

ISSUE #8

MAY 2026

FAR WEST FOCUS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FAR WEST REGION

greetings

Greetings Far West Family,

As we enter the final stretch of another extraordinary program year, my heart is filled with gratitude, pride, and excitement as I reflect on all that we have accomplished together. This season is truly a celebration of our ELITE journey, a time to honor the memories we have created, the friendships we have strengthened, and the remarkable programming that has enriched the lives of our children and families across the Far West Region.

Throughout this year, our chapters have exemplified what it means to be Empowered Leaders, Inspired to Excel. From meaningful community service projects and leadership development opportunities to cultural enrichment experiences and family bonding moments, our children have continued to

shine brightly and demonstrate the excellence that defines Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

This is also a season of milestones and transitions. Congratulations to our kindergarten graduates as they take their first big step into elementary school. We celebrate our children moving on to middle school and high school, embracing new opportunities and challenges ahead. To our high school graduates, we applaud your hard work, perseverance, and achievements as you prepare for the next chapter of your journey. And to our Jack and Jill alumni graduating from college, we celebrate the culmination of years of dedication and determination. Your accomplishments inspire us all and serve as a testament to the limitless potential of our children.

As summer approaches, I encourage each of you to take time to rest, recharge, and enjoy precious moments with family and friends. While we pause to reflect on the successes of this year, we also look forward with anticipation to the opportunities that await us in a new program year. Every ending creates space for a new beginning, and every accomplishment becomes the foundation for future growth.

As Maya Angelou so beautifully reminded us, "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to

thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.” Our children embody this spirit each and every day. Through their leadership, service, academic achievement, talents, and commitment to one another, they continue to show us what it means to thrive. As they move into new grades, new schools, new experiences, and new chapters of life, we know they are prepared to soar because of the strong foundation built through family, community, and Jack and Jill.

Thank you for making this year truly ELITE. Thank you for your commitment, your partnership, and your unwavering dedication to our mission. Together, we have created memories that will last a lifetime and built a legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

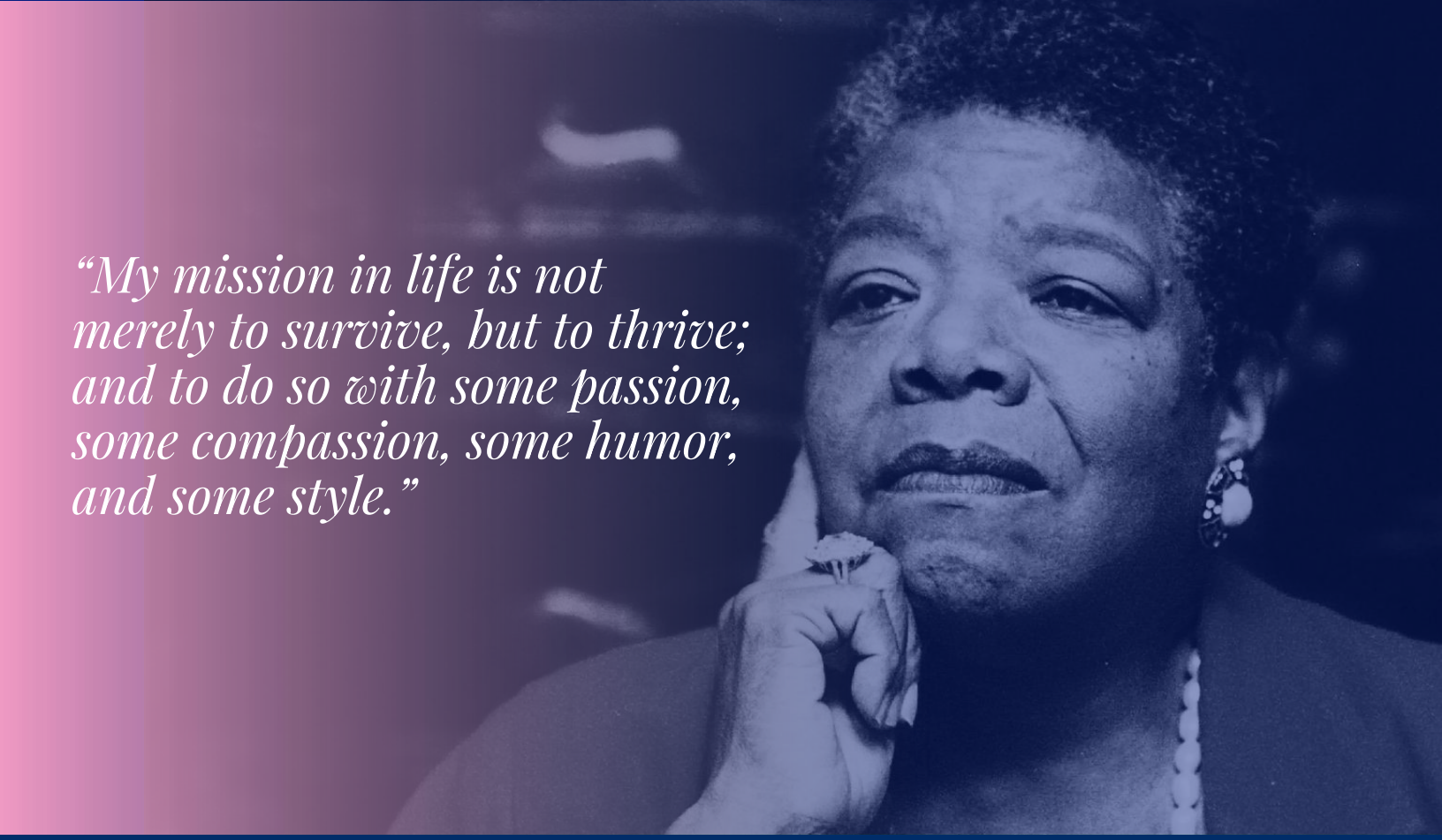
Wishing you a joyful, safe, and rejuvenating summer. I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead as we continue empowering our children, strengthening our chapters, and elevating our region.

Let's live, let's work, let's play.

With gratitude and pride,



MONIQUE ARRINGTON
29TH FAR WEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR
JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.
EMPOWERED LEADERSHIP. INSPIRED TO EXCEL.



“My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.”

IN THIS ISSUE

Regional Director's Welcome

A welcome from our Regional Director
Monique Arrington

Keeping Up with the Far West Region

Highlights from our recent national,
regional and local happenings

Members on the Move

Spotlight on those making their mark
in our community and beyond

Far West Teen Corner

New and updates specifically for Far
West Region Teens

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Stay in the loop about what's new and
what's coming

Far West Leadership Lookbook

Your visual guide to the Far West
leadership team



05

A photograph of two young women standing side-by-side in an office setting. The woman on the left is a Black woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blazer over a light-colored top with a white scarf. The woman on the right is a white woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer over a black and white striped shirt. They are both smiling at the camera. The background wall is covered with several framed certificates and awards. One prominent certificate in the center reads "SASHA RENEE P." and "Certificate of Congressional".

**KEEPING UP WITH THE
FAR WEST REGION**

05



ADVOCACY DAY

One of the highlights of this program year was witnessing our remarkable Jacks and Jills in action at Advocacy Day at the California State Capitol. There is something incredibly powerful about watching our children confidently step into spaces where decisions are made and using their voices to advocate for issues that impact their communities and future.

From voting rights and gun safety to Black maternal health, justice in policing, and protections against hair discrimination, our youth demonstrated poise, preparation, and passion as they engaged with legislators and staff members throughout the day. They asked thoughtful questions, shared their perspectives, and represented the Far West Region with excellence. The future is bright because these young leaders are already learning that advocacy is not just about being heard, it is about creating

meaningful change. Their preparation and advocacy efforts reflected the important priorities outlined during the day's legislative meetings and discussions.

A special thank you to Senator Akilah Weber Pierson for recognizing Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Far West Region on the Senate floor. It was an honor to be acknowledged and celebrated for our commitment to civic engagement and leadership development. Moments like these remind our children that their voices matter and that they have the power to shape the world around them.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to our Regional Legislative Chair, Kenya Croom, for curating such a meaningful and impactful experience for our families. Her vision, planning, and dedication ensured that our children had the opportunity to learn firsthand how advocacy influences public policy and creates change. Thank you as well to our Regional Teen Legislative Chair, Camilla Penn, whose leadership and partnership helped engage and prepare our youth advocates for this important day. Together, they created an experience that was educational, inspiring, and

empowering.

A special thank you to the Savvy Sacramento Chapter for serving as gracious hosts. Your warm welcome, hospitality, and support helped create an unforgettable experience for our families and provided the perfect backdrop for a day of learning, leadership, and advocacy. We are grateful for your partnership and for showcasing the very best of Jack and Jill sisterhood and service.

As I watched our youth navigate the halls of the Capitol, I was reminded that leadership is not something they will someday become. Leadership is who they are today. They are informed, engaged, courageous, and ready to make an impact.

Thank you to our Legislative Committee, chapter leaders, mothers, and families who made this experience possible. Most importantly, thank you to our incredible youth advocates who showed us all what it means to lead with purpose and conviction. We could not be prouder of you.

This is ELITE leadership in action.





MIDDLE SCHOOL BOWLING PARTY

Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from Jack and Jill chapters across the Los Angeles Area came together at Lucky Strike in Westchester for an evening filled with fun, laughter, and fellowship as they celebrated the close of another successful school year.

The high-energy event provided an opportunity for tweens to strengthen existing friendships and build new connections before heading into summer break. Participants enjoyed two hours of bowling, arcade games, great food, and plenty of friendly competition. From strikes and spares on the lanes to exciting arcade challenges, the evening was filled with memorable moments and nonstop excitement.

While the tweens enjoyed the activities, mothers also had the opportunity to fellowship and connect with one another, making the event a

meaningful experience.

The gathering served as a wonderful reminder of the power of friendship, community, and shared experiences. As the school year comes to a close, the Los Angeles Area tweens left with lasting memories and strengthened bonds, looking forward to continuing their Jack and Jill journey together in the year ahead.

Special thanks to Far West Regional Membership Chair Adrian Yokely for leading the effort to coordinate the event.



BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



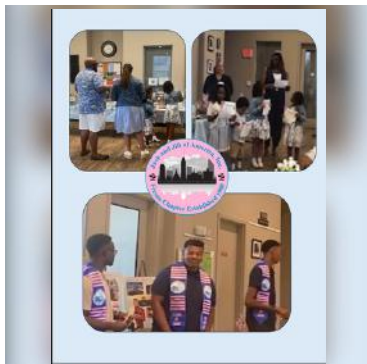
BLACK FAMILY DAY: IT'S A WEEKEND IN THE OC!

Enjoying the breathtaking beach bluffs, JJOC completely embraced our time! Kids relished the outdoors, moms melted into blissful sound therapy, and dads enjoyed the ultimate fireside fellowship! We all cheered for an epic tug-o'-war! We cherish this annual tradition as it fosters deeper connections, meaningful conversations, and unforgettable memories!



BLACK EXCELLENCE, CELEBRATED AND HONORED

During Pomona Areas Black Family Day, six graduating seniors were honored for their scholarly achievements. Fathers were recognized for their unwavering support and guidance. Children and dedicated mother members also received recognition celebrating their service, commitment, and positive impact throughout this program year, strengthening family and community bonds together.



FRESNO CHAPTER CELEBRATED OUR LEGACIES

The Fascinating and Fearless Fresno chapter celebrated Black Family Day with food and laughter. Everyone arrived looking classy and sophisticated in Martha's Vineyard themed attire. The highlight of the event was honoring our graduating seniors. We also acknowledged all of the grade group members, Mother Members, and the Father's Auxiliary, with a special congratulations to our Mother of the Year, Janee Young!



CHILDREN'S CLUSTER, YOUNG RIDERS, PROUD ROOTS!

The Santa Clarita / Antelope Valley Chapter hosted a fun-filled Children's Cluster. A western-themed experience honored the legacy, pride, and perseverance of cowboys and cowgirls, while creating a joyful space for the children to learn, connect, and shine. Activities included a corn maze, petting zoo, wagon rides and archery. Children were able to see themselves reflected in rodeo heritage, history and culture, while building memories rooted in community and pride.

BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



BLACK FAMILY DAY SHOWCASES EXCELLENCE, LEADERSHIP, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

The Lovely Long Beach Chapter celebrated Black Family Day in style! From delicious barbecue and cobbler to honoring three outstanding graduates bound for prestigious colleges, recognizing community service achievements, and enjoying an unforgettable talent show, the event was filled with joy and inspiration. It was a celebration of Black excellence to remember.



SUN VALLEY RICHLY CELEBRATES ROOTS & RECREATION

Roots & Recreation: A Sun Valley Chapter Black Family Day Celebration, brought families together at BEST Sports Center in Scottsdale, AZ for a day of wellness, recreation, cultural connection, and traditional barbecue. Families shared cherished recipes and fellowship while celebrating grade group graduates, with special recognition given to graduating seniors and their accomplishments.



NCSD'S ENJOYABLE BLACK FAMILY & HBCU ACTIVATION DAY EXPERIENCE

NCSD had an amazing Black Family & HBCU Activation Day.

We enjoyed a variety of fun activities including games, arts and crafts, yoga, line dance lessons, a panel discussion featuring HBCU alumni, and shopping with Black-owned vendors. Notably, in the Mothers vs. Fathers trivia competition, the Mothers smartly prevailed!



FATHER'S AUXILIARY APPRECIATION DAY FOR SOUTH LOS ANGELES

The South Los Angeles Fathers spent a well-deserved day bonding, relaxing and enjoying food, games, music, and an open bar!

These Fathers carry the weight, show up every day, fix what breaks, protect their families, and still keep moving even when they, "are exhausted," this day was for them!

BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



PORTLAND WILLAMETTE VALLEY CHAPTER CELEBRATES BLACK FAMILY DAY!

The PWV Jack and Jill chapter celebrated Black Family Day with an HBCU themed double feature.

We celebrated our graduating seniors as well as our bridging mothers. There was food, crafts and fun trivia for everyone to enjoy.



SENSATIONAL SAN JOSE CHAPTER HONORS GRADUATES AT BLACK FAMILY DAY

Black Family Day was a joyful celebration of family and fellowship. Themed, "They are the Blueprint", we honored graduating seniors, three graduating mothers, and bridging Jacks and Jills with a family reunion style celebration filled with food, family and laughter. We highlighted youth talents, celebrated achievements, and sent seniors to college with heartfelt encouragement.



OAKLAND BAY AREA TAKES NORCAL CHILDREN'S CLUSTER TO OUTER SPACE

Oakland Bay Area hosted the NorCal Children's Cluster for more than 190 attendees at Chabot Space & Science Center.

Families explored HBCU STEM exhibits, attended robotics workshops, celebrated African Americans in space exploration, and engaged in live Q&As with NASA astronauts. Families truly enjoyed an "overnight in the museum!"



PASADENA'S BLACK FAMILY DAY CELEBRATION

The Proud and Purposeful Pasadena Chapter hosted Black Family Day at EF Academy, celebrating Black families and recognizing our graduating seniors through meaningful fellowship, glitter tattoos, candy lei making, a photo booth, and dynamic step performances by Alpha Phi Alpha and Kappa Alpha Psi. Thank you to our chairs for creating such a memorable and impactful day!

BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



LAS VEGAS DADS: FATHERHOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

A fun afternoon of electronic darts brought our Las Vegas Chapter dads together for fellowship and connection.

We appreciate the many ways our fathers continue to show up for our chapter, support our families, and create lasting memories for our children.



THE TACOMA CHAPTER CELEBRATES FATHERS AND FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

The Tacoma Chapter celebrated Fathers Auxiliary Appreciation Month by honoring the legacy, leadership and support of our fathers. Each received a curated appreciation gift and personalized family message. The chapter also attended the PNW Children's Cluster hosted by the Seattle Chapter, where families enjoyed zip-lining, canoeing, archery and community service activities.



STRIKING FUN: BOWLING, BITES, AND BONDING FOR DADS!

The Tucson Chapter Father' Appreciation event brought fathers, children, and families together for a memorable day of celebration. Attendees enjoyed exciting rounds of bowling, a delicious meal, and uplifting fellowship. It was the perfect opportunity to honor our amazing dads while strengthening community bonds and creating lasting family memories.



SENSATIONAL SEATTLE CHAPTER VIBRANT WITH JOY AT BLACK FAMILY DAY

Black Family Day radiated joy for the Sensational Seattle Chapter. We celebrated the extraordinary character and accomplishments of five graduating seniors, enjoyed delicious food, featured Black-owned businesses with proprietors who are Jack and Jill Mother Members and celebrated our fraternities and sororities. We even had sunshine! Beautiful day of joy.

BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



INGLEWOOD HONORS COMMUNITY, FAMILY, AND OUR FATHER'S AUXILIARY

On April 25th, the Inglewood Chapter gathered for an interactive learning experience at the Los Angeles Area Children,Âs Cluster at Gilchrist Ranch. Families later celebrated Black Family Day on May 2, 2026, ,ÂsBlanc on the Lawn,,Âs with elegant white attire, shared meals, table dv©cor, and bocce ball. Father,Âs Appreciation Day at Cosm Los Angeles honored the dedication of our extraordinary fathers.



BLACK FAMILY DAY MEETS MET GALA GLAMOUR IN ANCHORAGE

Black Family Day brought high fashion and pride to life during the Anchorage Chapter,Âs ,ÂsMelanated Gala,,Âs inspired by the iconic Met Gala. Families mirrored celebrated stars while walking the runway in creative looks. Moms, dads, teens, and kids competed for prizes, celebrating self-expression, confidence, family unity, and Black excellence together.



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CELEBRATES SENIORS AND HONORS GRADUATING MOTHERS

In May, the Contra Costa County Chapter honored two mothers transitioning to associates and six graduating seniors during our Black Family Day Celebration.

While children enjoyed a magician, we celebrated family love, leadership, and the lasting impact these members have made on our chapter and community,Âs here,Âs to new beginnings.



TRI-VALLEY CHAPTER CLOSES PROGRAMMING YEAR WITH CELEBRATION AND LASTING MEMORIES

Tri-Valley Chapter families gathered at Rubys & Roses in Pleasanton for the annual Black Family Day celebration, honoring graduating seniors Michael Mitchell, Jr., Okorie Dozier, and Rayna Brathwaite, alongside graduating mothers Alison Brathwaite and Robin Dozier. Fathers were also recognized as members celebrated another impactful year of fellowship, service, education, and cherished memories together.

BLACK FAMILY DAY, FATHERS APPRECIATION & CHILDRENS CLUSTER REFLECTIONS



GREATER VALLEJO CHAPTER TAKES FLIGHT AT CHABOT SPACE AND SCIENCE CENTER

It was the most organized and thoughtfully curated event! The age-appropriate breakout sessions for kids and adults were excellent. The astronaut Q&A was especially memorable, as they patiently answered every child's question, it was wonderful seeing kids encouraged to speak up and build confidence at the mic. Overall, a fantastic event!



SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER CELEBRATES BLACK FAMILY DAY

SF brought in Black Family Day celebrating the accomplishments of our kids, with special acknowledgement and recognition of our graduates. Group 1/2 kids hosted a lemonade stand (with supervision!) and our group 3-5 lead the way with arts, crafts, and impromptu fun. Congratulations again to our graduating moms and teens!



JJLA: KEEPING THE CULTURE ON BLACK FAMILY DAY

Black Family Day: Keeping the Culture was a beautiful celebration of connection, joy, and legacy.

From worship at Holman United Methodist Church to Double Dutch, storytelling, soul-filling food, and hair braiding, JJLA gathered at the Wilfandel Club House in commemorative tees to celebrate the richness of Black family, culture, and community.



LOS ANGELES

CHILDREN'S CLUSTER

Hosted by the
Santa Clarita/Antelope Valley Chapter



Jack and Jill of America, Inc.
FAR WEST REGION



Pacific Northwest Children's Cluster



Hosted by the
Seattle Chapter



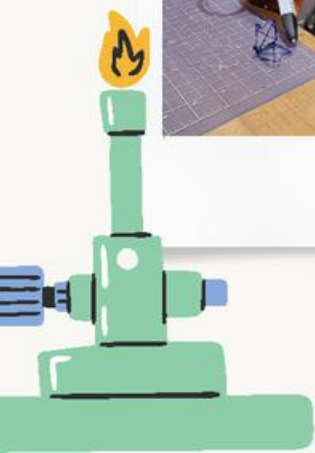


SOUTH WEST CHILDREN'S CLUSTER

Hosted by the Sun Valley Chapter



Jack and Jill of America, Inc.
FAR WEST REGION



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**MEMBERS
ON THE MOVE**

19

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



OC NAACP RECOGNIZES REVEREND & MOTHER MEMBER CHINETA GOODJOIN!

We celebrate Reverend Goodjoin, founder of Now Hope Orchestra. Her church is committed to inspiring worship and service that restores, this is evident in the Orchestra! This work earned her the NAACP Community Award! This ministry transforms lives by opening doors for youth, affirming culture, and creating pathways for leadership!



NCSD FATHER TAKES ON CFO ROLE WITH CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

NCSD Father Ray Verin recently became CFO of Toiyabe Indian Health Project, where he leads fiscal operations, revenue cycle management, and treasury functions. With a Master's in Finance from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Ray brings more than 20 years of experience driving operational efficiency, enterprise value, and transformative growth.



SAN JOSE TEEN JAMES CASTELLY AND CAST EARN RITA MORENO NOMINATION

Teen James Castelly, who starred as Richie in Bellarmine College Preparatory's fall show, along with fellow cast members are nominees for Best Overall Production at the Rita Moreno Awards in San Jose. The cast will perform on May 18th. Winners will go on to compete in the National Jimmy Awards.



OAKLAND BAY AREA CHAPTER TEEN EARNS MUSICIANSHIP HONORS

Teen President-elect Maya Diggs, a rising sophomore at Bishop O'Dowd High School, earned Outstanding Musicianship honors at the Santa Cruz and Reno Jazz Festivals for flute and alto saxophone. She's also goalkeeper for her school's varsity 2026 NorCal championship soccer team. Maya is the daughter of Chapter President Maisha Gray-Diggs.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



LAS VEGAS MOM NAMED TOP FORTY UNDER FORTY

Congratulations to Las Vegas Chapter Programming Director Brittani Grey on being named to Las Vegas's 40 Under 40! As VP of Resident Services at Nevada HAND, Brittani's leadership connects thousands of residents to education, health, and economic resources while advancing solutions that strengthen and uplift underserved communities. We celebrate this well-deserved honor!



MOTHER DEE SYLVE GRADUATES FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Tacoma Chapter proudly celebrates Chapter Parliamentarian Dee Sylve on graduating from Georgetown University's Innovative Leadership in Public Administration Program. During the program, she completed executive development and community-focused capstone projects while engaging with public sector leaders and learning about Howard University's economic development strategy in Washington, DC.



SEATTLE CHAPTER SALUTES CORRESPONDING SECRETARY NAMED TO THE ELC!

Seattle Chapter proudly celebrates Angelique Okeke, F5, Inc's Executive Vice President & General Counsel, and our Corresponding Secretary, recently named to the New Member Class of 2026 of The Executive Leadership Council. The ELC is the preeminent member organization of global executives. Congratulations on this wonderful accomplishment, Angelique!



INGLEWOOD CHAPTER CELEBRATES PARIS PREPETIT'S NATIONAL FRENCH GOLD MEDAL

Inglewood proudly celebrates Jill Paris Prepetit for earning a Gold Medal in the National French Contest. Her exceptional score ranked her among the nation's top five percent in French studies at her level. As one of only two seventh-graders at her school to receive gold, Paris was recognized at the AATF ceremony held in Burbank.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ALUMNA TAYLOR MARSHALL LEADS IN NCAA QFINALS

The 2025 Pomona-Pitzer Women's Soccer team delivered a standout 16th season, winning their seventh straight SCIAC title. Captain and Jack and Jill alumna Taylor Marshall anchored the back line, adding two goals and steady leadership. The Sagehens advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals and finished the season ranked sixth nationally.



ALUMNUS DARNELL ADLER FINALIST FOR RED BULL BASEMENT WORLD FINAL

Darnell Adler, Jack and Jill alumnus, is a finalist pitching his startup Lifeline AI in Red Bulls Basement's 2026 competition.

He is applying innovative technology to emergency safety tools and has the visionary goal to raise the global standard in how people can call for help. Please cheer him on!



JJLA APPLAUDS DR. LAUREN MCNALLY

Congratulations to Historian, Dr. Lauren McNally on being named to Hampton University's Forty Under 40 Class of 2026. This distinguished honor recognizes young alumni making meaningful impact and redefining purposeful leadership. We proudly celebrate this well-deserved achievement and the excellence she continues to exemplify.

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**FAR WEST
TEEN CORNER**

23

FAR WEST REGION



THANK YOU!

*offering love and encouragement to our
incredible sister regions*

RTP HAYDEN

RTVP NEVA-NATAIA

RTT LAILAH

RTS VIVIAN

RTFC EMILE



Introducing
Teen
Spotlight
Far West Region

CLICK HERE



greetings

Greetings Far West Region!

My name is Averie Gladden, and I am honored to serve as your Regional Teen Editor, representing the spectacular and amazing Santa Clarita Valley Antelope Valley Chapter. This year, I am thrilled to introduce Spotlight FWR, a digital newsletter created by the Far West Region, for the Far West Region.

The purpose of Spotlight FWR is simple yet meaningful: to celebrate the talent, creativity, and dedication of our teens while connecting every chapter across the region. This newsletter highlights the accomplishments, hard work, and unique voices of our members, giving everyone a chance to learn from and be inspired by each other. From leadership and service to athletics, the arts, and creative expression, the teens of our region are making a remarkable impact, and Spotlight FWR shines a light on their stories.

This issue features inspiring excerpts that showcase achievement, creativity, and leadership across the region.



Spotlight FWR not only celebrates individual chapters and members, but also fosters unity, pride, and connection throughout our community. It is a space where every teen and every accomplishment can be acknowledged, inspiring collaboration and recognition.

As you read this issue, I hope you feel proud of the incredible talent represented here and inspired to continue making a difference in your chapters and communities. Spotlight FWR exists because of you, the teens, leaders, and creators who make the Far West Region remarkable. Thank you for joining us in celebrating our members, connecting across chapters, and fostering a stronger Far West Region.

With gratitude and in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Averie Gladden".

AVERIE GLADDEN
REGIONAL TEEN EDITOR
JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.

CLICK HERE



All meetings are subject to CHANGE

MONTHLY MEETING

FWR REGIONAL TEEN BOARD

October 2025 – May 2026 @8:15pm

MEETING CANDENCE

Tuesday, October 07, 2025

Tuesday, November 04, 2025

Tuesday, December 02, 2025

Tuesday, January 06, 2026

Tuesday, February 03, 2026

Tuesday, March 03, 2026

Tuesday, April 07, 2026

Tuesday, May 05, 2026

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR APRIL WINNERS



**No other chapters participated
this month**

THE SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.
PRESENTS

BAY AREA TEEN SNEAKER BALL



[Click Here for SWAG!](#)



On March 28th, the Sensational San Jose Chapter hosted the 2nd Annual Bay Area Teen Sneaker Ball. This year's Ball was a party with a purpose, achieving significant philanthropic and community-building goals.

The event was well attended, welcoming Teens and Parents from nine FarWest Region chapters. We were particularly honored to be joined by two Regional Teen Board (RTB) officers: RTT Lailah Davis from Sacramento and RTC Hillary Askew from the Portland Willamette Valley chapter. The teens enjoyed an energetic atmosphere with premier entertainment provided by the Golden State Warriors' official DJ, DJ D Sharp.

Demonstrating a commitment to holistic youth development, this year's Sneaker Ball was expanded into a comprehensive weekend of activities. The itinerary offered College Exposure Opportunities on Saturday, followed by a dedicated Service Project on Sunday to reinforce the importance of giving and community engagement.

To ensure a memorable evening for all attendees, a chic Parents' Lounge was curated specifically for the adults. This dedicated space fostered fellowship and networking, featuring elevated culinary offerings, live music, and dancing.

The most significant measure of the weekend's success was its charitable impact. The event successfully raised funds to support the Jack and Jill of America Foundation and the Greene Scholars Program.

We invite you to help us sustain this momentum and keep the giving going. Commemorative Bay Area Teen Sneaker Ball t-shirts and hoodies are available for purchase [HERE](#). All proceeds from merchandise sales will directly benefit the Jack and Jill of America Foundation.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS &
UPCOMING EVENTS

31



Dear Daughters...

A LOVE LETTER TO THE WOMEN WHO SHOWED UP — HELD, LOVED & SENT FORWARD

DANI KILGORE

Regional Chaplain · Far West Region · Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Devotional: Held. Loved. Sent Forward.

Sisters, we made it to the end of May — and not by accident. By grace. By showing up when it was hard. By choosing community even when you were running on empty.

This has been a year of transitions. For our region. For our country. For our families. Some of us have led through uncertainty, served through exhaustion, and held space for others while quietly carrying our own weight. And yet — here you are. Still standing. Still showing up. Still rooted in purpose.

On May 31, we gathered as a region and prayed together — an interfaith community of women who believe that something sacred happens when we stop performing and simply become present. We lit candles. We held silence. We named what we'd carried. And we remembered: we were not alone in any of it.

As this chapter year comes to a close, I want you to hear this clearly: You were held this year — even in the moments it didn't feel like it. You were loved — by this community, by one another, by something far greater than all of us. And now you are being sent forward — not as the woman you were twelve months ago, but as someone shaped by everything you've lived through together.

Don't just close this year. Honor it. Every decision you made with trembling hands, every prayer whispered under your breath, every act of love when no one saw but God — it counted. It still counts. It always will.

Hold This Close

You were held this year — even when it was hard to feel it.

You were loved — more than you know.

And you are being sent forward —

not in your own strength,

but in the strength of every woman who prayed alongside you.

Go well, Far West Region. Go well.





FWR

JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA INC.

PRAYER *Service*

Join Regional Chaplain **Dani Kilgore**
and our Chapter Chaplains

FOR A TIME TO UNITE IN
INTERFAITH PRAYER AND UNITY.

Come together for a sacred moment of
reflection, connection, and collective covering
as we lift our voices in prayer.



SUNDAY
MAY 31ST



8:00 PM – 9:00 PM
PST



Submit your anonymous



Prayer Request



Together in Prayer
Rooted in Purpose



FAR WEST
JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.

BYLAW

AMENDMENT REVIEW

with
Regional Bylaws Chair
CAROL NEALY



TUESDAY
JUNE 23RD
8:00^{PM}
ON ZOOM

Review & Discuss Proposed Bylaw Changes!

Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

NEW MEMBER TRAINING

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 25, 2026
8:00 PM



Join us as we welcome our new members!



**Don't Miss Out – HBCU Tour Registration Now Open
(52 Spots – Selling Fast!)**

Far West HBCU Tour
Meeting Video

Chaperone
Registration

Far West HBCU Tour
Meeting Slides

Teen
Registration



The San Jose Chapter of
Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Fundraiser

LEMONADE FOR CHANGE

We Are The Future Now



ABOUT US

Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a nationwide organization of mothers who nurture future African-American leaders by strengthening children ages 2-19 through chapter programming, community service, legislative advocacy and philanthropy.

WE SUPPORT

African-American families, education, and health and wellness.



DONATE NOW

100% of Proceeds Will Benefit

JACK AND JILL
FOUNDATION

STAY IN THE KNOW WITH THE FAR WEST REGION NEWS FLASH—
YOUR BIWEEKLY ROUNDUP OF REGIONAL UPDATES, KEY REMINDERS, AND
UPCOMING EVENTS.

CHECK OUT PAST EDITIONS BY CLICKING BELOW.

May 23, 2026

May 20, 2026

May 6, 2026

Misha L. Dunford

Regional Secretary

Far West Region | Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

📞 925-726-1459

✉️ RSMisha@jjfarwest.org

🌐 <https://jjfarwestregion.org>

📍 P.O. BOX 12672, Limonite Ave Ste 3E #572, Eastvale, CA 92880



JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED

FOCUS



Start your week with the National Executive Board's weekly newsletter spotlighting the people, programs, and purpose that make Jack and Jill of America, Inc. shine! Each Monday brings fresh inspiration, highlights, and important updates from across the country.

Click the link below to catch up on past editions of The Focus and stay connected to all things Jack and Jill!

Past Editions of The Focus





FWR LEADERSHIP LOOKBOOK

FAR WEST REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD



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rdmonique@jjfarwest.org



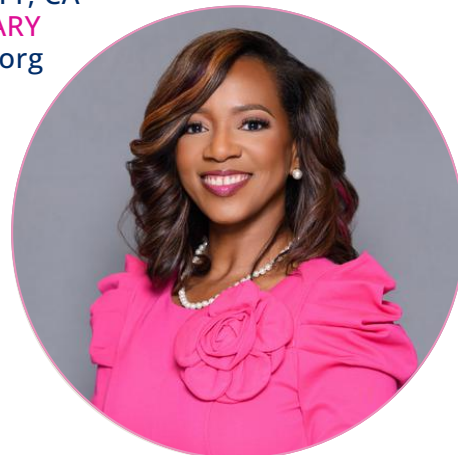
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As our members rise, so too does the Far West Region—lighting the path for the future of Jack and Jill.

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