

Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated PRESENTS

SCOPE 2011

EXCELLENCE | GREATNESS | LEADERSHIP | SERVICE



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2010 **National**

Convention

PLUS:

The House that

Jack and Jill Built

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Executive Memo from the National President

Tara Joseph-Labrie
22nd National President

>Welcome to the 2011 issue of Scope. Looking back into our history the name SCOPE was chosen to convey the picture of “telescoping” outstanding, successful programs, news and a visual reading tool to strengthen the programming of our remarkable chapters. That’s exactly what you find in this issue of Scope. When you elected me National President I was excited to share a vision for our organization to move forward. My vision has included focus on operational excellence, growth of our organization and protecting our brand. This is reflected in our theme, Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve! Under the direction and leadership of National Program Director Cheryl Beal Anderson, we are witnessing huge strides in programming. She has embraced my vision to continue to build on youth leadership development, financial literacy, and responded to the call to establish a national program to improve the state of health for families and children in the African-American community.

This National Executive Board recognizes that all members joined this organization for its outstanding programming for children and mothers. Yes, our programming speaks to the very essence of who we are, what we do and why we are the premier family organization in America. This issue of Scope features our best practices in programming – demonstrating our creative activities in social, cultural, civic and educational disciplines. I applaud the chapters who have shared their best activities.

Across the nation, you have embraced our national programming theme and new programming thrust.

Immediately after the close of the 2010 National Convention, I reached out to two dedicated Jack and Jill members who have a passion for educating America on how to incorporate small measurable tools to live a healthier lifestyle. Members Ayana Ball-Griffie and LaShawn Ware, together with NPD Anderson and the National Programming Committee, created AIM for Healthy Living, a comprehensive, collaborative and family-oriented program developed to address all of the various factors that lead to childhood obesity and unhealthy lifestyles. I am forever indebted to these



“AIM
for
Excellence!”

mothers for their dedication to our members and children’s health. Jack and Jill you are making a positive change on the health of children and families within our communities. **Thank you for embracing this initiative with such enthusiasm!**

This edition of SCOPE also showcases the spirit of giving by Jack and Jill of America. In March 2010, we had the honor of making a dream a reality for a family in New Orleans after the effects of Hurricane Katrina. It was truly an amazing experience to give the keys of homeownership to the Corey Holmes Family. On behalf of the 2008-2010 and 2010-2012 National Executive Boards, the Members-At-Large and the Jack and Jill of America Foundation THANK YOU for your donations and support.

Mothers, as we approach our 75th anniversary, thank you for investing so much to make our organization magnificent. On behalf of the National Executive Board, enjoy the 2011 SCOPE publication.

Tara Joseph-Labrie
22nd National President

Expressions from the Editor-in-Chief

Cheryl Beal Anderson
National Program Director

I am pleased to present the 2011 SCOPE publication that showcases the excellence in programming of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. SCOPE, first published in 1953, chronicles the creativity of our mother members to develop programming that is relevant to children through chapter activities, community service, legislative advocacy, regional and national programming.

In this edition of SCOPE, you will see the evidence that mothers have gathered around “the proverbial table” in cities across our country to brainstorm, plan and execute programs that make a positive impact for children. The goal has not been to only meet the programming requirements of our organization, rather to help our youth form friendships, have enriched educational experiences, be culturally well-rounded, financially literate, socially astute and servant leaders. We mothers see the results of our collective efforts and sacrifices as our children graduate from high school, honored at Teen Conferences and begin their young adult lives, powered by faith, family and Jack and Jill of America.

Our programs are not limited to ourselves! We strive to serve all children through community service and legislative advocacy. Members of Jack and Jill indeed achieve excellence, inspire greatness and motivate youth to lead and serve as we AIM children to work hard, work smart, dream big and create a brighter day.

Mothers, thank you for your calls, emails and text messages, where you have shared your ideas. I have enjoyed reading your submissions. Thank you for saying ‘yes’ when asked to help. You have created

opportunities to make Jack and Jill of America the premier organization in the delivery of new leaders to our country and world through programming.

I want to thank National President Tara Joseph-Labrie for her unending support, encouragement and confidence in my leadership abilities to lead our organization to the next level in programming. As the chair of the National Program Committee, I owe a debt of thanks to the National Program Committee and the AIM for Healthy Living Task Force members who are the most dedicated, dynamic mothers who selflessly serve

you and our organization. Thank you to the Mighty Mid-Western Region, under the leadership of Regional Director Kimberley Will and my Indianapolis Chapter Jack and Jill family for your support and encouragement. A heartfelt thank you to my husband Donnie and children Brittani and Joshua for their support

with minimal complaints.

Last, but not least, a very special thank you to Executive Director Renee Gadson and Desktop Publisher Jill Antos. Mothers, this publication could not have happened without their support, expertise and professionalism.

On behalf of the National Executive Board and National Program Committee, I hope you enjoy the 2011 SCOPE publication! It is a celebration of what you do and who we are!

In service to Jack and Jill,

Cheryl Beal Anderson
National Program Director



“Children
are at the
heart
of what we
do!”

Greetings from the National Headquarters

Renee A. Gadson
Executive Director

Greetings Mothers,

The National Headquarters staff is delighted to serve the members of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. From the National Executive Board to the regional elected team, chapter officers and members, we enjoy supporting each of you.

As the staff worked together to download your articles and photos for this publication, we were immediately reminded why we are here!

It is refreshing to support an organization that celebrates the relationships that parents share with their children. Each of you should be commended for choosing to be a part of Jack and Jill of America, and continuing to make it great!

As a member of the Washington, DC chapter, I get to experience first hand, the many programming initiatives set forth by the National Executive Board. The 2010-2012 Administration urges each of us to AIM higher in all that we do. Jack and Jill will continue its mission to Achieve Excellence, Inspire Greatness and Motivate Youth to Lead and Serve. The National Headquarters

Staff is prepared to meet the many challenges that the organization faces to advance its mission.

During this program year, Anietra Bradford who served as our Special Project Assistant resigned to return to her hometown in the South Central Region. Anietra is legacy Jack and Jill and we truly miss her presence at headquarters. In addition to my role as Executive Director, Demetrius Perkins is our go to person for all things membership; Jill Antos is our graphics design

guru and Stacey Johnson pays attention to details to provide financial support to the organization.

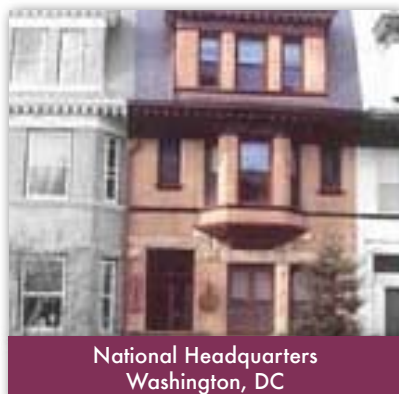
Again, on behalf of the National Headquarters staff, congratulations to every chapter for another successful program year. We hope that you enjoy this edition of The Scope. I'd like to give a huge

acknowledgement to National Program Director Cheryl Beal Anderson and Desktop Publisher Jill Antos for creating and publishing such a wonderful publication.



"We
enjoy
supporting
each of
you"

Renee Gadson
Executive Director



National Headquarters
Washington, DC

Jack and Jill of America Foundation

Erik A. Cliette President, Board of Trustees

Pier A. H. Blake Executive Director

Dear Mothers,

The success of Jack and Jill of America Foundation is greatly attributed to Jack and Jill Mothers. Jack and Jill Mothers serve on our Board of Trustees and in other leadership roles. These mothers rally fathers, friends and peers to make generous donations and lead Foundation initiatives. This year, Foundation provided support to over 70 national grantees through the generous giving from Jack and Jill of America, Inc. members.

One of our grantees this year is the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington; their project was YMCA DC Youth & Government program. The program included a Legislative Weekend Conference attended by 127 students, the program empowers them to become ethical leaders, responsible and productive citizens. This was the 9th Annual Legislative Weekend which provided opportunities for participants to work with community leaders who offer mentoring, role modeling and support. The Youth Mayor, William Lovett met with the District of Columbia Mayor Vincent C. Gray to present a bill that was drafted and debated by the youth legislative participants. There were over 20 bills brought before the delegation and only one passed. This bill best identified an unmet need in the students' own neighborhoods. YMCA of Metropolitan

Washington provides this school-based program from September – July to teens from lower income families in the Washington Metropolitan Area.

William Lovett is a returning delegate and approximately 30% of students are returning participants and half of those have taken on leadership roles. "This program has helped me be able to see a problem in the community and work toward getting a solution," said Janai Bradley, junior, DC Youth Advisory Council. "This program is for making leaders whose sole job is to serve others," said Khan Branch, 2010-2011 YMCA DC Youth City Council Chair. These are just a few of the comments from this year's delegation. It is programs like these that keep youth off the streets and engaged in the legislative process.

Thank you for your continued support to the Foundation and on behalf of all the youth that benefit....again, thank you!

Sincerely,

Erik A. Cliette
President, Board of Trustees

Pier A. H. Blake
Executive Director



National Program Committee

2011–2012

Cheryl Beal Anderson, Chair



Kim Adams
EASTERN



Kimberly Savoy
CENTRAL



Vara Allen-Jones
FAR WEST



Melanie C. Lynn
MID-WESTERN



Deirdre Williams
MID-ATLANTIC



Millie Mitchell
SOUTH CENTRAL



Candace Berry-Vaughn
SOUTHEASTERN

AIM for Healthy Living Task Force



Ayana Ball-Griffie
CENTRAL



LaShawn Ware
FAR WEST

A Celebration in Programming

2010 National Convention



“Every child, if given the proper guidance and opportunity, can be developed into a leader.” This is the core philosophy for Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Passionate about this philosophy, the National Executive Board took ownership in and responsibility for advancing the vision of our Founders by dedicating resources to the development and implementation of a national programming initiative that would ensure Jack and Jill and community youth have the exposure, experiences, and resources needed to become successful leaders - in their families, and their communities.

The National Program Committee, under the leadership of National Program Director Tara Joseph-Labrie, organized the 2nd

Biennial Jacqueline Moore Bowles Youth Leadership Summit and Programming Luncheon during the 2010 National Convention in recognition of our organization’s commitment to leadership development and chapter programming excellence.

“Cultivating Leaders with Purpose, Passion and Power”

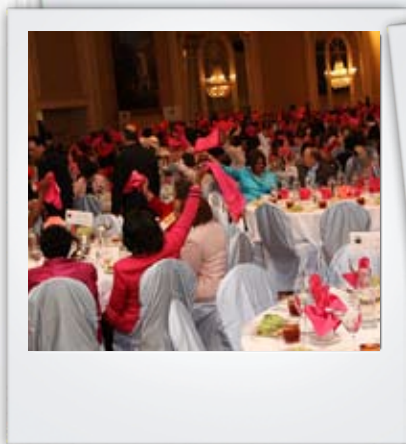
With an attendance of over 250 Jack and Jill and local community youth from the Boys and Girls Club, this one-day summit provided youth an opportunity to participate in interactive workshops on leadership and financial literacy. These youth earned the opportunity to attend the summit by invitation for having completed the prerequisite number of youth leadership development



and financial education modules in their chapters. The youth heard inspiring words from nationally known motivational speakers, Mr. Mike Jones and Ms. Kemba Smith. Each addressing some of life's most complex challenges facing youth while sharing personal experiences and decisions that changed their lives in hopes that their message would inspire our youth to lead with purpose, passion, and power.

“Celebrating Programming with a Purpose”

“Celebrating Programming with a Purpose” was the theme for the 2010 National Convention’s Program Luncheon and a celebration it was! What better way to convey 70 plus years of exemplary programming, Attendees were mesmerized by the elaborate décor of pink and blue, entertained by the soulful sounds of jazz saxophonist, Ray Skilman, who was encouraged by a wave of pink linens.



Our mothers heard the dynamic message of Mr. John Hope

Bryant (an entrepreneur, the founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Operation HOPE) They were enlightened by a video on programming that allowed mother members to see firsthand the impact of their efforts. From toddlers to teens, 220 chapters showcased their creative efforts in the areas of Social, Cultural, Civic, Recreational, and Educational disciplines. Excellence in programming begins with a plan in a chapter program handbook. There were 41 chapters that were rated by the National Program Committee with the highest rating of SUPERIOR for their outstanding chapter program handbooks. In addition, one chapter was selected from each of the seven Regions and received National recognition for outstanding programming in the areas of Health, Legislative, Community Service, Financial Literacy and Leadership Development.

Jack and Jill programming is the essence of who we are; it is what we stand for; it is our creative ways for inspiring our youth and producing tomorrow’s leaders.



AIM for the Stars: Achieving Excellence through Chapter Program Handbooks

Development of a complete, polished and user-friendly chapter program handbook is vital to the success of chapters to have their members be informed and fully engaged. Each year the National Program Committee evaluates the chapter program handbooks using a standardized rating. Chapters earning the highest rating of SUPERIOR are recognized each year.

Congratulations to the following chapters that received a SUPERIOR rating on their chapter program handbooks for the 2009-2010 program year:

Ann Arbor, MI
Arundel Bay, MD
Atlantic City, NJ
Baltimore, MD
Baltimore County, MD
Bergen Passaic, NJ
Birmingham, AL
Bloomington Normal, CO
Boston, MA
Bronx, NY
Buffalo, NY
Cincinnati, OH
Columbia, MD
Contra Costa, CA
Fayette County, GA
Greater Essex County, NJ
Greater Harrisburg, PA
Greater Hartford, CT
Greater Lansing, MI
Jackson, MS
Long Beach, CA
Loudon County, VA
Madison County, AL
Metropolitan, NY
Montgomery County, MD
Nashville, TN
North Houston Suburban, TX
North Suburban Atlanta, GA
Pittsburgh, PA
Prince William County, VA
Queens, NY
Reston, VA
Richmond, VA
San Fernando Valley, CA
Savannah, GA
South Suburban Denver, CO
South Miami, FL
Tallahassee, FL
Tuscaloosa, AL
Windy City, IL
Ypsilanti, MI

Congratulations!



Article contribution by
Candace Berry-Vaughn
Millie Mitchell
and Deirdre Williams

Questions for the Quintuplets:

An Interview with the Thompson Children

by Cheryl Beal Anderson
National Program Director

In 2000, Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated became deeply involved with the Thompson family. Our support of this family has been extensive. When we have seen a need, Jack and Jill has been there to help. Our organization has demonstrated our ongoing commitment for the development of the Thompson quintuplets by providing them with computers, funding camping trips and tutoring sessions, making home repairs, and ongoing communication with the family.

You have asked me ‘How are the Thompson quintuplets?’ Given the many inquiries, I asked their mother, Ms. Jackie Thompson, for her permission to interview the children, provide an update to our members and reproduce their interview in the 2011 SCOPE. Ms. Thompson graciously agreed. The Thompson children are 13 years old and will celebrate their birthday on May 17. They are in the eighth grade and attend Mary McCloud Bethune Day Academy in Washington DC. They were interviewed separately and asked the same questions: 1) What is your favorite subject in school? 2) Who is your favorite recording artist or movie actor/actress? 3) Who is your hero/shero that you admire most? 4) What is your plan after you graduate from high school? 5) If you could go any place in the world, where would you go and why? 6) What would be your answer if asked, ‘What is Jack and Jill of America?’

Emily first born Emily’s favorite subject is reading. She is reading Hamlet right now and finds it very interesting. Her favorite actress is

Angelina Jolie. She is a very good actor in all of her movies and likes her recent movie SALT. The person she admires most is her mom, Jackie Thompson. She says, “My mom does everything for me. She cooks, cleans, does my hair and stuff.” After high school, Emily wants to attend Howard University, get a degree and become a dentist. She would love to go to Asia – the northern side. Learn new stuff and discover what they are about. What would be your answer if asked, ‘What is Jack and Jill of America?’ Jack and Jill is an organization that helps African-American families and they educate.

Richard second born Richard’s favorite subject is math (Pre-Algebra). He likes Jackie Chan as an actor. He hasn’t seen his latest movie Karate Kid. He doesn’t have one hero/shero. When he finishes high school, he would like to go to Howard University. He wants to be a police officer and a college degree is required. Richard would like to go to . Connecticut to visit his cousins. What would be your answer if asked, ‘What is Jack and Jill of America?’ Jack and Jill is an organization that helps black families.

Octavia third born Octavia really likes math and dancing. She REALLY likes dancing. Her favorite recording artist is Michael Jackson because he was very good and talented. Her favorite shero is Mariah Carey because her songs help her. Her favorite song is “Hero” she said as she laughed. Octavia wants to go to college after high school, get her bachelors and masters and become an OB-GYN. She likes Howard

University after she went on a college campus tour. She also like Florida State University. Paris, France is where she would go if she could go anywhere. "I always dreamed about going to Paris," she said. What would be your answer if asked, 'What is Jack and Jill of America?' Jack and Jill is an organization that helped my family and helps other families.

Stella fourth born Stella is athletic and loves P.E. and math (she's in pre-Algebra, too). Stella says P.E. helps her body stay fit. She likes to play volleyball and is on the girls baseball team. Stella likes school a lot. Her favorite actress is also Angelina Jolie. She also liked her in the movie SALT. She laughed as we talked about how in the movie Angelina was a triple agent. Her favorite hero is her mom! When she finishes high school she wants to be a model and veterinarian. She clarified that she wants to be



a model full-time and veterinarian part-time. I want to go to Howard University. Howard does not have a vet school though. If she could go anywhere it would also be Paris, France. "It is the fashion part of the world and the city of romance." What would be your answer if asked, 'What is Jack and Jill of America?' Jack and Jill is an organization that helps families of different cultures.

AnnMarie fifth born AnnMarie likes math. It's easy for her. Her favorite recording artist is Chris Brown because he's a good singer and he's talented. She admires Tyra Banks, the model. After high school, she wants to go to Howard as well. She said, "We went on a college campus tour and went to Howard this past Christmas break.

I want to go to Howard University and study fashion." If she could go anywhere, she would want to go to Trinidad and Tobago because it is a part of her culture and its fun. What would be your answer if asked, 'What is Jack and Jill of America?' Jack and Jill is an organization of mothers who help future leaders.

I thanked their mother and hung up the phone with a sense of pride. The Thompson quintuplets are typical teens. They love math. They are smart and articulate. They dream of going to far away places. Though they share a lot in common as siblings, each has a unique personality. They are enamored with celebrities and fashion,

yet value the role of their mother in their lives. Their picture of their future is influenced by what they have seen and as a result

they have high aspirations. Collectively, the Thompson quintuplets know that Jack and Jill of America is an organization that helps the black family, respects diversity of cultures, helps future leaders and others. Most touching, they said "Jack and Jill has helped my family."

Mothers, be proud of what our organization has done for the Thompson quintuplets. We will still be there for them when they need us. Our contributions will help them achieve their personal best and is consistent with our aim to desire for all children the same as we do our own. We will continue to assist them and usher them into adulthood. On behalf of your National Program Committee, thank you for your spirit of giving.

Our National Organization's **AIM to Serve**

Regional Service Projects

by Members-at-Large

CENTRAL The 57th Central Region Teen Leadership Conference was held in Overland Park, Kansas on June 24 -27, 2010. Central Region Chapters were asked to conduct local book drives with the overall goal of collecting 1,500 books for toddlers, teens and troops. Over 2,000 books were collected. During the conference, the teens sorted and delivered the books to Operations Breakthrough and Niles Home. Operations Breakthrough is a nationally accredited not-for-profit corporation that began in 1971 as a response to requests from parents in the central city looking for quality child care for children of the working poor. The program began with 50 infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Since that time it has added a broad range of social services to meet the needs of children and their families. Niles Home for Children serves children from ages 6-17 with safe, intensive residential treatment for those who have



been severely traumatized by abuse, neglect or abandonment. They provide day treatment and alternative education programs for those children with special educational and therapeutic needs.

While onsite at each agency, the teens shelved the books, read to the children and performed other needed services on the premises. Each facility was also given a donation of \$500 to meet their programming needs. The books collected for the troops were delivered to "Books for Soldiers" to be sent to troops overseas.

EASTERN In March of 2011, over 500 Teens from the Eastern Region, led by Teen Foundation Officer John-Tod Surgeon, gathered to build 100 bikes and trikes for children in the Greater Washington DC area. These bikes and trikes were donated to the YMCA and the Boys and

Girls Clubs.

Working with Greater DC Cares, 100 teens were selected to participate in a 1 hour leadership training seminar. This group consisted primarily of non-senior alternates and delegates from the region. These teens learned the project



management skills which would be vital in managing the teams assigned to assemble the bikes.

After the leadership seminar, the remaining

400 teens joined the group and completed the bicycles. After assembling the bikes, each teen wrote a message of inspiration on a postcard to be delivered to the lucky recipients.

This project was one of many generous projects of the Eastern Region Teens. Last year, the teens of the Eastern Region donated over 1000 books and \$3000.00 from the Lucille Hadley Grant, to build a library for students displaced to New York from Haiti as a result of the disastrous earthquake. This project was led by Teen Foundation Chair, Sean Williams.

FAR WEST Young people across the western United States attended Jack and Jill teen conference at California Lutheran University the weekend of July 25, 2010. Teens participated in a two phase community service project, in which grades nine through eleven spent part of Friday sprucing up the Conejo Valley YMCA in Thousand Oaks. Graduating seniors served Help the Children organization. The project was partially funded by the J&J Foundation Lucille Hadley grant.

"It's pretty much a beautification project," said DeShawn Samad, 17, of Pasadena, FWR Teen conference chair, who was helping to oversee the project. "They're weeding, they're painting, they're cleaning out different sheds and washing the exterior of buildings and sweeping parking lots," she said.

Patrick Yarrow, the associate executive director of the Conejo Valley YMCA, said he was happy the teens were able to help with maintenance jobs that his small staff



often doesn't have the time to do. "They did a lot of cleanup around the property," he said. "They did a great job with an overall face-lift for the facility, and we love it when community groups come out and help us."

It gives you a good feeling, helping others," said Vernon Yancy, 15, of Inglewood, who was painting a rail fence around the playing fields at the YMCA. "He said that being part of the organization has helped him feel more confident. "I am more outgoing now since I joined it and come to stuff like this," he said.

MID-ATLANTIC “Navigating the Sea of Change” was the theme for the Magnificent Mid-Atlantic Region’s 2010 Fall Clusters hosted by the Orangeburg, SC, James River, VA and Charlotte, NC Chapters. In the spirit of philanthropic giving, the Mid-Atlantic mothers embraced the teen foundation project by giving funds to support a drawing for a Jonathan Green print. The artist, a South Carolina native, is considered one of the most important painters of the Southern experience; a different print was given away at each of the three clusters. More than \$1200 was collected and given to the Jack and Jill of America Foundation, Incorporated on behalf of the Mighty, Magnificent Mid-Atlantic teens. The mission of the Foundation is to provide financial support to at-risk communities that promote leadership development for



children, youth and young adults. Our Regional Teen Foundation Chair Anthony Jamal Sibley has urged each teen chapter foundation chair and teen members to support the Foundation by being creative with projects to assist with the success of the Foundation mission. The fruit of their labor will be determined at the 58th Annual Teen Conference hosted by the Winston-Salem Chapter in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, June 24-26, 2011.

Members-at-Large



Standing left to right: Pearl Givens (Mid-Atlantic), Natalie Brunson-Wheeler (Central), Twanya Hood-Hill (Mid-Western), Wanda Montgomery (South Central), Janet Miller Evans (Far West)

Seated left to right: Sharon Burgess-Jones (Southeastern, Chair), Cheryl Beal Anderson (National Program Director and NEB Liaison for MALs)

MID-WESTERN The Mighty Mid-Western Region is extremely proud of our community service and fundraising work this year. Our Regional Teen Foundation Chair, Archie Patterson IV, re-branded the Mid-Western Region's annual teen fundraising initiative as the "Can You Spare a Dime?" campaign. The teens presented their donations to the Wheeler-Dowe Boys and Girls Club during the 56th Annual Teen Leadership Conference hosted by the Indianapolis Chapter. The teens refreshed the club with new furniture, painting and planted a community garden. The teens also canvassed the surrounding Martindale Brightwood community as a part of a beautification project. U.S. Congress Representative Andre Carson, Indiana 7th District commended the teens.

The West Suburban Chicago Chapter raised funds for a winter coat drive benefitting the local Boys and Girls Club. They also raised significant funds via a 5K Walk For Hope to aid the Mutual Ground shelter for women and their children.

The Cincinnati Chapter conducted several community service projects, including a Free Book Fair and Winter Bazaar, benefitting their local Boys and Girls Club.



With funding secured through a Violet Greer grant, Cincinnati's senior teens and mothers hosted a Winter Game Day with 65 plus club members of the U.S. Bank Boys & Girls Club. For the 2011 National Day of Service, the chapter collected, organized and distributed over 1300 books, winter hats, scarves, gloves, socks and hygiene items for the club members to select and take home.

The Louisville Chapter provided dinner, arts and crafts, and small children's gifts to residents of the Cabbage Patch Settlement House. This is a nonprofit, Christian organization that exists to empower families and children to be self-sufficient.

These stories represent the passion, energy and giving spirit of the entire Mid-Western region. As always, we AIM to Reach Higher!

SOUTH CENTRAL The Sensational South Central Region continues to embrace community service and Aim for Healthy Living. In early 2010, we challenged our region to support our "Say Yes to Veggies, Changing the future for our Children" initiative in support of childhood obesity prevention. The region provided refrigerator magnets to each mother and provided bookmarks to all the children to help reinforce this initiative.

For 2011, several chapters in the region



have planned community events to be held in the Spring. On April 30th, our local chapter in the Katy Prairie View area will host a community Field Day for children ages 9-12. The day will include activities such as kickball, dodge ball, and Frisbee, as well as educational sessions

on childhood obesity prevention. Our Arlington Chapter will be conducting a Town Hall Meeting in May for adults and children from the Boys and Girls Club to provide education and awareness on childhood obesity. The Woodlands Chapter will be participating in a “Veggie Village” with Interfaith Ministries, which will provide healthy vegetables grown from a community garden. Also, rounding out our regional support, our Children’s Cluster events will be participating in the “Say Yes To Veggies” campaign.

As our region is expanding our community outreach further through grants funded by

our Foundation, just a few examples are: (1) The Greater Frisco and Greater Channel Chapters provided Financial Education to their communities ranging from how to handle credit, managing your money, and developing wealth, (2) The New Orleans chapter provided tips to Upward Bound students on enhancing their leadership skills and becoming an engaged citizen, and (3) The Clear Lake Bay Area Chapter provided dynamic and fun workshops designed specifically to bring awareness for healthy living to include an onsite chef demonstration. We continuously strive to embrace our communities.

SOUTHEASTERN The Southeastern Teen Conference Service Project provided teens the opportunity to select from three hands-on impactful service projects that made a lasting impression upon the community. The projects included two off-site locations, Metropolitan Ministries and The Mayor’s Beautification Program, and two on-site, Adonai’s Ministry Inc, and United We Serve Southeastern Region Military Service Project. Additionally, all teens donated items for the Adonai Ministry’s school supply collection drive.

Metropolitan Ministries is a faith based non-profit organization. Upon arrival at the ministry, the teens were divided into groups and assigned specific tasks. One group of teens served as volunteers in the soup kitchen and another group organized the food pantry. Over 250 teens selected to participate in the Tampa Mayor’s Beautification Program. This project involved landscaping and beautification of the grounds at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church and School, Far Oaks Park, and New Mount Zion Church. St. Peter Claver Catholic School is the oldest African American school in the diocese of St.



Petersburg and in the state of Florida. Far Oaks Park is frequently visited by thousands of inner city kids who utilize the park’s facilities to practice and pursue their basketball aspirations. At New Mount Zion church, teens helped to beautify the grounds of the church. Teens who selected the on-site project packaged toiletries and school supplies for residents of Adonai Ministries. Adonai Ministry serves 800 homeless women and children. This group of teens also prepared letters to military personnel serving abroad and listened to a presentation by Lieutenant Colonel, Darryl Hamilton, US Army Special Operations Command Officer Central J6 . Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton discussed military career opportunities and educational benefits which the military offers for college bound students.

AIM *Our National Programming Thrust* by Cheryl Beal Anderson National Program Director

AIM, a plan to do or achieve something.

The National Programming thrust is set forth by the National President with the concurrence of the National Executive Board. The National Program Director, has as one of her duties, the execution of the National Programming Thrust. The National Programming thrust is intended to provide emphasis and direct resources to address contemporary issues of the day that impact youth, in addition to other required areas of programming. This is our opportunity to create exciting and new programs to keep our members and children invigorated about their Jack and Jill experience!

In 2006, the National Programming Thrust set forth by the National Executive Board in response to the vision of Immediate Past National President Jacqueline Moore Bowles was Youth Leadership Development and Financial Literacy. A grassroots leadership development guide and modules originated from the Mid-Western region and was adopted for national implementation. This vision came to pass under the leadership of Past National Program Director Valeska Buie. In 2008, Immediate Past National Program Director Tara Joseph-Labrie led the acquisition of financial literacy educational materials from Merrill Lynch, which were adopted for national implementation in the 2009 - 2010 program year.

Under the direction of the National President Tara Joseph-Labrie and National Executive Board, the 2010-2012 national theme is Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve! National President Tara Joseph-Labrie's vision was to address the preventable diseases associated with poor nutrition and fitness as there is a disproportionately negative impact on the African-American community, particularly children. Further, we agreed to it remains a national imperative to develop youth into leaders and assuring that they are educated in money matters. As your National Program Director, it has been my pleasure and reward to work with committed members of the AIM for Healthy Living Task Force and National Program Committee to design the Jack and Jill of



America AIM for Healthy Living programming to improve the state of our individual health, children and community through teamwork.

The 2010-2012 National Program Thrust are below and there are examples on the pages that follow. THANK YOU for embracing programming, executing with excellence and reaching out to the communities we serve.

Our AIM, develop a plan to do or achieve something – healthy and financially literate youth leaders.

Our AIM, Achieve Excellence, Inspire Greatness and Motivate Youth to Lead and Serve!

AIM for Youth to Leadership Development

Grade Groups: 7 through 12

Goal: Complete three JMB leadership modules during program year. These modules may be implemented with Boys and Girls Club of America youth or other youth organizations.

AIM for Financial Literacy

Grade Groups: 3 through 12

Goal: Complete three financial literacy modules during program year. These modules may be implemented with Boys and Girls Club of America or other youth organizations.

Resource: Jack and Jill/Merrill Lynch financial education materials.

AIM for Healthy Living

Grade Groups: All

Goal: At least one activity on healthy living during program year. These modules may be implemented with Boys and Girls Club of America or other youth organizations.

Resource: Jack and Jill of America AIM for Healthy Living Guide (November 2010)

Chapters: All

Goal: 100% chapter participation in the four National Events: AIM to WIN Weight Loss Challenge, Jack and Jill Across America, Jack and Jill Healthy Living Cookbook and 4) National Day of Fitness.

Resource: National AIM for Healthy Living Training Webinar; Chapter Guidelines and Instructions for 2010-2012 National Events (December 2010)

Regions

SCOPE 2011

Chapter Programming Excellence

Central Region

The Central Region again has so much to be proud of. We are honored to be the home of National President Tara Joseph-Labrie. She has clearly outlined her vision and we are all well on our way to Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness, and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve.

We kicked off the programming year with various activities including the area workday clusters where chapters once again committed themselves to develop creative and outstanding programming throughout the region. Community relationships are flourishing as we continue to partner with the Boys and Girls Clubs and support in record numbers awareness for Breast Cancer, Juvenile Diabetes and Heart Disease.

Chapters have dedicated themselves to AIM for Healthy Living by focusing on childhood obesity issues and developing programs to improve the overall health of our families and communities. We AIM our Youth to Leadership Development by implementing mentoring programs and public speaking workshops. We AIM our Youth to Financial Literacy with programs geared toward entrepreneurship and personal investing.

So I thank you Central Region for another year of unselfish and tireless efforts in all you do for our organization and communities.

Kimberly W Savoy
Central Region Program Chair

Civic/Community Service

Denver, CO

The Denver Chapter has focused on many enriching activities this past year. The overarching themes have been community service, the arts and education. Denver Chapter has had a longstanding partnership with The Volunteers of America and our kids spanning three age groups participated in "Rake Up Colorado". In this program, young people from Denver Chapter volunteer and rake up leaves in the yards of senior citizens in the Denver metropolitan area. In preparation



for the Martin Luther King Parade, junior and senior teens helped clean up a portion of the Parade route and subsequently, Denver Chapter had a large contingent from all age groups participating in this event. Denver Chapter was very fortunate to have the opportunity to visit the coveted King Tut exhibit at The Denver Art Museum. Further, we hosted a very engaging and enthusiastic crowd of college bound teens for our longstanding college night activity.

Des Moines, IA

The Des Moines, IA Chapter partnered with Barnes and Noble Booksellers for our 5th annual African American Read-In (<http://www.nete.org/action/aari>). Its purpose was to urge our community to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month and fulfilled our national programming trust of education, cultural and civic/community service. Chapter members held a daylong event which included book readings by a local news anchor, African American fables told by Chapter father and book signing by a local Black author. The Oakridge Choir, comprised of children in the community provided musical entertainment. Our Trail Blazers (Jr. Teens) and Black Leaders of Tomorrow (Sr. Teens) volunteered with local artists to help children make arts and crafts, were books readers, gift wrappers and greeters to the public. Our younger children, Explorers, Path Finders and Range Rovers participated in the day long festivities.



Johnson County, KS

The Johnson County Teens supported our national theme, "Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve," by stressing the importance of accountability, responsibility, and giving back. Their community service activities this year focused on Operation Bread Basket through Harvesters, a community food network. The teens learned that thirty seven percent of people receiving emergency food assistance through the Harvesters' network are children. One of their projects involved completing care packages that would feed more than five hundred children! It was humbling and exciting to watch them work together to assist young people less fortunate than themselves. As a group, our teens volunteered close to one hundred hours in the fall alone. The Johnson County Teens continued their commitment to service in the remainder of the club year by raising money to donate to charity and volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club.



Educational

Metro St. Louis, MO

To "AIM for Greatness" you must know your history! On MLK weekend Metro St. Louis participated in a reenactment of the Dred Scott Decision at St. Louis's Historical Old Courthouse. The courthouse was the scene of many rallies, speeches and several important trials, including the suit by Dred Scott for freedom from slavery and Suffragist Virginia Louisa Minor for the right to vote.

A special exhibit, Dred Scott, Slavery and The Struggle to Be Free, is on display in the Rotunda of the Old Courthouse, that describes several aspects of African-American society and culture, from slavery to free black business owners to the "colored aristocracy" of rich landowners.

Metro Jacks and Jills were each assigned roles in a play that was adapted from the trial transcripts of the Dred Scott case. After the case we discussed this historic decision of freedom.

Metro Jacks and Jills were each assigned roles in a play that was adapted from the trial transcripts of the Dred Scott case. After the case we discussed this historic decision of freedom.

What a fun day while learning local history!



Oklahoma City, OK

The Oklahoma City Chapter has had a busy 2010 program year. In December the chapter held its first Legislative Summit in the Oklahoma House Chamber, in coordination with the Tulsa Chapter of Jack and Jill. The event allowed all of the mothers and children in the chapter to meet with two of our state representatives and speak directly with individuals who influence the issues that impact our communities; and also learn about legislation and how important it is to our youth and our community. Children also had an opportunity to learn about the process through a mock legislative session. The legislative theme continued with our annual Black Heritage Program in celebration of Black History Month. The children presented a skit entitled "Heroes of Freedom and Hope", honoring African Americans in the local and national legislature.



Youth Financial Literacy

Tulsa, OK

Sustainability, Financial Independence, Green Living, all come to mind when visiting a Community Farm. Tulsa Children ages 6-11 witnessed these tenets during their visit to Newsome Community Farm, a black owned and operated venture. Owners Robert and Demalda Newsome engaged and taught our children the value of entrepreneurship and financial literacy in growing and selling your own food.



They exploited that learning with a lesson on social advocacy, describing for the children how current and future legislation may affect their ability to grow their own food or start a garden. Children watched sustainability and green living in action; everything offered on the farm is utilized with excess being sold or reused to nourish the land. Their October experiences will culminate in May with a trip to the community farm market where harvested items are sold and traded to complete the cycle of entrepreneurship, financial independence and green living.

Youth Leadership Development

East St. Louis, IL

East St. Louis is showcasing the importance of education with a couple of programs this year. The first is where they visited the campus of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and participated in tours and a mini college fair. Another activity the Excelsior Teen Group is planning is a teen café style spoken word night in which teens in the community will be invited to showcase their personal writings in a spoken word forum. These activities align with two areas of the National Theme, Achieving Excellence and Inspiring Greatness.



Greater Little Rock AR

The Greater Little Rock Chapter is an official organizational partner with W.D. Hamilton Learning Academy, an alternative school named after the father of current legacy member Carmen Parks. Hamilton Learning Academy is an alternative learning academy for secondary students who are not thriving in a traditional school setting. Greater Little Rock Mothers mentor students who are part of the Ladies and Gentlemen's Club at Hamilton Learning Academy, meeting with them approximately twice a month throughout the academic year. Sessions focus on conflict resolution; goal setting; etiquette; preparing for an interview; career exploration; and cultural history. The students also participate in a day-long tour of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, learning about campus life, academic programs, and life after high school. Session speakers include distinguished members of the Greater Little Rock community as well as Greater Little Rock Mothers. Other program highlights Dressing for Success and the Kwanzaa celebration.



Kansas City, MO

The Kansas City MO Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Incorporated, hosted the 2011 annual Founder's Day dinner at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in the Historic 18th and Vine District. The Kansas City, MO, Kansas City, KS, and Johnson County, KS chapters, joined together to honor our founders, celebrate our children, and impact our youth community.



The evening's theme was, "Successful Youth-We're All on the Same Team." Each chapter honored our founders by highlighting the children's program year. There was an awesome drum solo performed by Philip Cole. The Father's Auxiliary and RBI coaches spoke about the impact of mentoring/coaching in the urban core.

Our keynote speaker, Brent A. Stewart, Sr., President and CEO of United Way of Greater Kansas City, addressed the "village" effect in raising our children. Stewart believes that cultivating opportunities through philanthropy can empower our children to become leaders.

South Suburban Denver, CO

The South Suburban Denver Chapter has been busy celebrating our culture and inspiring our youth to lead. In December children from all age groups learned the true meaning of service by giving back to the community and serving at the local Boys and Girls Club. They also participated in our 2nd Annual Kid's Marketplace, where the focus was on financial literacy education through black entrepreneurship.



In February we honored the past as we held our 2nd Annual J&J Black Heritage Film Festival. This year's phenomenal event focused on the teachings from a cultural classic... The Wiz. All age groups participated; each assigned to highlight the teachings from the major characters of the film.

Our 2-5 year age group showcased the valuable lesson of courage, which is defined as acting in the face of fear... a characteristic our children bravely demonstrate every day as they grow and learn. Our little ones showed no fear in their performance showcasing the true meaning of courage!

E astern

The Eastern Region, led by our visionary leaders, Regional Director Tammy King, Secretary Treasurer Joi Grady, Member at Large Lisa Smoots and our own National Treasurer Terri Parker began the Program Year by enthusiastically rolling out our National Initiative, AIM for Healthy Living at three highly successful Cluster Workdays. Northern Cluster was hosted by Rochester Chapter in Rochester, New York in October. Metropolitan Cluster was hosted by Mid Hudson Valley Chapter in beautiful Westchester, New York. Delaware Valley and Southern Cluster was hosted by New Castle County and Pittsburgh Chapters at the University of Delaware. The range of workshops for Mothers, Associates, Fathers, Teens and Middle School Pre-Teens received high marks from participants. Workshops focused on Leadership Development, Succession Planning, Chapter Financial Development, Programming Excellence, Healthy Membership, Successful Grant Writing, Development of Associates, Understanding Jack and Jill and Getting Healthy Workshops. Teens enjoyed workshops and leading modules during their Cluster Day. Our Middle Schoolers enjoyed our Junior Teen Apprentice program where they created amazing inventions. At the Delaware Valley and Southern Cluster, the teens enjoyed a tour of the University of Delaware.

The Eastern Region continued the momentum with the leadership of RD King by launching our second annual Leadership Summit in partnership with Howard University's School of Social Work led by our Eastern Region Program Chair Kim Adams, Eastern Region Teen Advisor Antoinette Brown, Eastern Region Protocol Chair Karen Chaplin in collaboration with Dr. Tricia Bent Goodley at historic Howard University on January 15th, the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. Connecting Dr. King's legacy of leadership, we opened the Eastern Region Leadership Academy for Teens where they explored their own Leadership styles and learned lessons about Leadership from masterful experts in various fields of study. Parents enjoyed workshops on College admission and raising teens. A highlight for our teens was the campus tours led by Jack and Jill Graduates from across this county who attend Howard University. The Jack and Jill Graduates were coordinated by our National Treasurer and Howard University Alumni Terri Parker.

Teen Conference to be hosted by Arundel Bay Chapter at the beautiful Gaylord Hotel in National Harbor promises to be magnificent with rich workshops, a day cruise, a talent show and Teen Service Project events in the surrounding community.

We'll end our program year by setting sail from Baltimore to Bermuda for our Mother's Regional Conference in July. Anchors Away!

Kimberly Adams
Eastern Region Program Chair

Atlantic City, NJ

Jack and Jill of America Incorporated Atlantic City, NJ Chapter and Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro bring a Health Fair in Whitesboro, NJ.

Over 175 people attended the Family, Food and Fitness Community Health Fair hosted by the Atlantic City, NJ Chapter in partnership with Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro, NJ. There was something for everyone – exercise sessions by Woody’s Fitness Studio,

featuring Zumba; Yoga by Yoga/Cape May; and a karate demonstration by South Coast Shore Kick Karate. Additionally, the Cape May County Health Department conducted an adult nutrition session and Dr. Eric Thomas (J&J Dad) spoke about youth dental health. The health committee also sponsored free raffle drawings. Businesses and organizations donated their time, energy, services and raffle items to this successful event.



Bronx, NY

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s Walk to Cure Diabetes

Bronx New York Chapter

October 3, 2010

The Bronx New York Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., took part in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s Walk to Cure Diabetes. Our goal was to raise \$500 dollars to help fund research for a cure for Type 1

Diabetes and its complications in the name of one of our

“Little Angels,” Savannah Stephanie. Team “Savannah Stephanie”, raised over \$1200 dollars exceeding our original goal. The Bronx New York Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., will continue to “Walk on Sunshine”, as we raise awareness for Type 1 Diabetes and raise funds for the research that will lead to a cure!



Central New Jersey, NJ

Turkey Trot, by Christopher Mereday

On November 7, 2010, I went to the Turkey Trot. It was really fun. It was to raise money for an organization named Elijah's Promise, a soup kitchen that makes meals for people in need.

In addition to raising money for those in need, we also focused on healthy living. You could either walk or run the Turkey Trot. It was 3k long.

It was a beautiful sight. There were many people who decided to participate in this event. The scarlet knight mascot and a turkey mascot were there also.

I ran the 3k with Justin, Cameron Flores, Cameron Brown, and Mrs. Mullins. I accidentally ran the 3k twice because I didn't know where the finish line was. Cameron Brown and Mrs. Mullins also ran the 3k twice. We were always in the front of the group. I would surely run the Turkey Trot again!ran the 3k twice. We were always in the front of the group. I would surely run the Turkey Trot again!



Greater Hartford, CT

The Greater Hartford Chapter participated in a community service project on October 16, 2010 focused on fighting childhood obesity, which directly supports one of the Jack and Jill of America, Inc. 2010-2012 national theme initiatives "AIM for Healthy Living." Childhood obesity is a growing concern for America, because studies have shown that about one third of our children and teens are overweight in the United States. And being overweight makes us all more susceptible to various chronic conditions. Recent data has shown a disproportionate amount of these



related diseases are impacting African-Americans at an alarming rate. The First Step Walk-Run-Bike-A-Thon "Moving with a Purpose: Fighting Childhood Obesity One Step at a Time" allowed our chapter to help raise awareness of childhood obesity and continue our commitment of adding fitness and fun into our programming initiatives.

Greater Union, NJ

Children in Greater Union County's Group 2 participated in activities designed to embrace the healthy living National AIM Theme and that of our First Lady, Michelle Obama. Activity 1, Eating Healthy, consisted of each child creating, preparing and sharing a healthy recipe, with the children and mothers in the group. This activity combined food and fun with a goal of encouraging children to develop a preference for enjoyable healthy foods. In Activity 2, the children participated in a BASF experiment at Liberty Science Center, in NJ, learning the importance of vitamin C in their diets.

From these activities, we learned that good nutrition is the bedrock of lifelong health, and that good nutritional habits begin in childhood. All the mothers in our chapter are taking on the challenge to make healthy choices appealing, by being role models as part of the AIM initiative. Visit our website for Group 2 recipes: <http://www.jackandjillgucc.com>



Mercer County, NJ

The Mercer County Chapter has been leading the way on issues of health long before the National initiative was announced. In September, our entire Chapter was presented with pedometers and encouraged to take 10,000 steps daily. In October, we had an important presentation on breast cancer awareness which was spiced up with an entertaining bra fitting. Last fall, the entire chapter participated in the NJ Komen Race for the Cure. Many Mercer County moms represented us well by completing the entire 5K run, and our Chapter received an award for being the third largest community group.

In February, our moms got together for a lecture on healthy eating and participated in a Zumba® and belly dancing workout (see photo). Our health agenda will culminate with our participation in the Princeton Medical Center's Kid's and Family Marathon in June. This year we have all pledged to live healthier, more active lives.



Metropolitan New York, NY

On October 24, 2010, the Metropolitan Chapter of Jack and Jill participated in the first phase of a phenomenal chapter-wide service project entitled "Go Green." The objective of the project is to revitalize a neglected piece of land in the heart of a community park. The weather was delightfully warm as the children worked on our adopted plot of land. Children from Groups 2-5 dug, weeded, planted, and had a great time. The moms and dads assisted by digging in too. The children learned about the importance of land conservation and working with nature, as



well as scoring a few points towards National's AIM for Healthy Living initiative. We look forward to continuing our efforts with colorful spring planting. This will be an ongoing community service project that is sure to bring our chapter years of joy as we watch our efforts transform the area. Go Green!

Prince William County, VA

Pizza Can Be Healthy Eating After-All...

It all depends on what you put ON your pizza, Jack & Jillers learned, that determines whether your pizza is not only GOOD - but also GOOD FOR YOU!!! The Prince William County, Virginia Chapter elementary school group spent an afternoon behind the scenes of a local pizza eatery learning about yeast – the stuff that makes dough rise, touring the huge refrigerator that keeps the food fresh until ready to eat, and hearing about which ingredients are the healthiest ones to put in and on their pizzas. They learned that low fat, low calories ingredients, like fresh fruits and vegetables are better than oily, fatty meats. And then they made their own pizzas. Almost everyone chose low calorie tomato sauce. Many chose pepperoni, a few chose olives and pineapples, and almost everyone chose the low fat cheese. Heart healthy & good!



Westchester County, NY

“Embracing a Healthy Lifestyle”

The Westchester Chapter is very pleased to “AIM for Healthy Living” in an effort to raise awareness for the importance of healthy lifestyles. Our AIM coordinator, Zenola Harper, rallied our members to get active in the spirit of wellness. In an evening of fun and ZUMBA, our AIM coordinator created a countdown of fun and excitement while placing emphasis on movement and rhythm.

On November 12, 2010, our mothers moved to the beats of Latin sounds through dance fusion exercise at Central Park Dance Studio located in Scarsdale, NY. They enjoyed great laughter, and were rewarded for their efforts with tapas and light beverages with the motto of “Come on—move that body!”

We are excited to join our sister chapters in the National campaign to promote better eating habits and to increase physical activity.



Civic/Community Service

Bergen-Passaic, NJ

The Bergen-Passaic Chapter used the spirit of Thanksgiving to feed the homeless in our community. As a chapter, we made 250 bag lunches and donated them to two shelters in Bergen and Passaic County, New Jersey. Each children’s group played an unique role in preparing the lunches. Our little Acorns decorated inspirational notes which were placed inside each bag. Our Fledglings and Preteens cooperatively made the sandwiches. They wisely created an assembly line to accomplish their task. Our Jr. Teens rolled the bags and added a Jack and Jill sticker to each bag. Our Senior Teen group packed each bag with a small fruit, a drink box, mustard/mayo packets, and a small piece of candy. The older children’s groups participated in the delivery. The lunches were gratefully accepted by the shelters and the children expressed how wonderful it felt to play a role in making their community a better place.



Bucks County, PA

The Bucks County Chapter's community service partnership continues to be with Christ's Home for Children (CHFC). CHFC provides short term residential services to children who are infants to 19 years old and have experienced neglect, abuse, abandonment. Throughout the program year, the chapter provides direct support to CHFC with significant and influential activities. In October, moms, dads, children and supporters came out for a fun-filled day to walk, jog or run for



our health during our chapter sponsored Walk-A-Thon, which raised needed funds for the children of CHFC. In November, each grade group contributed specific personal hygiene items and clothing to CHFC. Other activities included having a food drive, providing reading books, snacks and toys to children in need during our annual chapter holiday event. Our children made gift bags for ill and disadvantaged children on MLK Day, which included partnering with a local church and the Bucks County community.

Greater Albany, NY

Greetings from the Greater Albany, NY Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc.! We have been working hard to realize our national theme of "Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve" at a local level. All Age Groups have been serving the Greater Albany Community through our many service projects. Our Teen Group has had an ongoing relationship of service to a local Underground Railroad site. The teens have assisted in renovation projects and fundraising for the Harriet and Stephan Myers home. All children in our chapter assisted in the assembly of over 200 soups in a bag for local food pantries. Currently, Age Group I is collecting change to donate for school libraries, proving that even our youngest can make a difference. Our children have served as an inspiration to the Chapter, with mothers committing many hours of service to the community as well.

Greater Essex, NJ

On October 29, 2010, the Greater Essex County Chapter of NJ held its biannual Harvest Ball. The Harvest Ball yielded a profit of approximately \$30,000, of which a percentage will support The Valerie Fund, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing comprehensive healthcare to children with cancer and blood disorders. In addition to supporting The Valerie Fund, the following community leaders were honored in recognition of their



commitment to service and leadership: Bonnie Carter, Chair of the CASA Board (Court Appointed Special Advocate), Angela Dowd-Burton, former editor of Essence Magazine and Marc Morial, President and CEO of the National Urban League and Greater Essex County's Father's Auxiliary Chair. In keeping with the theme, "Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve" Marc Morial also spoke during our teen retreat about leadership and service in our communities.

New Castle County, DE

Working Towards a Community Free of Hunger

The children in the New Castle County Chapter (NCCC) are no strangers to rolling up their sleeves to do volunteer projects that benefit those less fortunate than themselves.

This year to celebrate the Martin Luther King Day of Service, NCCC "Jack and Jillers" donated canned and other non-



perishables to the Food Bank of Delaware in Newark. In addition to collecting food items, the children joined their parents at the Food Bank to volunteer their time. In assembly line fashion, children and adults alike worked side by side as they sorted, counted and boxed up food to be distributed to the hungry throughout the Diamond State.

The 2011 MLK Day of Service was a great success. The NCCC of Jack and Jill responded to Dr. King's commitment to service by taking action to help Delawareans who are in need.

Newton, MA

The Newton Chapter participated in a variety of service projects to support our community. To celebrate Jack and Jill Day our children participated in the Jimmy Fund Walk to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and raised \$500.00. In October, our Lower Elementary children visited the Benjamin Health Care Center to sing songs and play games with seniors. In November the teens assisted the Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church with their Thanksgiving food pantry. The children distributed canned goods,



produce and turkeys to 240 people in need. The teens personally interacted with African Americans in their community in need of supplemental food services due to the ailing economy. There is no better way for our children to understand their blessings than to help people in need! The Chapter looks forward to serving dinner to homeless women at the Pine Street Inn in April and our community health fair in May.

North Jersey, NJ

The North Jersey Chapter of Jack and Jill partnered with the members of The Essex County Chapter of the Links, along with several other organizations, to participate in the Walk for Samaritan's Feet. This event provided nearly 200 women, men, and children in Africa with brand new sneakers that will enable them to fight the deadly scourge of foot borne diseases that come from having no shoes to wear.



In addition to donating shoes, mothers also made financial donations to help defray the cost of shipping the much needed shoes. Along with North Jersey Jack and Jill, members of Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Alpha Phi Alpha, Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Alpha Psi, and the Bibliophiles Book Club were in attendance making the walk one of the best attended (over 200 walkers) and most successful walks ever for Samaritan's Feet in New Jersey!

Queens, NY

In observance of the life and legacy of the late great Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the QUEENS Chapter engaged in a service project to benefit our deployed soldiers. Spearheaded by our Cosmopolitan Senior Teens, twenty-one (21) care packages were assembled and donated full of items our troops really need i.e. baby wipes, deodorant, soap, eye drops, toothpaste, and cotton swabs.



The Chapter is particularly proud of this community service initiated by our Teens because on January 26th, a full 11 days after our event, First Lady Michelle Obama and legendary journalists Tom Brokaw and Bob Woodward were featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show encouraging everyday Americans to lend a helping hand to our military and their families.

We are proud to say we answered the call and will continue to stand in service to our communities and our service men and women.

Stamford-Norwalk, CT

On November 13, 2010, our chapter celebrated a day of community service by participating in projects that gave children and parents the opportunity to give back to the community in meaningful ways.

First, the older children and parents continued their participation with the Partnership Community Project with the Union Baptist Church and 100 Black Men of Stamford to combat hunger in Fairfield County. The project took place over two days and culminated with 400 bags of groceries being donated to the Food Bank and hot meals being served to two local pantries. The second event involved our younger children giving back to the Courtland Gardens Nursing Home. Families created over 120 greeting cards during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. The third event involved our youngest children assembling 147 snack packs for children. The bags were donated to the Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County.



Suffolk County, NY

In keeping with our strong commitment to community service Suffolk County Chapter sponsored a hugely successful fundraiser “Las Vegas on Long Island,” to benefit the Joseph Toles Foundation, a local charity whose focus is community service, leadership and organizational excellence. Held at a venue that overlooked the Long Island Sound, our event was tastefully decorated with softly-lit dice candles, colorful confetti and dice-shaped balloons to give our guests the feeling of being in a real casino.

This event allowed us to raise nearly \$12,000, and make generous donations to the J&J

Foundation, provide scholarships to graduating seniors in our community, and give generously to the JTF’s Camp Resilience, a camp established to provide local foster children the opportunity to have a camping experience where they are safe, respected and loved. The steadfast commitment of our Fundraising Chairperson, Dawn Lott, and our Chapter Moms made this event a huge success!



Syracuse, NY

Teen members of the Syracuse Chapter surprised the children of Parkside this holiday season with books! Syracuse chapter members sold candy throughout the fall semester and used the proceeds to purchase baskets full of books for Parkside. The children were overwhelmed as six members of Jack and Jill showed up at their school with boxes of wrapped presents. “We wrapped each book individually so every child would have an opportunity to unwrap a gift during the holidays,” said Janna Perry, Chapter Secretary. “We were looking forward to this activity as our community service project for this year.”



The teens gathered for circle time with the group reading and sharing with the children. “I think it is a wonderful project and I am not only thankful for the generous donation of books, but also for the smiles it brings to the children’s faces.” said Sue Prince, Director of Parkside Children’s Center.

The National Harbor Chapter

The National Harbor Chapter is “Stepping Up to Serve Our Community” with the chapter’s signature Wish Jar campaign. In its 2nd year, the campaign empowers our children to give from their hearts by collecting money and granting wishes for needy children in our community. This year’s campaign kick-off focused on financial literacy, with each age group participating in a financial workshop.



The Pearls and Panthers learned the importance of investing through a stock market presentation. The Topaz and Tigers used real life scenarios to balance their budgets. The Jade and Jaguars learned the difference between spending, saving and investing from a local Councilwoman and Vice President of M&T Bank. The Emeralds and Eagles explored concepts of saving, spending and sharing by learning the importance of mapping a money plan. The Diamonds and Dinosaurs learned about different currency denominations through hands-on interaction and used play money to purchase lunch and toys.

Washington, DC

The D.C. Chapter fulfilled its commitment to give 60 hand-painted piggy banks to D.C. Casa, an organization that advocates for local foster children. Between October and November, mothers and children from every age group went to Color Me Mine to purchase and paint the piggy banks, which are placed in TD Banks throughout the city, in order for customers to make donations for foster children. (In the photo, Senior Teens and children from Group 2 share a Friday evening painting piggy banks.)



Chapter President, Anita Josey-Herring, and Community Service Chairperson, Rhonda Davis Smith, have made community service a primary focus for the Washington, D.C. Chapter. At Jack and Jill Family Day in September, the Chapter collected more than 500 pairs of gently used shoes to support the Walk In My Shoes Global Project. The mission of the Project is to provide shoes to persons living in developing countries.

Cultural

Boston, MA

Culture and Fitness in Boston

The Boston Chapter learned that Jackie Robinson was not the first African-American to play major league baseball. He was the first African American to come back to the major leagues. During our Black History Month program, we were treated to an interactive storytelling, singing and poetry re-enactment of the life and times of the players of the Negro Leagues. Playing baseball is not the only way to stay fit. In fact, earlier this year, the nursery group learned basic techniques in Pilates with one of our moms. The primary group learned to swim while the intermediate group prepared and plated a healthy meal. Our early teens went skiing and our teen group combined culture and exercise by participating in a walking tour of Rhode Island's Black Heritage. The entire chapter will end the year celebrating Black Family Day by walking for hunger.



Southern Maryland, MD

The Southern Maryland chapter of Jack and Jill of America held its signature Black History Month event, "Dream in Color", February 27, 2010 in Indian Head, Maryland. The free presentation of music and dance by Goombay took the audience, who came from across Southern Maryland, on an interactive musical journey to the Caribbean with percussion rhythms and upbeat songs. The focus was on the arts, with guest presenters from various fields including musicians, dancers and local artists. The youth were encouraged to participate and young artists and dancers showcased their talents. Youth organizations provided arts and crafts projects and face painting especially for the younger children. Southern Maryland Jack and Jill partnered with the Southern Maryland Chain Chapter of Links and Southern and the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative. Senator Barbara Mikulski provided a citation recognizing the Southern Maryland chapter's focus on the contributions of African Americans.



Alexandria-Mount Vernon, VA

“Stranger-Danger”—Life Lessons in Personal and Environmental Safety for the Alexandria-Mount Vernon Chapter

“Stranger-Danger” provided hands-on training for the Pearls Group (ages 2-5) and the Emeralds Group (ages 6-8) of the Alexandria-Mount Vernon Chapter. The children began with a fire safety presentation by a professional firefighter in full gear, explored a fire truck and met with an emergency medical services technician as they toured an ambulance.



Afterwards, the children trained with HapKiDo experts who demonstrated breaking wooden boards and cement blocks. The children participated in a martial arts session and had an opportunity to learn and practice self-defense kicks and punches. “Stranger-Danger” was an energetic and experiential way to teach awareness of and responses to the perils of the world that surrounds them.

Baltimore County, MD

Community outreach and partnerships drive public service in the Baltimore County Chapter. The Chapter is a strong consistent partner to the Tinina Q. Cade Foundation and its efforts to build families. The Chapter supports the Foundation’s outreach and fundraising efforts throughout the Baltimore /Washington metropolitan areas. Mothers volunteered at a Baltimore County outreach event



promoting awareness about infertility, foster care, adoption and medical fertility treatment. Mothers also demonstrated strong support of the TQCF Race for the Family. Additionally, the 2-5 year old group participated in the Race for the Family/ Savannah’s Playground.

A Step Closer Foundation has received ongoing tremendous support from the Baltimore County chapter of Jack & Jill of America, in furtherance of its mission to take children a step closer to their destiny. Baltimore County chapter members have supported She Matters, a girl’s empowerment conference, through sponsorships, presenting workshops, volunteering at various events and making financial contributions.

Prince George's County, MD

Words could not express how much the families of the Prince George's County Chapter appreciated the opportunity to meet Dr. Ben Carson during one of his regularly scheduled work days. The inspiration of the movie and book, "Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story", was within arms length, available and willing to answer questions and autograph family copies of his book. Personal attention was given to our group of



over 120 mothers and children. It was a truly inspirational and memorable experience for all. As if meeting with him wasn't enough, the chapter was provided a very special hospital and campus tour of the world renowned John Hopkins University Hospital, the opportunity to interact and deliver gifts to patients and finally close out the day with a delightful lunch at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland. Kudos, to our fabulous Education Committee for coordinating such a wonderful event.

Legislative

Burke-Fairfax, VA

The Northern Virginia chapters hosted their first state summit at the Capitol in Richmond, Virginia January 31, 2011. A combined total of 55 adults, teens, and children representing Alexandria-Mount Vernon, Burke-Fairfax, and Manassas-Woodbridge attended the summit, most traveling by chartered bus. This was in response to a directive from the Executive Board in 2009 which charged all regions to host individual state summits so that our youth would be actively engaged in relevant legislation that directly impact them and their communities. This year the eastern regional legislative initiative focus is on childhood obesity. Our day included an inspirational message from Delegate Charniele Herring of the 46th District, Alexandria who told the story of how she rose from homelessness to delegate. Other activities included meeting with local delegates, being seated in the House Chamber where we received a formal introduction on the floor, and a tour of the Capitol.



Del. Herring with some of the Burke-Fairfax children

Del. Herring with Burke Fairfax Sr. Teens

No. VA chapters tour Capitol in Richmond, VA

Mid-Hudson Valley, NY

On April 25, 2010, the Mid-Hudson Valley Chapter sponsored a Youth Empowerment Symposium entitled, "Navigating the Legal System" where the teens and mothers from the chapter facilitated workshops for approximately 25 Black youth at Nubian Directions in Poughkeepsie, NY. The young adults at Nubian Directions are focusing on reentering the mainstream of life. The workshops were in support of the national initiative, "Dismantling the Cradle to Prison Pipeline". The event's guest speaker was the Honorable Judge Yanthis. New York State Trooper Williams spoke and answered questions about Racial Profiling and Rules of Engagement, while chapter member, Alexis Celestin, Esq. provided information on Criminal Justice Careers. The mothers presented the topic of Social Networking and You, Youth Domestic Violence, Alcohol Drug and Gun Laws, and the teen group gave a presentation on the dangers of driving while texting.

Nassau County, NY

On January 8, 2011, the Nassau County Chapter held its 3rd Annual Teen Leadership Summit – "Motivating Youth to Lead & Succeed" in partnership with SUNY Old Westbury College. The Summit aided 9th - 12th grade students in developing the navigation skills for high school and the transition into college or other endeavors. Over 100 students registered,



representing 15 Long Island public and private high schools. FREE Breakfast, lunch, bus transportation and materials were provided. The program included workshops, career exploration sessions, a "Dress for Success" fashion show and a "College Life – The Real Deal" panel featuring college students. The career exploration sessions focused on: Sports, Law & Government, Media, Finance & Retail. County Legislators Kevan Abrahams and Robert Troiano addressed the students. Financial Resources for College, Choosing a College and other workshops were included for parents. Nassau County is proud to continue our tradition of service to the community's children.

Recreational

Reston, VA

Key focal areas of the Reston Chapter's programming year are the AIM Healthy Living Program and community service. All Age Groups participate in increased recreational activities including ski trips, yoga, hiking, team-building at a SportsPlex, and swimming to reinforce healthy lifestyles. The Reston Chapter participated in Reston Interfaith's Adopt-a-Family Gift Drive and will conduct a fundraiser for a Haitian school. All children perform community service including preparing/serving meals to the homeless on numerous occasions; participating in the Alzheimer Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's; donating to the Winter Coat Closet; and volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House and an animal shelter.



The Chapter held its Cotillion-Beautillion Ball in November 2010 – the culmination of an 8-month program focused on leadership and character development for its 27 participants. The Ball proceeds fund merit-based scholarships for local high school graduates, and provide donations to the Jack & Jill of America Foundation and community organizations.

Baltimore, MD

On the afternoon of Saturday, December 4, 2010 the Baltimore Chapter of Jack and Jill, Incorporated held a chapter-wide holiday celebration in the festively decorated lodge of the Oregon Ridge Park.



The true meaning of the holiday season was front and center. Each family attending was requested to bring a Lego building set or book to be given to Habitat for Humanity families in their newly-built homes. The teen group also collected outerwear as part of their winter coat drive.

The fun-filled event had many activities to appeal to attendees of all ages. Kwanzaa educational activities and karaoke Christmas carols rounded out the cultural events that were topped by an all-chapter sing-a-long of the 12 Days of Christmas with dueling age groups.

Recreational events included tables to customize holiday cookies and create ornaments. The highlight of the event was a guest appearance from Santa with plenty of photo opportunities!

Youth Leadership Development

Arundel Bay Area, MD

The Arundel Bay Area Chapter spent a day learning about the Supreme Court of the United States. Chapter members toured the Supreme Court and witnessed the Court in session. The highlight of the day was a visit with Supreme Court Justice Sonya Sotomayor!

Justice Sotomayor was extremely gracious in talking about her family, growing up in the South Bronx, her educational path, her impressions after she was nominated by President Obama and her swearing in ceremony. Our children asked her probing questions and Justice Sotomayor's answers wove in words of wisdom about charting your path, always doing your best, having a passion for reading and embracing the fact that you can achieve anything with hard work and dedication. Justice Sotomayor inspired not only the children, but all of the adults who attended as well. It was a once in a lifetime experience, which will be fondly remembered by all!



Chester County, PA

For the 9th consecutive year, the Chester County, PA Chapter sponsored, the Annual Walter E. Brandon Sickle Cell Walk-A-Thon on Saturday September 25, 2010. Over 60 Chester County Chapter representatives participated. We also honored Carol Roberts Day by having a Chapter wide community service event called Families Serving Families. On October 2, 2010 we partnered with the Community Youth and Women's Alliance (Gateway Shelter) in Coatesville, PA and donated items to the shelter. We also lead a discussion on the benefits of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and then had a healthy lunch while our kids and the kids of the shelter played together. The goal was evoke the spirit that we are all family. We followed up with our CYWA family on February 12, 2011 and had a Valentine themed program. In addition to donating clothes, our children played Violin and made cards for the families of CYWA.



Columbia, MD

The Columbia, MD Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Inc. continued its annual "Gift of Giving".

The 2-5 Age Group created works of art for the children survivors of the Haitian earthquake.

The Jr. Teens sponsored a clothing drive titled "Just Like Me". Bags of new or gently used clothing donations were presented to Cradle Rock School. The school will continue to receive donations throughout the school year.



For the fourth year, members of the Community Service Committee and Senior Teen group sponsored "Corduroy's Closet". Our event is a free wonderland holiday shopping experience at Swansfield Elementary School for children ages pre-school to grade 6. It gives parents and caregivers with limited income and opportunity to fulfill their children's Christmas dreams.

Corduroy's Closet was inspired by the children's book, *Corduroy*, written by Don Freeman. Corduroy is used, worn and missing a button but perfect for Lisa.

Morris County, NJ

"Duck for President" by Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin was the book selection for this combined group activity. This tale of a duck disenchanting with farm life, decides to run for office to take over the farm, the Governorship and finally the Presidency!

Staging their own play and acting out the story line, the groups gained knowledge about leadership and



the democratic process. Ballots were created, elections held, and votes were cast and tallied. The concept of disenfranchisement was explored by denying the shortest voters rights to cast their ballots. Learning about perspective and objectivity occurred when recounts were required.

Portraying a campaign manager, staff; news correspondents and the general public, they staged meet and greets kissing babies and campaigning. Over 2 million people were polled to vote for Duck!

The results were reported on Fox and CNN. Exhausted yet exhilarated the group's demonstrated pride in the process.

Northern Virginia, VA

We started the year off with a Mother's Retreat themed, "Getting Back to the Basics". That theme has lent itself well to the engaging and empowering array of programming activities that the Chapter provides for all of its age groups: Tiny Tots, Triple Js, Intermediates, Junior Teens and Senior Teens. One such activity was the Junior Teen visit to the Washington, DC Trapeze School at the Washington Navy Yard. Trapeze flying lessons represented a true microcosm of life: to accomplish anything worth achieving, one must overcome fear. While flying through the air in increasingly more complicated routines, the Junior Teens learned that true leadership develops when one learns to adapt that tenacious spirit into other areas of their lives. Like many Jack and Jill experiences, this activity proved to be very impactful for the Junior Teens.



Pittsburgh, PA

Omni William Penn was the site of the celebration for proud parents and families along with the Steeler fans cheering on their hometown team during the AFC Championship game.

Our Chapter honored 11 young men and women during their Presentation Ball, "Touch the Sky". The presentees spent numerous hours of rehearsal in preparation for their debut at the ball. The evening was filled with cocktails, mingling and the sound of classical music.

The ballroom was the main attraction for all to see. The guests were honored to see the presentees and to hear their astonishing accomplishments. The proceeds of the Presentation Ball were donated to The Neighborhood Academy, an independent school located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Potomac Valley, MD

Monday January 17th, 2011 marked the 25th anniversary of the first observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. His leadership left an immeasurable footprint, and with our national programming thrust in mind -- Youth Leadership Development – all age groups from the Potomac Valley Chapter led by example in the Montgomery County Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr. Volunteer Day which attracted over 3,000 volunteers.



While our Chapter historically encouraged our members to participate in this event, this year we provided a venue for children and adults to create Valentine's Day cards for our troops. In addition, our very own Byron A. Johns II was honored with the Dr. Martin Luther King Youth Award, which recognized the outstanding efforts of a high school student who helped advance the goals and dreams of King in an academic setting or in the community.

Creative Combination Programming

Brooklyn, NY

Father's Appreciation Day picnic kicked off the program year. A combined Jack & Jill Day was spent bowling and honoring Carole Robertson. Jr. teens lit candles and read the "Ballad of Birmingham."

ALM activities included our fifth annual chapter wide walk "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" with mom,

dads and children to raise awareness and funds for cancer. Our teens played in the Metropolitan's Basketball Charity Challenge raising funds for a worthy organization. Chapter families donated holiday presents to over 160 children of Mercy-First foster care agency and our youth leaders volunteered at a Family Residence facility. Our chapter had the highest number of attendees at the 2010 Metropolitan Cluster. Chapter Mom Melissa James, Managing Director for Morgan Stanley led a financial literacy workshop on "Investing your money" for our youth. The Brooklyn Chapter will be honored with a Black History Month award from Borough President Marty Markowitz.



Burke-Fairfax, VA

On November 7, 2010, the Early and Older Primaries and Intermediate Group of the Burke-Fairfax, VA Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., participated in the 2010 Fannie Mae Help the Homeless Program mini-walk to support local Shelter Houses.



Our children, ages 2 - 12, listened to a presentation by the local Shelter House organization on what homelessness is, how it has affected over 200 households and 350 children in our area. Afterward, the children participated in mini roundtable discussions on why families might be homeless and how to help them.

The kids, with assistance from some teen chapter members, then walked for a half an hour to raise funds for this program. A lot of fun was had by all and this event raised awareness about homelessness in our communities. Junior and Senior Teens participated in the National Walk for the Homeless on November 20, 2010.

Montgomery County, MD

The Montgomery County Maryland Chapter has sought every opportunity to AIM high this year. In September, at our Jack and Jill Day Picnic, we honored Carole Robertson. Noted author, scholar and historian Dr. Elizabeth Clark-Lewis talked about how young Miss Robertson was at the forefront of organizing teens as activists in the Civil Rights movement. Author Paula Young-Shelton, the daughter of civil rights leader and former U.N. ambassador Andrew Young, was there to read from her book, "Child of the Civil Rights Movement." In December, we joined forces with the Montgomery County Human Rights Commission and Harper Collins Publishing Company to hold a workshop on human trafficking for teenagers. As of press time, we were preparing to hold our 2nd Annual Community Spelling Bee, part of the chapter's broader efforts to promote literacy in the community and provide children with opportunities to develop self-confidence, communication and public speaking skills.



New Haven, CT

The New Haven Chapter: President, Tanya Hughes; Program Director, Angela Robinson - our program features guest speakers/ health forums at chapter meetings embracing AIM for Healthy living; collaborations with organizations such as: the Yale AA Affinity Group and the Boys & Girls Club. We are proud of our: Dad's Auxiliary Group; Associates group; J&J Day/ Carol Roberson program; Holiday Excursion to Alvin Ailey; Financial Literacy Workshops for Teens and Pre-teens which was extended to the community and stellar teen programming including our annual collaboration with the NAACP's Great debate with Howard and Yale Universities.

Our service initiatives distributed over 1600 baskets/turkeys in conjunction with the Christian Community Outreach program. Our teens conducted a chapter Mini-conference incorporating all required Teen Modules and included professional guest presenters. We are busy planning our Legislative J&J Day at the Capital where we will introduce a bill on bullying, authored by each age group.



Philadelphia, PA

The start of this program year has proven to be one of Philadelphia's best yet! We celebrated Jack and Jill Day and Carole Robertson Day by participating in the 13th annual Sickle Cell Disease 5K walkathon. Our community service activities included beautifying Philadelphia communities, working the WHYY public radio telethon, sending cards to the elderly, feeding the homeless, refurbishing blue jeans for kids in need, and preparing meals for the Ronald McDonald House.



We AIM for Healthy Living with a screening of the poignant and powerful documentary, Why Us? Left Behind and Dying, chronicling the spread of HIV/AIDS in the African American community. We hosted our 5th annual joint ski trip with the Montgomery County, PA Chapter. Financial literacy, leadership development, legislative, and cultural activities abound throughout our 2010-2011 program calendar, as we strive toward Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness, Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve!

Apprentice Program

Eastern Region

The 7th and 8th grade groups of the Eastern region are officially Leaders-In-Training! During the 61st Annual Eastern Region Teen Leadership Conference the Apprentice Program, modeled after the Mid-Western region Tween Apprentice Program, was introduced for the 7th and 8th grade attendees. The theme of the Apprentice Program was "Taking Your Leadership Skills to the Boardroom...Jack and Jill Style". As a part of the activity the junior teens visited the White House in Washington, DC. This FUN and educational activity is designed to engage the younger teens and tweens to become tomorrow's leaders today.



Far West Region

Far West Theme: "Empowering Mothers and Children through Leadership and Service."

Through perseverance, creativity, and the true spirit of playfulness the Far West Region provides a plethora of fantastic programming for children and mothers. The states that make up this region are Alaska, Arizona, California, Nevada, and Washington. The sheer distance between the chapters makes our ability to work collaboratively in our programming efforts all the more exciting. The following chapter's programming descriptions will illustrate the regions commitment to Health, Education, Culture, Legislation, Financial Literacy, Leadership, and Community Engagement. This past year we have celebrated our graduating seniors as they approach their final teen conference as a teen. We have welcomed and admired the flare of our associates who continue their commitment to Jack and Jill through their support of the various chapter programs. The Far West Region fathers continue to provide all things necessary for our mothers and children to do the work of Jack and Jill; and of course our hearts are overflowing with joy and pride as we watch our children grow and mature through their Jack and Jill interactions.

Regional Highlights: Area Workdays: Northern Cluster - September 25th Seattle, WA host , Central Cluster-October 30th Greater Vallejo host , and Southern Cluster- November 13th South Los Angeles host. The teens participated in community service projects during both Central and Southern AWDs. Also, West Coast Grand is scheduled for March 5th, 2011 in Los Angeles at the California African American Museum. This event is a day of service, leadership training and fun.

The Mother's Regional Conference is being hosted by the Tri-Valley chapter, on July 20-24, 2011. Teen Leadership Conference is scheduled for June 28-July 3, 2011 at UC Berkeley hosted by the Oakland Chapter. FWR 2010 Outstanding Chapter Programming Awards announced at the National Convention: Community Service - Anchorage, AK; Financial Literacy - Seattle, WA; Health - San Fernando Valley, CA; Leadership Development - Tucson, AZ; Legislative - Pasadena, CA

Superior Chapter Handbooks for 2009-2010 program year were awarded to the following chapters: Contra Costa, CA; Long Beach, CA; San Fernando Valley, CA. The 2010-2011 Far West Region Leadership team: National Editor, Brenda Lacy-Davis; Regional Director, Tracie Thompson; Regional Secretary/Treasurer, Tahnda Bailey; Member-At-Large, Janet Miller Evans.

Join me in celebrating the families of the Fabulous Far West region and their many accomplishments over the past year. "Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable." Kenyan (Bondei) proverb.

Vara Allen-Jones
Far West Region Program Chair

Inglewood, CA

Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated Inglewood Chapter aimed higher through healthy living from the youngest cohorts to the mothers. Riding horses and trains kept Groups I and II active and healthy. Children also stayed active by swinging and climbing their way through an indoor play structure. Groups III and IV aimed for better health by reaching their way to the top through rock climbing. Double Dutch jump roping also got Group IV's heart's pumping, blood circulating and built up their endurance during their October



Game Day activity. Mothers also aimed to bring healthy lifestyle choices home by insuring meetings and group activities included the five food groups and plenty of water at every gathering. Teens aimed for leadership through community service. Our 'Bourne Leaders' assembled 7 item toiletry care packages, which blessed over 150 families at the Inglewood Midnight Mission this holiday season.

Las Vegas, NV

The Las Vegas Chapter participated in "Let's Get Fit" on April 17, 2010. It was a health fair directed at teaching youth (ages 4-13) about the benefit of healthy eating and exercise. We had a nutrition booth where the children played games and received information. We had several fitness stations including an obstacle course, line dancing, kick boxing, and yoga. This event was done in conjunction with our 2nd Annual Walk-A-Thon that was hosted by the members of the Chapter, but participation was open to everyone in the community. We held the event in conjunction with the Walk-A-Thon so that both adults and children would be able to focus on health. The event was a fundraiser for Southern Nevada Children First an organization dedicated to helping homeless, pregnant and parenting youth. During the Walk-A-Thon participants were given healthy snacks, smoothies, and water.

Phoenix, AZ

On October 10, 2010, the Phoenix Chapter Teen Group met at 6:00 a.m. on a sparkling morning at Wesley Bolin Plaza in Phoenix, Arizona to participate in the 18th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Our Teens were among more than 30,000 walkers, runners and volunteers who filled downtown Phoenix. The event raised the awareness for the fight against breast cancer while not only honoring those who lost their battle with the disease but also celebrating the survivors. Both Mothers and Teens volunteered by handing out bottled water to race participants as they crossed the finish line.



As volunteers they played a vital role in the Race. They sported their T-shirts which displayed "Volunteer" as they cheered on the racers. The experience was filled with fun, laughter and tears. Their passion and commitment made the event a success and they look forward to joining the Race next year!

San Jose, CA

On March 12th, the San Jose Chapter will host a children's cluster for the San Jose, Tri-Valley and Contra Costa chapters at Santa Clara University. The theme of the cluster will be Aiming for a Healthy Lifestyle. The agenda incorporates cooking demos to show how to eat healthy, an opportunity to complete financial modules and fitness tips. We are teaming with the Bay Area Women's Sport Initiative (BAWSI), FamZoo (an online virtual family bank), and Bon Appetite to collaboratively teach our children how to encourage a healthy lifestyle for the anticipated 80-100 children.



We are also integrating activities for Group 5 and moms. Group 5 will be able to complete leadership modules, participate in a career forum and take a Zumba class while moms will be offered pedicures, manicures, facials and massages. We are looking forward to a wonderful experience for all!

Tri-Valley, CA

In support of the National AIMS of Jack and Jill and focusing on healthy living, Tri-Valley's Group IV planned, shopped for, set up and prepared a healthy brunch for the senior citizens at the Sojourner Truth Senior Center in Oakland, CA. The Jacks and Jills made a great effort to make the event a fun and delicious experience. There were smiles all around as the seniors dined on salad, fruit, lean breakfast meats and pancakes with sugar free syrup served cheerfully by our middle schoolers. This activity provided real hands-on experience for the kids to see how serving one's community is a reward in itself. In preparation for the activity, the Jack and Jills had to shop for their menu item, paying close attention to the serving size, nutritional value and cost. This allowed them to meet a financial literacy target in addition to health.



Civic/Community Service

Anchorage, AK

The families of the Anchorage Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc are dedicated in providing support to our community. On September 18, 2010 all groups volunteered for the Municipality of Anchorage to provide much needed help in cleaning up the Russian Jack Springs Golf Course. Not only did we give back to our community we also had the wonderful opportunity to learn about the exciting world of golf from the First Tee Program.



Contra Costa County, CA

The Contra Costa County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America Inc. continues our philanthropic efforts by working on two grant projects this year. Our "Recipes for Life" project is an inspirational, cultural and practical guidebook for families that will contain healthy traditional recipes. The recipes will be sprinkled with stories and words of wisdom from our fabulous Associate group and showcased at events for at risk youth and families in our community. Our chapter is also spear heading a Youth Leadership Academy that will benefit foster



care high school junior and seniors in our County. Our teen group continues to strive in our community with events like serving at a local community kitchen and dining hall (see picture) during Thanksgiving break, including donating clothing and helping clean the facility.

Greater Vallejo, CA

A Year of Service

The Greater Vallejo Chapter set a priority to increase the chapter's visibility and leadership through community service during this program year. The Chapter kicked off the outreach while hosting the 2010 Northern California Area Work Day. Through the help of our sister chapters, we collected 3000+ diapers for Children's Network of Solano County. The teens followed by donating their time and service to the Vallejo Christian Help Center in preparing for Thanksgiving dinner.



Over 100 coats were collected during our Annual One Warm Coat Drive. Group V teens each adopted a senior to spend time with over the holidays and provide gifts. Group IV volunteered their services for Foster A Dream - Holiday Winter Wonderland that provides gifts and activities for foster care children and their families. We are pleased to report that every child learned it costs nothing to give, and the rewards are priceless.

Long Beach, CA

On Sunday, October 10, 2010, Costa Mesa hosted its inaugural American Cancer Society "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" 5K walk. Our chapter formed its own team, named in honor of JJ Long Beach member Erika Downs. In less than one month, we raised over \$5000! Nearly the entire Jack & Jill Long Beach family (Moms, dads &



children) turned out on the beautiful fall day, to walk in support of finding a cure. Congratulations and gratitude to all who participated and contributed to this worthwhile cause!

Pomona Area, CA

Pomona Area Gives Back To The Community

The Pomona Area chapter children and parents participated in the Pomona Inner City Ministry Homeless dinner at the Pomona First Baptist Church. This monthly ministry provides services to the homeless and economically disadvantaged in the city of Pomona and surrounding area.



The ministry starts with an opening prayer for the volunteers. The next part of the event is spent organizing the clothing and hygiene kits for the 'store'. After organizing the items, the members of Jack and Jill assisted with giving away these articles to the homeless and disadvantaged families that came through the church doors. We were able to serve men, women and children of all ages and nationalities.

The final portion of the day was spent assisting with the serving of a 'Thanksgiving' meal to the homeless families who stayed. It was a gratifying day for our Jack and Jill families.

Sacramento, CA

The Sacramento Chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc. was pleased to participate in the Sacramento's "MLK 365 March" from Oak Park to the Sacramento Convention Center. Jack and Jill Families and kids of all age groups joined in at Sacramento City College and marched three miles of the six-mile route along with over 10,000 participants.

After the March, the families gathered for hot chocolate, coffee and pastries and a program put on by the children. Group I and II children described what Martin Luther King Day means to them with a "single" word". Group III children each recited a sentence from one of MLK's speeches. Group IV emceed the entire program and Group V in their own words described what their "Dream" is today. We closed out the program by listening and reflecting on the words of Martin Luther King Jr.'s. in his historic "I Have a Dream": Speech.



San Diego, CA

The San Diego Chapter participated in the local Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. Our children carried signs combining words from our national theme and MLK's famous speech, winning the Sweepstakes Trophy, the highest honor given. The 2-7 group will invite their friends and parents to a jazzercise class, inspiring and motivating them to get fit. We will host the Children's Cluster on March 12, 2011, themed Back In The Day. The teen group had an overnight retreat and workshops

on financial literacy and parliamentary procedure, and a panel discussion featuring key African American members of San Diego's academic, legal, and medical communities that followed the theme of this year's Far West Regional Teen Conference: "A World Without Black People".

Our programs strive to achieve healthier lifestyles for moms and families, inspire our children to lead healthier lives as well as motivate our surrounding communities to embrace leading healthier lives.



San Fernando Valley, CA

In an effort to serve our community, the San Fernando Valley Chapter hosted a Christmas Store for the residents of Penny Lane, a local organization that provides residential treatment, foster services and transitional housing for children who have been abused, abandoned or emancipated.

All of our families collected donations of toys, books, clothing, and other items. Residents of Penny Lane visited each of our stations and selected several items for family members or themselves. Our mothers, fathers, teens and children worked the various stations and rotated throughout the day. Younger residents were treated to a visit with Santa that included a book to take home.

This was a fantastic chapter project that showed our children the importance of giving, our teens the value of hard work, our fathers that they too can make a difference and our mothers that there is nothing we cannot achieve when we work together.



Tacoma, WA

On October 30, 2010 the Tacoma Chapter of Jack and Jill sponsored a Halloween Senior Trick or Treat at the Orchard Park Health Rehabilitation Center, a 147 bed Nursing Center. The Tacoma Chapter Jack's, Jill's, and mothers entertained the Orchard Park seniors, helped them decorate pumpkins, and "trick or treated" the rooms of immobile patients. The residents and staff enjoyed our company so much they asked us to come back next year.



Cultural

Santa Clarita Valley/Antelope Valley

In October, more than 35 chapter mothers and fathers participated in Make A Difference Day in helping to beautify the Child and Family Center. We had the youngest volunteers on record that day for the City.

For the month of February, in keeping with the spirit of Black History Month, Groups 1 – 4 will create a scrapbook page where they will be chronicling their family history with pictures which will be later presented in May at Black Family Day and then finally kept in the Jack and Jill History book.

In April, we will host an All White Affair where guests are encouraged to wear all white. Live jazz, dancing, and a silent auction are just a few of the activities calendared for the evening. The proceeds from this event will benefit The Boys and Girls Club of America, Penny Lane Family Center and Jack and Jill of America Foundation, Inc.



Educational

Pasadena, CA

On October 16, 2010, the Pasadena Chapter held a day-long collegiate "Knowledge Fair" at Pasadena City College. The program was hosted by our Fathers' Auxiliary group in collaboration with Pasadena Educational Foundation, and with funding support from Jack and Jill of America Foundation. There were three components of the fair: a breakfast panel, street fair and interactive workshops.

The breakfast panel consisted of experts in higher education, who addressed topics ranging from choosing a college and mastering entrance exams to applying for financial aid and obtaining scholarships. At the street fair, representatives from HBCUs, the University of California and California State University systems and other colleges provided information to attendees about their respective academic programs. Both students and parents attended the interactive workshops, which focused on college affordability and the college prep process. The fair was successful for the schools represented and the hundreds of college-bound participants and their parents.



San Francisco, CA

San Francisco Chapter Groups 2 & 3 began 2011 with an educational and enjoyable Sunday afternoon of chess hosted by Jill Cowan-Davis, Laura Morris and Gina Benson-Warren. The kids were treated to a lesson by one of the most respected chess masters in the bay area, Chess Master Jesse Dioquino. The dad's were so impressed that many of them ended up joining in on the fun.



Legislative

South Los Angeles, CA

Group V enjoyed an informative day at the Democratic Campaign office this past October. The teens participated in a discussion on the concept of democracy; and how it works in our everyday lives. In addition, they received a short synopsis on the current propositions and measures, and how an affirmative or negative vote for each would impact their communities. To further emphasize the importance of democracy, the teens participated in several mock primary and run off elections. Different groups provided their perspectives on the various topics in an attempt to persuade the masses to vote in their favor. The highlight of the day was the teens' understanding of the importance and power of voting to create change in our communities. We ended the day with a small talk on the importance of being registered to vote for our teens who will soon be of age to vote.



Recreational

North County San Diego, CA

Group 1&2: On October 2nd, the kids from Group 1&2 went to the San Elijo Conservancy and had a Pizza Party. The activity on October 17th was "Cooking with Pamela". The children made turkey burgers on a stick, fresh fruit smoothies and cinnamon sugar tortillas with fruit salsa. They had a great time preparing and eating a healthy meal.



Group 3&4: A Self Defense class was held on October 24 at Cathedral Catholic High School. Seventeen children attended and learned physical resistance options to escape dangerous situations.

Teens: On October 24 the Teens went to Buca De Beppo downtown for dinner followed by an Oratorical Contest. Congratulations to Golden Owens and Justin Travis the winners of the Oratorical contest, they will be presenting at the Mother Work Day Area. The teens then went over to Haunted Hotel for a good scare.

Oakland Bay Area, CA

On December 4, 2010, Oakland Bay Area Chapter families and friends gathered for our annual Christmas/Holiday Celebration. Our chapter president extended a warm welcome to all attendees and our teen officers shared their remarks. Activities for the children included photos with Santa, ornament-making, and other crafts. Participants enjoyed a delicious brunch of waffles, eggs benedict, a selection of meats, and fresh fruit. The chapter sang Christmas carols and there were special holiday performances from each of the children's groups. As part of our annual tradition, the chapter mothers assembled for a group photo to commemorate the occasion. A wonderful time was had by all who attended this delightful celebration.



Tucson, AZ

Our commitment to nurturing leaders was evident in speeches presented as we opened our program year honoring Carole Robertson. After an earnest moment of silence we continued our Jack and Jill Day celebration with heart-healthy food and activity, and an awesome uniting of friends and family. Our younger children's program year continued with engaging live theater – an amazing performance of Charlotte's Web that included an informational with its cast and crew members. At our Holiday Party – with its Polar Express theme, train ticket invitations, and everyone dressed in Pajamas, our older children warmed us with a beautiful reading of The Polar Express. In keeping with the holiday spirit, our children brought books and toys to give to charity. As we promote and encourage scholarship and charitable giving, and provide early exposure to cultural and social courtesies, we are indeed building future leaders via quality Jack and Jill programming in Tucson!



Youth Leadership Development

Fresno, CA

The Fresno Chapter of Jack and Jill of America hosted Founders Day and Service project with our mothers, children, teens and associates. The event was planned and hosted by our Program Director Natasha Tate in conjunction with the Fresno Rotary Club. We were educated on the devastation of the children and families in Rwanda due to their lack of clean water. The Rotary Club provided us with a video and presentation on the conditions of the children and mothers that are dying due to the lack of clean water. We learned that the children are suffering from drinking the contaminated water which causes them to have diarrhea and eventually die. Our chapter was able to contribute approximately 175 WAPI's or Water Purifying Instruments to their goal of 25, 000. Our teens have participated two times prior to founders day and have contributed approximately 300 WAPI's to Haiti as well.



Inland Empire, CA

“Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness, and Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve.” The programming thrust for the 2010/2011 year has provided the focus for our children to give their time, talent and energy to others, with each group having completed at least one community service project this year.

Two groups have volunteered to support Operation Sacklunch, an outreach ministry led by three African American families in Redlands, California. Twice each month, the founders of Operation Sacklunch prepare toiletries, basic clothing items and bag lunches, to be distributed in the city of San Bernardino. They rely upon volunteers to help them sort the clothing and toiletries, and prepare the lunches, before distributing them to those in need. The IE Chapter of Jack and Jill has provided volunteers twice this year, with children and families from group three and group five lending a helping hand.



Creative Combination Programming

Los Angeles, CA

In November 2010, the Los Angeles Chapter in partnership with City Council District Eight and Empowerment Congress West hosted a “College Fair for Families” in Leimert Park, a predominately black-owned business district. College Fair 2010 was a great success! Hundreds of families turned out to learn more about affording college by leveraging financial aid, grants and scholarships. Group 5B teens were recognized for community service hours by Councilman Bernard Parks, Council District Eight. The fair brought together over 40 colleges/universities from the east to west coast, HBCUs, Ivy leagues, and public and private colleges from northern and southern California. The chapter organized and delivered over a dozen workshops and activities for kids of all ages and parents focused on the goals of achieving academic, emotional, financial and social success. Each participant received a free 60 page directory on the colleges/universities attending the fair.



Orange County, CA

The Orange County Chapter members and their families have been busy providing excellent programs for our children and our community. We had a great turn out at our first Martin Luther King Jr. National Day of Service event sponsored by our chapter. Our children wrote poems, displayed their artwork and presented excerpts from Dr. King's, "I Have a Dream" speech. The Orange County chapter is working hard to keep physically fit. Beach volleyball, a beach football game and a Tai Chi during our Black Family Day weekend event and Jack and Jill Day picnic had us all toned and centered. Our mothers and children took part in the Children's Hospital of Orange County Walk. Our Group 5 teens helped feed the homeless by giving of their time at a community soup kitchen. Group 4 attended an extensive Marine Biology educational program and were hands on with marine life.



Seattle, WA



Committed to quality programming and service for all age groups, our program year began with a Fall Festival where J&J families came together for fun and to remember Carole Robertson. In October, Groups 2&3 had close encounters with endangered species animals during a tour of the Cougar Mountain Zoo. Creativity sparked as Groups 1&2 shared Halloween treats and built lasting friendships at a November Show & Tell. All age groups donated items to New Horizons Homeless Youth Ministry and Moms collected personal care products for YWCA Angeline's Women's Shelter. Preschoolers will again make "Build A Bears" for Children's Hospital patients. Martin Luther King Rally and March participants celebrated his Legacy of Service on January 17th and gained insight to Legislative Initiatives. Chapter Mom's salute Associates in February and Teens complete Leadership and Financial Literacy modules this Spring. Seattle's year ends with "Urban Games", a Community Health and Fitness Fair.

Mid-Atlantic Region

The Mighty Magnificent Mothers of the Mid-Atlantic Region began this year with record attendance at the 39th National Convention in Chicago, embracing the regional theme: "Leadership for the Next Generation". At the convention, the Mid-Atlantic Region was represented by all of the Regional Officers and Committee Chairs. With such a strong



leadership force, the region witnessed the election of National Recording Secretary, Allison Copeland, as well as the presentations of the three new provisional chapters. With such commitment, the Mid-Atlantic prepared itself to Achieve greatness, Inspire excellence, and Motivate youth to lead and serve as the Fall Cluster Workdays approached. The members of the Orangeburg (SC), James River (VA), and Charlotte (NC) Chapters hosted three dynamic cluster workdays for the region. With the installation of the three new chapters, Eastern North Carolina, Queen City, and South Charlotte, the Mid-Atlantic welcomed the growth. The possibility of three new interest groups becoming chapters by 2012 is another example of growth continuing within the region. This year the Charlotte Chapter hosted the largest attendance event in the history of the region! NP Labrie was present to extend well wishes to the region and share the vision of AIM for Healthy Living. While motivating youth to lead and serve, everyone engaged the Lets Move service project by collecting jump ropes, hula hoops, gift cards, etc. These items were donated to area Boys and Girls Clubs in Charlotte. The Teens have begun to plan for the 2011 Teen Conference hosted by the Winston-Salem (NC) chapter. The teens will be guided by their theme: "Painting Our Colors on the World's Canvas". With the mothers of the region achieving, inspiring, and motivating, the guidance provided by the Associate Groups has kept the region steadfast. Currently, the region has eight active Associate Groups with 59 Lifetime Memberships. These groups are vital to chapter excellence. The children are gearing up for another successful cluster workday this spring. They are inspired by the theme, "Helping Hands-By Helping Others, We Can Help Ourselves" to provide school supplies for a local charter school in the Gastonia-Piedmont area. With such commitment to programming events centered on our youth to lead and serve, it is without question as to why the mothers of the Mid-Atlantic are mighty magnificent!

Deirdre S. Williams
Mid-Atlantic Region Program Chair

Conway, SC

The Conway chapter has hit the ground running, as part of our AIM for Healthy Living initiative our Tweens took a healthy living cooking class at the Kitchen Capers Cooking School in Myrtle Beach. The Tweens enjoyed learning kitchen etiquette and how to make “cauliflower popcorn” from their instructor Debbie. After washing their hands and pre-heating the oven, they participated in preparing, seasoning and baking the cauliflower. They also, prepared a bread crumb mixture that they used to top the cauliflower. Our Tweens later munched on cauliflower popcorn from their mini popcorn tubs; some more happily than others, but all vowing to try healthy foods. We are well on our way to healthy eating in Conway, South Carolina.



Eastern North Carolina, NC

In keeping with the national theme of “AIM for Healthy Living,” groups 1 and 2 of the Eastern NC Chapter visited Viquest Wellness in November where the children learned about the food pyramid, exercised, and tasted various fruits and vegetables. The entire chapter participated in the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot 5K where the entry fee was non-perishable food products, the establishment of a meal co-operative, and Girls Night Out events that included Chicago Style Stepping. Eastern NC maintained their commitment to eliminating the educational performance gap through filming a public service announcement that will be aired by the member stations of the Gospel Announcers Guild, viral social media, and Suddenlink’s Channel 7.



ENC donated books and sponsored disadvantaged students at an academic summer camp. For the second year, ENC maintained their award-winning Victory Garden at Golden Living Nursing Home and supported them with activities such as the intergenerational prom.

Greensboro, NC

The Greensboro Chapter embraced the Healthy Living thrust during our programming year. On a brisk fall day, mothers and children participated in a "5k Run" for mammogram scholarships. Chaplin Michelle Brooks maintained a steady pace and was awarded first place during this event. Our Awesome Jammers were apprised of the physical benefits of rock climbing. Mothers observed their children scaling the vibrant walls of a popular indoor facility and witnessed the excitement their children experienced as they worked arduously to reach the summit.



To expand upon the goal of wellness, children in our youngest group learned about the importance of selecting healthy foods and were delighted to sample locally grown produce. While at the Parisi School, the confidence level of our pre-teens and teens increased tremendously as they participated in a sports analysis that exposed them to techniques to enhance their natural athletic ability.

Midlothian, VA

The Midlothian Chapter continues to support a Healthy Living lifestyle. The Senior Teens and Sr. Teen moms chose to set the tone for the year with an active living activity on Sunday, September 19th. The Midlothian Sr. Teens joined in the fight against Juvenile Diabetes by participating in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk (JDRF) and fundraiser. The walk was a healthy living activity as well as an activity to support a fellow Sr. Teen chapter member whom was recently diagnosed with Juvenile Diabetes.



The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

International is the leading charitable funder and advocate of type 1 diabetes research worldwide. Type 1 diabetes is generally diagnosed in children, teenagers, or young adults. For this reason, people with type 1 diabetes must take insulin in order to stay alive. The Midlothian Chapter will continue to support JDRF by participating in the annual walk and fundraiser.

Richmond, VA

We endorsed the national health initiative with our various age group activities. The chapter participated in the 3 mile "Race for the Cure" Breast Cancer Walk. Our senior teens were well represented and raised donations for the cause as well. The children's Eat Healthy and CPR activity gave our Jacks and Jill's the opportunity to learn CPR, safety and rescue from Dr. Katherine Brown from Chicago's J&J Mid-Western Region. The children participated in extensive hands on CPR training lessons. The majority of the children received a 2 year CPR certification. We also addressed our national focus of childhood obesity by providing a lesson in making healthy choices and food tasting. A food preparation demonstration and lecture was delivered by a Chicago based Chef to celebrities. Each child had an opportunity to ask questions and sample prepared foods.

Wilmington, NC

Service to our community has been the bedrock of the Wilmington, North Carolina Chapter of Jack and Jill of America since its inception on November 12, 1954. Our organization's commitment to the community is demonstrated in our pick-up and delivery of nutritious, well balanced midday meal to 8 – 10 elderly residents of New Hanover County every 2nd Saturday of the month from September through May. These health conscience meals are delivered by our Wee Wisdoms (Pre-School – Kindergarten), Elements (Grade 1–5), Sub-Teens (Grade 6-8), and Teens (Grade 9-12) with the assistance of the Wonderful Mothers and Fabulous Fathers of the chapter that vigorously participates in the partnership with the New Hanover County Senior Citizen Center "Meals on Wheels" program & Gibson Avenue Baptist Church. Each and every family member of the Wilmington Chapter of Jack and Jill of America is touched by the residents' gratitude.



Civic/Community Service

Charleston, SC

On Monday, January 17, 2011, teens from the Charleston Chapter participated in the MLK parade.

Christina Brown, Mid-Atlantic Regional Teen Treasurer, was quoted in the Charleston Post and Courier as describing Jack and Jill as “a group that encourages young people to celebrate their heritage. Participating in the parade is consistent with that goal.” Another teen, Houston Rhodes, Chapter VP, was also quoted as saying, “things are different today than they were in the 1960s. At that time, all people of color came together to fight for one cause, she said. But today, people of color are separated into smaller groups.”



After the parade, teens presented donated medical supplies to the Charleston Chapter of Links at the YWCA Day of Caring event to support the Okurase tribe pharmacy in West Africa. The teens also participated in a “speak out” for youth with the topic, “What does Civil Rights mean to you today”?

Columbia, SC

Our activities were civic/community service oriented, involving all age groups and families. The first was the American Red Cross Breast Cancer Walk in October, in Finley Park, Columbia, SC We assisted with providing needed materials for participants, the registration process, and the walk itself.



In December, at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, we co-hosted with the James R. Clark Sickle Cell Foundation, our charity, their annual Christmas family/gifting dinner. It was the first time that many J&J members could really put a ‘face’ to and interact with the children and families served by the foundation. For many, it provided more insight of our role in helping them implement their core goals. Along with the gifts donated, we had ‘prizes’ that were awarded and it was great fun for all involved! The James Clark staff was excited to be teaming with us and welcomed our participation in the annual activity.

Florence, SC

The Florence, SC Teen Chapter of Jack and Jill of America have been very busy this year. They have participated in several community service projects. One such project that they have worked diligently on has been the Harvest Food Bank. As they closed the 2010 year, the Florence Teens sponsored a family for Christmas, participated in the Time of Sharing where they served individuals from a local nursing home. All in all, this year has been a great service year for the Florence, SC Teen Chapter.



Hampton, VA

Twenty eight children and their mothers from the Hampton Chapter of Jack and Jill participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr., day of service. This year the chapter partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula. Organized activities included creating disaster and safety kits for seniors, creating thank you cards for veterans as well as designing and making peace bracelets for abused women. The parents and children rotated between three different stations. Along with the parents, our junior and senior teen children assisted our younger members with their projects. Dr. A. Terry Morris of NASA was the keynote speaker at the luncheon. Dr. Morris, a rocket scientist, engaged the youth with his personal story that emphasized that one can accomplish anything you set your mind to do. The senior teens donated canned goods to be distributed to the less fortunate.



Midlothian, VA

The Midlothian Chapter Sr. Teen group started the program year in strong support of the annual community & service project with the Bright Beginnings YMCA program. This was the 3rd year of participation for the Midlothian Chapter Sr. Teens. Bright Beginnings helps children from low-income families arrive on their first day of school with new clothes and shoes, a new backpack filled with supplies, and a readiness to learn. With help from the community, YMCA Bright Beginnings will serve over 2,400 children this year throughout the Greater Richmond and Southside areas. Over 25,000 children have benefitted from a YMCA Bright Beginnings experience since the program began in 1992. Volunteers each year include professional and college athletes, corporate executives, churches and the Midlothian Chapter of Jack and Jill. Target stores in collaboration with the YMCA hosts this annual activity. The volunteers are matched with a child and allowed to shop.



Raleigh-Wake, NC

Raleigh-Wake Chapter began our 2010 programming year with Jack and Jill Day at Historic Stagville Plantation featuring author and former J&J mom Caroline Weatherford. The Lower, Upper EI and Junior Teens demonstrated their commitment to service by bagging lunches with the Brown Bag Ministries and serving them to the homeless. The Upper EI group rang the "bell" for the Salvation Army. Raleigh-Wake moms donated fruit to the Salvation Army for our annual MLK activity. The Junior Teens participated in the United Way Project to honor Martin Luther King Jr. They painted portable murals to be displayed at the Haven House. The Haven House was founded in 1973 to provide community-based services to at-risk youth and their families. Local news staff interviewed Upper EI members Tyler and Tanner Edwards along with their mother Tiffany Edwards. They explained to NBC-17 what Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day means to them.



South Charlotte, NC

The South Charlotte Chapter has a heart for Community Service. Our Preschool - 6th graders met at Hope Haven, Inc., Charlotte. This was an important visit because the clothing closets in the Resident Service Center were set up by, named after and are managed by our Chapter. This year we started a new partnership with Bright Blessings. The youth enthusiastically enjoyed making "Happy Birthday" signs for the upcoming shelter parties. The children also stuffed birthday bags for the parties. Bank of America donated banks, Student Financial Handbooks, markers and notebooks to the children of South Charlotte. The children decorated their banks for the Jack & Jill Loose Change Initiative. Additionally, 200 banks were given at the 2010 North Carolina Cluster. Our 2010-2011 program year also includes solid partnerships with March of Dimes March for Babies, Junior League of Charlotte Kid's HealthLink, Dress for Success and Florence Crittenton Services.



Spartanburg, SC

The Spartanburg Chapter's service project embraced the holiday season with "A Visit with Santa." We hosted the event at the CC Woodson Center which is accessible to many less fortunate children and we felt that we could bring some holiday cheer to them. Our Tots/Tweens and Teens eagerly decorated the social room with a white Christmas tree adorned in red tinsel and multi-colored bulbs then placing red poinsettias on tables. Children from the local community and Children's Shelter enjoyed danishes, donuts, fruit and juice. As Santa Claus is Coming to Town plays, out jumps our very own African American Santa adorned in his gear. Santa serenaded us with Silent Night and then led us in several Christmas songs. The kids enjoyed the craft activities and left with treats provided by Turner Network including information on bullying and Cartoon Network cups and silly bands. They all had a great time!



Winston-Salem, NC

The Winston Salem Chapter has been busy teaching our children how to be advocates for their community. We have incorporated community service in all of our programming activities. The attendees of each monthly program activity brought in various donations such as gently used shoes, school supplies, toiletries and of course our penny campaign cans. Our largest community service project continues to be our full chapter Thanksgiving Turkey dinner donation boxes. We continue to empower our Youth to Excel through leadership and service in our community.



Cultural

Chesapeake, VA

Kwanzaa for the Chesapeake Chapter is truly a celebration of family, community and culture. Kwanzaa brings a cultural message which speaks to the best of what it means to be African and human in the fullest sense of the words.

Over the years, this program has grown into one of the best attended events of the year,

and with the past two years under the direction of Kwanzaa chairperson, Carolyn Wheatfall-Bearden, we have educated not only our children but our members' families and prospective members and families as well. We have embraced the principles of Kwanzaa with pride: Umoja (unity), Kujicahgulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (faith).

All age groups participated in this grand event, the children spoke well, the food was delicious and the sharing of cultures was a testament to our heritage.



Fayetteville, NC

On 26 FEB 11, the Fayetteville Chapter celebrated Founder's & Associate Day with a wholesome family fellowship experience. The morning's events initiated with a spiritual worship experience at the Simon Temple A.M. E. Zion Church. The Rev. Brian R. Thompson acknowledged the chapter and the importance of the Jack and Jill mission in support of the children and our community. The Simon Temple congregation was equally hospitable and supportive during our visit.

Following our memorable worship with the Simon Temple family, the chapter continued their celebration and fellowship experience with brunch at the "Hilltop House" Restaurant, where our Children provided a tribute to COL (Ret.) Shirley Burt-Chrishon. Shirley is a current associate member, and former leader within the Fayetteville chapter, during the tribute she was recognize for her tremendous legacy of leadership and service while serving the organization. The children also honored her in song, as well as poetry and prose.

Lynchburg, VA

Lynchburg Chapter Preserves African American history in their community

In September 2009, our chapter honored a local civil rights activist (Junius Haskins Jr.) in addition to Carol Robertson. Lynchburg took this opportunity to honor, reflect and remember with an activity that would highlight the goals of human rights, civil rights, and racial harmony. We held a program at our local Legacy Arts Center where all family members participated in a program to reflect the endeavoring efforts of

civil rights activists and preserve African American history. Children cleaned the grounds and planted a tree in our local activist name as he clearly took a stand for our children's future.



Educational

Gastonia-Piedmont, NC

On September 25th, the Gastonia Piedmont Chapter's Carole Robertson Day program was held featuring Mrs. Lisa McNair. The Birmingham Church bombing which took the life of Carole Robertson also killed Mrs. McNair's sister. The children of our chapter were given a wonderful DVD presentation and heard from personal experience



the period of unrest surrounding the whole civil rights movement of the 60's. Mrs. McNair explained to the children how monumental the tragedy that killed her sister and Carole Robertson was to the success of the Civil Rights movement. Her presentation taught our children to be grateful of the privileges they have today in not having the color of their skin limit what they can achieve in life.

Deirdre Pippins, Jennifer Miles, and Jacqueline Gibbs sponsored this program.

James River, VA

The James River Virginia Chapter began the 2011 program year with a trip to Smith Mountain Lake. The life of Carole Robertson was celebrated around a bonfire discussing civil rights era events and its impact on our children's lives. A visit to the Booker T. Washington National Monument for Harvest Days followed. Our most recent event was a day at the Richmond Symphony to



hear internationally renowned pianist Awadagin Pratt. Parents and children watched the morning rehearsal, followed by a private audience with Mr. Pratt. That evening, chapter members dressed for dinner and the evening's performance. The chapter continues to support the work of the Peter Paul Development Center, an outreach and community center serving Richmond's Church Hill and East End neighborhoods. Monthly birthday parties are hosted for children who attend the center at which each child receives the gift of a book.

Queen City, NC

In October, the newly chartered Queen City Chapter (Charlotte, NC) laid down the law at the Charlotte School of Law, led by Chapter Member and Attorney Corie Pauling and her husband, Professor Carlos Pauling. The Adventurers (2 years-Kindergarten), Voyagers (Grades 1-3), Achievers (Grades 4-6), and Innovators (Grades 7-8) were introduced to the legislative and judicial process by participating in age appropriate mock trials. Playing the roles of attorneys, witnesses and other court officers, our youth were split into teams, provided a case history, and defended their legal positions using deductive reasoning and critical thinking skills. They also toured the state of the art facilities including the law library, computer labs, classrooms and faculty offices. They were introduced to the technology used in the classroom setting such as smart boards, headliners, interactive polling, and simulcast courses. Law students also motivated our children to AIM for success regardless of their career choices.



Youth Leadership Development

Burlington-Graham, NC

The Second Bi-Annual Children's Heritage Ball was held February 27, 2010 at the Danville Science Center, in Danville, VA. This Foundation fundraising event was designed to afford all children the opportunity to dress in their "best formal attire" and to showcase their leadership and social etiquette training. This year, the children were all enlightened through play and participation while they learned about several interesting and exciting cultural mediums. Music of various genres and personally interactive exhibits presented by culturally diverse art, literature, theatrical, and musical ensembles helped to expand the children's worldview and assist with the development of their sense of multicultural appreciation. Our mothers conceptualized the ball and our teens coordinated and led all of the evening's activities from the introduction of guests to managing and escorting our younger participants. The event was phenomenally well received, and we are anxiously looking forward to this event in 2012!



Norfolk, VA

In winter 2010, the Norfolk Chapter Sophisticates participated in a lock-in weekend that featured a mystery dinner theater, lectures on personal finance and the stock market, and community service projects to complete their teen modules. The evening began with a formal dinner where the teens received advice from an etiquette coach on the do's and don'ts of dinner party etiquette. "Who Jacked the Gems," a play written by a Norfolk Chapter mom, presented a forum to explore and discuss topics such as accountability and responsibility, character, integrity, trust and respect, self-discipline and problem solving. The teens were challenged to listen to and communicate with each other as they tried to solve the mystery. During the lock-in, the Sophisticates also participated in interactive exercises with financial experts, conducted a canned food drive to benefit our local foodbank and plated meals for individuals with HIV/AIDS.



Roanoke Valley, VA

The Roanoke Valley Chapter of Jack and Jill took an educational trip to Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. The Roanoke Valley chapter's children spent time at the RoMeLa lab. The (RoMela) lab for Robotics & Mechanisms Laboratory at Virginia Tech is a facility for graduate and undergraduate robotics research and education with an emphasis on studying novel mobile robot locomotion strategies. The tour allowed the students to view robots that played soccer, a race car designed to be driverless, and various other robots invented for our military defense system. The students learned what it takes to build these robots and the research behind the inventions. That same day we also took a tour of the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). VCOM is a four year Osteopathic medical school that offers the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Our children enjoyed growing and learning at Virginia Tech.



Creative Combination Programming

Charlotte, NC

The Charlotte Chapter has a long tradition of supporting initiatives of our National and Regional leadership. We launched the year with a Jack and Jill Day of celebrating family, memorializing Carole Robertson, embracing the National initiative "Let's Move," focusing on and health, fitness, and fun for our children and families. Charlotte carried this theme through the NC Cluster workday, gathering fitness items for our new community partner, The Boys and Girls Club at Boulevard Homes. A long tradition of hosting Breakfast with Santa and our dedication to supporting literacy landed us in "Storyland" with the Boys and Girls Club. The Chapter moms, dads, and teens brought breakfast, crafts, and Santa. Each child received a book, or educational tool. Senior Teens volunteered for Second Harvest Food Bank, and Crisis Assistance Ministries. Younger children served nursing homes and hospitals. Charlotte is committed to developing leadership through service.



Durham, NC

Aiming for Excellence has been the goal for all 2010-2011 chapter operations and activities. Under the leadership of the Executive Committee several programs, fundraisers and activities have enriched our children and teens, involved the father's auxiliary, increased the visibility of the chapter, and fostered engagement among moms. Programs have included a visit to the International Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina and a festive Heritage Holiday Celebration to celebrate our culture and history. Our "Denim and Diamond" Ball fundraiser supported the Foundation and other local charities. Spearheading two Bone Marrow drives, donating canned goods and clothing and preparing and serving meals are ways in which our families give back to the community. Age groups have participated in a variety of activities focusing on leadership, financial and governmental issues. Most notable this year was the Bridging over Ceremonies held for eight Associate members. The tradition of excellence continues.



Lynchburg, VA

On December 11, 2010, the Lynchburg Chapter of Jack and Jill, Incorporated, sponsored a Breakfast with Santa Event. We provided service to a local inner city community with breakfast and the true meaning of Christmas (giving, sharing & caring). We focused our event around literacy by providing Christmas books for all ages in attendance. Jack and Jill youth along with the fathers helped to prepare a delicious healthy breakfast for all in attendance. Children and their parents enjoyed a delightful breakfast with Santa and his many elves. After eating breakfast children had an opportunity to sit with Santa and tell him their "wish list" items. Regardless of "naughty or nice" each child was given a Christmas book in continuing with our literacy theme. Vice Mayor of Lynchburg, who is also one of our Jack and Jill fathers read "Twas The Night Before Christmas" to all the children present.



Portsmouth, VA

In September Portsmouth Chapter participated in the city of Portsmouth's annual UMOJA Festival, one of the largest events held in Virginia that celebrates African-American culture. UMOJA is a principal that emulates unity in the family, community and nation. A Community Forum on issues facing African-Americans is hosted by leading community experts and gives citizens a chance to dialogue pertinent concerns. Social service organizations set-up exhibits to educate festival participants about programs available in the community. The Portsmouth Chapter participated in the festival's Health - Community Awareness Forum to bring community awareness to the issue of childhood obesity. Portsmouth Chapter set up displays modeling the amount of sugar and fat in foods often consumed by children, posted informational boards of the amount of calories in various foods eaten at several popular fast food restaurants, and passed out information on healthy weights and healthy eating habits for children.



South Charlotte, NC

The South Charlotte Chapter has a heart for Community Service. Our Preschool - 6th graders met at Hope Haven, Inc., Charlotte. This was an important visit because the clothing closets in the Resident Service Center were set up by, named after and are managed by our Chapter. This year we started a new partnership with Bright Blessings. The youth enthusiastically enjoyed making "Happy Birthday" signs for the upcoming shelter parties. The children also stuffed birthday bags for the parties. Bank of America donated banks, Student Financial Handbooks, markers and notebooks to the children of South Charlotte. The children decorated their banks for the Jack & Jill Loose Change Initiative. Additionally, 200 banks were given at the 2010 North Carolina Cluster. Our 2010-2011 program year also includes solid partnerships with March of Dimes March for Babies, Junior League of Charlotte Kid's HealthLink, Dress for Success and Florence Crittenton Services.



Mid-Western Region

The Talented Mothers with a Shared Purpose are Maintaining our Legacy of Programming Excellence! The Mighty Mid-Western Region is committed to REACH HIGHER to enhance the Jack and Jill experience with Regional Programming efforts.



Michigan Legislative Day: Approximately 80 Mothers, Teens and Tweens from the ten Michigan Chapters met with State Legislators in Lansing, MI on September 15th. State Representatives and Legislative Black Caucus members met with participants to discuss legislation that impacts children. Attendees continued Jack and Jill's commitment to community service by donating new socks to the Boys and Girls Club of Lansing.

Founders Day Celebration: On January 30th, Mothers and Associates from the ten Michigan chapters participated in the 2nd Annual Statewide Founders Day Celebration. Past National President Alice Peoples moved attendees with a keynote address that inspired us to honor one another as Sister Mothers. Attendees shared a special tribute to the Charter Members of the Michigan Chapters.

Family-Focused Regional Trip: Mid-Western Region families enjoyed the FIRST Regional Ski Trip on February 18th - 21st hosted by the Chicagoland Center of Excellence. Over 400 Mid-Western Region Mothers, Fathers, Children, Tweens and Teens enjoyed FUN activities at the Wisconsin Dells. National President Tara Labrie shared the WINTER FUN with the Mid-Western Region families.

Tween Apprentice Program: Designed to address the specific programming needs of Tweens, the TWEEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM (TAP) was implemented at each of the four (4) Spring Children's and Tween Clusters. The TAP, modeled after the popular television program, "The Apprentice", transforms Tweens into Apprentices (Leaders-In-Training). The TAP reinforces leadership skills, teaches teamwork, and develops public-speaking/presentation skills as Tweens enjoy FUN and GAMES. The 2011 Project involved Tween teams presenting Public Service Announcements that described situations demonstrating Empathetic Leadership in conflict resolution and problem solving.

Under the direction of Regional Director Kimberley Will, Regional Secretary-Treasurer Kimberley Goode and Member-at-Large Twanya Hood-Hill and our National Program Director Cheryl Beal Anderson, the Mighty Mid-Western region has provided a platform for our mothers to AIM and REACH higher.

Melanie Lynn
Mid-Western Region Program Chair

Cincinnati, OH

Cincinnati AIMS for Healthy Living

AIMing for health and wellness, Cincinnati held a “JAM PACKED” event featuring Zumba, personal trainers and nutritionists. After the session, families hiked scenic Sharon Woods Park. This event marked the end of the 09/10 program year and ushered in 10/11 with a renewed focus on health. In October, the chapter “Made Strides Against Breast Cancer” by raising funds and awareness with the 13th Annual Walk. Chapter Moms were trained by one of our own nurses on the proper way to conduct a self breast exam. Moms then took an oath of commitment and accountability to take better care of ourselves in the coming year. Cincinnati has full participation in our 10,000 steps a day “Healthy Steps Challenge” and over half the chapter (64%) is participating in the National Weight Loss Challenge. Cincinnati is well on its way to better health for us and our families.



Detroit, MI

THE GARDEN OF HOPE

The Detroit Chapter’s Group Four children engaged in an urban garden workday at the St. Christopher St. Paul Episcopal Church located in the Detroit. The garden’s inception came from a desire by the church’s school to participate in a community outreach project. The Garden of Hope is a way to brighten the community and to share healthy food resources with the neighborhood. The children hand painted flower boxes and planted beans, peas, cucumbers, greens, squash and herbs. Their creativity and energy made for a very productive day. The kids had a great time giving back to their community and being a part of a healthy living initiative. As you can see above the garden did produce some wonderful vegetables for the community. The community service activity was coordinated by mothers Denese Adams, Anika Goss-Foster and Roshunda Price.



Gary/Northwest Indiana, IN

The Teen Group of the Gary/Northwest Indiana Chapter began its support of the AIM for Healthy Living national initiative at the food pantry of Saint Monica and Luke Church, Gary, Indiana. Through private donations, federal commodities are purchased for distribution from the Food Bank of NWI. Closely following federal nutrition guidelines, food items are made available to indigent individuals and families in need in Gary and surrounding communities.



On November 20, 2011, our teens assisted the food pantry staff in setting up distribution stations as well as disseminating food items. The young men even provided additional assistance by carrying heavier packages for elderly and physically fragile clients. Over 200 clients were serviced. The teens discussed how their service impacted the challenge of hunger in Northwest Indiana. As young leaders in the community, they look forward to the next opportunity to support the Saint Monica and Luke Food Pantry.

North Oakland Macomb, MI

NOM kicked off the year with health initiatives in mind. In October moms and teens walked and made donations to the annual Belle Isle Breast Cancer Walk in Detroit. Our teens hosted Bowling for Diabetes as an educational awareness program for juvenile diabetes in Rochester. A donation for school uniforms was made to the Pontiac Middle Schools.



The National AIM theme stirred NOM as we prepare for the challenge as the 2011 hosts of the Midwestern Teen Leadership Conference. NOM's theme is "Be The Change: Be Healthier...Be Greener...Be Innovative... Be You!"

NOM joined the Detroit Chapter at the Second Baptist Church's Underground Railroad for an ancestral educational adventure. December's ski trip to Pine Knob included all age groups and the Chapter entertained and shared festivities at its third annual holiday party with the Woodland Heights Nursing Home in Pontiac.

South Suburban Chicago, IL

Group 3 participated in an Etiquette Workshop which included a 5 course dinner and ballroom dancing. The girls were required to wear evening dresses and the boys were asked to wear suits. The activity incorporated the importance of healthy eating and a unique fun, engaging physical activity (ballroom dancing). This confidence building, communication/listening exercise required the children to listen carefully to the instructions given by the dance instructor, as well as listen to one another so as to participate in appropriate conversation. The community service aspect of this activity required that the children bring children's books (with a focus on healthy eating, fitness or sports) to donate to children in need of emergency assistance. As a special touch, the children inscribed each book with an inspirational note and signed it with their first names.



Windy City, IL

Team Windy City Day 10-10-10 was a day-long, lock-in for our Tweens and Teens. The activities began with a focus on AIM for Healthy Living with engaging, high-energy teambuilding games and exercises. The day wrapped up with an afternoon of service learning facilitated by Our American Voices. The groups collaborated to produce their November civic/service group activity. Their efforts culminated into a chapter-wide service initiative. The benefactors of which, were homeless teens in the Chicago area serviced by the Teen Living Programs.



The Tweens and Teens partnered with the 1st District Police Department during their Community Outreach Service Day and hosted a chapter-wide Cultivation Event. The chapter's collaborative efforts produced 100 personal hygiene kits. Groups 3 and 4 prepared personal messages of goodwill for each kit. The executive director of Teen Living Programs attended and expressed sincere appreciation to the chapter. We are very proud of our tweens and teens.

Civic/Community Service

Ann Arbor, MI

The entire chapter kicked off the year with a fantastic service project. Our children prepared “Sweet Dreams Packs” for children who are entering Safe House, a local domestic violence and transitional housing facility. The “packs” consisted of overnight bags, pajamas, socks, pillows and pillowcases, toothbrushes, a toy and a card signed by our youth. The children assembled the packs themselves and listened to a presentation from the recipient organization’s coordinator. The children were extremely engaged and asked a myriad of thoughtful questions like: “How do they get to school while they’re at Safe House?” and “What do I do if I think I have a friend who isn’t safe at home?” It is our hope that this project will continue for years to come.

Lake Shore, MI

In honor of Carole Robertson Day, Lake Shore Teens committed to a day of service and leadership. They participated in the Easter Seals of Metropolitan Chicago, A.D.O.R.E. project. This annual event celebrates parents who have children with disabilities. As volunteers, Lake Shore teens enthusiastically assisted over 150 families in providing fun, family centered activities, child



care for children with disabilities, and acknowledgements to caregivers who commit their lives daily to children who need them in a very special way. Lake Shore teens truly enjoyed the time they spent assisting these families. They were so inspired by the selfless spirit of giving exhibited by all who attended, that they decided to make an additional contribution to the cause, by donating a portion of the proceeds from their 1st Annual Basketball Fund-raiser to the A.D.O.R.E. project. It is with a true spirit of giving that the Lake Shore Teens honored the memory of Carole Robertson.

Louisville, KY

On December 16, 2010, the Louisville Chapter planned a Christmas Party and provided dinner, arts and crafts, and a small gift for 25 children for the Cabbage Patch Settlement House. The organization is a nonprofit, Christian organization that exists to empower families and children to be self-sufficient. They help by maximizing children's spiritual, social, emotional, physical, moral, economic and educational potential.



Minneapolis, MN

The Minneapolis Chapter furthers our national theme in several ways; we share the word about standing against bullying at school and work. Our Program Year began with a Fall Family Picnic service project to beautify the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center; cleaning, painting, planting, and supplying books to the Center's Carole Robertson Library.

We serve snacks at the Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, and hold a Baby Shower of Love, where Chapter members provide clothing, toys, and baby items. We also aid in food preparation and serve at the Catholic Charities Food Shelter.

A hallmark of our efforts rests in our Rights of Passage Program. It recognizes the coming of age of young African-American men as they graduate from high school. They are paired with adult male mentors to cultivate within them a better understanding of their life's purpose and their responsibilities to themselves, their families, and their community.



Oakland County, MI

Often children think of the holiday season as a time to get gifts. This season we inspired our Oakland County Chapter teens to give a gift. The gift of their time and talent. On December 12, 2010 our Group 5 teens, 8th and 9th graders celebrated the holidays with the seniors at a local assisted living facility, American House of Southfield. Their task: To spruce up the building by helping the seniors decorate their room doors with custom wreaths.



Chapter mothers donated the decorations. It was a wonderful opportunity to recycle, and to give new life to once cherished ornaments. Each teen was paired with a senior, and together they worked to produce a unique custom wreath that followed the seniors' family traditions. All seniors participated!

After creating the wreaths, refreshments were served. While the seniors enjoyed the refreshments, the teens brought more holiday cheer by caroling traditional holiday songs.

Southwestern Michigan, MI

An Evening of Giving

Our younger children, ages 2-9 were committed to commemorating the month of November with thanks and giving. Hence, an "Evening of Giving" was planned with this in mind. The children hosted an ice cream social at the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission Shelter. Our children served more than 100 people that evening. Ice cream was served with assorted toppings. The children especially enjoyed preparing sundaes for those who said, "Just surprise me" or "Make it the way you want." The event was well received by the guests of the shelter and the staff.



The second event of the evening was the "Warm Hands" project. Each Jack and Jill family brought new gloves and a gift item to be donated to the Ecumenical Senior Center, (a Senior citizens service agency). These items were warmly received with excitement and thanks from the Ecumenical Senior Center staff.

Toledo, OH

On Saturday, December 18, 2010, the Toledo Chapter of Jack and Jill of America hosted our annual Soulful Santa Breakfast. Our invited guests this year were families residing in the Battered Women's Shelter and Homeless Housing Development. This event treated area families to a healthy breakfast and gave children the opportunity to take part in arts and



crafts activities. Some of the arts and crafts included: cookie decorating, painting holiday picture frames, the girls had their nails painted in pretty, bright holiday colors, the boys played basketball and football in the other room, and lastly pictures with Santa and Christmas Carols. A donation of kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom supplies were given to the YWCA families. This was a joyful occasion for the YWCA families and especially for the little jack and jills. As you can see in the photo the teens also had an awesome time with SANTA!!!

West Suburban Chicago, IL

On Friday, November 19, 2010, the families of West Suburban Chicago Chapter came together to fight childhood hunger. The teens, younger children, mothers and fathers of our chapter worked diligently at Feed My Starving Children. Team Jack and Jill, which consisted of 70 kids and parents, hand packed meals which were formulated to feed hungry children all over the world. We were proud of our children for packing nearly 19,000 meals during that



evening. Our teens and children worked in small groups to accomplish their important goal. They learned the value of teamwork, in addition to being more appreciative for what they have. Generous volunteers from our chapter also provided paper towels, dish towels, pens and many other needed supplies to assist the facility in their extraordinary work. A true labor of love and the perfect way to begin the Thanksgiving Holiday Week. There is such a blessing in giving.

Civic/Community Service

Cleveland, OH

In recognition of Kwanzaa, the Cleveland Chapter of Jack and Jill of America held a "Kwanzaa: First Fruit Celebration" on Sunday, December 12th, 2010 at the Liberty Hill Baptist Church. To honor the African American heritage, the celebration focused on the seven principles of Kwanzaa with poems, storytelling, dancing, and community service.



Cleveland Chapter parents and children of all ages participated in the celebration. Paul James served as Master of Ceremony. A group of teens recited the poem "Ode to Carole Robertson" written by Lauren, Brian, and Brooke Siggers. Reverend Mark Johnson, Sr. of Liberty Hill Baptist Church offered blessings over the Karamu or feast. Umoja was celebrated among the 150 guests as they dined on a southern cuisine.

The children demonstrated Kuumba while decorating holiday cards for the seniors at S.O.S. Langston Hughes Wellness Center. Along with the holiday cards, the Cleveland chapter also donated a cake and wished the seniors Imani for a "Happy Kwanzaa."

Indianapolis, IN

In celebration of Black History Month, the 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade groups attended the inaugural exhibit of "Red/Black: Related through History" at the Eiteljorg Museum. The exhibit explored the relationship between Native Americans and African Americans. Our children learned about the shared experience of slavery (Native Americans owned slaves and helped to free slaves), survival, racism in the 17th century and fighting side-by-side for freedom during the Civil War.



Our chapter mothers and teens hosted a booth to educate the general public about the Jack and Jill and our community service projects. In addition, young men from the community participating in Beautillion, which is an Indianapolis Chapter signature community service event, were also volunteers.

St. Louis, MO

The St. Louis Chapter 7th-8th grade age group stepped back in time to learn how a Missouri slave couple's quest for freedom affected their history. The youths toured the Dred Scott exhibit at the St. Louis Old Courthouse and learned the story of personal sacrifice and courage of Dred and Harriet Scott from their great-great granddaughter, Lynne M. Jackson. In 1846, the Scotts sued for, and in 1847, were granted their freedom. The case went to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled 11



years later that slaves were property and had no right to sue, plunging the nation into Civil War. The 7th-8th grade group also donated \$100 in pennies to The Dred Scott Heritage Foundation Penny Drive, a campaign to raise money to erect a bronze statue of the Scotts at the Old Courthouse. For information on the Penny Drive, visit www.thedredscottfoundation.org

Educational

Ypsilanti, MI

During the Ypsilanti Chapter's Program Planning meeting for the 2010-2011 programming year, members of Grade Group 4, consisting of 5th through 7th graders, exemplified leadership by taking an active role in planning their own programs. Under the guidance of the grade group leads, they used the provided guidelines and objectives. Under their own power, they used their imaginations!



For their educational focus, they chose to form a literature circle beginning with a novel study using *Sea of Monsters*, one of Rick Riordan's fantasy-adventure novels based on Greek mythology. During the discussion, mothers had limited, but supervisory participation. The kids discussed personal connections they made to the text. They made personal connections, as well as real world connections to the text. They also created art that represented scenes in the novel. Honoring our children's need to take an active role in their learning was fulfilling.

Legislative

Columbus, OH

In November 2010 mothers in the primary group sponsored a legislative activity for the children called “How a Bill Becomes a Law”. It began with the cartoon video “I’m Just a Bill”, followed by a step by step explanation of the process. After questions were answered, the children began listing ideas to improve their community. Next, they were divided into two groups: the House and the Senate. Each idea was first introduced as a Bill in the House for a vote before moving to the Senate, if it passed. The children were encouraged to discuss the benefits and detriments of each proposed law. For example, a bill requiring stop signs at the end of each street prevents traffic collisions, but also increases taxes. As the session ended, Bills improving health, safety and education passed. When presented to the President, all Bills were signed into law.



Youth Leadership Development

Greater Grand Rapids, MI

It’s never too early to plan! Tweens of the newly-installed Greater Grand Rapids Chapter participated in a career interest activity that won rave reviews from both Tweens and Moms. Phase 1 of the activity was to complete a career aptitude test, designed for pre-teens, to assess talents and interests. Using the top career choices, a panel of dynamic African-American professionals was assembled that included a Computer Engineer, a Singer/Actress, a Pediatrician, a Sales Rep, a Teacher, an Occupational Therapist and an Entrepreneur. Each mentor briefly addressed the group explaining their profession including likes, dislikes, and “need to knows”. The Tweens then circulated among the group for one-on-one mentoring. The activity was a great success, and one of our young men who had not previously defined his interests now wants to be an Aerospace Engineer! Our chapter is planning to reproduce this activity as a community outreach.



Greater Lansing, MI

In February, the Talented 'Tweens of Group IV participated in "A Different World," an interactive college day excursion on the campus of Michigan State University. Beginning with their arrival on campus through the end of the day, our students' day mimicked the life of a college freshman. From registration with picture IDs to a mini-lecture on the African Diaspora to dinner in the Brody Complex dining facility, our 'tweens were college students for a day.



Our 'tweens further prepared for their future in our Career Planning Workshop and discussed collegiate success strategies with a panel of MSU students. They were reminded that community service is an important component of the college experience, by preparing hygiene bags for the Haven House transitional shelter. We're excited about the "A Different World" excursion because it helps our Talented 'Tweens develop a foundation of success that reaches far beyond their successful college matriculation.

North Shore, IL

On October 17, 2010, the North Shore Chapter teens personified this year's theme, "Be the Change. Be Healthy. Be Green. Be Innovative. Be You" at the Improv Playhouse as part of their leadership development module. The Improv Playhouse offers programs to assist youth with gaining confidence with public speaking and spontaneity through improvisational acting. This particular workshop also reinforced



the principles of respect and support. Teens took the stage to do a standard improvisational warm-up where each teen was assigned an emotion to be displayed verbally and non-verbally. In the second round, one teen served as the conductor, followed by storytelling and a rap game. As teens pondered reactions to various scenarios, the workshop leader constantly stated, "What can you control? What you say, what you do." The Improv Playhouse continues to be a favorite activity because it builds confidence, enhances decision making, supports leadership development, and encourages team building.

Creative Combination Programming

Akron, OH

As summer gives way to fall, we kick off our community programming with our annual Mother of the Year celebration. At this event we honor women who care for, nurture and prepare our children to achieve excellence--the core essence of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. These women are often the "unsung" heroes who work tirelessly in their communities without any fanfare.

This year will mark the tenth year of The Mother of the Year celebration. The entire event is devoted to the honorees. We share their story with the community, present awards, and feature a guest speaker. Our children give back to the honorees by sharing their performing arts skills. We are always inspired by the awesome work that these women are doing. What a great way to start the programming year.



Dayton, OH

The Dayton chapter celebrated Jack and Jill Day with the Cincinnati chapter. During food, fun and fellowship, they celebrated the life of Carole Robertson.

We also kicked off the year with Financial Literacy sessions for our younger children, as well as our teens.

Our Pre-K through 3rd graders attended the Aviation Trail – learned about the invention of the airplane, as well as the life of Paul Lawrence Dunbar.

Our tweens and teens got together and view black art together at the Dayton Art Institute. The entire families went to the EboNia Gallery and learned black art forms from Bing Davis. Our little ones were also treated to pony rides at the Metropark, where they learned about rider safety.

This year, the Beautillion Militaire practices are held at the Dayton Boys and Girls Club, and the mothers are doing volunteer hours while there. Mothers' Cluster was also in Dayton this year.



Motor City, MI

Pancreatic Cancer is the 4th leading cause of cancer death in the United States. It receives little public attention and few federal dollars for research. The Motor City Chapter's "Programming with a Purpose" program year celebrated Jack and Jill Day with a Fun Walk and picnic at the Detroit Zoo. Mothers and "Jills" wore pink chapter shirts while Fathers and "Jacks" wore blue as all walked two miles for the cause. During the activity, Motor City



stopped to view the chapter's permanent paver which was donated by the Mothers initiated in May of 2008. Additionally, Carole Robertson was acknowledged with a reading and the distribution of keepsake bookmarks. The Motor City Chapter aimed for healthy living, helped increase awareness of pancreatic cancer, and raised financial support for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

Tween Apprentice Program

Mid-Western Region

The 5th through 7th Graders in the Mid-Western Region are official Leaders-in-Training! Tweens throughout the Mid-Western Region enjoyed fun and engaging activities during the four 2011 Children's and Tween Clusters. Modeled after the popular television program "The Apprentice", the Jack and Jill TWEEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM is a framework designed to be FUN, build leadership skills, teach the importance of teamwork, and



enhance public-speaking and presentation skills. A primary objective of the TWEEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM is to develop leadership skills and prepare Tweens to be effective contributors in their Chapter Teen Groups, Fall Regional Clusters and Teen Leadership Conference. The 2011 Project of the TWEEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM challenged Tweens to apply EMPATHETIC LEADERSHIP skills to situations that required problem solving and/or conflict resolution (JMB Teen Leadership Modules). The Tween project teams shared examples of the situations in a competitive presentation format (audio, skit, print). The Mid-Western Region is proud to be the first in the nation to develop and launch a regional program specifically for the children age 10-12!

South Central Region

South Central Region Family Trip and Aiming for A Healthy Region!

The Sensational South Central region embarked on a family trip January 15-16, 2011 to capture the essence of the diverse African-American culture in Southern Louisiana. Fifty-nine Mothers, fathers, children, teens, and Associates gained a greater



awareness of the uniqueness of the Louisiana culture. Worldwide Concepts Vacations organized a “Melange” tour for our group. We toured the Chalmette battlefield, site of the Battle of New Orleans; were mesmerized by the Mardi Gras Indians; toured renowned St. Augustine church and the New Orleans African-American museum in the historic neighborhood of Treme’; lunched with former New Orleans chapter member, Beverly McKenna at her museum, Le Musée de f.p.c. (free people of color).

Our weekend excursion culminated with visits to two plantations-Destrehan and Evergreen plantations. Evergreen gave the group pause as we noted its significance as the only plantation in the U.S. where the slave cabins remain as they were and where they were over 200 years ago.

South Central Chapter Presidents along with the regional team made a combined pledge to AIM for a Healthy Region at the President’s Retreat in January. The regional leaders kicked off the AIM for Healthy Living initiative with a spirited Zumba workout session, a spa treatment class and good healthy fellowship. The regional leaders also pledged their commitment to healthy living by entering the Weight Loss Challenge as a group and inviting our sister leaders to the contest!

All of the Sensational South Central’s twenty-eight chapters are AIMing for great success as we continue to “Achieve Excellence, Inspire Greatness, and Motivate Youth to Lead and Serve!”

Millie Mitchell
South Central Region Program Chair

Clear Lake/Bay Area, TX

During February, 2011 the Clear Lake/Bay Area Chapter presented its “Fit, Fun and Fabulous: A Life Map for Healthy Living in a Busy World” project. This was a community outreach effort that included a series of informative and interactive workshops. Over 100 youth and parents were educated about important health issues and provided the tools required to motivate and create a smarter, healthier lifestyle.



Featured sessions included a hands-on healthy cooking seminar from a culinary chef, creative exercise sessions and healthy living guidance from a diverse panel consisting of nutritionists, a psychologist, and a pediatrician. Health focused vendors were also onsite with samples of healthy foods, products, nutritional, and exercise information. The grand finale included motivational discussions with professional athletes. The chapter partnered with the Jack and Jill Foundation along with numerous community businesses and organizations to deliver an exciting event that supports our AIM for a healthy living thrust.

Houston, TX

The Astrotots of the Houston Chapter enjoyed the Mission Nutrition Workshop by Mad Science on Oct. 30, 2010. The sponsoring mothers, Wiletta Rucker, Phyllis Griffin Epps, Donya Gardner and Blythe Hardy, added an element of fun to the learning by having the youngsters dress up in their Halloween costumes. They had a lesson on nutrition and fitness, including the essentials of a healthy diet and lifestyle.



The children built a nutritional pie chart using life-sized food replicas and conducted hands-on experiments to help understand how food is used to fuel their bodies. The children also got to experiment with emulsions to learn how bile works. At the end of the program they received a Take-Home Step-O-Meter – a fitness tool that measures the number of steps they take over the course of a day! After the workshop they enjoyed healthy snacks and practiced using their step-o-meters.

South Belt Houston, TX

The South Belt Houston Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Incorporated will host its "AIM for Healthy Living" health fair on April 30, 2011 (10:00am) at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas. The health fair will spotlight childhood obesity and other health factors affecting the African-American Community. Each Grade Group, Mother and Associate Member has an active role in the health fair to



ensure the chapter and community gain valuable knowledge regarding the importance of healthy living. The health fair will incorporate the legislative, educational, recreational and community service categories. Events and discussions will include the importance of healthy eating habits, high school drop-out rate (explore correlation between education level vs. incarceration rate/education level vs. lifetime earning potential), blood/bone marrow drive, diabetes, cholesterol & hypertension screenings, nutritionist, proper hygiene, personal trainer, donation of items to the community, activities for the children and hip hop dance instruction.

Civic/Community Service

Dallas, TX

Aspiring to give MLK Day more significant meaning for their families, Jack & Jill Dallas Chapter moms created a community service project combining service to others, hands-on activities and fun for the family.

In partnership with Cornerstone Baptist Church and its annual MLK Day Chili Supper, more than 50 youth, teens, moms and dads collected, packaged and distributed winter care packs with caps, gloves and socks for South Dallas/Fair Park community residents.



The fun started when the Dallas MLK Day Parade kicked off. Cornerstone's prime location, along the parade route, gave chili supper diners and volunteers a front row seat to enjoy the parade.

Team Jack & Jill Dallas was honored to celebrate Dr. King's birthday at this event which provided 2,000 bowls of chili, hundreds of winter care packages and brought together community residents and volunteers to serve, fellowship and commemorate the MLK Holiday.

Humble-Kingwood, TX

Trike-A-Thon Benefiting Humble Head Start

The little treasures of Humble Kingwood learned that even 2-6 year olds can make a difference. In November the kids hosted a Trike-A-Thon benefiting Humble Head Start Program. Head Start is a low income early childhood program funded through HCDE. Their goal is improving school rediness, developing social skills and initiating problem solving skills. It serves 54 children ages 3 to 5 years. Budget cuts this year affected their ability to purchase supplies.



The chapter's children took pledges and rode to raise funds to purchase needed supplies . When presented with the check exceeding a thousand dollars the programs director said "the program has never experience such generosity " .

In addition to fundraising, there was opportunity for chapter and community to learn bike safety from Humble Sheriff's Dept., fire safety from Humble Fire Dept., and healthy snacking from Summerwood HEB Grocery.

San Antonio, TX

The Beauty of Giving Back: Bridging Generations Through Community Service

The San Antonio Chapter celebrated Founder's Day with a Community Service Awards Program. The chapter recognized two outstanding members of the San Antonio community, high school junior Jacoby McPherson and Executive Vice-President of CPS Energy Jelynn Burley, for their dedication to bettering the community. Antioch Community Transformation Network was recognized for their work in addressing the needs of San Antonio's East Side residents. The Awards Recognition program featured a fashion show that highlighted the children of the chapter along with children in our community, with a special spotlight on our high school seniors. Our high school group conducted a food drive to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank at the event. They were also responsible for selecting the youth that the chapter honored. This was a successful event for the community and chapter.

Southwest Suburban Dallas, TX

When a child is homeless, it's not by choice. The Inquisitive Minds and families of the Southwest Suburban Dallas (SWSD) Chapter partnered with the Family Gateway, in an Adopt-An-Apartment Initiative. Family Gateway provides housing and comprehensive services to families with children experiencing homelessness. SWSD families worked as a team to help a new family feel welcomed by decorating



and outfitting the entire apartment with items donated by the chapter. The kids thoroughly cleaned the apartment making it move-in ready for the selected family who would be relocating from the Gateway Shelter Center and into their own apartment. SWSD provided fun activities for the entire Apartment Complex families including a jump house, face painting, and lunch! If that was not enough, SWSD worked with the North Texas Food Bank to conduct a Healthy Food Cooking demonstration for the families. The Inquisitive Minds age group received over 100 hours of community service!

Sugar Land, TX

The Sugar Land Chapter Celebrates its 3rd Annual Crimson and Crystals Holiday Party

The Sugar Land Chapter decided to make Christmas brighter for several disadvantaged families in Fort Bend County. On Saturday December 4, 2010, the Chapter hosted a Reindeer Run & Hot Cocoa with Santa!



We invited families of The ARC of Fort Bend County (non-profit organization serving children with disabilities). This event allowed our children to partner with a child from the ARC to socialize and assist them in the Reindeer Run. The children were also able to decorate cookies, create arts and crafts and sing Christmas Carols. We requested all of our chapter members donate a new wrapped toy, can goods, gift cards and gently used coats. All the items collected at this event were donated to several non- profit organizations and families in the Sugar Land /Fort Bend County Area.

Austin, TX

Slime, sludge and silly putty! The children of the Austin Chapter learned about different properties of liquids and gases with silly science fun. The children first donned goggles and dipped apples, flowers and bananas in liquid nitrogen and then watched as the items shattered into millions of pieces. The children also simulated a "hurricane" with the liquid nitrogen and learned how gases contract by using the liquid nitrogen to blow up balloons. Silly putty was made by the kiddos from borax, Elmer's Glue and food coloring - to the horror of their parents. Lastly, our budding scientists made space ice cream by mixing the liquid nitrogen with vanilla flavoring and enjoyed it as a snack with nuts, chocolate and caramel toppings at the end of the very inventive lesson in science. Fun was had by all!



Baton Rouge, LA

Baton Rouge's Continental J's, 11 & 12 year olds, celebrated Black History Month with a screening of Baton Rouge's *Troubled Waters: Brooks Park and Beyond*, that documents the racial and legal debate surrounding the community's first swimming pool for African-Americans. Judge Trudy White is



the writer of the documentary, an Associate of the Baton Rouge Chapter of Jack and Jill, and attended the activity to further explain the historical importance of this story. Many of the people interviewed for the documentary were significant in the chapter's history as well. Telling stories of integrating Baton Rouge was Marjorie Dumas Lawless, charter member and first President of the Baton Rouge Chapter. Some of the documentary's recreated scenes highlighted current Jack and Jill children as actors. The activity taught the children a valuable lesson on local history and afforded them an opportunity to appreciate the significance and relevance of our chapter's rich history.

Recreational

Katy-Prairie View, TX

The teen group of Katy Prairie View hosts the younger grade groups annually in December for Coco Hour as a Foundation fundraiser. This much anticipated event is held in a member's home. It allows parents to make a donation and drop off their children while they shop for Christmas gifts or simply enjoy an evening out. All children participating are asked to wear their favorite pajamas, and the hosting teens wear Santa hats to identify them as leaders. The children are directed to stations supervised by the teens to make crafts, decorate cookies and enjoy hot chocolate and s'mores. The evening is then rounded off with Christmas stories, songs, a pajama parade and of course a visit from Santa himself.



Waco, TX

Jack and Jill Founder's Day Luncheon

The Waco Chapter of Jack and Jill of America recently held its First Annual Spring Luncheon honoring Jack and Jill Founders Day. In addition to celebrating our Founders the luncheon was also the platform to introduce the 2010-2011 Cotillion participants for the up and coming Cotillion Ball in April. The wonderful event was held in January at the Junior League of Waco's Clifton House. Waco Chapter



Associate, Gloria Farrow read aloud the chapter's history and the names of each charter member. The Theme "Paying homage to the past so we can move into the future" made the Luncheon a great success. Many prospective, former, tenured and lifetime members were invited to the event. Some of the invited guests included Luwenda Pollard, Doris King, Gladys Moseley, Elma Richmond, Norma Johnson and Carole Adams. The day was a wonderful success and enjoyed by all.

Arlington, TX

The Arlington Chapter of Jack and Jill supported our national YOUTH FINANCIAL LITERACY thrust by taking a field trip to The Bureau of Engraving and Printing located in Fort Worth, Texas. A total of 23 children and 16 adults participated in this fantastic EDUCATIONAL activity over Christmas break to learn about U.S. paper currency. Participants actually observed billions of dollars being printed as they



toured an enclosed walkway above the production floor! Our Jacks and Jills learned about the origin of money, the process of transferring currency from a note to legal tender, and participated in interactive exhibits. A CULTURAL component was incorporated by discussing people of African descent who have been on Forbes' list of the world's wealthiest billionaires. We discussed how they accumulated wealth by achieving excellence and inspiring greatness, which we expect motivated our children more to lead and serve. Everyone had a great time!

Greater Frisco, TX

Greater Frisco hosted its 1st Annual Financial Symposium where youth and adults (ages 8 to adult) from the community were inspired to focus on their financial future. Financial professionals in various industries such as banking, investing, and scholarship hosted interactive sessions filled with lessons on earning, managing & multiplying



your money. Our 5-7 age group learned valuable lessons on exactly what a paycheck can buy today. Each was assigned various careers with salaries ranging from \$19,000 to \$160,000 a year and tasked with shopping for their needs and wants based on a 1-month salary. As you can imagine, there were lots of groans when having to make the decision to between purchasing a Wii system or groceries for the month. It was an event to be remembered by all including special guests, Frisco Boys & Girls Club. Participants learned to save, spend, give, and donate to worthy causes.

Missouri City-Sugar Land, TX

The Keen Teen Grade Group of The Missouri City – Sugar Land Chapter led the way to Achieving Excellence in Financial Literacy with a recent activity. This group of middle school children, grades 6-8, combined financial literacy with community service. Their activity supported The Madge Bush Transitional Living Center, a sixteen-unit apartment facility that provides housing and supportive services to homeless women with children. The Keen Teens were allocated a budget to shop for household items for the sixteen families. Bath soap, toothpaste, shampoo, laundry detergent, and toilet paper are just a few of those items. The items that we sometimes take for granted are not affordable for everyone, especially those individuals who have been in a homeless situation. They delivered the baskets to the center and toured the facility. They also participated in a question and answer session with the residents. They had a great time.



Youth Leadership Development

Beaumont, TX

The Beaumont Chapter age groups, moms and dads combined a little fun with a worthwhile community project. The group hosted a tailgate party at its local university football game, inviting the entire chapter to attend. While enjoying festivities, food and fun, the children collected pledges from game attendees to not text and drive. The children talked with game goes about the dangers of texting and driving. The group collected over 200 signatures. The group will continue to collect signatures throughout the program year. Once completed, the signatures will be presented to the local city council with a petition to declare neighborhoods no phone zones. The Chapter not only educated its future drivers on the dangers of distracted driving but the public at large.

DFW Mid-Cities, TX

In order for our future leaders to understand how to lead successfully, they must experience what it takes to be a GREAT leader. At an overnight lock-in, the DFW Mid-Cities teens were confined in an environment where they experienced the ups and downs of being a leader. They spent 12 hours participating in extreme and high-energy games focused on leadership and team-building skills.

Many of their challenges and scenarios used high rope obstacles, climbing walls, zip lines, rope bridges, challenge poles and giant inflatable systems. We feel the best way to learn is to have fun doing so. Utilizing a variety of fun tools like group games and elevated ropes they engaged in “big picture” thinking, identifying and overcoming obstacles. They were motivated to improve their decision-making and problem solving abilities. The teens really enjoyed this fun learning and bonding night out that is sure to become an annual activity.



North Suburban Dallas, TX

The North Suburban Dallas Chapter has been serving the community with our annual Breakfast with Santa since 1991 and on December 18, 2010, they continued the tradition. By being one of the oldest events of its kind in the Far North Dallas area by an African American organization, the North Dallas Suburban Dallas Chapter helped



Santa in bringing Christmas cheer to needy families within the North Dallas Community. Each year, pre-selected families are provided gifts from their wish list and are guests at the annual event. All guests are treated to a delicious hot breakfast along with pictures with an African-America Santa. There were a host of crafts and activities for children of all ages to enjoy. The holidays are a time of sharing and the members of North Suburban Dallas Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated were honored to share the holidays with members of the community.

North Texas, TX

“North Texas Chapter (NTC) Teens Discover Essential Pieces on the Road to Success”

A wise man once said, “The only real training for leadership is leadership.” The NTC Teen Leadership Advisory Team was formed to create a Teen Leadership forum to: Enhance Teens’ leadership skills; Present Leadership Modules from peer to peer; and Provide interactive activities for Teens while presenting modules.

The NTC Teen Forum was held with 96% of the Teens in attendance! The Teens presented selected Leadership Modules with Parental help on: Confidence, Character, Service, Financial Literacy and Accountability. Other topics presented included: the purpose of Greek Organizations, College Survival and Social/Business Etiquette. The guest speaker was a member of the Father’s Auxiliary Russell Williamson, Sr. who presented a video and speech on Accountability. Teens expressed, “The forum was not only a learning experience but it was fun as well. They liked having their peers as presenters.”



Waco, TX

Jack and Jill Winter Luncheon a Success

The Waco Chapter of Jack and Jill of America held its winter luncheon honoring Jack and Jill Founders Day and the chapter’s 2011 Cotillion participants in February at the Junior League of Waco Clifton House.

Entitled “Youth Leadership: Look to the Future,” the event featured motivational speaker Sherry Perkins, a client executive at Profiles International. She offered tips on affective leadership styles. Trust was one of the most important one, she said.

“Without trust, a leader won’t have any followers,” explained Perkins as she prepared a team exercise in creating trust.

The exercise required Cotillion participants to coach their blindfolded team members through a imaginary jungle with dangerous animals and quicksand.

“I hope this class will encourage participants to learn and practice better leadership skills, improve their character and to give back to the community,” she said.

Creative Combination Programming

Greater Channel, TX

The Greater Channel Chapter was awarded the Jacqueline Robinson Regional Competition Grant and put on a financial literacy seminar entitled “The Pursuit of Happiness: Winning in the Game of Life” for children between the ages of 13 – 18. The event was held at the Maximized Life Christian Center International. We had local business professionals speak to the children about building wealth, how to open checking and savings accounts, budgeting, career choices and networking. The seminar ended on a high note with a “Bargain Shoppers’ Fashion Show” where our chapter teens modeled clothing purchased from resale shops, Wal-Mart, Target and other reasonable prices stores around town to show the children they don’t have to spend a lot of money on clothes to look nice. The event was well attended and well received by the community. Hats off to Bianca Malveaux, our Chapter Foundation Chair, and her committee for a job well done.



North Suburban Houston, TX

On a cool brisk day in February 1980, a few mothers met at the home of Jewellean Mangaroo with echoes of common concerns for children, family and friendship. This meeting was the start of the North Houston Suburban Chapter. To commemorate our chapter’s 26 years, this year’s NHS Founders’ Day program was an inviting and intimate setting at the elegant home of NHS Founders’ Day Chair, Linda Estes. Guests, in their beautiful Sunday chic, were motivated by Founders’ Day speaker, Janice Pettaway. Nia Entertainment Group performer Dr. Sherri Sandifer played keyboard and sang several musical numbers. A delightful lunch reception with an array of refreshments and scrumptious desserts was prepared by our hostess. Three original NHS charter members attended; as well as, guests from the Humble-Kingwood and Missouri City-Sugar Land Chapters. We wanted to celebrate motherhood and we did. Our 25 charter members would have approved!



Texarkana Twin Cities, TX

The teens served as host for the NAACP Meet the Candidate Forum. They met candidates who were running for city and county offices. They asked very detailed questions concerning party affiliation, platforms and short and long term goals of the candidates. They observed a question and answer session where members of the audience asked questions. The teens learned about voter registration, the voting process, party affiliations and why it is so important to exercise their right to vote.



The mothers, along with the Texarkana Regional Arts and Humanities Council, hosted their annual reading program/exhibit for all children in the city. Our children served as docents, read stories and helped other children with their art projects. The children read stories about African American inventors and they viewed the exhibit of items that were invented by African Americans. Afterwards they were encouraged to design their own invention. They were inspired. Fun, educational and cultural!

Southeastern Region

“Children are the world’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future” - John F. Kennedy

The Sweet, Sweet Southeastern Region continues its legacy in diverse and dynamic programming. Dynamic is how we began the year with Mothers’ Workday 2010. With over 600 mothers in attendance, this year’s Workday provided the opportunity for mothers to not only gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of our organization, but to recommit to our children and to themselves. The Regional theme: “Children at the Heart of the Matter,” was the perfect reminder and inspiration for mothers to commit and AIM to Achieve Excellence, Inspire Greatness, and Motivate our Youth to Lead and Serve.

This commitment was evident throughout the programming efforts at both the Chapter and Regional levels. Our Regional Programs included the 4th Annual Teen Stock Market Game, online PenPal Club, and “Today a Reader—Tomorrow a Leader” Book Club, in addition, our Regional Service Project, United We Serve all yielded record levels of increased participation. The enthusiasm and commitment to programming excellence was further seen during this year’s Southeastern Regional trip. In an effort to further support Jack and Jill Rebuilds America, the Southeastern Region hosted its 6th Annual Regional Trip in New Orleans. Inspired by a weekend of culturally enriching family activities, coupled with an opportunity to serve a New Orleans community, 260 members from the Region participated in our “Aim to Serve and Celebrate” Weekend.

The new National Programming initiative, Aim for Healthy Living, was a call for action that has invoked excitement across the nation. The riveting facts about the crisis of poor health in America and its direct impact on African Americans sparked an even greater commitment from the mothers of the Southeastern Region. Thirty-four chapters have joined in the call for action and are inspiring and motivating their children, families and communities at large to AIM for healthier lives.

The programming efforts by each Chapter this year has truly reflected the essence of who we are and has reinforced the belief that when we keep children at the heart of the matter, their AIM becomes unstoppable.

Candace Berry-Vaughn
Southeastern Region Program Chair

AIM for Healthy Living

Daytona Beach, FL

The Daytona Beach Chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc. is committed to the AIM for healthy Living Initiative. Chapter Moms recognize the benefits of healthy balanced living. Juggling jobs, family and fitness is difficult but, these Moms have a built in support system, each other. Moms have scheduled walking dates and motivate each other by text and other available technology. They have made the commitment to eat healthier, lose weight and be more physically active. We are encouraging our families to participate along with us. They have developed fun family based activities to set healthy eating and activity goals that they can incorporate permanently into their lifestyles. During the spring, the chapter will continue to promote this project by incorporating physical activity and by learning to prepare healthy meals during our annual camping experience.



Macon, AL

The Macon Chapter started the program year off dedicating itself to "Aiming for Healthy Living". The goal of the chapter was to involve the entire family in healthy living. The chapter had a family kickball game for Jack & Jill Day. All age groups participated including moms and dads. The Chapter continued to get physical with rolling skating for the Busy Bees (2-4 yr olds) and Curious Hares (5-8yr olds). The cost of admission was a donation of winter apparel items. The items were donated to the Loaves & Fishes Ministry. The entire chapter will host a golf clinic for all ages. The dads will serve as instructors and the group will play about 9 holes of golf. The Chapter will wrap up its "AIM for Healthy Living" this program year with a 3 mile walk in the March of Dimes Walk for Babies.



Memphis, TN



The Memphis Chapter celebrated Black History month at the historic Stax Museum, by honoring our past. We paid tribute to the rich music heritage produced at Stax by both local and world-reknown artists. In addition, the chapter honored the ancestors of chapter members who were part of the Civil Rights movement. Each participating family shared photos, historical documents and artifacts. Our chapter members have relatives who range from one of the first black WPA supervisors to a Presidential Medal of Honor recipient. Our chapter was blessed to hear personally from sanitation workers who were working during the 1968 Poor Peoples Campaign which led Dr. King to Memphis. We enjoyed a tour of the museum; team "history" scavenger hunts and black history trivia games. We also enjoyed fellowship and fun with prospective moms and their families. The program concluded with the singing of the Negro National Anthem, "Life Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

Stone Mountain, GA

This year, the Stone Mountain Chapter is ALMing for Healthy Living by beginning and ending our program year with health focused activities. Our year began with our Jack and Jill Day Family Picnic that featured healthy food choices and a chef to teach us to make a kid friendly healthy snack. Our Junior Chefs loved helping to prepare and eat the delicious snack. We will end our program year in May with a family Walk Around the Rock where we will walk around the walking trail at a local park and then gather for a healthy breakfast. Of course, our Chapter always considers the community in everything it does – we conducted a book drive and donated over 250 books to Burgess Peterson Elementary School in Memory of Carole Robertson during the Family Picnic and we will be collecting sneakers at our Walk Around the Rock.



Tallahassee, FL

The Kid Kuisine activity, was a combined age group activity with children from both the “Lollipops” (2-5) and “Gems and Jewels” (6-8) participating. This allowed the older children to mentor and assist with the youngest children of the chapter.

During the activity, the children prepared and ate two healthful and delicious breakfast dishes. These dishes included a breakfast pizza (made with english muffins, scrambled eggs, low-fat cheeses) and smoothies (made with both fruit, spinach and carrots). The children also participated in an interactive “Price is Right” game to learn about the true cost of grocery shopping and purchasing healthful food items. Finally, the children decorated their own aprons and reusable grocery bags to reinforce the learning objectives of the activity.

Through participation in the Kid Kuisine event, the children learned how to choose healthful and affordable food options and simple preparation techniques for making their own healthful snacks and lunches.



Civic/Community Service

Albany, GA

Providing families with food baskets is an annual holiday event for this chapter. We shop, we package, and we deliver, but we do not get the opportunity to see the families enjoy the food. Adding another piece to the puzzle this year the children also served cooked meals to the clients of the Albany Rescue Mission and saw the clients enjoy what for some was their only meal of the day. The semi-professional servers donned aprons and gloves and used an organized system to feed 20 people in an up close and personal experience.



Augusta, GA

The Augusta Chapter started the year preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our Chapter. We had a great turn out for our Fall Festival which included arts and crafts, outdoor games, and making greeting cards for deployed soldiers. All age groups have been involved in giving back to the community through various projects; gently used books were given to the Ronald McDonald House and twice our chapter donated canned goods to our local food bank. December ended with our 40th Anniversary Gala; we acknowledged the founding charter members, legacy families, and current families. The highlight of the gala was the presentation of \$1000 to the W. T. Johnson Boys and Girls Club of Augusta. The contribution was made possible from proceeds of the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament held during September. During February, our chapter will again focus on Black History through our annual event called, "The Skin I'm In."

Brevard County, FL

On November 14, 2010, the Brevard County chapter held its 3rd Annual Cookie Event, "Jack and Jill: Lending a Helping Hand," to reinforce the value of giving to our community. The afternoon began with an interactive discussion about the event's purpose. A fun, 10-minute teambuilding activity followed to encourage the children to work together to present a fun skit. Next, every age group contributed to the event's success. Ages 2 – 13 filled cookie jars with dry ingredients to donate to the North and South Brevard County Sharing Centers' food pantries. As a reward for a job well



done, the children snacked on freshly baked cookies after lunch. Our teens lent a helping hand by delivering 158 cookie jars just in time for local families to enjoy them over the Holiday season! A fun time was had by all who participated in this worthwhile event!

Columbus, GA

Teens Help Feed the Needy

The Columbus, GA chapter Teens group partnered with local businesses at the Shirley Winston Recreation Center to feed needy families in December 2010. Mothers and teens worked in shifts to deliver canned goods to “Feeding the Valley.” The entire chapter also collected over 100 coats, boxes of canned goods and donated money to the Valley Rescue Mission. Additionally, Teens delivered canned goods to the Salvation Army.



Other community service projects include the Teens working with the Tutorial Program at New Birth Outreach Ministries; serving as mentors and helpers at Chapter activities such as the Fall Festival which was attended by 125 members of chapter families and prospective families; and Teens walked in the first annual Paint the Town Pink Breast Cancer Awareness walk in Columbus, GA.

East Suburban Atlanta, GA

East Suburban Atlanta Chapter of Jack and Jill strive to teach our children about the wonderful spirit of giving and giving back. As the face of hunger changes, we chose a service project, which has a long, rich history in Atlanta. On January 17, 2011 to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we participated in a Day of Service with Hosea Feed The Hungry and Homeless (HFTH) at Turner Field. The late Civil Rights Activist Hosea Williams founded HFTH, with a mission to rescue, restore and re-stabilize at-risk and homeless individuals and families so they can thrive and become self-sufficient. Our Jack and Jill children graciously served food to the homeless population, which included men, women and children. A wonderful highlight for the group was meeting Executive Director Elisabeth Omilami, daughter of the late Hosea Williams, who continues her father’s dream of serving the community.



Fayette County Area, GA

During the 2010-2011 Program year the Fayette County Area Chapter focused on community service and educational activities. In conjunction with the MLK Day parade, we sponsored a coat drive to help the homeless in Atlanta. Also, this year our chapter teamed up with the Fayette Samaritans, a local charity, to supply families in need with gently worn clothing donated by members. This spring members will roll up their sleeves and donate one hour of time to clean and plant flowers at



Promise Place, a local domestic violence organization. Finally, our Tween 2 Group traveled to Alabama to visit the historic Tuskegee University. The children were quite impressed to tour the home of George Washington Carver and learn about the great accomplishments of the Tuskegee Airmen. As a chapter we strive to impress upon our children that community service and education is vital to enriching their lives.

Greater Tampa, FL

Greater Tampa Chapter Children Give to Families of Fallen Officers

The Tiny Tots and Buttons and Bows of the Greater Tampa Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. proved although they are small in stature, they are big at heart! They honored the sacrifice of two Tampa Police Officers killed in the line of duty last June.



The youngsters raided their piggy banks and solicited donations from family, friends

and neighbors in a small gesture to show the officers' families they're not forgotten. The children presented a check in the amount of \$3,500 to Tampa Police Chief Jane Caster.

Everest University and Kids Community College matched a portion of the funds. The presentation was all a part of the groups' activity Stranger Danger and Other Safety Tips.

The presentation to the officers received extensive media coverage on Fox 13 News, ABC Channel 28, CBS Channel10 news and two local newspapers.

Jackson, MS

FUN WITH SANTA

The Mothers of Jackson, MS Chapter of Jack and Jill bring Christmas in a very special way. For over 15 years, the Mothers, Fathers and children of Jack and Jill have celebrated the opening of the holiday season with "Fun with Santa", our signature free community service event for inner city children and families.

The attendees are provided with games, prizes, entertainment by church and school choirs, dance ensembles, talented children of the chapter and community. An important activity is the Reading Corner. J&J parents, Associates and local celebrities read to the children and give each child a gift of a book.

The highlight of the event is each child receiving their picture taken with an African-American Santa to commemorate the event. It is wonderful for the community and for the Chapter as it reminds us all of the reason the reason for the season.



Lake Spivey, GA

During the season of giving, The Lake Spivey, GA teens, "The Dream Team," gave part of their Thanksgiving Day to serve the homeless and less fortunate. They also brought along their moms and dads for back-up. The Dream Team volunteered with Hosea Feed the Hungry and Homeless as part of their community service project. They wanted to help ensure that those with no homes and no families were able to sit down for dinner on the day of Thanksgiving. The entire

chapter collected and donated canned goods and non-perishable items to help with the food drive during November. The Dream Team was overjoyed to help with setting up, cooking, serving, waiting on tables, distributing clothing and cleaning up after the meal. The Lake Spivey Georgia Dream Team joined with many others, and truly made a difference. It was a wonderful day of giving!



Miami, FL

Breakfast with Santa

The Miami Chapter of Jack and Jill held its annual Breakfast with Santa and spread Christmas joy to the residents of the Jefferson Reeves House. The Chapter's Mothers and Teens told the Christmas story from a biblical sense. Also shared were the 7 principles of Kwanzaa.

The residents of the Jefferson Reeves House treated the Miami Chapter to the wonderful sounds of Christmas carols that had been rehearsed for weeks. We were all touched by their heartfelt testimonies.

The Miami Chapter of Jack and Jill gave gifts to the residents and staff of the Jefferson Reeves House. The true meaning of Christmas was experienced by all that attended.

The Jefferson Reeves House is a Women's Residential Facility offering Individual, Family and Group Counseling, Substance Education and other services. It is one of few facilities that allow children to reside with their mothers at the facility.



Cultural

Athens, GA

Harambe! The sound of many voices young and old warmed the air on a cold December afternoon. The entire Athens Chapter gathered as our families celebrated the holiday season with our annual Kwanzaa celebration. From our youngest, Twinkling Stars to our teens, Super Stars, every age group participated with small speeches describing the principles of Kwanzaa: Umoja, Kujichagulia, Ujima, Ujamaa, Nia, Kuumba and Imani. After the ceremony, each family donated gift cards to assist two separate causes; our military

family identified as part of the United We Serve initiative and a local charity called Open Hearts which is a local organization that serves the needs of local families. After an afternoon complete with celebration, honoring and giving, the evening was completed with festive refreshments and fellowship.



Fort Lauderdale, FL

Black History Program - The Fort Lauderdale Chapter hosted its 4th Annual Black History Program celebrating the rich and vibrant history and achievements of African Americans. This Chapter activity, held each February, lets Black History come alive by having the children of all grade groups show case their talents through oratorical presentations, song and dance. This year's program, "Let Freedom Ring....A History of Us" relives the riveting accounts of the Civil Rights Movement led



by great African Americans as well as ordinary folks who had the courage to raise their voices. The setting: a newsroom, with live coverage, interviews, and breaking news from channel WJNJ, Ft. Lauderdale. The event was enjoyed by all and provided an educational and fun way for our children to know that in this country, lives a great people who strived with dignity to be true to their ideals of freedom against overwhelming odds and adverse.

Greater Huntsville, AL

The Greater Huntsville County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America held its opening ceremony and Carole Robertson's Day observance on September 13, 2011. We joined together at the W.C. Handy Museum and Library in Florence, Alabama.

After our Carole Robertson's Day observance, we were encouraged to continue to highlight the goals

of human rights for all people. We toured the W.C. Handy Home, Museum, and Library to learn about his legacy. W.C. Handy is known as the "Father of the Blues." The museum houses a collection of memorabilia and personal items of the famous band leader and composer. We saw letters written by three Presidents, the piano used to compose "Tennessee River", and memorabilia of him as a professor at Alabama A&M University. We also saw music written in Braille he published after becoming blind. Through his story we learned about the importance of perseverance, and empowerment.



Mobile, AL



In celebration of Black History month, the Mobile Chapter/Beaus participated in the African-American Heritage Trail's Walking Tour. Jacqueline Johnson, Program Director, coordinated the tour with AAHT Chairperson, Dora Finley. Sites visited: The Fire House of Creole Fire Co. #1; The Medical Clinic of Dr. T. N. Harris- Mobile's first licensed Black Physician; The office of Community Advocate, John LeFlore; The home of Bettie Hunter, built in 1876 during the Reconstruction period; The turn of the century sites of A.N. Johnson's Funeral Home, Printing Office, and People's Drug Store; Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception-keeper of the records, documenting early Creole Heritage in Mobile; The home of Wallace Turnage self emancipated slave.

According to Chairperson Finley, "We were honored to host such a visionary organization as Jack and Jill of America and to assist in its mission: "Achieving Excellence, Inspiring Greatness, Motivating our Youth to Lead and Serve " .

Pinellas County, FL

The Pinellas County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America ended the 2010 year with an annual celebration of family, community and culture. The Chapter hosted a Kwanzaa celebration at the Suncoast Hospice Community Meeting Room on January 27, 2010. Chapter families, friends and guests gathered for an evening of cultural activities that included crafts, music, food,



fellowship and recognition of the 7 principles of Kwanzaa. The principles were explained by spoken word artists Empress PJ (PJ Cosby) and Shannoah Washington. The duo's presentation included the traditional program founded by Maulana Karenga in 1966, as well as personal accounts of family traditions and the importance of getting and staying connected with family members, especially elders to maintain the quality of bonds and information in the family unit. Poems written and recited by middle school student Nyema Simpkins and Jack and Jill graduate Jamila Bigby were shared.

South Miami, FL

The South Miami Chapter recently held its annual Christmas/ Kwanzaa activity at the Inn Transition facility in South Miami Dade County. A 56 unit transitional housing complex, Inn Transition houses mothers and their children who are victims of domestic violence and homelessness.



The chapter provided gifts, refreshments, entertainment and the principles of Kwanzaa were read by our Jack and Jill children and teens. All of the children within our chapter had the opportunity to talk, fellowship and play games with over 100 children residing at the shelter.

The goal of the project was to share in the joy of giving, fellowship with the mothers and children; and also instill and showcase Kwanzaa principles. Chapter President Gail Ash Dotson stated, "This event is one of our most heartfelt activities throughout the year. We were able to give a sense of hope and cheer to others while also engaging our Jack and Jill children with the true meaning of giving, sharing and service."

Legislative

Birmingham, AL

The Birmingham Chapter Teens participated in "A Day at Birmingham City Hall", where they engaged in a mock city council meeting. City Administrator Cheryl Kidd mentored them. Teens researched city government, developed an agenda and elected a mayor and nine council members to represent each district. The agenda included two ordinances which impact teenagers. The first, which failed to pass, explored the lawfulness of persons appearing in public wearing pants below the waist exposing the skin or undergarments. The second, which was adopted, prohibited the use of wireless handsets to compose, read, or send text messages while operating a motor vehicle. The activity was one of the most rewarding in which the Teens have participated this program year. They were excited about the opportunity to increase their knowledge and understanding of government, and to debate issues of importance.



Orlando, FL

AIM for Legislation was organized within the Orlando Chapter's membership supporting the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (PPACA) signed into law in 2010 by President Obama; when the chapter's Legislative Committee formalized a resolution outlining reasons why it is important to support Health Care Reform for all Americans. The resolution resolved to support African- American youth and other minorities manage and reach healthy lifestyles.



Supported by the Regional Director, Regional Legislative Chair, and Chapter Presidents within the State of Florida, the chapter forwarded petition and resolution to the Governor, Attorney General, & State Legislators requesting they cease legal action organized to declare the bill unconstitutional. Additional initiatives included a 'Call to Action' among members of the Southern Region requesting the newly elected Congressional members to defray the vote designed to diminish support of this act and its intended primary purpose to provide health access to millions of uninsured Americans.

Recreational

Montgomery, AL

Beginning in 1980, under the administration of Mrs. Bennye Black Reasor, the chapter sponsored its first Beautillion Militaire – a biannual event, which continues to focus on the character building and transition to manhood for young men in the greater Montgomery area through social, cultural and educational activities including a career workshop, and a rites of passage ceremony. The Beautillion Militaire has raised thousands of dollars for the Jack and Jill Foundation which have been reinvested in the community through charitable contributions. This community building has garnered the chapter numerous recognitions at the National and Regional levels of the organization and has allowed the chapter to make generous contributions to such worthwhile organizations as AIDS Outreach, Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation, and Alabama State University. This year's December 4, 2010 event marked the chapter's 16th Beautillion. The chapter presented 36 of the areas brightest young men to society.



Youth Financial Literacy

Greater North Atlanta, GA

January 29, 2011, Greater North Atlanta Chapter's "Bourne Leaders" participated in a financial workshop. This workshop gave us an opportunity to expose our 6th and 7th graders to new concepts and principals about saving and investing wisely.

Before the workshop each child was handed a "Financial Freedom Package." A booklet prepared by our host moms centered on Jack and Jill America's Financial Literacy module Strategy #6 "Work Your Money: Investment Options".



The lecture was lead by Financial Coach Jeff Shirley. His lecture focused on the importance of creating generational wealth and maximizing their future investments by applying "the rule of 72". The workshop was very interactive and allowed the children to share their understanding of why it is important to invest in mutual funds and diversify savings. Mr. Shirley mentioned that if he had known or applied these financial principles at their age, he "could probably be a multi-millionaire now"!

Selma, AL

FUTURE LEADERS

The teens of the Jack and Jill of Selma Chapter had the opportunity to engage in a financial workshop. The purpose of the workshop was too introduce the teens to the American banking system and it various components. This included the use of checks as a tool for making financial transactions along with a detail explanation of the electronic payment system and its effect on our economy. They discussed the development of personal financial skills such as writing checks and balancing a checking account. Each teen was encouraged to open a bank account at any of the local banks or credit unions. They were given information related to the development of the Federal Reserve System. The workshop were conducted by the teen's fathers and ended with each teen receiving several comic books which were provided by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York Public Information Department.

Youth Leadership Development

Athens, GA

The Athens Area Chapter continued its annual chapter-wide Kwanzaa celebration. Each age-group participated in the ceremony reaffirming the principles and spirit of the Kwanzaa. Our chapter donated gift cards to “Open Hearts” a local community service organization and to a military family in support of the Southeastern Regional Service Project “United We Serve.” Throughout the year, our teens

Continue to complete leadership activities aligned with the national theme of “Motivating Youth to Lead and Serve.”

Buckhead-Atlanta, GA

The Buckhead-Atlanta Chapter has continued to focus on birthday parties for homeless children with our signature project The Cake Connection. Each month, our families host the children at a local shelter with a full-fledged birthday party with all the bells and whistles. In the spirit of developing leaders, our children, even the younger ones, lead the games and actually run the birthday party. The time spent with the children at the shelter has proven to be fulfilling not only to them, but also to our own families.

We had a wonderful time at our Family Black History Program. This year’s event focused on the African American’s influence in fashion. Four time periods were represented. The children presented a historical synopsis of each time period while images of that period’s fashions, events and history makers were shown. Music filled the room and the children modeled each decade’s style.

Knoxville, TN

The Knoxville teens completed a successful team building and leadership event in Oak Ridge, Tennessee consisting of a ropes and obstacle course as part of their youth leadership development program. The Ropes course was inherently fun and proved to be a great team building tool for the group. Throughout the course the teens learned to identify the specific needs of their team mates; build interdependence and risk taking skills, and improve communication. The event was an energizing kickoff for the teen’s program year.



Pensacola, FL

The Pensacola Chapter Teens, Button and Bows, and Tiny Tots demonstrated their leadership and civic duty by donating a food basket to the new residents of a new home built by Habitat for Humanity. Our chapter chose this event to commemorate the Dr. Martin Luther King Junior holiday on Monday January 13, 2011. This example of love was expressed during the ribbon cutting on the property. Local residents, many non-profit organizations and the media were there to witness the event. Keeping the dream of Dr. King, our chapter family will continue to help families in need regardless of their race and/or nationality. Remaining in the spirit, our children spent the rest of the afternoon together dining at a local Mexican Restaurant.



Williamson County Area, TN

Christmas 2010 was a family affair for the Williamson County Area Chapter. Our families and children from all grade groups worked together to make Christmas special for others. We partnered with Meharry Medical College, Department of Psychiatry, to bring the spirit of giving to the residential treatment patients of the Dr. Lloyd Elam Mental Health Center. The goal of our Caring and Sharing Christmas project was to help our children look beyond their wants and see the needs of others. Our children decorated the center and families donated baby products, strollers, car seats, sweaters, personal care items and Bibles. The project culminated with a Christmas party. Our children entertained the residents through music and poetry and served them dinner and presented them with gifts. Mrs. Elam, the wife of the late Dr. Lloyd Elam- center founder and past President of Meharry Medical College, attended the Christmas party.



Creative Combination Programming

Atlanta, GA

The Atlanta Chapter 2nd graders did more than just learn about the “Go Green” efforts at The Coca-Cola Company when they visited the museum in January. They decided to participate in their own recycling efforts! Our ambitious 2nd graders participated in the Nike Reuse-a-Shoe drive by collecting and donating 161 pairs of old athletic shoes. The shoes will be recycled into materials for sports and playground surfaces worldwide! As the



2nd graders aim for healthy living by reducing waste and hazardous air pollutants with their recycling initiative, the Atlanta Chapter seniors aim to inspire others to excel! Each senior is creating a unique quilt square featuring his or her most inspirational quote. The final tapestry quilt, with a center logo square highlighting our Regional Teen Oratorical Competition theme, “Stitching the Hems of our Heritage,” will be donated to motivate and inspire other community youth to achieve their dreams!

Jackson, TN

The Jackson, Tennessee Chapter celebrated Carole Robertson Day on Sunday, September 12, 2010 in Conger Park. The program began with the younger children doing a presentation using the letters of Carole Robertson. Each letter described an attribute of Carole’s life. The program also included a short play covering the events that lead up to the tragic death of



Carole Robertson and her three friends. The play was written by the teen sponsor and performed by the teens. Following the play, the teens asked the younger children questions related to the play. The children earned prizes if they answered the questions correctly. Each age group was responsible for bringing a dish. At the end of the program, pink and blue balloons were released in her honor.

Nashville, TN

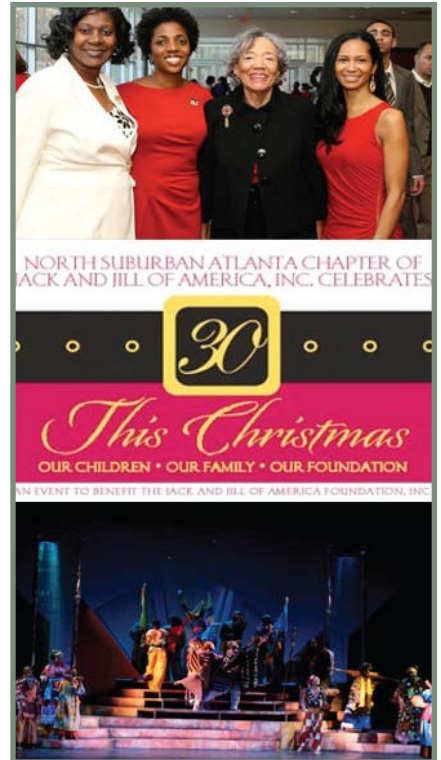
Nashville Takes a Road Trip

The Nashville Chapter's 6th - 8th and Teen grade groups sponsored "A road trip to Atlanta GA". The trip was open to all chapter members and many families took advantage of this opportunity to bond with each other. The weekend started with a chartered bus loaded with excitement, movies, snacks and most of all fellowship. We arrived at the Ritz Carlton Hotel for a 2 night stay where we were treated like royalty. The featured Dinner and the Theater were GREAT! The Urban Nutcracker was full of energy, music, color and dancers that represented our faces. The children met the cast for a Q&A session and ended the night with a pizza party. This weekend exposed our children to the cultural, social, educational, and leadership development initiatives Jack and Jill strives to instill, but what the kids will remember most is that we had FUN!



North Suburban Atlanta, GA

The 2010-2011 Program Year has brought a renewed sense of commitment in NSAC—to our children, the community, our chapter, and our Foundation. On December 5, 2010, NSAC presented "This Christmas," featuring a performance of Langston Hughes' Black Nativity by Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre. With an opening address by National Vice President, Tamara Turnley Robinson, and with former National President, Dr. Miriam Shropshire and other honored guests from the state and Southeastern region in attendance, this event enabled us to expose our children to Hughes' powerful message about unconditional love, mutual respect despite outward differences, and humble service; raise funds for our beloved Foundation; and celebrate thirty years of working, playing, and living together!



Treasure Coast, FL

Our chapter provided a year with an array of rich informative programming activities focusing on the National Programming Thrust. Throughout the year, we have focused on contributing to helping those less fortunate than ourselves such as canned food and toiletry drives, adopting a military family, and blessings in boxes. AIM for Healthy Living: We began the year with a Nutritional Seminar and a commitment to healthier lifestyles. In addition, the mothers enrolled in the Jack and Jill weight loss challenge. The chapter attended a Science Seminar at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. Jacks and Jills saw first-hand the environments of various types of sea life; many ideas for future science projects were modeled and discussed. AIM youth to lead and financial literacy: Later in the year, we conducted a workshop on Leadership and Financial Literacy. Topics of our modules were the stock market and self assessment.



Tuscaloosa, FL

We know that when a loved one is deployed, the whole family goes to war. That is why the youth of the Tuscaloosa Chapter of Jack and Jill of America participated in the 'United We Serve' letter writing campaign that offered our children an opportunity to practice their writing skills by composing letters of support to deployed military personnel. The program was developed as a way to connect with President Obama's 'United We Serve' initiative, a national focus on volunteerism. The letters that were sent had lots of love, hugs, and kisses from the children of Jack and Jill.



The House that Jack and Jill Built

In 2008, Immediate-Past Member-At-Large Faye Jacobs of the Mid-Atlantic Region presented a proposal to the National President and the Jack and Jill of America Foundation Board Executive Committee Meeting to raise funds to build homes in New Orleans. She had concern for the lack of adequate housing and the delays in rebuilding and restoring the city of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and believed Jack and Jill of America, Inc. could help. The idea was embraced and the Members-At-Large were asked to research and develop the campaign proposal. A partnership was established with the Habitat for Humanity and the campaign was entitled Jack and Jill Rebuilds America.



In 2009, Chapters were asked to make Jack and Jill Rebuilds Pledges to the campaign during the Regional Mothers' conferences. Jack and Jill members embraced this new initiative and raised \$159,000 during the first year of the Jack and Jill Rebuilds Campaign. During the 2010 National Convention in Chicago, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. donated \$20,000 to the Windy City Habitat for Humanity as a partial house sponsor.



On March 12, 2011, Corey Holmes and his family were given the keys to "The House That Jack and Jill Built." Corey, his fiancée and their three children: Shamour, Jacoray, and Princess were selected by the Jack and Jill of America National Executive Board and the Members-At-Large. Nearly 300 members from across the country landscaped the grounds surrounding the home and removed debris in the neighborhood.



The dedication ceremony was the highlight of the Aim to Serve and Celebrate Weekend. Later that same evening, the Jack and Jill Rebuilds America Committee hosted a fundraiser entitled, Denims and Diamonds in the Big Easy. The event raised more than \$4,600 dollars for Jack and Jill Rebuilds America. Guests were entertained by Jazz Violinist Michael Ward, Brenda Valteau the Zydeco Queen, the Wild Magnolias Mardi Gras Indians and Brass Band.



Corey, a local restaurant chef, expressed his gratitude to Jack and Jill and the Habitat for Humanity staff and all who made it possible for him to become a home owner. "Becoming a Habitat partner was a big blessing to me," Corey said. "I never knew that owning a home could be possible at my age. I will finally be able to give my family a life that I always dreamed of. I knew with hard work and perseverance that my dream would come true."



The color of the Holmes' home is gold. Like a golden ray of sunshine, the home shines brightly amidst the debris and abandoned lots that surround it after the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has given hope of a brighter day to the New Orleans community. This is "The House That Jack and Jill Built."

Article contribution
by Sharon Burgess-Jones

Our *Dedicated* 2010–2012 National Executive Board



Clockwise from Top

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Cheryl Beal Anderson, National Program Director | Mid-Western Region

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SCOPE2011



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