

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Saginaw Alumnae Chapter



APRIL 2019

Social Action Committee Report

SUMMARY Delta Days at the Nation's Capital (DDNC) March 9th – 12th 2019 Washington D.C.

Our commitment to Social Action started 106 years ago when our Founders walked down Pennsylvania Ave in the Women's Suffrage March. This year (2019) for 30 years we've met here in Washing D.C. to focus on change because it's known, "When Delta Speaks the World Listens"! We must understand how much power we really have. Electoral power 2018 African American women were the largest voting block. Delta Women ran on 167 ballots and were over 70% successful. We have to ensure ways that we can support our sisters.

Don't wait for Major election to vote, primaries are just as important.

- It hard to start a revolution when you owe VISA, you will have a limit on what you can say.
- Show up outside of the four walls of the church. It's a sham to show up in DC and not at the local level.
- Partner with folks that know what they're doing.
- Churches can partner without being in charge (provide meeting space)

There were many sessions to move us forward to action in our communities:

- **Gun Violence/Sensible Gun Laws:** This panel discussed the recent gun violence in our country, and policies being introduced to control gun violence. Members discussed how to get involved with the legislative process and advance sensible gun control laws on the local, state, and federal government levels.
Reform law enforcement using these four letters;
H. – Hiring from the community, mental health resources
E. – Equipping, don't need a lot of guns
A. – Accountability, how are they being held accountable
T. – Training, how and what does the training look like, not just by police but also from people of the community
Policy makers and elected officials need to be held accountable. Gun violence cost is over \$20 Billion.
- **Human Trafficking:** This panel discussed ways in which chapters can advocate for anti-human trafficking laws on state and local levels.
- **Education Criminalization of Black Children:** This panel discussed the "school-to-prison pipeline," and how Black children are disproportionately disciplined, which can lead to Black children being piped to the juvenile justice system.
- **Electoral Accountability/Legislative Process:** This workshop focused on the importance of the electoral accountability in this political climate along with learning how to become involved with the legislative process.
- **Running for Office/Importance of Appointments:** This workshop provided information on how to run for elected office along with educating participants about the appointments process, and ways to engage in these processes.
- **From Census to Redistricting: How to Re-draw Electoral Districts:** This panel discussion provided members with knowledge about the 2020 Census, and our implementation strategy to increase participation. We must inform our communities on the importance of the Census and that they will

be asked to complete it online for the first time. Inform them about full and part-time temporary employment opportunities with the Census.

We need our Social Action Committee to have a Census Taskforce to monitor the latest news about the Census and the Complete Count Committees in our local area. We cannot afford to be silent on this. Movements are built from the ground up, therefore it is necessary to organize.

I. **Local Goals & Programming 2019-2020**

- a. National— Project 13 Partners: NAACP, American Red Cross, Delta Days in the Nation’s Capital
- b. Regional— Census 2020 Michigan/Ohio Cluster
- c. State—Delta Day in the State’s Capital, May 2020, Census 2020
- d. Local—Partnerships and collaborations, Sorority Sisters Project, Local Government Officials

Goal 1: To increase the membership’s knowledge of current local, state, and national issues so that every Delta will be an informed and effective citizen, advocate, and voter.

Goal 2: Keep abreast of legislative actions and influence local issues of importance to Delta and the communities served by Saginaw Alumnae chapter.

1. Bring information to chapter monthly about changes in legislation or proposals that impact community

Goal 3: To encourage the membership’s actively participation as individuals in political activity.

2. Bring information to chapter monthly and encourage sorors to serve on open community board positions and elected and appointed positions

Tentative Social Action Committee (SAC) Budget 2019-2020 - \$750

Proposed expenses:

- printing
- advertising
- refreshments
- supplies
- speaker fees
- DDNC registration
- DDAS registration
- misc.

Respectfully Submitted,

Soror Felicia L. Peters
Chair, Social Action

“I will use my influence toward the enactment of laws for the protection of the unfortunate and weak and for the repeal of those depriving Human beings of their privileges and rights.” ~Mary Church Terrell