



The Beacon

A Newsletter of the New York Coalition of One Hundred Black Women, Inc.

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From the President...

Greetings Coalition sisters. We are living in truly unprecedented times and I pray that you and your families are well. We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has affected communities of color in greater numbers than in other communities and it is extremely important that we take care of ourselves and follow the directions of trusted medical professionals.

In the midst of so much anxiety, I wanted to take the opportunity to spread some cheer. Belated Happy Mother's Day to all of our Mothers and those who have filled that role in someone's life. Also, congratulations to all of this year's graduates. No matter what level of education you or your family member has completed, we wanted to recognize the achievement and wish you well.

Over the past few months, several Coalition sisters have experienced loss within their families and we extend our love and deepest sympathy to: Geneva Morgan-Trotman, Dr. Karen Myrie, Maxine Spence, Dr. Arnette Crocker, Dorothea Thompson-Manning, Delores Bedford, Geraldine Cobbs, and Natatia Griffith. Also, if we have omitted anyone, please know that you have our profound condolences as well. Please know that although we may not be with you physically, your Coalition sisters are keeping you in our thoughts and prayers.

Finally, we wanted to let you know that The Coalition has remained active during this time. The Board of Directors have continued to "meet" virtually and you will read about recent activity in this Newsletter. Thank you to all who have made wellness checks on others and please continue to do so until we are able to meet face-to-face once again.

Barbara Kairson, Ph.D.

Face Masks Handcrafted by Audrey Weaver

The Census is administered once every 10 years and it is important that you complete your questionnaire because:

By law, the U.S. Census Bureau can use your responses only to produce statistics. 2020 Census results will help in directing billions of dollars in federal funds to communities for schools, roads, and other public services. Results from the 2020 Census will also help to determine the number of seats that each state has in Congress.

Make sure that you are counted.



Audrey Weaver, designer and Coalition sister, known for her hat and scarf designs is also making face masks. During this time when we all must work hard to stay healthy and safe, you can do it in style. These masks are made of cotton (mainly African prints) and each reverses to a solid side. They are hand washable and come with a HEPA filter. Each mask is sterilized before packaging and comes with care instructions. Available choices are shown below and when ordering please match the description with the numbered photo. All items are limited selections. Each mask is \$15.00 plus shipping and handling of \$4.00 for 1 - 3 masks. For additional information, contact Audrey at 917-553-6682 or at Scarfdressing@gmail.com.

For sanitary reasons, masks are non-refundable.



We've Been Busy

Since our last General Membership meeting in February, the following has occurred:

- ***Chancellor's Emergency Relief Fund***
Although the pandemic caused the 2020 Role Model program to be postponed, the Board of Directors voted to support the CUNY Chancellor's Emergency Relief Fund with a \$500 donation. The funds will be used to support CUNY students facing displacement and food insecurity as a result of CUNY campuses being closed. The Coalition values its long-standing relationship with CUNY through the Role Model program.
- ***I Am My Sister's Keeper*** - Many have experienced anxiety during this time of imposed separation and prayer has provided a sense of comfort. On April 29, 2020 the Coalition was blessed to have our 10th President, Ambassador Suzan Johnson-Cook, lead a prayer call for members, their families and friends. Over 70 people joined in the prayer call and several members forwarded individual prayer requests and were prayed for during the call. Plans are currently underway for the next prayer call. Information to follow.
- ***50th Anniversary Gala*** - We regret to inform you that due to the pandemic, the 50th Anniversary Gala celebration scheduled for the fall has been canceled.
- ***Re-Activation of Coalition Committees***
Many Coalition committees have been re-activated. Members interested in joining a committee should contact the 3rd Vice President at: nycobw.vpmembership@gmail.com. Also, if you are interested in filling a vacant committee Chair position, contact the President at: nycobwcoalition@gmail.com

The Committees are:

- Arts and Culture - Laura Green, Chair
- Membership - Elizabeth Carde, Chair
- Education - Yvonne Sterling and

Janet Kiley - Co-Chairs

- Fundraising & Development - Dorothea Thompson-Manning, Chair
- Community Service - Marilyn Warren, Chair
- Global Affairs - Abaynesh Asrat, Chair
- Health - Jeralyn Cortez-Weir, Chair
- Media & Communications - Marjorie Phillips, Chair
- Role Model - Sharon Long and Janice Tyson, Co-Chairs
- Political Awareness - VACANT
- Program - VACANT
- Entrepreneur - VACANT

Remember to Vote!

All eligible voters will be mailed an Absentee Ballot application for the Democratic primary election to be held on June 23.

The mailing will contain your APPLICATION for an Absentee Ballot. You will need to complete the application by **June 16, 2020** and return it in the provided postage-paid envelope in order to receive your Absentee Ballot. You may use "temporary illness" as the reason for requesting an Absentee Ballot.

Please do not throw away your application and make sure you return it in order to vote in the June 23rd Primary election. Stay safe and be sure to return your application.

Please go to NYC Votes at: NYCCFB.info/PrimaryFAQ for additional information.

