



MIGHTY MIDWEST REGION



Midwest Missile

Spring into Service



SPRING 2023



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Greetings

I am pleased to present the Spring 2023 Edition of the Midwest Missile! As always, we issued a call to serve, and you answered it, taking up the mantle from state to state, fulfilling the needs of your communities, and doing what Deltas do—make an impact.

In March, we took time to be still and reflect on the importance of Mental Health Awareness Month. We renewed our commitment to self, reminding each other that self-care isn't selfish and that prioritizing our health before serving others is healthy. We also strengthened our bond of sisterhood through our Sisterhood Month theme: *We Are Our Sister's Keeper*.

Rejuvenated from March, we sprung into action in April, bringing the needs of our communities to the doorsteps of legislators during Delta Days at the State Capital. We reminded policymakers of Delta's dedication to social action and commitment to giving a voice to the voiceless. Our advocacy continued by taking a stand for Black Maternal Health with the regional #ListenToHer Campaign. We educated ourselves and others about the urgent warning signs that can prevent pregnancy-related complications and death.

Sorors, we are making an impact across the Midwest Region, and I know we will continue to go *Above and Beyond* in the year ahead, but now we REST! Enjoy the summer months; I look forward to seeing and fellowshiping with many of you in July at the 56th National Convention in Indianapolis!

Yours in Service,

Brittani N. Blackwell



BRITTANI BLACKWELL

Greetings

I say my Sorors! It is time to celebrate! Across the Mighty Midwest Region, collegiate sorors have worked hard to finish their coursework and satisfy academic requirements—over 70 Midwest Collegiates walked across the stage this Spring, all while handling Delta business! Sorors, take a bow! The many programs you have implemented and the service you provided on your campuses shined a spotlight on what it means to be a Delta, underscoring that service is what we do!

This Spring, we introduced the Midwest Declassified Survival Guide, a bi-monthly social media campaign designed to increase collegiate involvement in social action, improve mindfulness habits and physical wellness. My dearest collegiate sorors, I hope the content was encouraging, empowering, and taught you how to show up for yourself.

Sorors, we also stormed the Nation's and State Capitals to meet with legislators, conveying our concerns and ensuring collegiate voices were heard. Following the Sorority's Social Action Issue Priorities, we advocated for education, economic justice in student loan debt forgiveness, voting rights, and more!

My sweet, sweet sorors, after a busy spring, I hope you take the summer to replenish yourself. We have an exciting year ahead; the REDissance is coming! Until then, I look forward to connecting with you in Indianapolis at the 56th National Convention!

Sisterly,

Aleyah Oliver

OLIVER
ALEYAH



Showing Up and Showing Out

In the Winter edition of the Midwest Missile, we were gearing up for the Midwest stop of the National Arts and Letters Commission's Eighth Delta Authors on Tour. The Joliet Area/South Suburban Alumnae Chapter (Illinois) hosted an unforgettable afternoon filled with laughter, literature and lattes! The *Lits & Lattes Jazz Brunch* featured eight dynamic Delta authors, representing three regions and six Midwest states. This sold-out event garnered over 300 attendees and also left many of our featured authors sold out by the event's end. Sorors from across the region supported the return of Delta Authors on Tour to the Midwest Region by making donations or purchasing books. Your support led to nearly \$12,000 in book sales, ranking the Midwest second in book sales across all seven regions.



A Difference Made

In May, the Midwest Region became the **first** region to host an International Day of Service! The Toronto Area Alumnae Chapter spearheaded the day of service, and with the support of the Mighty Midwest Region, we raised nearly \$4,200! Our collective efforts resulted in the curation of 60 Personal Care Kits for the SickKids Hospital, 50 Kindergarten Starter Kits and \$950 USD in children's books for two Toronto District School Board schools. Sorors who served on-site, de-branded 15 boxes of clothing for local women and children's shelters. A difference was not only made, but also felt across the Province.



Welcome to the Sisterhood

This spring, we welcomed a whopping 337 new members, across 42 chapters, into our sisterhood with nearly every state/country conducting Membership Intake!

We are beyond excited to see the new and innovative programming you'll bring to your respective chapters and the region! Congratulations to all of our Spring '23 New Initiates!



REGIONAL NEWS



REGIONAL NEWS



FRANKFORT ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Welcome to the Sisterhood
Spring 2023

 Jessica Williams ReDiant One ACE	 Carley Mitchell DeSTined 2B DEUCE	 Terri Manning Cent3ReD TRE	 Kendra Herve RemReD Soul TAIL
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Un4gettable Forces of Fortitude



REGIONAL NEWS



REGIONAL NEWS



REGIONAL NEWS





Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Midwest Region Emergency Response Team “Sisters Organize And Respond (SOAR) with ERT”



Summer Safety Tips for Keeping Your Cool and Staying Safe

Summer has arrived! We trudged through the snow and ice and endured the season of severe thunderstorms mixed with violent winds. However, before all cares are tossed away to enjoy relaxing days at the beach or the tranquility of working in the garden, remember that the summer heat brings health risks and concerns. Extreme heat are days characterized by a lengthened period of high heat and humidity. During this time, special precautions must be taken. Protect yourself and your family from the dangers of extreme heat and stay safe while enjoying fun outdoor summer activities.

Ways to keep your cool this summer and stay safe:

- **Check the forecast** - Before making plans (24 -72 hours), check to see if an excessive heat advisory, excessive heat warning or a heat watch have been issued.
- **Never leave pets or people in a car** - Infants and children are especially in danger.
- **Drink water** - Drink more fluids and don't wait until experiencing thirst to drink.
- **Find air conditioning** - Go to a shopping mall, public library or cooling centers. Electric fans will not prevent heat-related illness when the temperature is high.
- **Keep house cool** - Keep the house cooler by insulating it and covering windows with drapes or shades.
- **Dress appropriately and wear sunscreen** - Protection from the sun: wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothes, a hat and sunglasses. Use a sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher.
- **Avoid strenuous activities** - Limit outdoor activity to when it's coolest: morning and evening hours.
- **Check on family and friends** - Older adults, children and people with chronic medical conditions are at high risk from heat related injury and death.
- **Eat light** - Hot, heavy meals add heat to the body.
- **First Aid Kit** - Keep a personal first aid kit on hand to help tend to common summer injuries.
- **Water Safety** - The best water safety is to learn to swim.

Summer adventures aren't without some risks. Whether you're spending the summer months at the pool, tackling yard work, or traveling to new destinations, knowing how to stay safe is vital for keeping everyone in your family healthy and happy this summer.

From Midwest Region Heritage & Archives Committee

110 Years Later...Still Marching for Women

On March 3, 1913, thousands of women gathered to march for voting rights during the Women's Suffrage March. Notable among the crowd was a group of college-age Black women - all members of a newly formed organization: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Despite facing potential backlash, these brave women rose to the occasion and marked their first public event, cementing their legacy to service and scholarship.

Despite the presence of hate, ignorance, racism, sexism and all types of oppression, the 22 Founders found the courage and fortitude to march anyway.

On March 3, 2023, 110 years later, despite the cold and rain, sorors in the Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter held a reenactment of this historic march. Midwest Regional Director Brittani N. Blackwell gave remarks at the program following the march.





Making An **IMPACT** with the **POWER** of our **VOICE**

Deltas in the State of Illinois hosted Delta Day at the State Capitol with a spirit of action and excellence May 2 – 3 in Springfield, Illinois. This two-day event included 130 sorors, one legislative sponsor, two corporate sponsors, 100+ supporters and legislative officials who manifested the theme, “Effectuating Change: Impact through Accountability, Empowerment and Action.”

State of Illinois Deltas and host chapter, Springfield Decatur Area Alumnae (SDAAC), kicked off the event with a legislative mixer attended by legislative representatives, chapter presidents, sorors and area Divine Nine members. The following day, Senate Majority Leader (Soror) Kimberly Lightford, partnered to execute an agenda centering the Sorority at the heart of the capitol complex where key government officials met with sorors to provide greetings and to conduct panel discussions in their areas of expertise/assignment and on the legislative priorities.

Highlights included greetings from Governor, J.B. Pritzker; Lieutenant Governor, Julianna Stratton; Treasurer, Michael Freichs; Senate President, Don Harmon; Senator Elgie Simms, Chairman of Criminal Law and Public Safety; Senator Chris Belt; Representative Chris Welch; House Majority Leader, Representative (Soror) Camille Lilly; Rep. Justin Slaughter, Chairman of Judiciary Committee; and Acting Illinois Department of Corrections Director, (Soror) Latoya Hughes.

Meridian Health and Planned Parenthood provided sponsorships valued at more than \$4,000 which provided complimentary collegiate registration and event transportation.





Making An **IMPACT** with the **POWER** of our **VOICE**

The State of Indiana hosted Delta Days at the State Capital on April 18, 2023 with the theme, "The Impact of Mental Health on Maternal and Infant Morbidity." At the event, statewide leadership was introduced. Indiana State Senator Lonnie M. Randolph presented a Resolution of Recognition on the Senate floor.

The Indiana Black Legislative Caucus and other State Representatives greeted us during our programming. We had a panel discussion on the theme from the State NAACP President, CEO of Navigate Maternity, Inc., and mental health professionals. Topics included causes, resources, and advocacy advice for Black and Brown women with high pregnancy risk.





Making An **IMPACT** with the **POWER** of our **VOICE**

The Ohio State Capital welcomed over 125 Deltas on May 17 to engage in a day of education, conversation, and advocacy. Legislators who belong to the Congressional Black Caucus (Diedre Reese, Dontavius Jarrells, Terrence Upchurch, and Tovia Galonski), and Co-Executive Director, Ohio Organizing Collaborative, Prentiss Haney, spoke on legislative needs and changes that might impact our members and communities. Prior to attending our legislative meetings, we received a call to remember our "Why." We then received proclamations from Senator Herceal Craig, Senator Catherine Ingram, and Senator Vernon Sykes during the Senate Session. Finally, we adjourned with chapters meeting with their local legislators during which they reviewed the priorities and requested their next steps in support of the needs of the communities that we serve.

Delta Days at the Ohio State Capital provided a powerful platform for constructive dialogue, where lawmakers and sorors came together to find common ground.





Making An **IMPACT** with the **POWER** of our **VOICE**

Delta Days at the State Capital was held on March 16 at the Wisconsin State Capitol with 25 attendees. Topics discussed included missing and murdered Black women and girls and redistricting. We requested financial support for a task force to address the glaring issue of missing/murdering Black women and girls. We also requested \$450,000 be provided to reforming criminal justice in Wisconsin. DDSC attendees also received educational training on redistricting from community partner, WI Fair Maps and Blacks Leaders Organizing Communities. The training will be implemented throughout the chapters in the fall.

DDSC attendees had a special visit with WI Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Dallet to learn about her journey to the highest state court but also her views on criminal justice reform.

We held a DDSC "virtual" carryover meeting with WI Attorney General Josh Kaul on May 23 because he was unable to attend DDSC in March. We addressed women's reproductive issues and thanked the attorney general for bringing lawsuits to fight an archaic 1849 (not a typo) anti-abortion law that went back into effect June 2022 that makes anything resembling an abortion (including miscarriages) a felony in Wisconsin. Attorney General Kaul has also committed to not bring forth any charges nor use any WI DOJ resources to prosecute girls/women that seek an abortion.



Mighty Midwest Region



Illinois

The State of Illinois, comprised of 14 alumnae and 11 collegiate chapters, proudly represents the Mighty Midwest Region through our efforts to go Above and Beyond S4: Scholarship, Sisterhood, Service and Social Action. We wrapped a record-breaking year for Delta Day at the State Capital, and we look forward to hosting the IL/IN Cluster, Illinois Statewide Founders, and serving as the host state for the 2024 Collegiate Retreat. Our charge is to “Keep IL 100” in ALL that we do, and we are proud to be a preeminent, promising, and purposeful part of the Mighty Midwest!

Bloomington-Normal Alumnae

Bloomington-Normal Alumnae Chapter Celebrates 40 Years!

The Bloomington-Normal Alumnae Chapter (BNAC) celebrated being Divinely Equipped to Lead, Transform and Achieve for 40 years!

BNAC's signature fundraiser, the 15th Annual Soulful Gospel Brunch, anchored the 40th Anniversary Weekend. The chapter entered with a stroll to Kirk Franklin's "Bless Me." Keynote Speaker, the Honorable Marcia L Fudge, the 18th Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and 21st National President of our beloved Sorority, spoke about the value of community service. A local gospel quintet, violinist and praise dance team provided entertainment and the annual 5 Star Community Service Award was presented to two local citizens. A touching tribute remembered two sorors who joined Omega Omega Chapter this year. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal and shopped from local and Greek paraphernalia vendors. That evening, the Denim and Diamonds Event provided a more casual community celebration.

At Sunday's Rededication Ceremony and Luncheon, honor and gratitude were shown to BNAC's Charter Members, three of whom remain active BNAC Delta DEARS. Current and former chapter members celebrated loving sisterhood and reflected on our legacy of service to the community, which includes an annual health fair, social action community conversations, scholarships to local college/vocational school bound African American students, service with other D9 and community service organizations in addressing food insecurity and receiving multiple regional awards. BNAC is proud of the past 40 years and is moving *Forward with Fortitude*, building on a strong foundation of sisterhood and service!



Stroll into 40th Anniversary



21st National President Soror Marcia Fudge

Chicago Alumnae

Nonstop Service in the Community

The Chicago Alumnae Chapter started off the new year celebrating Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated's 110th Founders Day on January 14 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Chicago. Chicago Alumnae celebrated sisterhood and fellowshiped with over 800 sorors from seven collegiate chapters and 24 alumnae chapters. With public service at the heart of the chapter, Chicago Alumnae partnered with Timothy Community Corporation to hold a children's book drive in conjunction with the Founders Day luncheon. Sorors attending the celebration donated books from Black authors which featured Black characters for Pre-K through 5th grade students. Five hundred books were collected and delivered to five area elementary schools: Burnside Academy, Bret Harte Elementary, Willa Cather Elementary, Arnold Mireles Academy and Shoemith Elementary.



The service did not stop there! On January 16th, the chapter held it's inaugural MLK Day of Service Blood Drive. Physical and Mental Health, Emergency Response Team and Programming, Planning and Development committees collaborated with the American Red Cross to host the event. Sorors and members of the community donated 49 units of blood. Approximately 89% of the participants were first-time donors! The blood collected will save 147 lives! The event was such a success that the committees are already discussing how to make the event bigger and better in 2024!



Book Drive & Donation

In March, the Membership Services committee hosted a soror-only game night. Over 200 sorors shared food, fun and fellowship with one another. Along with playing board and card games, dancing, strolling, sharing stories and laughter were on the agenda!

East St. Louis Alumnae

Raising the Torch in Sisterhood and Service

East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter (ESLAC) members commemorated 110 years of service during this year's Founders Day celebration, Raising the Torch: A Celebration of 110 Years of Sisterhood, Service, Scholarship and Social Action. The over 200-member chapter hosted an Amazon donation drive supporting The Joseph Center in East St. Louis providing basic need items to homeless veterans. Members also worshipped together on January 15 at New Life Community Church.



The Joseph Center

Running on empty with low energy isn't good for anyone, especially when members are serving the community. For this reason, the LEADership Academy Committee took charge of reinvigorating members with the series, Delta Daze. This six-part series was developed to encourage members to implement regular self-care routines, remember their commitment to the Sorority, engage more with the Chapter and more. The committee hosted a mix of in-person and online webinars to refuel sorors throughout the spring.

With service always in mind, ESLAC collaborated with the two St. Louis alumnae chapters to serve those in need by providing them with free toiletries and personal supplies at the end of April. On April 30, the Programming, Planning and Development Committee hosted a webinar with over 300 attendees to hear a professional panel discussing the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act. The guests spoke of the legalities of policing Black hair, the history of hair within the Black community and much more. A great deal of information was shared during this informative webinar.



Community Service



Evanston-North Shore Alumnae

The Power of Sisterhood

In the words of Alice Walker, “Is solace anywhere more comforting than that in the arms of a sister?” The women of the Evanston-North Shore Alumnae Chapter (ENSA) kicked off Sisterhood Month with fun and fellowship. For the first time in three years, the chapter gathered for a full-day retreat, and so much had changed: sorors lost, children and grandbabies born, new leadership, and 26 new initiates added to the ranks.

The sisterhood retreat theme — Heal. Inspire. Nurture. Grow. Enhance. (H.I.N.G.E.) — sought to prepare Evanston-North Shore Alumnae for its future on the other side of so much change. United in sisterhood, members worked to heal hurt and loss, inspire the re-establishment of sisterly bonds and nurture new relationships. From the creation of new strolls to painting, sorors had a great time! There were joyous moments, and moments of vulnerability that silenced sorors in quiet contemplation. Nestled in the heart of the retreat was a message of forgiveness delivered by a soror who survived a heinous assault. The chapter was astonished by her story of survival, awestruck by her openness and humbled by her journey to Reimagine Forgiveness.

Inspired by the themes of the retreat, the new initiates spearheaded the chapter’s effort to support domestic violence survivors. Donations of clothes and personal care products were collected for residents of the YWCA Women’s shelter. With H.I.N.G.E as a foundation, and the celebration of our individual and collective talents, Evanston-North Shore Alumnae continues to move forward with fortitude, guided by empathy, compassion and sisterly bonds.



Fellowship & Teambuilding



Sisterhood Retreat

Glen Ellyn Area Alumnae

Pajama Fun & Embrace Equity

The Glen Ellyn Area Alumnae Chapter celebrated Sisterhood Month by hosting a chapter pajama party fondly titled “Pajammy Jam,” on the evening of March 17th. Sorors were invited to wear their favorite pajamas while enjoying dinner and fellowship. Sorors also participated in a fashion show that showcased a variety of pajamas and loungewear, with a touch of humor and showmanship. The evening concluded with options to continue the fellowship by commemorating the evening with customized videos and photos, shopping with invited vendors, and getting a personalized caricature.

On March 11th, our International Awareness & Involvement and Economic Development Committees collaborated to host over 275 sorors and community members at an International Women’s Day-themed event, Embrace Equity. The event was developed to highlight, honor, and help empower women and girls. Our goal was to explore how women in male-dominated industries dealt with overt discrimination, subtle forms of bias, stereotypes, and how they handled those challenges. The committees secured an impressive list of speakers who were knowledgeable about issues and solutions on pay equity. Our Social Action Committee also informed attendees of the current legislative actions regarding pay equity. We invited 30 female vendors and donated 100% of the vendor fees to the Delta House/Vashti Village (Eswatini). Throughout the event, attendees dropped off personal care items (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, loofahs and razors) for Sarah’s Inn, a domestic violence and support center. We also invited Zeta Iota Chapter members to serve as volunteers and to learn from the workshops.



Joliet Area/South Suburban Alumnae

JASSAC Demonstrates Fellowship, Fortitude & Fun!

Joliet Area/South Suburban Alumnae Chapter (JASSAC) sorors were dressed to impress and excited to experience this year's Founders Day celebration in person for the first time since the pandemic. With a theme of Surviving and Thriving, sorors enjoyed a delicious lunch, shopped at a vendor fair, and received a riveting call to action from our 22nd National President, Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd. The event left sorors feeling reenergized and rededicated to continue moving the work forward of our trailblazing Founders.

Sisterhood Month was filled with fun, fellowship, and fortitude in JASSAC! Sorors participated in a month packed with engaging activities, from sharing their sisterhood spirit on social media to connecting with sorors inside their sister circle. Sorors were also encouraged to intentionally plan to engage with sorors they had not had the chance to communicate with; new connections were undoubtedly made! With a full calendar of sisterhood suggestions, days included but were not limited to "Challenge a soror to a workout today" or "Prayer & Pearls: attend a worship service with a soror. Additionally, over 150 sorors shared lunch, played sorority bingo, and enjoyed vendors at this year's Lunch with Sisters event. Sorors had a ball engaging with chapter members, learning a new stroll, and participating in a little friendly competition among sister circles with the opportunity to showcase their individual groups.



Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd and Chapter President Aisha Barnes at the Founders Day Celebration



Sisterhood Month "Lunch with Sisters"

Lambda

Welcome Aboard Lambda Airlines: Founders Week 2023

The Lambda Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, started the new year strong by hosting a week of events for Founders Week entitled Lambda Airlines: The Most Magnificent Skies. They began the week with their first Founders Day Mixer which was open to collegiates and sorors who were able to fellowship and celebrate 110 years scholarship, sisterhood, and service instilled by our Founders. Following the Founders Day mixer, they reflected on New Year resolutions and the importance of goal setting in an event entitled Lost and Found: New Year, New Me. In the middle of the week, they gave back to the community by hosting a canned food drive in their event, Concourse F: Act Out Against Hunger. The week of events wrapped up with the Emergency Exit: Post-Graduation Prep. They recognize that the transition from college into the workforce can be difficult to navigate, as it is unfamiliar territory. The purpose of this event was to educate and encourage the pursuit of higher education and understand what life could be like post-graduation. During the event, students were able to better understand and reflect upon what it means to define their own success and create their own path post-graduation. The Lambda Chapter was thrilled to host a successful week of events to not only promote education and goal setting but to also continue the Founders' vision of sisterhood and service.



Act Out Against Hunger



Founders Day Mixer



Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates Alumnae

H.E.A.R.T. to Heart-Virtual Mental Health Conference

As part of the DELTA Care Initiative, the Physical and Mental Health Committee of the Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates Alumnae Chapter hosted a virtual Mental Health Conference on February 11, 2023. With the theme of H.E.A.R.T. to Heart (Heal, Engage, Accept, Reset and Transform), this free conference strived to address important mental health issues impacting the African American community. This dynamic conference included a keynote address exploring reasons for mental health issues, followed by four highly informative and engaging concurrent sessions on mental health issues, while concluding with a closing session on practical advice.

The keynote address, Mental Health and the Black Community-Overcoming Stigmas, was given by Dr. Rick Wallace from the Visionetics Institute. Dr. Wallace explored the historical and current reasons why members of the Black community are more likely to experience serious mental health problems and gave practical advice on destigmatizing mental health issues for all. Concurrent sessions conducted by mental health professionals included: Impact of Racial Trauma on Black Mental Health, ABC's of Mindset-Master Your Life by Mastering Your Mindset, How to Address Past Relationship Trauma, and Black Men's Mental Health Matters. The conference concluded with: Journey to Healing-Practical Advice to Seeking Mental Health Support.

Conference attendees found value in the breakout sessions, thought the keynote speaker was engaging and thought-provoking, and advised the closing session provided added information in support of their overall mental wellness. Comments shared by conference attendees included: powerful information shared by all professionals; nice variety of topics; make this a bi-yearly or yearly conference.

Springfield-Decatur Area Alumnae

SDAAC Celebrates Founders Day!

Founders Day served as a great opportunity for reflection and fellowship for The Springfield-Decatur Area Alumnae Chapter (SDAAC). Using the theme "Onward with Sisterhood: Violets to our 22", the chapter celebrated 47 years of Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service and Social Action on March 4th at Richland Community College in Decatur, IL.

Following a moving rededication ceremony, sorors took the opportunity to envision Delta moving forward in the community coupled with a delicious lunch. Words of inspiration and wisdom were provided by Regina Greer, Illinois State Coordinator. Winter Stubblefield, Illinois State Facilitator was also in attendance along with three SDAAC Charter Members and seven past chapter presidents.

Sorors lined up for the photo booth and spent the day fellowshiping with active members and those who hadn't attended recent chapter activities. Nearly 80 sorors were in attendance from various chapters throughout the state. Reclamation was unequivocally one of the underlying goals and many of our sisters were brought back into the fold. All left with a commemorative gift and the affirmation of sisterhood.

During the event, Priscilla Palmer was surprised with her 50-Year Delta Anniversary plaque. She was initiated in 1973 at Theta Zeta Chapter at Eastern Illinois University. Jeanette Goza is Chapter President and Ahja Howard served as Founders Day Chair.



Soror Priscilla Palmer 50 Year
Delta Anniversary



Zeta Iota

PoliticZ and Paint, DancZing Around the World, Hygiene Drive, Addressing the Elephant in the Room

Zeta Iota hosted several events in April focused on Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Five Point Programmatic Thrust.

With over 200 attendees across the events, Zeta Iota hosted PoliticZ and PaInt, focusing on social issues such as missing black women, the student debt crisis, voting, and pay equity. The event entailed open discussion and provided solutions, facts and statistics. This event falls under the Politic Awareness and Involvement Thrust.

For International Awareness and Involvement, Zeta Iota hosted DanZing around the World to recognize different types of dances all around the world such as Caribbean whining, Afrobeats dance, and Hip-Hop with sorors and attendees all participating in both Hip-Hop and Afrobeats dance.

For Physical and Mental Health, Zeta Iota hosted Addressing the Elephant in the Room with a guest speaker discussing ways to cope with stress, seeking professional help when needed, and putting yourself first.

Lastly, in support of the community, Zeta Iota held a Hygiene Drive on campus to collect products for donation to the local homeless shelter. They collected products such as soap, lotion, feminine products, hair care products, and more.



DanZing Around the World



Mighty Midwest Region



Indiana

The State of Indiana is the host state of the 56th National Convention. The six alumnae chapters and seven collegiate chapters are working hard to prepare for Deltas taking over their state later this summer. The vision for Indiana is early and on-time compliance, increasing membership intake goals, retention and reclamation of sorors, and increased social action so that Delta has a strong and effective voice in Indiana.

Anderson-Muncie Alumnae

Founders Day 2023

The Anderson-Muncie Alumnae Chapter had an amazing time celebrating the impact and enduring legacy of our Founders. On Friday, January 13, 2023, we gathered during "Forever 22 – A Founders Day Celebration" to remember the ideals of our Founders and embrace the Sisterhood we hold dear. Through remarks, games, and sisterly interaction, attendees were encouraged to remember the Twenty-Two, and chapter members were reminded to finish the Sorority year strong. The chapter also used this event as a collegiate connection and reclamation opportunity, with Delta Phi Chapter and other sorors in attendance.



Founders Day Celebration



Founders Day Celebration

Bloomington Alumnae

I GOT ALL MY SISTAS WITH ME!

The Bloomington Alumnae Chapter (BAC) kicked off 2023 with a Founders Day celebration like none other. Sorors gathered for fellowship and fun at our favorite restaurant with the collegiate sorors of Gamma Nu and their advisors. We love our collegiate sorors and help whenever possible. February led us right into our Signature Pancake Breakfast Scholarship Fundraiser which was packed with a stupendous amount of support from community leaders in the City of Bloomington. During Sisterhood month, we took the time to "Grow With Google by Powering Our Job Search" and collaborating with Gary Alumnae and the South Bend Alumnae Chapters. Post-event evaluations confirmed that our communities are yearning for these Google workshops. BAC even took the time to support our chapter sorors being acknowledged by the City of Bloomington for the service they have done.

This year our emphasis was on Physical and Mental Health, so we began by partnering with IU Health and hosting a World Aids Day Virtual Event that was shown LIVE on the chapter Facebook page. We also hosted a Community Health Fair with free screenings and free COVID and flu vaccines. BAC was also present virtually for Delta Days at the Nation's Capital and in person at Delta Days at the State Capitol in Indianapolis. Every month on the 13th, we connect at a soror's home, and every month the Delta D.E.A.R.S. are working in the food pantry because WE ARE FAMILY AND THE BLOOMINGTON ALUMNAE CHAPTER HAS ALL ITS SISTAS WITH ME!!



Sorors Shulana Kpabar and Pauli Escobedo bonding as a Connect 13 Sisterhood Event



L to R: Sorors L. Rae Denton, State Coordinator Arlene Mitchell-Pace and Soror Keyandra Whiteside at Delta Days at the State Capitol making an IMPACT!



Evansville Alumnae

Celebrating and Recognizing!

Evansville Alumnae Chapter (EAC) celebrated 45 years of community service and involvement by recognizing various women in the community at their first Red Shoe Luncheon. Notable sorors in the community were celebrated and recognized for their continuous outreach and service in the city, as well as for their dedicated efforts in our Five-Point Programmatic Thrust: Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement.

The chapter topped off their busy quarter by worshipping at Nazarene Baptist Church with Chapter President, Soror Sherrie La Grone, followed by lunch at a local restaurant.



Sorors waiting for church service to begin at Nazarene Baptist Church.

Gary Alumnae

GAC, Leading with Love and Tenacity since 1938

Gary Alumnae (GAC) had a strong start to 2023 honoring and celebrating our illustrious 22 Founders, while dedicating time to serving the community.

In honor of Founders Day, sorors had an eventful game night fellowshiping with one another, members of the Divine Nine, and the community. This event was hosted in-person for the first time following the pandemic and welcomed over 120 people. Sorors also worshiped together during Sunday church service. Additionally, GAC celebrated Sisterhood Month with several activities including a prayer call, stepper's class, weekly fitness walks, period poverty donation drive, Rededication, and a Sisterhood Luncheon.

The chapter's Physical and Mental Health and International Awareness and Involvement Committees collaborated to host the "Go Red for Women Brunch: Bringing Awareness of Heart Disease in Women." The chapter provided awareness to the leading cause of death for African American women, while raising \$500 in donations for the American Heart Association (AHA). The community was provided with information about different types of heart diseases that affect women, risk factors, signs, symptoms, lifestyle change recommendations, and treatment options by a representative from AHA.

Gary Alumnae hosted a College & Careers exposition for Delta GEMS. The GEMS learned about many different HBCUs and were provided with information regarding colleges and the application process. The GEMS identified schools of interest and researched enrollment requirements.



The GEMS engaged in a career discussion with a nurse practitioner and an attorney who provided guidance on the process of identifying schools and the rewarding aspects of their careers.



Gary Alumnae sorors at the church where President Lisa Derico is a member for Sunday worship

Indianapolis Alumnae

ICONIC Sisterhood and Service

In an ICONIC way, the Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter (IAC) celebrated Sisterhood Month and Women's History Month in its 3rd annual HerStory Series. Women have always had a place in history. Too often, her stories and contributions have been minimized or overlooked. IAC created HerStory to acknowledge, document, and celebrate IAC's HerStory-making women.

Every day during the month of March, the HerStory of an IAC soror was shared on all internal and social media platforms. We celebrated Dolls, Divas, and DEARS in their careers as teachers, project managers, home-makers, sales representatives and managers, lawyers, artists, writers, doctors, instructional assistants, dentists, students, retired sorors or sorors in second careers, realtors, ministers, bus drivers, police officers, directors, vice presidents, childcare providers, executive leaders, and every field where we changed lives, made a difference, and impacted the communities we serve. The HerStory Series is informative, insightful, and inspiring. IAC women serve as role models and inspirations to education, career, Delta history and legacy, while sharing her proudest personal, professional, and civic contributions and achievements.

With a passion for serving our community through women's health education, the Iconic Indianapolis Alumnae Chapter presented a powerful Health Equity and the Black Mother – Hear Her - virtual symposium during National Minority Health Month and Black Maternal Health Week. With the facts around the number of black women losing their lives and infant mortality rates, the symposium focused on how to effect change and decrease the disparity of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality.



Kappa Nu

One Brave Soror Celebrating, Representing, and Reaching Out!

Earlier in the quarter, Kappa Nu participated in a Black History Month celebration at the Glenwood Leadership Academy as a participant of the Divine Nine.

Kappa Nu participated in a community outreach effort that served 400 individuals in need at the United Care Shelter, Youth First, and House of Bread and Peace.

The chapter also celebrated its 50th Anniversary with 23 sorors in attendance throughout the State of Indiana and beyond. Festivities included generation strolls, a soror scavenger hunt team competition, and of course, a delicious lunch. Two Kappa Nu charter members attended the celebration. Canned goods brought to the event were donated to a local food pantry.

The chapter may be small in number; but its impact is felt in the Evansville community!



Outreach packages assembly

Mighty Midwest Region



Kentucky

Welcome to the Bluegrass State, the home of seven alumnae chapters and eight collegiate chapters. During the 2022-2023 sorority year, the chapters of Kentucky have hosted over 50 events that focused on voter education, registration, and mobilization. From voter registration tables and redistricting informational meetings to reimagining public safety, the state of Kentucky is committed to social action in our communities. Additionally, our collegiate chapters are setting the standard as each chapter has won multiple individual and chapter awards and have been recognized by their respective university for their great work, including three advisors who have been recognized as Advisor of the Year.

Alpha Pi

Welcome to Deltaville

During Delta Week, Alpha Pi Chapter welcomed students at Kentucky State University to participate in various activities and discussions during a Dr. Seuss-inspired theme week entitled "Welcome to Deltaville." "The 500 Hats of a College Student" was an event that highlighted the multiple roles and responsibilities that college students often must balance. The Sorority emphasized the importance of maintaining good mental health and shared healthy coping mechanisms, including receiving affirmations from Dr. Seuss' books during "The Lovey Things" event.

The annual Mister Debonair Pageant was also hosted, with contestants showcasing their best attributes for the chance to become the next Mister Alpha Pi and Mister Debonair for the 2023-2024 academic year. There were discussions on the role of government in the lives of college students and how to make positive contributions to society during the "Oh, the Places You'll Go" event.

Alpha Pi Chapter collaborated with Kentucky State University's African Student Union for a food extravaganza, where attendees tried cultural dishes from various vendors. Additionally, the chapter organized "Wacky Wednesday," where they discussed current events, statewide news, and financial tips.

The chapter also hosted "What Was I Scared Of," a series of challenges and games where participants faced their fears. "Oh, the Thinks You Can Think" was another activity that aimed to inspire attendees to pursue their dreams and break negative thought patterns. The week concluded with a "Campus Clean Up" event, where the Alpha Pi Chapter engaged in community service to help keep the campus and environment clean.



Sorors and participants pose at the Mr. Debonair Pageant



Attendees creating hats at the "500 Hats of a College Student" event.

Bowling Green Alumnae

Founders Day and Rededication Ceremony Collaboration

Bowling Green Alumnae Chapter celebrated Founders Day in collaboration with Sorors of Eta Zeta Chapter of Western Kentucky University on February 25, 2023. A total of 23 Sorors were in attendance for the event. The day began with a Rededication Ceremony followed by fellowship with lunch at a local restaurant in Bowling Green, KY.



Sorors of Bowling Green Alumnae and Eta Zeta Chapter attending Rededication Ceremony for Founders Day 2023 in Bowling Green, KY.



Sorors attending Rededication Ceremony for Founders Day 2023 in Bowling Green, KY.

Eta Rho

Academic and Sorority Accolades

The Eta Rho Chapter wrapped up the Spring 2023 semester with several campus awards. Soror Ainyé Rogers received the Chapter President of the Year Award, Emerging Leader Award, Sorority Member of the Year Award, and Most Outstanding Neophyte of the Year Award. Soror Jediah Holman received the Keeping the Ritual Award and new initiate, Soror Ariel Jennings, won the Ambassador Award. The Eta Rho Chapter also has maintained the highest GPA for the NPHC for the 2022-2023 school year.



L-R: Soror Ariel Jennings, Soror Jediah Holman, and Soror Ainye Rogers receiving awards.

Eta Upsilon

Collaborations and Advisor Awards

At this year's Order of Omega Greek Awards, Eta Upsilon won Outstanding Collaborative Community Service with the Nu Rho Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and the Alpha Chi Chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma. Soror Brenda Stokes, primary advisor, was awarded the Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award and Soror Anjel Echols was awarded the Humble Servant Award.



Awards received by Eta Upsilon



Eta Zeta

Delta Week Success and Recognition

The Eta Zeta Chapter left a mark on the campus of Western Kentucky University once again as its legacy continues to grow in the community. In the previous semester, Eta Zeta hosted its inaugural “Trunk or Treat” at the Bowling Green Housing Authority. This experience allowed the chapter to further serve the community as they began service at the Bowling Green Housing Authority weekly on Fridays working with kids 6 years old and up. In February, the Eta Zeta Chapter also began to serve at Lost River Cave Elementary where they hosted “Leading Ladies,” where young girls were mentored by members in the chapter and participated in activities such as learning positive affirmations.

In March, Eta Zeta hosted its 2023 Delta Week centered around self-care activities such as “Donuts with the Deltas,” “Sip and Paint: Partnered with WKU Kappa Delta,” “Lemon Squeeze,” and “Game night with the Bruhz.” In addition to the Delta Week events, the chapter also collected feminine hygiene products to donate for a feminine drive. This year’s Delta Week primarily focused on the Sorority’s five-point programmatic thrust and mental health awareness as they strived to show the importance of taking care of themselves, especially as college students. In April, Eta Zeta earned four awards in this year’s Greek Week including: Inter-council Collaboration Award, Outstanding Campus Involvement Award, Greek Involvement Award, and the Randy Bracey Advisor award (Soror Lisa Cook). Additionally, Soror Jada Webster was awarded NPHC Greek Woman of the Year and was inducted into the Greek Hall of Fame.



Attendees during Delta Week



Sorors receiving Greek Awards.

Fort Knox Alumnae

Small but Mighty, Effective and True!

In the spirit of Sisterhood and Service, the members of Fort Knox Alumnae Chapter’s Economic Development Committee began offering webinars on topics they thought would interest the community. In sorority year 2021-2022, they started a financial literacy series offered remotely so there would be no barriers to access. This series covered topics on understanding credit, financial wellness apps that the community could use to help them save or be more mindful of how they spend, tips to fix credit, how to purchase a car, etc. From that original series, the chapter expanded to focus on the home buying process in sorority year 2022-2023, offering a four-part series this time. Utilizing subject matter experts from the local service area was extremely intentional. They created after action surveys to capture feedback from the audience who attended these workshops. With the number of registrants at each workshop, the chapter had nearly 75% that attended the workshops and in sequential order.

Just as it grew year-over-year, Fort Knox Alumnae plans to expand it further in the next sorority year. The chapter may not fully realize the impact of their efforts in the moment, but they hope as they move forward in the next year, the chapter can design an efficient way to track data for those who used tools and resources provided, and in a way that allows them to offer feedback and results in real-time during each webinar to the guests. Fort Knox Alumnae is proud to provide this program in the community they serve!



Frankfort Alumnae

Having Fun and Getting Fit

Frankfort Alumnae Chapter collaborated with the Alpha Pi Chapter at Kentucky State University at the beginning of Sisterhood month for a “Delta Fitness” community event planned by the Physical and Mental Health Committees of each chapter. The workout was held at Guru Fitness, a local Black owned gym, and led by owner EJ Fields. The collaboration between alumnae, collegiate, and fitness center was the perfect combination. Twenty-five people attended and were able to get a fresh start on their health journey with a beginner level boot camp, which consisted of a 10-minute high intensity interval training (HIIT) warm-up, three rounds of four circuit full-body workouts, and a 10-minute cool down. All feedback was positive, and many said they are looking forward to the next class. One attendee’s takeaway was, “Physical Health is important and a form of self-love.” The event was able to collect donations for the Kentucky State University Bred Basket by making the entry fee at least one donation of the following items: canned goods, non-perishable items, and/or feminine hygiene products. This was a successful event that supported the chapter’s local HBCU and the Franklin County community.



Attendees getting ready to start the next circuit.



Delta Fitness attendees feeling strong after a good workout.

Hopkinsville Alumnae

Pink Goes Red and Powerful Women

The restoration of in person meetings and activities has proven to be an exciting time for the Hopkinsville Alumnae Chapter. The chapter hit the ground running and has maintained that enthusiasm over into the new year. In February, Hopkinsville Alumnae partnered with the Beta Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. for Pink Goes Red for Heart Health. Over 60 people attended this event where Dr. Chester Crump taught about heart health and Brittney Richardson, Exercise Physiologist, got our heart rates up with cardio. Additionally in February, they partnered with Christian County Public Library for Read Aloud Fridays where sorors went to elementary schools to read to the children.

In honor of Women’s History Month, the chapter used social media daily to celebrate powerful women in their service area who are working and serving to bring improvement to their communities. In April, Hopkinsville Alumnae gathered over 50 blankets and throws and sorors spent an afternoon distributing them to residents at a local nursing home. The chapter believes in self-care and took the opportunity to love on each other during a sisterhood gathering where they had lunch and shopped at Patti’s 1800’s Settlement in Grand Rivers, KY.



Sorors of Hopkinsville Alumnae Chapter attending *Pink Goes Red* with Beta Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



Sorors fellowshiping over lunch.



Lexington (KY) Alumnae

Engagement and Financial Wellness in the Community

The Lexington (KY) Alumnae Chapter kicked off 2023 with a full week of events to celebrate Founders Day. The week began with a church service and rededication ceremony on Sunday, January 9; sisterhood fellowship dinner on Tuesday, virtual bible study on Wednesday, and a fellowship on Friday that included a dirty elephant exchange, games, line dancing, strolling and hors d'oeuvres. The fellowship event was also used as an opportunity to pack over 180 blessing bags for the homeless and were distributed the following day. In March, the Delta Dears Committee hosted the quarterly pill bottle collection, where they collect empty pill bottles throughout the community to donate to African countries where medicines are often dispensed into hands, paper napkins, pockets, or any other available container. Over 100 pill bottles were collected during this event and were sent to Matthew 25 Ministries to send overseas.

In April, the Lexington (KY) Alumnae Chapter hosted a retirement seminar where attendees learned valuable information on financial planning and investment strategies. The speaker for the event was Financial Associate Emmanuel Washington. The chapter ended the month attending the Antonio Franklin Jr. Community Intervention Peace Walk on April 22 in Duncan Park to help stop gun violence. The Social Action Committee hosted a table at the walk to discuss voter engagement, voter registration, and Earth Day with community members.



Sorors attending the Founders Day fellowship event.



Sorors pose at the Antonio Franklin Jr. Community Intervention Peace Walk.

Louisville Alumnae

Sisterhood Month Celebrations

“Where there is kindness, loyalty, empowerment and understanding, you stop calling that person a friend-- she becomes your sister.” During the month of March, Deltas everywhere set time aside to pause, reflect, renew, and rekindle their commitment not only to the sorority but also to one another.

The Louisville Alumnae Chapter had the pleasure of hosting two-chapter events in celebration of “Sisterhood Month.” On February 26, sorors were invited to participate in a fellowship activity by coming together in support of the University of Louisville (UofL) women’s basketball team at the KFC Yum Center at the UofL versus Notre Dame basketball game. The fellowship and bonding were extremely fun, and sorors were looking forward to doing an event like this again as a chapter in the near future. It was a great way to kick off Sisterhood Month in fellowship with our sorors! Louisville Alumnae ended chapter celebrations with a Rededication and Reception on Saturday, March 25th at St. Stephen Church where there were over eighty sorors in attendance.

There is strength in sisterhood. This year, Louisville Alumnae will be celebrating its 90th anniversary in the sorority and will offer programs for all sorors, not just those in Louisville.





Louisville Alumnae President, Soror Rosalind Welch, addresses sorors during the welcome reception brunch following Rededication.



Louisville Alumnae engaged in a bonding activity with sorors and their families supporting the Louisville Women's basketball team at the UofL vs. Notre Dame game.

Paducah Alumnae

Powerful Inspiration at Sister 2 Sister Event

Based on the verbal responses and evaluation comments, Sister 2 Sister is an event the community hopes Paducah Alumnae will continue as an annual affair. Approximately 75 women feasted on the food, festivities and messages brought by Soror Gail Ridgeway and Soror Ashley Ridgeway Washington which highlighted the necessity of mental, physical, financial, and emotional self-care. Women and young girls from the ages of pre-teen to senior citizen, engaged in an afternoon devoted to gaining information to help them on their life's journey. Soror Washington, a much sought after public speaker, encouraged participants to identify their strengths and to be purposeful in their pursuits through vision boarding as one tool to greatness. She provided tips and best practices for personal and professional advancement.

Soror Ridgeway closed out the informational portion of the event by educating participants about the impact of Triple Negative Breast Cancer which disproportionately affects women of color, especially Black women. As a breast cancer survivor, she emphasized that death doesn't have to be an option and encouraged women to be in charge of their health both mentally and physically. Both women shared personal accounts of their struggles to achieve success while overcoming overwhelming odds. At the conclusion of the luncheon, participants were able to purchase and receive signed copies of publications by Soror Ridgeway and Soror Washington as well as other items from local African American vendors.



Soror Tiffany Benberry (l) and Soror Shanetha Donaldson (r) take time out for a break during decorating the night before Sister 2 Sister.



Engaging Events, Selfless Service and Chapter Accolades

Xi Chapter's impact on the University of Louisville community strives to uplift, empower, and engage the community. In January, Xi Chapter hosted "Financial Fortitude: Building for your Future" which allowed attendees to discover avenues for financial success for their future. In February, Xi Chapter hosted "Don't Touch My Hair" in which attendees learned healthy tips about natural hair, hairstyles, and products. In April, Xi Chapter hosted their 2023 Delta Week which featured events such as, "Dancing with the Divas," "Elephant in the Room: Sexual Assault Awareness," and "Coleman Table Talk." Each event strived to align with the Sorority's five-point programmatic thrust and provide the opportunity to engage the student community through engaging topics and conversations. Additionally, during Delta Week, Xi Chapter held a book drive in which the campus community could donate books for primary education students. Over 50 books were collected and donated to Decode Project, a non-profit in the city of Louisville that focuses on literacy for kids.

Throughout the semester, the chapter completed at least one community service project per month including, Dare to Care Food Bank, Crawford Middle School - Black History Month Program, UofL Health-Future Healers Program, Decode Project, and the Louisville Nature Center. At the end of the semester, Xi Chapter was awarded the following awards: Outstanding Campus Involvement, Outstanding New Program, Innovative Member Development Program, and Advisor of the Year (Soror Stephanie Smith). Lastly, Xi Chapter was awarded 1st place for the Midwest Region in the Good Health WINs Collegiate Video Short Challenge.



Attendees at the Coleman table talk.



Attendees post after the *Elephant in the Room: Sexual Assault Awareness* program



Mighty Midwest Region



Michigan

The state of Michigan has 25 collegiate and alumnae chapters. They recently launched “Michigan in a Minute” which highlights chapter programming across the state. There was a two-day Statewide Sisterhood Celebration in Kalamazoo, MI where more than 275 sorors attended the fun filled extravaganza and raised more than \$1,000 for two local charities. The state has Chapters that were featured on several mainstream media outlets highlighting Delta’s impact on the community.

Ann Arbor Alumnae

The Great Migration and Easter Egg Hunt

The Ann Arbor Deltas in collaboration with the Delta GEMS, Delta Academy and The African American Cultural & Historical Museum of Washtenaw County hosted The Great Migration. This kicked off a busy day of service and education for the Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter on April 8. This event attracted over 50 guests including chapter sorors and sorors from Battle Creek Alumnae, community residents and youth. This event was a narrated journey from slavery to freedom and the significant impact that local Ann Arbor families played in the Underground Railroad. Exhibits featuring 25 prints from Jacob Lawrence (a Black artist) were on display. The Delta GEMS performed a poetic and musical skit to reflect the progression of African Americans while acknowledging the injustice we face today. The event ended with lunch from a local Black owned soul food restaurant.

Additionally, the Ann Arbor Deltas in collaboration with the Washtenaw County Divine Nine organizations and the Black community businesses hosted its' annual community Easter Egg Hunt. The Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter hosted more than one hundred 4- and 5-year-old community kids and provided over 300 eggs filled with candy, age-appropriate books, toys, and games to participants. Additionally, they provided two giant Easter baskets to the children that found the gold egg (girl) and the silver egg (boy). Adult attendees learned more about our chapter history, purpose and signature programs and events.



Members of the Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Delta Beta

Puzzled: Autism Awareness

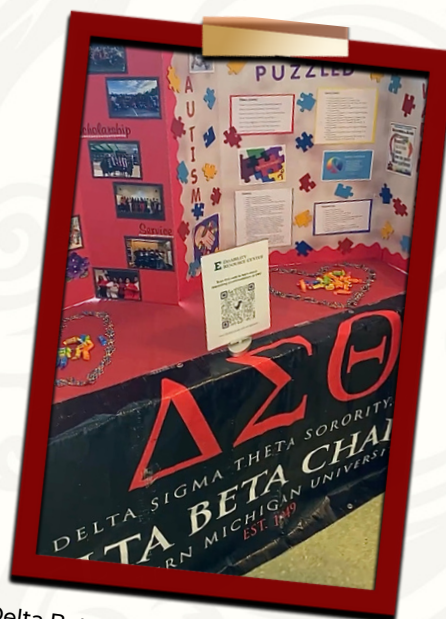
The Delta Beta Chapter hosted “Puzzled: Autism Awareness” Lobby Tables. The purpose of the program was to raise awareness about autism spectrum disorder and inform Eastern Michigan University affiliates of campus resources provided by the Disability Resource Center. The chapter addressed the definition of autism, signs of autism, statistics, and interesting facts about autism. During the program, members of the chapter created an informational trifold board and engaged with those passing by in the student center lobby. The lobby table also displayed a QR code which took those who scanned it with their mobile device to an informational page provided by Eastern Michigan University’s Disability Resource Center.

Members of the Delta Beta Chapter also wore and distributed autism awareness ribbons to those who passed by to spread awareness throughout the rest of the campus. As a part of the program, the chapter also advertised and accepted art supplies as donations for the Autism Collaborative Center in Ypsilanti, Michigan.





Delta Beta sorors who pose at the Autism Awareness display.



Delta Beta Autism Awareness Display

Delta Upsilon

WilΔin Owt

The Dynamic Delta Upsilon chapter hosted their annual Delta Week this year from April 17th to April 23rd. The theme focused on the television show, Wild-N-Out. In reflection of this theme, the chapter hosted close to one hundred attendees at events such as Family REDunion: Who They Introducing, Get Fit in the Classroom, Slanguage, and Know Your Rights. Family REDunion consisted of a meet and greet for the 15 newest initiates to the chapter. Get Fit in the Classroom is a Physical and Mental Health program. They provided the physical health portion through a Zumba class and the mental health portion was provided as a check in space to let the attendees know that someone is listening. Slanguage was a linguistics event where they taught common terms in Spanish, Chinese, and ASL. Know Your Rights was a discussion/presentation on being your own advocate when stopped by the police in various locations and scenarios. The Delta Upsilon chapter concluded their week with a win during the Spring 2023 Stroll Off.



Sorors show owt at the Spring 2023 Stroll Off.



Chapter members donate to Kalamazoo Gospel Mission.



Detroit Alumnae

Sisterhood Through African Dance – Service Through Exposure to HBCUs

Sisterhood was forged through the rhythms of African dance – service was rendered when Detroit Deltas expose area children to HBCUs. Detroit Alumnae Chapter (DAC) programmed these and dozens of events to benefit their membership and the community. Events focused on human trafficking, voter education, expungement laws, and financial empowerment. Members donated items to stock a Mother's Room at the Detroit Medical Center and to stock a nearby Little Free Library box.

The March 26th event, “Harambee! West African Dance Workshop,” combined three elements: sisterly bonding through the cultural expression of African dance; the community service of a public exercise and educational activity; and fundraising to benefit the Mary Help of the Sick Mission Hospital in Thika, Kenya. Indicators of success include the participation by nearly 100 people; financial support to five Black vendors and the African-centered dancers and drummers engaged to present; and the \$1,952 raised, which more than tripled the \$500 goal.

The March 11th HBCU College Fair allowed DAC to expose nearly 700 high school youth to the Black college experience – with all the tradition and support they have to offer. Open to metro Detroiters, the Fair was held in collaboration with 22 HBCUs and the Divine 9 organizations. Attendees were afforded the opportunity to receive direct access to college recruiters, onsite application assistance and onsite scholarship awards. Students and parents benefitted from educational presentations, including from a college prep coordinator. Information tables for community partners featured the Detroit Branch of the NAACP.



Members of the community at the African Dance Workshop



Representatives from Xavier University speak with interested students.

Flint Alumnae

On Fire for Delta and Sisterhood

Not even a winter storm could stop the Flint Alumnae Chapter (FAC) from carrying out their Founders Day and Sisterhood duties! The diligent efforts of FAC’s Founders Day committee allowed them to kick off sisterhood month with a Founders Day Brunch and Membership Services Awards. More than 130 tickets were sold, 110 attended, and \$1,000 was raised. The Honorable Shannon Holmes was the keynote speaker of the event and FAC award winners included Soror Kaneesa Tooson – recipient of the Dolores Simmons Service Award, Soror Ashnee Dunning recipient of the Marie Hackley Wright Sisterhood Award, and Dr. Nicole Franklin of the IAI Women of Achievement Award.

They held a college and career readiness webinar in collaboration with Mott Community College and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and had an “Adopt a School” reading initiative where sorors read and donated books. The inaugural Youth Beauty Expo, showcasing over 20 Black female owned businesses, stressing economic development had over 100 youth participants and their mothers. Breakout sessions included women empowerment, prizes and hands-on activities including, yoga, meditation, etiquette classes, physical and mental health, skincare tutorials, body butter and scrub making and more!



The grand finale was the 14th annual Basic Needs Fair with over 24 community partners. Over 75 participants accessed various services and resources including health screens, housing/utilities, expungement, food, financial resources, immunizations! Sorors also donated wish list items to McLaren Hospitality House and served at North End Soup Kitchen where over 15 Sorors prepared and served hot meals to feed 130+ people.



L-R: Sorors Felica Watson and Ineatha Waters providing information to an event attendee



Founders Day Brunch Committee: Standing (l-r) Christel Drew, Julie Jones, Felicia Watson, Sounya Walker, Jackie Holmes Robinson, 2nd VP-Brittney Rimmer (seated l-r) Co-Chair-Sunni Samuels-Larry, President- Tamar Swain, Chair- Sonya James

Grand Rapids Alumnae

Back Together Again

“Back Together Again” was the theme of the day for the Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter (GRAC). The 35th Annual Jazz Brunch and Expo is the first in-person community event since COVID-19 emerged.

This annual fundraiser provides scholarships to high school seniors and college students in the Kent County area. Deltas were excited to come back in person and apparently Grand Rapids was excited as well. This sold-out event attracted over 300 guests from all walks of life including educators, clergymen, Corewell Health Partners, and key representatives from the local chapter of the NAACP. The Cultural Center’s Ballroom was the place to be for Delta’s signature event. GRAC, in affiliation with Athena Education and Program Development, has entered their 35th year of this campaign.

Contributions to this fundraiser ranged from the ticket price of \$75 to \$5000 scholarship sponsorship. By noon of this extravaganza, there were estimated scholarship donations close to \$16,000 and counting. The Grand Rapids young future leaders were not the sole benefactors of the fundraiser and expo. The Grand Rapids community was treated to a glimpse into the heart of GRAC’s Five-Point Programmatic Thrust and Committee initiatives. The crimson and cream narthex was featured with display booths for all to capture service at its best.

“Back Together Again” united the community for one cause, reaffirming that GRAC of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is the public service organization that continues to strengthen and influence the African American Community.



Sorors check out the Delta DEARS display



The Jazz Committee pose for the camera.



Inkster Alumnae

Hustle for Heart Health

Inkster Alumnae Chapter (IAC) has been on a mission of Elevating, Enhancing, and Empowering their chapter, sisterhood, and community. The “Hustle for Heart Health” event held in February allowed them to do just that. February is American Heart Month so they thought it would be a perfect time to emphasize the importance of taking time to focus on cardiovascular health and an active lifestyle. They were able to bring sorors and members of the community together for an evening of fun and dance as well as education and awareness on heart disease. Using the area of Physical and Mental Health from the Five-Point Programmatic Thrust, their goal was to show attendees the importance of staying active and monitoring their heart health as “according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, African Americans are 30% more likely to die from heart disease than non-Hispanic whites.”

During the event, participants were able to fellowship while learning the latest and most popular hustle dances. There was representation from all age groups from various cities and communities within the IAC service area. Proceeds from the event went to the chapter’s annual scholarship fund that benefits graduating local high school seniors. The chapter will continue the mission of “Empowering Our Youth and Communities” with the tools and resources they need to live a healthy lifestyle: mind, body, and spirit.



Sorors and community members hustling for heart health



Sorors and community members pose after the Hustle for Heart Health program.

Kalamazoo Alumnae

All Sisterhood Roads Lead to Kalamazoo, Michigan!

In Sisterhood, In Love, In Michigan was the theme of two sisterhood-filled days. The Kalamazoo Alumnae Chapter was the host chapter for the Michigan Deltas Statewide Sisterhood Celebration.

On March 31, sorors enjoyed a soiree in which there was good food, laughs and strolling. The theme of the soiree was Paraphernalia and Pearls and sorors did not disappoint. Sorors participated in a “Name that Song” game in which 10 second snippets of songs across all genres were played by DJ Playhouse. Sorors were quick to name the song and artist and one lucky table were the winners for the night! Sorors had a chance to take pictures and meet sorors from different chapters. This was a night for sorors to unwind and enjoy each other.



Sorors of Kalamazoo Alumnae Chapter with Midwest Regional Director, Brittani N. Blackwell and Michigan State Coordinator, Katrenia L. Camp

On April 1st, sorors enjoyed a celebration lunch and program. The keynote speaker was the Midwest Regional Director, Soror Brittani Blackwell providing all sorors in attendance a riveting word about sisterhood and what it means to be a sister while excelling in Delta. The program was led by the Michigan State Coordinator, Soror Katrenia Camp. The day ended with sorors visiting the vendor room and supporting businesses that traveled all the way to Kalamazoo. We are our sister’s keeper, and all were reminded how much love we have for each other in Michigan.

Midwest Regional Director, Brittani N. Blackwell receives a standing ovation.



Lansing Alumnae

Lansing Alumnae Chapter's 2023 Red & White Sneaker Ball

The Lansing Alumnae Chapter (LAC) hosted its first Sneaker Ball on February 11th. The Sneaker Ball was a re-imagining of LAC's signature Red & White Scholarship Ball. The proceeds from this event go towards LAC's scholarship fund which allows the chapter to financially assist area students who demonstrate academic excellence, a commitment to community service, and a desire to further their dreams of a college education. Recognizing the importance of education, the chapter has awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships in the greater Lansing area within the past several years.

Over 200 guests showed up and showed out with fantastically customized sneaker designs. Instead of incurring the expense of a printed program, a digital business card was used to display the flip book featuring all of the sponsor ads. Additionally, continuing with the digital concept, guests were able to download their favorite photos from the roaming photo booth.

The Sisterhood was also on full display throughout this exciting evening. In the end over \$33,000 was raised (a combination of ad sales, sponsors and ticket sales).



Midwest Regional Director, Soror Brittani N. Blackwell and Lansing Alumnae Chapter President, Soror Brandie Liddell greet attendees.



Lansing Alumnae Chapter Fundraising Chair, Jill Devers and Michigan State Coordinator, Katrenia L. Camp show off their mean shoe game.

Macomb Alumnae

Women Who Tell Our Story Book Drive

The MACnificent Macomb Alumnae Chapter in partnership with the Omega Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and the Macomb County Section of the National Council of Negro Women, sponsored a – “Women Who Tell Our Story” Book Drive during the month of March.

Each organization had a goal of collecting 200 new or gently used books, specifically written by African American women. More than 850 books were collected and donated to students in grades K-12, at the following schools in Macomb County: Parkers Elementary in Clinton Township, Math and Science Academy in Warren and New Haven High School in New Haven.

The faculty, staff and students were very appreciative of the donation and hosted a special assembly to distribute the books to the students. The Macomb Alumnae Chapter was excited to be a part of a book drive that impacted the lives of our youth, which are our future.





Macomb Alumnae Chapter President Janice L. Willis and Soror Sophia Sims, Educational Development Chair pose at the Book Drive.



Macomb Alumnae Chapter sorors and members of the Omega Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. pose at Book Drive.

Mu Phi

Red Hot Mu Phi Scholarship Ball

Red Hot Mu Phi hosted a Delta Week full of sisterhood and service activities. The activities included Dancing with the Deltas, Study Night, Casino Game Night, and More Stretch Less Stress Yoga Night. The culminating activity was our Annual Scholarship Ball. Themed "A Night of Mystery," the evening was full of grace, love, and motivation. Keynote speaker, Soror Jasmine Cofield delivered a motivational and inspiring message of continuing service and being an asset in the community. In keeping with the Sorority's emphasis on academic achievement, a scholarship was awarded to a deserving student to encourage them to keep working towards their education goals.



Red Hot sorors from Mu Phi pose for the camera.

Saginaw Alumnae

Delta GEMS Banquet: A Celebration of Sisterhood and Community

In what Saginaw Alumnae Chapter (SAC) President Lisa Ingram describes as "a clarion call to the sisterhood," approximately 150 guests attended this year's Delta GEMS banquet at the Trillium Banquet Center in Saginaw Township. "The Delta GEMS program, which offers young ladies a road map for college and career planning through activities, also provides opportunities for self-reflection and individual growth," said GEMS Committee Chair Donna Cole. Community activity is part of civic responsibility and throughout the year GEMS participated in a variety of activities, including:

- Helping stock the shelves at a resale shop run by the Underground Railroad, a local women's shelter.
- Volunteering at Saginaw STEM, a local youth program.
- Participating in workshops on career preparation and business.
- Attending group dance, etiquette, and fitness classes.
- Participating in Saginaw NAACP meetings and an annual MLK Day March.

It's about doing things to give back to our communities, fellowshiping and helping others," said SAC Delta GEMS Co Chair Tosha Hemphill. "Delta GEMS learn about civic responsibility by being active in their community."



Saginaw's local Delta GEMS program is implemented by the Saginaw Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.". The program truly allows participants the opportunity to define and discover their individual brilliance," Soror Cole said.



Saginaw Alumnae Chapter President Lisa Ingram (center) along with GEMS leaders and members.



2023 SAC Delta GEMS Banquet

Southfield Alumnae Season of Sisterhood & Service

The Southfield Alumnae Chapter activated 22 projects in honor of Founders Day during its "Season of Service." The projects focused on the mental health topics of grief, suicide, depression, dementia, and ADHD. Several agencies were served, including national partner National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and activities included toiletry collection, toy collection, fundraising, blanket donation, and care package assembly.

On International Women's Day, the chapter presented a "Wrap Your Crown: The Art, History, and Fashion of African Head Wrapping" workshop with Love Rose of Wrapped in Love, LLC. Attendees learned how to use African fabrics and other materials such as leggings and t-shirts to "wrap their crowns," enjoyed authentic Nigerian food from local caterer Fork in Nigeria and participated in sisterhood table discussions. Resources were provided by United Way and American Cancer Society, and the event culminated with a call to action for support of the CROWN Act in Michigan.

Collegiate Connection hosted Delta Dolls, Divas, and DEARS for a "Divas in Heels" dance class, which kicked off with a stress assessment. "Destination: Healthy You!," an eight-week health & wellness challenge, welcomed 130 chapter and community members as participants. Highlights included expert panel discussions on health topics, fitness classes, a healthy cooking demo, and prizes. All participants completed the American Heart Association's My Life Check® survey, and 100 signed NAMI's StigmaFree pledge. Additional partners were American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, and American Diabetes Association.



Sorors Camille Humes and Tavia Redmond deliver donated items during the Founders Day "Season of Service".



Soror Venus J. Brown participates in a head wrapping tutorial from Love Rose of Wrapped in Love, LLC during the "Wrap Your Crown" workshop.



Mighty Midwest Region



Minnesota

Minnesota currently has one alumnae chapter in the state. Their strategic efforts have supported several house bills and followed them into the passing phase! They are proud of their work concerning The CROWN Act which stands for “Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair.” They watched, wrote to their legislators and urged them to support the passing of this law that prohibits race-based hair discrimination.

Minneapolis-St. Paul Alumnae

Propelling Our Sisterhood Forward

It is time to propel our sisterhood forward in the name of Delta! As we prepare to close out this biennium of the local chapter leadership, we are thrilled to highlight the many ways our bond has flourished. We also reflect on the resilience of our sisterhood that has captivated us despite the uncertainty of the last three years.

In March, the Minneapolis-St. Paul Alumnae Chapter hosted a full weekend of sisterly events and community fellowship. This included a beautiful Rededication Ceremony, Founders Day Luncheon, and Red Diamond Soiree. Our sorors heard a powerful speech from Reverend Dr. Stephanie Burrage who is known in the community to deliver a heartfelt and inspirational message. Later in the evening, our community came out to dance and fellowship with our chapter.

Our amazing Delta D.E.A.R.S. hosted an April service activity for Feed My Starving Children. They packed and labeled over 40 boxes with over 9,000 meals that will feed 25 children for one year. They continue to demonstrate the power of remaining active and involved in our community. We love our beautiful Delta D.E.A.R.S.!



Delta D.E.A.R.S. after completing their service project

Mighty Midwest Region



Ohio

The State of Ohio has 12 alumnae chapters and 17 collegiate chapters. Ohio is home to the second chapter of our Illustrious Sisterhood – Beta Chapter at Wilberforce University established in February 2014. Founder Madree Penn White was a member of the Omega Chapter (now the Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter). The Outstanding Deltas of Ohio are focused on the Five-Point Programmatic Thrust to include programs centered around leadership development of youth and social action to confront the issues impacting the Black community.

Akron Alumnae

2023 Game Changer Weekend

The Akron Alumnae Chapter truly changed the game by hosting their 2023 Game Changer weekend. The Women's History/Sisterhood Month festivities began when generous event sponsors and honorees were engaged in a VIP Red Zone Reception with Honorary Member Collette V. Smith, the First African American Female Coach for the National Football League and the First Female Coach in the New York Jets Franchise history.

March 19th, the Game Changer Brunch was held at the University of Akron with over 200 people in attendance. The event honored 13 Game Changer Awardees and 39 Honorable Mention Honorees that have coached and mentored area youth on and off the field/court. The chapter scored the winning touchdown when Chairperson De Shawn Partridge introduced Collette V. Smith as the keynote speaker.

The audience was glued to their seats as Soror. Smith told her story of being a victim of domestic violence and overcoming challenges that made her strive harder to "Change the Game." Soror Smith is the Founder and President of Believe N You, Incorporated. She empowers youth to be the best they can be and provides them with the right tools to succeed.

Later that afternoon, Soror Smith hosted a youth sports clinic where she and members of the chapter greeted over 80 youth at the University of Akron Field House. Ms. Smith and volunteer coaches poured encouragement into the youth while leading them through various drill stations. The day ended with six footballs being autographed by Ms. Smith and given out to youth that excelled during the clinic.



Honorary Member Collette V. Smith mentoring players on the field



Honorary Member Collette V. Smith, serves as event keynote speaker

Cincinnati Alumnae

Sisterhood and Service Abound in Cincinnati

The Cincinnati Alumnae Chapter got into the Delta spirit with a Founders Day week full of sisterhood and service events. Events kicked off January 10 with preparing and serving meals at the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter. Nearly 150 sorors gathered January 14 for sisterhood games, strolling and a service project in which 110 hygiene kits and 110 laundry kits were assembled for Upspring, a local non-profit that empowers children experiencing homelessness. Earlier that morning, the Chapter bonded with Cincinnati Queen City Alumnae and drew over 100 sorors for the Rededication Ceremony. Sorors worshipped together January 15 at Corinthian Baptist Church where Cincinnati Alumnae donated \$1,000 to the church's youth ministries. The week would not be complete without social action as sorors participated in the Annual MLK Commemorative March on January 16.

Cincinnati Alumnae also hosted a physical and mental health awareness "Mind, Body & Soul" series. With an audience of nearly 100 sorors and community members, the series kick-off featuring a panel of African American professionals, including licensed physicians and clinicians in the mental health field, who shared warning signs and solutions for depression and grief on February 25. Part II of the series featured a Wellness Week of events in April that included five opportunities for group physical movement, strength and endurance through yoga, Zumba, strolling, bike riding and a 3K fundraising walk for our strategic partner, March of Dimes. The Chapter used these opportunities to affirm our great and enduring sisterhood!





Sorors walk in March of Dimes Fundraising Walk.



Sorors gather for Sisterhood Saturday with games and a service project.

Cincinnati Queen City Alumnae

Putting Our Health First

Why is it that women nurture everyone around them but cannot seem to make the same effort for themselves? The Cincinnati Queen City Alumnae Chapter partnered with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission on March 12th to turn this paradigm on its head and get women to put themselves first through education about specific health issues that women face. The Wellness Workshop featured presentations by medical professionals on cardiac health, menopausal symptoms, and hair and skin care. The importance of diet on menopause symptoms was shared as well as preferable fitness approaches for women in this phase of life.

This presentation veered into a discussion on the benefits of weight-bearing exercises over cardio once women enter menopause. The attendees were deeply engaged in this discussion as various symptoms like hot flashes, depression, and brain fog were highlighted as just a few of the typical 52 symptoms of menopause that need to be managed.

Aesthetician and Black business owner, Jennifer Holifield of Beard & Beauty Spa, shared gems on hair removal and hyperpigmentation management methods. Black women of all ages are plagued with both issues, but menopausal women in the audience were particularly engaged in a lively back and forth with Ms. Holifield. Attendees won door prizes provided by various community partners. Then, they transitioned to mini-fitness classes where they learned aerobic routines as well as useful yoga poses to release stress. Overall, the presentations were just the tip of the iceberg as more self-care lessons were requested by the attendees.



Jennifer Holifield of Beard & Beauty Spa shares information on hair removal methods.



Sorors Krishona Poignard and Robin Brown, nurse practitioners, educate on women's health.



Columbus (OH) Alumnae

Celebrating Founders Day and Sisterhood Month with Record-breaking Scholarship Fundraising and Community Engagement

Columbus (OH) Alumnae Chapter had a busy few months with a series of events that highlighted our commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, and service. January began with a Rededication Ceremony led by 25th National President Dr. Paulette C. Walker. We hosted a sisterhood retreat over Founders Day weekend, led by Soror Tracey Knight.

In February, we held our annual Founders Day celebration with the theme, "110 Years of Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service, and Service Action." The celebration began with a luncheon attended by over 750 guests, with speeches by Congresswoman Joyce Beatty and 22nd National President Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd as the keynote. The event featured a community service component, where sorors and guests donated 800 items to East High School, a Columbus City School. Columbus Alumnae raised over \$57,000 in scholarships and recognized over 60 Deltas with 25- or 50-year anniversaries.

For Sisterhood Month, the chapter hosted a red-carpet screening of the movie Creed III, lunches, dinners, and fun activities like roller skating and a paint & sip. Sorors participated in activities focused on physical and mental health, such as yoga, Meditation Mondays, and Walk Wednesdays. We hosted a community day of service, collecting household and toiletry items for Central Ohio's homeless community and clothing and accessories for students at East H.S. The month concluded with a discussion of James Patterson's best-selling novel, *The Black Book*. Columbus Alumnae continues to uphold our commitment to community service and sisterhood throughout Central Ohio.



CAC President Tamara Staley (center), with CAC members pose with D9 Chapter Presidents and NPHC Columbus members.



CAC hosts *A Night at the Movies* for sisterhood month.

Dayton Alumnae

Dayton Deltas Welcome 25th National President to Founders Day

Dr. Paulette C. Walker, 25th National President, delivered a passionate and inspiring speech at Dayton Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day Celebration. Soror Walker reminded members in attendance of the sacrifices the 22 founders made for this organization that has been a force in public and community service across the country for more than 110 years. "They sat at a table of social action" she said, adding that what the Founders started has evolved into a focus on Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health and Political Awareness and Involvement.

Dr. Walker also described the Founders' actions as putting together patches in the way that quilts are made to make something that is strong and lasting. She challenged sorority members to continue their commitment to Delta by adding their patches to the quilt. Dayton Alumnae Chapter was busy this Spring bringing the Founders vision of service to life:

- Economic Development presented programs on funeral planning and early retirement;



- Social Action partnered with Wilberforce Alumnae Chapter and Montgomery County Alumnae Chapter present a program on Ohio's new voter registration laws; and
- Physical and Mental Health joined the Community Impact Director with the American Heart Association to present a Facebook Live program on healthy heart tips.



Pictured L-R, (front row): Dayton Alumnae Immediate Past President Kim Browner, President Bonnie Ms. Smith, Dr. Paulette C. Walker, 25th National President and Founders Day Committee Chair Eva Newby.
Back row: Sorors Sharee Campbell, Lerae Anthony, Gayle Johnson, Marva Hughes (Past President Dayton Alumnae Chapter) and Theata Lambert.

Epsilon Omicron

Doing the Work

Spring Delta Week titled 'How To Get Away With Devastation', was a huge success as multiple students attended the week of events. Throughout the week the chapter held informational and inspiring sessions such as Jeopardy Bee, Finding My Way (Navigating a PWI), For The Greater Good (International Awareness in struggling countries), and the annual My Sister's Keeper.

Epsilon Omicron held the annual Jabberwock March 18, which was titled B.E.T. Awards (Black, Exceptional, and Talented) speaking on and highlighting Black organizations on campus and how they helped students through undergrad. The chapter also showcased the Black experience and culture through fashion, music, and entertainment. To conclude, Epsilon Omicron gave away a scholarship to a hardworking Black female student who attends the university.

Throughout the spring semester members attended multiple award ceremonies as a chapter. Epsilon Omicron was awarded "Organization of the Year" at the Bowling Green State University Taste of February event and also won "Chapter of the Year" at the Fraternity and Sorority Life Awards.

The chapter concluded the school year by partaking in different community service opportunities visiting multiple middle schools in Ohio & Michigan, homeless shelters, and volunteering at conferences. Lastly, the chapter assisted with many different opportunities at the university such as MLK Day, Presidents Day, and visiting girl groups.



Members of the chapter at the conclusion of the annual Jabberwock during the spring semester.



Chapter members pose at the Fraternity and Sorority Life Awards.



Greater Cleveland Alumnae

Working with the Community's Youth

The Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter takes pride in working with our community's youth to assist in their growth. In February, the EMBODI Committee had seven young men participate in the Annual 1,000 Ties Event. The program included workshops, access to community resources and a free lunch. All participants learned how to properly tie a necktie and were able to select a necktie to add to their professional wardrobe. The Teen and Young Mothers Support Committee held a virtual program in February, titled "MONEY, MONEY, MONEY." Topics discussed centered around how to use, how to make and how to save money.

In March, the Delta Academy Committee hosted a session titled "Celebrating Black Girl Empowerment" with over 25 young ladies in attendance. They participated in inspirational hands-on activities from playing in a Black Girl Magic bingo musical game to discussing positive ways to uplift themselves in the panel discussion - Power in Our Voice: Social Media, Self-Love and Success.

The Teen Lift program for high school seniors concluded with the beautiful cotillion held in February. This year the celebration honored the 40th anniversary of the Teen Lift Program. The theme was "Radiant Rubies of Resilience." Nineteen Debutantes were presented with 753 guests present. The debutantes and escorts were recognized for their level of participation with various monetary awards. The highlight of the evening was the father/daughter dance along with the other choreographed dances.



The Debutantes - Simply Beautiful!



Lorain County Alumnae

Sisterhood and Service

In February, the Educational Development committee facilitated its Read-to-Lead initiative. Members of Lorain County Alumnae Chapter (LCAC) visited local elementary schools as part of its Read-to-Lead initiative. Through this initiative, elementary students are exposed to African American themed books while being encouraged to read daily to increase reading achievement. Additionally, the Read-to-Lead service project is also used as a platform to help students understand the connection between scholastics and careers

During Sisterhood Month, LCAC engaged in numerous activities that allowed sorors the opportunity to fellowship, build and bond with one another. At the beginning of the month, sorors attended a pajama party fundraiser hosted by Genesis House, Domestic Violence Center of Lorain County. Next up was the Founders Day celebration featuring the National Co-Chair of the Social Action Commission Stefanie Brown-James as guest speaker. LCAC ended Sisterhood month with sorors gathering for dinner, game night and Sunday morning church service.

In support of the Lorain County Genesis House and its mission to provide a comprehensive range of family-focused services for Lorain County victims of domestic violence, the Physical and Mental Health committee hosted a fitness walk and donation drive on April 22, to bring awareness to domestic violence. Eleven chapter members participated in the walk and donated over \$300 worth of items to Lorain County Genesis House.



Soror Miriam Ham reading to students with the Read-to-Lead initiative.



Genesis House Pajama Party



Attendees de-stress with yoga at Physical & Mental Health collaboration with Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc. Phi Theta Chapter.

Theta Eta

Theta Eta Spring Delta Week

During the week of April 17th, the Theta Eta Chapter hosted their spring Delta week with the theme paying homage to The Parent Trap and calling it The Delta Trap. The week was full of fun and educational events, touching on the Five-Point Programmatic Thrust. The events hosted were: Desserts & Discussions: Our Relationship with Our Hair which included sweet treats and an intimate discussion about natural hair; Swapping Placing: Worldwide Trivia Night with international snacks to go with

each game while also highlighting Delta's efforts in Haiti, Kenya, etc.; In this Economy? Where Soror Ndeda Letson discussed expanding your wealth during a recession; De-Stress with the Colemans in partnership with the Phi Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi featuring guest speaker and instructor Soror Angie Brown and Soror Aliah Lawson; and Delta Red Carpet Movie Night with the Redz: African Queens Njinga. Overall, the week attracted 30+ students across the eight schools in the chapter's charter with feedback praising the versatile events and opportunity to build connection with likeminded women. To coincide with Delta week, the Theta Eta Chapter collected gently used and new items to donate to the City Mission. They gathered over 150+ items to donate.



Wilberforce Alumnae

Giving Back to the Community

A quote from Denzel Washington reads. "At the end of the day, it's not about what you have or even what you've accomplished...it's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. It's about giving back." On March 31, the Wilberforce Alumnae Chapter's Homeless Services Committee and the Healthy Lifestyle Committee conducted a joint community service project during Sisterhood Month at the Schneider House of Hope in Xenia, Ohio. The chapter collected and donated clothing, household items and personal hygiene items from chapter members for the residents at the shelter. The household items are gifted to the residents when they establish independent housing. Channel 2 News Station of Dayton, Ohio which is an ABC affiliate, featured the community service project on their station encouraging viewers in the Tri-state area to volunteer or donate items to the shelter. The feature also spotlighted how Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., has a longstanding tradition of strengthening families in the communities. In addition to the donated items, the chapter served a healthy nutritious meal to the residents that evening. Eleven chapter members participated in this community service project and 20 residents were served.



Wilberforce Alumnae Chapter members pose with donations for Schneider House of Hope shelter residents.

Youngstown Alumnae

A Soulful Sisterhood Serves

The sorors of the Youngstown Alumnae Chapter (YAC) continue to strengthen our sisterhood and support our community. Approximately fifty members of the YAC celebrated Founders Day with a two-day event of rededication and reaffirmation. On Friday, March 24, members gathered for the Rededication Ceremony at Birch Cabin in Mill Creek Park. In the solemnity of the rustic setting, sorors paid homage to our esteemed Founders and recommitted to the ideals of our cherished Sorority. Following the ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments and fellowship.

The next morning, sorors gathered again for a Soul Food Brunch with the opportunity to relax and have fun. Sorors bonded as they delighted in the great food and engaged in a sometimes fierce but always friendly competition while playing Delta Feud (a twist on Family Feud) and In Search of Our Sisters (a bingo-like game). Violets to the Founders Day Committee for planning two memorable days of celebration, reaffirmation, and rededication to the sacred sisterhood we share.

The chapter's Physical and Mental Health Committee affiliated with Youngstown Akron Children's Hospital to implement the National's March of Dimes initiative and to respond to the hospital's critical need for coats, hats, gloves, crayons, and coloring books for their young patients.



During the campaign, which ran from December 2022 to March 2023, YAC sorors donated eighty-five new coats and a plethora of new gloves, hats, crayons, coloring books, and activity books.

Strengthening our sisterhood and serving our community are ever in the forefront of the efforts of YAC.



Youngstown Alumnae Chapter members pose at Soulfood Jazz Brunch.



Youngstown Alumnae Chapter collected coats, crayons and coloring books for Youngstown Akron Children's Hospital patients.

Zeta Alpha

The Miseducation of Physical and Mental Health

The Zealous & Ambitious Zeta Alpha Chapter was chartered on April 22, 1967, at the University of Akron and has been leading the charge for community service for decades within their community and beyond. Their recent community event focused on physical and mental health, with a special focus on women's mental and physical health.

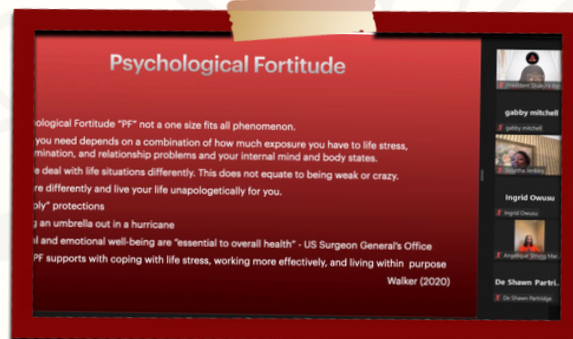
Our Healthy Lifestyle: Total Woman: Mind, Body and Spirit equipped the community with tools that will enhance their surviving skills.

Zeta Alpha Chapter partnered with Pastor Kemp Boyd of Love Akron, Dr. Ciara Dennis Morgan, Soror Darletta Logan, County of Summit ADM Board: Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health. Our community partner was Summa Health - one of the largest North East Ohio entities.

The Zeta Alpha Chapter held a Q&A at the end of the event to ensure that all guest inquiries were addressed. The post event survey indicated that this event was overwhelmingly successful.



The PMH event was held over a zoom environment. Zeta Alpha held a moment of silence for soror who has passed on.



Dr. Ciara provided psychological fortitude mechanisms to enhance our PMH survival skills.



Mighty Midwest Region



The Province of Ontario in Canada has one alumnae chapter and we are the only international chapter in the Midwest Region. During the upcoming biennium, the chapter will mirror Grand Chapter's programming initiatives and focus on physical and mental health while meeting the needs of the international community that it serves. We have several programs geared towards seniors. We will be volunteering in the annual Breast Cancer Run for the Cure. We will be highlighting the importance of stem cell donation within the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

Greater Toronto Area Alumnae

Onward, we build!

In March, Greater Toronto Area Alumnae Chapter (GTAAC) members came together to celebrate Sisterhood Month. They had a blast! They strolled, played games, walked down memory lane, and learned a lot more about each other.

Surprise! The Emergency Response Team conducted an unannounced safety drill, preparing the members for an intruder attack in which they would need to shelter-in-place and fight back. Sorors actively implemented the Emergency Response Plan and acted out the drill by locking all windows/doors, blocking the entry with chairs and other furniture, silencing phones, grabbing items to use as weapons such as crutches and water bottles. Needless to say, they were REaDy!

The Chapter welcomed their second line, Ali9ned 2 DSTiny on April 15, 2023, inducting nine phenomenal women into our illustrious sisterhood.

The Chapter was chartered on April 14, 2018. To celebrate five years, on May 6, GTAAC hosted the Midwest Region regional service project and later that evening held a dinner and dance in good Delta fashion!

The service project was attended by our Midwest Regional Director, Brittani N. Blackwell, Midwest Regional Representative, Aleyah Oliver, sorors of the Midwest Region and members of our local community. It was all hands on deck! We came together and debranded clothing for low-income women entering the workforce, packaged emergency kits for Sick Kids Hospital, compiled books and supplies that were delivered to two local schools which cater primarily to Black and Indigenous students.



Sorors celebrate Sisterhood Month



Spring '23 Initiates: Ali9ned 2 DSTiny



Mighty Midwest Region



West Virginia

The six alumnae and three collegiate chapters of West Virginia are committed to growth in our sisterhood and respective service areas by:

1. Bonding sorors through statewide fellowship activities by keeping the state informed of chapter activities;
2. Building the impact the state and each chapter has in their respective communities through programming and partnership; and
3. Bridging gaps and fulfilling chapter and community needs with training and support, as well as utilizing community relationships to enhance the service of their chapters.

Eastern Panhandle Alumnae

Sisterhood Paint Night

The Eastern Panhandle Alumnae Chapter (EPAC) members celebrated Sisterhood Month in style with a fun paint night! Our March sisterhood paint night event was a wonderful time of fellowship, sisterly bonding, creative expression, and reclamation. Ten sorors attended and two sorors were reclaimed to the chapter and re-engaged from attending this event. For this special sisterhood event, each member painted a unique frame with different Delta themed panels. EPAC purchased the frames and panels that were painted from a Black, female-owned small business which further reinforces our commitment to supporting Black owned businesses. During the paint night, members ate, laughed, shared chapter history/memories, and assisted each other with their paint creations.

Each soror left the paint night feeling refreshed, renewed, and re-energized by spending quality time together. Sisterhood is one of the core values of our Sorority and EPAC is committed to continuing to provide engaging opportunities for its members to connect, grow, and lead together. EPAC is grateful for the Sunshine Committee who planned and implemented an amazing sisterhood event and looks forward to the next one!



EPAC members pose with artwork during sisterhood paint night.



L-R: Soror Kimberley Crockett and Chapter President, Erica Logan, paint picture frames.



Mighty Midwest Region



Wisconsin

Wisconsin is not only the dairy state but we are also a state where Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., is part of the strength in the development of creativity and innovation in valuing the diversity of our communities. You will find sorors gathering at the steps of the capitol, supporting career growth through collaborations at Green Bay Packers Lambeau Field and pursuing excellence in teaching our youth. Being part of the Mighty Midwest, Wisconsin Alumnae and Collegiate chapters are dedicated to serving, educating, impacting policy, promoting the health of our communities and leading the way for economic growth. We are the dream of our Founders and the leaders of our future.

Madison Alumnae

The State of Black Students in Madison, WI: A Change is Needed

There is an urgency in Madison, WI to address the achievement gap for Black children in the local school district. While post-COVID education has been difficult for students, educators, and families across the board, Madison's gap in educational outcomes between its Black and white children runs deeper than the recent pandemic. On April 29, 2023, the Madison Alumnae Chapter collaborated with Blacks for Social and Political Action of Dane County and other concerned organizations and created an opportunity for an intense dialogue about the state of Black children and how the current educational system is not working. This summit is the space to have candid conversations, to strategize over issues that include literacy and graduation rates, teacher recruitment and retention, and communication between faculty and families.

This event was designed to bring people together furthering the discussion of inequities and issues facing Black children compounded by generational trauma. Over 200 attendees, parents of Black children, administrators, community members, educators, Black community leaders, school board members and expert panelists started and continued the conversation of how to unpack the layers exposing the issues that are negatively affecting our children. Parents want answers; they raised questions and demanded that the children's educational needs be met. Problems with curriculum, staffing, lack of education on Black history beyond slavery, were pressing issues.

Future meetings are planned, and the Madison Alumnae Chapter is poised to stand in the gap to help facilitate and strategize the creation of policies and practices to save our Black children.

Milwaukee Alumnae

Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter Celebrates Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s 110 Years of Service

To mark 110 years of sisterhood, scholarship, service and social action, the Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. welcomed nearly 400 guests to its Founders Day Luncheon on Saturday, Feb. 4 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino. Honorary Member, CNN Anchor and Senior Political Correspondent Abby Phillip served as the keynote speaker. She addressed the theme, "Front Row to History: Be the Change." Soror Phillip encouraged the audience to continue taking an active stand for justice in their community following the legacy of the Sorority's 22 Founders.

In honor of its commitment to scholarship and service, the Delta sisterhood and guests were asked to bring a brand-new book for a child in K4 through fifth grade. A total of 150 books were collected and donated to two local schools. Some of the books were purchased from Rooted MKE, a Black-owned business recommended by the Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter. Thanks to the generosity of its Founders Day sponsors, the Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter was able to buy additional books from Rooted MKE and donate them to the schools. Supporting the bookstore aligns with economic development – part of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust.





Founders Day Keynote Speaker, Soror Abby Phillip delivers keynote address.



Soror Preddie Gathing is all smiles after receiving the 2023 Delta DEAR of the Year award.

Northeast Wisconsin Alumnae

Celebrating Sisterhood and Service in Northeast Wisconsin

The Northeast Wisconsin Alumnae Chapter (NEWAC) continues to engage in sisterhood and service throughout our service area. NEWAC partnered with African Heritage, Inc. for their annual Emerging Student Leaders Institute on February 8-9, 2023. I Matter, was a key presentation to inspire 150 Black high school students. NEWAC hosted its 2nd Character Workshop on March 24. The theme, "Whitewashed," had a goal to enlighten students on the word's definition and education on its misuse when referring to Appleton North Black students through a discussion on how the term is commonly used and the feelings associated with it. Facilitators conducted activities and generated good discussions that led students to action through their own experiences, conversations, and conclusions. Over 25 students from Appleton High School North participated and rated the session a 4.7 and 4.8 (on a 5-point scale) in effectiveness and willingness to participate in future workshops, respectively.

On April 5th, NEWAC received a Good Health Wins mini-grant. It will be used to continue to provide education on COVID and lifespan vaccinations within the Black community. On April 15, NEWAC welcomed "7 WondHERS of NEW " into our sisterhood. In celebration of Financial Literacy Month, on April 19, NEWAC and NeighborWorks Green Bay presented: Preparing Financially for Homeownership as part of the Smart Home Buying program. During the presentation mortgage readiness, affordability, budgeting, and credit were discussed. NeighborWorks Green Bay provided information about the services they provide, including down payment assistance.



Spring '23 Initiates: 7 WondHERS of NEW



NEWAC members facilitate workshop for Appleton High School North students.



DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

56TH *National Convention*

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