

BLACK HISTORY FACTS:

Kwanzaa, (*matunda ya kwanza*, Swahili for “first fruits”), an African American holiday observed by African communities throughout the world that celebrates family, community, and culture. It is a seven-day holiday that begins December 26 and continues through January 1.

Kwanzaa has its roots in the ancient African first fruit harvest celebrations from which it takes its name. However, its modern history begins in 1966 when it was developed by African American scholar and activist *Maulana Karenga*.

Kwanzaa is celebrated through rituals, dialogue, narratives, poetry, dancing, singing, drumming and other music, and feasting. A central practice is the lighting of the *mishumaa* (*seven candles*) of *Kwanzaa*. A candle is lit each day for each of the **Nguzo Saba** (*Seven Principles*). These principles are **umoya** (*unity*); **kujichagulia** (*self-determination*); **ujima** (*collective work and responsibility*); **ujamaa** (*cooperative economics*); **nia** (*purpose*); **kuumba** (*creativity*); and **imani** (*faith*).

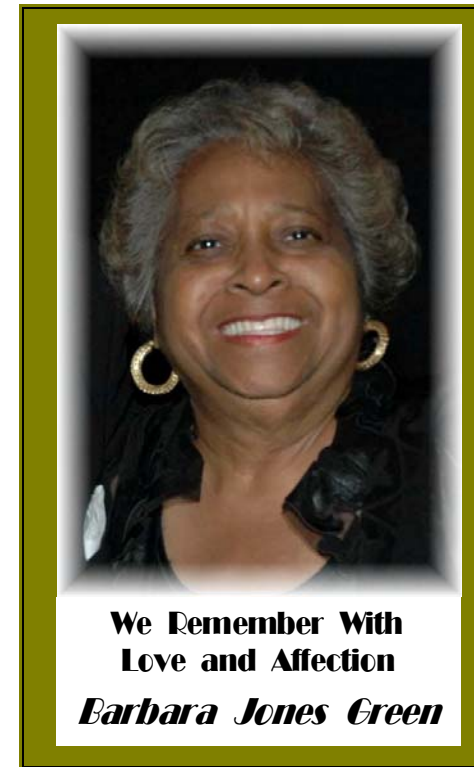
TODAY'S CHUCKLE:

From the Accounting Department
Merry Christmas ~ Happy Kwanzaa
Pat Henderson
Nancy Banks~Tim Walker~Norman Wheaton

...Finally:

We remain saddened by the sudden and untimely death of our founder (1964) and Executive Director, Barbara Jones Green.

Barbara Jones Green was a Southside community activist and businesswoman who also coordinated a wide range of social services for underprivileged children.



*The life of a soul on earth
last beyond the departure.
We are born for a higher
destiny than that of earth.
There is a realm where the
beings that pass before us
like shadows will stay in our
presence forever.*

*We will always feel that life touching ours,
that voice speaking to us.*

Anon.

1938 ~ 2008

Lakeside Community Committee



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

December 2008

“2008 ~ YEAR IN REVIEW”

32nd ANNUAL BRIDGE/WHIST LUNCHEON:

This year's 32nd annual fundraiser event was dedicated to the memory of our recent deceased founder, Barbara Jones Green.

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT:

After many years of managing LCC's finances, and with little or no fanfare, Betty Robertson, Fiscal Administrator, retired June 30, 2008.

LCC 12th ANNUAL RETREAT:

Location: 7414 S. Cottage Grove
Training - Guest Speaker
Location: 900 E. 55th Street
Seven Ten Hyde Park Bowl

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ADJUSTMENT:

To meet fiscal responsibility (which includes the State of Illinois' budget strain) and insure that the agencies continues operation, several programs were not renewed when their contracts expired. Our portfolio now looks something like this:

Programs Continued:

- Child Welfare—Foster Care
- TPSN
- Extended Family Support
- Transitional Living Program (3)

Programs Whose Contract Expired:

- Teen Reach / Visitation
- Anti-Violence
- Addiction & Prevention
- F.A.C.E. (Father's program)
- Transportation

We are optimistic that new programs, as well as some re-instated programs, can be initiated in 2009.

WELCOME

2008 LCC Family Members!

- *Michael Stevens - TLP Case Manager
- *Kelly Stokes - TLP Case Manager
- *Cherish Williams - Child Welfare Specialist
- *() - Intern

HATS OFF!



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Promotion

- *Jackie Sharp Akins - elected Executive Director by the LCC Board of Directors.
- *Patricia Henderson - elected interim Fiscal Administrator by the LCC Board of Directors.

New Position

- *Fredrick Howard - Licensing Representative
- *Lorrie Jefferies - TLP Program Director.
- *Tiffany Johnson - Clinical Therapist.

LCC THANKS:

... for their donation of fifty Christmas trees to our foster parents.

Toys for Tots for their timely donation of 250 Christmas toys that will bring joy to many of our families.

LCC is PROUD To...

Lakeside Community Committee joins the parade of people, worldwide, who celebrate the historic efforts that resulted in the election of the first afro-American United States president.

We can at last point to this achievement to illustrate to our children that no goal is too lofty for them to obtain

From the Desk of the

Executive Director



This has been an exciting year for Lakeside Community Committee. Although we are facing challenging times, I am filled with enthusiasm and hope for the future. I have met and talked with all of our program supervisors, directors as well as the Director of Operations and after leaving them, I always feel refresh. One has only to look around and talk with our wonderful staff to realize the great work they do transforming people lives and helping our participants build strong foundation for independence.

More than ever I am convinced as I enter my 10th year in January 2009 as an employee and my 1st year as the Executive Director in February 2009 with Lakeside Community Committee that our mission is as strong today as it was 44 years ago. This is evident on a daily basis as I work with more than 70 staff servicing more than 250 children and families.

Lakeside Community Committee asks a lot of you and I am very proud to support you in your efforts. I want to thank you also for welcoming me as your new Executive Director. I accepted the position for two reasons, one, because I believed in the mission of the agency and the other was because I felt the people who work here are good, solid, committed, hardworking people whom I would be proud to lead. You have inspired me all year. I have been impressed with the care and supportive atmosphere I see everyday. I see people who want the best for their children and families. I want us as a staff to always provide services with the highest of integrity and transparency.

See you in 2009!

TECHNOLOGY CORNER

“Internet & Network Usage Policy”

Monitoring. LCC reserves the right to monitor all employee computer usage to ensure proper working order, appropriate use by employees, the security of LCC data, and to retrieve the contents of any employee communication in these systems.

Management may access user files without the user's consent for any purpose related to maintaining the integrity of the network, or the rights of LCC or other users or for any other reasonable purpose.

Improper Activities. LCC provides computers and Internet connections ("facilities") to further its business interests. You should use those facilities only for LCC business.

Employees are responsible for exercising good judgment regarding the reasonableness of personal use. In case of doubt employees should consult the IT Director.

WHAT'S AHEAD...

■ **Council Of Accreditation (C.O.A.)** ~ Vera Coleman, C.O.A. coordinator, has begun notifying key participants of the due date requirements for their documentation. These highly specialized procedures are executed every four (4) years. It is mandatory our agency exceed the minimum requirements in order to avoid a probationary status, in addition to a more detailed audit of our operating procedures. Failing the accreditation process could actually result in the agency being shut down. There in nothing that equals the C.O.A experience.