

## Urban League of Springfield Collection

1971-1975

1 box (0.5 linear feet)

Call no.: MS 150



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A community development and service agency founded in 1914, the Urban League of Springfield works to secure equal opportunity for minority groups in such fields as employment, education, housing, health, and personal welfare.

This small collection for is tightly focused on the period of the school busing (desegregation) crisis in Springfield, 1974-1975, and the League's efforts to analyze and respond to the underlying issues in race relations and political engagement. The contents include surveys on racial attitudes and voting behavior in the city along with a selection of publications from the League and a set of board minutes and handouts.

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## Background on Urban League of Springfield

A community development and service agency founded in 1914, the Urban League of Springfield works to secure equal opportunity for minority groups in such fields as employment, education, housing, health, and personal welfare. Advocating for the African American community in the Greater Springfield region, the League's efforts in promoting academic development, economic self-sufficiency, and racial inclusion are directed toward obtaining full access.

The Urban League was a prominent voice during the tense months that followed Judge Arthur Garrity's 1974 order to desegregate of the state's public schools. The focus in Springfield fell largely on the elementary schools, unlike Boston, and resolved into a plan drafted by the Massachusetts Commission on Civil Rights to group the city's schools into six districts that would preserve a sense of neighborhood integrity, busing children locally to remediate racial imbalance and provide better educational opportunities.

## Scope of collection

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## Inventory

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Board of Directors: minutes, memos, reports

1974-1975

Folder 1

Reports: annual reports, progress reports, quarterly reports

1973-1975

Folder 2

Surveys: racial attitudes in Springfield; voting behavior in Springfield

1973-1974

Folder 3

Emergency School Assistance Program Newsletter

1975

Folder 4

Brochures

1971-1972

Folder 5

Publications: Urban League News and Newsletter

1973-1974

Folder 6

Publications: 63rd National Urban League Conference

1973

Folder 7

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## Administrative information

### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Provenance

Gift of Audrey Duckert, 1986.

### Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, Sept. 2015.

**Language:**

English

**Copyright and Use (More information )**

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**Search terms**

**Subjects**

Race relations--Massachusetts--Springfield  
School integration--Massachusetts--Springfield  
Springfield (Mass.)--History--20th century

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