47TH CENTRAL AREA CALL TO CONFERENCE REPORT

Committee:	International Trends and Services
Facet/Officer:	Link Lizzie Ngwenya-Scoburgh Cincinnati (O.H.) Chapter

OVERVIEW

Charge:	The mission of the International Trends and Services facet is to expand the global platform for programs designed and developed to service the educational, health and cultural needs of people of African descent throughout the world. All programmatic components of the facet are delivered through service delivery methods that reach women and their families. The foremost goal of the International Trends and Services facet is to provide opportunities for tangible services in other countries.
Goals:	**2021-2022 Goals** **Goal #1:** By April 2022, the program team will support program sustainability by engaging chapters in the design, implementation, and delivery of all programs. With 80% participation **Results:** 60-70% Chapter engagement as of February 2022 - **Goal Achieved** **Goal #2:** 20% of Central Area Chapters to participate in one of the integrated programming of the L3 Initiatives by June 2022 - **Goal Achieved** **Goal #3**: Host 3 quarterly webinars for ITS Chapter Facet Chair communication, training meetings, and information sharing with 80% attendance/participation by April 2022 - **Goal Achieved** **Goal #4:** By June 2022, establish at least 4 to 8 LIFE Programs in the Central Area - **Goal in Progress.** Central Area has two (2) active LIFE Programs - Pine Bluff (A.R.) & Indianapolis (IN). **2022– 2023 Program Year Focus**: **US and abroad - Becoming Global Citizens**

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	Goal #1: By Jan 2023, assess data we collected last year on which chapters are actively implementing immigrant initiatives in the United States. Follow up and identify the specific programs. **Goal Achieved** **Goal #2**: by January 2023, 70% of Central Area Chapters will identify immigrant communities and college organizations supporting diaspora initiatives. **Goal Achieved** **Goal #3:** By June 2023, 70% of Central Area Chapters to identify and consult with organizations and develop initiatives to contribute to helping immigrant populations. **In progress** In 2022, the ITS Committee shared Area Immigrant organizations with ITS Facet Chairs Identified outreach programs to support African Immigrants in the Central Area in the areas of education, employment, health housing, resettlement, and safety **Goal #4:** By June 2023, establish at least 4 to 8 LIFE Programs in the Central Area **The LIFE Program** (*Links International Foreign Affairs and Business Empowerment for Youth Program)* - new National Signature Program Central Area has two (2) active LIFE Programs - Pine Bluff (A.R.) & Indianapolis (IN).

Committee Members:	Link Doris Agwu, Jackson County (MO) Chapter Link Shevon Harris-Holyfield, Gateway (I.L.) Chapter

Background Work: (Meetings, *Attendance of Members, Facts and Information)*	Central Area ITS Facets are engaged in both the Central Area L3 initiatives and the National ITS programming areas (Links Help for Humanity, Education Across the Miles, and the LIFE Program (*Links International Foreign Affairs and Business Empowerment for Youth Program)*. A Total of Six ITS Webinars hosted The ITS Central Area Webinars were held quarterly via Zoom. Co-Chairs are also included in these webinars. ITS Chapter Chairs were encouraged to invite committee members to attend. The purpose of the webinars was to update Central Area ITS Chairs on both National and Central Area initiatives and support chapters to develop sustainable international programming. These webinars also highlighted international speakers and Chapters that elevated best practices in ITS initiatives.

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ITS Webinars from 2021 to 2023:

- October 28, 2021- "Elevate Global Awareness."
- January 27, 2022- "Celebrating Women and Breaking the Bias."
- March 24, 2022- "Creating an Inclusive World for Women."
- January 26, 2023: Bringing our communities together: Connect and Empower your Immigrant Population-" Vitendo for Africa."
- February 28, 2023- Preparing for International Women's Day
- March 28, 2023 – Showcased International Women's Day Celebrations

Total Webinar Participants/contacts: 519

ITS Facet BEST Practice Programs and Award-Winning Chapters 2021

- Wind City (I.L.) Linking HEARTS (Health Education Arts) 2019-2021
- Music City (T.N.) Lititz All Ages & Infant School Project 2019-2021
- Twin Rivers (O.H.) "Feed a Mind Help a Nation Domestic & Abroad
- Wilberforce (O.H.) Bags of Compassion 2019-2021
- Greater Kansas City (MO) Drop and Go Clothing Drive

STATUS OF ASSIGNMENTS

Work Accomplished

During these years, virtual programming development transformed chapter participation to achieve both Central and National initiatives. Central Area ITS Facets are engaged in eleven countries:

AFRICA	CARIBBEAN
Ghana	Jamaica
Kenya	Bahamas
Liberia	Haiti
Nigeria	

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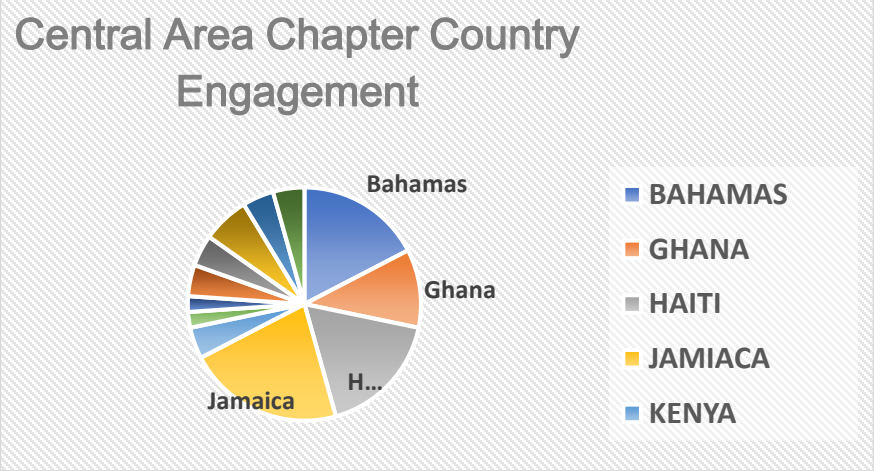
Rwanda	
Sierra Leone	
South Africa	
Uganda	



30 Central Area Chapters implementing Education Across the Miles Programming supporting countries in the following areas:

- Food Insecurity
- Educational supplies
- Uniforms
- Monetary support
- Curriculum & Lesson plan development

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- Teacher Training Programs
- Surgical masks
- Food & Medical Supplies

As the National Initiative on Toilets for Haiti progressed our Central Area Chapters took it a step future with making sure that boots on the ground in Haiti were still supporting communities. We developed a channel for collaboration called ***H.A.I.T.I.: Humanitarian Advocacy International Trends Initiative.*** Chapters collaborated to actively continue to do work in Haiti and/or work with Haitian immigrants in the United States. These Chapters continue to identify potential ITS programming collaboration for Haiti programs. Below are the Chapters and global partners:

- Twin Rivers (O.H.)
- LifeLine Organization & U.S. Together
- Northern Indiana (IN) Chapter
- St Boniface Hospital
- Chicago (I.L.) Chapter
- We Care Charitable Organization
- St. Louis (MO) Chapter
- Frankfort-Lexington (K.Y.) Chapter

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The Haitian Needy Children's Foundation

Immigrant Population Projects and Partners

- Springfield (O.H.) Chapter - Fulton Elementary School & Perrin Woods Elementary School
- Community partners: Dole Food Company & the National Council of Negro Women
- Wichita (K.S.)
- Wichita Public Schools
- Youngtown (O.H.)
- Youngstown State University African & Caribbean Students
- Cleveland (O.H.)
- MedWish: Global Cleveland mission to advance African immigrants
- Windy City (I.L.)
- United African Organization
- Archway (MO) and Gateway (IL)
- Vitendo for Africa

Approximately 4000 youth and families were served.

International Women's Day (I.W.D.) 2021 - 2023

I.W.D. continues to be a highlighted annual event in the Central Area. Chapters were provided a toolkit every January to begin their planning to recognize International Women's Day on March 8. International Women's Day (I.W.D.) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The goal for 2021 to 2021 was to have 100% of the chapters participate. Chapter participation ranged from 60% to 80%. The I.W.D. Celebrated Themes through the years were:

2021 Campaign Theme: **#ChooseToChallenge**

2022 Campaign Theme: **#BreakTheBias.**

2023 Campaign: Theme: **#Embrace Equity**

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From 2021 to 2023, Link Lizzie was invited to attend the following Chapter I.W.D. celebrations, which addressed topics that impacted women globally, such as:

- Queen City (O.H.) "I.W.D. #Embrace Equity"
- Omaha (N.E.), "I.W.D. #Embrace Equity"
- Chicago Area Cluster Chapters, "I.W.D. #Embrace Equity"
- Nashville (T.N.), "Beautiful Liberia"
- Indianapolis (IN), "Nigeria Micro Credit Program"
- Chicago Area Cluster Chapters, "Women in Leadership"

CONCLUSION

Outcomes:	See Goals Sections

The	**Committee**	**reports that…**
The International Trends and Services Committee has met the strategic goals.		

This report is given for information purposes only.

There are no resolution(s) or recommendation(s) at this time.