Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Program for meeting in Raleigh sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and featuring Dr. Martin Luther King, 1960. Image from the Mollie Huston Lee Collection, Richard B. Harrison Library, Raleigh, N.C.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), established in 1957 in Atlanta and headed by Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-68), influenced North Carolina civil rights activism through 1975. The SCLC built a mass membership with local affiliates, mainly black churches and civic groups committed to ending segregation by nonviolent direct action. Activist ministers and laymen directed its statewide crusade. Black United Methodist pastor Douglas E. Moore, King's former Boston University classmate, led Durham's 1957 and 1960 lunch counter sit-ins and helped to mentor the student freedom movement. In addition, the SCLC's state field secretary, Golden A. Frinks, organized nationally reported interracial demonstrations in Williamston (1963-64), Hyde County, and Wilmington (1968-69).

References:


Additional Resources:


