1970-1976
44. Receipts, 1970-1976
45. Snet co., 1973-1975
46. State National Bank of Connecticut, 1973
47. Subscriptions, 1972-1974
48. US leasing, 1973
49. Void checks, 1970-1976
50. Xerox corporation, 1975

Box 7

Subseries 2, Banking

1. Bank statements, 1969
2. Bank statements, 1970
3. Bank statements, 1970
4. Deposit slips, 1970
5. Petty cash receipts, 1970
6. Bank statements, 1971
7. Bank statements, 1971
8. Deposit slips, 1971
9. Bank statements, 1972
10. Bank statements, 1972
11. Deposit slips, 1972
12. Deposit slips, 1971-1972
13. Bank statements, 1973
14. Deposit statements, 1973
15. Bank statements, 1974
16. Deposit slips, 1974
17. Petty cash receipts, 1975
18. Checks written, 1968-1969
19. Checks written, 1970
20. Checks written, 1970
21. Checks written, 1972-1974
22. Project YES financial information, 1969
23. Travelers expense book for Walter Hall, 1970-1971
24. Record book, 1968-1970

Box 8

1. Checks written,
2. Checks written,
3. Checks written
4. Checks written,

Box 5

Series III, Reports and research

1. Proposal to the Urban Coalition of the Greater Bridgeport Area: a study of innovative educational programs for the greater Bridgeport area, 1968
2. Model cities comprehensive demonstration program for Bridgeport's Model Neighborhood, 1969
3. Model cities comprehensive demonstration program for Bridgeport's Model Neighborhood, 1969
4. Model cities comprehensive demonstration program for Bridgeport's Model Neighborhood, 1969
5. Model cities comprehensive demonstration program for Bridgeport's Model Neighborhood, 1969
6. Community Development Action Plan, 1970
7. Community Development Action Plan, 1970

8. Community Development Action Plan, 1970
9. An alternative strategy for redevelopment in Bridgeport's West End, c. 1972-1973
10. Master plan, Daycare, City of Bridgeport, 1973
11. Preliminary draft of master plan for Higher Education in Connecticut, 1974-1975
12. Board of Education proposed budgets, 1973-1975
13. Mathematics curriculum, 1974
14. Reading curriculum, 1974
15. Education research, 1970-1975
16. Education research, 1970-1975
17. ABCD budget, 1976

Box 6

1. Transportation research, 1972
2. Societal research, 1973-1975

Series IV, Helen Wasserman papers

3. Directory of innovative practice, 1970
4. Education, 1967-1969
5. Education, 1970
6. Education, 1970-1975
7. Education, 1975
8. Education, criteria for evaluation, c. 1970
9. Education correspondence, 1975
10. Education, financing, 1969-1975
11. Education finance workshop. 1973
12. Education in city, 1964-1965
13. Fairfield Human Relations committee, 1966-1968
14. Financing, 1973-1975
15. Research, 1970-1975
16. Research, 1970-1975
17. Task force, 1970
18. Task force, 1970
19. Task force, 1970
20. Final report of the Urban Coalition Education Study Task Force, 1970

Series V, additional information

21. Minority business directory, undated
22. Pamphlet, undated

Box 8

Series V

5. Rolodex cards of donors and contacts
6. Rolodex cards of donors and contacts