

Way Center Collection

M/A 2000.178.01

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

October 25, 2016

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
300 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN, 55401
612-543-8200
specialcoll@hclib.org

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>History</u>	4
<u>Description of the Collection</u>	4
<u>Related Materials</u>	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	6

Summary Information

Repository	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
Creator	Way, Inc. (Minneapolis, Minn.)
Title	Way Center Collection
Date	1967-2016
Extent	0.21 Linear feet
Language	English

History

The Way Center, sometimes referred to as The New Way Center, began in August 8, 1966 after an outbreak of violence on the North Side of Minneapolis on August 4, 1966. Its short range purpose was to help calm the neighborhood by providing an off-the-street facility for youth and a meeting place for residents; its long range purpose was to mobilize the North Side of Minneapolis through youth activities, education, employment referrals, housing, and law enforcement.

The Center was originally located at 1913 Plymouth Ave. N and in 1984 it moved to 12th Ave. and Humboldt Ave. N. Early supporters included Minneapolis Mayor Arthur Naftalin and local businessman Ray Plank of Apache Corp.

Early leaders were Syl Davis, who was the director until November 1970, Gwyn Jones-Davis (later Jonesdavispile), Rev. Rolland Robinson, Milton Williams and Willie Mae Dixon. Bert Davis was director from 1970-1974. Harry (Spike) Moss was director from 1974-1986.

The Center was noted for reaching out to people who were affiliated with gangs or were involved in criminal activities.

The Way Center faced ongoing fundraising challenges and in December 1986 they closed. In September 1990 a new youth center opened in the same location at 12th and Humboldt. City-Northside was operated by a south Minneapolis youth agency called The City, Inc. Many of the former employees of the Way Center became employees of The City-Northside.

Description of the Collection

One box. Collection consists of newspaper clippings and organizational materials concerning The Way Center.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

Related Materials

Related Materials

For more history on The Way this book is in Special Collections and in the general collection: For A Moment We Had The Way by early leader Rev. Rolland Robinson, **F614.M59 N4468 2006**.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Minneapolis (Minn.) -- Race relations.
- Near-North Community (Minneapolis, Minn.) -- Race relations.
- Near-North Community (Minneapolis, Minn.) -- Social conditions.

Subject(s)

- African American youth -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
- African Americans -- Civil rights -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
- African Americans -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis -- Societies, etc.
- Civil rights movements -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
- Community organization -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
- Community power -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Organizational materials undated, 1969-1970, 2016	1	1
Scope and Contents note		
Includes a program from the organization's 50th anniversary celebration.		
Newspaper clippings 1967-1968	1	2
Newspaper clippings: Picture Magazine 1968	1	3
Newspaper clippings 1970-1979	1	4
Newspaper clippings 1980-1989	1	5
Newspaper clippings 1990-1992	1	6