

A Visionary Word From Our President



Greetings PVS Members and Friends,

I hope this issue of our newsletter finds you well and enjoying the beginning of Summer 2023! Following Spring, which represents a time to shed the old and embrace the new, Summer can be a time of growth, change, and new beginnings. As we take a break from membership meetings and community activities during the months of July and August, let's use this time of transition to recharge and relax with family and friends. Let's also sprinkle in a few opportunities to explore new interests and ideas. I trust that all of these possibilities bring a renewed spirit of appreciation for all that we care about and hold dear.

I am delighted that 2023 has already represented a special period of appreciation for both the old and the new of NCNW—nationally and locally. PVS started it by refreshing ourselves with a tour of historical sites honoring Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, the phenomenal educator and civil rights activist who founded our beloved organization. In just a few days, NCNW National Headquarters will recognize her 148th birthday with a special celebration of her life, legacy, and accomplishments!

NCNW's commitment to honoring her legacy and continuing her work was also reflected in the reorganization of our national leadership structure with the appointment of our new National Chair, Dr. A. Lois Keith, and our new President and CEO, Rev. Shavon Arline-Bradley. I am terribly excited about the enthusiasm and vision revealed in their initial national "sessions with the sections." I believe all section leaders were energized by their fresh perspectives and innovative ideas for carrying our organization's mission forward.

Rallying our entire membership nationally around pressing issues of the day such as the recent endorsement of the Freedom to Learn Campaign is a promising sign of NCNW's stronger advocacy stance. A concerted fight against efforts to erase the opportunities for our next generation to learn our collective history and its impact on the present is paramount. Locally, I am grateful for the opportunity we had to discuss social and political issues that are important to our community with Montgomery County Council Member Gabe Albornoz. Advocacy and civic engagement are essential to creating positive change, and it is essential that the voices of PVS be heard.

Finally, I am proud of the many facets of our work in the community to address the needs of targeted populations as highlighted later in this newsletter issue. In my message, I devote special attention to PVS' recent milestones concerning our youth. As Dr. Bethune's legacy reminds us to be responsible for our youth, education must be a cornerstone of our success and PVS is committed to supporting the next generation of leaders. On May 7, we celebrated a group of young ladies who worked hard during the past year to raise their life potential and join the ranks of more than four hundred graduates from our outstanding Girls Rites of Passage Program in a memorable "crossover" ceremony. I am also delighted about the launch of our inaugural scholarship program. On June 17, we celebrated for the first time in PVS history the awarding of five \$1000 scholarships to promising high school seniors of the area. As reflected by our 25th anniversary theme "Better Together: 25 Years of Intergenerational Sisterhood and Service", we are committed to our youth as well as other vulnerable populations requiring assistance. I look forward to continuing our journey to be effective in people's lives as we strive to make our motto, "What We Do Matters" an ongoing reality.



Our section has several **Committees** that constantly do what matters! During this break in the program year, please consider how you can make an impact through our Section activities. Visit the website at www.pvs-ncnw.org/committees for information on what each committee does and join by contacting the Chair.



Girls Rites of Passage
Young Ladies

WHAT WE DO MATTERS!

A VISION OF HEALTH

The PVS Health Committee presented a comprehensive inaugural Health Expo in collaboration with the African American Health Program and Good Health Wins.

From health screenings and fitness demonstrations, to vendors and informative presentations, the event began with a Fitness Walk and offered an excellent dose of information for all ages and stages of wellness.

Congratulations and kudos to Committee Chair Valerie Scott and her hard-working team!



A VISION OF GIVING

Ways and Means Committee

The Ways and Means Committee encourages all members to show your love for the Potomac Valley Section! The 260 Campaign is underway! Please prepare to make a 'love' donation at any time during our 26th year. Funds will be used to benefit our health, scholarship, and social outreach programs.

PVS members may donate any tax-deductible amount they choose, from \$26.00 to \$260.00, at any time until February 2024.

“260 CAMPAIGN”

**FUNDRAISING
EVENT**

**PVS-NCNW 26th Year of
Love Fundraiser**



Scan QR Code Or
Click to donate



"FROM THE FIRST, I MADE MY LEARNING, WHAT LITTLE IT WAS, USEFUL EVERY WAY I COULD." — MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

A VISION OF EDUCATION

Five young ladies pursuing higher education have been awarded \$1,000 each for the first PVS Scholarship. They were presented at the June 17 General Membership Meeting.

Congratulations to Chair Vikki Mason and her committee for all their work in launching our Scholarship Program.



2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Aja Tamedou
Paint Branch HS



Arielle Dunn
The Park School of Baltimore



Morgan Beck
St. Vincent Pallotti HS



Rebekah Bobo
Suitland HS



Timaya Pulliam
Sherwood HS



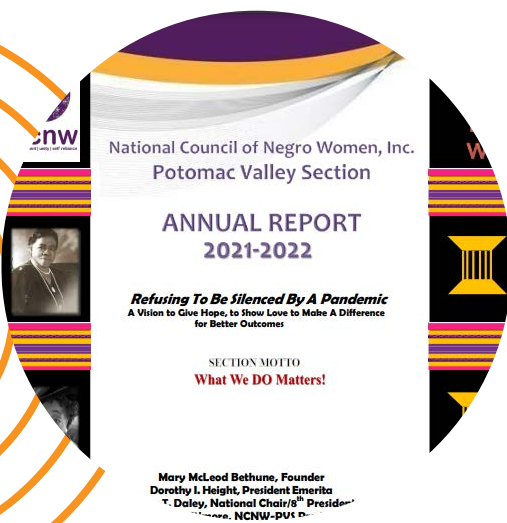
Smart Sacks Team
Food Assembly

COMMUNITY SERVICE MATTERS!

A VISION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Our Section's annual report for the program year 2021-2022 is finalized. Monica Baltimore, the Immediate Past section President, led the effort. Madam President Massey-Ball specifically noted the graphic renderings and the integration of commentary and perspectives by NCNW National leaders. Great job to the entire team for telling the story of the section's accomplishments--what got done, who did the work and received recognition for it, and how the community benefitted!

Thank you Madam Past-President Baltimore for your vision, hard work, and creativity to make it a reality. Also, thanks to any and everyone who provided the information that resulted in the report. Visit the Annual Reports page of our website to review this wonderful work.



Mary McLeod Bethune, Founder
Dorothy I. Height, President Emerita
T. Daley, National Chair/8th President
... NCNW-PV Section

A VISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Social Outreach Committee

Our Section performs community service in a number of ways. The Social Outreach committee specifically serves as a conduit for collaborations with various organizations across Montgomery County. Most recently through Committee Chair Andrea Daniels and her team, PVS has supported the Afghan Refugee Resettlement project through donations of miscellaneous household and personal care items.

Additionally, the Committee continues to support Blake High School with Smart Sacks as well as diaper distribution with Kingdom Cares. This initiative supports the East County Hub, providing food and health items for communities throughout East Montgomery County and Prince Georges County. A collaboration with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. helped the community protect themselves from identity fraud and scams with a shred event.





“THE PROGRESS OF THE WORLD WILL CALL FOR THE BEST THAT ALL OF US HAVE TO GIVE.” — MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

A VISION OF MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

The Membership Committee planned and executed a wonderful day of history and comradery as Section members toured the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House, visited her memorial at Lincoln Park, visited the US Capitol National Statuary Hall that houses McLeod's statue (and that of Rosa Parks) and enjoyed lunch, conversation and great memories as PVS Sisters.



A VISION OF MULTIPLE GENERATIONS

Girl Rites of Passage

Our PVS Sisters were beaming with pride as we celebrated our Girls Rites of Passage young ladies during their crossover ceremony on Sunday, May 7.

Many congratulations to GROPC Committee Chair Effie Smith-Macklin and the entire team that have led the young ladies growth, development, and excellent presentation!

Seniors Committee

The Seniors Committee continues to be a light in the community for our seasoned citizens to give encouragement, small tokens of care, and supportive activities in various Senior and Nursing Facilities throughout Montgomery County.



The Potomac Vision

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE POTOMAC VALLEY SECTION OF THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN**

OFFICERS

**President - Marilyn Massey-Ball
1st Vice President - Joan Simms
2nd Vice President - Dr. Kimberly Campbell
Recording Secretary - Cynthia Hightower Martin
Treasurer - Jacqueline Dennard
Financial Secretary - Sandra Brown
Corresponding Secretary - Dr. Stacey Cole
Historian - Shirley Smithson-Martin
Chaplain - Jamila Bess Johnson
Parliamentarian - Valerie Scott**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Amenities Committee - Dr. Brenda Barbour
Bylaws Committee - Valerie Scott
Education Committee - Vikki Mason
Finance Committee - Sandra Brown and Jacqueline Dennard
Girls Rites of Passage - Effie Smith-Macklin
Health Committee - Valerie Scott
Legislative Affairs Committee - Lorna Forde
Membership Committee - Dr. Kimberly Campbell
Properties - Kathryn Torrence
Publicity Committee - Renee McMullen
Seniors Committee - Saundra Sidbury
Social Outreach Committee - Andrea Daniels
Special Policies & Procedures Committee - Muriel Whorley
Ways & Means Committee - Demetria Wilson**