

NCNW
Columbus Ohio Section



SISTERS TOO NEWSLETTER

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National Council of Negro Women, Incorporated, Columbus OH Section

Po box 360383 Columbus, OH 43626

email address: ncnw.columbusohio@gmail.com



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The President Speaks



Greetings, My Dear Sisters,

As we open the door to a new program year, we step forward not just as individuals, but as a powerful collective—a circle of phenomenal, service-oriented women united by purpose, driven by legacy, and rooted in faith.

We are the proud inheritors of a vision first cast by our founder, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, who reminded us that: “Faith is the first factor in a life devoted to service. Without it, nothing is possible. With it, nothing is impossible.” It is with this unshakable faith that we rise again ready “to lead, to develop, and to advocate for women of African descent, their families and community.” This mission is not simply our work; it is our calling. We do not serve out of obligation—we serve out of love, life, legacy, and a fierce belief that when we uplift women, we strengthen families and transform communities.

Let us also carry the wisdom of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height, who taught us that: “Progress comes from caring more about what needs to be done than about who gets the credit.” In this spirit, let us move forward in sisterhood, with humility and fierce determination. This year will require our hearts, our hands, our hugs. Over five years ago, the tenets of Vision, Voice, and Value were presented as a foundation on which the Columbus Section could stand. Going forward asks us to show up fully—for each other and for the communities that depend on us. But if history has taught us anything, it’s this: There is no force more unstoppable than a group of committed, visionary Black women, utilizing their voices, to express values while being united in purpose.

So, let’s step boldly into this new year. ‘The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.’ We know the road ahead will not be easy; it will test our resolve and demand our best. The challenges we face are not obstacles designed to stop us, but opportunities to prove what we are truly capable of. The present times require us to continue moving, to continue to make a difference, to continue to “Be the Change.” The women of the Columbus Section will not be defined by the difficulty of the road, but by the courage and determination we bring to each step of the journey. Whatever is ahead, let’s rely on faith, Dr Bethune spoke of. Let’s serve with grace, show mercy, lead with courage, and build with love.

Welcome back! I am excited about our future together. Let’s make history—again.

In sisterhood and service,
Vivian Jackson Anderson
President



2025 NCNW Annual Fundraiser Jazz Brunch

Our theme this year is "**Celebrating Our Legacy of Service**". We are less than two months away from our 42nd Annual Fundraiser and WE ARE EXCITED!!! If you haven't purchased your tickets, time is of the essence. Tickets are \$90.00. Come celebrate NCNW's 90th year with the Columbus Section on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Our Vendors will be open at 10:15 am in our NCNW Marketplace, where you may begin your early Christmas Shopping. The doors will open at 10:30 am for a special Jazz Brunch featuring Next Level Band starting promptly at 11:00 am. This Fundraiser allows us to provide scholarships to 3 high school graduating seniors and one to a woman 25 and up returning to college. It also allows us to do community events with NCNW's Good Health Wins programing. Come join us by purchasing your tickets with Zeffy using the preferred QR code on the flier. We are also accepting payment via CashApp at \$NCNWCOLS. If you are purchasing tickets and want to sit with one of our members, do include in your ticket order their name, so we can seat you together. Yes, if you can't attend, donations are also accepted via the QR Code or Cash App \$NCNWCOLS. Feel free to share. Ticket sales end on October 21, 2025. We look forward to seeing you on November 1, 2025.

Karen D. Peaks, NCNW Columbus Annual Fundraiser Chair

NCNW
Columbus Ohio Section

Jazz Brunch
42nd Annual
Fundraiser

*Celebrating Our Legacy
of Service*
90th Anniversary of NCNW

Saturday, November 1, 2025
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Hilton Columbus at Easton
3900 Chagrin Drive
Columbus, OH 43219

NCNW Marketplace Opens: 10:15 am
Doors Open: 10:30 am

TICKETS: \$90.00

*Live Jazz
featuring*



NEXLEVEL

Proceeds Benefit:
"Be the Change" Scholarship Fund and
Community-Based Programs
Donate through ticket site or via
CashApp to \$NCNWCOLS



**Scan QR Code to
purchase tickets**

***NO TICKET SALES AT DOOR**

For Additional Information Contact:
fundraising.ncnwcolumnbus@gmail.com

Garden Party

National Council Negro Women, Columbus Ohio Section collaborated with the L.I.F.T. Ministry of First Church of God for a garden party with an intergenerational concert by Urban Strings Columbus (USC).

The elegant affair opened with prayer followed by beautiful selections from USC. Every partnership with this very talented group of young people, and their violins and cellos is always a blessing to all.

Throughout the Garden Party, there were fun and engaging games from the L.I.F.T. Ministry such as name that tune, the modeling of the hats/fascinators, gentleman's attire, and guess how much candy is in the container. After the deliciously prepared and displayed lunch was served, Nurse Linda Ross Newsome spoke from the topic of "Achieving the Best Physical, Spiritual, Mental/Emotional and Social Health As We Age". The questions asked during the presentation at the tables allowed time for reflection and discussion. The lessons learned included the importance of the brain and good mental/emotional/social health.

At the conclusion of the event, NCNW sisters gave an insulated bag to each senior to use when shopping at the grocery store to keep their food hot or cold. It also contained various health related pamphlets, helpful items for personal, home, and health uses.



Breaking News

NCNW President Vivian Jackson Anderson to Receive Living Legend Award from Who's Who in Black Columbus

Congratulations are in order for our esteemed president, Vivian Jackson Anderson, who has been selected by Who's Who in Black Columbus to receive its prestigious Living Legend Award. This distinguished honor celebrates individuals whose lifelong dedication, leadership, and service have left a lasting impact on the Columbus community.

The award will be presented during the celebration of the 19th Anniversary Edition of Who's Who in Black Columbus, an annual publication and event that documents, recognizes, and celebrates African-American achievements across Columbus, Ohio. This milestone edition continues a powerful legacy of uplifting and honoring those whose accomplishments in their chosen fields, along with their contributions to community affairs—whether citywide or at the neighborhood level—have significantly improved the quality of life for others.

The 19th Edition Who's Who in Black Columbus, publication reveal will take place on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at The Ohio State University's Ohio Union, in the Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, located at 1739 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43210.

6:00 PM – Networking Reception

7:00 PM – Reveal Program & Dessert Reception

We encourage all who wish to celebrate this momentous occasion with President Anderson and other distinguished honorees to attend. For tickets for reserved seating or table inquiries, please contact: ncnw.columbusohio@gmail.com

Join us as we honor a true trailblazer and recognize the outstanding contributions of African-American leaders who continue to shape Columbus for the better.

Who's Who in Black Columbus - Living Legend Award Recipient



Who's Who in Black Columbus - Living Legend Award Recipient

2025

Who's Who in Black Columbus - Living Legend Award Recipient

NCNW Columbus Receives Community Service Award

By: Rhonda Huckaby

The NCNW Columbus, Ohio Section was honored with the Community Service Award at the Jazz Eggs & Friends 2025 Awards Brunch on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at the Boat House at Confluence Park. The Jazz Eggs & Friends event is an annual fundraiser for 100 Black Women, Inc. The organization gives out student scholarships, musical awards, community leadership awards, and organization community recognition awards.

The well-attended event celebrated service and culture with awards in jazz, gospel, and R&B. The guests enjoyed outstanding performances by artists, including James Elliott, Lady Nikki, Priscilla Woodson, Arikah Dayton Sound, and the Dean Simms Orchestra.

This recognition highlighted NCNW Columbus, Ohio Section 's continued commitment to service, advocacy, and empowering women, children, and families. The members are grateful for this honor and look forward to building on our mission in the year ahead.



NCNW Columbus, Ohio Section members celebrate receiving the Community Service Award at Jazz Eggs & Friends 2025.
Photo by: McNite Anderson



NCNW Columbus, Ohio Section President, Vivian Jackson Anderson accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

In the photo, Vivian is holding the award, with her husband, Associate Member McNite Anderson.

The Columbus City Council Certificate of Honor and Recognition to the National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

The NCNW Columbus, Ohio Section members celebrated an afternoon of music, culture, and recognition.

The 100 Black Women Flyer for the August 23 rd event.



A Personal letter from Diaper Drive Chairperson Vanitia Turner

The NCNW, Diaper drive has been near and dear to my heart since , I became a member, I chaired the drive with the support of the Diaper Drive Committee for 4 years. As a mother of 6 myself, I struggled to make the ends meet. I was unaware of organizations like NCNW that would assist with both diapers and wipes. There if not the chairperson in the future, I will always actively participate. Our goal was 20,000 diapers and 15,000 wipes at last count we donated 18,000 diapers divided between the two agencies listed below and exceed her goal with wipes.

None of this would have been possible with out the Great Leadership of Madame President Vivian Jackson and the wonderful committee listed below

Victoria Crews - Co Chair

Alisha Osei- Poku

Robyn Taylor

Rhonda Huckaby

Karen Peaks

Ealnor Grey

Christine Bussey

Charlene Greene

Pamela Garrett

Shirley Shelton

Columbus Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Incorporated in our 14th Annual Diaper Drive. We are celebrating our 90th Anniversary this year! Our partners: Central Ohio Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., Top Ladies of Distinction, Columbus Chapter, United Bible Missionary Church, Order of Eastern Star, and Delta Sigma Theta, Columbus (OH) Alumnae Chapter donated 33,000 diapers and wipes to needy families in our communities! It would not have happened without your participation.

The donated diapers and wipes were delivered to the YWCA Family Center and ROOTT (Restoring Our Own Through Transformation). Both agencies were extremely appreciative to receive the donations. Having the necessary diapers and wipes will help reduce the amount of stress a parent or family may be experiencing. This may allow a parent to feel relieved.

**14TH ANNUAL
DIAPER DRIVE**
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, INC.
90TH NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

NCNW
Columbus Ohio Section

Donation: Diapers & Diaper Wipes
Cash App to \$NCNWCOLS

Contact: NCNW.ColumbusOhio@gmail.com

Recipients: ROOTT (Restoring Our Own Through Transformation) and YWCA Family Shelter

Date: June 28, 2025, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Location: CML Parsons Branch
1113 Parsons Ave,
Columbus, OH 43206

Community Engagement

The NCNW Columbus Section members continues to participate in their community. The Candidate Debate was well attended and impactful. "Going forward, let us continue to be supportive and involved, as we invite family and friends," said the NCNW President Vivan Jackson Anderson.

CANDIDATE DEBATE

FORT HAYES EDUCATION CENTER

**SEPTEMBER 7TH
DOORS OPEN: 2PM
DEBATE STARTS 2:30PM**

free tickets



FEATURING:

**COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL &
COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOL BOARD**



RESET : VOICES OF A NEW COLUMBUS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

**COLUMBUS
STAND UP!**



NCNW 2nd Annual Policy Summit



Sister Loretta Gray
NCNW National Membership Co-Chair
NCNW National Executive Committee

On May 31, 2025, Sister Loretta Gray gave a detailed report about Washington D.C. NCNW 2nd Policy Summit at the Ohio State Coalition (OSC) meeting.

She talked about NCNW's major concerns with our congressional politicians.

NCNW talked about common issues that many women and minority people face daily while living in America. The politicians were given suggestions on what actions they need to take.

Below is a brief summary of issues she reported.

Healthcare:

Chronic Diseases:

More prevalent among Black and low-income people. Treat diabetes and reduce obesity.

Health Equity:

"NCNW supports equitable access to healthcare and advocates for policy makers to ensure that healthcare is protected".

Reproductive/Maternal Health:

"According to the CDC, 80% of maternal deaths are preventable. NCNW advocates for increased funding and coverage for reproductive and maternal health".

Mental Health:

NCNW request resources and funding for mental health facilities, professionals, and coverage be increased.

Nutrition:

According to Feeding America, hunger amongst Black people is disproportionate resulting in 1 and 5 Black people experiencing food insecurity. This includes Black children who 29% of whom live in food insecure households.

Funds are requested to fight hunger in low-income communities. Access to healthy food needs to be increased.

Vaccine Access/Coverage:

Health/healthcare literacy among vulnerable communities needs to be increased.

Economic Empowerment:

Child Tax Credit:

"The Child Tax Credit allows families to get benefits that could help improve their economic standing".

Equal Pay:

"NCNW supports equal pay for all regardless of race, gender, religion, and background. This includes advocating for equal pay at both the state and federal levels to ensure that the wealth/wage gap is closed".

Housing:

The policymakers need to address the housing crisis. Fix housing appraisal bias. Build more affordable and safe housing.

Workforce Development:

NCNW supports federal funding to bolster the workforce in low income and disadvantaged communities.

Employment and AI Fairness:

NCNW supports regulations that will prevent discrimination in hiring, promotion, and other employment-related decisions driven by AI.

Education:

Freedom to Learn:

NCNW will continue to advocate for protecting Black history curriculum in schools. The prevention of book bans, especially books that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion is a priority.

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From 10 Policy Summit Cont.

HBCU Funding:

“NCNW supports increased federal, state, and local funding to HBCU”.

Student Loans:

“NCNW advocates for lawmakers to take measures to decrease student loan debt and regulate predatory lending practices”.

The NCNW had additional education concerns including digital literacy and skill development.

Social Justice:

The social justice issues were many and the details about each one can become an lengthy compersation. For the purpose of this publication the social justice issues are listed below:

- Caregiving
- Gun Violence
- Human Trafficking
- Missing and Murdered African Women
- Veterans Affairs
- Voting Rights
- Civil Rights Protections in Online and AI Envrnements

Photo - The Capitol and Ohio’s NCNW delegation:



Kroger Community Rewards

NCNW Columbus 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

📣 Event Announcement:

I am honored to share that I will be participating in the Columbus Book Fair on Saturday, September 20, 2025 at the Karl Road Metropolitan Library (5590 Karl Road, Columbus, Ohio) from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.



Egondu Onyejekwe, PhD

Author | Survivor | Futurist | AI Educator & Advocate

About the Author: Egondu Onyejekwe is a breast cancer survivor, lifelong learner (Lif), and recognized AI educator. Her work spans teaching children the igbo language, guiding seniors into the world of artificial intelligence, and empowering communities through books, podcasts, and public talks. She weaves hope, technology, and cultural wisdom into stories that inspire readers across generations.



Cancer and the Ribbon of Resilience
Your Journey from Daring Diagnosis to Jubilant Rebirth



SCAN ME



The ABCs of AI for SENIORS

Cancer and the Ribbon of Resilience
 This heartfelt survivor's journey takes readers from the shock of diagnosis to the triumph of recovery. It is both a testimony and a call for early screening, turning pain into purpose.

The ABCs of AI for Seniors
 A simple, humorous, and empowering guide to artificial intelligence, crafted especially for seniors to embrace technology with confidence. This book anchors Egondu's role as an AI educator and futurist, proving that learning has no age limit.

"Inspiring Hope & Bridging Generations Through Books, Language, and Artificial Intelligence."

Paperback Price List – Egondu Onyejekwe, PhD

Contact: egonduglobal@gmail.com

Note: Author-direct prices include US shipping.

Title	Format	Amazon Price	Author-Direct Price (US shipping included)	Notes
Cancer and the Ribbon of Resilience	Paperback	\$29.99	\$20.00	Signed copies available.
The ABCs of AI for Seniors	Paperback	\$12.99	\$10.00	Great for senior groups/clubs.
The Ribbons Early Whisper: The Screen & The Sign	Paperback	\$19.99	\$15.00	By request only.

Hardcovers: standard retail pricing applies; buyer pays actual shipping.

Ordering: Email egonduglobal@gmail.com with title(s), quantity, and mailing address

A Night of Celebration with NANBPWC

Charlene E. Green

Madam President and Charlene Greene were guests of Victoria Crews at the 85th National Convention of The National Association of Negro Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. The Convention was held July 15-20, 2025, at the Renaissance Columbus Westerville Hotel as they celebrated 90 years of visionary leadership.

We attended on July 19th for the 90th Anniversary Celebration- "Honoring the Legacy. Embracing the Future."

The decorations were beautiful and included 6 ft. cutouts of their past and present National Presidents along with a variety of vendors with general and organizational items for those in attendance.

When we entered the ballroom for the celebration, we presented with large fans with the NANBPWC logo. These fans of course were relevant to the music/dance "Boots on the Ground" and the fans were used throughout the evening.

There was a video celebrating the organization and each of the National Presidents, past and present, in attendance gave remarks. Afterwards, we all lifted glasses of champagne in a toast to NANBPWC's 90 years of service.

We genuinely enjoyed the dancing, a lovely buffet, a bar with a variety of drinks, and a wonderful dessert bar. It was a fun night for NANBPWC and guests.



2025 THE AFRICAN MALE WELLNESS WALK

Black Men's Wellness Day

The African American Male Wellness Agency sponsored the 2025 Black Men's Wellness Day on Saturday, August 9th. This tremendous event featured health assessments at no cost, a 5k walk, seniors pavilion, children's area, live music, and wonderful performers.

All of these activities were brought together in order to promote health equity and address health disparities in the African American community. This affair was attended by thousands of individuals from the Greater area, other cities in Ohio, and from another state. We were there, the National Council of Negro Women Incorporated, Columbus OH Section as one of approximately 100 vendors partnering in this life saving experience.

Sisters from our Section volunteered to work at the vendors table for Black Men's Wellness Day. It was well-supplied with varied health life enhancing information for all - from prenatal to older adults, and all those in between. As one of the most well visited tables, more than 280 individuals signed the log; 37 individuals expressed an interest in learning more about NCNW for membership or opportunities to volunteer for providing community service. Another 25 people wanted to receive additional information about the maternal, infant and child program - S.E.E.E. (Serve, Educate, Empower, Elevate), overall focus is reducing Black infant and maternal mortality.

Additionally, some NCNW members formed a Purple Power Passion Team, and they participated in the walk. Throughout this time, the ladies developed a greater bond of sisterhood engaging in a fun and fitness experience.

From the vendor table to the walk, an awesome day was had by all!!!

Submitted by: Bronda Jackson-Fawkes



The 2025 Black Family Reunion

The **37th Black Family Reunion** took place in Cincinnati Ohio, August 14 - 17, 2025. Many activities and events were planned for this 4 day family reunion. On Saturday, members of the Columbus Section, participated with the Cincinnati Section in the Parade, passing out candy and stating we are NCNW! Some members walked while holding the NCNW banner, others walked with the group and there were two cars that rode behind the walkers, with banners and posters on them.

The parade route was different this year, as it did not go into the Avondale neighborhood. This year the parade route was Eggleston Drive to Pete Rose Way. In front of the grandstand, each organization was given a few minutes to be introduced and do a presentation that stated who you are and what you do.

Here is a tidbit most people didn't realize: The Black Family Reunion is also known as the Midwest Regional Black Family Reunion Celebration. The Black Family Reunion was inaugurated in 1988 in Cincinnati, Ohio, by Dr. Dorothy I. Height, President Emerita of the National Council of Negro Women.

At Sawyer Park on Saturday and Sunday, August 16 & 17th, the Cincinnati Section were the hosts of the Senior Pavillion. There were games, presentations and food giveaway that NCNW Cincinnati coordinated. Many people attended the Senior Pavillion and attended the various presentations.

NCNW-COLS donated some items for the giveaway prizes in the Seniors Pavillion including, water bottles, toiletry kits, diaper bags to name a few.

In Sawyer Park, there were many Vendors, Food Trucks, back to school giveaways, a Children's Pavilion and Entertainment was held on the Main Stage. There was something there for everyone. A good time was had by all.

Save the date for next year, the 3rd weekend in August!

Humbly submitted,
Karen D. Peaks



celebrate!

*Columbus Section Members
September Birthday's!*

Vivian Jackson Anderson September 14

Alethea Morris September 16

Victoria Wilder Crews September 18

Grace Nuggets



TOPICS: **Pause** to Pray

Why "**Pause** to Pray"32`1

Pausing is to slow down, to stop, to focus, to hesitate before moving forward. **Pausing** can help us quiet our stormy thinking. Especially, when we are anxious and in a rush.

Pausing is a way of getting our own attention before we run into something and so many times it is getting out of our own way.

Praying is our conversation with God. Praying is not only talking to God, it is our seeking God. It is our listening to God. Praying is worshiping God and showing gratitude to Him for His Goodness, His mercies and His Grace.

Praying is Communing with God.

He said "He knows the plans for us," so why not trust His plans and seek His will and His way. Praying is asking and trusting God for direction.

When we "**Pause** to Pray" We can expect God's Presence.....

We will receive His Peace...

We are confident of His Protection.

"**Pausing** and Praying" prepares our hearts to receive His Grace as He pours into us and allows us to be still while our loving Father calms and comforts us.

"**Pausing** to Pray"is putting on a warm coat before going out in the cold...

Nuggets from the Heart ♥
Shirley Skelton NCNW Chaplain

