

STATEMENT FOR SUBMISSION TO COMMUNITY MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 1968
REGARDING THE PLACEMENT OF A COMMUNITY
COLLEGE IN BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

The Central Brooklyn Coordinating Council is committed to supporting community efforts for a free college in central Brooklyn. We have worked towards that goal for a number of years.

Our involvement goes back prior to the establishment of Kingsborough Community College at Manhattan Beach. Central Brooklyn Coordinating Council fought vigorously along with other community groups in north and central Brooklyn against the establishment of Kingsborough at Manhattan Beach. As a result of this struggle, a mid-Brooklyn Branch of Kingsborough was opened on Claremont Avenue. The master plan of the Board of Higher Education was amended to include a four year college to serve both Brooklyn and Queens. We have consistently petitioned for such a college to be located in central Brooklyn. But in spite of our efforts, York College was temporarily placed in Queens but in a location far removed from and inaccessible not only to the people of our community, but also to most of the Negro and Puerto Rican people of Queens.

The Board of Higher Education has demonstrated its lack of empathy for our community by the very small number of black and puerto rican youngsters attending the free colleges throughout this City and through its failure to respond to our requests for a four year college within our community in spite of the high density of people in the area. We therefore feel that it is most urgent that the people of our community be involved in all planning for any educational institution being planned for our community or to service the people of our community.