
San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
2011
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
sfhistory@sfpl.org
URL: http://www.sfpl.org/sfhistory
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
Title: Larry Beggs Papers on Huckleberry House
creator: Beggs, Larry (Edward Larry)
Identifier/Call Number: SFH 49
Identifier/Call Number: 11
Physical Description: 5 Cubic Feet, 3 boxes, 2 flat boxes, 1 box of audiorecordings, 4 folders of photographs, 1 flat file
Date (inclusive): 1965-2009
Date (bulk): 1967-1969
Abstract: The collection consists of correspondence and other personal papers, clippings, ephemera, reports, publications, audiorecordings, posters, and photographs of and about Huckleberry's for Runaways, later known as Huckleberry House, the nation's first runaway shelter for adolescents ages 12-18, founded and co-directed by Reverend Larry Beggs in 1967. The collection documents Beggs' role as counselor, administrator, author, public speaker and youth advocate from an era before the term "youth advocate" was coined; and the response from teens, parents, service providers, and the press to Beggs, his work, and to Huckleberry's. To a lesser extent, it documents the evolution of Huckleberry's as an organization, from a first-of-its-kind runaway project to the multiservice youth agency of today. It also gives a good snapshot of the social milieu of the late 1960s as it relates to middle-class youth and to hippie culture.
The collection is stored onsite.
Access
The collection is open for research, with photographs available during Photo Desk hours. Please call the San Francisco History Center for hours and information at 415-557-4567.
Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the City Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Larry Beggs Papers on Huckleberry House (SFH 49), San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
Provenance
Gift of Edward Larry Beggs, 2009
Related Materials
Researchers are encouraged to see also Huckleberry's for Runaways by Larry Beggs, in the San Francisco History Center's book collection.
Historical
Huckleberry's for Runaways was founded and co-directed by Reverend Larry Beggs in 1967 as the nation's first community-based runaway shelter for adolescents aged 12-18. Begun as a three-month project sponsored by the Regional Young Adult Project, a church-based coordinating group that included the Glide Foundation, and funded by the San Francisco Foundation, the shelter was opened in anticipation of the large number of young people from across the nation expected to arrive in San Francisco for the Summer of Love. Located in a Victorian house at 1 Broderick Street in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood, the shelter was named after Mark Twain's fictional runaway character, Huckleberry Finn.
When Beggs-- whose full name is Edward Larry Beggs--became co-director with Barbara Brachman, he was a young Congregational minister with experience in family therapy and a firm commitment to the autonomy and decision-making capabilities of teenagers. In February 1969, with the publication of his book, Huckleberry's for Runaways, and his subsequent book tour and media appearances, he became a national spokesperson and consultant for Huckleberry's and runaway youth issues. When he left the organization in July 1970, his title was Executive Director, and Huckleberry's was well under way in its evolution from a crisis shelter into a multiservice youth organization under the umbrella name Youth Advocates, Inc.
When Huckleberry's began, it was illegal to harbor a minor without parental consent, and it was also illegal for a minor to run away. Runaway youth routinely were arrested and taken to Juvenile Hall. Huckleberry's was a community-based alternative to the criminal justice system that didn't fit within then-current legal and bureaucratic structures. Although Huckleberry's had a policy of requiring parental permission for a young person to stay overnight, there was a police raid on Oct. 20, 1967 in which the staff and youth of Huckleberry's were arrested. The community response to the incident included legal representation by Assemblyman Willie Brown, who later introduced state legislation to allow emergency
The collection consists of correspondence and other personal papers, clippings, ephemera, reports, publications, audiorecordings, posters, and photographs of and about Huckleberry's for Runaways, later known as Huckleberry House, the nation's first runaway shelter for adolescents ages 12-18, founded and co-directed by Reverend Larry Beggs in 1967. The collection documents Beggs' role as counselor, administrator, author, public speaker and youth advocate from an era before the term "youth advocate" was coined; and the response from teens, parents, service providers, and the press to Beggs, his work, and to Huckleberry's. To a lesser extent, it documents the evolution of Huckleberry's as an organization, from a first-of-its-kind runaway project to the multiservice youth agency of today. It also gives a good snapshot of the social milieu of the late 1960s as it relates to middle-class youth and to hippie culture.

Most of the personal papers consist of letters to Beggs from teenagers, young adults, and parents asking for help and advice, writing to Beggs or Huckleberry's before or after visiting, or responding to Beggs' 1969 book, Huckleberry’s for Runaways, and/or his television appearances. Beggs’ responses are often included as notes written on the letters or as typed copies. There is also a folder of correspondence related to Beggs’ speaking engagements. Other personal papers include materials related to the publication and promotion of Beggs’ book, including materials for a revision planned for the late 1990s that was never published; together with a folder of correspondence and rough planning notes on Huckleberry’s 20th and 25th anniversary reunions, a handful of unpublished articles and bibliographies, and some autobiographical notes.

The small amount of organizational records consists of miscellaneous files, ephemera, and reports of Huckleberry’s for Runaways, Huckleberry House, and umbrella and offshoot organizations Huckleberry Youth Programs, Nine Grove Lane, and Youth Advocates, Inc. covering the 1960s-2000s.

Clippings are mostly from San Francisco Bay Area newspapers, about runaway youth, Huckleberry House, and the program counterpart at 9 Grove Lane in San Anselmo, Marin County. There is one folder of clippings of book reviews of Huckleberry's for Runaways and one containing clippings and related material on the police raid of Huckleberry's on Oct. 20, 1967. Publications--primarily covering 1967-1969--consist mostly of popular magazines, a newsletter, a pamphlet, and an art exhibit guide about runaways and youth culture, some of which feature Huckleberry House specifically. Also included is the 1968 mass market paperback book We Are the People Our Parents Warned Us Against by Nicholas on Hoffman about "the hippie scene." There is also a 1967 issue of Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development titled Suburban Runaways of the 1960s, annotated by Beggs, whose research "guided the policy formulations of Huckleberry's for Runaways." (per Beggs' notes)

The collection includes a small amount of photographic material, including prints and contact sheets by photographers John Gorman and Bob Fitch, of Beggs and other staff and clients at Huckleberry's, taken for the book and published articles. Additionally, there are a few snapshots that were enclosed with correspondence or photos collaged as part of posters or other assembled files.

Posters are mostly homemade collages containing photos, letters, and clippings of the house, the clients, and Beggs, along with two commercially-printed posters.

Audiorecordings consist of five reel-to-reel tapes of various sizes and in DVD-RW format, 1967-1969, containing client interviews, media interviews with Beggs, interviews with people on the street, family sessions, Beggs' appearance on the Mike Douglas show in March 1969, and a news conference on the police raid of Oct. 20, 1967.
Arrangement
The collection is arranged in seven series: Series 1: Correspondence and Personal Papers; Series 2: Organizational Files; Series 3: Clippings; Series 4: Publications; Series 5: Posters; Series 6: Audiorecordings; and Series 7: Photographs.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Social work with youth -- California -- San Francisco.
Runaway teenagers -- California -- San Francisco.
Youth Advocates, Inc
Huckleberry House, Inc
Huckleberry's for Runaways
Huckleberry Youth Programs

Correspondence and personal papers Series 138509 1967-1997 1969-1973
Physical Description: 11 folders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence 38511 1967-1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Correspondence 38512 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Correspondence 38513 1970-1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Correspondence for speaking engagements 38515 1967-1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Huckleberry's for Runaways book promotion tour 38578 1969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Huckleberry's for Runaways book revision materials 38579 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Huckleberry 20th and 25th anniversary reunions 38550 1987 and 1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Autobiographical notes and typescript obituary 38549 1997, 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organizational files Series 238747 1967-1997
Physical Description: 4 folders
Scope and Contents
The Huckleberry House Community Resources Coordinator files in this series consist of a combination of original and photocopied documents, apparently compiled by Lou Ann Needels, Community Resources Coordinator at Huckleberry House in the 1980s. They include a report on the peer counseling program that Needels created, together with letters from youth to Huckleberry House, program fliers, a student report and deposition of Jesse Byrd.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Huckleberry House peer counseling journals [photocopies] 38544 1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Huckleberry House Community Resources Coordinator files 38543 1981-1983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Huckleberry House, Youth Advocates, Inc., and Huckleberry Youth Programs Reports 38523 1970-1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ephemera 38546 1967-1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Deposition of Jesse Byrd: Racial Discrimination in the Treatment of Minorities in SFPD Circa 1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Annual Reports 2013-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>The Haight Ashbury: an Overview of Resources and Activities 1967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Description: 5 folders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Raid on Huckleberry's 38522 1967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General
Includes a letter to Reverend Beggs and a photocopy of a proposal and budget for Huckleberry's, both of which were filed with these clippings when the collection was received.

box 2, folder 12  Huckleberry's for Runaways book reviews 38517 1969
box 2, folder 13  Huckleberry clippings 38518 1967-2005
box 2, folder 14  Chronicle series "Nobody's Child" 38520 1998
box 2, folder 15  General clippings 38751 1967-1982

Publications Series 438748 1965-1995

Physical Description: 2 folders, 1 flat box

box 2, folder 16  Publications featuring Huckleberry's 38750 1967-1968
box-folder 2, folder 17, box 3  Background research publications 38749 1965-1995 1965-1968
box 6, folder 2-4  Articles about Huckleberry House 1967-1997
box 6, folder 1  From Huckleberry's for Runaways and Youth Advocates: Our Report 1973
box 6, folder 5  We Are the People Our Parents Warned Us Against by Nicholas Von Hoffman 1968


Physical Description: 1 flat box, 1 flat file

box 4, folder 1  Photo collage posters 38754 1967-1969
box 4, folder 2  Newscutting posters 38753 1968
box 4, folder 3  Printed posters 38755 [ca. 1968-1969] and 1997
box 5  Oversize posters 38752 1969-1987

Audiotapes Series 638553 1967-1969

Physical Description: 5 reels in 1 box
Digitized copies
Digitized copies of original taped audiotapes are filed with the collection, in DVD-RW format.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements
Five reel-to-reel magnetic audiotapes. Reels 1 and 2 are 7-inch; Reels 3-5 are 5-inch; and Reel 5 is 3 1/4-in.

Scope and Contents
Client interviews, media interviews with Beggs, interviews with people on the street, family sessions, Beggs' appearance on the Mike Douglas show in March 1969, and a news conference on the police raid of Oct. 20, 1967.

disk 1-2, reel 1  Family Session and News Conference (not available) 38757 October 6 and 23, 1967
disk 3-6, reel 2  Client interviews at Huckleberry House (not available) 38758 Nov. 15-16, 1967
reel 3, disk 7  Media interviews with Beggs at Huckleberry's and street interviews on Haight Street 38759 undated
reel 4, disk 8-9  Phone call between Beggs and SFPD Missing Persons Bureau officer McKevitt; and interview with runaway client, Greg (not available) 38760 undated
reel 5, disk 10  Beggs on the Mike Douglas Show 38756 Spring 1969


Physical Description: 4 folders
General
The folder labeled "Bob Fitch's contact sheets on Huckleberry House 1967" is labeled according to Beggs' original folder label; however, the pages themselves are later, undated reproductions (laser printed or color photocopied).

disk 1-2, reel 1  Family Session and News Conference (not available) 38757 October 6 and 23, 1967

folder SF Photo 1  "Bob Fitch's contact sheets on Huckleberry House 1967" 38581 undated
folder SF Photo 2  John Gorman photographs 38584 1967
folder SF Photo 3  38583 1967-1968
folder SF Photo 4  Photographs separated from other series 38577

SFH 4911