

March/April 2017

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President's Letter



Dear South Suburban Chicago Chapter Members:

You are absolutely AMAZING!! In the last month I have witnessed South Suburban Chicago Chapter members step up and support one another by preparing meals for respective members' families as they recover at home, offer transportation for their children and, importantly, support the planning efforts of other members by both

attending and spreading the word about our phenomenal programs. None of these efforts would be a success without YOUR presence.

Our Legislative Committee led by our 2016 Outstanding Leader, Latonya Ford planned an eye-opening and informative event on Human Trafficking. The information and panel speakers were both informative and engaging.

This past weekend, the Fundraising Committee gave us Soiree 2017, A True "Pink and Blue" Day Party. Our members attended in full force! This was a new concept for our chapter as we typically gravitate to formal evening fundraisers. However on this past Sunday afternoon, South Suburban Chicago members and their guests came out to support the 2017 Fundraiser chaired by Angela Gordon and Noel Frierson-Lyttle. The final figures are not in as of yet but we raised almost \$20,000 during the event alone. South Suburban Chicago, you showed up and you showed out!!!! Again!!!

Often, as members, we underestimate the power of attending events planned by fellow chapter members but I would like for you to consider a few things the next time you talk yourself out of attending an event. First, most times the primary focus of any committee planning a function for chapter members to attend is on YOU the member or THE CHILDREN. Second, the committees ALWAYS plan for success. Third, most Committees want you to walk away appreciating the experience that was planned for you!! When you arrive at an event planned by members of the chapter, that Committee is hoping for a positive response from you much like the reaction you get from your child when they wake up on Christmas morning to see gifts under the tree. Your participation and enthusiasm warmed the heart of those who spent months planning these functions.

Kudos to South Suburban Chicago Members, because you know how to show APPRECIATION to your fellow sisters and, even more, you have shown them LOVE!!!

Soirée 2017: A Pink and Blue SUCCESS!

Jack and Jill South Suburban Chicago hosted a fabulous fundraiser to support college scholarships! The event was held at Tuscany Falls Banquets and Events in Mokena, IL. Over 200 guests came out in their finest pink and blue attire, enjoyed the sounds of Ivory Dreams and bid on phenomenal silent auction items, including a trip to Mexico. The emcee for the Pink and Blue Soiree was actor, dancer, and supermom, Jossie Thacker. The event collectively raised over \$20,000! Special congrats and thanks to Chair Angela Gordon, Co-Chair Noel Frierson-Lyttle and the hardworking fundraising committee for organizing a wonderful afternoon that was enjoyed by all.







Legislative Corner - Protecting Our Children

On March 4, 2017, the Legislative Committee hosted the forum, "Human Trafficking: No Longer Just an International Problem." The event, which was held at Ingalls Hospital in Harvey, IL, included a panel of dynamic women all focused on combating the spread of human trafficking and the educating the community on how to detect it, how to protect themselves and loved ones from it, how to report it, and how to advocate on behalf of the victims and survivors. The panel included Harvey, IL Detective Sandra Baptist, Abrielle Callier, human trafficking survivor, Maureen Forte, anti-human trafficking advocate, Illinois Senator Toi Hutchinson, and Cassandra Ma, Executive Director of Reclaim 13. In addition to the panel, a breakout session designed specifically for our youth was facilitated by Reclaim 13 Educational Director, Cheryl Christensen. With an attendance of 70 individuals, we believe that we accomplished this based on feedback received from the event.

The Legislative Committee thanks all of the moms who supported the event by either attending or promoting the event!





Election Day is April 11th!

Our final slate of candidates will be announced at the March Chapter Meeting. Nominations from the floor will also be given at this time. Candidate speeches and the election will take place at the April Chapter Meeting on April 11th.

IMPORTANT: To begin voting, please be prepared to use your phone for text messaging, get on your internet browser, OR use the Poll Everywhere



App. You will be given a specific link before voting begins.

Click on the links below to install Poll Everywhere on your phone:

- * ANDROID
- * IPHONE

For efficiency, please register at Poll Everywhere as a participant.

Please contact the Nominating Committee Chairman directly with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Featured Activity: Kids Table



On February 25th Group 2 Little Einsteins and Group 3 Innovators collaborated for a joint group activity at The Kid's Table in Chicago's Wicker Park neighborhood. The children participated in a hands-on cooking class and learned how to make soul food: homemade macaroni and cheese, sweet potato pies and

lemonade. They had a great time and were very proud of their culinary creations.





Kudos Corner



Kudos to JJSSCC Alum Alayna Rouse for her recent acceptance into Michigan's Health Studies Program in Cape Town South Africa!! Alayna is a 2014 Graduate from Homewood Flossmoor H.S and daughter of Michael and Cassaundra Rouse. She is currently a junior at the University of Michigan. Her studies in this 7-week summer program will focus on community and township health care services, prevention and treatment of

communicable and non-communicable diseases, and the efforts to alleviate the country's crisis with HIV-AIDS and tuberculosis. She will work in a local medical clinic and health care center for observations, shadowing staff and practitioners.

Group 3 Innovator Chelsea Orlandi performed in a solo piano recital at The Music Connection. This was a requirement to graduate to the next Suzuki book level where she plays classical music. She has been playing since age 3 and performs throughout the Chicagoland area. She also takes lessons and performs at Muzicnet where she plays Gospel and Jazz piano. Congrats on a wonderful accomplishment, Chelsea!





Congrats to G-5 group member Lauren Legardy and the Parker Junior High 8th grade girls volleyball team! The Lady Falcons won Sectionals on March 13, 2017 and will be heading to the State championship on Saturday, March 18th. Lauren's powerhouse serve helped lead the time to a victory over their main rival, James Hart. Kudos Lauren and best of luck to the Lady Falcons!



Do you have information or news to share with our chapter?

If you'd like to contribute to the monthly JJSSCC newsletter, please send your information to editor@jackandjillsscc.com.



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