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We also have planned activities in the next six months that will continue to highlight each thrust.

The service rendered through the Five Point Thrust has allowed us to actively engage the principles of Umoja, Kujichagulia, Ujima, Ujamaa, Nia, Kuumba, and Imani as we strive to make our communities better. Our mentoring of young individuals through Delta Academy, Delta GEMS, and Embodi represents the **Educational Development** thrust. The principles of Umoja, Ujima, and

Imani are practiced as we pour into the next generation of leaders to build self-esteem, character, and academic success. The **Economic Development** thrust correlates with the principles of Ujamaa and Nia. The economic power of the African American community is often lost in the investment and support of our own businesses.

Through the support of African-American owned businesses such as Belford's, 520 Wings, and TriMocha Productions, we use our collective resources to build wealth in our community through entrepreneurship and support staff jobs. **International**

**Awareness and Involvement** takes on the vastness of supporting the diaspora through World AIDS Day activities. This support will also be manifested in the presentation of the Uganda Children's Choir during the Black Heritage Festival where the principle of Kujichagulia is practiced.

The donation of food baskets at Thanksgiving, the toiletries given to the homeless students at Savannah State University, as well as the donation of hats, scarves and gloves for the shelters address the **Physical and Mental Health** thrust and the principles of Ujima and Kuumba. Through a pooling of our collective resources, we are able to help those who are in need.

Our **Political Awareness and Involvement** is ingrained in each aspect of what we do as women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Our efforts through voter registration education, "Stroll to The Polls", "Delta Days" at the local, state, and national levels speak to the principles of Kujichagulia and Imani. Our vote is our voice. We must make sure we never lose our voice and that we are heard every time an election occurs.

Thank you Sorors, for doing your part in our collective efforts manifested through the Five Point Programmatic Thrust and the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Thank you Sorors, for answering the call to make our service area a better place to live; one service project at a time. I bid you and your family Blessings of this holiday season with Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and a Prosperous New Year!

With Love & Devotion to Delta,  
**Laura N. Wiggins,**  
Chapter President



For more conference information go to [www.dstsouthernregion.com](http://www.dstsouthernregion.com)

SISTERHOOD \* SCHOLARSHIP \* SERVICE

# Pearls of Delta Knowledge

December 2015

Savannah Alumnae Chapter

## Using the Principles of Kwanzaa in Service to Our Community

'Tis the season of merriment, fellowship, exchanging of gifts, and spending time with family and friends. During this holiday season, we have or will celebrate Hanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the New Year. Although each holiday is steeped in its own doctrine and tradition, each one has an essential common theme, giving reverence to a belief. The Kwanzaa holiday is likely the least celebrated but the seven

*Pictured below: sorors present chapter's donation of hats, gloves and scarfs for resident of Austin House.*



*Pictured above: Sorors with young men of EMBODI at Kwanza program.*



*Pictured above: Sorors participate in the Aids Day walk.*

principles of Kwanzaa allow us to uplift each other and our community. During the first six months of this sororal year, we have initiated and participated in either a project or program that has covered each one of our **Five Point Thrust**,

Kwanza con't on back page



**HIV/AIDS AWARENESS**

World AIDS Day is observed on December 1st with the goal of increasing awareness and reversing the spread of AIDS /HIV. On November 7, 1991, the world was shocked by basketball star, Earvin "Magic" Johnson's announcement of his positive HIV status. Johnson became a catalyst for conversation and education, especially among African Americans. Stereotypes and misconceptions about the disease were challenged. Johnson was a successful, wealthy, heterosexual, married African American male. He was also a famous athlete of a NBA Championship Team. This year marks the 24th anniversary of his historic proclamation. A more recent development was movie and television star Charlie Sheen's disclosure of his HIV status, once again generating dialog about this disease for a new generation.



The fight against AIDS and HIV involves knowing your status and learning the facts. Here are a few facts:

- Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) debilitates the body's immune system.
- HIV can lead to Acquired Immunodeficiency Virus (AIDS)
- HIV is spread by contact with infected body fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and breast milk.
- Methods of prevention include usage of condoms during sexual intercourse, using formula for infant feedings, and not sharing needles for IV injections.
- There is not a cure for this disease. However, treatment with ART (antiretroviral therapy) can prolong lives and decrease progression to AIDS.
- Georgia is ranked 5th in the United States for prevalence of new HIV/AIDS cases per year
- It is estimated that 1 in 5 persons in Georgia are living with HIV and unaware of their status
- The Atlanta metro region has the greatest number of new HIV/AIDS cases in Georgia
- MSM (men having sex with men) is a group with increasing numbers in HIV infection
- In the world, approximately 5,600 people contract HIV per day, more than 230 people per hour
- As of March 2015, about 40% of the 15 million people living with AIDS had access to antiretroviral therapy.

For more information, visit the following websites:  
[www.cdc.gov/hiv](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv); <http://dph.georgia.gov>; [www.amfar.org](http://www.amfar.org)

**Debt Management Tips**

Tis' the Season to be Jolly, but not BROKE sorors! While you are shopping for your loved ones, please keep the following "Holiday Debt Management" tips from About Money in mind.

**No. 1** – Save up your money throughout the year and base your holiday budget on your available cash on hand. The definition of available is "present and/or ready for immediate use". Money needed to pay bills should not go towards your holiday budget.

**No. 2** – Make a list based on your budget and remember to focus your shopping on others. You may see the perfect, winter-white dress for Cluster, but unless you are purchasing the dress for a soror that is on your Christmas list LEAVE IT! Any funds leftover, can go towards your Cluster wardrobe for after-Christmas shopping.

**No. 3** – You have a lot of resources at your fingertips, so be sure to "Comparison Shop". Compare deals and product availability online before going to the store. Many stores offer "best price guarantee", free shipping, and same day store pick-up during the holidays. Why pay more if you don't have to?!

**No. 4** – Limit the number of trips you make to the store and ignore the "big" sales. No need to buy two and get one free, when you only have need for one.

**No. 5** – Avoid financing gifts that will leave you paying for items well into next year and try to leave your credit cards at home. If you must use a credit card, be sure to stick to your HOLIDAY BUDGET. Keep in mind that using credit today, means you are taking away from your future income with *interest*...

# Membership Happenings

## Geiger Elected to Board of Directors for American Association for Paralegal Education

Soror Debra R. Geiger was recently elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the American Association for Paralegal Education. AAfPE is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide greater access to legal services by promoting quality paralegal education. Geiger is the head of the Department of Paralegal Studies at Savannah Technical College.

STC's Paralegal Studies program prepares students for a career in the paralegal profession. Paralegals, also called legal assistants, work closely with attorneys, judges, prosecutors or public defenders. Graduates receive a Paralegal Studies Associate of Applied Technology degree.



*Soror Debra R. Geiger*

## Congratulations Graduates!



**Soror Jacqueline Brown**  
 Doctorate  
 Education Administration  
 Georgia Southern University



**Soror Kwanza L. Oliver**  
 Doctorate of Education  
 Educational Leadership  
 Argosy Atlanta



**Soror Carolyn Dopson Horton**  
 Doctorate of Nursing Practice  
 Walden University