Brittany Coley

HIS 949

Race Timeline Annotations

“Mission and History,” last date modified 2012, <http://nul.iamempowered.com/who-we-are/mission-and-history>.

1910: Creation of the Committee on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, now known as the National Urban League

The Committee on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, now known as the National Urban League, created in 1910, was created with the mission to help African Americans secure economic self-reliance, power, and civil rights. The organization was the product of the Great Migrations, which were characterized by the large migration of African Americans from the South to the North.

African Americans still experienced racial discrimination even after migrating to the North. This organization realized that in order to overcome racial discrimination, economic hardship, social injustice, and adapt to urban life, African Americans would need help. The organization was established in New York City on September 29, 1910. Leaders of the organization’s founding were Mrs. Ruth Standish Baldwin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes. This committee merged with several other committees, the Committee for the Improvement of Industrial Conditions Among Negroes in New York, and the National League for the Protection of Colored Women. Together, these organizations became known as the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes, which was shortened to National Urban League in 1920 to encompass the broad mission of each individual organization that it included.

The primary thing that the organization did was help African Americans that came from the South. They did this by helping train them for jobs, offer educational and employment opportunities, housing, and other essential things. The National Urban League offers career counseling and job placement. The National Urban League played a huge role in society and it gained popularity quickly. By the end of World War I, the organization had 81 staff members working in 30 cities. The League fought to end racial discrimination in the workplace.

Even after the end of the Progressive Era, the National Urban League continued to be crucial for African Americans in their quest for equality in society, employment, and education. The National Urban League has expanded greatly through the years, and has even influenced the Federal Government to establish programs that that aid urban communities and African American populations.