



# National Coalition of 100 Black Women Decatur-DeKalb Chapter, Inc.



## Love, Hope, & Sisterhood

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter, January/February 2016

### The President's Corner



#### **NCBW Decatur/DeKalb Executive Board Members**

**DeLois Grizzle,**  
*President*

**Debra Curtis,**  
*V.P. Programs and Planning*

**Jewel Anderson,**  
*V.P. Fundraising*

**Donna Payne,**  
*V.P. Membership*

**Ira Turman,**  
*Treasurer*

**Pat Coffee,**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Miriam Jackson,**  
*Secretary*

**Norma J. Johnson**  
*Board Member  
Immediate Past President*

Coalition Sisters,

It is the beginning of a new year for the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Decatur-DeKalb Chapter and we are excited about the events and programs slated for 2016.

President Barack Obama just took a big step toward gun violence prevention, but a more comprehensive solution must come from Congress. Expanding background checks is a move in the right direction; however, more must be done to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

On average, more than 30,000 Americans die in gun-related deaths each year, many of them suicides. In the last decade, more than 4 million Americans have been a victim of an assault, robbery, or other crime involving a gun and more than 20,000 children under the age of 18 were killed by firearms. Local organizing can change a community, and that can change a state. State by state, we can bring that change to the country.

It is imperative we adhere to our initiatives on gun violence as well as our strategies on healthcare and education that affect the African American community. The strengthening and development of strong leadership and self-confidence in our youth is also vitally important. Our community needs visionary leaders that understand the value of economic empowerment. We have the drive, goal, and commitment to rise high and be bold, strong and progressive advocates for change in the community in which we serve.

Your labor is immeasurable and I am proud of the efforts of the members in providing a forum for community empowerment through the Entrepreneurship Summit and your diligence in serving the citizens of DeKalb in support of the Wellness Expo in partnership with CrossRoadsNews.

Thank you officers, co-chairs and members for your exemplary service to this chapter. As we reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I am reminded of his quote, "*Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?*"

Sincerely,

**DeLois Grizzle**

Chapter President, NCBW Decatur-DeKalb

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### Decatur-DeKalb Chapter Holiday Christmas Party

The women of NCBW100 Decatur-DeKalb Chapter, along with the young ladies of the Legacy Program ended 2015 on a joyous celebration at our Christmas Party. The Membership committee took on the task of ensuring that the Christmas celebration party was a joy for all who attended and that everyone present received a token of appreciation from the chapter. President Delois Grizzle and VP of Fund Development Jewel Anderson also brought holiday gifts for all the members. Not to be outdone, the members also secretly bought gifts for Madam President and surprised her with them.



Everyone enjoyed the catered lunch, and of course the delectable desserts prepared by our own Miriam Jackson. The highlight of the party, however, was the "Dirty Santa" game, in which each member could choose a gift from under the tree, or take a gift from a member who had already chosen a gift. We closed out the year by wishing each other a safe, happy, and healthy Christmas season.

### Committee Highlights

#### EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE



On Saturday, January 30, 2016, the Empowerment committee of the NCBW100 Decatur-DeKalb Chapter, in conjunction with the DeKalb County Public Library held an Entrepreneurship workshop at the Stonecrest Library. The goal of the event was to provide new and aspiring business owners in the Metro Atlanta area with resources and information related to

successful and sustainable business development and growth.

The program focused on small business development and wealth creation through entrepreneurship. There was a panel discussion with a question and answer period for attendees from the local community. One session of the program was with industry professionals, including representatives from the



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U.S. Small Business Administration, DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, and the DeKalb County Public Library. The other session was with actual business owners who shared their experiences and spoke practically about their journeys to success.

## Committee Highlights

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



The Decatur-DeKalb chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women held an Open House for membership on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 6-7:30 p.m. at the DeKalb Medical Center at Hillandale. The objective was to seek out and find quality women to join our organization who has a sense of purpose and wanted to help strengthen our community, especially for women and children.

Although, it was a rainy night, 8-10 women braved the elements to come and find out about the NCBW Decatur-Chapter. They received information about the membership process and requirements, and also about our upcoming Wellness Committee event and Empowerment Committee event both taking place on 1/30/16. There were various flyers, brochures, and books of previously held events to give the women an idea of the events hosted by the NCBW Decatur-DeKalb Chapter.

## Committee Highlights

### OUTREACH COMMITTEE

On Saturday, February 6, 2016, from 9am-11am, at the Southwest DeKalb High School, the 100 Black Women of Decatur-DeKalb chapter partnered with DeKalb Commissioner Stan Watson for the February 2016 Community Breakfast and Bottled Water Drive for the city of Flint, Michigan.

Vendor table offering various community resources, including safety information were provided at the event. Speakers included DeKalb Solicitor-General Sherry Boston, DeKalb County Sherriff Jeffrey Mann, and Maxine Daniels, Director of Voters Registration and Elections for DeKalb County. Many of the candidates running for office for the upcoming



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election were also present to announce the office that they were running for. Entertainment was provided by Chapel Hill Elementary School, Vanessa Bonner and Brandon Gray.

The highlight of the morning focused on the residents of Flint, Michigan, who are still without water because the water supply from the Flint River is contaminated with lead. Furthermore, they are still being charge



anywhere from \$150.00 a month or more on their water bill for water they cannot drink or use, and the pipes still need to be replaced before water can be brought back into the city.

As this crisis hit the national level, our local community showed up to support this great cause to help a city and its residents that are in need of a basic life resource. The women of our chapter, along with the residents, community leaders and elected officials of DeKalb County came out and donated

bottles of water to aid the community affected by the water crisis. In all, more than 25,000 bottles of water were donated for this cause, through the efforts of Commissioner Stan Watson.

## Committee Highlights

### WELLNESS COMMITTEE



Each year, the Decatur-DeKalb chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women partners with CrossRoadsNews at their Annual Health and Wellness Expo at the Stonecrest Mall. This event offers pertinent health information to East Metro Atlanta residents to help make them aware of various products and services available to them that may have a positive impact on their lives.



On Saturday, January 30, 2016, a number of healthcare providers, insurance companies, fitness instructors, spas, haircare & natural product providers, and others, came out to connect the community with resources and messages of good health, as a way to help empower the residents of DeKalb



County to live more active lives. Many of the exhibitors at the Health and Wellness Expo also offered health screenings, as well as fitness and production demos.

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### Legacy Program

#### "ENVISIONING YOUR CAREER"

On January 9, 2016, young ladies with the Legacy program discussed the plethora of opportunities available to women who pursue jobs in the STEM fields. Participants learned that working in computer science, mathematics, business analytics, finance, and engineering are just some of the available vocations. Although there has been growth in the number of minority women who have a bachelor's degree in STEM, only two percent of black women are scientists and engineers, according to the National Science Foundation.



The workshop, titled "Envisioning Your Career," was led by Veda Chandler, J.D., Director, of the Dual Degree Engineering Program at Clark Atlanta University. Nia Jones, a Dual Degree Engineering student, also discussed her experiences in the program and encouraged the Legacy young ladies to strongly consider working in the STEM professions. Advocating for increased diversity in the STEM arena is a strategic focus of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.

### 100 Black Men of DeKalb County, Inc. Inauguration Ceremony



Many thanks go out to the ladies of the Decatur-DeKalb Chapter Inc. of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, who came out and supported our brothers in their Inauguration Ceremony at the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center on January 16th. This was a great networking opportunity for us to share information about

our chapter, membership, and upcoming events with interested women. But, it has also given us a future partnership opportunity with the 100 Black Men of DeKalb County, Inc.



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### Kudos to Our Members

#### Jewel Anderson

- ❖ As a leader in the community, Jewel is the founder of Under30 Following the Vision. Under 30 Following the Vision is an annual publication, and scholarship program with the mission to help Georgia entrepreneurs 30 years of age and younger get exposure, development, and funding. Her publication has recognized 60 young entrepreneurs and raised \$8000 in scholarships so far. The second edition of Under30FTV launched on December 12, 2015 and had over 100 people in attendance.
- ❖ Congratulations to Jewel Anderson for being awarded Outstanding Georgia Citizen 2015.
- ❖ Big congrats to Jewel Anderson on being selected to the 2015 New Leaders Council – Atlanta class! The New Leaders Council works to recruit, train and promote the progressive political entrepreneurs of tomorrow—trendsetters, elected officials and civically-engaged leaders in business and industry who will shape the future landscape. The Atlanta chapter is one of more than 30 NLC chapters across the country.



#### Ira Turman

- ❖ Ira was sworn in as a "Court Appointed Special Advocate" CASA Volunteer, with the DeKalb County CASA Program on Friday, January 22, 2016. The ceremony was held at the Gregory A. Adams Juvenile Justice Center in Decatur, Georgia. She will advocate for children in court who are abuse and neglected, living in foster care.



### Upcoming Events

#### January 2016

- ❖ **Thursday, January 21, 2016, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm**  
**NCBW Decatur-DeKalb Membership Open House**

You are invited to join us at our Membership Open House! Ask Questions. Join the Sisterhood. Get Involved with your Community. Stay Connected!

DeKalb Medical Center at Hillandale (Off Covington Highway)  
2801 DeKalb Medical Pkwy, Lithonia GA, 30058

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❖ ***Saturday, January 30, 2016, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 pm***

**CrossRoadsNews 2016 Health & Wellness Expo**

The Mall at Stonecrest

2929 Turner Hill Rd, Lithonia, GA 30038

❖ ***Saturday, January 30, 2016, 11:30 am - 2:30 pm***

**Entrepreneurship Summit/Forum**

Stonecrest Library Auditorium

3123 Klondike Road, Lithonia, GA 30038

## February 2016

❖ ***Saturday, February 5, 2016, 9:00 am – 11:00 am***

**Commissioner Stan Watson's Community Breakfast Meeting & Bottled Water Drive**

Southwest DeKalb High School

2863 Kelley Chapel Rd, Decatur, GA 30034

❖ ***Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm***

**District 5 Town Hall Meeting**

Lithonia City Hall Auditorium

6290 Main St., Lithonia, GA 30058

❖ ***Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 8:00 am – 1:30 pm***

**The Georgia Chapters of NC100BW, Inc. Present 2016 Legislative Day at the Capitol**

Coverdale Legislative Building, Room 605 CLOB

18 Capitol Square, SW, Atlanta, GA 30334

❖ ***Saturday, February 20, 2016, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm***

**2016 Voter Education Fair Kickoff**

Lou Walker Senior Center

2538 Panola Road, Lithonia, GA 30058

## March 2016

❖ ***Thursday, March 31, 2016, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm***

**Open House for New Membership**

TBA

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### April 2016

❖ *Saturday, April 30, 2016, 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm*

**"Uncork the Jazz" Wine Tasting - Spring Fundraiser**

Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center

3181 Rainbow Dr, Decatur, GA 30034

Gritz & Jelly Butter Jazz Band – Entertainment

## Celebrations

Birthday and Anniversary wishes go out to the following members who are celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries during the months of January and February.

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- ❖ Donna Payne – February 9
- ❖ Melissa Brown – February 28
- ❖ Ira Turman – February 28

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- ❖ Delois Grizzle – February 1 (30 years)
- ❖ Ira Turman – February 14 (11 years)

## Contributors

Special thanks to the members who contributed to this month's newsletter.

- ❖ Jewel Anderson
- ❖ Melissa Brown
- ❖ Debra Curtis
- ❖ Delois Grizzle
- ❖ Shana Laster
- ❖ S. Nicole Lee
- ❖ Donna Payne
- ❖ Maveita Richards
- ❖ Ira Turman

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