ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.

IPSMCC

serving

Charles County & St. Mary's County

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Mission

The mission of Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Incorporated (IPSMCC) is to support the Maryland communities of Charles County and St. Mary's County through educational, charitable, financial, cultural, and health-related resources in order to enhance the socio-economic condition of our environment.

HISTORY

In March of 2013 members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter gathered to create an organization that would focus solely on philanthropy. The group named this new organization Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Incorporated (IPSMCC).

Under the leadership of Natalie Hart (President), Denise Barnes (Vice President), and Miriam Matthews Clark (Executive Director), IPSMCC received its Letter of Determination in September 2015 and officially became a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization in August 2015. As a 501(c)(3) organization, IPSMCC is dedicated to serving Charles County and St. Mary's County. It provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors and has awarded over $150,000 in academic scholarships since 2015.

Board of Directors and Officers



Krista N. Watkins
President



Karleisha Dorsey
Vice President



Carmella Davis Watkins
Executive Director



Chimere Taylor
Recording Secretary



Donnis M. Armstrong
Corresponding Secretary



Tina Kearney
Chaplain



Tami Davis
Treasurer



Terri Seymore-Green
Financial Secretary



Shaina Brewer
Asst. Financial Secretary



Candi Alfred
Paliamentarian



Brenda Chase
Historian



Tyra Plater
Board Member



Faith Cooper
Board Member



Holiday Jones
Director-At-Large 1



Jocylin Hill
Director-At-Large 2



Natalie Hart
Past President 1



Andrea Henderson
Past President 2

STAFF

Annual Report
Gwen Douglas

Archives
Denise Barnes

Audit
April Plater

Budget & Finance
Tami Davis

Building Fund
Bridgette Hickey

Bylaws
Candi Alfred

Charities Liaison
Karleshia Dorsey

Debutante Program
Felicia Jones

Grants
Da'Net Sturdifen

Investments
Sharone Simmons

Nominating
Carol Hawthorne

Resource Development
Yolanda Penn

Risk Management
Felicity Booker

Scholarship
Wualanda Thenstead

St. Mary's Liaison
Francine Dove Hawkins

Technology
Jessica Jones



President's Message

Dear Members, Supporters, and Friends of IPSMCC,

As we reflect on the past year, I am proud to share the remarkable progress and achievements of Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC). Our unwavering commitment to excellence, collaboration, and service has driven us forward, strengthening our mission and impact.

This year, we have made significant strides in securing a grant for a rental space, 2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration, 5K Walk/Run and continued partnerships with various community organizations. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication of our members, the hard work of our leadership team, and the invaluable support of our partners and stakeholders.

Despite the challenges we have faced, our resilience and determination have allowed us to adapt and thrive. Looking ahead, we remain committed to advancing our initiatives, fostering inclusivity, and creating meaningful opportunities for growth and engagement.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our success. Your passion and dedication continue to inspire and propel IPSMCC toward a bright and impactful future. Together, we will continue to make a difference.

With appreciation and optimism,

Kristia

Kristia N. Watkins, President



Executive Director's Message

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Community Partners,

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud to share the remarkable impact Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities (IPSMCC) has made in our community. This year has been one of growth, service, and unwavering commitment to our mission—uplifting and empowering individuals through education, service, and philanthropy.

Empowering Through Education
Education remains at the heart of our mission. In 2024, we awarded 20 scholarships to outstanding students, helping them take the next step in their academic journeys. Our signature programs, including college readiness workshops, financial literacy seminars, and mentorship initiatives, have provided essential tools for success to young minds throughout Southern Maryland.

Strengthening Our Community
This year, we expanded our outreach efforts, touching more lives than ever before. Through initiatives such as food drives, clothing donations, and health fairs, we provided direct support to families in need. Our commitment to service was evident in our 3,000 volunteer hours, demonstrating the power of collective action in creating meaningful change.

Building a Legacy of Philanthropy
With the generosity of our donors and partners, IPSMCC successfully raised over $150,000 to support our programs and initiatives. Through strategic fundraising efforts, including our signature programs, we not only met but exceeded our goals, ensuring sustainable growth for the future.

Looking Ahead
As we step into 2025, we are more determined than ever to expand our impact. Our vision includes enhancing our scholarship programs, increasing community engagement, and fostering new partnerships that will allow us to reach even greater heights. None of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our board, volunteers, donors, and community partners.

A Heartfelt Thank You
To every individual who has supported IPSMCC this year—whether through time, talent, or treasure—thank you. Your dedication fuels our mission, and together, we are making a lasting difference in Southern Maryland.

With Gratitude and Purpose,

Carmella

Carmella Davis Watkins, Executive Director

Annual Meeting 2024 Agenda

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Incorporated
Annual Meeting
Saturday, February 24, 2024 @10:00 a.m.
Virtual Via Zoom

Kristia N. Watkins, Presiding

Roll Call	Starlisha Anderson, Secretary
Call to Order/Approval of Agenda	Kristia N. Watkins, President
Meditation	Tina Kearney, Chaplain
Reading and Approval of Minutes	Starlisha Anderson, Secretary
Officer and Committee Chairmen Reports	
President's Report	Kristia N. Watkins
Executive Director's Report	Carmella Davis Watkins
Annual Report	Gwen Douglas
Financial Secretary	Mashonda Walston
Treasurer	Tami Davis
Program	Karleshia Dorsey
Scholarships	Wualanda Thenstead
Resource Development	Yolanda Penn
Grants Coordinator	Da'Net Sturdifen
Unfinished Business	
New Business	
Installation of 2024 Board of Directors – Natalie Hart	
Adjournment	

Annual Meeting 2024 Minutes

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.
P.O. Box 975
Waldorf, Maryland 20604

Annual Meeting
February 24, 2024
Virtual Zoom Meeting

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

MINUTES:

- Roll Call: The Secretary, Starlisha Anderson, announced that the names of participants registered and present for the 2024 Annual Meeting will be verified using the Zoom attendees/participant list – 76 members were in attendance.
- Call to Order: President Kristia N. Watkins called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.
  –
- There were no corrections to the agenda. The agenda was adopted as presented.
- Meditation: Meditation read by Member Tina Kearney, Charities Chaplain
- Reading and Approval of Minutes: Secretary Starlisha Anderson announced that the February 25, 2023, annual meeting was included in the 2023 Annual Report for review and corrections. No changes were received during the meeting.
- President's Report:
  - President Watkins presented the list of all new Board Members for 2024.
  - It was announced that the Charities will have a Bylaw change to add a Deputy Executive Director and develop Standard Operating Procedures and Financial procedures.
  - The list of Ad Hoc and Standing Committee Chairmen was presented.
  - President Watkins requested that vacancies for the Building Fund and Investments be filled.
  - There were no objections to the Board appointments made.
  - A member offered to send a letter to the State Senator to assist charities in finding a building/facility.
  - President Watkins presented the list of IPSMCC vacancies.
- Executive Director's Report:
  - Executive Director Carmella Watkins presented an overview of the charity's accomplishments during 2023 to the body.
  - The Executive Director announced that there will be an opportunity to receive interns to assist the charities.

DRAFT

Annual Meeting 2024 Minutes *(con't)*

- There was a request for volunteers to support the Grants team.
- Announced there will be more training opportunities for members and board members through CSM.
- Announced that we will participate in the CSM Day of Service and may receive help organizing our storage unit. IPSMCC Inc. will also be present at the CSM President's inauguration on March 27, 2024.
- Annual Report: Member Gwen Douglas provided a quick overview of the 2023 Annual Report and its contents. Members were asked to preview the report independently and provide any comments no later than Saturday, March 2, 2024.

- Financial Secretary Mashonda Walston presented the financial report with funds received for the year.
  - Total money received - $273,127.94.
  - Members were instructed to pay outstanding 2023 and 2024 dues and deadlines. Members were reminded that there is no program contribution for 2024.

- Treasurer Tami Davis presented the treasurer's report as presented in the 2023 Annual Report.
  - The treasurer reported on the final balance for operations and programs through February 29, 2024. A budget for the actual expense report was provided.

- President Kristia Watkins presented the Program Report on behalf of member Karleshia Dorsey.
  - President Watkins previewed the highlighted program activities from the 2023 Annual Report.

- Scholarship Committee: Member Wualanda Thenstead reported on the 2023 scholarship recipients in partnership with BECCA.
  - Announced 2024 scholarship applications are due March 8, 2024.
  - It was announced that children of IPSMCC Inc. members are not eligible to apply for scholarships.

- Resource Development Committee:
  - Member Yolanda Penn reported that we will continue the t-shirt and sweatshirt fundraiser. Additional fundraisers for 2024 will include the Ivy and Ice white party, 5K, and the Jazz Brunch Community Awards.

- Grants Committee Coordinator:
  - Member Da'Net Sturdifen reported that the committee continues to apply for additional grants focused on culture and food insecurities and announced that we have received over seven grants thus far. The committee requested volunteers to support additional grant writing opportunities.

- **No unfinished business**

- **New Business:**

  - The new 2024 Board of Directors/Officers swearing-in took place. Member Natalie Hart presided.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM.

Submitted by: Starlisha Anderson, Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Date Approved:

DRAFT

2024
Annual Report

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.
IPSMCC

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

20TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PRAYER CELEBRATION - JAN. 15

Jan. 15, 2024 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. + GOOGLE CALENDAR

$

CAMPUS CENTER - GREAT ROOM

Intended Audience

Faculty | Staff | Students | Admitted Students | Parents of Admitted Students | Alumni | General public



20th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Celebration - Jan. 15, 2024

Living the Dream: Hope, Courage & Unity

Breakfast opens at 6:30 a.m. in the Campus Center Great Room - $15 at the door.

Program - 8:00 a.m.

Keynote address: **Rev. Trisch L. Smith**, Global Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer at Edelman; African Methodist Episcopal Minister. Other speakers/performers will include **SMCM's PING Vocal Ensemble; SMCM President Tuajuanda C. Jordan; Rev. Andrea Cummings**, Zion Methodist Church; **Rhythm Club of Spring Ridge Middle School**; **Casual Groove** band; and more.

We invite you to join us in supporting the Maryland Diaper Bank. This non-profit organization provides essential items such as diapers, wipes, lotion, rash cream and formula to families in need. We are hosting a Diaper Drive to collect donations for this worthy cause. Donations, whether made **on-site or in person**, can make a real difference in the lives of those who need it most. If you prefer to donate items through the Amazon Wish List, please use this link: **http://a.co/iZLGDS9**. When purchasing, please add a note about the **"2024 MLK Day of Service"** to show your support for this initiative. **Non-perishable food items may also be donated at the event.** Together, we can make a positive impact in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

Sponsors: St. Mary's College of Maryland; St. Mary's County Branch NAACP The 7025; St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission; St. Mary's County Public Schools; College of Southern Maryland; Ivy & Pearls of So. Md. Community Charities; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter.

Ticket Information

Breakfast is $15 at the door. There is no cost for the program.

Event Sponsor(s)

St. Mary's College of Maryland
Kelsey Bush
krbush@smcm.edu
240-895-4259











MLK Day of Prayer

January 15, 2024

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.
IPSMCC









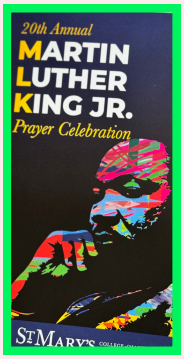


















AKA
Day of Service
January 15, 2024











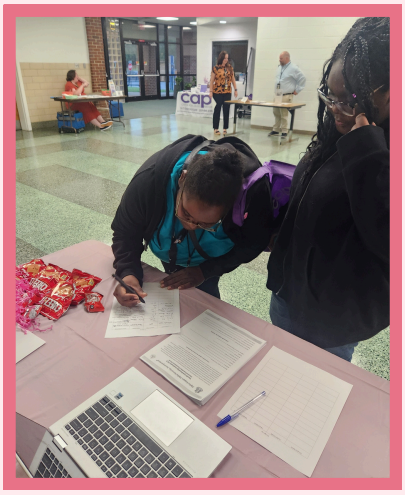


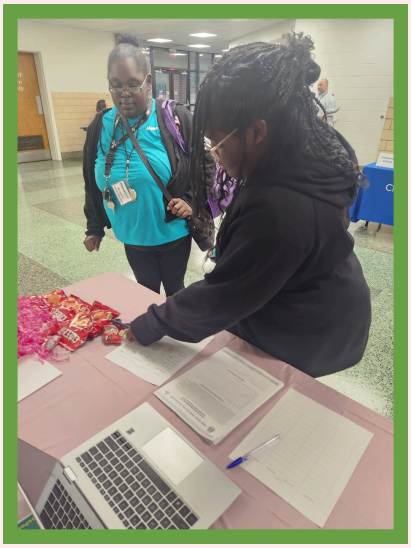


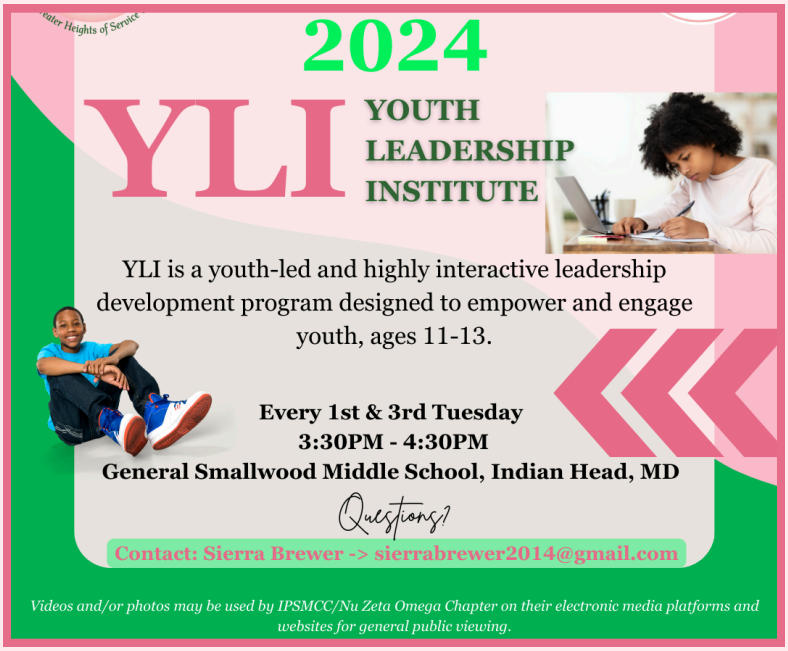
Youth Leadership Institute (YLI)

Ten (10) months out of the year, the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) program mentored 14 young participants offering a comprehensive experience designed to foster leadership development, financial literacy, and career exploration.

The impact of YLI has been significant, with participants demonstrating enhanced leadership capabilities, increased community involvement, and improved academic and personal outcomes.









LEADERSHIP

Weekend Backpack Program

Through several grants, IPSMCC and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter provided a total of 1,173 power packs in 2024. These Power Packs included nutritious, non-perishable food items to sustain children during weekends and school breaks. These packs ensured children who rely on school meals for daily nutrition had access to the food they need to thrive outside of school hours.





















Co-Sponsorships

March 16, 2024

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter collaborated with The Links of Prince George's County to host the Black Family Wellness Expo where we highlighted local health related vendors and organizations aimed at increasing the awareness the awareness of health-related resources in the community to close the gap related to health disparities, particularly among black residents.

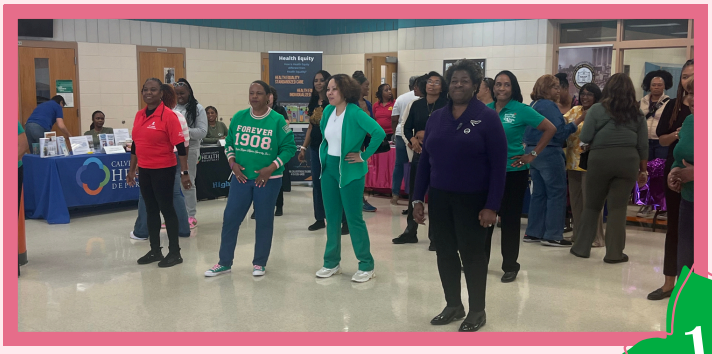
440 community members attended the expo.











Our Bodies STILL Belong to Us: Reproductive Justice Now

April 17, 2024

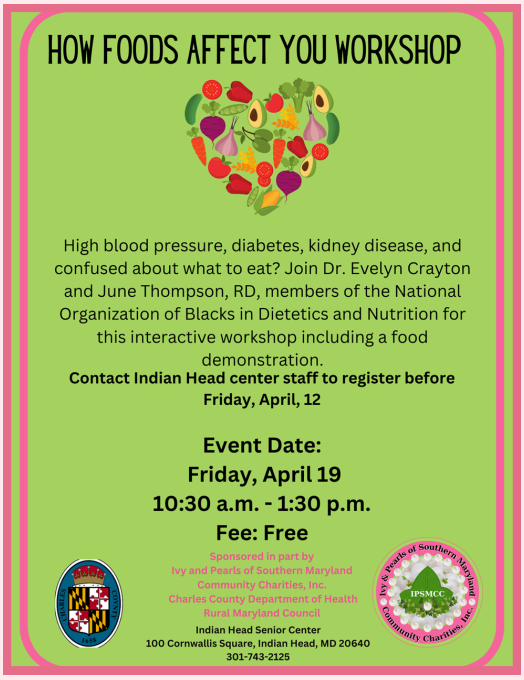
Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter's Advocate for Social Justice Initiative partnered with Ujima to discuss maternal health for African-American women, with a focus on health disparities within Black and Brown communities, during Black Maternal Health Week.



Eat Well, Live Well, Be Well Part I

April 19, 2024

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter partnered with Dr. Evelyn Crayton (National Organization of Blacks in Dietetics and Nutrition) to bring an interactive healthy eating workshop to the African-American community. This three-part series focused on the health disparities facing African-Americans and ways to prevent chronic health diseases through nutrition. Participants were given a live cooking lesson to assist with food preparation and meal prepping at home.







Dr. Crayton poses with IPSMCC Executive Director and Nu Zeta Omega's President following the workshop.

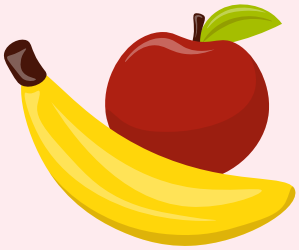




Eat Well, Live Well, Be Well Part II

April 19, 2024

Part 2 of the Healthy Eating Series. This event was held at Dr. Brown Elementary School and targeted students and their parents.











mindful eating

2nd Annual Community Health & Wellness Fair

April 20, 2024

IPSMCC in collaboration with Nu Zeta Omega, Top Ladies of Distinction (PG County and Southern Maryland) and the Links Southern Chain Chapter, hosted a Community Health and Wellness Fair for Southern Maryland residents. The Community Fair was an interactive event, which included over 30 health vendors, three panel discussions (prostate cancer awareness, nutrition and how foods can be used to combat chronic diseases; and sickle cell awareness and resources), a hula hoop fitness workshop, food and music for the community.





The following items were donated by the community:

Paper Towels (48)
Tissues (9 boxes)
Toilet Paper (67 rolls)
Canned goods (128)
Packs of noodles (30)
Toiletries (201)
Underwear/pads (506)

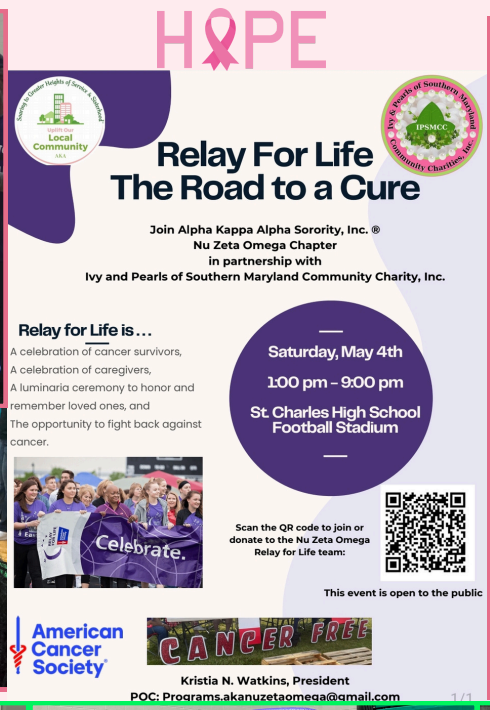
Relay for Life
The Road to a Cure
May 4, 2024

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter (NZΩ) proudly participated in the annual American Cancer Society (ACS) Relay for Life (RFL) event held on May 4, 2024, at St. Charles High School. The ACS RFL brings together passionate supporters who embody the American Cancer Society's vision to end cancer as we know it—for everyone. The event celebrates cancer survivors, honors loved ones lost to cancer, and raises funds to improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support. Survivors and caregivers were honored at a Survivors Luncheon, and those lost to cancer were remembered during a touching Luminaria Ceremony.

The 2024 theme was, *The Road to a Cure*. IPSMCC and NZΩ raised an impressive $8,631.13, finishing 4th out of 48 teams. Additionally, IPSMCC and NZΩ won 1st Place for Best Campsite, recognized for best capturing and embracing the event theme.















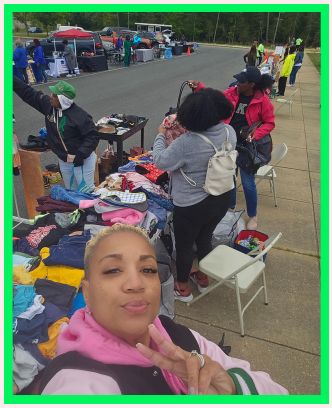


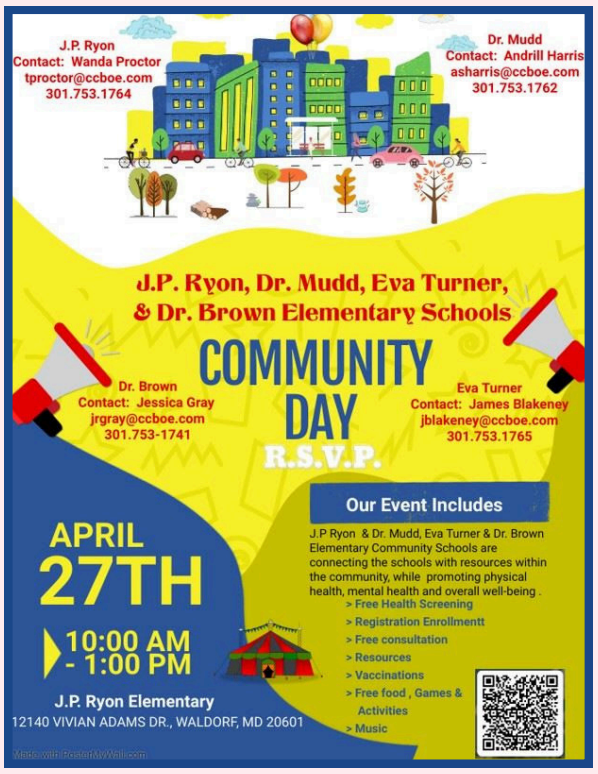
Supporting Our Partners

April 27, 2024

The Community Day event combined efforts and services from four Charles County Community Schools. The event offered free food, music, health resources, school supplies, clothing items, fresh vegetables, and more to students and families. The schools also provided fun interactive activities for students to include a petting farm, games, and outdoor activities. IPSMCC & NZΩ provided information related to chronic diseases, prostate cancer, and mental health awareness. In addition, IPSMCC & NZΩ handed out 600 bags of fresh vegetables from Schlagel Farm to attendees.















Home Buyer Seminar

May 11, 2024

On May 11, 2024, IPSMCC in partnership with NZΩ's Build Our Economic Wealth Committee hosted a free seminar to equip attendees with the knowledge and resources to start building wealth through real estate ownership.











Charter Form of Government Forum

May 21, 2024

IPSMCC in partnership with NZΩ's Connections Committee, hosted a Charter Form of Government Forum attended by approximately 78 people. This event provided an opportunity for residents to ask questions about the proposed Charter that was on the November 2024 ballot. Residents were provided information and given a chance to ask questions of the guest speaker, Greg Waring.













Juneteeth Festival

June 19, 2024

The Juneteenth: Celebration of Freedom and the Arts Festival was a collaborative partnership between Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Nu Zeta Omega Chapter, the Town of Indian Head, Charles County Parks and Recreation, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Sigma Alpha Lambda Chapter. More than 650 individuals attended the celebration and enjoyed learning about the history of Juneteenth, listening to the sounds of African drummers and watching them perform cultural dances. In addition, participants engaged with local community artisans and vendors. The success of the Juneteenth Celebration was evidenced by the total number of participants, which more than doubled from 2023. The festival was free for the community and participating vendors, and youth had a separate area to partake in age-appropriate activities such as games, a moon bounce, and face painting.









IVY & PEARLS OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND COMMUNITY CHARITIES, INC.
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. NU ZETA OMEGA CHAPTER
ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY INC, SIGMA ALPHA LAMBDA CHAPTER
PRESENTS

JUNETEENTH

CELEBRATION

JUNE 19, 2024 12-3PM

100 WALTER THOMAS RD | INDIAN HEAD, MD

SPONSORED BY

Charles Arts County Alliance
Performing · Visual · Literary

Law Office of Edsel M. Brown Jr., PLLC

RMC Rural Maryland Council

SHARK BAR & Seafood House







Juneteeth Festival
(con't)



















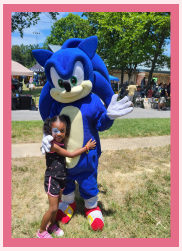










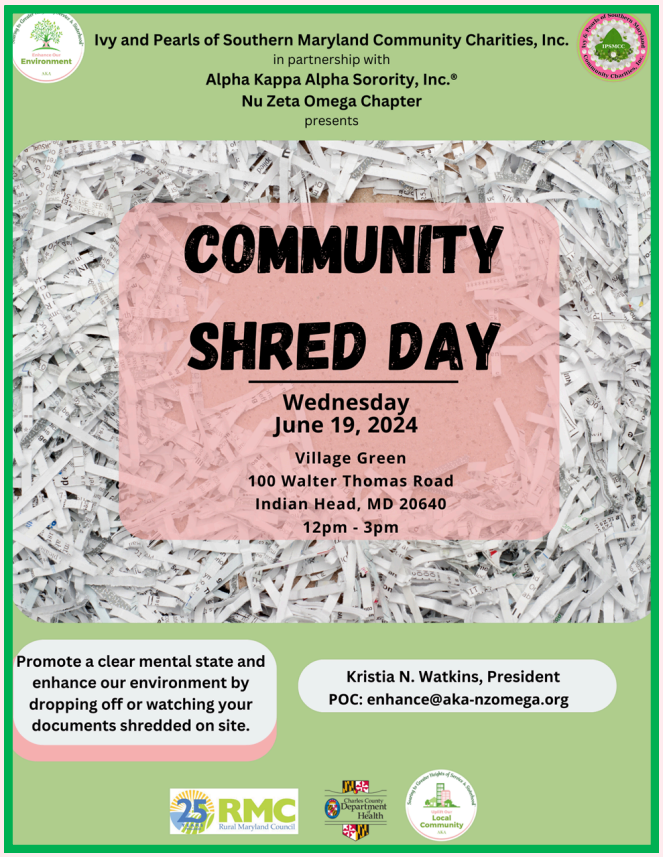




Juneteeth Festival
(con't)

IPSMCC in partnership with NZΩ's Enhance Our Environment initiative, coordinated a Community Shred Day during the annual Juneteenth Festival. We shredded 18 bins of documents amounting to 5,400lbs of paper waste.

















Ivy & ICE White Party Fundraiser



Adopt-A-Road Clean-up

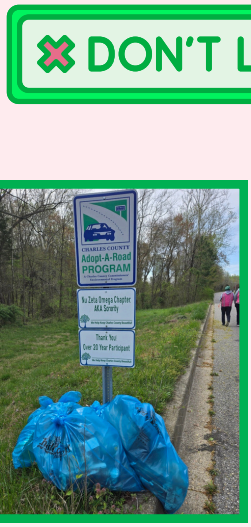
August 3, 2024



Adopt-A-Road roadside clean-up was conducted on August 3, 2024. Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) participated in the event at Milton M. Somers Middle School. Members picked up six (6) bags of waste within a 4-mile radius of the school. The Adopt- A-Road clean-up directly aligns with the Waste Reduction target as it helps to eliminate waste that was discarded in neighborhoods and along roadways.











Clothing Donation

September 7, 2024

On October 5, 2024, 14 bags and boxes of gently used professional clothing were collected in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The items were donated to LifeStyles of Maryland Inc. to support unhoused men and women with job searches, interviews, and maintaining a professional appearance while employed.

Later in the month, on October 24, 2024, an additional 550 pieces of new and gently used men's and women's professional attire were donated to LifeStyles of Maryland Inc. This generous contribution included shoes, six sets of sheets, one full-size bed set, and accessories for individuals seeking ssistance through the organization's distribution centers and temporary shelters.









2024 5K Environment Walk/Run

September 14, 2024

On September 14, 2024, IPSMCC held its annual 5K walk/run on Indian Head Trail, bringing together 85 enthusiastic registrants to support a dual cause: raising funds for scholarships and community-focused programs, while also increasing awareness of pressing environmental issues. The event, which garnered nearly $5,000, was a testament to community spirit and dedication to both local empowerment and global ecological health.



The walk was proudly sponsored by iWorks Corporation, The Lions Club, and Charles County Department of Health, whose generous support contributed significantly to the event's success. Participants were given goodie bags filled with various items, a token of appreciation for their involvement.

In a unique and fitting gesture, the top three finishers of the 5K walk/run received plants as prizes. These living mementos served as a poignant reminder of the event's core message: the importance of caring for our planet. The run/walk not only provided a platform for physical activity and community engagement but also fostered a deeper connection to environmental stewardship among all who participated.





















Supporting Our Partners

September 21, 2024

The Alzheimer's Walk was held at the LaPlata Town Hall, located in LaPlata, MD. Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. (IPSMCC) in partnership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter, raised $735 (17 donors). Eight (8) members volunteered and participated in the walk.









Domestic & Intimate Partner Violence

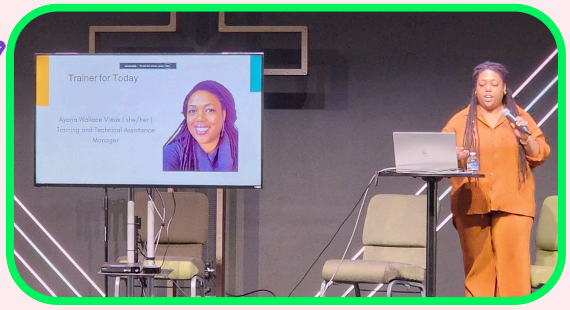
October 19, 2024

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter's Advocate for Social Justice, Empower Our Families, and Uplift Our Local Communities Initiatives collaborated to host a community forum for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The forum was a partnership with community domestic violence organizations and elected officials. The speakers discussed the impact of domestic violence, provided resources to the community, and provided a safe space to speak about a sensitive topic. There were 63 residents in attendance.

















Financial Wellness Expo

October 26, 2024

On October 6, 2024, IPSMCC, in partnership with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter, sponsored a Financial Wellness Expo to promote financial literacy and well-being within Charles County. The event brought together professionals, experts, and organizations dedicated to helping individuals improve their financial health.

















Food 4 Thought: Part 1
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

November 23, 2024

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter's Uplift Our Local Community and the Eva S. Chesley Leadership Development Institute Fellows collaborated to expand their food insecurity efforts by creating a sustainable partnership with George Washington Carver (GWC) Elementary School, St. Mary's County called "Food 4 Thought". The "Food 4 Thought" Program will provide food pantry donations and assistance servicing the school's food pantry, to expand the food pantry's hours of operation.











Ten Thanksgiving baskets were donated to GWC during the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The baskets contained sufficient dinner items to feed 40 individuals.

Food 4 Thought: Part 2
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

November 23, 2024

The Food 4 Thought Social Hour was held at the Green Turtle on November 23rd. Canned goods were collected for George Washington Carver Elementary School's food pantry. Over 1,200 items were collected and donated to GWC for food pantry distribution.











IPSMCC and NZΩ supporting the Food 4 Thought Program and their expansion efforts in St. Mary's County.





Food pantry donation for George Washington Carver Elementary School.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter's Uplift Our Local Community initiative packed and donated 30 Thanksgiving baskets to three St. Mary's County elementary schools. Each basket served a family of four. The donated baskets fed approximately 120 individuals for the holiday.







Happy Thanksgiving





Christmas Baskets

December 16, 2024



Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Nu Zeta Omega Chapter's Uplift Our Local Community initiative hosted a Christmas basket packing party to prepare food donated for nine (9) Charles County Schools. Members, honey-dos and the children contributed to packing and loading the baskets for delivery.

Each school received at least 10 baskets. In total, the Chapter donated 128 Christmas baskets, and each basket contained enough food for a family of four.

This effort fed a total of 512 individuals for the Christmas holiday.







Merry Christmas







2024 Annual Report

GRANTS AWARDED

Grant Awards

IPSMCC received $96,750 in grant funding to pour into our communties.

1. ***Charles County Dept. of Health – Local Health Disparities (LHD) - $28,000.00***
   Funding to support health-related activities, food insecurity, and mental health for the underserved community of Charles County.

2. ***Charles County Charitable Trust - $8,500.00***
   Funding to support Weekend Backpack Program, holiday meal baskets, and food pantry monthly donations.

3. ***Tobacco, Diabetes and Chronic Disease Prevention - $5,000.00***
   Funding to promote tobacco and chronic disease prevention.

4. ***Cigarette Restitution Fund - $5,000.00***
   Funding to promote tobacco and vaping cessation.

5. ***Rural Maryland Council Grant - $8,500.00***
   Funding to address mental health and chronic disease disparities in Southern Maryland.

6. ***Seed Grant - $5,000.00***
   Funding for the Juneteenth Cultural Heritage Day. This grant will add a cultural tourism component to the annual Juneteenth Celebration.

7. ***Charles County Arts Alliance - $3,000.00***
   Juneteenth Cultural Heritage Day

8. ***Project Restore 2.0 Grant – $33,750.00***
   Funding to cover the costs of a physical location for organizations/businesses in Charles County.

Grant Awards
(con't)

The Project Restore 2.0 Grant has provided IPSMCC an opportunity to open its first headquarters office space.

In December 2024, the grant was awarded and the lease was signed.
Ribbon cutting ceremony and move-in date will be announced in 2025.

3825 Leonardtown Rd, #Suite 4, Waldorf, MD 20601







2024
Annual Report

COMMUNITY & PARTNER INITIATIVES

Partnership

SOUTHERN MARYLAND CHAIN (MD) CHAPTER,
THE LINKS, INCORPORATED

in partnership with

BLACK K.A.R.E. FUNDED BY BAXTER HEALTHCARE, CO.

Present



CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE WEBINAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

REGISTRATION QR CODE :

Dr. Rovenia Brock, PH.D.
Moderator



DR. BOISEY BARNES, CARDIOLOGIST



ASHTE COLLINS, MD, FASN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



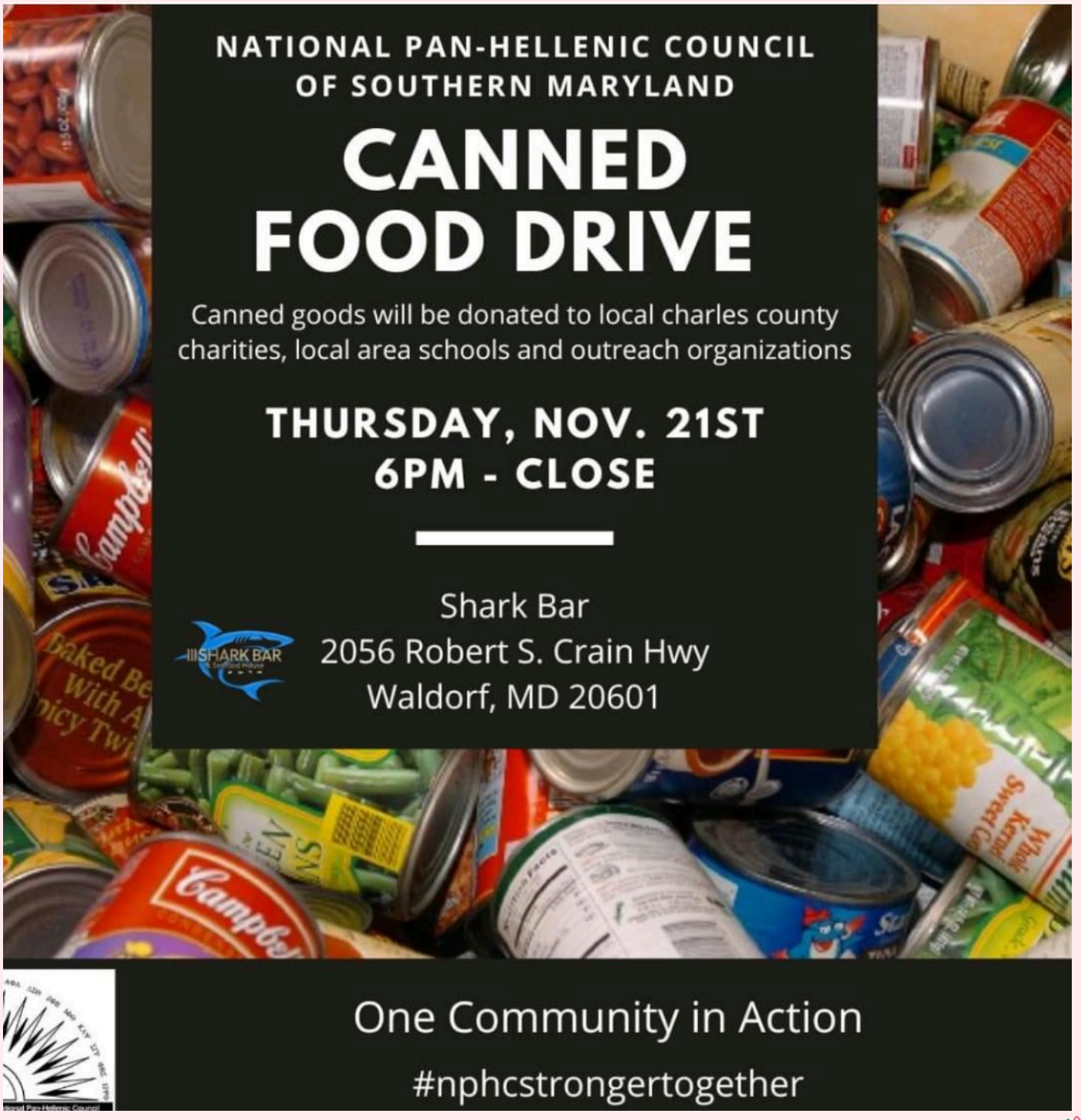
KAYLA K. SMITH, RD LDN



ALEXIS KELLEY, LICSW

Jacqueline Gray, President
Gloria Wiggs, Program Coordinator

Supporting Our Partners



Supporting Our Community

October 26, 2024











Supporting Our Community

October *29, 2024*





2024
Annual Report

FINANCIAL REPORT



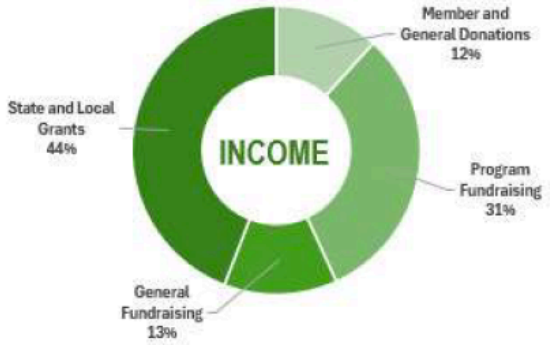
Financial Report

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland, Inc.

2024 Financial Overview

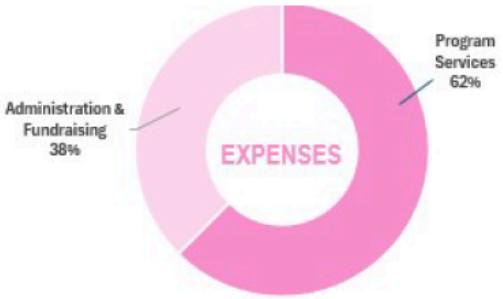
How we generate funds

Member and General Donation	$11,639
Program Fundraising	$31,158
General Fundraising	$12,581
State and Local Grants	$43,746
Total Income	**$99,124**



How we spend each dollar

Program Services	
Education	*$16,250*
Community Involvement	*$10,538*
Health & Welfare	*$34,452*
Public Awareness	*$2,255*
Program Services	**$63,495**
Fundraising	**$28,580**
Administrative and General	**$9,552**
Total Expenses	**$101,627**



Financial Highlights:

44% of total income generated through grant funds targeting Health Disparities, Tobacco Prevention and Education, Food Insecurities and Community Arts development

IPSMCC's Fundraising efforts raised **$43 thousand+** to support the continued development of our youth

$16 thousand in scholarships awarded to students attending Colleges and Universities across the United States

IPSMCC has **100%** financial support from its membership

2024 Annual Report

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.

IPSMCC

MAKING AN IMPACT

Tobacco Cessation Cancer Prevention

Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Nu Zeta® Omega Chapter received two proclamations from the Charles County Commissioners for "World No Tobacco Day" and "No Menthol Sunday".



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-51

No Menthol Sunday

WHEREAS, No Menthol Sunday is The Center for Black Health and Equity's Annual Call to Action, highlighting the detrimental impact tobacco has on Black communities; and

WHEREAS, No Menthol Sunday is day for key leaders and influencers to plan activities on this day to build awareness about smoking, vaping and the role of menthol and other flavors in initiating tobacco addiction; and

WHEREAS, this is a time to support policy change at the national and local levels and encourage involvement in advocacy efforts to ban the sale of mentholated products locally and support the ban of menthol at the federal level; and

WHEREAS, we encourage you to empower yourself with knowledge and set your eyes on a tobacco-free future.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND do hereby proclaim May 19, 2024, as **No Menthol Sunday** in Charles County an recognize and acknowledge the importance of removing menthol from tobacco products in Charles County.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3

Attest:
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-52

World No Tobacco Day

WHEREAS, each year the World Health Organization (WHO) holds World No Tobacco Day. Their goal is to spread awareness about the dangers of tobacco use and its negative impact on health as well as the exploitation of the nicotine industry that is geared towards the youth in particular; and

WHEREAS, the member states of WHO created World No Tobacco Day in 1987 as a response to the global crisis and the diseases and deaths caused by the epidemic. The WHO Assembly passed resolution 1988, issuing May 31 as an annual observance of World No Tobacco Day; and

WHEREAS, there are 8 million reported deaths every year due to the consumption of tobacco. It is the leading cause of respiratory disorders like chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, tuberculosis, and other lung diseases; and

WHEREAS, we ask our community to encourage young people around us to avoid the habit altogether. Educate our youth on the importance of their pulmonary health to live a long healthy life; and

WHEREAS, we as a community and the World Health Organization promote No World Tobacco Day as a launching pad to a brighter and less smokey future.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND do hereby proclaim May 31, 2024, as **World No Tobacco Day** in Charles County an recognize and acknowledge the importance of avoiding tobacco use in Charles County.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3

Attest:
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners



Acknowledgement from the County Commissioners



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2024-01
National Pan-Hellenic Council Recognition Month

WHEREAS, the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), colloquially known as the "Divine Nine" (D9), is a collaborative umbrella council composed of historically African American fraternities and sororities; and

WHEREAS, the NPHC was formed as a permanent organization on May 10, 1930 on the campus of Howard University, in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the founding members of the NPHC were Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, and Zeta Phi Beta. The council's membership expanded as Alpha Phi Alpha (1931), Phi Beta Sigma (1931), Sigma Gamma Rho (1937), and Iota Phi Theta (1998) joined this coalition of Black Greek letter organizations; and

WHEREAS, each of the nine NPHC organizations evolved during a period when African Americans were being denied essential rights and privileges afforded others. Racial isolation on predominantly white campuses and social barriers of class on all campuses created a need for African Americans to align themselves with other individuals sharing common goals and ideals; and

WHEREAS, the African American (Black) Greek-lettered organization movement took on the persona of a haven and outlet, which could foster brotherhood and sisterhood in the pursuit to bring about social change through the development of social programs that would create positive change for Blacks and the country; and

WHEREAS, today these fraternities and sororities have a continued demonstrated commitment to serving their fellow residents through programs of human service, outreach, mentorship and community and public service.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim January 2024 as **National Pan-Hellenic Council Recognition Month** in Charles County and do commend this observance to all our residents.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 5

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3

Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

“Thank You” from George Washington Carver Elementary School

Food 4 Thought
ST. MARY'S COUNTY

GWC EAGLES' NEST | Smore Newsletters Inbox ×

Dorothy Cole Nov 25, 2024, 8:46 PM (2 days ago)
to me

Good Evening,

Thank you again for your support and taking time out of your schedules to support Carver. Please feel free to share the link below with your chapter for our school newsletter!

https://secure.smore.com/n/x3nru-gwc-eagles-nest

Ms. Dorothy Cole
Community School Coordinator
George Washington Carver Elementary
Phone: (301) 863-4076 Ext:44131
Direct Line: (240) 913-5559

THANK YOU ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

We want to send out ***BIG THANKS*** to the Nu Zeta Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, and the Eva S. Chesley Leadership Development Institute for their *Food 4 Thought* partnership with Carver! We are grateful for their generosity not just during holiday times but throughout the year!







"Thank You" from St. Mary's County Public Schools

St. Mary's County Public Schools
Division of Instruction
Department of Student Services
23160 Moakley Street, Suite 104
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Phone: 301-475-5511, ext.32150; Fax: 301-475-2469

Cheryl A. Long, Director
Director

December 31, 2024

Dear Members of Nu Zeta Omega and Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland,

On behalf of the George Washington Carver Elementary School Community School staff, our students, and families, I would like to express our gratitude for your generosity and kindness.

We are fortunate to have partners like you who contribute to the well-being of the community. The compassion and commitment to serving our students and families are respected and appreciated.

Please convey our appreciation to everyone who contributed.

With sincere appreciation,

Teresa J. Cox,

St. Mary's County Public Schools, Supervisor of Student Services and Special Programs

St. Mary's County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, or disability in matters affecting employment or providing access to programs.

“Thank You” from Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School

Date: Wed, Jan 15, 2025 at 9:46 AM
Subject: A note of thanks...
To:

Dear Community Partners,

We are so very grateful for you... your efforts to organize & orchestrate holiday donations did not go unnoticed. You and your organization made the holidays special for many of our Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy families. I have attached a booklet of pictures and thank you notes from a few of our families. Please feel free to share this with anyone who helped in your efforts.

We are truly thankful to have you (and your organization) as a community partner!

Blessings,

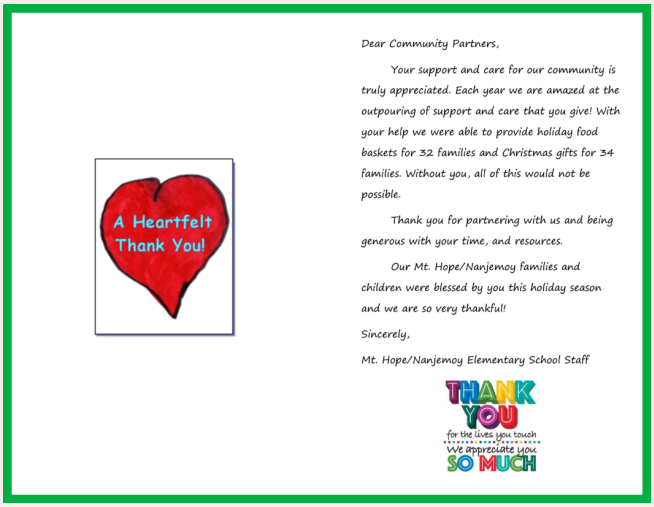
Ellen Dobry

Attendance Secretary

Mt.Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School









"Thank You" from Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School *(con't)*









2024 Annual Report

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board of Directors, Officers, and Members of Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Incorporated (IPSMCC) appreciate the support and contributions of our community partners. They have been instrumental in helping IPSMCC achieve our 2024 service and community outreach goals.

thank you

93.9 WKYS FM Radio
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated,® Nu Zeta Omega Chapter
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, Sigma Alpha Lambda Chapter
Alzheimer's Association
Black K.A.R.E. (Kidney Awareness Resources & Education)
Cedar Point Federal Credit Union
Charles County Arts Alliance
Charles County Charitable Trust
Charles County Department of Health
Charles County Public Schools (CCPS)
Charles County State's Attorney's Office
College of Southern Maryland
Concerned Black Women (CBW) of Calvert County
iWorks Corporation
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
National Pan-Hellenic Council of Southern Maryland
Rural Maryland Council
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Eta Omicron Sigma Alumnae Chapter
Southern Maryland Chain (MD) Chapter, The Links Incorporated
Tau Lambda Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
The Lions Club
Top Ladies of Distinction (Prince George's County and Southern Maryland)
Town of Indian Head
Ujima The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
UM Charles Regional Center - University of Maryland Medical System

Looking to 2025

In 2025, Ivy and Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc. will celebrate a transformative year marked by strategic growth, increased community impact, and the exciting acquisition of a dedicated rental space. This achievement reflects the organization's ongoing commitment to excellence, empowerment, and service across Southern Maryland.

Acquisition of a New Rental Space

- Ivy and Pearls will secure a versatile and centrally located rental facility to host programs, events, and meetings.
- The space will be designed to accommodate a wide range of activities—from etiquette workshops and mentoring sessions to community forums and social gatherings.
- This new venue symbolizes a foundational step toward creating a consistent and professional environment where the organization's mission can thrive.

Expanded Programming and Visibility

- With a dedicated location, Ivy and Pearls will have greater scheduling flexibility and creative control, allowing for the expansion of signature events and new initiatives.
- Community visibility will increase, solidifying Ivy and Pearls as a recognizable and reliable presence in Southern Maryland.

Community and Member Empowerment

- The space will serve as a home base for delivering educational, cultural, and service-based programming that uplifts youth, families, and underserved communities.
- It will also foster deeper engagement among members and volunteers, creating a strong sense of ownership and belonging.

Foundation for the Future

- This strategic move lays the groundwork for long-term planning, including potential partnerships, donor engagement, and legacy-building projects.
- The acquisition positions Ivy and Pearls to respond more effectively to community needs while reinforcing its commitment to leadership, grace, and service.

2024 Membership Roster

Represents our Deceased Members

Adams, Ashley
Addison-Thompson, Tammie
Alfred, Candi
Anderson, Michelle
Anderson, Starlisha
Anderson, Tawnya Denise
Armstrong, Donnis
Avant, Danielle
Baker, Ella
Barber, Judith K.
Barnes, Denise
Barnes, Sandra
Bond, Sharon
Bonner, Arin
Booker, Felicity
Bowen, Desney
Brailsford, Terry
Brewer, Lakisha
Brewer, Shaina
Brewer, Sierra
Briscoe, Harriette
Brooks, Janice
Brown, Sheree
Brown, Zsa Zsa
Bryant, Janis
Butler-Cleveland, LaToya
Cannon, Kimberly
Carrington, Kelly
Cary (Scott), Mary
Cawthorne, Carol
Chase, Brenda
Cobbs, Kelly
Cooper, Faith
Countryman, Yvette
Croom, Amia
Cuffy, Lena
Cunningham, Donna
Cutler, Tracy
Dashiell, Evelyn
Datcher, Delores
Davis, Adria
Davis, Tamara
Day, Frances
Dixon, Markeeta
Djossou, Sonja
Dorsey, Karleshia
Dorsey, Patty
Douglas, Gwendolyn
Dunk, Laura
Ellis-Green, Sharon
Estep, Dana
Estep, Judy
Estep, Lillian
Estep, Tasha
Forbes, Vitalia
Franklin, Cheryl
Freeman, Felicia
Gale (Higgins), Tajuana
Glasper, Celisa
Gravely, Linda
Gray, Jacqueline
Grubbs-Williams, Angelica
Gumbs, Naomi
Hall, Areyal
Hamilton, Rosa
Harris, LaShele
Hart, Natalie
Harvey, Niki Nkenge
Hawes, Rochelle
Hawkins, Erika
Hawkins, Francine Dove
Henderson, Andrea
Henry (Smith), Caroleeta
Hickey, Bridgette
Hill, Jocylin
Hill, Tonya
Hodge, Deidre
Hopkins, Tawanya
Hunt, Kenyatta
Hurry, Jasmyne
Jackson-Young, Benita
Jefferson-Lambert, Michelle (MJ)
Johnson, Jennifer
Johnson, Pamela D.
Johnson, Rochelle
Johnson, Tya
Jones, Cheryl
Jones, Christy Little
Jones, Felicia M.
Jones, Holiday
Jones, Jessica
Jones Coleman, Wyatte (Nita)
Jordan, Andrian
Kearney, Tina
Killens-Cade, Rushyannah
Lancaster, Tameka
Lanier, Tierra
Lewis, Karen
Lilly, Agnes
Makle, Kim
Marshall, Margaret
Marshall, Sherrilyne
McNeil, Alison
Michael, Jehari
Morehead, Lannie
Murrell, Jamelah
Mutz, Ar'kera
Parker, Diane
Patterson, Edith
Pender, Deidre
Penn, Yolanda
Phillips, Leith
Plater, April
Plater, Tyra
Powell, Trina
Price, Kiara
Reid, Laura
Rice, D. Maria
Richardson-Ware, Susan
Robinson, Anita
Ross, Claudette
Sanddler, Erin
Sanders, Phyllis
Sanders-Moore, Cindy
Savoy, Margot
Savoy, Rochelle
Scian, Tamiko
Scott, Lola
Scott-Edwards, Courtney
Seymore-Green, Terrill (Terri)
Shannon, Patricia
Short, Mary Jane
Simmons, Sharone
Smith, Antoinita
Smith, Vanessa
Spencer-Patrick, Karen
Starks, Stevie-Mari
Stone, Jamine
Sturdifen, Da'Net
Taylor, Chimere
Taylor, Deborah Wilson
Taylor, Stephanie
Terry, Andrea
Thenstead, Wualanda
Thomas, Arryelle
Thomas, Cynthia
Thompson, Janean
Thornton, Rayna
Trent, Kiana
Viverette, Vanessa White
Wade, Mary L.
Walls, Delores
Walston, Mashonda
Watkins, Carmella Davis
Watkins, Kristia
West, Melanie
Williams, Jessica
Williams, Kerry-Ann
Williams, Laversa Danielle
Williams, Patricia
Wimbish, Vernita
Wilson, Mildred
Wilson, Nicole
Woods, Leslie
Woody, Sandra
Young, Lisa
Young, Ruth

Ivy & Pearls of Southern Maryland Community Charities, Inc.

IPSMCC

Follow us on Social Media

@ivypearlssmcc

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@ivypearlssmcc

Contact Us:

P.O. Box 975, Waldorf, MD 20604 | www.ipsmcc.org | ipsmcc@ipsmcc.org