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# Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation

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## Annual Report 2016

Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation for  
Economic Empowerment of Business  
and Professional Women



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the President ..... 02

Introduction of the LMP Foundation ..... 03

Board of Directors ..... 04

Programs and Projects LMPF Support ..... 05

Timeline ..... 06

Financials ..... 7-9

Donor Information ..... 10

Sorority Year 2016-2017 Outlook ..... 11

Contact Information ..... 12

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Sorors,

The impact Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Incorporated will have on the future of the youth and women of our communities cannot be understated. Leadership, entrepreneurship, education and technology are just four of the critical foundations our Sorority must work to build within our communities. The Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation for the Economic Empowerment of Business and Professional Women is the conduit by which we can accomplish these goals.

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Incorporated, through the LMP Foundation, is committed to empowering and supporting its local chapters to be successful partners with their communities. We will continue to work to provide the means by which we all can work together to overcome the societal and cultural barriers to success in our communities and to harness the potential of the youth and women we know is there.

While we are at the beginning stages of this journey, this past year brought about tremendous growth in the organizational foundations of the LMP Foundation, specifically the incorporation of the Foundation in Washington D.C. We were successful in attaining 501 (c)(3) status and we are making strides in attaining tax exempt status in Washington D.C. We were also successful in the establishment of a headquarters space that is functional, accessible and will meet our needs for the short and/or long term.

The Capital Campaign for the establishment of a permanent headquarters has the support of individual Sorors as well as Chapters around the country and continues to grow. Indeed, much has been done, but there is still much more to accomplish. Your continued support is essential to the growth of the LMP Foundation and its ability to attain the goals set forth.



Sincerely,

*Stephanie Dilworth*

Stephanie Dilworth  
22nd National President

# INTRODUCTION

## Our Herstory

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Incorporated is a nationally recognized business and professional sorority. Celebrating more than 87 Years of service, Iota was founded June 1, 1929, by Mrs. Lola Mercedes Parker of Chicago, Illinois and six of her dearest friends, Ethel T. Edwards, Mildred G. Hardin, Harriett M. Robinson, Ophelia Harrison, Burdette Trigg, and Marjorie Tyndall. Presently, we are led by our 22nd National President, Stephanie Dilworth, who maintains a focus on women's business and professional development and who has served as the catalyst for the development of the foundation.

## Our Founder

Early in 1929, Mrs. Lola Mercedes Parker was stimulated by the need for and the great vision of an organization which would offset the results caused by the great depression. She saw many, within the African-American community, facing unemployment. Additionally, African-American women faced a new challenge as they were a population working in newly available white-collar positions, within the business field that required that they acquire new skills. During this time, this population of newly minted professionals was doubly penalized, experiencing the issues of the day, regarding both gender and race. Hence, the establishment of a Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., at the time, answered a critical need, to provide the training and grooming required to ensure professional success.

## Iota and LMPF...guiding today

The Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation for the Economic Empowerment of Business and Professional Women, affectionately called LMPF, is designed to make an impact on the local communities that we serve. It was incorporated in April 2015, in Washington, DC and received 501 (c) (3) status, from the Internal Revenue Service, as of July 22, 2015.

As a 21st century organization, we are striving to form trusted partnerships, while expanding our network, to provide relevant programming that supports the phenomenal communal work already being done. The drivers that led to the founding of the Sorority, remain relevant today as the need to close the achievement gaps, develop leaders and harness their potential, as well as, build interest in the field of business still exist. Through the LMPF Capital Campaign, and with your support, we are confident that our impact will have a positively lasting effect as a new generation of leaders arises to make their mark on the world.



*In memory of Lola Mercedes Parker, Founder  
of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Stephanie Dilworth**  
National President



**Dorothy White**  
National President Elect



**Wendy Jacques**  
National Recording Secretary



**Bessie Jowers**  
National Treasurer



**Dr. Doris Graham**  
Central Regional Director



**Mary Harley**  
Eastern Regional Director



**Myrtle Smith**  
Far West Regional Director



**Denise Brandon**  
Southern Regional Director



**Linda Cannon**  
Southwestern Regional  
Director



## PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

In keeping with our founder's vision, chapters and members of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority implement and execute programs and projects throughout the year to further the aims and ideals of the organization. These programs and projects are supported by the Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation as well. These initiatives include:

### **Business Month**

Iota's capstone programs occur throughout the month of April. Activities focus on efforts to stimulate interest in entrepreneurship, business, and professional education while also recognizing those who have made outstanding achievements in the field of business.

### **Toys "U" Can't Return**

A teen pregnancy prevention program designed to help educate communities about teen pregnancy and develop effective action agendas for preventing children from having children. This program is designed to promote responsible decision-making around teen sexuality, with a focus on self-esteem, motivation, health and physical fitness, career exploration and leadership development.

### **Iota Mother Assistance Program (IMAP)**

Programs designed to provide outreach services to meet the needs of teen and disadvantaged mothers. The programs include activities such as tutoring, interviewing, networking and training programs.

### **Future Iota Leaders (FIL)**

Preteen and teenage girls and boys who are mentored by members of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc. Programs provide socialization and development opportunities for youth leadership training, and encourage them to realize their potential to the fullest.

### **Career Exploration**

Programs designed to help broaden youths' awareness of career opportunities and to assist in preparing them for the world of work. Many women are seeking new directions in employment and need supportive assistance from this program to help them with assessing personal and functional skills, writing resumes, and preparing for interviews

### **Scholarships**

Over \$75,000 awarded annually to deserving youth at the national, regional and local levels.

# TIMELINE

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Officially  
501(c)(3)  
Approved**

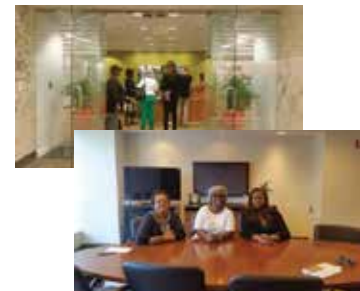
January to  
June 2015



Iota's National Headquarters Fund committee Strategies the development of the LMPF with National Board.

July 22  
2015

September  
17 2015



Searched for new headquarters & office location in DC.

November  
20 to  
December  
2015



Local chapter, Gamma , helps move National headquarters to new location.

January 20  
2016



New location, 1325 G St. , NW. Iota held 1st Annual Open House Reception.

June 30  
2016



LMPF had its first fundraiser, Battle of the Chapter Raffle and raised \$5,000 in donations.



The National Board and Headquarters /LMP Committee Thanks our Current Donors

# FINANCIALS

## Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Headquarters Capital Campaign July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Total pledges and donations as of June 30, 2016: \$98,189.00

Total pledge payments and donations as of June 30, 2016: \$21,873.00

### Chapter Pledges

Region	# of Pledges	Amount	Percentage of total pledges
Central	4	\$ 6,640.00	21%
Eastern	0		
Farwestern	4	\$11,905.00	38%
Southern	3	\$6,100.00	19%
Southwestern	2	\$7,140.00	22%
Totals	13	\$31,785.00	100%

### Individual Pledges by Region

Region	# of Pledges	Amount	Percentage of total pledges
Central	11	\$ 19,440.00	30%
Eastern	5	\$14,620.00	22%
Farwestern	4	\$8,400.00	13%
Southern	18	\$14,695.00	22%
Southwestern	4	\$8,600.00	13%
Totals	12	\$65,755.00	100%

### Paid Donations

Region	# of Pledges	Amount	Percentage of total pledges
Central	3	\$ 175	-
Eastern	5	\$274	-
Farwestern	-	-	-
Southern	1	\$200	-
Southwestern	-	-	-
Totals	6	\$649.00	-



## FINANCIALS

### Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Profit & Loss July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

	Total Income
Ordinary Income/Expense Income	
43400 - Direct Public Support	
43450 - Individ, Business Contributions	50.00
Total 43400 - Direct Public Support	50.00
7120 - 02 - Donations / Pledge	8,895.00
Total Income	8,945.00
Gross Profit	8,945.00
Net Ordinary Income	8,945.00
Net Income	8,945.00

### Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Statement of Financial Income & Expense July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

	02 Headquarters	Total Income
Ordinary Income/Expense Income		
43400 - Direct Public Support		
43450 - Individ, Business Contributions	50.00	50.00
Total 43400 - Direct Public Support	50.00	50.00
7120 - 02 - Donations / Pledge	8,895.00	8,895.00
Total Income	8,945.00	8,945.00
Gross Profit	8,945.00	8,945.00
Net Ordinary Income	8,945.00	8,945.00
Net Income	8,945.00	8,945.00

## FINANCIALS

### Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. Statement of Financial Income & Expense July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

	02 Headquarters	Total Income
Ordinary Income/Expense Income		
43400 - Direct Public Support		
43450 - Individ, Business Contributions	649.00	649.00
Total 43400 - Direct Public Support	649.00	649.00
7120 - 02 - Donations / Pledge	97,540.00	97,540.00
Total Income	98,189.00	98,189.00
Gross Profit	98,189.00	98,189.00
Net Ordinary Income	98,189.00	98,189.00
Net Income	98,189.00	98,189.00

## DONOR INFORMATION

### LEGACY BUILDER \$5,100 and above

Stephanie Dilworth  
Psi Chapter  
Phyllis H. Shumate  
Betty Wilson-Jones

### DREAM BUILDER \$3,100 - \$5,000

Alpha Chapter  
Alpha Xi Chapter  
Beta Kappa Chapter  
Gamma Nu Chapter  
Mary L. Harley  
Marcella L. Morrison  
Janie L. Samuels  
Myrtle Smith  
Dorothy White

### DIAMOND CLUB \$2,100 - \$3,000

Gwendolyn Barnes  
Gamma Alpha Chapter  
Nicole Gray  
Bessie M. Jowers  
Rebecca A. Scott

### PEARL CLUB \$1,100 - \$2,000

Alpha Beta Chapter  
Denise R. Brandon  
Linda Cannon  
Joanne Early  
Epsilon Sigma Chapter  
Gamma Eta Chapter  
Patricia A. Griffin  
Wendy B. Jacques

Gloria D. Ross  
Dorwatha Woods

### EMERALD CLUB \$10 - \$1,000

Alpha Zeta Chapter  
Gail Davis  
Epsilon Lambda Chapter  
Gamma Tau Chapter  
Teresa Gonzalez  
Dr. Doris Graham  
Latique Greene  
Dr. Evelyn Hallman  
Debra Leon  
Vonetta Martin  
Phyllis Moore  
Janyce Reed  
Rho Chapter  
Lena M. Rush  
Cheryl Scott  
Corliss Sellers  
Theresa Taylor  
Ophelia Troupe  
Mary A. Watkins  
Naomi Williams

### DONORS

Mary Blair  
Loretta Bradley  
Gussie Cherry  
Vanetta J. Cobbs  
Tracey Cones-Renshaw  
Grace Mobosi Enwesi  
Carolyn G. Jones  
Bessie Martin Jowers  
L. Ann McPherson  
Evelyn Nicholson  
Patricia Toms  
Marion Wells

## SORORITY YEAR 2016-2017 OUTLOOK

- S** Building **Sustainability** through investing in meaningful programming to reach our communities.
- T** **Teach** high school, college students, and adults business skills and entrepreneurship skills through planned educational program.
- R** Expand our **Reach** to seek out grants to further enhance meeting the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc. mission.
- I** Seek out monetary **Income** to help fulfill the HQ Strategy and goals
- V** Provide **Value** to the communities we serve by building a solid foundation so that LMPF can thrive and achieve the established goals.
- E** Work with community and affiliate partners to achieve **Economic** independence for women

## Mission/Vision of the Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation

1. To create opportunities for sorors to make an impact on the communities we serve.
2. To develop partnerships/relationships (Federal, State and Corporate) that support the sorority programs and projects.
3. To network with corporations and entrepreneurs that will grant sponsorships and provide additional funding through corporate contributions.
4. To seek out and implement programs that empower women to achieve economic independence.
5. To help the sorority establish relevant programming based on the needs of the communities we serve.
6. Promote interest in business education among high school, college students and adults through planned educational programs.
7. To support the sorority through monetary contributions on the purchase of a building for the sorority and foundation corporate headquarters.

## CONTACT US



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Stephanie.iota@gmail.com



### **Vonetta B. Martin**


National Executive Director  
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Executive.director@iota1929.org



### **Nicole Darden Ford**

National HQ Committee Chair  
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nicolgray@gmail.com

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Business and Professional Women

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