

1979

RESOLUTION: EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL AND JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR
MINORITY YOUTH

WHEREAS in Connecticut today there is an acute shortage of skilled labor suitable for employment in the State's excellent job market, and

WHEREAS unemployment, especially among black and Hispanic young people living in our major cities, is distressingly high. (Although employment opportunities are legion, minority youth are unable to fill available job openings because they lack sufficient education, skills and work habits. During the past 25 years, Federal, State and local governments have spent and are spending billions of dollars on educational and job training programs. Even so, during this same period of time, joblessness among minority youth has escalated from 16% to 35%. Money alone cannot rectify this distressing labor/job mismatch.) and

WHEREAS the Church is particularly sensitive to the fact that burying one's talents...or wasting one's talents...is both immoral and dehumanizing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, and its member congregations, make a vigorous and positive effort, in both the public and private sectors of the community, to close the gap between job openings and unemployable young people. This could involve local congregations supporting, initiating and monitoring old and new educational and job training programs in their communities in cooperation with educators, businessmen, politicians, labor unions and social workers who are endeavoring to enable our youth to become creative, productive, self-sustaining citizens.