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DOUGLASS CENTER LIBRARY

Douglass Community Center Library

Statement of Progress of Phase I -- August, 1971

Douglass Community Center has long been a hub of activity in the Black community of Champaign-Urbana. It is a combination meeting place, gymnasium and social center. The Douglass Community Center has two full-time directors and numerous assistants and offers planned, organized recreational and cultural programs to the Black community.

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Numerous attempts have been made to include library services in the facilities of Douglass Center. These past attempts have been characterized by collections made up of books contributed from various individuals and organizations and serviced by volunteers. None of these attempts met with notable success.

History of the Project

The impetus for the current library services offered at Douglass Center grew out of a meeting of interested persons representing various groups and organizations, including the two public libraries and the Lincoln Trails system serving Champaign-Urbana. The meeting was called by a class of graduate students at the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science.