

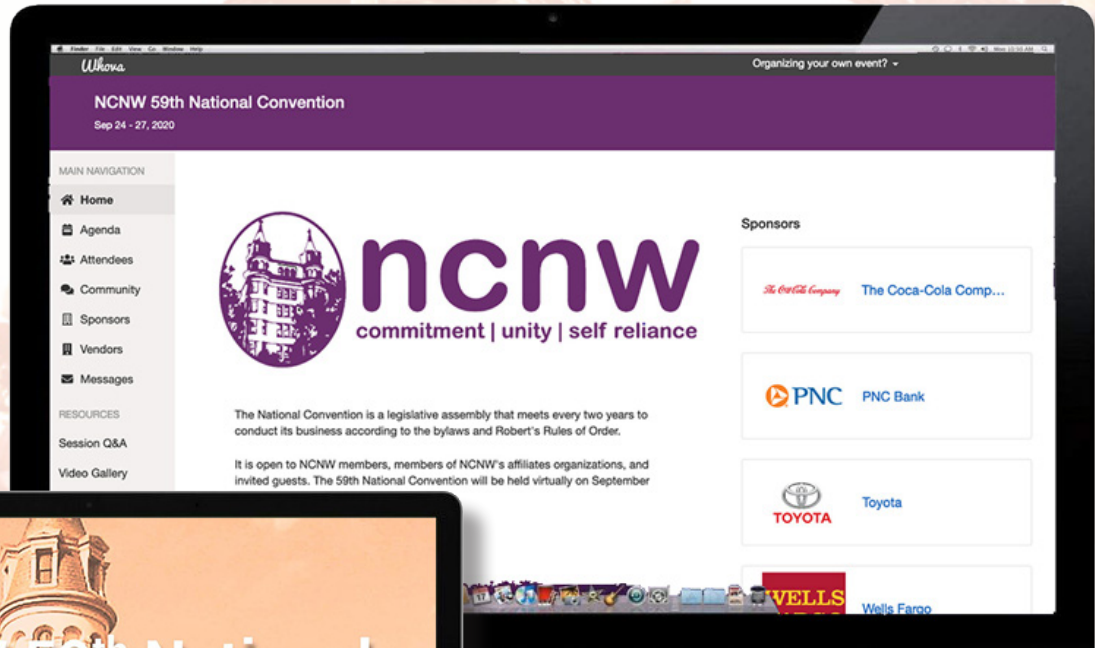


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2020 Fall Edition • Vol. VI

SISTERS

MAGAZINE



Inside:

- 59th Convention Highlights
- Introducing New Director of Philanthropy
- Affiliate Spotlight
- Why We Must Vote

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



THE IMPERATIVE OF MORAL LEADERSHIP

6

10 AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT: THE LINKS INCORPORATED



WHY WE MUST VOTE

12

14 INTRODUCING NCNW'S DIRECTOR OF PHILANTHROPY



NCNW 59TH CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

23

19 MENTORING THE MILLENNIAL

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS 28

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Darren Walker is president of the Ford Foundation, a \$13 billion international social justice philanthropy. Under his leadership, the Ford Foundation recently became the first nonprofit foundation in US history to issue a \$1 billion social bond in the US taxable bond market to increase grant making to stabilize and strengthen nonprofit organizations in the wake of COVID-19. He is a member of Governor Cuomo's Reimagining New York Commission and co-chair of NYC Census 2020. He also chaired the philanthropy committee that brought a resolution to the city of Detroit's historic bankruptcy.

Before joining Ford, Darren was vice president at Rockefeller Foundation, overseeing global and domestic programs. In the 1990s, he was COO of the Abyssinian Development Corporation, Harlem's largest community development organization.

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Dr. Julianne Malveaux is a labor economist and noted author, who has been described by Dr. Cornel West as "the most iconoclastic public intellectual in the country." She hosts Malveaux! for University of the District of Columbia television and her opinion pieces have been published in USA Today, Black Issues in Higher Education, Ms. Magazine, Essence Magazine, and the Progressive. Dr. Julianne Malveaux has been a contributor to academic life since receiving her Ph.D. in economics from MIT in 1980 and served as the 15th President of Bennett College for Women, America's oldest historically black college for women.



Take the UN Red Card Pledge Today. Join the global movement to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls.

A **red card** in soccer spotlights and helps prevent unfair or dangerous behavior. We, therefore, give the RED CARD to discrimination and violence against women and girls in all forms and in all countries.

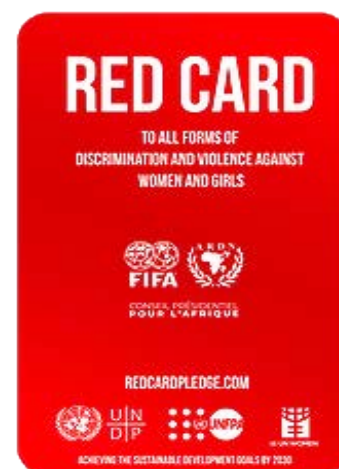
We **commend** all governments for committing on 25 September 2015 at the United Nations to achieve - by 2030 at the latest - 17 "Sustainable Development Goals" in order to end poverty and hunger; reduce inequality; build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; protect the planet and its natural resources; and generate decent work for all.

We **appeal** to women and men around the globe to help reach Goal number 5 for achieving gender equality everywhere and empowering all women and girls.

We **urge** individuals, associations, enterprises, local and regional authorities, governments and intergovernmental bodies - to make this an absolute priority. It is long overdue, and it is a prerequisite for reaching other Sustainable Development Goals.

We **pledge** to fully respect every other human being, regardless of gender, culture, color, language, social origin, birth, property or religion, hence to put an end to all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

This will **enable** everyone to stand together in an Equal Light of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals



Take the Red Card Pledge
www.redcardpledge.com

From the President's Desk:

Voting is Life!

"The right to vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool or weapon in a democratic society. Use it"

-John Lewis

My dear sisters of the National Council of Negro Women,

This is my last opportunity to speak with you in our Sisters Magazine before the November 3rd election. I do so with a great sense of urgency for I am absolutely certain that our well-being as Black women, and the well-being of our families, our communities, our nation, and even our world are on the November ballot. As our sister Orpah Winfrey has said, "Beyond all the policy issues that will matter most in the future –the economy, climate change, healthcare, social security, education – what's really at stake are civility, decency, humanity. The hatred that has been unleashed will take some reckoning to overcome."

So much is at stake in every election, but in this November 3rd election, some of the fundamental tenets of our democracy, and the soul of our nation are at stake. And so many of the gains we as Black people have fought for are at risk of being lost. It is not an exaggeration to say that we must vote as if our lives depend on it. Because they do!

In most U.S. elections, for every ten U.S. adults, six vote and four do not. We do not know if that pattern will hold this year. But what we do know is that right now, there are systematic efforts to spread false information about voting and to actively suppress voter turnout---- much of which is aimed at our communities. As leader Stacey Abrams has said, "Efforts to suppress the vote and depress voter turnout are alive and well in Georgia." And Georgia is certainly not the only state where that is true.

My sisters, I can hear you saying that in urging us to vote, I am preaching to the choir, for Black women are a demographic group in our country who vote in large numbers. And you, my NCNW sisters, have a track record of civic engagement and participating in elections.

Stephanie Lahart was talking about you and me when she said: "Dear Black girls and Black women... we matter, our presence matters, our voices matter, and our votes matter. Make no mistake about it... we are powerful. We disrupt the norm and change the system for the betterment of all people."

I am not preaching to the choir. What I am doing is asking you, "the choir," to get others to sing with you. My plea is for you to do anything and everything that you can to make sure that everyone in your family, your circle of friends, your neighborhood, your church, your workplace, your clubs, and your beauty parlor have registered to vote and will vote. You and I must do this important work because, as President Obama has said: "There is no such thing as a vote that doesn't count." These are the words of our forever First Lady Michelle Obama for anyone who does not vote: "When you don't vote, you're letting someone else take over your own life." And Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison put it plainly when he said: "Not voting is not a protest. It is a surrender."

As you may know, our sister Executive Director Janice Mathis designed and led #Adulting101, an NCNW project that encourages young Black Americans to vote by providing relevant information that speaks directly to their generation. At the end of this message, you will find the goals of the project,



From the President's Desk: Voting is Life!

information about early voting, how to project ourselves from fake news, and useful resources on voting.

During our #Adulging101 programs, young folks, and folks like myself who are far from young, have been inspired by Yellopain, a young rapper from Dayton, Ohio who is on a mission to incentivize Black Americans of his generation to vote.

He makes a compelling case for voting with these three lines:

“See, they don’t wanna see us vote
and we never do so we see the same thing
but all our votes really do count”

Toward the end of his highly instructive and engaging rap, this is what our young brother says we could gain if we all vote:

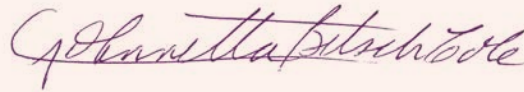
“Imagine life on the other side; roads better, schools better everybody get they license back, grocery store food better custody of your kids back, homeless people get new shelters if we gonna fix the U.S., we gotta start with them two letters, me and you somebody told us that the government want to keep us broke but the only reason why those people in the government is cause we ain’t vote and I ain’t talking about the president I’m talking about

the ones we ain’t know see they was gonna try keep it low but it’s gonna hurt’em when they see them polls”

What Yellopain says in his rap is summed up in these words of Michelle Obama: “Voting is the only way to ensure that your concerns matter. Period.”

From my heart to yours, my NCNW sisters, receive my plea that you reach out to any and everyone that you can to urge them to vote. The information below will be useful to you as you go on a mission to help to turn around what is negatively affecting our lives, the lives of our families and communities by making sure that Black Americans vote in record numbers. This is a sacred mission. And it is a mission that together, we can surely accomplish. As an African proverb says: “Sticks in a bundle cannot be broken.”

Onward!



Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph.D.
Chair & 7th National President



ncnw #Adulging 101: Project Goals

- ❖ **TO FACILITATE** a conversation among young Black people about the importance of civic participation
- ❖ **TO MOTIVATE** young Black people to value their vote, especially in an age of voter suppression
- ❖ **TO MOBILIZE** young Black people to encourage their peers and family members to vote and to become active in issues that are important to them.
- ❖ **TO COUNTERACT** the disillusionment that makes some potential voters feel that voting is not as useful for creating change as it should be
- ❖ **TO RECOGNIZE** and avoid being influenced by Fake News

ncnw #Adulging 101: Fact vs. Fiction

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM FAKE NEWS

We are all fully aware of what happened in 2016. African-American communities were targeted as a major part of online disinformation campaigns to negatively impact their vote. To help shield against anything like this ever happening again, we have provided a few tips to assist you in being vigilant about protecting yourself against fake news.

1. **Actively seek out the truth from multiple credible sources.** Information you seek out directly will usually be of higher quality than what you absorb passively on social media. Notice what percentage of your time you spend on authoritative news sites as opposed to news you get from social media. NewsGuard and MediaBiasFactCheck.com have a comprehensive set of ratings of news outlets for partnership and fact-based reporting. Install the NewsGuard browser plug-in to help you navigate news sources online.
2. **Ask yourself who the author of online content is, why they posted the information, and what they are hoping you will do with it.** Scrutinize the information you read before you share, especially if it confirms what you already believe to be true. Social media transparency features may be able to help you establish context.
3. **Avoid being manipulated by divisive or dishonest content.** Often times, social media outlets tend to reward the most outrageous and often false take on any event. When you share, make sure you are sharing content that is true and helpful to others, not as a knee-jerk reaction to content that angers or scares you.
4. **If you see something untrue on social media, try to inject truth into the debate without attacking the sharer (they may be a victim of false content themselves).** Fact-checkers like Snopes, AP FactCheck, PolitFact, Factcheck.org, and Lead Stories may be able to help.

ncnw #Adulging 101: Resources

Voter Information Center	
TURBOvote	https://turbovote.org/
VOTE.ORG	https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/
866OURVOTE	https://866ourvote.org/
Factcheck.org	https://www.factcheck.org/search/#qsc.tab=0
PolitiFact	https://www.politifact.com/
Campus Vote	https://www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides
Student Voting Toolkit	https://www.studentvoting.org/toolkit

The Imperative of Moral Leadership

Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation

Dear NCNW Family,

I hope you will be as enlightened and inspired as I was by what Brother President Darren Walker of the Ford Foundation has written in his letter below. Each of us must call for, vote for, and insist on moral leadership in every sector of our nation. And we must require no less of ourselves.

Onward!

Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph.D.



Illustration by Sonia Pulido

In the late fall of 1863, President Abraham Lincoln traveled to a small town in Pennsylvania, the site of the American Civil War's bloodiest battle. On that sunny, November day—the war still raging—Lincoln addressed the ages. The republic, he said, was engaged in a great battle, testing whether democracy can long endure.

Nearly 157 years on, we, too, are engaged in a test of whether democratic values and institutions can endure. And the test is happening everywhere, all at once.

It's become commonplace to note that America faces a pandemic of pandemics: Fear and fire and fury that betray corruption and climate catastrophe and callous indifference to 400 years of a racialized caste system; a lethal virus and subsequent economic fallout that lay bare the profoundly unequal ways in which we survive or succumb—in which we live and die. Already, America has lost as many people to the coronavirus during the last eight months as during the two-plus years of battle leading up to that decisive conflict in Gettysburg.

In this context—in any context—the passing of icons Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Congressman John Lewis felt like heavy blows. And, in addition to the lives

we mourn, we grieve countless other losses: Visits with family or meals with friends. A first day of school. Plans cancelled, and dreams deferred. Birthdays, graduations, and holidays—all those rites of passage, stolen. Lost forever, a precious moment to sit with a loved one in their final days, or a memorial service to say goodbye.

In these cases, some of us might say, “thank goodness for technology”—for the video calls and internet service that keep us connected. But I grieve for those children without tablets and laptops and high-speed connections at home, in urban communities and rural ones alike. Shame on us for asking students—some 12 million kids across the United States—to click into classrooms from the parking lots of fast-food restaurants.

This is hardly the only way inequality has announced itself, or amplified our anguish. The statistics and stories abound.

A couple of weeks ago, clicking through the channels late at night, I landed on C-SPAN's Washington Journal. The producers had opened the phone lines and invited Americans to share how the pandemic had affected them. Some people had lost their jobs, but not received the

The Imperative of Moral Leadership *(continued)*

unemployment checks promised to them. Others were staring down an eviction or a foreclosure. Thea, from South Carolina, openly wept as she described her situation—her desperation and anxiety about merely caring for herself.

As she spoke, I found myself weeping with her. Her story was a gut punch—a visceral reminder of how much people are hurting.

Our converging crises—these unceasing traumas—continue to exact a physical and mental toll from each of us. The road here has been exhausting; the road forward seems daunting, especially when it feels we are careening out of control or teetering on the edge of a cliff.

This is a season of suffering—in the United States and around the world. The sum of all this suffering, of all this mourning, of all this daily grief, can be a crushing burden to carry, especially when it feels as though we must carry it on our own. We're all grappling with our own version of what Michelle Obama rightly called "some form of low-grade depression."

And as we bear all of these trials, there is another test—a test akin to the one Lincoln described—that will determine whether and how democracy can long endure:

A test of moral leadership

We know what effective leadership looks like. When faced with any crisis, with any kind of uncertainty or upheaval, we instinctively look to our leaders—to the people we respect and admire, who call on us to be and do better. As children, it starts with the parents, teachers, and coaches, and other adults in our lives. As students, we pore over those profiles in courage: the stories of statespeople who attended to our ancestors through adversity. At work, we look to the executives in charge or generals in command. We look to authority figures in their various disciplines—the doctor at the hospital, the principal of the school—to exercise their expertise; to organize and orchestrate; to challenge, encourage, or inspire. To tell the truth.



We should expect no less of our elected officials and the institutions they steward, especially in times of local, national, and global crisis. At minimum, we expect some basic level of competence and compassion.

We also know what the downfall of leadership looks like. We have seen the perils associated with immoral leadership. We've seen firsthand how quickly democracies can decay into autocracies—whether in Europe, Africa or Asia, the Americas or the Middle East.

The patterns are consistent, and all too familiar. Truths dismissed as falsehoods. Propaganda and gaslighting embraced as truth. Peaceful protestors attacked. Journalists vilified. Experts undermined. Justice systems politicized as tools of autocracy rather than equality. Human rights jeopardized. The voices and votes of too many suppressed, or, simply, uncounted.

All of these egregious violations not only foment inequality, but share a common factor: impunity.

Through eight decades of work around the world, we at the Ford Foundation have seen how impunity—unjust action without consequence—erodes institutions, and permits and perpetuates corruption, all while exacerbating inequality. We've borne witness to the ways in which a lack of accountability undermines the rule of law.

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The Imperative of Moral Leadership *(continued)*

For years, scholars and experts have warned that American institutions are not immune. Many have sounded—and are sounding—the alarm about the impunity with which norms have been pushed aside in the pursuit of unchecked power and the dangers of “democratic backsliding.”

To be sure, American history is rife with injustice. But I have always believed that we were pushing towards progress—however unevenly and incrementally. As an avowed optimist, I never quite grasped—until recently—what it could mean for extreme impunity to become a wrecking ball to the America I love. At the time, perhaps, it was my shortfall of empathy or imagination; now, to not recognize our vulnerability is simply delusion.

For when we look to our leaders in challenging times, we assume they will rise to those challenges. We expect that given the responsibility and opportunity, a person’s character and values prevail. We hope that some sense of common good or decency, honor or shame, might awake their better angels, compel them to look past their cynicism or self-interest, even shake them from their silence.

To me, that we have fallen this far points to a failure of moral leadership.

And by moral leadership, I do not mean the kind that moralizes; we don’t need self-righteousness, but selflessness. I don’t claim any special access to moral principles, nor mean to suggest the primacy of any kind or class of individual. I do believe, however, that in every theater of our lives, we need more people focused on the bigger, broader objective beyond the next earnings call or election: a long-term vision for a more just society. We need leaders who are motivated by values and incentives and outcomes that transcend those offered by the systems which, by design or neglect, have widened inequality to an untenable degree. We need new profiles in courage—more business leaders who serve the interests of all their stakeholders, not only their shareholders; more elected officials who serve a common good, not only the donors and partisans who comprise their base of support.

We need these leaders, not only for ourselves but for others. After all, right now, the world watches and wonders whether America can live up to its promise as a champion of human rights and a beacon of liberty and justice for all.

To be sure, America’s leadership crisis is far from new; like inequality, it has only been made excruciatingly plain during recent months and years. It is not even the first time I have spoken about moral leadership. It will likely not be the last because this crisis of moral leadership cuts across every issue.

Every one of our ongoing crises has been compounded by choices made and not made. Choices that deny humanity and dignity and justice to others on a daily basis, whether they take the form of active harm or passive neglect. Choices that, in an era of impunity and inequality, yield no consequences for the powerful, and too many for everyone else.

In this way, moral leadership—of all kinds, in every movement and institution, organization and community—is a prerequisite for positive change. And my continued hope comes from my faith that we can turn the tide, as we have before. To paraphrase Gwen Carr, the mother of Eric Garner, we can channel our mourning into a movement, our pain into purpose.

If our heroes could step up to meet their moments, so can we. If John Lewis and Ruth Bader Ginsburg could—if Fannie Lou Hamer and Shirley Chisholm could—we can too. And we must.

A vision of absolute equality

Six years after Lincoln asked whether democracy can long endure, four years after the test at Appomattox, Frederick Douglass offered a vision for not just endurance but transformation. As historian David Blight writes in his Pulitzer-Prize-winning biography of Douglass, in 1869, he traveled the country, delivering perhaps the most remarkable of his orations, *Our Composite Nationality*.

continued on page 37



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NCNW Mission:

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) mission is to lead, empower and advocate for women of African descent, their families and communities.

The National Council of Negro Women is an “organization of organizations” (comprised of 300 campus and community-based sections and 32 national women’s organizations) that enlightens, inspires and connects more than 2,000,000 women and men. NCNW was founded in 1935 by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, an influential educator and activist, and for more than fifty years, the iconic Dr. Dorothy Height was president of NCNW. Johnnetta Betsch Cole was elected Chair of NCNW in 2018, ushering in a new era of social activism and continued progress and growth for the organization. Today, NCNW’s programs are grounded on a foundation of critical concerns known as “Four for the Future”. NCNW promotes education with a special focus on science, technology, engineering and math; encourages entrepreneurship, financial literacy and economic stability; educates women about good health and HIV/AIDS; promotes civic engagement and advocates for sound public policy and social justice.



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AFFILIATES HIGHLIGHT: THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

Written by Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, PhD

A Leading Voice for Transformational Change

Supporters for impoverished, yet hopeful Jamaican school children. Voter registration volunteers to make sure every voice is heard. One million steps walked by members and others in the community all over the world in the quest for health. STEM educators ensuring that students are educated and equipped for careers and education. Classical arts presenters to nurture arts for the next generation.

In these cases and countless others, members of The Links, Incorporated, exemplify the phrase “friends who serve.” The organization has evolved over its near 75-year history from a small club into a significant philanthropic force founded on the tenants of friendship and service. By the numbers, its more than 16,000 members and 288 chapters in 41 states, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and the United Kingdom give more than 1 million volunteer hours each year in the communities where they serve. In the last two years, more than 965,000 people have been served through organizational programs. More than \$3.9 million in scholarships has been awarded to deserving students—\$678,350 to HBCUs.

In this recent season, The Links, Incorporated has been a strong and consistent voice calling for police reform, equality in the criminal justice system and increased voter representation as well as participation. The organization has found strength in forging partnerships with those who share her goals and mission. Among them: the NAACP to ban hate speech on social media; Sisters United4Reform - the coalition of national presidents of 13 Black women’s organizations - to advocate on behalf of health, legislative and social issues that impact communities of color; and M Financial to financially empower members and the communities they serve. When given a seat at the



Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, Ph.D.
National President

proverbial table, The Links, Incorporated has always used its voice to give power to those whose voices aren’t readily heard.

“We identify needs within communities, assess what can be done to meet those needs and work toward solutions,” says National President Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, Ph.D. “Our efforts have proved fruitful; however, we cannot rest on our laurels. There is so much more work to do and so many more people in need. The members of The Links, Incorporated are determined to heed the call.”

The practice of raising a collective voice is not new. It is firmly rooted in the origins of The Links, Incorporated, which was founded on November 9, 1946 by two young Philadelphia women, Margaret Rosell Hawkins and Sarah Strickland Scott. The new club soon spread across the East Coast, into the South and throughout the country with groups established in the first 10 years of its existence. The attraction was the combination of supportive relationships and

The Links, Incorporated *(continued)*

working to meet the needs of African American women, children, and families. As one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations, it is a space within which extraordinary women find friends who share their commitment to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. The Links' mission is one of a long-standing tradition of engaging in educational, civic, and intercultural activities in the communities where members live and serve. Those women support core values which include friendship, integrity, honesty, service, commitment, family relationships, courage, respect for self and others, legacy, confidentiality, responsibility, and accountability.

These attributes are commonly visible in the lives of the organization's membership, who are influential decision makers and opinion leaders. Professionally, members are broadly represented across many disciplines. They are members of congress, college presidents, journalists, physicians, corporate executives, teachers, attorneys and independent businesswomen. Their skill sets and life experiences offer an important enhancement to the programming that is offered in communities in the United States and around the world.



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

Programs are often described as "the heart" of the organization. They are implemented through strategies such as public information and education, economic empowerment, and public policy campaigns. The organization's efforts are expressed through five areas called "facets" which include Services to Youth, The Arts, National Trends and Services, International Trends and Services, and Health and Human Services. Through these facets, we implement programs and initiatives that address the most critical needs of underserved communities. Annually, The Links, Incorporated impacts the lives of more than 3 million people at home and abroad.

Services to Youth was the first facet. It was created to



continued on page 38

WHY WE MUST VOTE

by Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Every election, voting rights advocates tell us, “this is the most important election of our lifetime.” While they may have exaggerated in the past, the world as we know it has already been markedly changed. If you care about civil rights, human rights, health care, education, the environment, consumer protection, or economic justice, you must vote. We have seen significant damage to our civil society and the erosion of some rights that we have taken for granted. The challenge is that some of our rights have been snatched back through regulation, not law. For example, more than 60 Obama-era environmental regulations have been rescinded. Developers and others are no longer required to produce economic impact studies because they take “too long.” Regulations on greenhouse gas emissions have been lifted for both automobiles and power plants. And that’s just the tip of the environmental iceberg.

Attorney General Barr reversed a regulation that protected transgender people from employment discrimination. The President suspended the rule that required companies with more than 100 employees to



an investigation of an Equifax data breach. Members of the CFPB who publicly criticized the administration were fired. Weakening the CFPB leaves individuals with little protection from consumer fraud. One example is the appointment of Kathy Kraminger, with no experience in banking or finance, to lead the Office of Management and Budget. She is not the only one.

Consider Betsey DeVos, the Secretary of Education, who is neither an educator nor an education leader. DeVos favors private education and school choice, reversing several Obama executive orders, especially one that regulated exploitative for-profit higher education. She also suspended guidelines that attempted to reduce racial difference in the proportion of students suspended.

If you enjoy the Obama-legacy bashing, the environmental destruction, the attack on civil and human rights, stay home. Your vote, though, should not only be about public policy, but also temperament and personality. Our President is an uncouth lout who picks fights both domestically and internationally because he thinks he can get away with it. He enjoys attacking women, especially women of color. His bombastic rhetoric has diminished us on the world stage in contrast to his pledge to “Make America Great Again.” His constant assertion that he has “done more for Black America than any other President except maybe Abraham Lincoln” illustrates his abject ignorance of history, as evidenced by his attempt to hold a rally in Tulsa,

continued on page 39



report wages by race and gender to the EEOC as a way of documenting the gender wage gap. Thanks to the Women’s Law Center, who took this to court, a judge required the EEOC to collect and report the data. Mick Mulvaney, who was a member of Congress when the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was established in 2011, called it a “joke.” When he was appointed Acting Director of CFPB, he immediately imposed a hiring freeze, relaxed restrictions on predatory lending, and scaled back

The views and opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Any content provided by the author is her opinion, and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.



RESPECT FOR ALL PEOPLE

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Introducing NCNW's Director of Philanthropy

by Kayla Allen

Our NCNW president has a vision for expanding the resources of the organization. Dr. Cole's vision includes having a Director of Philanthropy. She moved onward with her vision and selected **Ms. Roslyn Hannibal-Booker** to serve as NCNW's Director of Philanthropy!

Ms. Hannibal-Booker officially joined the NCNW Headquarters staff in September. She most recently served as the Director of Development at The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C. We conducted a wonderful Q&A interview in order for the NCNW family to learn much more about our sister Roslyn:

"It's a beautiful day, both the wind is blowing and sunshine, so no complaints!" Ms. Hannibal-Booker happily expresses as the interview begins.

Tell us where you are from.

I am originally from Baltimore, Maryland. I attended high school as well as college in Baltimore. I attended Coppin State as well as the University of Baltimore as far as college.

What is your role at NCNW?

I think I have one of the best positions at NCNW. My role is to lead fundraising efforts to partner and build relationships with funders and to collaborate with leadership members and staff to ensure adequate revenue streams. So that NCNW remains fiscally sound.

How long have you been working in Philanthropy?

I've been working in this area for over 25 years. I actually started at my Alma mater, Coppin state, under the leadership of the Vice President, Charles B. Wright, who went on to be my mentor for some time before his death.

Is there a Philanthropist you admire?

I would say the Philanthropist that I most admire is my mother, Ella Hannibal, and not because she has been in a position to give large amounts of money, but she is a life giver. And because she is on a fixed income, it is impressive to see someone who stretches their limit to give both financially and personally. I've witnessed my mother, give to family, friends, strangers, and enemies alike from money to food, to clothing. And, she does so with a pure heart. So when I think of philanthropy, I think of someone who is giving, whether it's finances or other resources, but doing so, for the other person and not what they will get in return.

Why is NCNW's mission important to you?

I have a passion for supporting women's organizations, not only through membership and my own sorority, but, approximately three years ago I was appointed by the Hartford County executive as a member of Hartford County women's commission and able to be a voice at the table for the County in which I live in. So for me, it is



Introducing NCNW's Director of Philanthropy *(continued)*

important that women, especially women of African descent, have a place at the table. Our mission of leading, empowering and advocating for black women fits with me personally.

Are you a sorority member?

I am a member of THEE Zeta Phi Beta sorority incorporated, which is celebrating 100 years of service, scholarship, finer womanhood and sisterly love. I am a life member as well as a legacy member. I've served on all levels of this sorority, both in appointed and elected positions. And I am the immediate past chair of the international educational foundation.

Name three words your family or friends would use to describe you?

The first is authentic...compassionate and resilient. And I think those words describe me both personally and professionally

What is your favorite quote and why?

My favorite quote is by Maya Angelou, and it is "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style." It's my favorite, not because it's one of the most recognized by Maya Angelou, but it just resonates with me. I think that this quote describes me more than those three words and every time I hear it and think of it, it makes me smile.

Why do you Vote?

I have been voting ever since I've had the opportunity. For me, voting is important because it ensures that my voice is heard and voting is a pillar of our democracy. Everybody has the right to select who represents them and everyone should take part in the opportunity to select who is representing them.

What positive change do you wish to see in the world?

If I had a magic wand, the change that I would want to see in the world is equity. The constitution states that all men and women are created equal. So my passion and hope for the world is that we all be able to be treated equitably without prejudice and full of compassion.

What does Sisterhood mean to you?

Sisterhood is an unconditional bond between females and I am so blessed because I have special relationships, not only with my biological sister, Anita Saunders, but I have a sister by another mother, a close friend, Gail Light, and also a sister of love, Debra Harper Hill. And to have women who are available to guide you, sometimes pull you back and stop you, is a very special bond that I think we all need more of. Individuals who accept you for who you are and who are willing to love you and you're able also to pour into them.

Finish this sentence...I LOVE BEING A BLACK WOMAN BECAUSE...

...we are uniquely blessed to be versatile in every shape and form imaginable. We are resilient. Like the sequoia trees, our roots are deep and unbreakable. We walk into the room, we bring sunshine. When we are angered, we can bring the thunder and we pray. We represent love.

What interesting activity have you done since the COVID-19 lockdown?

My mom and I did an art project over the summer during COVID, and we actually did a hand casting of us holding hands. So it was something that she and I were able to do together. It is something that we have forever to cherish and to think back on during the time of COVID... we were together holding hands.

continued on page 40

Washington Section Awarded Humanities DC Grant

Capturing Its 77-Year Old History

The Washington Section recently received a \$7,000 (DC Collaborative Oral History New Project grant to document its 77-year history. The grant was made possible by the Humanities Council of Washington, DC (HumanitiesDC), an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, DC Historical Preservation Office, and the DC Public Library.

The project *“The Washington Section, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., Monument or Movement — Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”* is the brainchild of Legacy Life member, Nettie Hails, 92, who served as Section President from 1997 to 1999. The theme was drawn from the words of NCNW President Emerita, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, one of the few women leaders of the civil rights movement, who once remarked, *“We have to realize we are building a movement and not a monument.”*

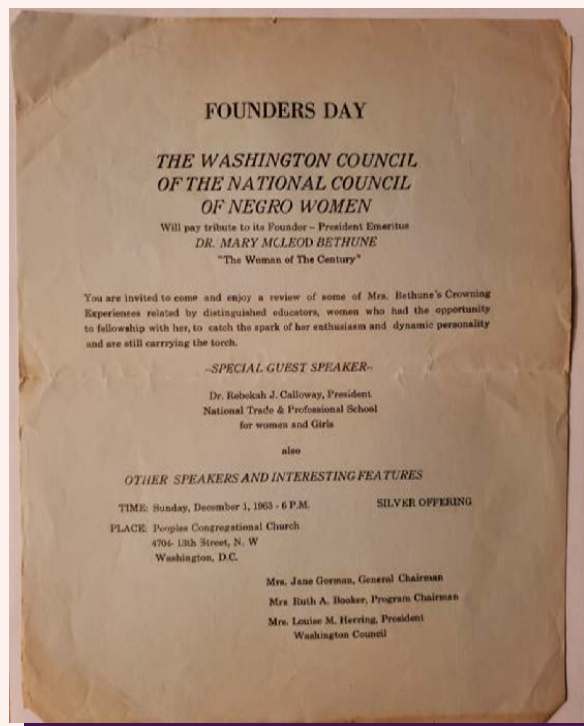
This project will help illuminate the extent to which NCNW built a movement and not a monument. It will explore the changing social, economic and cultural climate of DC over the last seven decades. Part I of the project will capture the “voices” of five of the nine living presidents, women who served in their administration, or were members of the Washington Section who worked and lived these times. They will share their personal stories and perspectives on how NCNW faced the ongoing challenges of segregation, integration, urban renewal, gentrification, poverty, crime, educational system upheaval, and systemic racism. Part II will involve extensive research and the collection, documentation, and preservation of Section and personal records, photos, and other memorabilia into a book with expected completion in 2022. This work has taken on a sense of urgency because the Section does not have a published history and many of its seasoned members have passed on.

The Section will invite the public to a virtual screening of the interviews in late December 2020, followed by an intergenerational discussion to assess how the organization is meeting and has met pressing community needs throughout the years.

Washington Section President Lori Hawkins, a second generation NCNW Life member, summed up the importance of the project this way, *“It is our hope that these compelling stories will educate our communities about the work of NCNW, provide a roadmap for effective community service, and inspire the next generation of women leaders to continue its mission to lead, advocate for and empower women of African descent, their families and communities.”*

For more information, please contact:

Linda Lynch
Project Director, WSNCNW, Inc.
Lynch.lin.54@gmail.com
(202) 584-5532



Washington Section's Founders Day Program
December 1, 1963



The Coca-Cola Company

Proudly Honors
The National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
and the
59th Annual National Convention

2020-2022 Executive Committee

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Johnnetta Betsch Cole

VICE-CHAIRS

Thelma T. Daley
Dawna Michelle Fields
Helena Johnson
Ariana Brazier - Young Adult Vice Chair

TREASURER

Beverly Beavers Brooks

RECORDING SECRETARY

Courtney Benet Lattimore
Sandra Young - Asst. Recording Secretary

PARLIAMENTARIAN EMERITA

Peola Himes Mccaskill

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Loretta S. Tillery

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Brenda Anderson (CA)
Diane Larché (GA)
Loretta Gray (OH)
Regina Majors (IN)

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE (cont'd)

Kieanna Childs Alexander (NJ)
Olivia Smith (NJ)
Valerie Hall (NY)

2020/2022 ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Jacqueline Bruessard
Kimberly Campbell Shields
Arion Jamerson
Janice Taylor
Gena Watson
Yolanda Lathern
Deborah Tucker Barrow

2020/2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Latisha Hazell
Gwen Jarvis
Rosalyn Matthews
Rose McKay
Lauren Poteat
Toi Quick
Carolyn Tibbs

**COLGATE BRIGHT SMILES, BRIGHT FUTURES® CONGRATULATES
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN
ON THEIR 59TH NATIONAL CONVENTION.**

**Because every child deserves
a future they can smile about!**



Mentoring the Millennial

by Sarah Denton

Being mentored and being a mentee is a two-fold opportunity. It was during my first year as the Young Adult Vice Chair that I learned quickly what not to do. Being an older member of the millennial generation, I learned that it was important to provide an opportunity to those I served to voice their ideas and their concerns. To be a true mentor goes beyond the organization we serve. Engagement, relationship building, connecting, respect and openness are the key ingredients of building a true and solid mentor and mentee relationship. As I roll out of my second and final term in this role, I now see that I learned more from those I served and mentored. And it's beautiful!

To connect with our younger sisters (the wings) we have to ensure to respect what they have to offer and their voice. We cannot tell them what they want or dismiss their insight. Some of my best memories in this role and prior are the opportunities I had to connect my collegiate sister(s) to be involved in my local community section, Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan (Georgia). No photo opps or hosting could truly fulfill this opportunity. Providing them a true opportunity to serve in a leadership capacity was of high importance to me and became my passion. When I became state Interim President of Georgia NCNW, I heard the feedback from my millennial sisters loud and clear. I developed and still hold a strong relationship with many ncnw sisters that were in collegiate sections during that time. One is an NCNW sister graduate from Georgia State. I saw her commitment and maturity in her role as President and her love of NCNW. I learned that it was time to connect her with more opportunities. It was important to challenge her and prepare her for what was to come after college. She was appointed as a State Corresponding Secretary and later a Co-Chair of our state day at the Capitol. All in the midst of preparing to graduate from college. And now she is working to start a section in her community.

The experience from what she shared with me later meant the world to her. It gave her a realistic view of serving in a community-based section and the networking opportunities in the field of politics for her that still are relevant her today. She inspires me to be better as a leader and big sister. It was not about me it was about the opportunity that someone gave me years

ago. Dr. Lois Keith gave me an opportunity to serve in various capacities with NCNW and I promised myself I would do the same for others. That's what mentoring and sisterhood are about. I was young, scared and unsure of what to do when given opportunities. As a matter of fact, my first national convention in 2014 was because Lois encouraged me to just attend. And I called my mother the first day in tears of joy about the legendary leaders I never imagined I would meet and build relationships with. It went beyond serving in NCNW it was about building loving and sisterly relationships with people I used to read about in the magazines or women who welcomed me with opened arms or who fit both categories.

If we want to truly embark on mentoring our youth and younger sisters we have to respect them and what they have to offer. We have to be willing to open doors for them that were opened for us. Dr. Lois Keith is one of many of the women who saw my potential despite my age at the time and gave me the push I needed to serve beyond my local section. As a mentor that in itself is valuable. As African American women we have so much that we face. But together we can be stronger and better than any group of our counterparts. When a door opens for me, I will open that door for my sister. It takes a true commitment and consistency to truly be a great mentor and even a mentee. I have many mentors in different areas of my life that I still seek guidance from. I do not have all the answers so a mentor is one that can steer us in the right direction or provide a unique perspective. It has been an honor serving in this role with NCNW these past four years. I love the direction the organization is going. It is going to take all of us to nurture, support and respect our ideas, differences and uniqueness to connect our younger sisters to continue this amazing legacy that began on December 5, 1935.



Bethune-Height Recognition Program

For the first time in the history of NCNW a Virtual Convention was held. This feat was an amazing accomplishment. Dawna and I have received nothing but accolades for the entire Convention. However, I would be remiss in my review if I did not elaborate on the presentation of the National Bethune-Height Recognition Program, orchestrated and directed by both National Co-Chairs, Johnnie M. Walker and Dawna Michelle Fields. The BHRP presentation was comprised of the History, a Keynote Speaker and rousing entertainment by a Violinist.

Followed by a Parade of States whose presentation consisted of contributions totaling \$160,000.00. Four Workshops were presented by various states, New York, Ohio, Mid-Atlantic and Rocky Mountain Regional Alliances. The successful contribution of BHRP to the Convention has resulted in other States to start their Bethune-Height Recognition Program. Dawna and I salute the leadership of NCNW as well as the Technicians who made all this possible. Thank you so much, Johnnie M. Walker and Dawna Michelle Fields, National Co-Chairs

2020 Bethune-Height Recognition Awardees

STATE OF FLORIDA

Legacy Life Members

Ethel Peoples Robin-son
Rene Waymon
Rev. Jamie Wilburn

Life Members

Audrey Miller

STATE OF GEORGIA

Legacy Life Members

Beatrice Campbell
Karen Cook
Shalela Dowdy
Karen Garrison
Alice Eason Jenkins
Janea Johnson
Mary Lucas
Charmaine Ward Milner

Life Members

Tramell Alexander
Theresa Sims Carrington
KeyAnder Early
Annette Edwards
Lillie Ellis
Phyllis Finley
Elvia Gaines-Edmond
Debbie R. Hillman
LaShaye Hutchinson
Marquita Jackson
Ingrid Lackey-Richardson
Dana Wilkerson Lynch
M.Von Odom
Stacey Paulin
Vanessa Payne
Darlene Smith

Dr. Judy Thomas

Lynette Vick
Charnita West
LaCosha Williams
Elveda Williamson

MID-ATLANTIC REGION

Legacy Life Members

Alice Hazel Brodie
Sherelle Carper
Jeanine A. Carter
Charmaine R. Davis Gurley
Marcella Hand
Aaliyah Holloway
Ayanna Holloway
Rhonda Holloway
Kylis P. Winborne, Associate
Verna C. Winn
Deidra M. Yates
Pauline J. Young

Life Members

Charmelle J. Ackins
Kimberly Ann Boone
Vernice Buell
Angelique Calloway
Patrice Clement
Cozetta Hardy
Carol J. Holsey
Paulette Howard
Catherine M. Hudgins
Donna B. Johnson
Catherine S. Leggett
Chrissie Nash
Carol A. Praylor
Valerie Scott
Jean Threadgill

Anna Forbes Towns
Demetria Wilson

Achievers

Brenda Ashanti
Valerie Hall
Deborah Johnson
Gwendylon Johnson
Thelma Johnson
Joan Douglas Jordan
Mae Laster
Crystal Lee
Peola H. McCaskill
Cypriana McCray
Shirley McKenzie
Robin Jordan Payton
Margaret Smith Perkins
Carlene Randolph
Jacqueline B. Shillings
Loretta Tillery
Tina Tyson
Julia Winborne

NEW JERSEY STATE

Legacy Life Members

Ida Anderson
Nakima C. Redmon
Sophia A. Taylor
Dr. Lossie E. Whitaker Thornton

Life Members

Robyn Alexander
Retha Rose Arnold
Gary M. Bailey
Jossie Barrino
Mary Anne Brown
Marsheena Edwards

Bethune-Height Recognition Program *(continued)*

2020 Bethune-Height Recognition Awardees

John T. Gaither, Jr.
Rev. Dr. Marcia Grayson
Jimmie Harper
Lillie Henderson
Crystal Y. Jacobs
Ernestine Duke Lowe
Dr. LiLisa Mimms
Rev. Naomi Myers
Veronica A. O'Neal
Veronica Spruill Olivieri
Eloise G. Robinson

Achievers

Rev. Sarah Benjamin
Victoria Meinga Black
Erica Blount
Joann Blount
Evelyn M. Boyd
Ruby Cotton
Georgia Daniels
Beulah Ross Gaskin
Pamela Glover
Delores Barnett Hagan
Ethel Fairley Halbedl
Erma Harmon
Beverly Hill
Lela Wingard Hughes
Lillie Hunter
Vivian S. Matthew
Sandra Cook McKnight
Ebony Parham
Kelly Price
Jean Brinkley Robertson
Olivia V. Smith
Diane Spencer
Beverly Spruill
Nancy Tiller
Virginia Tabourn
Mary Wheeler

NEWYORK STATE

Legacy Life Members

DeBorah Gadsden
Gail L. Walker
Tamia Bethea-Williams

Life Members

Josephine Atkins
Sonya O. Campbell
Patricia Ann Clayton
Phyllis L. Hanesworth

Myrlene M. Jones
Robin L. Leon-Wilcox
Betty H. Mullings
Tara Ross
Valerie J. Warren

Achievers

Sakinah Black
Beatrice Brown
Diamond Butler
Sadie M. Davis
Josephine Earley
Norma Foster-Smith
Flora Goldston
Ethel M. Havens
Ellen F. Haywood
Victoria M. Hill
Arion Jamerson
Brenda Jones
Gladys Keller
Jennifer LeGrand
Simone A. Nicholas
Junell Rollerson
Dr. Florence E. Taylor
Linda Hall Vassall
Johnnie M. Walker

NORTH CAROLINA STATE

Legacy Life Members

Alanna Pierce
Marilyn Godette
Aeronia L. Poole
Brenda Ford
Erma Crowder
Hazel Gibson

Life Members

Allyson Baxter
Courtney Berryhill
Barbara Canpbell
Alice Carr
Jessica Chadwick
Jennifer Congleton
Pamela Dail
Minerva D. Freeman
Valaida Gerald-Grimes
Emma Haggins
Sheila Jones
Barbara Lee
Ethel Lytle
Dorothy Meeks McGirt

Mildred Moore-Daniels
Janice L. Mullins
Shirley Payne
Addie Russell
Mary Simmons
Sarah Simons
Maxine Terry
Denese Tysoner
Eleanor Vanhooke
Charetta Walls
Margie Ward
Darlyn White
Theresa Williams-Smith
Ruth Worsley

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Legacy Life Members

Maggie C. Temple
Corinne Quinn

Life Members

Shawanda Alexander
LouMeshia Brown
Vanessa Brown
Halima Franklin
Evelyn Guess
Shirley Jacobs
Jennifer Lewis
Nairobi Mack
Sarah Pittmon Pearson
Gloria Juluke Scott
Dr. Michal Foriest Settles
Davetta ThiBeaux
Dorothy Randall Tsuruta Ph.D.

Achievers

Morlene Anderson
Ridwana Bentley
Catherine J. Bradford
Joyce Cooper
Mary Crenshaw
Chalon A. Green-Rogers
Laurie Hall
Linda O. Hall
Cheryl Denise Hughes
DeLores Jefferson
Dorothy J. Mason Levine
Virginia L. McClow
Karen L. Newhouse
Pearlie Young-Rainer

Bethune-Height Recognition Program (continued)

2020 Bethune-Height Recognition Awardees

OHIO STATE

Legacy Life Members

Loretta Gray
Marie A. Penn
Janice M. Taylor
Elain T. Vance

Life Members

Vivian Jackson Anderson
Theresa Cook
Cathy Davis
Charles E. Hazell
Alicia D. King
Constance Morrison
Delores Taylor

Achievers

Twyla Clark
Loretta Gray
Charlene Greene
Latisha A. Hazell
Erika Manuel
Angela Pickett
Danielle Pierre
Janice M. Taylor
Cincinnati Section
Western Reserve Section
Clark County Springfield Section
Sandusky Section
Lorain County Section

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL ALLIANCE

Legacy Life Members

Pamela Miller
Gail Pough

Life Members

Karen Alexander
Julia D. Anderson
Carrie Carter-Young
Ruby Davis
Alma Gene Harris
Oneda Harris
Kimberly R. Hill
Winona Hollins-Hauge
Mary C. Hopkins
Elma Horton
Phyllis Mobley
Dr. LeNitra Oliver
Antoinetta Oliver
Robynn Patu-Busch
Ryann Patu-Busch
Cherie Rowe-Proctor
Valorie Yarbrough

Anna B. Wheeler
Gwendolyn Whitsell
Deborah A. Wilson
Mary Young

Achievers

Queenie M. Boyd
Rev. Dr. Lillie A. Burgess
Andrea CJ Casey
Rev Dr Doris Hicks
Dr Marsha Myers-Jones
Gwendolyn M. Mark
Deborah A. Mazyck
Dorothy A. McBride
Kathleen R. Rodgers
Mildred C. Wells
Willease N. Williams
Dr. Lydia Willingham

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

Legacy Life Members

Mazie Lewis
Shirley A. Singleton

Life Members

W. Ann Bartelle
Lois B. Booker
Rebecca James Fulton
Dianne Herbert
Gwendolyn M. Jordan
Novella Smith Larkins
Betty McQueen
Janice Oates
Dorothy A. Pompey
Crystal R. Rouse
Dr. Betty Speaks
Alice Shumpert
Ida Thompson

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Legacy Life Members

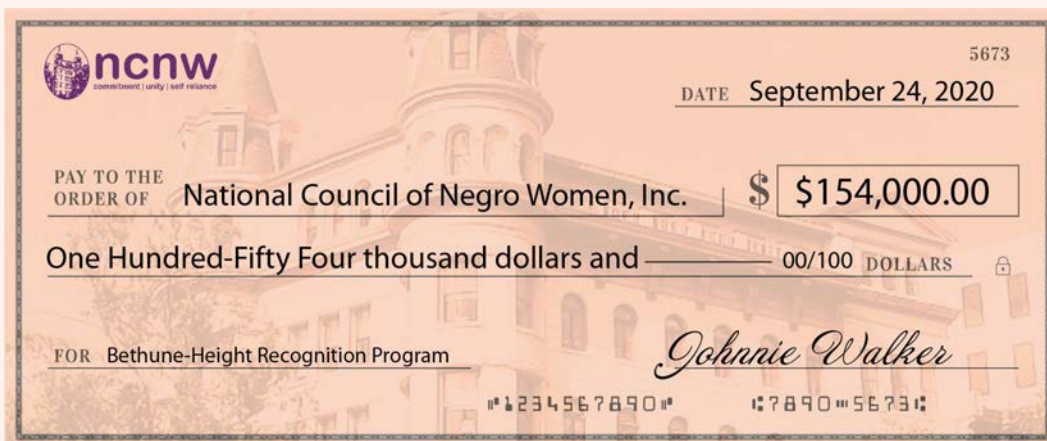
Nellie B. Moore

Life Members

Aabrianna Perry
Joan Durnell Powell
Alfonso Walker (Associate)
Lori Williams
Jamie E. Wright

Achievers

Dr. DeVera Heard
Sybella V. Ferguson Patten
Dr. Helena Johnson
Carolyn McGruder
Carlin Smith-Stine
Stephenie D. Wright



NCNW 59th Convention Highlights

Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole set the vision with the theme: For Such a Time as This: A Call for Resilience and Resurgence. To be successful the convention had to accomplish four goals:

- a. Address issues involving Four for the Future Priorities
- b. Engage members and friends
- c. Elect NCNW officers
- d. Be financially sustainable

NCNW President Johnnetta Betsch Cole, in her inimitable fashion, presented a momentous state of the organization address that can best be appreciated by visiting ncnw.org/ncnw/59highlights. The convention opened with powerful demonstrations of women's leadership ability with a live address from Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Hon. Nancy Pelosi and the Women's Leadership Forum featuring America's Mayors: Hon. Keisha Lance Bottoms, Hon. Muriel Bowser, Hon. London Breed, Hon. LaToya Cantrell and Hon. Lori Lightfoot, moderated by NCNW Finance Chair Hon. Constance Newman.

Plenary sessions included Intergenerational Perspectives; Civic Engagement; Criminal Justice Reform featuring Minnesota Attorney General Hon. Keith Ellison and Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby; Race and Gender in Corporate America, featuring The Home Depot General Counsel Teresa Roseborough; Healing Our Children from Racial Trauma; Protest in Our Voices – Power in Our Votes Town Hall Meeting, led by NCNW National Program Chair Paulette Norvel and featuring Hon. Marcia Fudge, Hon. Kweisi Mfume, Rebecca Phillips and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. National president Deborah Catchings-Smith; and Voices of Youth and Young Adults with 2Litty Tri-Chairs Arion Jamerson, Ariana Brazier and Sarah Denton. During the final "Where Do We Go From Here?" plenary participants were challenged by Congressional Black Caucus

Foundation Chair Hon. Karen Bass, informed by Joint Center President Spencer Overton, inspired by Rev. Al Sharpton and absolutely wowed by the activist Naomi Wadler.

The plenary sessions were supplemented by workshops on the United Nations Red Card Campaign to End All Forms of Violence and Discrimination Against Women and Girls, Developing STEAM Programs led by Dr. Alotta Taylor, Committee for the Future with Deborah Walls Foster and Cheryl Poinsett Brown and Interrupting the Cradle to Prison Pipeline with Ari Brazier. Charles L. Franklin Associates Co-Chairs James D. Staton and Harry Johnson presented a workshop featuring National Urban League President Marc Morial and Roland Martin, who live-streamed major convention events to more than a million people. Special attention was paid to strengthening sections with workshops on Communications, Technology, Parliamentary Procedure, Bylaws, Financial Management and Membership Development, led by National Membership Co-Chairs, Vice President Dr. A. Lois Keith and Diane Larché.

The Convention was not without fun and games. There was a dance party, a TikTok session, Caring for Ourselves: Meditation, Mindfulness and Joy session with the Peace and Purpose Coloring Book, Bethune Height Recognition Program virtual luncheon which raised an astonishing \$160,000. Members were introduced to the President's Circle and Dr. Cole honored long-serving NCNW National Parliamentarian Mrs. Peola McCaskill by designating her Parliamentarian Emerita with a moving and revealing tribute from her son, John. And we swayed to the music of the Clark Sisters and Eric Benet. Members seemed to really enjoy networking throughout the convention on the Whova App.

NCNW is grateful to Affiliate Presidents who served as Convention Tri-Chairs: Dr. Kimberly Jeffries Leonard, The Links, Inc. Dr. Martha A. Dawson,

NCNW 59th Convention Highlights *(continued)*

National Black Nurses Association and Priscilla J. Murphy, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. The Convention planning team was led by Dr. Thelma T. Daley, Hon. Patricia Lattimore, Dawna M. Fields, Rev. Leah Daughtry, Janice L. Mathis and Krystal Ramseur. The convention was ably supported by NCNW's dedicated professional colleagues Kayla Allen, David Glenn, Sandra Green, Roslyn Hannibal-Booker, Michelle Holder, Tkeban X.T. Jahannes, Jocelyn Koon,

Fannie Munlin, Dreanna Perkins, Somerlyn Stovall, Malinda Todd and Cynthia Wheeler, with technical assistance from TechFactory Productions, Loretta Tillery, Elsie Cooke-Holmes, Nichelle Poe, Willease Williams and a host of volunteers. Despite occasional technical glitches, the consensus seems to be that For Such a Time as This: A Call for Resilience and Resurgence achieved the goals set for it by NCNW.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

501 DISCUSSION TOPICS

21611 MESSAGES

NETWORKING HIGHLIGHTS

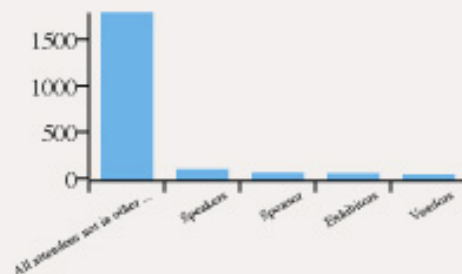
15117 PRIVATE MESSAGES

12105 PROFILE VIEWS

ATTENDEE CATEGORIES

TOP 5 ATTENDEE CATEGORIES

Category	Attendees
All attendees not in other categories	1781
Speakers	85
Sponsor	50
Exhibitors	40
Vendors	31

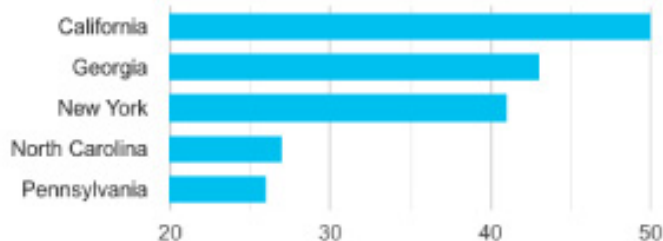


BREAKDOWN BY STATES (in the United States)

Total number of states: 32

TOP 5 STATES:

1. California (50)
2. Georgia (43)
3. New York (41)
4. North Carolina (27)
5. Pennsylvania (26)

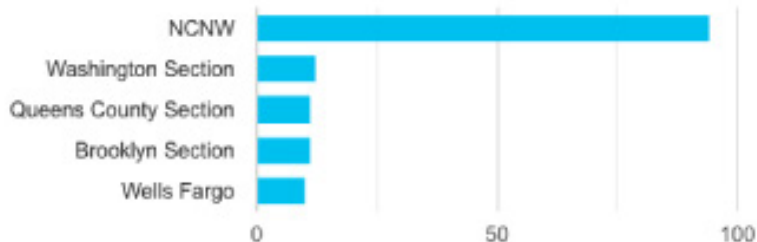


BREAKDOWN BY AFFILIATION

Total number of affiliations: 1,029

TOP 5 AFFILIATIONS:

1. NCNW (94)
2. Washington Section (12)
3. Queens County Section (11)
4. Brooklyn Section (11)
5. Wells Fargo (10)



59th Convention Planning Committee

Executive Committee

Dr. Johnnetta Betsch Cole
Janice L. Mathis Esq.
Krystal Ramseur

Credentials and Registration

Patricia Watkins Lattimore (Chairperson)
David Glenn
Shavon Arline - Bradley
Sara Dennis
Stephanie Dukes
Shelley Henderson
Toni Oats
Gloria Roberts
Derrica Williams

Program and Affiliates

Thelma T. Daley (Chairperson)
Lois Keith
Paulette Norvel Lewis
Johnnie Walker
Tamara Wilds- Lawson
Sarah Denton
Ariana Brazier
Arion Jamerson
Alotta Taylor
Deborah Foster

Bylaws

Patricia Watkins Lattimore
Andrea Casey
Marilyn Powell- Godette
Peola McCaskill
Margaret Perkins
Loretta Tillery

Marketing and Public Relations

Dawna Michelle Fields (Chairperson)
Brenda Anderson
Diane Larche'
Regina Majors
Olivia Smith

Finance

Hon. Constance B. Newman
Dr. Linda Hunt

Volunteers and Exhibitors

Michelle Holder

Nominations

Rt Rev. Leah Daughtry
Committee
Latisha Hazell
Victoria Juste
Doris Maxwell
Rose McKay
Lauren Poteat
Carolyn Tibbs

NCNW Headquarters Staff

Johnnetta Betsch Cole
Somelyn Stovall
Janice L. Mathis
Dreanna Perkins
Krystal Ramseur
Jocelyn Koon
Roslyn Hannibal- Booker
Cynthia Wheeler
Michelle Holder
David Glenn, Jr.
Malinda Todd
Tkeban X.T. Jahannes
Kayla Allen
Sandra Green

A vibrant, stylized illustration of a diverse group of women of various ages, ethnicities, and styles. The women are depicted from the chest up, wearing a variety of clothing and accessories like glasses, headscarves, and jewelry. Some are making peace signs or fist pumps. The color palette is dominated by shades of red, purple, and pink, creating a sense of unity and strength.

A FIGHT WE'LL KEEP FIGHTING.

At AARP we believe age, race and gender should never be barriers to living with dignity and purpose while fulfilling goals and dreams.

And through our advocacy, programs, and services, we'll continue to fight against discrimination, advocate for access to health care, and work to improve the lives of ALL people, especially the most vulnerable among us.

Please visit us at [AARP.org/blackcommunity](https://www.aarp.org/blackcommunity) for more information.

Proud sponsor of the National Council of Negro Women's 59th Convention

President's Circle Founding Members

In every organization there are leaders who shoulder responsibility above and beyond the call of regular duty. NCNW is fortunate to have many members who take personal responsibility for the vitality of the organization and for fidelity to its mission. The President's Circle of National Council of Negro Women was formed to thank members who are able and willing to join a special group of supporters, representing NCNW's highest level of engagement and leadership.

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Ms. Leona N. Wooden
Ms. Sandra Young
Ms. Pauline J. Young

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

ALAMANCE-GUILFORD SECTION, NORTH CAROLINA

Alamance-Guilford Section, North Carolina held our first webinar event MY Mind Matters: Stigmas on Mental Health Among People of Color on June 4, 2020.

AGS welcomed panelists from across different spectrums who were able to provide a wealth of in depth information on Mental Health within today's society in the African American community and other minority groups. Ms. Adrienne Barr- Section member, Ms. Tocarro Pemberton-Herring, Dr. Dana Carthron, and Ms. Itumeleng Shadreck MSW.

Personal experiences were shared and examples were given on many signs to look out for. Lots of questions were taken from our on-line audience on what to do if you



suspect someone has a mental illness to who to contact for help.

Many thanks goes to our moderators: Taleeka Jones-3rd Vice President, Sherea Burnett- 2nd Vice President, Margie McLean-President

DARLINGTON COUNTY SECTION

The Darlington County Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. had their installation service of new officers on Saturday, September 19, 2020. The installation service was conducted by Contessa Bradley, President of the Florence-Bethune Section of NCNW. President Barbara Graham passed the gavel to the newly elected President Mary B. Abraham. The following officers were installed: left to right- President- Mary B. Abraham, 1st Vice President- Shawn Gregg, 2nd Vice President- Yolanda Jackson, 3rd Vice President- Mykel Barno, Financial Secretary- Murray Pierce, Treasurer- Liz Samuel, Secretary- Rosa Hudson, and Corresponding Secretary- Ashley A. Smith.



Congratulations 2020-2022 Darlington County Section Executive Officers of NCNW! After the service was completed, a donation was given from the Executive Officers to My Brother's Keeper Foundation.

If you have been seeking opportunities to make a

difference in our community and to fellowship with a helpful, supportive network of sisters, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Darlington County Section is the organization for you. For more information visit us at our Facebook page.

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

BROOKLYN SECTION

Although we were in the middle of a pandemic, Brooklyn Section was quite occupied over the past ninety days. The Brooklyn Section presented an educational seminar in July that had participation from local politicians, principals, teachers, parents, and our Sister Sections. The focus of the webinar was to support the parents in our local communities with the virtual learning that was unfamiliar to them and their children.

Our Youth Section had a virtual book club during the month of August. The group met virtually each Thursday in August to read and discuss the book “Famous! How to Be the Star of Your Show” by author Taiia Scott Young. On Friday, September 4, 2020 the Brooklyn Section and the Brooklyn Youth Section came together to celebrate the girls who participated in the virtual book club with a closing ceremony in Prospect Park.

In an effort to serve in the mission of NCNW, Brooklyn Section participated in a rally with Sisters United Against Violence (SUAV) on Saturday, August 8, 2020 as they:

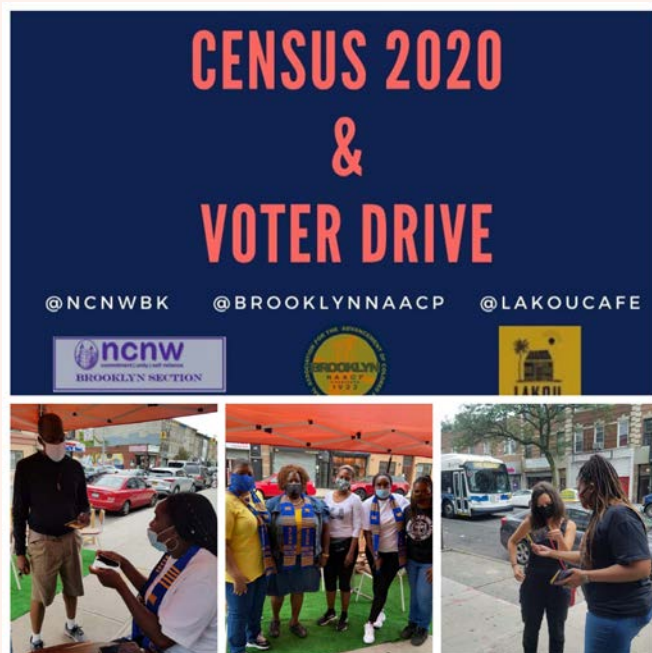
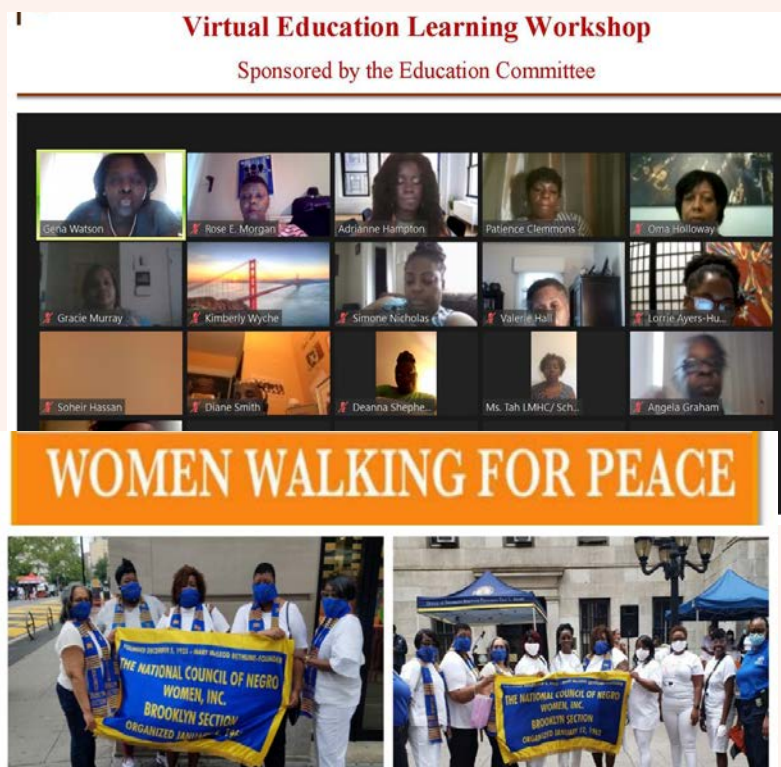
- Addressed mental health, poverty, and food insecurity
- Promoted community and neighborhood accountability from residents, law enforcement and elected officials.

- Offered support services for victimized families who have lost loved ones or lives negatively impacted because of violence.

Brooklyn Section continued its commitment to promote the importance of civic duty to the community by teaming up with the Church Avenue Merchant Business Association (CAMBA) on Friday, August 14, 2020 at an outdoor social distancing free gospel concert to increase participation in the 2020 Census. Our Voter Registration Committee teamed up with the Brooklyn Chapter of NAACP for a Census and Voter Registration Drive on Saturday, August 29. We also collaborated with Church Women United (CWU) and Women Organizing, Mobilizing and Building, Inc. (WOMB) to host a conversation around “Can We Count On You? Let’s Go Vote!” via conference call to discuss and share community events in place to capture the attention of individuals who had not registered and/or lacked motivation to vote.

The Brooklyn Section’s Community Service Committee prepared gift bags for the residents of the Carlton Nursing Home and delivered them on October 8, 2020.

The Brooklyn Section is grateful for the opportunity to serve!



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

CO-OP CITY SECTION (BRONX, NY)

On Friday, September 18th, 2020- Co-op City Section Youth and Civic Engagement Committees partnered with Circle of Christ Church, Riverbay Corporation and other local churches for a backpack give away. Our section was able to provide school supplies to 100+ grateful children as well as getting people registered to vote. We were also getting the word out on absentee ballots and sharing important voter related deadlines.



NCNW Co-op City Section is elated to report that our NCNW section member and NCNW NYS BHRP Honoree, Honorable Kim Adair Wilson is on the November 3, 2020 Election ballot for the New York County of the Bronx for Justice of the Supreme Court. We are so very proud to celebrate the accomplishments of our own Honorable Kim Adair Wilson!

Development Committee is hosting a virtual discussion on 10/25/20 @ 3 pm regarding important issues affecting our education and justice system. We are all navigating uncharted territory together, governments, citizens, and school systems alike. The Education discussion will examine the state of racial diversity in the educator workforce. Angela Kessler, M. Ed. will discuss education as a profession, how we can help educators develop skills, and what Public Policy changes would assist the workforce. The United States Dept. of Education has

found that having just one black teacher in elementary school significantly increases the chances that low-income black students graduate high school and consider attending college and decreases the risk of dropping out.



Acting Supreme Court Justice. J. Mabelle Sweeting will discuss the challenges that the family court system is facing during this pandemic

CHARLOTTE SECTION

by: *Aeronia Poole*

The National Council of Negro Women is an Organization of Organizations brought together to support the mission to “lead, empower, and advocate for women of African descent, their families, and communities.” In pursuit of this mission, Charlotte NCNW meets to address the Civic Engagement initiative set out by our National Headquarters.

Charlotte NCNW CEC partnered with the following advocacy groups on events this Fall: DemocracyNC, The African-American Caucus of Mecklenburg County Democratic Party, and The Delta Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

Thanks to all who gave of their time to support the community effort!

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

CUYAHOGA COUNTY SECTION

“I’m in That Number” The Cuyahoga County Section showed their appreciation to the Eliza Bryant Healthcare Providers on August 5, 2020. The event was spearheaded by Co-Chair, Life Member Carolyn Wright. The Cuyahoga County Section and their community partner, National Action Network (NAN) assisted the Healthcare Providers and Eliza Bryant residents in completing the 2020 Census. The Healthcare Providers received census bags filled with masks, voter registration information, giveaways and CCS-NCNW membership brochures. Domino’s pizza donated 50 large pizzas, providing lunch for the Eliza Bryant Healthcare Providers! CCS members decorated their cars with census signs, thank you for your service signs balloons and streamers! The Healthcare workers were appreciative and honored to be acknowledge for their service. Eliza Bryant Village’s mission “is to provide quality services, outreach programs and a dignified, compassionate, and secure environment for seniors.”



DAYTON OHIO SECTION

Someone once said retirement is not the end of the road, it is the beginning of the open highway. Shero Gail Forest has encapsulated an exemplary career as a civilian employee with the United States Air Force. She entered civil service September 1982 and retired August 1, 2020. She literally took a career road less traveled by females, especially African American females. The first word to describe her is “**Shero**”. Yes, she is the epitome of the definition of Shero.... “A woman admired or idealized for her courage, outstanding achievements or noble qualities.” A second word used to describe her is Trailblazer “A pioneer or someone who is considered a first in their area of expertise. As leaders, they change the environment. They have a vision for a different future, a faith that turns their dreams into reality, and a determination that cuts through barriers and obstacles.” A third word or a group of words to describe her is, “A woman of God ... “A Christian woman who lives a holy and righteous life through the

enablement of the Holy Spirit. She makes her speech, behavior, love, faith, and purity an example for others.”

She is a dedicated Life Member of the Dayton Ohio Section of National Council of Negro Women (NCNW)



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

DELAWARE VALLEY PA SECTION

Delaware Valley PA Section poised for growth amid a National Pandemic

“A woman is free if she lives by her own standards and creates her own destiny, if she prizes her individuality, and puts no boundaries on her hopes for tomorrow.”
Dr. Mary Mcleod Bethune. Emboldened with the spirit of Dr. Bethune, along with all past and present members of NCNW, on June 13, 2020, the 10-member organizing committee of the newly chartered Delaware Valley Section of NCNW held an interest meeting inviting residents of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties. This gathering of hope, brilliance, and fortitude attracted 158 like-minded women, men, and children to eventually form the Delaware Valley Section of NCNW Inc., expanding the already successful Pennsylvania NCNW footprint.

Catalyzed by rising tension surrounding police brutality, racial unjust, educational inequity, healthcare disparities, and COVID-19, ten women recognized the need to provide support and advocate for women, their families, and their greater community, and endeavored to do so through the global vision of NCNW. Since their chartering, the organizing committee has hosted three successful events, and is poised to grow the impact and legacy of



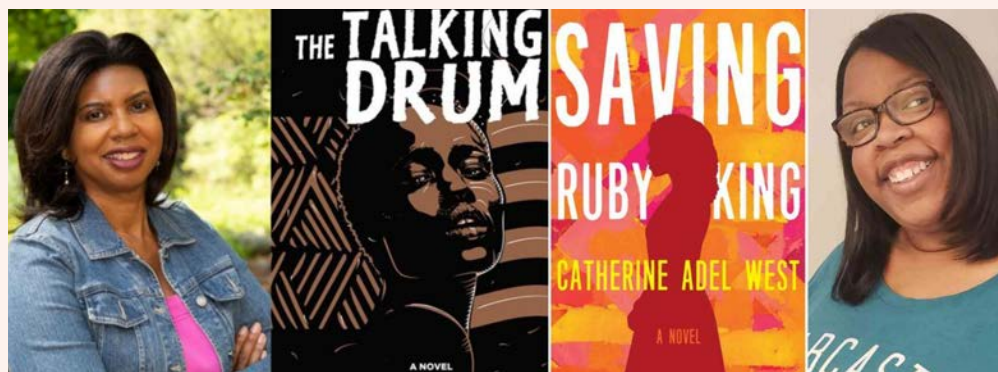
NCNW in the Delaware Valley area, and beyond. What started on Zoom, has expanded with a “boom!” and we are certainly setting standards, creating destiny, and breaking boundaries!

Pictured from left to right and back row to front row are the following organizing committee members: Dr. Kristin Austin, PA State President Sharone Glascoe, Michele Rhett, Dr. Kia Everett, Cynthia Johnson, Delicia Adderley, Tymeia Thompson, Deidre Gray, Jade Daniels, Kathleen Rzucidlo, Juanita Jenkins.

GREATER BOSTON SECTION

The Greater Boston Section of NCNW hosted a virtual author chat in September featuring two debut novelists in conversation. Lisa Braxton, the author of *The Talking Drum*, and Catherine Adel West, the author of *Saving Ruby King*,

discussed their books and writing process and answered questions from attendees during the hour-long event held on a videoconferencing platform. Black-owned and operated Susie’s Stories Rockport Bookstore—owned and operated by Susie Rich and her husband Doug Rich—co-hosted the event and made available copies of both authors’ books. The event aligns with NCNW’s mission to lead, advocate for and empower women of African descent, their families, and communities.



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGIATE SECTION

Mission Statement

To empower future women leaders who seek professional and personal growth through mentorship, networking, and service.

Vision Statement

To be the premier campus organization that will empower the next generation of women leaders in criminal justice.

Core Tenets

- Career-readiness
- Professional Development
- Leadership
- Student engagement
- Service
- Mentorship
- Student centered-success

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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TERAH NEWSOME

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CARRINGTON JONES

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RASHAE JOHNSON

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TOLAYAH STANCIL



EAST BAY AREA SECTION

The East Bay Area Section kicked off their Towel and Essentials Drive to (BOSS) Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency Homeless Shelter. With COVID-19 the need everywhere has increased dramatically. The Drive went from July 1st through August 31st. Our goal was to be able to provide 100 Towels, 100 Face Cloths and 100 Essentials Bags which included Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Combs, Hand Sanitizers, Lotion, Dental Floss Picks, Tissue & Chap Sticks.

Our section presented BOSS with 147 Bath Towels, 121 Hand Towels and 300 Face Towels. 105 Essentials Bags. We also donated \$300 to Club Stride Matching Gift Campaign. Those funds will be matched by Travis Credit Union to \$600.00. Club Stride is a youth empowerment organization.

Relearning: What Does Financial Freedom Look Like Today?

WELLS
FARGO

The road to recovery from this crisis is full of unexpected twists, turns, and financial challenges. As you start having new questions, Wells Fargo is here to provide you with information to help you manage your finances in today's world and develop a better picture of your financial reality.

How might consolidating my debt help lower my monthly payments?

Debt consolidation may be a good option if you're trying to pay off higher-interest loans and credit cards while managing multiple payments. Paying off debt with a new lower-interest loan and a single monthly payment may help you lower your overall monthly expenses and create more flexibility in your budget.

How can I start to rebuild my savings?

While the effects of the ongoing health crisis may have drastically changed your budget, it is possible to get back on track. Creating and maintaining a savings plan that matches your current financial situation may be the best way to build towards the future. If you don't have 3-6 months of cash savings to fall back on now is the time to redirect your attention to creating a cushion for yourself. Start by taking a look at your expenses to determine what's necessary and what you may be able to cut back on.

How should I approach saving for retirement in today's climate?

Saving for the future, especially retirement is a well-known best practice for building financial

stability. When developing your retirement savings plan it's best to base your investment decisions on when you'll need access to your money. Generally, it's best not to pull investments when the market is down. If you've already begun investing in a retirement account think carefully about whether or not it's the right time to withdraw from it.

Is now a good time to invest?

During an economic downturn there are often unique opportunities for high-risk and potentially high-reward investments. If you're feeling confident about your financial picture (including your savings and debt repayment plan) and would like to take advantage of such opportunities, now might be a good time to meet with a financial advisor for guidance. However, if you are generally risk-adverse, close to retirement, or have limited savings accrued, now may not be the right time to take on new investments.

Wells Fargo is eager to offer support and guidance as you continue to navigate today's new normal. To learn more about our COVID-19 relief efforts visit wellsfargo.com/heretohelp.



We're
here to
help



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

FAIRFIELD-SUISUN-VACAVILLE SECTION

As part of our Community Outreach Program, on Saturday, September 19, 2020, members of the Fairfield-Suisun-Vacaville Section of National Council of Negro Women Inc. partnered with the Tri-City NAACP and 18 other community organizations in Fairfield California to kick off a Census 2020 awareness and Voter Registration event throughout the city.



Eleven locations were identified as areas with low turnout. Our goal was to explain the importance of the Census in determining funds for education and transportation needs, and to get them to complete the Census if they had not already done so. At the same time, we promoted voter registration for the upcoming election, which is vital to residents' well-being. We must vote like our lives depend on it because they do!

The Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano donated 1,100 boxes of food to be distributed along with our swag bags filled with donated items such as school supplies, reusable masks, and hand sanitizers. The “pop up Census” event, sponsored by the Tri-City NAACP, was a huge success and only one of our planned collaborations with community groups dedicated to making a difference in people’s lives.

JACKSONVILLE SECTION

NCNW’s Voter Education Community Event at Edward Waters College that focused on:

- Food for families
- Vote by Mail
- Voter Registration
- Amendments on the ballot
- Immunizations
- Voting Season



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

GREENVILLE COUNTY SECTION

Since its inception in September of 2019, The Greenville County Section of NCNW hit the ground running to ensure that Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune's mission is a catalyst to growing and strengthening the community. Immediately after being chartered, the section hosted voter registration events, candidate forums, the HBCU tour, and forums to bring awareness of how domestic violence impacts the African American community. As a result of our demonstration of excellence in engaging the community, the Section was awarded the prestigious "VOICE" award at the MLK Gala in January 2020. And, most notably, we were awarded a \$2,500 grant by The Collective Pac in February 2020. This grant allowed the us to partner with Push Black to provide transportation to local residents for GOTV efforts and exit polling for South Carolina's presidential primary election. We, in collaboration with the Greenville (SC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., successfully amassed two dozen volunteers to coordinate GOTV efforts throughout Greenville County in the campaign called "Roll to the Polls."



GREATER ATLANTA SECTION

NCNW Greater Atlanta Section Masters Virtual Volunteer Work and Business During The Pandemic

Greater Atlanta partners with Harper Archer Elementary School providing a virtual STEAM Program supported by a grant from Georgia Power Company. Jahari Soward, the NCNW National STEM Pitch Competition Winner, is providing STEM Kits to girls in the program at the school and the section is coordinating a virtual photography workshop.

A special graduation parade/drive-by at Carrie Steele Pitts Home was held on Friday June 12th. The Section provided a catered meal for the three graduates and all of the residents of the home for homeless youth and young adults.

For the past four years Greater Atlanta has done a trunk party for Carrie Steele Pitts Home students sending them off to college with everything they need for their dorm rooms from suitcases and trunks to linen, cleaning products, curtains and blankets and toasters.

On October 4 Virtual Zoom, Sophia Burns was installed as the new President of the Greater Atlanta Section.



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

GULFPORT SECTION

Gulfport Section National Council of Negro Women shared a platform with city officials, NAACP presidents, and other leaders in the community, highlighting voter registration, census, early voting and the ballot.

At the opening of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, Congressman Lewis is pointing at his picture when he was arrested in Mississippi for trying to register blacks to vote.



Gulfport Section NCNW members sewed and donated 600 plus mask to our local Memorial Hospital.

The Gulfport Section National Council of Negro Women and other organizations volunteered in lending a helping hand while attendees remained in vehicles and had access to free food, voter registration, ballot education, distribution of facial mask and more.



HOUSTON METROPOLITAN AREA SECTION

The Houston Metropolitan Area Section National Council of Negro Women, Inc. hosted its annual Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (S.T.E.A.M.) Youth Summit in collaboration with the Houston Alumni Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), pre COVID-19. This youth summit embraced the promotion of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. STEAM Education to eliminate barriers, establishing a more comprehensive, integrated response to the need for science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics education for communities in color.

There were education principals, teachers, and engineers as guest speakers from each discipline areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Additionally, there were representatives from each of the Houston Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Alumni Association such as Texas Southern University, Florida A&M, Grambling University, Howard University, Jackson State, Hutson Tillotson, Texas College and Prairie View University, Southern University and Wiley College on



the program emphasizing the benefit and honor to attend a historically black college and university. Regina Dickson is the President and Organizer of the Houston Metropolitan Area Section NCNW.

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

KEAN UNIVERSITY SECTION

Mental Health Matters

Active Minds was created to reduce the stigma around mental health disorders at a peer-to-peer level.

The Counseling Center, along with the Counseling, Disability, Alcohol and other Drug Services, is also at Kean as a resource to students that are overwhelmed and experiencing stress and anxiety. They some of the following events:

- Virtual Drop in Support every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. online
- LGBTQ+ Drop In Support Space every Friday at 2 p.m. online
- Raise Your Voice: Drop in Support Hour every Monday at 2 p.m. online
- Outdoor Mindfulness every Thursday at the Rock Garden outside Downs Hall at 1 p.m.

Zen on Wednesday, October 7th from 5 to 6:30 p.m. online, was hosted by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. *Yoga in the Gardens* was held at the Liberty Hall Museum on Saturday, October 10th from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. The Center for Leadership and Service is hosting *Coloring for a Cause* for students that want to calm down while also helping people in need.

Overall, it is important for students to check in and be mindful of their mental health. Through these events and organizations, students can learn more about how to boost their mindfulness and even improve their mental health.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY SECTION

The Montgomery County Section adjusted quickly to a new operating environment by fully embracing virtual technology, enabling devoted members to continue to serve.

The Section purchased 33 noise-cancellation headphones for the Stedwick Elementary Educational Equity Hub, which provides Internet access to students who don't have it at home.

On October 12, 2019, the Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter Fund of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. donated \$1,000 "to benefit the community outreach programs" of the Section. The Fund cited Section initiatives addressing "education, health, economic empowerment and public policy." It also especially thanked Mrs. Irma Cuellar for "making a positive difference in the community."

On September 12, 2020, the Section partnered with the Montgomery County alumnae chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to sponsor a virtual election forum. Participants learned about the Electoral College, voting tips and also had an opportunity to ask the League of

Women Voters representative questions about the November 3rd election.

The Section also purchased household items for homeless people living in shelters who were transitioning to permanent housing. The Section purchased food and grocery gift cards for four food pantries; and masks for homeless women at Becky's House and Priscilla's House of Interfaith Works in Rockville, MD.

For more information about the Montgomery County, Maryland Section, visit ncnwmc-md.org.



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

NEW ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL ALLIANCE SECTION

Basking in glow of the 59th NCNW National Conference, members of the NCNW Rocky Mountain Regional Alliance connected using the Whova conference app and planned a Zoom after the Friday conference sessions. They met by Zoom to discuss how to move onward and implement the initiatives discussed during the conference such as the Bethune Height Recognition, wings and roots, and the national branding standards, etc... The Rocky Mountain Alliance is made up of Sections from seven states and includes Omaha, Denver, Arizona, New Mexico, Washington State, Seattle, and Colorado Council of Nurses. They wore hats in honor of Dr. Irene Height.

Participants on the zoom included Cecilia Webb-Albuquerque Section; Sarah Dean-Seattle Section; Kimberly Hill-Metropolitan Sun Section-Arizona; Dr. Viv Ewing-



Omaha Section President, Vira Brooks, Deb Shaw Lifetime Member, W. Shavonda Johnson, Dr. Idalene Williams; NCNW Denver Section members Pamela M. Miller, President, Valorie Yarborough, 1st Vice President, Gail Pough-Legacy Life Member, Deborah Tucker Treasurer, Robin Bruce Colorado Council of Black Nurses, President-Affiliate, Dr. Margie Cook-Colorado Council of Black Nurses-Affiliate, and Dr. LeNitra Oliver-Life Member.

PHILADELPHIA PA SECTION



On September 15, 2020, the Philadelphia PA Section held its installation of its 2020-22 executive board. Led by President Deborah C. Johnson, sisters took on their new and continuing roles at a socially-distant ceremony at historic Belmont Mansion. The executive board is completed with First Vice President Rhonda Holloway, Second Vice President Reba Mur'Ray, Third Vice President Aaliyah Holloway, Recording Secretary Crystol Warren, Corresponding Secretary Brenda Ashanti, Treasurer

Sevena McFadden, Financial Secretary Gail Montgomery-Watson and Nominating Chair Brenda Kinsler. The sisters were sworn in by Past President Verna Winn. The section continues to move forward by virtually hosting its new members orientation with its Bring Your Pearls Tea to be held October 11, 2020. Even in the pandemic, we continue to recruit and retain membership as we REACH for NCNW and serve our city.

NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

HOWARD UNIVERSITY SECTION

The Howard University section of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) conducted a suicide prevention training: “Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR)”, a session hosted by mental health specialist, Fonda Bryant on Saturday, September 19th.

The QPR Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention was an educational program designed to teach “gatekeepers” the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to respond. “QPR is not intended for us to do counseling or treatment. But what QPR is intended to do is offer hope of action,” Bryant emphasized.

“During the time of COVID-19 and civil unrest, it is imperative that we take a closer look at mental health, especially in the Black community. As an organization whose mission is to lead, advocate for, and empower women of African Descent, their families, and communities, NCNW takes great pride in pushing suicide prevention,” said senior Kaylah Clark, a former President of the NCNW Howard Section.

In 1995, Bryant was diagnosed with depression and struggled with suicidal ideations. Through her struggles, she became passionate about suicide prevention and mental health awareness, even more so after joining the National Alliance on Mental Illness in 2014.

Since joining, she has been at the forefront of a movement to confront depression and suicide and alleviate the stigma associated with mental health issues. Bryant has now been a mental health advocate for 21 years and hosts many events surrounding suicide prevention.

Bryant emphasized the statistics unveiled by The Black Political Caucus and Congressman Bonnie Watson Coleman. From 2001 to 2017, for black males between the ages of 13 to 19, suicide was up 60%. For black females of the same ages during the same time period, suicide was up 182%. “We got to do better. We got to, we got to normalize mental health conversation,” Bryant urged.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Bryant has hosted free weekly interactive video calls which have impacted over 700 people across 23 states and five countries.

CLARK COUNTY - SPRINGFIELD SECTION

Under the R.E.A.C.H. Campaign, a sub-group was formed called United Black Community Coalition which is a small group comprised of leaders from NCNW, Links, NAACP and local churches. The purpose of this group is for a collaborative effort in promoting voter registration. One of the focal activities has been a series called “Meet the Candidates Night” held every Thursday on Zoom from 7:00PM-8:00PM. Family, friends, members, and the local community are invited to register and attend the event, where the candidates present their platform and entertain Q&A afterwards. The event has been very successful with approximately 40-80 participants joining us each series. Our NCNW member, Victoria Dawson Scruse came up with the slogan “Who You Taking?” The message is a reminder to take someone with you to the polls when you vote.

Also, The Springfield Section, steered by the R.E.A.C.H Campaign, for (E) Empowering and (A) Advocacy

enjoyed supporting seniors who live in assisted living facilities and persons who had been incarcerated with voter registration. We signed up 78 new voters and commencing the second week of October we conducted phone canvassing using the SMARTVAN system.

The Section is very proud to celebrate two of their oldest members: Alice Ballard who turned 100 on September 10, 2020, a member of the NCNW since 1948 and a Lifetime member; and Mary Ware who turned 98 on August 11, 2020 and has been a member since the mid-1950s. The Springfield-Sun, our local paper, paid tribute to Ms. Ballard by writing a narrative of her life that was featured in the Sunday, October 5, 2020 edition.



NCNW STATE & SECTION NEWS

GEORGIA STATE COALITION

Valdosta – The State Coalition of National Council of Negro Women, Georgia, hosts its Second Biennial Height Leadership Training virtually.

The state training began as a strategy to support and encourage incoming and reelected section leaders with resources on operations of their sections, governance and transitioning,” members said in a statement.” The training is held every other year in alignment with the national headquarters national convention.”

From 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Aug. 29, the event features speakers such as Beverly Smith, national president of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Charletta Wilson Jacks, immediate past international secretary, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Paulette Novel Lewis, national program chairman, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., Tremelle I. Howard, South Atlantic regional parliamentarian, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Topics include “Fundraising In the Midst of COVID-19” presented by Theresia Carrington, Georgia NCNW secretary, 4 For the Future from a state and local perspective, financial guidelines by the state finance committee, etc. The meeting will begin for the members in Georgia at 9:45 a.m. and beginning at 10 a.m. the remainder of the training is open to general members.

The Height Leadership training was implemented under the leadership of Sharah Denton of Valdosta, current state president and former national young adult vice chair. For more information, prospective participants may contact georgiancnw@gmail.com. To register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044aa4ac2ea0fc1-dorothy>

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The Imperative of Moral Leadership continued

Douglass proposed the terms and tenets of a multiracial, pluralist democracy that would feel familiar, if still aspirational today: an antidote and antithesis to the division of the last several years; a more perfect, more inclusive, more hopeful future.

Douglass said: “We have for a long time hesitated to adopt and carry out the only principle which can...give peace, strength and security to the Republic, and that is the principle of absolute equality.”

That principle—and his vision—must inspire us now to act.

The future may feel uncertain. But the only real certainty is that, if we do nothing, we lose the fight for “absolute equality.” And when the world feels out of control, we must remember that we control whether or not we act.

That starts with voting. For as Douglass himself once put it, failing to vote is “as great a crime as an open violation of the law itself.”

And while voting is necessary and imperative, it, alone, is not sufficient. No matter the outcome of any election, our work remains clear.

We must hold our leaders accountable, and we must hold each other accountable, as well. We must break the vicious cycle of corruption, impunity, and cynicism—and demand better incentives for better leadership. We must continue to participate and engage, to show up and take action, because the fate of democracy is not decided any one day.

As Justice Ginsburg once wrote of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s moral arc of the universe, it will only bend toward justice with “a steadfast national commitment to see the task through to completion.”

We must constantly renew our steadfast commitment. We must see the task of justice through to completion, knowing that for our most vexing problems, the reward of our work may come for the next generation, or the one after that.

Once again, we are, as Lincoln suggested at Gettysburg, facing a great test. But with moral leadership, we can and will pass it. With moral leadership, this can and will be a moment, in Lincoln’s words, for “a new birth of freedom”; an opportunity to rebuild, more perfect.

Why We Must Vote continued

Oklahoma, the site of the Tulsa Massacre, on Juneteenth and his recent visit to Sanford, FL, home Trayvon Martin.

Author Bob Woodward apparently recorded President Trump secretly admitting that the virus was airborne and lethal, in February – information he recklessly neglected to share with the American people. Not only has he provided false information (including the hilarious notion that one might rid themselves by injecting bleach), and that the virus would just “go away,” He dismissed the more than 150,000 US deaths by saying, “it is what it is.” And now that the death toll is headed upwards of 220,000, he dances maskless at packed rallies. Experts say that if 95% of Americans

unemployed, and we will lose 41 percent of Black-owned businesses.

We must vote with urgency and enthusiasm. Two-thirds of eligible Black voters went to the polls in 2012. Black folks outvoted white people! But in 2016, our voting rate dropped from 66.6 percent to 59.6 percent, a stunning 7 percent drop.

Meanwhile, white voter participation dropped by just one percent. This election is a matter of life and death for Black Americans. It is in some people’s interest to suppress the vote, and we’ve seen enough of it these past few years. It is your absolute right to exercise the right to vote, even if some make it difficult. We don’t have to guess the number of jelly beans in a jar or translate a passage of the Constitution into Latin, as our foremothers did. It is in their honor and in the memory of Congressman John Lewis that we vote. But in this election, we are also voting to preserve life.



The Links, Incorporated continued

empower Black youth to use their intellect and spirit of achievement to become successful and productive citizens. Through this facet, programs respond to the academic, cultural, career development, and mentoring needs of youth. Among the programs in this facet are: Links STEMReady, which implements STEM education and enhances career opportunities for those in the field; Links to Success: Children Achieving Excellence, which promotes early childhood literacy to help close the elementary achievement gap; National Mentoring Initiative, which identifies and recruits local Black mentors and establishes mentoring relationships with students; National HBCU Initiative, which contributes to HBCU sustainability and mentors and recruits HBCU students; and Young Achievers, which develops the whole child, ushering high school students into college.

The Arts facet aims to increase and expand art activity throughout Black communities. The Links, Incorporated creates and supports arts-related educational opportunities for minority youth. Members present and support performances by youth and accomplished professional artists as well as partner with museums, symphonies, and other entities to provide increased arts exposure. Among the programs in this facet are: Classics Through the Ages, which increases the interest, knowledge and participation of youth of African descent in the classical arts; the National Poster Art Competition, which invites young artists to create work based on a theme which is traditionally health-related; Partner in The Arts: The Sphinx Organization, which is dedicated to transforming the lives of youth through the power of diversity in the arts; and Young Master Writers Competition Program, which promotes participation, pride and achievement in creative writing among high school students of African ancestry.

The National Trends and Services facet addresses social inequities that persist in Black communities throughout the United States. The Links, Incorporated

is committed to raising awareness on economic, health, social justice and other barriers that affect African American quality of life. Among the programs in this facet are: Ally Wallet Wise Financial Literacy Program, which is a free financial education program that teaches consumers the basics of budgeting and credit, banking and investing, and financing a vehicle; Project LEAD: High Expectations-Responding to the Drug Epidemic, which uses forums, lessons, and other means to increase awareness about the opioid epidemic and its heavy toll on African American communities; and AARP: Caregiving Across the Spectrum which provides tools, resources and support to African American women as they age.

The International Trends and Services facet provides services and delivers transformational programs to people of African ancestry worldwide to improve their quality of life. The programs are designed to support the educational, health and cultural needs of the global community. Efforts include adopting schools in South Africa, Liberia, Ghana, and Jamaica; partnering with Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures to perform thousands of dental exams at three Jamaican primary schools; and building The Links Maternal Waiting Homes in Liberia to support pregnant women as they prepare to give birth. Programs include: Education Across the Miles, which support South African, West African, and Jamaican educational systems; LinksHelp For Humanity, which provides Women's Survival Kits with basic life necessities to women and girls in Haiti and Toilets for Haiti to improve sanitation; LIFE Program, which exposes minority high school students to career possibilities in foreign affairs and international business in an effort to close the race and gender divide in related government and business jobs; The Links at The United Nations, which includes the Annual Global Student Videoconference, an interactive forum for students to commemorate victims of slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade; and the United Nations Conference on the Status of

Women, specifically highlighting the celebration of International Children's Day, International Women's Day and United Nations Millennium Goals; and Model UN to encourage grade school and HBCU students to become informed and active global citizens.

The Health and Human Services facet was created in response to the chronic health disparities that persist in Black communities and result in the decreased life expectancy of African Americans and those of African descent. Among the programs in this facet are: Health Equity Ambassador Program, which works with the American Cancer Society to address cancer disparities and drive health equity in all communities touched by cancer; HeartLinks, which fights heart disease by supporting Walk for Healthy Living by taking 10,000 steps each day and Childhood Obesity Prevention Program to secure the health of young people and promote healthy food choices; Linkages to Life works to increase organ, tissue and bone marrow donations, which are needed disproportionately in the African American community because of health disparities; National HIV/AIDS Initiative, which provides education on preventing transmission and fighting the disease; National Mental Health Initiative, which educates members about depression, anxiety, and the social issues that impact physical and mental health so that this information is shared within the communities; and the National Oral Health Initiative, which partners with Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Future to increase oral health through education, screenings and referrals for care.

The Links, Incorporated does not limit its giving to woman hours, it also has been financially generous through significant gifts. The Links Foundation, Incorporated was established in 1979 to enhance and expand the organization's philanthropic efforts. It is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Foundation provides grants to address problems

or provide opportunities of regional, national, and international significance as well as in support of the five facet areas. Since its founding, The Links Foundation, Incorporated has contributed more than \$25 million to charitable causes. Through its Legacy Grant, The Foundation has awarded five \$1 million dollar gifts. Grantees include the United Negro College Fund, The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., The National Civil Rights Museum, The Smithsonian National Museum of African American Culture and History, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

For its efforts, The Links, Incorporated has received awards from the UN Association of New York, Leon H. Sullivan Foundation for its premier programs, and from St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital for its vision in minority health. The organization was also nominated for the Luxembourg Peace Prize. Civil Rights Icon, the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis, honored The Links, Incorporated as a distinguished organization of outstanding community service and influence. Perhaps the greatest honor comes from the lives touched both within and outside of the organization. Members working together find satisfaction in their work and a strengthened bond of friendship. Women, children, and families in the communities served find hope and transformation as a result of the programming and infusion of support.

"As gatekeepers of justice and our communities, we must be our fiercest champions and advocates," says Jeffries Leonard. "We know that we are in the best position to speak out on behalf of communities of color because these are our lives and our experiences. During my tenure so far I have sought to inspire our members to step forward boldly and strategically on the issues we address, the battles we fight, and the way we use our voice. While Linked in Friendship and Connected in Service, through our collective and strategic actions, we are Transforming Communities ~ Fulfilling our Purpose"

What was your favorite moment from the 59th National Convention?

My favorite moment was Dr. Cole's state of the union address. The passion that she delivered it, the passion that she has for the commitment of NCNW, and it was a charge for members, staff, volunteers, and supporters alike of how important this mission is. It helped to just further motivate me.

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Election Day

Tuesday, December 1, 2020`

Giving Tuesday

Saturday, December 5, 2020

NCNW Founders Day

Monday, January 18, 2021

Martin L. King, Jr. Day

Saturday, February 27, 2021

Anniversary Symposium



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85TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2021
Virtual Program

Eighty-five years ago, the visionary, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, started an organization that encourages women of African descent to work together for the greater good and for their own empowerment. She understood the transformative power of high-quality education and creating the way and means for people of color to quench the thirst for knowledge. She would raise her voice in favor of job markets that reward women in a manner commensurate with their talent and value. Wherever social justice is being discussed, she would be the first at the table representing us all.

NCNW is already looking to the future and the expanding projects which covers so many of our goals in S.T.E.A.M. education, civic engagement, mental & physical health, and economic empowerment. And, to do this we must be more intergenerational. If we are to make an impact in a more meaningful way then we must combine our traditional wisdom with the emboldened wings of youth and move onward, ever onward. It is essential that we are fortified by our past while focusing on the future.




Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph. D.
Seventh President & National Chair

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