



ncnw
columbus section

November 25, 2023, VOLUME: 5 ISSUE 5



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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
COLUMBUS SECTION MEMBERS
NOVEMBER 2023**

CHARLENE GREENE - NOVEMBER 8
JENNIFER SUMMERS - NOVEMBER 8
DANIELLE PIERRE - NOVEMBER 12
VICTORIA MURRAY - NOVEMBER 30

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Thanksgiving Letter

From President Vivian Jackson Anderson



The celebration of Thanksgiving provides another opportunity to express my high regard for you, an incredible human being – my sister, my brother. First, this time of year is a reminder of how supremely blessed we are despite it all. Also, that we are fortunate to be members of one of the greatest organizations, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., (NCNW) Columbus Section, where we serve together. For that blessed privilege, I am immensely thankful. We have been better together.

Secondly, there is recognition of and appreciation for remarkable service to, “...women of African descent their families and communities.” The contributions you have made, and the contributions you have yet to make, are invaluable to our organization. The Columbus Section has experienced a phenomenal year; nonetheless, during the high times and the not so high times, you believed in NCNW’s ultimate mission/message of service. May your future, blessedly guided endeavors yield much success and fulfillment, is my prayer.

Finally, in reflection of some blessings that have been bestowed upon us, one that comes to my mind is our founder, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. In 1904, as an education trailblazer, she started a school for five girls with \$1.50. History notes that when she needed money to keep the school doors open, she baked and sold Sweet Potato Pies. The next year she had over 100 girls! Her recipe follows, you might want to try it this Thanksgiving-reflect and enjoy. No telling what a little determination will produce.

In closing, during this Thanksgiving season may you, your family, friends, loved ones and acquaintances, experience a sense of overwhelming thankfulness. Enjoy good food, good fun, good fellowship and may you be blessed with good health, good fortune, love, joy, hope, peace... is my earnest desire.

“I leave you love,”



NCNW, Inc. Columbus Section Columbus, Ohio

Mary McLeod Bethune's Sweet Potato Pie



Ingredients

- 9 med Sweet [potatoes](#) or [yams](#), (about 4 pounds)
- 1 c. (2 sticks) [butter](#) or [margarine](#), softened
- 1/2 c. Granulated sugar
- 1/2 c. Firmly packed brown [sugar](#)
- 1/2 tsp [Salt](#)
- 1/4 tsp [Nutmeg](#)
- 3 x Large [eggs](#), well-beaten
- 2 c. [milk](#)
- 1 Tbsp. [Vanilla](#)
- 3 Unbaked 9-inch single crusts

Directions

1. For filling, boil sweet potatoes till tender. Peel and mash.
2. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
3. Combine butter, sugar, salt and nutmeg in large bowl. Beat at medium speed of electric mixer till creamy. Beat in sweet potatoes until well mixed.
4. Beat in x large eggs.
5. Beat in milk and vanilla slowly.
6. Spoon into three unbaked pie shells, using about 4 c. filling per shell.
7. Bake 50-60 min or until set. Cool to room temperature before serving.
8. Store in refrigerator.
9. Makes three 9-inch pies.

Recipe courtesy of the National Council of Negro Women's "Black Family Reunion Cookbook"



When Mary McLeod Bethune needed money in 1904 to keep the school doors open, she baked and sold Sweet Potato Pies.

Women's History Month

Our very own Madam President Vivian Jackson Anderson made the cover of the National Headquarters Women's History Month observance. The publication appeared on March 4, 2023. In addition to being President of the Columbus Section, our Madam President is a minister at the First Church of God and a member of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., Columbus Chapter where she serves as the NCNW Chair for Area V (Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania (West), Kentucky, and West Virginia).

Under the leadership of our Madam President, the Columbus Section began to grow and the NCNW membership has doubled plus. Our local organization has become much more visible in the Greater Columbus community through participation and different health type grants they have been awarded that enabled the Section to provide various community-based services.

She is an HBCU graduate, with 43 years career in public health, a mother of twin daughters, and a G-mom (grandmother). She married her high school sweetheart.

Note: The original link for this publication is no longer available.



12th Annual Diaper Drive

On June 28, 2023, the Columbus, Ohio Section National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (NCNW) collected over 30,000 diapers and 33,000 wipes. The organization had the following partners for its 12th Annual Diaper Drive: The Top Ladies of Distinction Inc., Columbus, Ohio Chapter; Central Ohio Club, The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc.; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Iota Zeta Chapter; The United Bible Missionary Church; and Fifth Third Bank. This very successful event was executed by 2nd Vice President, Vanitia Turner and the committee.

This year's diaper drive recipients are the Restoring Our Own Through Transformation (ROOTT) and Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS). The ROOTT organization is led by Jessica M. Roach, Chief Executive Officer. An organization that has accomplished its mission by providing direct services to its stakeholders. The organization has been servicing Black families in Central Ohio since 2017 and has maintained a zero percent Black maternal and infant mortality rate.



Dr. Seleshi Asfaw, is both the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and President for ETSS. This organization's mission and vision are for creating a world where refugees and immigrants feel welcomed to receive training and support services. The ETSS services is designed to enable the constitutes to become healthy and self-reliant contributing members for American society. Many of the pregnant and postpartum mothers served request basic baby needs including diapers and baby wipes as their primary needs. See link <https://www.facebook.com/columbusncnw/> for information.

Group photo of members in attendance



The State **Opioid** Response (SOR) and the Columbus Ohio Section NCNW Inc.

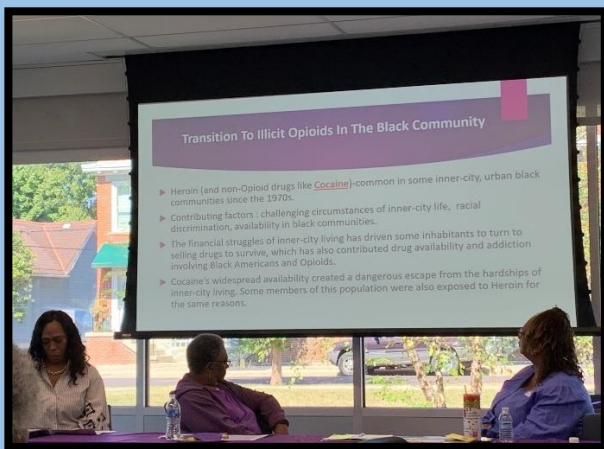


Photo of the “NCNW Reaching Our Own” Billboard sign above

The National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), Incorporated, Columbus Section is committed to **Reaching Our Own** through prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for our community. It was recently stated, “Your organization’s work to prioritize not only the health of individuals but also the health of the community at large has helped to create a healthy and safe environment for all members of our community,” State Representative Dontavius L. Jarrells, Assistant Minority Leader, Ohio House District 1.

The Ohio Commission on Minority Health (OCMH) rewarded the NCNW, Inc., Columbus Section, to address the growing opioid crisis. Led by our 1st Vice President, Christine Bussey, The State **Opioid** Response (SOR): Reaching Our Own grant program aimed to reduce unmet treatment needs and reduce opioid overdose deaths through the provision of evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for **Opioid** Use Disorder (OUD).

This is an ongoing conversation, in which the initial events occurred in the Fall of 2023 and reached just under 200 individuals affected by this crisis.



Celebrating our Survivors and Caregivers

For the past 8 years, the Columbus Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc, and its affiliate – the Central Ohio Club of the National Association of the Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc have presented an annual Breast Cancer Awareness Program. Our yearly event was held October 28, 2023, at the Northern Lights Library Cont. pg. 7

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in Columbus. Each attendee received cancer prevention and detection handouts. With approximately 40 individuals attending, the section recognized and honored 5 survivors and 8 caregivers with “survivor or caregiver” sashes. Each person in attendance received a pink ribbon metal lapel pin denoting Breast Cancer Awareness. The survivors received a bling pink ribbon pin.

printed with NCNW across the top. Section member Jephtha Snow (*Founder & Creative Director of Events Plush*) beautifully decorated the room with a pink satin backdrop and balloons; tabletop \ trees of hope; and encouraging words – **survivor, believe, fighter, hope and brave.**

Three phenomenal speakers shared their testimonies.

Breast Cancer Survivor



Dr. Egondu (Ego) Rosemary Onyejekwe, known as “Dr. O” was born in Nigeria. She received her high school and undergraduate degrees in Nigeria, Nsukka. Dr. O and her husband Dr. Okey Onyejekwe, relocated to Germany, and then to the United States, their current home. They both continued their education at The Ohio State University (OSU) and at Ohio University (OU). Dr. O has several master’s degrees: including Zoology, Health Education, and Public Health Administration. She has 2 PhDs, one in Industrial and Systems Engineering and Communications-Information Systems. Dr. O has created multiple non-government organizations (NGO) which are designed to empower and equip women and girls – including the 33-year-old Weavers of Nigeria – a source of a stabilizing, cultural connection for numerous Nigerian families in Central, Ohio. She serves as the Director of Serve, Educate, Escalate (S.E.E.) for the Columbus Section of the National Council of Negro Women Inc. Dr. O has 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

On July 21, 2021, she was diagnosed *with Stage 1 breast cancer.* In her presentation, she detailed the steps of early detection and treatment which she received at the OSU, giving kudos to her oncologist, Dr. Bridget Opong and to the other medical professionals that aided her on her journey to recovery. Because of early detection and a tumor that had not metastasized and subsequent breast reconstructive surgery. Dr. O said, “the key to success with breast cancer is prevention and early detection.” She was grateful for her family support: her husband and children made daily visits and offered continual encouragement.

Caregiver



Mrs. Carolyn Williams Francis served as constant \ devoted caregiver, for her beloved twin sister Carla Williams Bailey, who was a phenomenal survivor and thriver, of heart transplant, and two bouts of breast cancer. Carla’s homegoing was during the Spring 2023.

Carolyn is a graduate of the University of Phoenix, with a Bachelor of Science in Management, Magna Cum Laude in April 2023 and, Columbus State Community College, with an Associate Degree in Business Management, with an Entrepreneurship Major in December 2014. She has also received MBE Executive Education Program Certification from The Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business in May 2018, and Executive Program Certification from Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management, Carolyn has been married to attorney Stephen Francis, Sr. for 35 years, and is a proud “Mom” to Stephen, Jr. (Jess) and John Williams Francis (Karmen).

Carolyn’s main topics included the 4 skills that a caregiver should have “Empathy, Patience, Kindness, and Respect.” Carolyn covered the skills as manifested in effective caregiving. She conveyed that these skills, combined with good communication, are important for the patient as well as the caregiver, offering several examples of how to do so.

In response to the question “Can I kiss a chemo patient.” She replied affirmatively, “Yes, it is safe to kiss a chemo patient.”

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Breast Cancer Survivor



Victoria Wilder Crews, a seven-year breast cancer survivor and member of both Columbus Section, NCNW, Inc. and Central Ohio Club, NANBPWC, Inc., reminded the audience to know your body, know your family history, practice breast self-examination, and get an annual mammogram. Remember *“Sisters don’t let sisters fight alone”*.

Thanks to this wonderful committee for their hospitality and hard work. The members are grateful for the informative time, filled with comradery and compassion, in our celebration of cancer survivors and caregivers.

Breast Cancer Awareness Committee:

Angelene Howard, Jephtha Snow, Dorothy Cobb, Alisa Osei-Poku, Vanitia Turner, Victoria Murray, and Victoria Wilder Crews, the Chairperson.



Group photo of members in attendance

African American Wellness Walk Photos



NCNW 40th Anniversary Luncheon

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc., (NCNW) Columbus 40th Anniversary Celebration and 21st Annual Fundraiser Luncheon was held on June 3, 2023, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm at Hilton Columbus at Easton in the Grand Ballroom. This year's theme was “*Gratitude for Our Past, Greatness for Our Future.*”

The Columbus Section was honored to have the following NCNW guests: Dr. A. Lois Keith, NCNW National Chair; Mrs. Janice Taylor, President, Ohio State Coalition; Ms. Loretta Gray, NCNW National Representative; Ms. Latisha Hazel, immediate Past President, Columbus Section, and President Danyale E. Marshall from Cincinnati.

Several guests came from out of town and out of state to attend this year's Luncheon and are looking forward to returning next year.

Our Mistress of Ceremonies was Attorney Tiara N. Ross, who is with the Columbus City Attorney's Office as an Assistant Attorney in the Zone Initiative. She was a beautiful sight to see and had a pleasant personality that kept the attention of the audience.

Our International and highly sought Guest Speaker, in the person of Bishop Timothy J. Clarke, the Senior Pastor of First Church of God, Columbus, Ohio, was incredible, inspirational, intellectual, and more. He further expounded on the topic of “Agitated” from the Oratorical Speech delivered by our guest Oratorical Contest State Champion Jasmine Davis.

Bishop Clarke remained after his presentation to take pictures with the Scholarship Winners, Award Winners and all the youth that were in the building. The section was blessed to have students from Sister Ronada Burgess, Students from East High School, Black Girls Rising and others that were in the audience with their families. The Columbus Section was honored to present six scholarships this year. The NCNW Awardees are as follows: Outstanding Achievement and Leadership Award, Dr. Arthur R. James, MD FACOG. He is an Obstetrician, Gynecologist and Pediatrician. The Outstanding Community Service Award winner is Alethea Eunice Gaddis, co-founder of the Willie & Vivian Gaddis Foundation. Thirdly, the Outstanding Service Award is for a Columbus Section NCNW member. This year Karen D. Peaks was surprised and humbled when she accepted the award.

The vendors were: Charlesie's (Fashion Clothes and Jewelry); Carol Washington's (Hats); Vicki Noble's (Jewelry, Candles, Lap Scarves); Dottie Diggs' (Paparazzi Jewelry); Custom Crocs & Charms (Crocs & Charms); Marconta Africa House (Ethnic Fashions); Suprena Spence for Prena's Diamondz; For You (Cups, Mugs, Accessories); Kreative Kreations by Kitorah (Assorted Gift Baskets/Gift Bags); and Karen Dorsey (Mary Kay Products). Two vendor Tables were provided for NCNW Registration and Membership Table and NCNW and “Good Health Wins”.

The Columbus Section has a ‘Save the Date’ for their 2024 Annual Luncheon on June 15, 2024! Yes, the same place - Hilton Columbus at Easton. Please Mark your calendars!

Article submitted by Karen D. Peaks, NCNW Annual Luncheon, Chairperson and Shirley Skelton and Rhonda Huckaby, the Co-Chairpersons.

Bishop Timothy J. Clarke speaks.



Center top row: President Vivian Jackson Anderson

Front row from left to right: Victoria Wilder Crews, Dr. Arthur R. James, Karen D. Peaks, Bishop Timothy J. Clarke, Alethea Eunice Gaddis, and Shirley Skelton



Bishop Timothy J. Clarke with the children and members of NCNW



NCNW members in attendance photo



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Toy Drive



It's that time of year! Over the years, Columbus Section on NCNW, Inc. has conducted a Holiday Drive for needy families in Central Ohio. Let's step up again this year to meet the needs of our community by donating toys to boys or girls aged toddlers to 12 years old. This year we will donate to TOYS OF HOPE, Stowe Mission <https://stowemission.org/>

ITEMS NEEDED: Toys for boys and girls aged toddler to 12 years old

HOW TO DONATE:

What: Drop off new wrapped toys

Where: Martin Luther King Library, 1467 E. Long Street

When: Saturday, December 2, 2023, 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

OR order from Amazon using the following link :

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2JU4DOELD402?ref=wl_fv_le&fbclid=IwAR3C4fgkXNBvFbM3QPgVGdeexsaB0hCRKLpsJKtkVroz2myE3COLXhFMCVc

ALL DONATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 2, 2023



Upcoming Fundraisers

Below are the current two upcoming fundraisers for 2024.

African American Expressions greeting cards. 18 all occasion greeting cards (each box has 18 different designs) at \$16 per box. Cards will go on sale February-April 2024 before and after the NCNW Columbus General Body Meeting (Location TBD).

- A flier will be created and distributed one month in advance of the event.

1-Day Casino Trip to Wheeling Island, West Virginia on Thursday, April 25. Registration will begin on January 27, 2024. The cost is \$50 per person (Casino provides \$20 Free Play and \$10 Food Voucher)

- A flier will be created and distributed one month in advance of the event.

Questions regarding any of the fundraisers should be sent to Gloria Farris - Fundraiser Committee Chair at fundraising.ncnwcolumbus@gmail.com

Reminder: For every meeting, be sure to **- Bring your change for "Be the Change Scholarship Fund."**

Thank you for supporting our fundraiser program! Remember all proceeds will go toward the 'Be the Change' scholarship program.

All Columbus Section meetings are held on Saturdays and start at 10:30 A.M.

December 16, 2023 – Parsons Library, 1113 Parsons Avenue, Columbus, Ohio

January 27, 2023 – Martin Lither King Library, 1467 E. Long Street, Columbus, Ohio

February 24, 2024 – Location TBD

April 27, 2024 – Location TBD

May 24, 2024 – Location TBD

June 29, 2024 – Location TBD

Save the Date:

Miracle of East Long Street - TBA

February 2024 – Black History Month Program

June 15, 2024 – 22nd Fundraiser Luncheon



Chaplain's Corner.....

GRACE NUGGETS

TOPIC: Is It Well With Your Soul??????

“It is well with my Soul”

A Song written by Horatio Spafford in 1876...

This song was penned after Mr. Spafford had gone thru heart ache and disappointments of life. He had suffered financially and the loss of his 4-year-old son.

Shortly after, his wife and four daughters had gone on a Cruise just to get away. There was an accident at sea and he lost his four daughters.

With a broken heart, Mr. Spafford's wife called him and asked him, “What Should we do??? These words. This song...pierced his heart:

“It is well with My Soul”

“When peace, like a river, attenderth my way, when sorrows like Sea billows roll; whatever may lot, Thou hast taught me to say,

“It is well with My Soul” (verse one)

Nugget: When life throws us a curve ball, When our situations seem to go from bad to worse, when it feels like God is not listening.

Can we still say...

“It is well with my soul?”

When life brings rain, sometimes heavy storms, and tragedies are but a blink away. When darkness of life blocks out our hearts sun light,

Will we still say.....

“It is well with My Soul”

With all of the changes that this world is going through, this is a good time to cling to the faith that we have in a loving God.

Trust in His word and rest assured that He is still in control.

Pray.....

Whatever my “Lot” I can confidently say.....

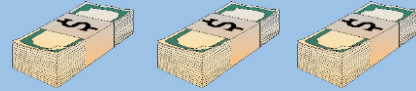
“It is well with My Soul”



**Nugget from the Heart ♥
Shirley Skelton (NCNW Chaplain)**

Kroger Community Rewards

NCNW Columbus OH Section has successfully been enrolled into the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Our members, family and friends may begin enrolling upon receipt of this email.



Our Non-Profit Organization number assigned is **XD911**.

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program, there are two easy steps:

- 1- Visit <http://www.kroger.com>
- 2 - Once logged into their Kroger account they can search for Columbus Section Nat'l Coun of Negro Women either by name or **XD911** and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

Note 1: You must have a registered Kroger rewards card account to link to our organization.

*If a member does not yet have a Kroger rewards card, be advised they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger

Note 2: Purchases will not count for our organization until after the participants register their rewards card. Participants must swipe their registered Kroger rewards card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.

Thank you for supporting this fundraiser program! Remember all proceeds will go toward the 'Be the Change' scholarship program.

Contact Ms. Gloria Farris at email:

fundraising.ncnwcolumbus@gmail.com

