Philanthropic Activities

In 2014 a total of $4,660 in grant funding was provided to organizations seeking to do good in the community and meet AAPA’s mission. Check presentations were made at First Baptist Church during Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day events on January 19, 2015.

In 2015 a total of seven grant applications were received. $7,000 in grant funding was awarded to organizations that met AAPA’s mission to do good in the community. Check presentations were made at the AAPA sponsored event, The Giving Back Project, on West Virginia State University’s campus on February 18, 2016.

$2,560
Charleston Institute Chapter of the Links

$2,100
African American & Heritage Academy

$2,300
Southern WV Action for Youth Center
Jada Hunter, Volunteer
Mentola Jackson, Founder

$2,000
HOPE Community Development Corp.
Reverend Matthew Watts, CEO
Bob Harding

$2,500
DREAMS Community Development Corporation
Obi Henderson, CEO
Shawn Davis, Director of STEAM for Dreams

$1,500

Mission, Vision and Future:

We aim to:
- Educate members about the benefits of collective philanthropy
- Increase awareness of local needs in West Virginia
- Make investments in organizations that are directly impacting African American children, youth and families
- Create a legacy of giving among African Americans as an effective vehicle for social impact and change

Education & Community Outreach Activities

“How to Write and Apply for a Grant” workshop was sponsored by AAPA on September 10, 2015 at the Schoenbaum Family Resource Center. Approximately 80 persons attended. The workshop was free and assisted persons in learning how to prepare a grant proposal and presentation. Dr. Michelle Foster, AAPA founding member, and Sheri Ryder of TGKVF were the lead presenters at the workshop.

A “Legacy Planning” Seminar hosted by AAPA and Merrill Lynch was held at the Schoenbaum Family Resource Center on November 12, 2015.

Thank You for Your Support!

Join Us
Contact:
Melvin Jones, President
Melvin@wvaapa.org
304.610.1318

Membership
2014 – 2015 – 19 members
2016 – 21 members

Upcoming Events
- Second Annual Jazz and Jambalaya Father’s Day event on Sunday, June 19, 2016
- Hosting of a Basic Vehicle Maintenance Seminar conducted by Mr. Clint Arnold.

African American Philanthropy In Action (AAPA) is a giving circle that is comprised of individuals and businesses committed to addressing the societal ills facing the African American community.

In general a giving circle is formed when a group of people come together to pool their money, decide where to give that money, and learn about needs in their community. In addition to pooling money, members contribute their time and talents to significantly contribute to the causes they care about.

AAPA provides grants for organizations primarily serving African American children, youth, and families in West Virginia. We were created in August 2013 to help increase the awareness and significance of giving circles, and provide a vehicle for making charitable contributions via a collaborative effort in order to make a greater impact in the African American community.
Making a greater impact in the African American community

The Giving Back Project: Reframing Portraits of Philanthropy

The Giving Back Project: Reframing Portraits of Philanthropy, co-sponsored by AAPA, TGKVF, WVSU Foundation, Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, and Merrill Lynch, was held on February 18, 2016, at West Virginia State University campus in the Davis Fine Arts Building. The event was attended by approximately 120 persons and consisted of keynote speaker, Ms. Valaida Fullwood, author of the book entitled Giving Back: A Tribute to Generations of African American Philanthropists, a panel discussion, and a multimedia art exhibit “The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited” display.

Fundraising Activities

The inaugural 2015 Father’s Day Jazz and Jambalaya Brunch was held June 21, 2015 at the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia featuring Cajun-inspired cuisine and the musical stylings of the Bob Thompson Unit. Approximately 100 persons attended the event with the corporate sponsors raising approximately $5,500.

The 2016 Jazz and Jambalaya Brunch will become an official event of FestivALL and will be held on Father’s Day, June 19, 2016, at the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia.

Marketing & Publicity Highlights

In 2014, AAPA members Mr. Melvin Jones and Mrs. Kitty Dooley were featured during Community Connections.

AAPA members Mr. Tim Gibson and Dr. Michelle Easton were featured on January 27, 2016 during Community Connections to promote the Giving Back Event and the upcoming Father’s Day “Jazz and Jambalaya” event.