Welcome to your Fall “Associates in Action” Newsletter.

What a phenomenal year! Serving as the National Executive Board Liaison to the National Associates Committee, I can say with great certainty, our Associates have a passion for both life and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Our Associate Jewels continue to bestow great blessings on our organization, our children and our communities. Simply said – we thank you.

We kicked off the 2014-2015 program year with an ambitious agenda and I am pleased to report, we far exceeded expectations. The National Associates Committee focused on increasing the number of Life Associate Members, chartering new Associate Groups, updating the Associates Guide and hosting the 2nd Associates Getaway Weekend in Las Vegas. We’re not done yet but we’re on the path to success!

As you peruse your newsletter, note the large number of Associates participating in the 2015 annual Day of Service! Our Associate Jewels lead by example and beautifully illustrate our Power to Make a Difference!

The National Executive Board and National Associates Committee look forward to seeing you at the Associates Getaway Weekend in Las Vegas, November 13th – 15th.

Serving to Make a Difference –

JOLI COOPER-NELSON
26th National Vice President

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Greetings Associates:

I cannot express my sincere appreciation for the wonderful things that you are doing in each of your regions to support your local chapter, our children and our community organizations. Your contributions continue to make a positive impact in our organization, the premier national children organization.

As you continue to give of yourselves, please know that you are indeed the rare gems that continue to shine.

I am sure that while you are assisting your local chapters, you are also, contributing to the Foundation, which provides valuable support to charitable organizations within your communities. “Thank You” for your support.

May we continue to show support and love for both our active mothers and recent graduates with our premiere program “The Mothers Away from Home Project”, a program that provides a network of contacts for our Jack and Jill College and boarding students needing assistance in a new environment. We have the Power to Make a Difference!

May you continue to be blessed and to be a blessing!

PEARL M. GIVENS
National Associates Chair

Thank You to Our Wonderful REGIONAL ASSOCIATES CHAIRS

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2014-2016
NATIONAL ASSOCIATES COMMITTEE
Priorities & Accomplishments

• Increase Number of Associate Members and New Charter Associate Groups – Chartered 13 New Associate Groups
• Develop 2014-2015 National Associate Members Presentation - Completed
• Support Life Membership Resolution Execution - Completed
• Create Two National Associate Member Newsletters - Completed
• Enhance Associates Mothers Away From Home (MAFH) National Project - Completed
• Host 2nd Associates Getaway Weekend in November 2015 - WIP
• Support Local Associate Groups - Ongoing
• Developed MAFH Ad for Teen and Mothers Conference Souvenir Journal - Completed
• Create New Associate Welcome Letter for Graduating Out Mothers - Completed
• Increase Associates Communication on Jack and Jill Facebook Page - Ongoing
• Host Monthly National Associate Committee Chats – Completed

KEEP CALM AND FOCUS ON PRIORITIES
New & Improved
MOTHERS AWAY FROM HOME NATIONAL ASSOCIATES PROJECT

The National Associates Committee is excited to announce enhancements to the Mothers Away From Home (MAFH). MAFH is the national project of the Associates of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. and was created to provide a caring “network” for our Jack and Jill college-bound and boarding school students. The goal is to assist in their transition and existence in their new environment. Participation is open to all Active Mothers, Associates Mothers and Graduated Mothers who completed their tenure in good standing.

The new online Student Registration form is to be completed by the Mother of the student attending College or Boarding School. The form can be found in two different locations on Jack and Jill of America’s National website – on the Home Page and on Associates Page. Mothers can also request the form from their Regional Associate Chair.

Mother’s will submit the completed form to the following email address admin@jack-and-jill.org.

Annual enrollment deadlines are January 31st and September 1st.

If you have an interest in becoming a MAFH or have any questions about the new process, contact your RAC or National Headquarters.
As 2015 nears an end... consider joining your Jack and Jill family for our 2nd Associate Getaway Weekend – where it’s all about great mothers, great memories and great fun!

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
• Associate Jewels Welcome Reception
• Associate Jewels Hospitality Suite
• The Essential Diana Ross: Some Memories Never Fade (Optional “On Your Own” Activity)
• Associate Jazz Brunch – Back by Popular Demand
• Something Special at Saks....
• Associate’s Night Out: Motown Review - Hitzville The Show
• Associate Jewels: Sharing Pearls of Wisdom
• Associate Community Service
• Associate Jewel “We Appreciate Your Sparkle” Gift

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN SEPTEMBER 1!
Associate Jewels - What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas!
The National Associates Day of Service was unveiled at the 40th National Convention by Past National President Tamara Turnely Robinson in honor of our 75-year legacy as the premier African American family organization providing service to children and youth in our local communities.

All local Chapter Associate Groups are encouraged to perform a service activity during the month of February or beyond as a way of showing that we all have “The Power to Make a Difference.”

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TULSA, OK Central Region

On May 4, 2014, The Central Region installed The (Charter) Associates of The Tulsa Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. The Associates bring to the Chapter a wealth of experience and passion for Jack and Jill, including their collective involvement with (re)chartering the Tulsa Chapter in 2004 and serving as Chapter Officers and members for two successive generations. Shortly after their installation, The Associates welcomed the opportunity to assist with The Central Region’s Teen Conference held in Tulsa, OK this past June and they look forward to many years ahead of friendship and being a support group to the Tulsa Chapter. Pictured are: Michelle Anderson, Central Region Secretary, Jane Gentry, Associate Co-Chair, Shelley Thomas, Associate Co-Chair, Barbara Greene, Associate, Felicia Correia, Associate, Jennifer Goines, Tulsa Chapter President, and Tara Bradley, Central Region Associates Chair.
The Atlantic City, NJ Associates of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. are busy both supporting Chapter activities and enjoying our Associate status. We have a membership of 12 Associates which includes eight (8) life members and five (5) former Presidents. We are proud of Associate Vivian M. J. Darkes*** who is currently the National Chair of the Jack and Jill Five Star Committee and who served as the 17th Eastern Regional Director. Our membership includes the following Associates: Annie C. Augustin***, Jacqueline Carrington Brown*, Lynda Browne-Kidd***, Olivia C. Caldwell, Sonya G. Harris, Associate Chair***, Lula Polk Howard, Rosetta “Frankie” Johnson***, Evelyn Vanderhurst Frasier*, Anne Petit Nelson*, Joyce Robertson and Linda Steele**. Our Associates are certainly “In Action”!

On May 8, 2015, we conducted the Bridging Ceremony for graduating mothers Aundre’ Byrd, Lisa Givens and Kendale Ingrum at the Atlantic City Country Club following the initiation of new mothers and installation of the 2015-2017 Officers. On April 18, 2015, the Associates financially supported and attended the Chapter’s “Taste and Tune” fundraiser which was a huge success! Our “Day of Service” was participation at the A.H.E.A.R.T. “Be My Valentine Baby” Mega Baby Shower at the Ramada Inn located in West Atlantic City. A.H.E.A.R.T., the acronym for All Hearts Educating Advocating Restoring Transforming, is a non-profit organization that provides emergency assistance to infants in crisis. In February we enjoyed a lovely soiree hosted by the Atlantic City, NJ Chapter in recognition of Associates Appreciation Day at The Italian Gourmet in Galloway. Each Associate was presented with a beautiful bracelet. The Associates hold breakfast or after work meetings at local restaurants.

NOTE: *Life Member - **Past President - ***Life Member and Past President
BERGEN-PASSAIC, NJ  Eastern Region

Since the installation of their newly Chartered Associates group, the Bergen-Passaic Associates have been bonding and getting together with a purpose. Bergen-Passaic is the home chapter of National President, Tammy King. The Associates kicked off their year with a community service event which involved adopting a local family in need and purchasing holiday gifts like coats, hats/gloves, toys and books etc. for the entire family. Other activities included: attending a Wine Tasting event, a Spa Day/Champagne brunch and a Potluck dinner/Slumber Party -just to name a few. The Associates discussed and are currently exploring having an Associates Retreat this Fall at the beautiful Mansion at Noble Lane, a Black owned B & B in the Poconos. Stay tuned as the Associates continue to have fun and do things their way!

Pictured above, National President Tammy King, Eastern Region Associate Chair Deborah Enix-Ross, Associates and Mother members at the installation of the Bergen-Passaic Chapter Associate Group.
The Jack and Jill Associates Boston Chapter celebrated Mother’s Day with a pink rose and a Saturday Brunch at Abby Park Restaurant in Milton.

Ten Associates, including present and upcoming Chapter officers, enjoyed the beautiful spring day, good and interesting food and most of all each other’s company.

As the Associates trade stories and future plans, their friendships, rooted in their time as Boston Chapter mothers, evolve into an exploration of themselves, their families and their worlds.

Although one of the Associates plans to move out of state, she will remain part of the Boston Associate group and will participate with them on her frequent trips home to Boston.

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BROOKLYN, NY Eastern Region

The Brooklyn Chapter Associates Group has had a wonderfully successful year of service to our community and fellowship with our Chapter and Sister Associates. As a group we have participated with the Chapter in the ACS Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, lifted our hands in protest against police violence against our youth, Black Family Dinner and the Chapter Casino Royale Benefit Gala.

The Associates, in our enduring commitment to helping the children and families in our community, have continued our relationship with Food First, Inc., an agency that assists families escaping from and struggling with domestic abuse. In September, our Associates donated backpacks loaded with a full set of school supplies for each child at Food First so that they can begin the school year with the tools to focus on learning. As our Associates National Day of Service activity, in February we presented a decoratively wrapped bundle of gift cards for the Mothers at Food First so that these mothers who sacrifice so much can purchase something personal for themselves. The generosity and philanthropy of our Associates has allowed us to make a difference in these families’ lives. As we close out this program year, we are collecting donations to defray the cost of a bus transporting young sickle cell patients from Brookdale Hospital to a summer camp and to support scholarship awards to the Chapter’s graduating teens.
On November 1, 2014 the Burlington-Willingboro, New Jersey chapter installed six Associates as charter members of their Associate Group. The ceremony took place at the Westin Hotel in Mt. Laurel, NJ. The charter members, wearing bright smiles and their Associate charter pins, are pictured below.

In honor of National Associate month, in February 2015, the Greater Union County Chapter (“GUCC”) Associates were feted during a memorable night of relaxation and fun at the Healing Hands Spa in Plainfield, NJ. The Associates were recognized for their support of the chapter during the program year which included: Jack and Jill /Carole Robertson Day, preparing and delivering a Fall care package to the daughter of our late charter Associate member Karla Jones Raynor, collecting coats and other garments for the chapter’s annual coat drive, participating in the annual Gingerbread House activity, preparing and serving meals to homeless families through the F.I.S.H. Hospitality program, serving as speakers for the chapter’s Teen Summit Foundation grant and supporting the chapter’s Harlem Nights Fundraiser. The chapter will continue to solicit their service to act as mentors to our mothers and to support our community service projects.
ASSOCIATES Planning Meeting for 2014-2015 Program Year

ASSOCIATES Celebrate Jack and Jill Day & Life of Carole Robertson

ASSOCIATES Join GUCC for Jacks and Jill Night Out

ASSOCIATES Support The GUCC 7th Annual Coat Drive

ASSOCIATES Strengthen Friendships with a Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner

ASSOCIATES Jingle in the Holiday at the Annual GUCC Gingerbread House Event

ASSOCIATES serving the community and supporting the FISH Hospitality Feeding Program

GUCC Celebrates Associates and Graduated Mothers with an evening at The Spa

Associates conducted workshops during GUCC TEEN Summit which was funded through the Jack and Jill Foundation Jacqueline Robinson grant

Associates and GUCC mothers gather to celebrate and honor departed mother Karla Raynor and to embrace her daughter Kameron
LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA  Eastern Region

Associate mothers in Loudoun County Virginia Chapter (LCVC) regularly support the community. When they learned about the more than 1,000 at risk youngsters living in Loudoun County, they took steps to make a difference. The Associate mothers organized a food drive and collected over 100 pounds of canned goods, non-perishable foods and toiletries to support Mobile Hope. The non-profit organization works with schools and churches to ensure youngsters, identified as homeless and precariously housed, receive the much needed items to survive.


The LCVC Associates Group was chartered in 2010. The mothers meet throughout the year and regularly attend Jack and Jill regional and national conventions.

NASSAU COUNTY, NY  Eastern Region

In addition to donating bags of food, the Nassau County (NY) Associates Group participated in the food drive at Memorial Presbyterian Church by bagging vegetables for distribution to food challenged families in Nassau County.
The Associates of New Castle County (DE) hosted their inaugural Funny Valentine Game Night at the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware on Friday, February 13, 2015. Associates brought cheer to the children and families receiving care at Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children, a highly respected, national leader in pediatric surgical specialties from cardiology to orthopedics. The Ronald McDonald House of Delaware provides a safe, affordable “home away from home” to families of seriously or chronically ill or injured children who are being treated at area hospitals.

The hospital is a highly respected national leader in pediatric surgical specialties. The Ronald McDonald House of Delaware provides a safe, affordable “home away from home” to families of seriously or chronically ill or injured children who are being treated at area hospitals. The House is a place where families can stay together and receive the kind of special care they need at such difficult times. Families find a bit of comfort and peace and a hot evening meal after a long day at the Hospital. However, in honor of Valentine’s Day, families were shown extra love and encouraged to let the good times roll with activity stations for arts and crafts, Bingo, and physical movement with yoga, floor Tic-Tac-Toe, and dancing. The night was topped off with snacks and dancing! The night was topped off with snacks and delicious cupcakes, but nothing was sweeter than the smiles, hugs and thank yous from the families and staff!

The Associates have already been invited back and are eager to take the fun higher next year!
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VA Eastern Region

The Associates of the Prince William County Chapter (PWCCJJ) of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. are very appreciative to National President Tammy King, Associate Chair Deborah Enix-Ross, Chapter President Felecia Brown, and the mothers of PWCCJJ who participated in the official ceremony of the eleven Associates who were installed Sunday, March 15, 2015, at the Regency at Dominion Valley Country Club. We are especially grateful to the national and regional officers who traveled from New Jersey to Virginia for this memorable occasion to officiate at this ceremony.

All our Associates agree that it was an outstanding day! We appreciate the very special treatment and the momentous ceremony. We absolutely love the effort and thought that went into the design of the certificates, gifts including the “Associate Pins,” scrumptious food, fine décor, beautiful flowers, musical rendition by Jack and Jill Teen Nia Williams, and the intimate fellowship which allowed us to reflect upon our active days in Jack and Jill. We look forward to continue to serve the children in Prince William County and offer our talents and resources to the mothers of this great chapter.

Pictured below National President Tammy King and Eastern Region Associate Chair, Deborah Enix-Ross with the newly installed PWCCJJ Associates Group.

SERVE is the Manassas campus of Northern Virginia Family Services. It is unique for its holistic approach to helping our community’s most vulnerable individuals and families address a variety of needs on their paths to self-sufficiency. They have a 92-bed emergency facility for those residents/families who were otherwise homeless. While they receive many donations of clothing and bedding for these residents, little or no donations of NEW pillows are received. The Associate Group feels our donation of almost 40 pillows (and stuffed animals) not only bring comfort and safety to these families, but it gives the recipients another reason “not to count sheep, but to thank the Shepherd!”
The Associate Group joined forces with Black Women United for Action (BWUFA), with help from Christian Relief Services and Metro Ladies of Prince William County in collecting donations to support the combat of Ebola in Liberia. In response to the relief efforts, we helped fill a shipping container located at St. David’s Episcopal Church with critically needed supplies that were sent to Liberia.

The health care partner in Sierra Leone – Faith Healing Development Organization – has urgently requested personal protection suits and supplies and equipment for their four clinics in Rokel, Bo, Bunumbu, and Kenema. Our collected supplies were RUSH air freighted to these clinics by Christian Relief Services.

**SUPPLY DONATIONS INCLUDE:**

Clorox Products – wipes, sprays, etc. Plastic spray bottles
Gloves – all sizes (long & short)
Face masks
Eye protectors
Rubber aprons
Plastic shoe covers
Plastic buckets
Chlorine tablets
Disinfectants
Rubbing alcohol
Hand sanitizer

**PARTICIPANTS:**

Dr. Frances K. Wood
Evelyn Kershaw
Deloise Evans
Jeannette Owings-Ballard
Mary Minter
Michelle Daly
Sandra Greene

**DATES**

**COLLECTION:** November, 2014  (Evelyn’s house)
**DELIVERY:** To Christian Relief Services, Springfield, VA (part of large shipping crate sent)
ROCHESTER, NY Eastern Region
The Rochester Chapter hosted a lunch for our Associates on Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the Next Door Bar and Grill, 3220 Monroe Avenue in Pittsford, New York from 11:30 - 1:30 pm.
Rochester Associates Kijana Crawford, Deborah Whitt, Vernita Fullwood and La Marr Jackson attended along with Chapter President Sharon Legette-Sobers, Robin V. Scott (Membership Chair), Cheryl Johnson (Chapter Associate Liaison), Rhondalynn Richards (Financial Secretary and Co-Host of the Lunch), Gina Lopez and Raquel Cofield. It was an afternoon of camaraderie and inspiring mom reports from our Associates. Their encouragement and wisdom helped to foster longstanding interactions with experienced current members and fresh relationships with our new moms.

SUFFOLK COUNTY, NY Eastern Region
In recognition of J&J National Associates Day of Service, the Suffolk County Chapter - Associate Mothers organized its Annual Heart Healthy Campaign for February (Heart Health month) and March (Women’s History month) . . . as women, we need to celebrate US, as well as, remain healthy for our families and communities and Heart Disease is the #1 killer of women.
We utilized our Chapter website, the fundraising page on the AHA website, provided handouts at the Chapter meetings and sent emails with attached information on Heart Healthy recipes for members and their family & friends to share. We also asked them to send pictures dressed in RED showing their support.

The Suffolk County Associate Mothers, (15 strong): Lenore Battle, Michelle Bonnie Cannon, Karen Chung, Tory T. Hare (Co-chair), Sharon Hinkson, Deborah Horne (Co-chair), Deborah Kimbrough-Lowe, Dawn Lott, Sadie Mahoney, Belinda Marquis, Lolita Mitchner, Bobbi Murray, Jennifer Scott, Sabrina Westford, and Patricia Hill Williams, are proud to have raised over $150 dollars for our Heart Healthy Campaign, shared some valuable information and the pictures of support sent in to us were fabulous!

The time is now to stand together, to fight harder, to shout louder.
The greatest force for women IS women.
It’s time to Go Red for Women!
The Fresno associates have had several retreats. The theme has always been; Mind, Body, Spirit, and Soul. In keeping with that theme, at our Bass Lake Retreat, one of our workshops was learning how to hand tie a throw pillow. We also had workshops on the importance of regular breast exams, a biblical foot washing ceremony, creating a healthy trail mix and snack bar, testing our biblical knowledge, etc.

INGLEWOOD, CA Far West Region

Top row: Belinda Houston-Jackson, Winifred Yancy, Linda McClellan, Susan Atkins, Barbara Thomas, Barbara Jones, Vera Stewart, Darlene Battle-Bryd, Lynette Broussard-Walker, Carolyn Battle, Carol Rivers

Bottom Row: Sandra Barber-Moore, Karen Smith-Wilson, Carolyn Plyes, Tarina Murray, Gayle Love, Alice Turner

The Pasadena Jewels participated in our chapter’s scholarship fundraiser Jazz Brunch on April 26th. The Associates donated three baskets for the silent auction consisting of a varied selection of Spa items such as certificates for a mani/pedi, massage and Burke Williams spa; robes, lotions, wine, etc. along with a basket celebrating the Chinese Year of the Rooster with all items purchased in China, i.e. male and female silk pajamas, chopsticks and linens. We also purchased tickets for a table along with monetary contributions from members who were unable to attend. So between our ticket purchases, monetary donations and gift basket items we contributed over $1,000 to the Pasadena chapter scholarship fundraiser. In addition, the Jewels along with Drs. Thomas Scotton and TC Scotton (husband and son of the late Jack & Jill mom Julia Scotton) donated $250.00 to the Julia Scotton scholarship fund in the memory of our dear departed Associate Denita Ross.

Also Joan Banks (pictured with the purple scarf), one of the founding mothers of the Pasadena chapter donated a handmade African patchwork quilt for the live auction that she made special for the Jazz Brunch. Her donation garnered a lively live auction that ended up getting $800.00 for this one of a kind item.

The Jewels participation in the chapter’s fundraiser is definitely an event that we want to continue to support. With great music and entertainment, a great group of people, delicious food and a beautiful venue it made for a fantastic afternoon of giving to the scholarship fund and the Jack & Jill Foundation.

Some of the Pasadena Jewels at our Jazz Brunch fundraiser along with Associate chairperson Charmayne Mills-Ealy, CAL Beverly Allen (standing: blue dress) and Regional Director Kathy Chappell Dossett (standing far right).
Here is a photo of the Pomona Area Associates at Black Family Day in May 2014. We were there to honor two graduating seniors and their mothers, Trenita Ward and Dr. Ryvala Wilson. Our community service activities this year included group and individual donations to the House of Ruth, a local agency that supports women and children attempting to move on from Domestic Violence situations. One of our Associates Karen Herring is Board President this year. In addition, we had a huge turnout in May to support Joy Parker, an Associate who is a sixteen year breast cancer survivor. In addition, to joining about forty registered walkers on Team “Joy’s Sweet Sixteen” for the Revlon sponsored event at the Los Angeles Coliseum, the group helped to raise over $2000 in Joy’s name. We even had a “Sweet Sixteen Party” to complete the celebration.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA Far West Region

The San Fernando Valley Chapter held their first Ladder to Leadership Luncheon on Sunday, February 22nd at the lovely home of Associate Glenna Tolbert. The purpose behind the luncheon was to celebrate the many contributions of the Associates while actively implementing a tangible succession plan to assist with filling the numerous officer positions within the chapter. Current members who were interested in serving in a leadership capacity in the near future had the opportunity to sit and speak to women who have served in almost every officer position held in a chapter, as well as 2 former Regional Officers! The Associates were treated to a delicious lunch as they shared best practices, leadership techniques and the most wonderful tools that any officer could use. The information sharing was truly invaluable. One of the more touching moments was when the Associates shared how much their children benefitted from being in Jack and Jill and how it is still relevant today as it was when they were members.
On Saturday February 21, 2015 members of the Seattle Associates Group did a community service project with the YWCA Angeline’s Women’s Shelter. Angeline’s is a women’s shelter that opens doors to opportunity and self-sufficiency for women and families facing poverty, violence and discrimination. Most of the women served are women of color. The Associates donned our red attire, then sponsored and served lunch for 147 women and added a little LOVE for February and with a Valentine and Heart Health theme. Our lunch menu was: oven baked “fried” chicken, collard greens, black eyed peas with turkey meat, macaroni and cheese, cornbread, and fruit. After lunch we hosted “Heart Healthy” Bingo focused on ways to ensure a healthy heart since heart disease is the #1 killer of women. It was a great experience for everyone and we look forward to partnering with Angeline for future events.
The Charleston associates group National Day of Service project gave school supplies, along with other items to the Charleston Development Academy which is a chartered school located in a public housing community. The school originally was for grades k5 through Third. The Charleston Development Academy Public Charter School, now in its eighth year, has been able to expand their grade offering to include Four-Year-old Kindergarten to the eighth grade. The school Executive Director is Mrs. Cecelia Gordon Rogers.

The Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Columbia Chapter hosted a wonderful Founders’ Day and Associates appreciation program on February 22, 2015 at the Allen University Scott Center. Several of the age group children preformed and memorable items were placed in a time capsule for future mothers and children to review 10 years from now (2025). The associates were recognize for their contribution to the chapter and each associated was given a pink rose. This wonder event was under the leadership of President Traci Cooper (standing back right). The Columbia chapter has two past National Officers Ruth James and Pat Noble seated in front along the Mid-Atlantic Region National and Regional Officers.
The Associates of Florence Chapter of Jack and Jill of America partnered with The Naomi Project of Florence, SC. “The Naomi Project provides victims and their children with long-term housing that is safe and void of verbal, physical, psychological and sexual abuse. In addition, The Naomi Project seeks to help victims develop independence through emotional and psychological healing and obtaining educational and financial stability.” The Naomi Project currently houses four adults and seven children. The Associates provided a series of group discussions with the residents and other volunteers to address several life skill issues. Associates Hilda Conner and Patricia Singleton Parr presented the first workshop entitled “Boundaries and Parenting”. The second workshop entitled “Education” was presented by Associates Hilda Conner and Gail Brown. Patricia Singleton Parr along with Candy Rogers, Twelfth Circuit Office of Solicitor presented the third workshop, “Legal/Expungements”. The final workshop entitled, “Preparing for the Workforce” was presented by Associates Vera Martin and Earline Mc Clary. Clifford Parr, Former Mid-Atlantic Fathers Axillary Chair met with the thirteen year old male resident to discuss issues and also played with the other children while the workshops were in session. This project was very meaningful to both the associates and the residents of the Naomi Project.

What a wonderful year it has been. Members prepared and distributed 75 bag lunches for the Caritas organization. Caritas, Congregations Around Richmond Involved to Assure Shelter, in addition to other programs, provide services for homeless adult women and their children. Caritas provide shelter to over 90% of the emergency beds for women in the Richmond area. The bag lunches were distributed at St Elizabeth’s Catholic Church.

Left to Right: Myrtle Brown, Michelle Henry, Damalia Sullivan, Kathey Stone, missing Irene Bland and Lola McDowell.
NORFOLK, VA  Mid-Atlantic Region

On March 28, 2015, Norfolk Chapter Associates Dr. Angela Mercer and Sharon Harrington participated in the 9th Annual Promoting Health Active Teens (“PHAT”) Conference. PHAT, which is planned and coordinated by adults and teens from the Hampton Road community, focuses on promoting wellness and childhood obesity. The Conference featured fitness classes and informational workshops. Dr. Mercer worked with medical school students to conduct blood pressure screenings and Ms. Harrington presented a workshop titled, “It’s Not OK To Talk to Me That Way.”

PHAT Conference presenter
Norfolk Associate, Sharon Harrington

Dr. Angela Mercer (center) and Medical Students at PHAT

CINCINNATI, OH  Mid-Western Region

The Cincinnati Associates met on February 7th at Mimi’s Café to have brunch and to assemble activity kits for eleven fourth grade girls who are part of an after school girls’ group at Winton Hills Academy Elementary School, part of the Cincinnati Public School district. Each activity tote contained a reusable plastic tote a journal, a pen, colored pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, glue stick, stickers, and a friendship bracelet making kit.

On Wednesday February 11th, the kits were delivered to the girls at the school. Associate Dr. Denise Davis first gave the girls a mini health lesson while they ate their healthy snacks of cut up kiwi, orange slices, grapes, and pineapple, snack bar, and peanuts. The girls were quizzed on which foods were best for them, how many fruits and vegetables they needed each day, and allowed the girls to share what were their favorite fruits and vegetable by color. They also discussed exercise and the need for sunscreen. The girls were thrilled! And profusely thankful! The friendship bracelet making kits were a really big hit.

In March the Cincinnati Associates purchased and assembled seventy power pack meals for the ESPY Boys’ and Girls’ Club in Price Hill, Cincinnati. Price Hill is a highest poverty area in Cincinnati. These meals will sustain the kids during their spring break.

From left to right: Fran Jackson, Le Dawn Thomas, Lynn Anderson, Tresonne Peters, Doris Jackson, Lillian Hawkins, Rosalyn Fuller. Bags are ready to deliver.

All hands on deck
CLEVELAND, OH  Mid-Western Region

Cleveland Associates presented over 150 reading books to the Archbishop Lyke Catholic Schools located on the south east side of Cleveland. The children and the school Administrators were very appreciative of the donation. The project began with an Associates Luncheon meeting at the Granite City Restaurant in Beachwood, Ohio. There were 18 mothers present that brought two reading books for the donation. It was a wonderful and worthwhile project for both the Associates Group and the children of Archbishop Schools. Support from Chapter moms was greatly appreciated!

SOUTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO, IL  Mid-Western Region

On Sunday, February 22 South Suburban Chicago Chapter Associates celebrated National Day of Service at Glenshire Nursing Home in Richton Park. This is also the facility where Associate Group Co-Chair Monica Fox recovered from a very serious illness. They served pizza, cookies and punch, played bingo, gave out prizes and goodie bags. The residents were very appreciative and we all enjoyed it. Associates would like to send a special thank you to chapter moms Beverly Tillman, Carolyn Harper, Carole Dawson, Lisa Adams, Mary Slayton and Carmilla Malone who came out to help with the event.
It was a bitter cold day, but that didn’t stop Ypsilanti Associates from participating in The Good Samaritan Feeding Program at Brown Chapel AME Church on February 17th. The Program serves a meal and provides groceries to those in need. Every Friday morning the food is sorted and packed into grocery bags by volunteers. Anyone in the Washtenaw County community area is free to come and receive a hot meal and groceries. Currently, the Good Samaritan Feeding Program services (feeds) 75 - 100 people each week at the church. Last Year the program fed over 10,000 people. In addition to receiving a hot meal, the participants may take home a bag of groceries containing fresh vegetables, can goods and food items provided by food gatherers.

Ypsilanti Associates enjoying time sorting and packing food bags.

HOUSTON, TX South Central Region

Jack & Jill of America, Inc. Houston Chapter Associates wanted to make a difference in our great community. Volunteers are essential to The Houston Food Bank in fulfilling their mission, therefore, they were chosen for our Day of Service. We wanted to contribute to helping stamp out hunger for young children, seniors and others who may not have enough to eat. One in four children in our community are food in-secure and many times a family has to make difficult decisions – purchase food or pay for other necessities. We felt that we would have a great impact working with his organization.

A group of Associates volunteered on November 8, 2014 at the Houston Food Bank, Portwall location, 1-4 p.m. shift. There were over 1,000 volunteers in the warehouse on that particular day. We were able to sort/inspect food – dry goods, personal goods, and food items.

We enjoyed our sisterhood time and were happy to be of service to others!
To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to request your support for a project being undertaken by the Associates Group of Jack and Jill of America, South Central Region, Katy-Prairie View Texas Chapter. Our group is sponsoring an event for 60 girls, ages 11 to 17 who are residents of the Krause Children’s Center. The Krause Center supports girls who have been removed from dangerous homes where domestic violence, sexual abuse and/or neglect have affected their lives. Our event is focused on improving self-image and self-esteem by helping these young women with inspiration and assistance with activities of normal daily living that most of us take for granted.

We request that you provide hair care and body care products for these 60 young women. All products must be in plastic bottles with no glass, metal or sharp components. Many of these girls have deep emotional problems with potential for self-harm or suicide. Our event is scheduled for Sunday, April 12th, however, we request receipt of these products by April 8th to have ample time to package them for presentation. We recognize the short notice and appreciate anything you can do to assist.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Lorrie Collins, Associate Jack and Jill of America, South Central Region Katy-Prairie View Chapter

The Associates celebrated their Day of Service by supporting The Diaper Foundation with a Diaper Drive. The Diaper Foundation, founded by an African American female, provides diapers, baby wipes, and diaper rash ointment to low-income women in Houston and the surrounding areas. The Associates donated a total of 1,563 diapers (in three different sizes) and 3,000 baby wipes. We also provided 40 children books. We have extended our reach and have presented the opportunity to our active mothers chapter.
The Associates Group of the Missouri City/Sugar Land Chapter presented three of the JMB Leadership Modules to the chapter’s Teen Grade Group, the Ebonies on January 11, 2015. The teens received instruction on Goal Setting, Budgeting and Communications/Public Speaking to help enforce these very important leadership principles. The presenters included active Associate Members and former members of the Chapter’s Dad Auxiliary.

GREATER TAMPA, FL  Southeastern Region

We did it!
On Saturday we participated in the 2015 PNC Bank Miles for Moffitt, and, with your support, Greater Tampa Chapter Associates of Jack and Jill, Family, and Friends crossed the finish line with arms held high. What an exhilarating day!
Thank you so much for participating and/or donating and for believing in Moffitt Cancer Center. Your generosity will literally make a lifesaving difference for people with cancer and their loved ones, because 100% of the funds we raised will go directly to cancer research at Moffitt.
Moffitt scientists are some of the brightest minds in cancer research. Thanks to people like you, they’ll be able to push their investigations that much further. New discoveries. Better treatments. Better outcomes. All of these are on the horizon -- because you participated and supported the cause.
I hope you’re proud of that! We also raised over $1000 dollars!!
Thank you again for all your love and encouragement. Together, we’ve proven we ARE stronger than cancer! In honor of all of our Moms and especially the ones rejoicing in heaven!!
The Associates of the Mobile, Alabama Chapter participated in National Associates Day of Service by contributing needed supplies to the local Ronald McDonald House. Members gave needed laundry and kitchen items: dish washing liquids, clothes washing detergents, bleach, fabric softeners, individually packaged snacks, and coffee cups. The house manager received the items and escorted the group on a tour of the facilities. Alice Crenshaw, program chair, spearheaded the project and Rubylyn Owen is chairperson of the Mobile Group.

MOBILE, AL Southeastern Region

On May 5th, 2015, the Pensacola Chapter held a chartering ceremony for their Associate group followed by the installation of new mothers and chapter officers. Chapter President Sonya Akintonde and Foundation Chair Dayna Coleman -Fobbs were bridged in ceremony to Associate status. National Vice President Joli Cooper-Nelson officiated this momentous event. Chartering Associate officers are Karla Drain (Chair) Maxine Smith (Co-Chair / Secretary), Stephanie Davis - Keeton (Treasurer), and Odessa Bennett (Chaplain).

PENSACOLA, FL Southeastern Region

2015-2017 Pensacola Chapter Installed Officers

Left to Right: Carla Davis (Chaplain/ Sergeant-at-Arms), Charlean Clifton (Recording Secretary / Parliamentarian), Akillah Warren (Financial Secretary), Kanika Blankenship (Vice-President), Joli Cooper –Nelson (National Vice President), Corby Wilson (President), Sabrina Williams (Program Director), Camillia Benson (Treasurer / Teen Sponsor), Tia Robbins (Foundation Chair, Button and Bows / Tiny Tot Sponsor), Sharon Searcy (Corresponding Secretary), Levadie Townsend (Editor)
The South Miami Associates Group welcomed two new Associate Mothers for the 2014 – 2015 program year; Ann Pope and Allison Kennedy-Davis.

We kicked off our year by working with Style Saves on a two-day back to school event for children. The event allowed underprivileged children to “shop” for school uniforms and shoes, clothing, and accessories in the department store atmosphere while enjoying a day of makeovers, haircuts, face painting, and mini yoga. There was also an anti-bullying workshop teaching children how to cope with and prevent bullying in school. Style Saves raises funds through fashion focused events. In collaboration with The Miami Foundation, Style Saves works with retail stores, designers and boutiques to provide these students with brand-new outfits for back-to-school.

We then spent time relaxing and enjoying each other’s company by attending a Mindfulness Conference. In September we participated in an outreach program for the Women’s Breast Health Initiative (WBHI), a grassroots program to educate women on the importance of early detection of breast cancer and heart health, and helped with the WBHI Diamond Raffle to raise money for the program.

We shopped and donated 16 Thanksgiving dinner baskets for needy families of Kristi House, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to healing and eradicating child sexual abuse. We also provided Christmas gifts to the children of Kristi House.

From there, we supported many organizations by providing registration:
- Kristi House - Touch a Heart Dinner - 11/14/14
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) - Hope Gala – 1/31/15
- Kristi House - Walk the Blue Carpet - Miami 2/6/15
- Chapman Partnership for the Homeless - RunWild 5k - Metro Zoo 2/14/15
- JDRF Walk Run – Metro Zoo - 4/11/15

We relaxed and again spent quality time together as we participated in the Villager’s Palmetto Bay Garden Tour on 3/7/15. Then back to work doing outreach as the WBHI changed its name and focus to the Women’s Breast & Heart Initiative.

On the Jack & Jill front, the Group provided registration for the Southern Regional Children’s Cluster, which was hosted by the Ft. Lauderdale Chapter, and afterwards lunched together at Catfish Dewey’s. We had a great time with our South Miami Chapter at Black Family Day in May, 2015. We continue to support Jack and Jill Foundation, Inc. and the Thompson quintuplets and are ready to engage in the Mother’s Away From Home Project.

We will end our program year with a social get-together of Associates - to catch up, share what is going on in our lives and consider the next year, which will likely include the Group attending the Mother’s National Convention in Palm Springs. We are looking forward to it.
How you ask? To set up and online account, follow these steps.

1. Click or type the following URL link:
   https://jj.amsasp.com/members/?WCE=C=34\|K=100\~0

2. Follow the directions to activate your online account.

3. You will need your membership identification number and email address in system to complete this process.

4. If you received a “Type Mismatch” error; please ensure the link is completely hyperlinked. Per the example below you may need to copy and paste the link.
   Your Personal Activation Link is:
   http://jj.amsasp.com/members?WCE=C=34\^K=101\~0\^Tag=366768

5. Once your account has been activated, the following link will be used to access the database:
   https://jj.amsasp.com/members

To Change Your Email Address:

1. Click on Quick link on the left-side of the page.
2. Enter New Email Address.
3. Confirm New Email Address.
4. Click Submit.

Don’t know your Membership number or need assistance?
No worries...just contact Headquarters for assistance at 202-667-7010

Keeping in Touch!
THE IMPORTANCE OF UPDATING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Associate Jewels – it’s important to always keep your e-mail address up to date in the MIS system so we can stay in touch.