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We are proud of our graduates!

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

Janice Ferebee, MSW earned a Master of Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy & Practice. She is the founder of CWW (Chief Woman Warrior) and of Ferebee Enterprises International, LLC, a global female empowerment social enterprise. She was recognized by Oprah and ESSENCE Magazine for her award-winning G0T IT GOIN’ ON® (GIGO) empowerment brand for girls of African descent, and she was the first Models Editor of African descent for Seventeen Magazine. She is a Stage 2b fallopian tube cancer survivor, who has turned her unique life experiences into tools to help women of African descent and the organizations and institutions that employ and serve them.

NCNW Mission:

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

Our Method

NCNW translates its philosophy of public education, community service and advocacy into activities designed to promote a number of benefits for our constituents including:

- Disseminating information about issues affecting African American women and their families.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and behaviors through wellness projects.
- Sponsoring events such as The MLK Leadership Awards Breakfast Celebration to build on our strengths and traditional values.
- Training and supporting women and youth in career development and community leadership.
- Supporting economic development and entrepreneurship.
- Providing mentoring and educational support to our young people.

The national office of NCNW acts as a central source for program planning and seeks to fill the gaps that exist in our communities. Through its core of volunteers in 34 states, NCNW addresses local needs through organized strategies to bring the added support of a network of thousands of women whose collective efforts enhance community service and actions.
This year, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. will observe 85 years of commitment to its mission to lead, advocate for, and empower women of African descent, their families, and communities. Our founder, Mary McLeod Bethune — a distinguished educator and renowned activist — crafted a unique structure in 32 states, consisting of 38 formally affiliated national women’s organizations and 300 community and campus-based local sections.

Together, we fulfill our mission through activities based on a four-pronged foundation – known as Four for the Future – which includes:

- Education, with an emphasis on STEAM — science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics
- Health equity and elimination of health disparities
- Economic stability, with a focus on financial literacy and entrepreneurship
- Civic engagement

In our focus on civic engagement, we will do everything possible to assure that NCNW members and the public are prepared to make informed choices among those seeking office in Washington, D.C., state, and municipal governments. Certainly, we may not all think and vote the same way, but we will all be ready to ask the hard questions and demand honest answers.

One thing I want to emphasize with urgency is that 100% participation in the 2020 census is critically important to assure that our communities receive a fair and equitable share of basic resources.

According to 2020Census.gov, the census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for the communities around us. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources. In addition, in African American communities, this data impacts funding of critical areas such as housing assistance, public transportation, historically black colleges and universities, health services, jobs, and minority-owned businesses.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and determine how lines are drawn for congressional and state legislative redistricting. As citizens and taxpayers, we can do no less to see that we have a larger voice in the conversation and more seats at the table. We encourage everyone to participate in this important process, perform their civic duties, and invite others to join them in doing the same.

**Guidance and mentorship for young black women**

Last year, in my first official appearance as NCNW president, I joined sisters of all ages, creeds, and colors as a part of the Washington, D.C., Women’s March. Despite the cold weather, the fire that was ignited by sharing the common goals and powerful energy of so many sisters kept us warm. I was also honored to be the keynote speaker and present the Dorothy I. Height Award for the Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine in Washington, D.C.

As we continue to advance Dr. Bethune’s vision for NCNW, our mission-based activities include the Women’s Economic Empowerment and
Millennial Entrepreneurs programs, going into their fifth year.

With Wells Fargo as a partner, these live gatherings and webinars provided our over two million members with information and guidance on business best practices, financial growth and stability, and insights into handling their own personal investing. In a recent survey of participants of our Millennial Entrepreneur program, 86% reported that their family’s economic condition has improved or stayed the same, citing stronger family economic stability, more job creation in underserved communities, and better financial habits as positive outcomes from the program. Last year we also began the NCNW Historically Black Colleges and Universities Tour, which educated and inspired 3,000 high school students to infinite possibilities.

GirlTECH, one of NCNW’s newest efforts, brought together professional and college sisters for a conversation about our place in the world of technology. The inaugural GirlTECH event last April included panel discussions on the topics of telehealth, telemedicine, data privacy, and cybersecurity. More than 2,800 participants shared the experience, and we are already planning GirlTECH 2020.

These are just a few of the event highlights from last year. If we are to continue making an impact in a more meaningful way, then we must combine our traditional wisdom with the emboldened wings of youth and move NCNW onward, ever onward. With that, I close, as we begin a new decade, with warmth and love and faith and hope that the next decade is our best yet.

Onward!

Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph.D.
Chair & 7th National President
The Amazing Life & Legacy of Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee

I am proud to be living and lifting the legacy of an amazing woman who lived her life with great purpose, here in DC, and around the world - my great aunt, Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee, born in Norfolk, VA in 1898. I, like so many others, stand on the shoulders of women of character, commitment and courage. I grew up hearing about this pioneering physician, international humanitarian, civil rights and social justice activist, and women, children and youth advocate. I learned she was National Council of Negro Women’s (NCNW) founder, Mary McLeod Bethune’s personal physician, colleague and confidant, and, that she succeeded her mentor by becoming the second National President of NCNW. Dorothy Ferebee would become a capable, cultured and effective leader entrusted by Mrs. Bethune to carry out her vision (Last Will & Testament). In 1949, she was recognized by then Congressman, Adam Clayton Powell, as one of the “women who are now considered effective leaders who were influenced and encouraged by Mrs. Bethune.”

Dr. Ferebee would go on to become the Fourth National VP of Girl Scouts of the USA; Tenth International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (AKA), First Medical Director of the AKA's Mississippi Health Project in Mound Bayou, MS; President of Xi Omega Chapter of AKA in Washington, DC; Chair of the DC Commission on the Status of Women; and, Board member of American Association of University Women. In addition, in 1951 the Dept. of Labor sent her to Germany to investigate women’s issues; was selected by President Kennedy for a five-month tour of Africa as a member of the Council for Food and Peace; became medical consultant to the U.S. Dept. of State and the Peace Corps; was appointed by President Johnson to the World Health Organization; founded the Southeast Settlement House in SE, Washington, DC, to provide services to underserved Blacks in the community; and, served for four decades as Medical Director at Howard University. In 1990, ten years after her death, Washington Highland Elementary School, in SE DC was renamed the FerebeeHope school, in honor of Dorothy Ferebee and Marion Conover Hope. The school closed in 2013 due to underperformance, is now undergoing redevelopment by KIPP DC, where I will serve as a member of the Advisory Council.

Although I never met my larger-than-life aunt (we developed a brief relationship by phone), because of stories I heard growing up about her activism and the path she paved for Black female physicians, she became part of my inspiration to pursue a career in medicine, which shifted to social work and global female empowerment. We became kindred spirits as my work began to parallel her life of leadership and service - my involvement as a Director at NCNW; becoming a proud member of AKA; my appointment to the DC Commission for Women; and, my passion for global service to girls and young women.

I don’t know how she did all the things she did in her lifetime, but, I’m extremely grateful for the impact she still has today, and humbled to walk in her footsteps. I continue to be in awe of how aunt Dorothy’s work helped to carry on and carry out the vision of her great friend and mentor Mary McLeod Bethune.
The intersections of race, gender and socio-economic status are playing out through the COVID-19 pandemic in the predictable American fashion. As the threat of serious illness and death proliferate exponentially, and most people who want tests are still having trouble getting them, it is important for policy makers and the public to know who is most at risk. The novel coronavirus is reported to more severely impact those who are elderly, immunocompromised or who otherwise have underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease or diabetes. But there is another group that is disproportionately impacted by COVID-19: those who identify as Black.

Unfortunately, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and most states are not reporting data about infections or survival by gender or race. The data that does exist is disturbing. Milwaukee County, WI is one of the few places in the United States that is tracking the racial breakdown of people who have been infected. As of Friday morning, April 3, African Americans made up almost half of Milwaukee County’s 945 COVID-19 cases and 81% of its 27 deaths, despite the fact that its population is only 26% Black.

Also on Friday, the Illinois Department of Public Health became one of the few state offices to release some racial data. The data showed a pandemic within the pandemic: African Americans are significantly overrepresented in infection rates in Illinois, while whites and Latinos are significantly underrepresented. African Americans make up 14.6 percent of the state population, but 28 percent of confirmed cases of the COVID-19. White people comprise 76.9 percent of the Illinois population, but only 39 percent of the confirmed cases. Latinos comprise 17.4 percent of the state population, and 7 percent of the cases. In Illinois, Asian Americans were the only racial group without a significant disparity between their state population, at 5.9 percent, and confirmed cases, at 4 percent.

While health officials are taking notice of the staggering numbers of COVID-19 victims, the United States has just begun to release the basic nationwide data that is crucial to understanding who is most vulnerable to the virus, according to a CNN analysis reported on March 24, 2020. This sparse data leads to the troubling conclusion that a disproportionate amount of the pain caused by COVID-19 is being inflicted on Black communities nationwide. “We know all too well that there are general disparities in health outcomes that play along these racial lines, and the same may be true for this virus,” Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said early in April.

The issue of the role of gender in analyzing the pandemic is equally murky. In China, men were more likely to die of coronavirus than women: sixty-four percent of deaths in China have been in men, according to recent figures from China’s Center for Disease Control. According to Italy’s public health research agency, 60% of coronavirus
cases and 70% of deaths in the country so far have been in men. The Italian study also reports that men with COVID-19 tend to be more seriously ill and more at risk of death than women. According to Dr. Deborah Birx, the White House’s coronavirus task force coordinator, the fact that the mortality rate is twice as high among men in Italy as it is among women marks a “concerning trend.” Dr. Birx added that no age group or gender is immune, and that mild symptoms are not equivalent to immunity.

There are complex and inter-related reasons for the disparate impact on Black folk. The racial gap in health is, of course, all too real. According to a study published in 2014, life expectancy for African Americans is some four years lower for women and more than five years lower for men, relative to whites.

This disparity is a symptom of America’s disgrace: pervasive discrimination against African Americans, reflected in median household income that is less than 60% that of white households. The effects of lower income are exacerbated by the fact that the US is the only advanced country not to recognize access to health care as a basic right.

People of color experienced large gains in coverage under the ACA that narrowed longstanding racial disparities. 20% of Blacks were uninsured in 2010. By 2016, the uninsured rate for non-elderly Blacks had dropped to 10.7%. Beginning in 2017, and continuing in 2018, coverage gains stalled and began reversing for Blacks. By 2018 the Black uninsured rate had risen to 11.5%, 53% higher than the uninsured rate for Whites.

The New York Times reports that after old age and the presence of preexisting health conditions, the third-highest indicator for risk of death from COVID-19 is “low socioeconomic status.” This is a cause for alarm for most of us, with the Labor Department recently reporting that a record 30 million Americans have applied for unemployment.

Some of the early information about the new pandemic proved faulty or incomplete. For example, there were wild and false Internet claims that Black people are not as susceptible to COVID-19. Popular NY Times columnist Charles Blow pointed out, “In the early days of the virus, the relatively few cases on the African continent, I believe, gave Black people in America a false sense of security, that Black people may be somehow less susceptible to it.”

So what are we as conscious, “woke” Black women to do to address the COVID-19 pandemic and the larger question of public health? In a nutshell:

1. Follow the CDC and state guidelines for social distancing
2. Fill out the census form to help guarantee adequate community and public health resources
3. Vote for elected officials who believe in your priorities
4. Advocate for health care as a human right
5. Support the right of workers to join and organize unions
6. Support candidates who pledge to enforce anti-discrimination laws
7. Support appointment of enlightened judges to the federal courts

This current pandemic serves as proof of the old labor union slogan, “an injury to one is an injury to all.” The Financial Times recently concluded that in a time of contagion, the case for universal healthcare...has found painful simplicity: unless everyone has care, no one does.”

Janice L. Mathis, Esq.
NCNW Executive Director
A red card in soccer spotlights and helps prevent unfair or dangerous behavior. We, therefore, give the RED CARD to discrimination and violence against women and girls in all forms and in all countries.

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

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

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

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

This will enable everyone to stand together in an Equal Light of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.
HAS THE TIME COME FOR A BLACK FEMALE VICE PRESIDENT?

by Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Whether or not you loved Senator Kamala Harris’ entry into the Democratic presidential field, you had to mourn her exit from the race in December 2019. Harris entered the race like a rock star, drawing more than 20,000 people to her opening announcement.

Her departure coincided with former New York mayor Mike Bloomberg’s entry. With his $60 billion net worth, he had unlimited personal funds to finance his campaign. As of early February, he’d spent at least $300 million in ads, yet exited the race not long after Super Tuesday early in March, proving that money is not the only thing that matters. By contrast, Senator Harris had only a paltry $9 million when she exited the race. While Senator Harris was plagued by internal campaign challenges and criticized by some Californians about her tenure as state Attorney General, her greatest challenge was her inability to raise enough money to stay in the race in the long haul. Indeed, money is the greatest challenge to anyone running for President or any other national political office, raising the issue of whether it is time for publicly funded campaigns.

In the recent Presidential debate Democratic frontrunner Joe Biden pledged to name a woman as his choice for Vice President and Bernie Sanders said he would strongly consider it. Neither was asked, nor did they indicate, whether a Black woman would be seriously considered.

Of course, Black women have run for President, including the historic campaign of “unbought and unbossed” Shirley Chisholm, the 2004 attempt of Carol Moseley Braun, and minor party candidates like Angela Davis and Lenora Fulani. No Black woman has managed to snag a major party nomination for the Presidency.

So, now that the path to the nomination is not open to any woman, including any Black woman, it is salient to ask the question, should a Black woman be selected to run as a candidate for Vice President.

Several highly qualified contenders come to mind. Kamala Harris held two state-wide offices (Attorney General and U.S. Senator), representing all 39 million California residents. Val Demings served admirably as one of the managers of the Senate impeachment trial. Before she was elected to the U.S. Congress representing Florida, Demings, who was born in a two room house in Jacksonville, rose through the ranks of law enforcement to become Orlando’s first Black Chief of Police. Stacey Abrams ran a very credible, if controversial, race for Governor of Georgia and is generally perceived to have a bright political future. These three all seem to have the “secret sauce.” There are 24 Black women currently serving in Congress. Any of them could be considered for Vice President.

In terms of political analysis, the nominee will weigh poll results to determine whether the VP candidate is likely to help the ticket carry her home state. California has more electoral votes than any other state. Florida, over the past twenty years, has become a reliable swing state. Abrams proved that Georgia is not as reliably conservative as it was a decade ago.

Despite there being so many women in the race for the Presidential nomination, including Senators Amy Klobuchar and Elizabeth Warren, there does not yet appear that there is a unified “women’s vote.” Hillary Clinton was the first woman in history to win a major party nomination, and that happened a scant four years ago. Whether women in general are sufficiently inspired by the prospect of a woman Vice President to engender the kind of enthusiasm it will take to bring out large numbers of voters in November remains to be seen.

It will take money for a Black woman to become Vice President. But it will also require an army of volunteers. And it will require an attitude adjustment on the part of folks who still wonder if a woman can win a Vice-Presidential election.

So what can you do? Black folks are givers. According to Higher Heights (a political action committee formed by and for Black women candidates), Black households give 8 percent of their income to charitable and other causes, compared
Has the time come for a Black Female Vice President?

to whites giving just 2 percent of their income. Most of our money goes to churches and schools. What if even one percent of our giving was directed to political causes?

The presence of a Black woman on a presidential ticket will likely inspire enthusiasm among Black folk in recognition of the historic nature of the choice and in acknowledgment of the vital voting power of Black women. Ninety-four percent of Black women voted for Hillary Clinton, and several Black women played critical roles in her campaign. Which 2020 Presidential candidates have Black women in significant roles? Undoubtedly, how Black women are positioned in the Fall campaign will be one of the considerations when women choose a candidate.

In addition to money and volunteer energy, members of civic organizations like NCNW can do voter registration and voter education. As a non-partisan charitable organization, NCNW does not support or oppose candidates for partisan political office. But NCNW does help potential voters become educated about the issues and encourages voter registration and participation. Having a Black woman on the ticket as Vice President in 2020 would be a clear signal that the candidate is “Black woman-friendly”. After South Carolina, where the Black vote was determinative of the outcome of the presidential primary, both Biden and Sanders should clearly understand the power of the Black woman’s vote. Many pundits agree that the Fall election is likely to be close and that the winner will be the candidate who can arouse the most intense support. Having the chance to vote for the first Black woman Vice President will bring out Black voters in droves.

Will we have a Black woman Vice President? Only if other Black women support her with our dollars and our hours. Black women are a powerful voting bloc. We need to use our power!

The views and opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Any content provided by the author is her opinion, and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.
On a beautiful spring morning in 2019, under a Carolina blue sky, hundreds of Black women clad in white and black paraphernalia, joined hands, hearts, and voices to sing their National Anthem. With pride and reverence they affirm, “Swing Phi Swing...you are just about my everything...” The setting was equally significant and historic on the campus of Winston-Salem State University. They had convened to unveil a monument marking the exact spot where 50 years prior, two young female students gave birth to an idea that would become a premier service organization for women of color. These women confronted two male students, members of Groove Phi Groove Social Fellowship, Inc.®, with a simple question that would make history: “Why don’t you have any sisters?” The young men considered and replied: “Do you want to be our sisters?”

Finesia Dunovant and Ellen Tomlinson, were seeking an alternative to traditional sorority life: one that reflected the revolutionary spirit of 1969, and the changing roles of women in the family, in the workplace, and in the civil rights struggle. In approaching the Grooves, their intention was clear, they did not want to be part of an auxiliary group; they wanted to be their equals. The wheels were set in motion, and other female students heeded the call to “dare to be different” and the masses were ultimately narrowed down to twelve. In addition to Dunovant and Tomlinson were Jeanette Butler, Anita Chase, Beverly Dorn, Jane Harris, Rosiland Marshall, Marilyn Reid, Patricia Story, Brenda Travers, Lorraine Watkins, and Talma Woods. This audacious twelve solidified their place as the Founders of Swing Phi Swing Social Fellowship, Inc.® on April 4, 1969.

The new organization of women, in their white and black colors, with their natural afros, challenged the representation of Black womanhood. Word quickly spread about the “ladybugs” who, instead of singing and chanting, burst on the scene “stepping” like their male counterparts. As Black awareness became prominent, these Sisters promoted African culture and reclaimed their heritage through African naming ceremonies, cultural awareness events, and service within minority
communities. Chapters spread like wildfire on campuses of Black Colleges and Universities, first in the southeast, then to the north, and finally throughout the nation.

Decades later, thousands of women at the undergraduate and graduate level have become Sisters With Interest Never Gone Promoting Higher Intelligence Supporting Women In Need of Growth, dedicating themselves to affecting social change. Through national programming in Health and Wellness, Mentoring, Education, Global Outreach and Optimism in the Diaspora (GOOD), Sisters of Swing promote the principles of leadership, academic excellence, civic and cultural consciousness.

Unlike other organizations formed during the social upheaval of the late 1960s, SWING® has outlived many of its contemporaries, and continues to fulfill its motto of “Perseverance by Virtue.” “Our mission”, asserts tenth National President, Lori S. Gittens, “is just as relevant today as it was in 1969; in fact, it is essential to the advancement of the communities we serve.” She challenges members to “continue to build upon the legacy of our Founders... to address economic, social, and cultural concerns. Members must lead by example. We must challenge the status quo, stay engaged, and keep pushing for programs that advance our people.” In this spirit and with a focus on collaboration, SWING® is proud to be an organizational affiliate of NCNW, and joins all organizations and sections in our unifying goal to advance the opportunities and the quality of life for African American women, their families, and communities.

Back on the campus of WSSU, hand-in-hand, encircling the iconic bell tower and with their ten surviving Founders bearing witness, the Sisters rejoice, “It’s our aim to do the best we can to help and serve our fellow man... loyalty, truth and service and integrity, are the traits we show with dignity... to you we sing, dear Swing Phi Swing.”

Visit www.swingphiswing.org for more information about this unique culturally conscious sisterhood.

- To celebrate its 50th anniversary, Swing Phi Swing established the SWING Endowment Fund to provide $25K in scholarships for students at WSSU, with a push goal of $50K over the next three years.
- Swing Phi Swing denounced modern day slavery and joined officials seeking immediate clarification that the “conviction of crime” exception in the XIII Amendment cannot be used to justify slavery.
- Swing Phi Swing registered and educated voters on election issues affecting the Black community via the “Our Vote Our Voice” campaign.
- Through the Swing Cares project, Swing Phi Swing donated hurricane relief supplies and financial support to four Bahamian Consulate General offices.
- Swing Phi Swing targeted health and wellness initiatives to raise awareness and support research of medical conditions that disproportionately affect the Black community, such as Sickle Cell Anemia, Lupus, Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.
- Swing Phi Swing continues to be an active voice in the struggles for social justice and gender equity.
Let Us Celebrate You!

Dear Graduate,

From my heart to yours, I am sending warm and hearty congratulations on your completion of all of the academic work for an undergraduate degree. I know that earning an undergraduate degree is a long steep climb. But you did it! You have reached the summit, and I am mighty proud of you!

With your family and friends, the president, faculty and staff at your school, I wish you and your classmates could have the very special experience of walking across the stage to receive the degree you have earned. Even though that cannot happen because of COVID-19, this pandemic cannot take away what you have accomplished.

I join with all of your NCNW sisters and brothers in celebrating what you have achieved. And we celebrate who you are! As a member of NCNW, you have demonstrated your commitment to being of service to Black women, our families and our communities. Now, as you go on to a graduate or professional school, or as you set out to work, we are counting on you to carry on the legacy of our beloved National Council of Negro Women. May your life be guided by these words of the founder of NCNW, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune: “Faith is the first factor in a life devoted to service. Without it, nothing is possible. With it, nothing is impossible.”

Congratulations my NCNW Sister (or Brother!)

Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Ph.D.
NCNW 2020 COLLEGIATE GRADUATES

CHESNEY UNIVERSITY
Sabrina Edouard
Deisha Moore
Khadijah Pearson
Siani Robinson
Christina Wiles

CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Janai Bates
Estella Brown
Ashley Redeaux
Deja Tillman

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY
Astoria Doyle

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
Tarekia Kelly
Taliah Melvin
Nakaya Melvin
Davizha White
Alexandria Whitted

EAST STROUDBUG UNIVERSITY
Denasia Mosteller
Raven Parks
Deairra Powell
Samantha Pratts
Naimah Stevens
Kyree Thompson
Kenya Thompson
Jasmine Uzzell
Tatiana Williams

ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY
Destinic Chaves
Abriana Hicks
Ariauna Holloman
Alisha Matthews
Alliah Rone
Makala Thompson
Angenea White

FAYETTEVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY
Shontia Blount

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
Francis Arnold
Aubria Bell
Alyssa Bland
Ebony Campbell
Bianca Graham
Natalie Keggler
Angelika Lowder
Makayla Lowder
Asja Newbold
Makayla Pettway
Nicole Stallworth

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
Roniqua Canty
Keymira Frost
Arielle Lawson
Imani Monroe
Lawrenzia Roker

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Njeri Allen
Tabitha Ato
Mikaela Dredden
Udochis Esomunu
Malaika Hall
Kira Wise

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Ashley Cook

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY
Deanna White

HOWARD UNIVERSITY
Kaalex Ash-Green
Alicia Calixte
Nia Carter
Julissa Gearing
Nia Gilliam
Rene Harris
Y’Mahni Jackson
Alexis James
Cherelle Jones
Nyra Lownes-Alexander
Imani Stokley
Eukya Watson

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Taniya Bailey
Pierra Dennie
A’via Owensbury
Bria Reed
Cidney Roberts

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY
Nadja Blanks
TYanna Coker
Deleya Davis
Kristin Fowler
Maya Foxworth
Martina Grady
Kneadee Jackson
Asia Judge
Fantasia Lawrence
Emoni Lewis
Carrie Lowe
Shayla Sims
Kyera Spivey
Lachelle Weathers
Kioda Wilson
Dionna Young

Kean University

Keen University

Lincoln University

Ayomide Akano
Lea'yana Brinkley
Taylor Hall Johnson
Courtney Harris Gardner
Taylor Peebles
Cieara Peabody

MORRIS COLLEGE
Courtney Budden

NORTH CAROLINA A&T UNIVERSITY
Imani Bass
Trejah Bostic
Monet Deadwyler
Synphane Gibbs
Romesha Hayes
Raven Hughes
Jaquayla Hunt
Kariatu Jalloh
Brandy Jones
JaKayla Lide
Image Linen
Nia Lucky
Yhesani Means
Chiara Moore
Lataya Rose
Kayla Rucker
Destiny Thornton
Brianne Tuck

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
Cheyenne Beasley
Amira Gamble
Taylor Jordan
Charnesia McDew
Bridget Pinnock
Tayaa Pratt
NCNW 2020 COLLEGIATE GRADUATES

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
Kianna Turner

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Shaina Barry
Paradise Boyce
Faith Cole
Keitha Duhaney-Clemson
Elise Elizondo
Kayla Gomez
Rikki Knight
Jailyn Quinerly
Ananda Rankin
Talia Seymore
Kayla Simmons
Diamond Thomas

SACRAMENTO STATE UNIVERSITY
Carlton Washington

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY
Arden Ward
Zykia Williams

SPelman college
Kiara Cureton
JoyNaya Foster
Bailey Holmes Spencer
Princess Kamuche
Mariah Knight
Jaida Langham
Starr Powell

SPelman college
Uriel Rufen-Blanchette
Niarah Russell
Kamari Stokes
Imani Watts
Ericka Westbrook
Kristen Wilder

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
Leah Horton
Sade King
Alexis Morris-Perkins
Joy Morrow
Keshelle Ormsby
Jahnel Williams

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA @ BERKELEY
Eliza Brooks
Joy Edem
Adesuwa Ogbeide

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
Fantasia Alexander
Melissa Charles
Downtown Charity
Camarie Mike
Danielle Olivia
Rachelle Servius

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
Taylor Brooks
Jade King
Idee Wilkerson
Nicole McLean

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
Wildlife Bayard
Ashley Chapelle
Maya Miller
Ultimate Peatross

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE
Destiney Beatty
Alexis Branch
Alexis Gray
Stasia Maddox
Tiana Rayford
Insheena Tate
Daisha Wells

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
Siani Antione
Danielle Evans
Jala Foster
Arianna Greenwood
Precious Williamson
Kyra Atkins
Morgan Kinsley
Lasha Seaton
Julie Thomas

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE
Praier Barwell
Mackenzie Elam
Sedia Haff
Gabrielle Keaton
Deja Myers
Isis Welch

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
Siani Antione
Danielle Evans
Jala Foster
Arianna Greenwood
Precious Williamson
Kyra Atkins
Morgan Kinsley
Lasha Seaton
Julie Thomas

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Kendra Stewart

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Brenda Booth-West

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Sydney Christian
Bolanle Dahunsi
Toiyin Hunter
Vanessa Jones
Tanasia Jaw
Naurothie Lareche
Ahlihah Lewis
Kierra Mcleod
Amiya Miles
Sabriyyah Pollock
Taahira Samuels
Janay Tigner

WIDENER UNIVERSITY
Vanier Coumarbatch
Inesha Ellis
Sheria Hawks

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
Gileah Black
ALAMANCE-GUILFORD SECTION

The Alamance-Guilford Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc hosted a Human Trafficking panel discussion at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Historic Museum on Saturday January 18, 2020 in Sedalia, NC.

AGS had over 40 people in attendance. Many questions from the audience were taken by the panel. Video was shown to explain about the common thread of Human Trafficking. Our panelists were: Sherealla Burnett( AGS member), Claudia Patterson, Bria Miller and Clavert Waltington.

Informational tables were also set up by our community partners: Greensboro club- National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc represented by AGS member Yardley Hunter, KEYA Foundation, Da’vine Connection and Census 2020 to name a few. Thanks also to Leslie Leonard (AGS member) and the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum for their continuous support.

DAYTONA BEACH

The Daytona Beach Community Section of the National Council of Negro Women Inc. staged its 14th annual NCNW Black History Brain Bowl Feb. 29 at Bethune-Cookman University.

The purpose of the Brain Bowl is to encourage children to increase their knowledge of African-American history.

The winners of the event, which attracted students from throughout Volusia County, included: 1st Place High School, Atlantic High; 2nd Place High School, Black Male Explorers; 1st Place Middle School, Campbell Middle School; and, 2nd Place Middle School, Black Male Explorers.
CUYAHOGA COUNTY SECTION

The Cuyahoga County Section enjoyed a day of service and intergenerational Learning at the McGregor Home! On Monday, January 20, 2020 the Cuyahoga County Section Members (adult, collegiate, youth and Charles L. Franklin Associates) partnered with the Greater Cleveland Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. and Top Teens of America.

In an assembly-line procedure, they sorted, organized and assembled 100 care packages for the residents to lift their spirits. Care packages included full-size soap, body wash, 2-in-1 shampoo/conditioner, body lotion, deodorant, toothpaste, lip balm, toothbrushes, mouthwash, washcloths, socks, razors for shaving, shaving cream, and travel packages of tissues. Liquid items were arranged in decorative bags to make the care pages compact, for easy carrying and to keep the packages at a manageable size to be tucked into a person’s existing bags.

FIRST PLACE WINNER FOR DOROTHY HEIGHT ESSAY

The winner of the 2020 Essay Contest was Kylee Fernandes, who was a 6th grade student at Roosevelt Middle School. She won for her composition on civil rights leader Dorothy Height, who spent more than forty years as president of the National Council of Negro Women.

Kylee Fernandes
NEW NCNW SECTION - GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

JACKSONVILLE, SECTION

The Jacksonville Section of National Council of Negro Women, Inc. in partnership with Re-threaded held a community event to discuss the state of Human Trafficking in Jacksonville, FL. We had approximately 52 people in the audience.

Our Section also participated in the historical trail of “Bloody Sunday” which became a landmark of American history and the foundation for a successful campaign culminating with the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

NCNW began the visit inside the Civil Rights Institute and 16th Street Baptist Street in Birmingham, then headed over to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery. The pivotal moment of the tour for the group was marching across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama.
KEAN UNIVERSITY SECTION

Eating healthy can be something everyone wants to do, but is unsure how to get started. In honor of Black History Month, and to help give more information for eating healthier, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc (NCNW) hosted SOULFOOD: Food for the Soul on Feb. 27. The event was centered around discussing ways to eat healthier, and what students can do to make sure they are fitting better foods into their day-to-day lives.

Kean has focused their advocacy, awareness and celebration towards Black History Month. The NCNW mission to lead, advocate for and empower women of African descent fits perfectly with section events such as “Black Love Matters” and “For Us By Us.” These events, hosted in the Miron Student Center Little Theater, promoted, honored, loved and celebrated everything black culture has to offer.

BEAUMONT SECTION

Members of our section worked at Douglas Memorial Church assisting with some essential needs of those communities affected by Hurricane Harvey.
METROPOLITAN-DADE SECTION

The Metropolitan Dade County Section National Council of Negro Women, Inc., in partnership with the Miami-Dade Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) hosted the 8th Annual Historical Black College and University (HBCU) Forum on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at the Greenwich Studios, 12100 NE 16th Avenue, North Miami, Florida 33161.

This is an annual event was held to inform and educate local students and families on the benefits of attending an historically black college or university. The forum consisted of information on college preparation, financial aid and students had the opportunity to participate in a panel discussion with HBCU graduates. Students also had the opportunity to speak with over 20 HBCU and scholarship representatives. The event was free and open to the public.

MILWAUKEE SECTION

Thank you for your support of the Milwaukee Section of NCNW! We are delighted to share that 23 women of all ages, stages and walks of life attended our Meet and Greet with an additional 12 women who called in and committed to be a part of the Milwaukee Section.

As next steps, we will have a NCNW “Each One Reach One” recruitment week to ensure 35 members and plan to host the Section meeting on Monday, March 2, 2020. We will submit our full application and membership dues no later than Friday, March 6, 2020.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and Milwaukee Section, we plan to “Say Less. Do More” and make a great impact in the community!

Synovia Moss
RESTON-DULLES SECTION

During the Women’s History Month 2020 Celebration, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Jeff McKay, and Chair of the Fairfax County Commission for Women, Lisa Sales, join Cypriana McCray of Reston, who was honored as “Valiant Woman of the Vote.” As President of the Reston-Dulles Section of the National Council of Negro Women, she leads the section’s community activities. Dr. Bethune was an early member of the National Association of Colored Women, a leading suffrage organization.

During the holiday season, we supported the call from U.S. Senator Mark Warner and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chair, Sharon Bulova to support the Fairfax County Foster Teen Gift Drive. The Section supported two Fairfax County teens, ages 15 and 16, by donating $200 in gift cards from Target and Barnes and Noble to each.

STATEN ISLAND HBCU FAIR
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SECTION

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, prospective members participated in a Martin Luther King Day of Service to assist in cleaning Lotus House Women’s Shelter and doing arts and crafts with younger residents.

They had a great turn out and show promise as an organization.

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY SECTION

Spurred by the increase in human trafficking around the country, the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) reached out to several local affiliate organizations in an effort to collaborate on educating the community on the growing issue of human trafficking in and throughout the state of Georgia.

On Thursday, February 20th, the National Council of Negro Women, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (Kappa Eta Omega Chapter), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Valdosta Alumnae Chapter), Zeta Phi Beta Sorority (Zeta Sigma Zeta Graduate Chapter), and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority (Kappa Psi Sigma Chapter) and the Valdosta State University Section of NCNW hosted phase one of a Human Trafficking Forum at 6 p.m. at Mathis City Auditorium. The Valdosta Divine Nine organization which includes the previously listed sororities along with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity will provide free dinner at the event. Although this event is free, participants were encouraged to bring personal hygiene items that will be donated to the Pines Rehabilitation Center in Valdosta.

Local government and community leaders were present to provide resources and information to the community on strategies to end human trafficking and what to be on the lookout for while doing normal, everyday activities. On behalf of the Organizing Committee and Milwaukee Section, we plan to “Say Less. Do More” and make a great impact in the community!
NCNW  NEW LIFE & LEGACY MEMBERS

LEGACY LIFE MEMBERS
Norma Coignet-Brown
Karen Cook
Ada B. Davis
Teneke Dixon
Elizabeth Farmer
Jacqueline Yvette Funches
Lela M. Harris
DeLores Jefferson
Janea Johnson
Gail Pough
Gladys Squires
Maggie C. Temple
Vera S. Tubbs
Arabella Walker

LIFE MEMBERS
Nana Batiste Bailey-Thomas
Caroyn Denise Ball Pride
W. Ann Bartelle
Debra D. Bell
Vernie N Boston
Regina Carrell
Louise F Cole
Evelyn Guess
Delia Harris
Debbie Renee Hillman
Sonja Suzette Hutchins
Janaye M Ingram
Sadarria James
Tanjela Johnson
Melissa Kestle
Tolani King
Joy Lattimore
Jennifer Lynn Lewis
Mary D. Little
Sharon Jo Lloyd
Valerie Madison
Monika Michelle Mason
Celestine McNeal
Daitasha Miller
Eulalia Morrison
Candrice Oliver
Tameko Patterson-Winfield
Sarah Pearson
Ethel L. Peeples-Robinson
Jacqueline Y’Vonne Pelzer
Davaline A. Perry
gail richardson
Darlene Riggins-White
Diane Rogell
Joyce A Russell, Ph.D.
Gloria Juluke Scott
Gloria Juluke Scott
Sherie Latoya Scott
Cynthia Scruggs
Theresa Sims-Carrington
Colleen L. Smith
Hattie M. Smith-Miles
Betty Burroughs Speaks
Katherine Story
Murlene Terry Taylor
Melissa S. Tinsley
Jeannine Alise Tyree
Claudette Walcott-Martin
Skyller Walkes
Pat Williams
LaCosha Williams
Mazie Lavata Williams
Chareen R. Williams-Edwards
Viola C. Wraggs

GROUP LIFE
Southern Maryland Chapter,
TLOD, Inc.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
Theresa Barrett
Gladys Carson
Lela M. Harris
DeLores Jefferson

ADVOCATES
Sarah Francis
Annie J. Goodson
Twyla Knapper-Peters
Christopher Patters
Ashley Patterson
Cynthia Randolph Hefney
Annette Shrager
Valerie Waters
Cassandra H. Williams
IN LOVING MEMORY

Faye Beverly Bryant

Faye Beverly Bryant, NCNW Life Member, 21st International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc., and 3rd National President of Top Ladies of Distinction (TLOD). Faye Beverly Bryant was born on March 15, 1937, in Houston, Texas. Under Bryant’s leadership, the theme of the AKA Sorority became P.O.W.E.R. (Programs of service, Organizational impact, Women in global issues and Economic development and Renewal). During her tenure, Bryant also created the Alpha Kappa Alpha Connection, completed construction on the Sorority’s national headquarters and initiated the African Village Development Program in collaboration with Africare. During her tenure in TLOD, this champion of civil rights and human rights served with distinction and honor.

Donesha Chew

Frostburg State students, faculty, and staff gathered February 13, 2020, to celebrate the life of Donesha Chew, a graduating senior who tragically lost her life Sunday, Feb. 9, following a horrific car accident the day prior. Donesha, affectionately known to her friends as “Nesh” and “Don Don,” was a beloved member of the National Council for Negro Women, Caribbean Student Association, Paparazzi Perfect Modeling Team, Student Government Association, and United Voices Under God’s Dominion Gospel Choir. She was a respected student leader on campus, and touched the hearts of many.

Ollie Mixon

It is with deep sadness that the NorCal Region announces the passing of Ollie Mixon. Mrs. Mixon passed away in a San Francisco hospital.

Mrs. Mixon was a Life Member of the Golden Gate Section, the former NorCal Treasurer, and most recently served as the NorCal Bethune-Height Treasurer.
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP INFORMATION SERIES

THURSDAY • 7:00 P.M.

- February 27, 2020
- March 26, 2020
- April 23, 2020
- May 28, 2020
- June 25, 2020
- July 23, 2020
- August 27, 2020
- September 24, 2020
- October 22, 2020

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- March 12, 2020
- April 9, 2020
- May 14, 2020
- June 11, 2020
- July 9, 2020
- August 13, 2020
- September 10, 2020
- October 8, 2020
- November 12, 2020

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Toyota Motor North America honors the National Council of Negro Women for 84 years of dedicated work on its mission to lead, advocate for, and empower women of African descent, their families, and communities. Big changes to many lives have occurred because NCNW was bold enough to help girls and women achieve goals and break barriers. Congratulations as you celebrate your iconic past president, Dr. Dorothy Irene Height, at the 16th Uncommon Height Gala.