



Chapter President Report November 9, 2019

AREA:

Area Director Lorna Hankins seeks to achieve consistency with social media within our Area. Her administration's theme is "Increasing Our Collective Impact by Valuing Our Linked Individuality".

Sunday March 29, 2020 is WA Census Impact Day. Chapters can be conduits to create a diverse census count. Census day is April 1, 2020.

The Area Treasurer requests Chapter Presidents conduct bimonthly financial reviews with the chapter finance team. This is intended to promote transparency, consistent and early communication, and Chapter president's understanding of the various financial matters facing the chapter.

Signature Western Area Program is "A Home of My Own" is focused on homelessness/home ownership. Targets African American community, working poor, Veterans, Women and children, students, and divorced women. The program is designed to meet the basic needs of homeless people as well as include conversations about sensitivity training, pay equity, financial literacy training, and advocate for affordable housing and alternative housing. Goals are to decrease the number of homeless people in our communities, increase the number of African Americans who can/will buy a home, advocate for affordable housing, homeless shelters, transitional housing, housing vouchers for low-income families, increased local services, identify alternative housing opportunities, provide basic necessities for people who are homeless, and passage of End Homeless Bill throughout the Western Area. Partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, HBCUs and schools, Food Banks/Grocery Stores/Drug Stores, Community Medical Centers/Clinics/Medical SupplyCenters, Optometrists, Financial institutions. There will be opportunities to collaborate with US Representative Maxine Waters and Senator Kamala Harris on an End Homelessness Bill in California, Hawaii and Washington. Discussions have already begun with them. This initiative will not be forced on chapters rather possibly integrate into existing related programs.



Plan ahead for the Western Area Leadership Summit will be October 2020, location to be determined. However, our Summits are usually held in the city where the next Area conference is located.

Western Area requests chapters submit two photos for the holiday greeting card. One action photo from a service project and a chapter photo. Deadline is Friday, November 15th.

New Western Area Fundraising Chairperson working in cooperation with the WA Foundation Representative. \$300K fundraising goal over the next biennium to increase fundraising for Area programs, HBCUs, and WA Conference. VIP fundraising will be underway for the "Portland Roses" program which aids the 2021 WA conference extras. \$50K fundraising goal for our WA HBCUs. Encourage 90% WA members to participate in vision 2020. An ambassador is needed from each chapter to be on the front lines to discuss the Area's fundraising and Foundation goals with chapter members. Chapter presidents are to email the names of our chapter representative to Link Deirdre Barrett England at deirdrebarrettmarketing@gmail.com or Gwendolyn Washington at gwendolynwash@gmail.com

NATIONAL:

For historical accuracy and in deference to Link Margaret Roselle Hawkins, "the" visionary behind the creation of The Links, primary rank shall be accorded to Link Hawkins in all "tandem" references to Link Margaret Roselle Hawkins and Link Sarah Strickland Scott as cofounders of The Links, Incorporated, as well as in other attributional citations about our organization's heritage.

The National President requested Chapter President input regarding where we need to focus our mission efforts. Should our mission trip in 2020 still be through the Jamaica mission trip or needed more in the Bahamas since the devastation is still evident. I sent a message to the National President via firesidechat.com stating our mission trip should be to the Bahamas. There will be a delegation sent ahead of any mission trip to assess the need.

National Day of Service is November 9, 2020. This is a day to celebrate our founders and their vision by wearing our shirts and participating together in community service.



National Office Candidate Applications due November 15, 2019 11:59 PM. The National Office announced vacancies October 15, 2019. Remember as Link members we cannot endorse candidates or campaign for candidates at any level throughout the organization.

National Assembly: June 17-21, 2020 in New Orleans, LA. More information to come regarding the host hotel. The Call to Conference is sent annually in February.

Mission Statement:

“Friends Transforming Communities Through Service”

Humbly Submitted by

Link Serena Ashley