



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



Love, Hope, & Sisterhood

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter, March/April 2016

The President's Corner



Coalition Sisters,

Our Chapter has done an excellent job over the last eight months working together as women in the community advocating and supporting our national initiatives.

May 24, 2016, is Election Day! Know your candidates' records to help you make informed decisions. We held a Voters Education Summit at Lou Walker Center and a Community Forum for DeKalb CEO & District 4 Commissioner Candidates in partnership with the DeKalb Coalition for Voter Education and Mobilization.

Our Coalition Sister, Connie Stokes participated as an invited guest along with Michael Thurmond. The citizens of DeKalb County had concerns of economic development, our school systems, small businesses and restoring the honesty and integrity of this government.

On Wednesday, April 27, 2016, I attended Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. We all know the challenges facing our communities: the lack of appropriate laws, failing and struggling social welfare programs, failing and inequitable justice systems and the educational systems. Our advocacy agenda continues to force us to share our concerns and advocate for support of pay equity, the Pay Check Fairness Act and the American Jobs Act.

On Capitol Hill, the Coalition has asked for continued support of the Affordable Care Act, legislation to enact effective national Gun Control, the abolishment of the Stand Your Ground Laws in every state, protection of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the responsible reform of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. It is important that our voice is heard at the local and state levels.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication

Sincerely,

Delois Grizzle

Chapter President

NCBW Decatur-DeKalb

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

Shana Laster,
Parliamentarian

Norma J. Johnson
Board Member
Immediate Past President

Debra DeBerry
Board Member

Kiana Lawson
Board Member

P. O. Box 360752, Decatur GA 30036

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Committee Highlights

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



The Decatur-DeKalb Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women held an Open House Information Session for Membership on Thursday, April 14, 2016, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the DeKalb Medical Center at Hillandale. Women were invited to come to the information session to ask questions and to find out what our mission and purpose.

The women heard a short report by the Chairs of the various committees on what each committee did and their responsibilities. They also received information about the membership process and requirements. 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

A collaborative effort has been established between the Coalition, DeKalb County's DA office and Arabia Mountain High School on a Teen Domestic Violence Symposium. We will be educating and bringing awareness to high school students and the community on Teen Domestic Violence.

Speakers will include Ms. Agatha Romanowski from the DeKalb County District Attorney's office, and Dr. Sherry Gaither, who will give her testimony. Tentative Place, Date & Time: Arabia Mountain High School, Saturday, May 14th, 11:00 am-2pm.

Legacy Program

"RELATIONSHIPS"

In February, the Legacy girls engaged in a workshop focused on creating and maintaining healthy relationships, as well as effective strategies to ensure proper self-care. The featured guest speakers were Alex Jones, a marriage and relationship therapist, and Anana Harris Parris of the SisterCARE Alliance.

Participants learned the significance of understanding how to enjoy yourself independent of a relationship; learning to love yourself also decreases the likelihood of being involved in a dysfunctional personal

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relationship. The Legacy girls were also encouraged to critique the impact of social media on self image, cyber-bullying, and the pitfalls of seeking external gratification to determine self-worth. During the self-care portion of the workshop, participants were encouraged to complete an internal examination of their emotional and mental/spiritual state to determine their health.

Harris Parris provided strategies (Treat/Protect/Live, etc...) to deal with heartbreak and heal emotional wounds resulting from family conflict and other personal relationships. The Legacy girls were also paired with a "self-care buddy." The buddies are responsible to check-in with each other and ask the question "How is your self-care going?" The goal of the event was to provide information, resources, and a bonding opportunity for the Legacy girls as they strive to maintain balanced and healthy relationships with their family, friends and dating relationships.



DeKalb County's Voter Education Fair

The DeKalb Coalition for Voter Education and Mobilization hosted a Voter Education Fair on February 20, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Lou Walker Senior Center on Panola Road.

The panel was comprised of several individuals from various organizations within the community including, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Decatur-DeKalb chapter, Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda, Saint Philip AME Lay Organization Social Action Committee, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Decatur Alumnae Chapter, and National Council of Negro Women-DeKalb chapter. Jewel Anderson, Vice President of Fund Development, of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Decatur-DeKalb chapter, Inc. was the moderator of the forum.

The panel will focus on the importance of voting and on strategies and tactics for engaging individuals ages 18-35 in the voting process, as well as educating those who need assistance with registering to vote.



In coming together for this fair, the organizations that took part, seek to mobilize the community for the upcoming elections. The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Decatur-DeKalb chapter, Inc. is organizing several events throughout the year focused on voter engagement, voter registration, and voter education.

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Kudos to Our Members

❖ Melissa Brown

Melissa has obtained her certification as a Professional Counselor with the State of Georgia.



❖ Pat Coffee

Pat has successfully completed the College of Disney Knowledge. She has joined an elite group of travel industry professionals who have attained a special knowledge of Walt Disney World Resort, and Disney Cruise Line.



❖ Miriam Jackson

Miriam has obtained certification as a Certified Career Transition Coach.



❖ Kianna Lawson

Kianna was recently selected as one of the first African American female speakers to represent Janssen Pharmaceuticals. Her role in the company is instrumental in delivering the knowledge and education to fellow physicians and mid-levels who will be prescribing the Diabetic Drug "Invokana." She is very excited about the new position, in which she will continue along with her work schedule as a PA Endocrinologist.



Upcoming Events

April 2016

❖ Thursday, April 14, 2016, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

NCBW Decatur-DeKalb Open House Information Session for Membership

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

❖ Saturday, April 30, 2016, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

The C.T. Vivian Health Fair

ITC Campus of Morehouse
700 Martin L. King Jr. Drive, NW, Atlanta, GA 30314

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May 2016

- ❖ *Wednesday, May 11, 2016, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm*

"Equal Pay" Forum

Brenau University

3139 Campus Dr., #300, Norcross, GA 30071

- ❖ *Saturday, May 14, 2016, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm*

"Teenage Domestic Violence Forum"

Arabia Mountain High School

6610 Browns Mill Rd, Lithonia, GA 30038

June 2016

- ❖ *Saturday, June 4, 2016, 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm*

"Uncork the Jazz" Wine Tasting - Spring Fundraiser

Lou Walker Senior Center

2538 Panola Rd, Lithonia GA, 30058

Gritz & Jelly Butter Jazz Band – Entertainment

- ❖ *Saturday, June 18, 2016, 7:00 am – 12:00 Noon*

"HIV Event & 5K Walk/Run (Partnering with 100 Black Men of Decatur)"

Porter Sanford Community Center

3181 Rainbow Dr, Decatur, GA 30034

\$20 Registration Fee

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.

MARCH/APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- ❖ Alyssa Jones – March 16
- ❖ Pat Coffee – March 17

MARCH/APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



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Contributors

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

- ❖ Melissa Brown
- ❖ Pat Coffee
- ❖ Delois Grizzle
- ❖ Miriam Jackson
- ❖ Kianna Lawson
- ❖ S. Nicole Lee
- ❖ Maveita Richards

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