

AMERICA'S POVERTY FIGHTING NETWORK

MARCH 2013 • 45TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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45th Annual

Corporate Meeting and Luncheon

The 2013 Annual Corporate Meeting and Luncheon was held on Saturday, January 26, 2013, at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida. This year's meeting held special significance as it marked 45 years of the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. providing services to socially and economically disadvantaged children and families throughout the state of Florida. Nearly 400 corporate partners, Board members, and guests attended ALPI's largest annual event. The theme for this year's event was: *"Charting Our Course ... Answering the Call to Service."*

Mistress of Ceremonies for this year's luncheon was Christine Samuel of Winter Haven, FL (Career Specialist at Polk Works and ALPI Board Treasurer). Presentation of Colors was performed by the American Legion Post #201 of Winter Haven, FL. The Welcome and Occasion message was delivered by Marjorie Gaskin of Fort Pierce, FL (ALPI Board member). Greetings were extended by Reginald McGill of Orlando, FL (Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Orlando, FL). Words



of Inspiration were shared by the Reverend Vernon McQueen of Sanford, FL (ALPI Board member), followed immediately by the message from the ALPI Board Chairperson, William Holt of Vero Beach, FL. Two lovely musical selections were performed by accomplished violinist, Ms. Jaida Hawkins of Jaida Hawkins & Company, Lakeland, FL. The event's keynote speaker, Judge Glenda Hatchett, was introduced by Mrs. Josephine Howard of Haines City, FL (ALPI Board Secretary).

Glenda Hatchett was born in 1951 and grew up in a low-income Atlanta neighborhood. Her mother, a teacher, was resourceful with the family's limited resources and her father "instilled in her the feeling

(See MEETING, pg 2)



CEO's CORNER

Navigating the Road Ahead

The Children's Defense Fund reminds us that ... with President Obama now sworn in for his second term and the 113th Congress seated, action is needed on a number of critical budget issues that will have important implications for low-income families with children. We must make sure that the voices of children are not drowned out by louder, better funded voices. Tell our nation's leaders to be careful what they cut!

Mr. William Holt, President of the Florida Head Start Association, recently issued a press release which noted automatic budget cuts that could go into effect as a result of sequestration would have devastating effects on vulnerable children and families nationwide. Designed to be unpalatable to both parties, sequestration would result in equal cuts to defense and non-defense discretionary funding, starting with nearly \$110 billion in 2013 - almost \$55 billion in cuts to each. Across the board cuts do not set priorities and they are not a way to govern. We need a balanced approach and we need to make children a priority.

Both parties in Congress continue to work to agree upon a combination of spending cuts and new revenues to replace the automatic cuts. We remain concerned that without new revenues, large spending cuts in addition to those already enacted to non-defense discretionary programs (or new cuts to entitlement programs such as Medicaid and SNAP) would hit low-income children and families disproportionately hard.

The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. joins the voices of many organizations from across the country who have come together to urge Congress to avert sequestration with a balanced approach to deficit reduction, including both targeted spending cuts and new revenues from those most able to pay, which would spare programs serving children and low-income families from devastating cuts.

Deloris Johnson

Chief Executive Officer & Editor

that there was nothing in the world she couldn't do", according to Black Living online. At the beginning of her address, she warned the audience she is a storyteller. She said she is long-winded like most Southern Baptists and that she likes to move around when she speaks. "I want to speak to you as a community of brothers and sisters", Hatchett said. "And I call you my brothers and sisters without regard to race or religion or culture – wherever you're from – because we are brothers and sisters in this amazing journey." Judge Hatchett discussed how she almost gave up on her own personal dream of success and was extremely discouraged while she was going to law school full-time and working full-time. After a heartfelt discussion with a close relative, she was encouraged to not give up. "If it were easy, everyone could do great things. People achieve great things only when they don't give up and don't give in," Hatchett said boldly. She explained how sometimes people need to step out on faith in order to grow both personally and professionally, as she herself had done when she gave up an extremely lucrative position at Delta Airlines in order to do something that would make a great difference in people's lives, specifically children. Judge Hatchett was adamant that "we must do better and can do better. We're called to do something in our life that will live on beyond our own generation. It's not about us; it's about making a difference, like ALPI does every day." She encouraged everyone to "dream bold dreams" and whatever it is that we need to do, should be done with purpose and passion. In closing, she reminded the audience that everyone is here because of all the sacrifices others have made before us and their memory should be honored by trying to excel in all we do.

Following the speaker, a musical dramatization was performed by Expressly You of Sanford, FL, after which guests were recognized by Lester Roberts of Avon Park, FL (ALPI Board member). Awards and Recognitions were bestowed by William Holt (ALPI Board Chairperson) and Deloris Johnson of Lakeland, FL (ALPI Chief Executive Officer). Program participants were acknowledged by Marva Hawkins of Sanford, FL (Chairperson, ALPI Special Events Committee), with Board installation performed by William A. Sweat, Esq. of Sweat, P.A. in Lakeland, FL. Closing remarks were given by William Holt, ALPI Board Chairperson.

ALPI's 2013 Awards Recipients

Each year, the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. publicly recognizes individuals, corporations, or groups who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to furthering the mission of ALPI. The following were awarded during the 2013 Annual Corporate Meeting and Luncheon.

**Keynote Speaker
Appreciation Award
JUDGE GLENDA
HATCHETT**

**Mistress of Ceremonies
Appreciation Award
CHRISTINE SAMUEL**

**CEO Recognition Award
DELORIS JOHNSON**

**The Board of Directors
Chairperson's Award
WILLIAM HOLT**

**The Board
Chairperson's Award
MARJORIE GASKIN**

**Corporate Support Award
LEARNING RESOURCE
CENTER OF
POLK COUNTY,
"CAMP READY!"**

**Head Start Policy
Committee Award
LATISHA SPARKS**

**Head Start /
Early Head Start
Policy Council
Chairperson Award
SHANNON
DICKEY-MOORE**

**Housing Board
Chairperson Award
PHILLIP HOWARD**

**Certificate of Appreciation
AMERICAN LEGION
POST #201
WINTER HAVEN, FL**

Community Services Award

TURNER CLAYTON, Jr.

- Pres., Seminole County Branch NAACP - Unit #5134
- 1st V.P., Florida State Conference NAACP
- Host of Central Florida radio talk show, "Speak Out"

ANNIE LARKINS

- ALPI Corporate Member
- Community Advocate (Winter Haven, FL)

EVELYN LEWIS

- Community Services Director, "B" Street Community Service Center, Lake Wales, FL
- Community Advocate

DR. RICHARD RUMBLE

- Doctor of Dentistry, Central Florida Health Care, Inc.
- Community Volunteer

THELMA WATERS

- Indiantown Neighborhood Advisory Committee
- Community Advocate

**HANDS OF
ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

- Provider of primary health care services to the indigent, medically uninsured and under insured people of St. Lucie County



ALPI proudly presents the

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



William Holt

Chairperson

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented:
Low Income Eastern
Region Advisory Council



David Walker, Esq.

Vice Chairperson

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Private
Law Firm of David Walker



Josephine Howard

Secretary

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Public
Designee For Commissioner
Roy Tyler (Haines City)



Christine Samuel

Treasurer

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Private
St. Paul Holiness Church



Katie Clarke

Term: 2013-2015
Sector Represented: Private
Lakeview Park
Homeowner's Association



Dorothy Curry

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Public
Designee For
Commissioner Velma
Williams (Sanford)



Wanda Maultsby-Daley

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Public
Designee For
Mayor Nancy Z. Daley (Lake Alfred)



Alexis Echeverria

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Private
Polk Works



Patricia Gamble

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Private
Florida Department
of Revenue



Marjorie Gaskin

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Public
Designee For Commissioner
Rufus Alexander (Ft. Pierce)



Marva Hawkins

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented:
Low Income
Northern Region
Advisory Council



Glenda Jones

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented:
Low Income
Central Region
Advisory Council



Chester McNorton

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented:
Low Income
ATEC Advisory Council



Vernon McQueen

Term: 2013-2015
Sector Represented: Private
Progress Energy Florida



Lester Roberts

Term: 2013-2015
Sector Represented: Public
Designee For Deputy Mayor
Brenda Gray (Avon Park)



Janet B. Taylor

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented: Public
Commissioner
Hendry County BoCC



Terry Wellington

Term: 2012-2014
Sector Represented:
Low Income
Southern Region Advisory Council



Tiffany Wilder

2013
Sector Represented:
Low Income
Head Start Policy Council



Jonathan Thiele, Esq.

ALPI Board Counsel



Installation of 2013 ALPI Board Members



BOARD EMERITUS

Grace Miller



Arabell Wiggins

Deceased - 1/21/12



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Judge Glenda Hatchett

Judge Glenda Hatchett is well known for her popular, award-winning, nationally syndicated and internationally viewed show, Judge Hatchett. After graduating from law school and completing a coveted clerkship in the US Federal Courts, Glenda Hatchett accepted a position at Delta Air Lines as the company's highest-ranking African American woman.

A jurist beyond reproach, her experience as the first African American Chief Presiding Judge of Atlanta's Fulton County Juvenile Court catapulted her to the forefront of the national justice system. She is the recipient of numerous awards and accolades and founded the Truancy Intervention

Project, which enlists the help of legal volunteers to provide early intervention with truants.

In addition to presiding over her syndicated show, which is currently in its 12th season (Sony Pictures Television), she is the founder of Parent Power Now, the premiere online parenting network. Judge Hatchett is also the author of a number of very successful books.

Nationally recognized as an expert on juvenile and social issues, Judge Hatchett speaks with authority on saving the generations of today and the future. With compassion and credibility, she affirms that her brand of justice matters for all.

For more information on this Speaker/Performer, please visit www.apbspeaker.com.

Rev. Vernon McQueen (ALPI Board Member)

Robert J.
Bryant, Jr.
Award

The Robert J. Bryant, Jr. Award is presented annually at the Corporate Meeting and Luncheon. This prestigious award is named in honor of Robert J. Bryant, Jr., past ALPI Board Member and Chairperson of the ALPI Board of Directors. Mr. Bryant's legacy is one of outstanding service to the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc. He consistently exceeded all established expectations and did so with joy and conviction.

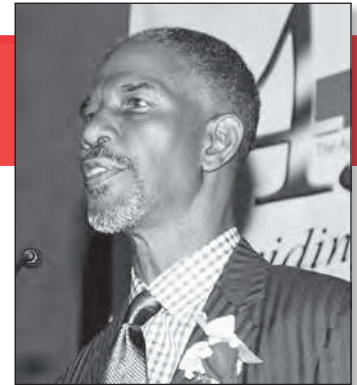


This year's Robert J. Bryant, Jr. Award was presented to Rev. Vernon McQueen (ALPI Board Member). Vernon McQueen was born the eighth child to the late Herman and Naomi McQueen in Apopka, FL. He graduated from Phyllis Wheatley High School in Apopka and went on to graduate from South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education.

Mr. McQueen taught school in New York City for over 20 years. He served as Director of Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment at the Grove Counseling Center for 12 years. He is currently employed by Progress Energy as a Program Manager for the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program.

Mr. McQueen serves on several boards and advisory councils. Some of these include: Goldsboro Front Porch Council, Homes-N-Partnership, the Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc., and Brothers Keepers. He previously sat on the advisory council of the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunities. He is a community activist and has won several awards for community service.

Vernon McQueen is the proud husband of Gail McQueen. They have two children and two grandchildren. He is an Assistant to the Pastor at Allen Chapel AME Church in Sanford, FL, where he is an ordained Reverend.





ALPI 2013 Annual Staff Training Conference



This year's staff training conference was engineered to focus on meaningful, quality staff development that would challenge staff to consider new and creative ways to make a life-changing difference in the lives of the many children and families proudly served by ALPI. A great deal of thought and planning went into every detail of the training conference, with the ultimate goal being positive growth that could be realistically implemented in the workplace.

The training conference began with the traditional staff luncheon, which featured Tim Watson as speaker. Mr. Watson is an author, motivational speaker, NFL alumnus, and President and CEO of UPLIFT System, LLC. The audience enthusiastically received his message on how to reach beyond the norm while achieving personal objectives. He shared different ways to impact teambuilding and how to maintain a winning team.

This year's workshop presenters were nationally recognized experts in their respective

fields and brought with them a vast amount of knowledge and experience. Workshops available to staff included: **Generational Diversity in the Workplace: Bridging the Generation Gap.** A review and discussion on how to bridge the gap between generations in the workforce. **Communication: Are We All Speaking the Same Language?** Participants were provided with the best practices and tools to strengthen communication skills within the organization, focusing on diversity. **Who are You? Who Are They?** How understanding personality types can help get the job done and assist in working more effectively with others. **Exploring Self-Perspective and Personal Conduct Management.** Exploring ground rules and personal conduct management, self-perspective, etc., while learning to recognize root causes of separation. **Everyday C.O.A.C.H.E.S. - Teamwork is Key.** Sharing creative and productive ways of working with co-workers, families and others.





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The ALPI Newsletter is Published by
The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc.

The ALPI Newsletter is a quarterly publication designed to inspire and inform all employees, volunteers, parents, partners, and supporters of ALPI who have helped us through the years to grow the organization into what it has become today. We welcome your suggestions, comments, and ideas. Have a question about a feature? Heard an interesting story? Share it with us by phone, mail, or fax (refer to Contact Information).

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City of Ft. Pierce, County of St. Lucie, Department of Education (Adult Migrant Division),
Florida Department of Health, Early Learning Coalition of Polk County, Florida Non-Profit
Housing, Inc., Polk County School Board, St. Lucie County School Board,
and Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County, Inc.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: APRIL 27, 2013

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Chain O' Lakes Convention Center
WINTER HAVEN, FL