



# DPOF DIGEST

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11

OCTOBER 1, 2017

## BOARD MEMBERS

Chairperson  
Virginia Morris  
Abrams, Ed. S.

Co-Chairperson  
Jannie M. Cotton, M.S.,  
LPC

Secretary  
Marva J. Davis, Esq.

Treasurer  
Orville E. Abrams, Jr.,  
CPA

Financial Secretary  
Carolyn Turner, M.R.C.

Assistant Financial  
Secretary  
Ella Walker-Rolfe, Ph.  
D.

Rita F. Bailey, Esq.

Karen J. Buchanan,  
M.S.E.

Angela K. Doyne,  
M.S.E.

Philip Hood, B.A.

Laureen Isom, M.S.

Vince Miller, B.A.

Margie Q. Powell, LPC/  
NCC

Geraldine K. Rayford,  
M.A., M.S.

Betty J. Scull, M.A.,  
M.P.A.

Joyce B. Willis, B.S.B.E.

## Seeing the Power of Community-hood

The overarching objective of the Delta Presents Outreach Foundation (DPOF), is that members will connect with our communities and neighborhoods, use our time, invest resources, and work together to form meaningful partnerships and outreach services and programs that enrich our neighborhoods and communities.

### How Does it Happen?

**THE DREAM:** Delta trailblazers realized the dream through the creation of a forum to publicly showcase the talent, achievement, and potential of African American male graduating seniors. Thus, the inception of "Delta Presents." The dream was embraced by the establishment of the Foundation that took the program's name. The legacy

of the dream will be fulfilled through its mission:

- To promote self-development
- To provide seminars, tutoring and training that will help students to have successful educational outcomes: graduation, scholarships, and career decision making skills
- To facilitate the scholarship search and application process
- To assist individuals to become more civic-minded and increase community involvement
- To operate exclusively for educational, cultural, and public service pursuits
- To award scholarships to Delta Presents Honorees and Delta Gems who meet the scholarship eligibility requirements

**THE PROMISE:** Our promise is a commitment to program excellence and outreach expansion:

- To assist students in achieving academic and career goals
- To provide a community resource for parents and students
- To provide opportunities to learn from diverse cultures and ethnicities in Pulaski County

Continued on Page 2

## Calling ALL Former Delta Presents Honorees!

If you are a former Delta Presents Honoree, the Delta Presents Association Team is calling **YOU!** You can become an official member of the Alumni Association simply by registering at **WWW.DELTAPRESENTSOUTREACH.ORG**

You can also contact Ms. Rose Barnes at 501-551-0122 for more information. **YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO**

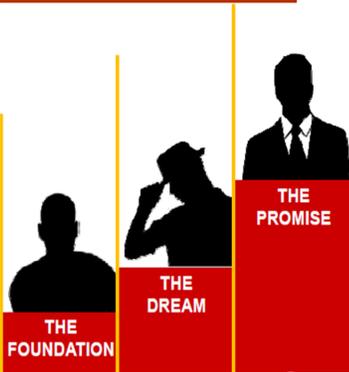
### THE AFRICIAN AMERICAN MALE YOUTH IN THE LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY!

The purpose of the Alumni Association is to develop a strong bond of brotherhood among its members, foster a relationship with former Delta Presents Honorees to promote positive advocacy for the Annual Delta Presents Scholarship

Program and establish the Delta Presents Hall of Fame to recognize and celebrate its notable members.

The Delta Presents Alumni Association is supported by the Delta Presents Outreach Foundation, Inc., and it is comprised of the many hundreds of Delta Presents Honorees celebrated since the inception of the program in 1973.

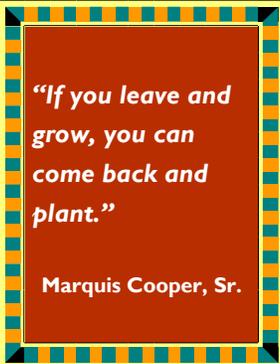
# Seeing the Power of Community-hood continued from Page 1



## The Delta Presents Alumni Association



*“We are interested in connecting with our neighbors; we seek ways in which we can support each other!”*



- To empower families to help their children become well-prepared to apply for scholarships to fund their post secondary education is the Community Based Counseling Center’s mission
- To staff the Counseling Center with professional educators and counselors certified by the Arkansas Department of Education and by State Licensed Professional Counselors
- To provide personal, comprehensive, ongoing academic advising, psychological support, and career development assistance

**THE FOUNDATION:** DPOF was established in 2008 to become an integral part of the community through the delivery of essential services and programs. DPOF, Inc. is a tax exempt public charity under Section 501 ( c ) ( 3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board of Directors represents a cross-section of the professional community. Our goals

- are:
- To serve as a joint partner to sponsor the Annual Delta Presents Scholarship Program
  - To administer the Sue Cowan Williams Scholarship Program
  - To implement various outreach programs
  - To host seminars on a variety of health issues
  - To coordinate voter education and registration activities
  - To inform the community on issues related to social justice

- THE OUTREACH:**
- The Community Based Counseling Center provides a variety of learning and enrichment opportunities
  - Computer center resources with access to scholarship search databases
  - ACT/SAT test prepara-

tion

- Community public forums

**Contact Karen Buchanan to register for the Community Based Counseling Program at [kbchanan2227@yahoo.com](mailto:kbchanan2227@yahoo.com)**

**THE FACILITY:**

- The DPOF building was purchased in 2011
- This 11,063 square feet facility located in the John Barrow Community is designated for “public service”
- Extensive interior and exterior renovations were completed in 2016
- Space is available for rental for approved public and private events

**Contact Vince Miller for building rental information and consideration at [Vince.miller@regions.com](mailto:Vince.miller@regions.com)**

## Ruby Dean, West Central Resource Officer



**Ruby Dean Resource Specialist**

We are happy to announce that Ruby Dean began working with Housing and Neighborhoods Programs as a resource Specialist recently. Ruby will be

working with the West Central Resource Center on John Barrow Road.

Her experience includes working with non-profit organizations for over 25 years in the areas of scholarships, grant writing, food pantries, and housing. For the last past 36 years, she has worked with the State of Arkansas maintaining safe and affordable housing for low to moderate

income individuals through HOME funds, CDBG Funds Tax-Exempt Bonds, and Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

Ruby’s credentials include an MBA, Real Estate License, and Certification as a Public Manager with the State of Arkansas. She states, “As a Resource Specialist, I look forward to partnering with the many different organizations, businesses, and churches in building a stronger and safer community.”

# Laureen Isom Tapped to Lead Community Based Counseling

Laureen Isom with her many professional skills and talent was recently tapped to be Director of the DPOF Community Based Counseling Center. She recently retired from the Little Rock School District after serving 39 years, climbing through the ranks from teacher, guidance counselor to director of counseling. Among her many accomplishments, Isom led the writing of a local school district-wide counselor evaluation toolkit that was approved by the Arkansas Department of Education.



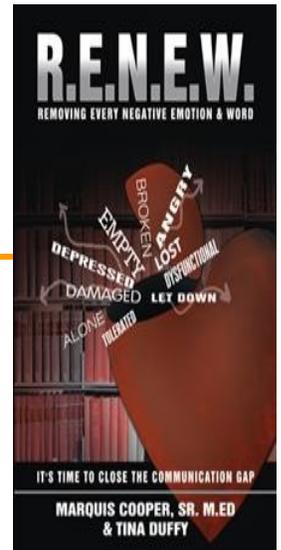
Laureen Isom

“My goal has always been to provide excellence in education. I am committed to helping students develop leadership potential and empowering them to make better choices—ultimately, helping to improve their lives by presenting them an opportunity for a better future,” Isom said recently.

We wish Laureen all the best in her future endeavors. We too are

confident that the many skills that were required of her in the past, will be beneficial in the present to so many as she guides students who are a part of the Community Based Counseling Center.

“I worked with Delta Presents myself while working as a counselor and witnessed the many benefits of students being a part of this program. In addition, both of my sons were participants in Delta Presents and I felt honored that they were able to participate,” Isom related. Well said! Welcome Laureen!



## Cooper’s Proposal to Help Youth Actualize

Marquis Cooper, Sr., M. Ed., ABD, received approval to pilot his R.E.N.E.W. Program in Little Rock during the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2017. The proposal was recommended by Ward 6 City Director Doris Wright. DPOF President Virginia Abrams and Secretary Marva Davis were present in support of the proposal.

R.E.N.E.W. (Removing Every

Negative Emotion & Word), is a curriculum designed for students ages 13 and up. “The Program is not limited to, but focuses on students who are at risk of academic failure, have not been successful in the traditional environment, and who have excessive personal/social issues. . .” Also, according to Cooper, “The R.E.N.E.W. leadership initiative will be initiated to curbe the pregnancy rate, gang affiliation, personal self-image deficiencies, dropout rates, and to boost the

overall climate and culture of the students.”

Cooper is an accomplished educator. He has been featured in the African American Perspective magazine three times and recognized by many others. He is married and has four children. DPOF looks forward to possibilities of partnering with Director Wright and Mr. Cooper to help our young people actualize and excel.

## Meet the Board Members

**Karen Buchanan, DPOF Outreach Program Administrator**, is a native of Little Rock, AR. She graduated in the class of 1971 from Horace Mann High School. She received a B.S.E. degree from Philander Smith College. After college, she earned a M.S.E. degree from Ouachita Baptist College in Elementary Education. She completed post-graduate work at the University of AR and the University of Memphis. Ms. Buchanan taught school for the first seven years of her career. She started in school administration as the assistant principal at Carver Elementary School. She later became the first principal of Booker T. Washington Math/Science Magnet School. In 1998 - 2001, she served as the Superintendent of Schools for the Lee County School District. She has also served as a faculty member at Pulaski Technical College, Arkansas Baptist College and Shorter College where she served as the Dean of Academic and Student Affairs. After retirement, Ms. Buchanan received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Culinary Arts, from Pulaski Technical Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Institute, May 2017. Currently, she spends her time traveling, gardening, going to the gym and reading. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Little Rock Alumnae Chapter, Delta Presents Outreach Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors, Canaan Missionary Baptist Church and the Akili Muata Book Club. She is married to Olly Neal.



Karen Buchanan

Meet the Board Members will be feature in each Issue.



## DELTA PRESENTS OUTREACH FOUNDATION

P. O. Box 24636  
7621 West 40th Street  
(John Barrow Community)  
Little Rock, AR 72221-4636  
Phone: 501-562-0923  
Fax: 501-562-0923  
E-mail: [chair@deltapresentsoutreach.org](mailto:chair@deltapresentsoutreach.org)



*Recognizing Our Communities' Young Men Since 1974!*



## DPOF's Chair Pushes Business Rewards As Sources of Funds



Always in search of ways to support our communities, DPOF Chairperson Virginia Abrams is also relentless in her leadership to identify means for funding its outreach goals.

Abrams is spreading the word to DPOF supporters about a couple of ways they can help generate donations for DPOF.

First, Delta Presents Outreach Foundation, Incorporated is registered with AmazonSmile at [org.amazon.com](http://org.amazon.com), where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the charities selected by customers. Anyone who wishes to support DPOF when shopping at Amazon.com need only to click on DPOF's charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-1855523>, and the generated donations will help bring to life DPOF outreach projects.

Second, supporters may register online by logging in at: [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com) and:

1. Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer" box\*, enter zip code, click on favorite store, enter email address, create a password and agree to the terms and conditions.
2. You will get an email message in your inbox. Click on the link in the body of the email.
3. Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
4. Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and key in your Kroger Plus Card number. Edit or confirm your information.
5. Enter NPO number (80946),

select Delta Presents Outreach Foundation's name from the list and click confirm.

6. Verify that you are correctly enrolled by checking the Delta Presents Outreach Foundation on the right side of your info page.

**PURCHASES WILL NOT COUNT FOR US UNTIL YOUR CARD IS REGISTERED!**

\*If you already have an account, sign in and update/edit your profile under Account Settings. **ACCOUNTS MUST BE UPDATED ONCE A YEAR!!!**

DPOF is dedicated to our mission. Your support is vital and invaluable. **THANK YOU!!!**

