

**DELTA**  
RESEARCH AND  
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION®

CREATING POSSIBILITIES ...  
IMPROVING LIVES



1967 ▲ ANNIVERSARY ▲ 2017  
DREF

DREF 2016  
DREF 2017

## Board of Directors 2016-2017



## MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Research and Educational Foundation (DREF) promotes research which identifies and fashions solutions to issues affecting African American women and their families, nationally and globally, through funding and support of the charitable and educational programs of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and collaborative organizations.

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Dear Friends,

I extend a thankful welcome to you and hope, after reading our 2016-2017 Annual Report, that it brings as much pride in our accomplishments as it does to all of us working on behalf of African American women and families. Our mission remained the same as we stepped into our Golden Anniversary Year. Over DREF's five decades of commitment to service, countless communities, students, women and children have experienced positive changes and expanded life choices. DREF donors can know that lives have improved, and dreams materialized. It is with heartfelt thanks in our work that DREF's 50th Anniversary theme, "Creating Possibilities: Then and Now!" takes on renewed meaning.

During this past fiscal year, DREF continued to carry out the full complement of our signature programming. Community Empowerment grants were awarded to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. chapters, several of which partnered with local collaborating organizations. We awarded \$187,775 in scholarship funds on behalf of Delta chapters enabling 146 students to further their studies.

We addressed, through the Sorority's Disaster Relief Fund, the immediate survival needs of families affected by damaging local disasters. Families living in Flint, MI forced to drink toxic water, or families escaping the ravages of flood waters in North Carolina are just two of the human crises where DREF intervened. Internationally, DREF made it possible for the delivery of food and water to school children and their families in Charette, Haiti, where the Sorority established a school.

The Stephanie Tubbs Jones Social Justice Institute Forum, held annually during Delta Days in the Nation's Capital, focused on "Empowering Black Women and Girls" with emphasis on education, activism, research and public policy. DREF was honored to welcome Congresswoman Yvette Clarke (D-NY)

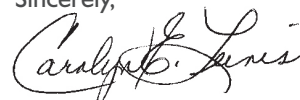
to share why she, along with other congresswomen established the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls, the first caucus in U.S. history to focus on eliminating the inequalities and injustices threatening the well-being of Black women.

DREF continued the groundbreaking work of the Delta Teacher Efficacy Campaign (DTEC), initially made possible by matching funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. An E-Course entitled, "Education: It's a Heart Matter" offered through DTEC's Teacher Efficacy Academy (TEA) helped shift classroom teachers' mindsets to help them release previously held biases and motivate students to reach their highest academic levels. By the end of 2017, DTEC reached nearly 250 educators in 40 states with remarkable results for teachers and the students served.

More examples of DREF's successes are captured in the Annual Report. Let me be clear that none of what is contained could have been possible without our donors' generosity. Whether donations were received on social media, grants, responses to our annual year-end fund appeal, participation in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), financial assistance received through the Disaster Relief Fund to help families, or participation as a DREF Diplomat, all of us at DREF and those we serve are beyond grateful and know the differences you have made.

I encourage you to read the report. We honor our past, appreciate the value of our work today, and look forward to 50 more years where DREF and you can *create more possibilities and improve more lives!*

Sincerely,



Carolyn E. Lewis  
President

## Message from the PRESIDENT



▲  
Carolyn E. Lewis

It is with heartfelt thanks in our work that DREF's 50th Anniversary theme, **"Creating Possibilities: Then and Now!"** took on renewed meaning.

# Fund Development

DREF continued refining its online fund development strategies by working to reach broader audiences on multiple social media platforms.



A strategic fund development plan begins with a compelling reason to ask donors to give. DREF, for the past 50 years, has identified the reasons why we can confidently develop the strategy and approaches that best support our mission to enhance the lives of African American women and their families.

## Growing on Social Media

DREF continued refining its online fund development strategies by working to reach broader audiences on multiple social media platforms. Visibility on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and growing DREF's internal email database serves to position the Foundation among audiences previously unaware of our service offerings. This strategy will continue in the coming years, based upon the increasing

fund development success of the annual #GIVING TUESDAY campaign and other opportunities like Amazon Smile that reach increasingly larger numbers of online and mobile donors. Each social media platform attracts its own loyal followers that DREF can reach with distinctive messages, eye-catching images, and compelling reasons to support DREF with the ease of making a safe, online donation.

## Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

Outreach to federal workers located throughout the world have resulted in new DREF donors. We appreciate their commitment to supporting our work. The Foundation's strategy includes in-person events, online advertisements and print placements, targeting particularly the Washington, DC area federal workforce and members of the military. Each year the annual payroll deduction pledges increase. DREF will expand this strategy and place additional emphasis on state-sponsored and corporate employer matching campaigns using similar outreach efforts.

## Event Marketing

DREF board members, volunteer DREF Diplomats, and supporters throughout the year initiated and hosted fund development events with proceeds directed to The Foundation. New York City and Baltimore, MD theater parties, memorial donations on behalf of a Baltimore County Alumnae Chapter past president among other events raised funds in support of DREF's ongoing programs. During the 2017 Delta Days in the Nation's Capital (DDNC), DREF promoted its 50th Anniversary Purse Charm, taking advance orders from Delta members traveling from around the nation to participate in the three-day social action forum. The DREF 50th Anniversary Charm was designed by award-winning handbag designer Yanique O. Moore, DREF board member. The unique, commemorative accessory was well-received by the DDNC participants.



## Grant Resource Development Committee

DREF established the Grant Resource Development Committee in January 2017 to have an entity solely focused on identifying and applying for grant funding opportunities. The Committee is comprised of volunteers who are experienced in grant-seeking and grantmaking.

In addition to DREF's online, CFC, event marketing fund development initiatives, The Foundation combines these strategies with its traditional method of generating financial support which remains the bedrock of donor support. As in previous fiscal periods, DREF issued the year-end fund appeal mailed to a growing donor list of nearly 18,000 supporters. The encouraging results indicate that our strategy of reaching donors where they are, and where they are most comfortable in supporting DREF continues to be a sound approach which will be continued.

The commemoration of the Delta Research and Educational Foundation's Golden Anniversary was launched at the Seventh Annual Stephanie Tubbs Jones (STJ) Social Justice Institute Forum on March 4, 2017. Held in conjunction with the Annual Delta Days in the Nation's Capital, the forum theme was "Empowering Black Women and Girls," which recalled the Foundation's founding mission and outlined the future path for creating possibilities and improving the lives of African American women and their families.

A major highlight of the 2017 STJ Forum was an update on the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls presented by The Honorable Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), who was one of the founding congresswomen to establish the Caucus. Officially established in April of 2016, as the first and only one of its kind, the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls was inspired by Ifeoma Ike, the co-founder of Black and Brown People Vote and the #SheWoke Committee. Joining Congresswoman Clarke, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., in sponsoring the Caucus as an officially registered, congressional entity were The Honorable Robin Kelly (D-IL) and The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ).



Photo by Bryant Senghor

▲ STJ Forum Participants. L-R: Lewis, Clarke, and Frazier.

During her presentation at the STJ Forum, Congresswoman Clarke stated that the Caucus will give Black women and girls a voice in the policy making process that has often ignored the systemic challenges confronting them. She also expressed that Black women and girls are disproportionately affected by many socioeconomic issues that threaten their well-being, and the Caucus aims to address economic equity, education, wellness, and safety for Black women and girls. The Caucus engages Black women and girls in the critical dialogue on policies that impact their lives, while ultimately providing a framework for creating opportunities and eliminating barriers to their success.

The "Empowering Black Women and Girls" Forum was moderated by Zinga A. Fraser, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Africana Studies and Director of the Shirley Chisholm Project at Brooklyn College; Dr. Fraser is also the 2009-10 Vivian A. Ware Research Fellow of DREF. Opening remarks were given by DREF President Carolyn E. Lewis and included presentation of the DREF 50th Anniversary kick-off video featuring Delta Honorary Member Daphne Maxwell Reid. The Forum also included the following presenters:

- ▲ Mary Hamilton-Howard, Ed.D., Raleigh Holmstedt Distinguished Professor, College of Education, Indiana State University, and member of the DREF Sister Scholars Advisory Council
- ▲ Aryn A. Frazier, 2017 Rhodes Scholar, 4th Year Jefferson Scholar, and former President of the Black Student Alliance, University of Virginia at Charlottesville
- ▲ Nakisha Lewis, Co-Founder, #SheWoke Committee, and Staff Member, National Black Justice Coalition
- ▲ Kristen Wells-Lewis, Founder, UNAPOLOGETIC, Inc., and Immediate Past Southwest Regional Representative, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Closing remarks were made by DREF CEO Patricia W. Lattimore and an inspiring, video montage of Black women and girls concluded the STJ Forum.

## The Center for Research on African American Women



Photo by Bryant Senghor

▲ STJ Forum participants (L-R): Dr. Zinga Fraser, Dr. Paulette C. Walker, DREF President Carolyn E. Lewis, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), and 2017 Rhodes Scholar Aryn Frazier.

“This opportunity has given me access, knowledge and skills to take my life journey to the next level and has encouraged me to strive all the more earnestly to achieve my goals.”

TAYLOR DENT, STJ INTERN



▲ Taylor Dent, STJ Intern

### 2017 STJ Internship Educational Opportunity

For six consecutive years, The Center for Research on African American Women and the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Social Justice Institute have afforded a collegiate female student an impactful educational experience through the

STJ Internship. The internship, named in honor of the late democratic congresswoman from Ohio, Stephanie Tubbs Jones (1949-2008) is presented in conjunction with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

The 2017 STJ was awarded to Taylor Dent, a recent graduate of the University of Illinois at Springfield. Ms. Dent was a sociology/anthropology major and a leader in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Upsilon Rho Chapter based on the UIS campus. She was assigned to complete the nine-week internship on Capitol Hill in the office of newly elected Congresswoman Val Butler Demings (D-FL), also a Delta member.

The STJ Internship Program is supported by generous contributions from the Bill and Hillary Clinton Family Foundation and Michele V. Hagans, President, Fort Lincoln New Town Corporation.

## 2016-2017 Community Empowerment Grant Awards



▲ New backpack filled with school supplies, compliments of NMAC.

The North Manhattan Alumnae Chapter (NMAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was awarded a 2016-2017 Community Empowerment Grant to support its Annual Health Fair and “Backpack Jam” held in the fall of 2016 at the J. Hood Wright Park, New York, NY. The community outreach program not only offered backpacks filled with school supplies to students under age 18, but also served as a resource fair. Health screenings and voter registration were offered at the event along with healthy snacks, salsa dancing, games and music. Students and their parents also visited the health exhibitions, learned about the value of good nutrition, and attended the technology workshop.

The Psi Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity collaborated with the North Manhattan chapter to present the Annual Health Fair and “Backpack Jam” which included Metro Plus Health Plan as a co-sponsor.

### Grantees for the 2016-2017 Program Year

The 2016-17 Community Empowerment Grant Awards were awarded to chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to conduct programming in one or more of the following areas: Civic Engagement, Educational Development, Financial Literacy, Health and Wellness, and International Awareness. Funding was made possible by the National Program Planning and Development Centennial Fund established at DREF.

Albuquerque (NM) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Baltimore Metropolitan (MD) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Columbia (SC) Alumnae Chapter	\$750
Douglass-Carroll-Paulding Counties (GA) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Epsilon Epsilon Chapter (Michigan State University)	\$1,000
Federal City (DC) Alumnae Chapter	\$750
Fort Smith (AR) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Frederick County (MD) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Houston (TX) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Marietta-Roswell (GA) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Montclair (NJ) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
New Orleans (LA) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
North Manhattan (NY) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Northwest Arkansas (AR) Alumnae Chapter	\$750
Quaker City (PA) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Sanford (FL) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
South Broward (FL) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Stone Mountain-Lithonia (GA) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500
Springfield-Decatur (IL) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Tempe (AZ) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,000
Washington (DC) Alumnae Chapter	\$1,500

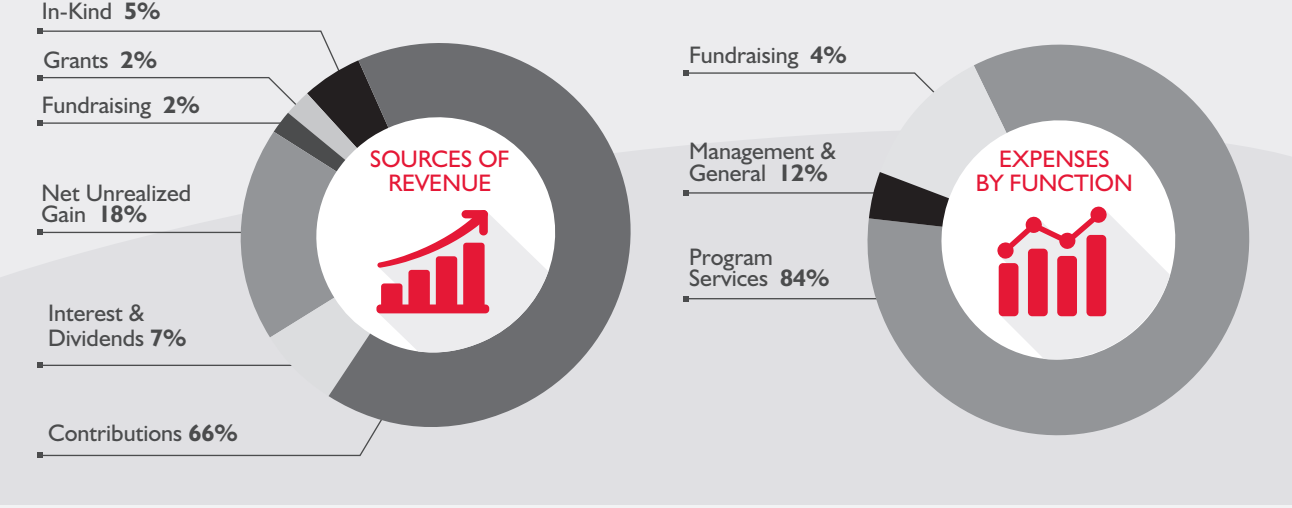
**ASSETS**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	240,725
Investments	5,197,808
Contributions Receivable	6,253
Other Receivables	4,380
Fixed Assets	18,430
Other Assets	3,725
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,471,321</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$35,058</b>

**NET ASSETS**

Unrestricted	939,396
Temporarily Restricted	3,573,738
Permanently Restricted	923,129
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,436,263</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$5,471,321</b>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**



# Donor Roll Call

## UNRESTRICTED DONORS

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**Luminary - \$10,000 - \$24,999**  
Fourteen Karat Plus, Inc.  
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Houston Alumnae  
Prince George's County Alumnae

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*In Honor of Ronalyn David*  
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Martha E. Williams

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Anjanette Wyatt

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Darlene Pollard

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